The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 1,173 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, February 9th, 1883. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

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MONEY ADVANCED in large and small sums in Town or Country, on Personal and Household Security, Farm Stock, Second Mortgages, Deeds, Life Policies, Building Society or any other Shares or Interest, repayable to suit borrowers' convenience, as may be arranged. Write or call on M. L. Rosenberg. All business done with despatch, and *strictly confidential*. —M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 54, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (opposite Mr Angus, Coachbuilder.) M. L. R. does business entirely on his own account. Established 1860. 305r

Wanted.

WANTED APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking. —Apply at 13, Cort Street, Blackhill. 367r

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FOR SALE, by Private Treaty, a HOUSE AND SHOP, and Three-Roomed COTTAGE, situate in Front Street, Leadgate, now occupied by Mr. W. W. Shield, General Dealer, and Mr. Isaac Hetherington. Either of the Tenants will show the Property on application.—Offers to be sent to ISAAC HETHERINGTON, Chapel Villa, Leadgate, Co. Durham. 360r

Price One Shilling and Sixpence each.

SEVEN Hundred Easy, Profitable, and Pleasant Ways to Make Money; a reliable compendium of Valuable Receipts for making articles in constant demand and of ready sale.—To be had of ROBERT JACKSON, "Guardian" Office, Front Street, and 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett. 601q

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OPTIONS on Stock Exchange Securities. One Uniform Price. Acknowledged the best and safest plan ever devised for making large profits from small investments with great rapidity. *Explanatory book (second edition) SENT FREE*.—Address GEORGE EVANS and Co., Sworn Brokers, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London. 274r

FOR SALE, an unlimited supply of PIANOFORTES, in Black and Gold, Walnut, and Rosewood Cases, by English and Foreign Makers, on our SPECIAL HIRE SYSTEM, from 50s. per quarter for three years, when the Instrument becomes the Property of the Hirer. Every Instrument warranted for seven years. HARMONIUMS from 10s. 6d. per month, on the same system.—DAWSON & Co., Pianoforte and Harmonium Warehouse, and Music Sellers, 1 and 2½, Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

Business Announcements.

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MARINE SURVEYOR,
COMMISSION AND INSURANCE AGENT,
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Agent for Avon Mills Rubber Factory,
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FURNITURE AND HARDWARE SOLD UPON THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM.

DISCOUNT 2s. IN THE POUND FOR CASH ONLY.

WILLIAM WILKINSON,
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BEGS to inform his friends that owing to the great increase of business he has had to take the whole of his premises to meet the demands of his customers, and is now prepared with a well selected Stock of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, in all its Branches. Also, HARDWARE, GLASS, CHINA, CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY. WEDDING RINGS from the best makers—Wholesale and Retail.

Agent for the New Patent Table Wringing and Mangling Machine, Hickman and Claris Coffin Furniture, and Patent Horse Nails. 371r

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STOCK-TAKING CLEARANCE SALE
For 28 Days only.

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Business Announcements.

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33, GRAINGER STREET, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

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USE
JOHN HUME AND SON'S
OPTIMUS HORSE MIXTURE.
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 127r

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
FLOUR DEALER,
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HAS FOR SALE

50 TONS OF BRAN, £6 PER TON, OR 6s. PER SACK.

50 TONS OF FIRST-CLASS HAY.

70 TONS GOOD SWEDE TURNIPS, 20s. PER TON.

250 SACKS AYNSLEY'S CRUSHED OATS AND BEANS, 13s. PER SACK OF 12 STONES.

100 SACKS BOXINGS, 10s. 9d. PER SACK OF 12 STONES

FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.

50 TONS OF FINEST SCOTCH POTATOES (LOTHIAN).

EXTRA WHITES, SUPERFINES, FINES, HOUSEHOLDS, AND FEEDING STUFFS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
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WINES & SPIRITS FOR THE PRESENT SEASON

Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 244 varieties, representing the largest finest and best matured Stock in the world.

The purity of every article is guaranteed under Act 38 & 39 Vict., Cap. 63. Consumers will recognise in this Act a means of verifying the guarantee W & A Gilbey have always given of the purity and genuineness of all WINES and SPIRITS bearing their seals and labels.

No better guarantee of QUALITY and VALUE can be given than the fact that about every eighteenth bottle of Wine, and every fortieth bottle of Spirits, consumed in the United Kingdom is supplied from W & A Gilbey's Stock. This statement is based upon the Government Returns.

WINES	Bottle	Dozen
PORT Castle A *from Portugal* An excellent fruity Wine, well matured 5 years old	2/	24/
PORT Castle B *from Portugal* A fine full-flavored fruity Wine 8 years old	2/4	28/
SPANISH PORT Castle 1 *from Spain* A fruity Wine of good body 2 years old	1/3	15/
SPANISH PORT Castle 4 *from Spain* The finest old Red Wine produced. 10 years old	1/10	22/
SHERRY Castle SPANISH *from Spain* A good Spanish Wine 2 years old	1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle C *Pale from Spain* An excellent type of dry Sherry 6 years old	2/4	28/
MARSALA Castle VP *Pale from Sicily* A delicate dinner Wine 3 years old	1/4	16/
MARSALA Castle C *Pale from Sicily* The finest Marsala imported 7 years old	1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A good sound Beverage Wine 6 months in bottle	1/	12/
CLARET Castle C *from France* A superior Medoc Wine 18 months in bottle	1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A Sparkling dry Champagne	2/1	25/
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Foil* A choice Wine of the District	2/6	30/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 1 A good Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	2/2	26/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 3 A high-class delicate Champagne	3/6	42/

SPIRITS	Bottle	Dozen
GIN Castle UP Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's Distillery 33 per cent. under proof	2/	24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's Distillery Strength, proof	2/10	34/
IRISH WHISKY Castle UP Fine Dublin Whisky 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
IRISH WHISKY Castle PROOF Fine Dublin Whisky Strength, proof	3/	36/
SCOTCH WHISKY Castle UP Fine Scotch Malt Whisky 33 under proof	2/3	27/
SCOTCH WHISKY Castle PROOF Fine Scotch Malt Whisky Strength, proof	3/	36/
BRANDY Castle UP Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac 33 under proof	2/6	30/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac Strength proof	3/6	42/
COGNAC Castle D A fine old Cognac Brandy 33 per cent. under proof	3/6	42/
COGNAC Castle F A very fine old Cognac Brandy Strength proof	4/6	54/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP A fine Jamaica Rum 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle PROOF A fine Jamaica Rum Strength, proof	3/	36/
HOLLANDS Castle 1 Distilled in Holland from Rye 33 per cent. under proof	2/4	28/
HOLLANDS (*Silver Stream*) The finest Geneva. Bottled abroad. 14 under proof	2/6	30/

All Bottles (except for Sparkling Wines) are charged 1d. each, which is allowed when returned.

AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT & LEADGATE

ECONOMY IN ALES. OCTOBER BREWINGS.

NINE-GALLON CASKS,—CASH PRICES.

	NINE GALLONS.		EIGHTEEN GALLONS.
Mild Ales	10s. 6d., 12s., 13s. 6d.	Indian Pale Ale	18 Gallons for 24s., 27s.
Bitter Ales	10s. 6d., 13s. 6d.	Mild Burton	18 Gallons for 21s., 24s.

BOTTLED ALES AND STOUT.—PER DOZEN.

	HALF-PINTS.	PINTS.		HALF-PINTS.	PINTS.
Bass & Co.'s Indian Pale Ale	2s. 0d.	3s. 6d.	Maunders' Invalids' Stout	2s. 0d.	3s. 0d.
Bass & Co.'s Sparkling Mild Ale	1s. 9d.	2s. 8d.	Nourishing Stout	1s. 9d.	2s. 9d.

Fine Old.	HALF-GALLONS.	GALLONS.	Fine Old.	HALF-GALLONS.	GALLONS.
Glenlivet Whiskey	9s., 8s., 6s. 9d.	18s., 16s., 13s. 6d.	Old Tom Gins	From 6s. 0d.	From 12s. 0d.
Fine Old Jamaica Rums	9s, 8s, 6s. 9d.	18s, 16s, 13s. 6d.	Brandies	From 6s. 9d.	From 13s. 6d.

BRITISH WINES.—PER BOTTLE.

Port Wine	1s. 2d.	Orange	1s. 2d.
Sherry	1s. 2d.	Raisin	1s. 2d.
Tent	1s. 2d.	Raspberry	1s. 2d.
Ginger	1s. 2d.		

GOODS DELIVERED DAILY TO ANY PART OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

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

☞ Note the Address:—ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. Dealer in Steamship Shares. 782q

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HOUSE AGENT, AND APPRAISER
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

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

HUGHES & CO.'S PHARMACY,
(LATE CURRY)
(From HOOPER & Co.'s., London),
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL.

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEG to inform the inhabitants of Consett and the surrounding district that they have PURCHASED THE BUSINESS OF MR. CURRY, CHEMIST, and also to intimate that all Drugs sold are of the purest quality.

☞ ALL KINDS OF HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES KEPT IN STOCK.

HAVING had many years' experience in some of the leading establishments in London, and also in Agricultural Districts, we feel confident every satisfaction will be given; we hope therefore to merit a share of your patronage.

GENUINE PATENT MEDICINES.

PURE CHEMICALS OF ALL KINDS IN STOCK.

A VARIETY OF OTHER ARTICLES USUALLY SOLD BY CHEMISTS & DRUGGISTS.

HUGHES' BALSAM OF HONEY. An invaluable remedy for Coughs and Colds, especially for Children.

QUININE AND IRON WINE.

CURRY'S STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES. An excellent preparation.

CATTLE DRINKS, &c.
OILS, PAINTS, AND COLOURS.

☞ ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

HUGHES & CO.,
(LATE CURRY), 138r
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

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

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

☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

THE AUCKLAND UNION
PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1857.
Offices—56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland.

THE Directors are prepared to ADVANCE MONEY on approved securities. The payments may spread over 16 years, or any less number, to suit the means of borrowers.

INVESTING SHARES may be entered at any time, and withdrawn, if required, at a month's notice.

PROFITS are divided every three years.

The Interest and Profits paid to members on Completed Shares has averaged 6¼ per cent. per annum.

Any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. GEO. STILLMAN, 56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland; or Mr. WILLIAM ELLIOTT, 5, Mount Pleasant, Consett.

ESTABLISHED 1778.

REID & SONS' GOLD AND SILVER PLATE.

REID AND SONS' GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY.

REID AND SONS' GOLD AND SILVER WATCHES.

REID AND SONS' CLOCKS, ELECTRO-PLATE, &c.

In large variety of Prices and Patterns.

N.B.—Illustrated Sheets and Catalogues Free on application. 797q

41, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

COOKE'S NEW DRAPERY
ESTABLISHMENT,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE Shop beside the railway gates
  Has opened been by C. F. COOKE;
So do not any longer wait
  But go at once and take a look.
At all the goods therein displayed,
  In quality—both rich and rare—
And this much may at least be said,—
  Minute inspection they will bear.
Examine well, the prices note,
  The quality then criticise;
Mark well the easy fitting Coat,
  The Shirts, and Collars, Cuffs, and Ties.
COOKE's Suits are noted near and far,
  A ready sale they must command,
For neatness, elegance, and wear,
  They are renowned throughout the land.
Some hundreds have been sold, and still
  Their sale increases day by day,
For suits like these they must, and will,
  In public favour make their way.
If then you want a useful Suit
  Or Draperies of any kind;
Go to COOKE's shop and I've no doubt,
  Full satisfaction you will find. 655q

Business Announcements.

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PAUL RUINART AND CO., OF RHEIMS.
ERNST BIESTERFELD, Sole Agent.
No. 7 BROAD CHARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

A choice Stock always on hand.—Sub-Agents Wanted.

ROBERT BROWN, METHELD, & CO.
NURSERY AND SEEDSMEN,
214, NEW MARKET, NEWCASTLE.

CATALOGUES Ready.—All this Season's SEEDS, TREES, FLOWERS, and PLANTS, are now on hand, and may be had on application. 335r

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET
STREET, CONSETT.

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

MESSRS. FEGAN AND MURRAY,
AUCTIONEERS,
DERWENT STREET AND TINMILL PLACE,
BLACKHILL,

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

☞ All Orders left at either Address will be promptly attended to. 697q

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

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

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

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

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

GEORGE PATTON,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, BRASS FOUNDER, &c,

Has great pleasure in informing his Friends and the Public of Newcastle-on-Tyne and District that he has Removed from Neville Street, to larger and more commodious premises,

NO. 60, WESTGATE ROAD,

Lately occupied by Messrs. Bone Bros., next door to King and Gillespie's Livery Stables, where having greater facilities than he has had before, he hopes to still further augment the increasing number of his Patrons.

Newcastle, July 5th, 1882. 711q

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

J. STEPHENSON,
IRONMONGER AND FANCY GOODS REPOSITORY, PLUMBER, GAS-FITTER, PAINTER, AND TIN PLATE WORKER,
☞ NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he has commenced business as above.

Any article made to order in TIN, ZINC, COPPER or IRON.

A large Stock of PAPER-HANGINGS, COCOA MATS, MATTING, OILCLOTH, &c., always on hand.

J. S. hopes by strict attention to business, and good workmanship, to merit a share of public patronage.

DENTISTRY.

SUPERIOR DENTISTRY AND REASONABLE CHARGES.

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

MONS. VAN GELDEREN,
SURGEON DENTIST,
17, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE.

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

HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock 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.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, February 9th, 1883.

THE COMING SESSION.

The trumpet has sounded, Mr Gladstone has issued his summons, and in a little more than a week from the present time the Parliamentary forces will be found in martial array. Public hopes are raised to a higher pitch than usual, and the Premier encourages rather than diminishes them by intimating that the House will be expecting to address itself to "business of importance, much of which has suffered through the special circumstances of recent sessions." It is evident we are to have an active session, such as has not been known of late years—the effect at last of the hopes engendered by the General Election. Although prediction is not safe even in the case of a period close at hand, a clear course for legislation may be anticipated with some degree of certainty. The irrepressible policy of the Sister Island will of course necessitate attention; but there seems to be a tacit understanding that it shall not be allowed to monopolize the attention of Parliament. Egypt will no doubt come in for early discussion; all the more so because debate was suppressed during the Autumn Session; yet as Government policy is to a great extent fixed in that region, or, if not fixed, is being tentatively pursued, we need expect no lengthy talk, albeit words might be sharp. As soon as possible the country will want to be informed of the two great schemes which are to distinguish the session, namely,—Municipal Reform and County Government. In these there is quite sufficient food for legislation without hankering after others which are sometimes talked of. Better complete two solid measures than endeavour to pass five or six for which there is not enough time; and this idea seems to be actuating Ministers, who are careful not to foreshadow more than they think they can properly accomplish. The Grand Committees will be set to work, if only to see how they are likely to answer, and there are questions, such as Bankruptcy Reform and the Criminal Code, which will afford ample scope for the experiment. London seems submitting more meekly than was expected to the threatened abolition of its privileges. That there will be a struggle over several of the time-honoured customs is certain, and the danger probably is not so much in the transfer of authority as in centralizing it in such a manner as would lessen the privilege of local management. To be simply under the Government of the day is not what Londoners need. They want a share in local representation and in the administration of local burdens. They would like things done in a systematic way which are now only partially and perfunctorily performed: in short, they desire the privileges of citizenship, which now are only enjoyed exclusively by the few. This reform sounds unpretentious enough. It is, however, a big business, and will tax the administrative capacity of the Minister who has charge of the Bill in Parliament. County Reform is a scheme of a different calibre. In this there are no vested interests to contend with excepting of a sentimental kind. The practical business of the shire is no longer to be confided to a few local magnates, but is to receive the help of the general community. There is little opposition to the change, for two reasons: first, because present evils are not "crying ones," and, secondly, because it is the general opinion that whatever changes happen will be of a gradual and almost unappreciable character. By his long training, his capacity, and his zeal, the country gentleman has made a mark in district administration, and the start and merit thus gained will enable him to withstand for many years to come whatever opposition is likely to arise in the development of local government.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

In his recent speeches Mr Forster has disclosed a rather unsuspected independence of opinion, and has marked himself out for membership, if not leadership, of that Whig and moderate Liberal coalition which as many think is destined to succeed the Gladstone Cabinet. It was not only upon Irish matters that the ex-Chief Secretary differed from his colleague. He has let out that he did not approve of the surrender of the Transvaal, and we now learn that he sees dangers in a vast Metropolitan Municipality, which might overawe Parliament. A Government which professes to oppose undue centralization ought surely to apply its principles to the case of the Metropolis. It should give London true local government by erecting a congeries of municipalities. It will be strange if the same Ministry applies one principle to the government of counties and a principle diametrically opposite to the government of towns.

On the whole the decision come to in Paris was the best under the circumstances. It is of course only the exchange of one *interim* Minister for another. M. Fallieres, Minister of the Interior, takes M. Duclerc's place as President of the Council, and also with the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, as a temporary arrangement. In any case, General Billot gives up the War Office, and Admiral Jaurequiberry the Marina. They were both too pronounced against the Fabre compromise, and having committed themselves in a sense to the Orleans Princes, M. Grévy had nothing else to do than to accept their resignation and retain the rest of the old Duclerc Cabinet minus its Chief.

The old Church of St. Mary-le-Bow on Saturday became the scene of an interesting and rather showy ceremony. There was a great parade of red-robed officials of Doctors Commons to witness the new Archbishop's "confirmation" to the Primacy. Considering the large number who naturally wished to be present upon such an occasion, it was rather a pity that a larger church had not been selected. Bow Church is however, as fine an example as could have been chosen of the Wrenbuilt churches of the City. It has in recent years been well restored and re-decorated. It cannot, however, be said to be well filled. I counted fifty all told the other Sunday morning as the number of its congregation. Bow Bells have fortuitously obtained a world-wide renown; but they do not fulfil the primary duty of Church bells, which is to bring people to Church. There is something almost revengeful as well as melancholy about Church bells in the City now. They are so numerous and so noisy that they seem to be saying to the non-churchgoer, "Well, if you won't come, we can take it out of you by making you uncomfortable for half-an-hour."

Louise Michel's mission here was a fiasco. But nevertheless, the existence of an English Revolutionary and Nihilistic party is beyond a doubt. On Thursday a Revolutionist Convention was held at a hall in Bloombury. There was a considerable attendance of delegates, most of whom were England. Most of the speakers were English, and some of them were men of fair education and respectable position. An English surgeon occupied the chair. The sentiments expressed were perfectly clear and unhesitating. Not only kings were to be abolished, but also law; not only the Church but also religion. Assassinations was not merely excused, but expressely recommended as a means of securing political ends. It is easy to pooh-pooh a hole-and-corner meeting in Bloomsbury, and compare it to the famous conspiracy of the Two Tailors of Tooley Street. But Nihilism is not so much a political movement as a moral disease, a national epidemic. The Government ought to keep its eye upon these people, if only as dangerous lunatics, and it is doing so. The apostles of assassination are "known to the police," and the detectives keep a good watch over their movements.

The late Mr Gordon Whitebread was a fine specimen of a County Court judge. His hadsome presence and stentorian voice would have graced the Bench of the High Court, and his judicial duties were always ably performed. His successor Mr Eddis, Q.C., is a well-known leader of the Chancery Bar. Until quite recently he was the Equity Professor of the Inns of Court. As professor he had a salary of £1,000 a year for lecturing twice a week in Term time, and besides this he enjoyed a good practice at the Bar. As judge of the Clerkenwell County Court he will receive £1 500 a year only. Some surprise has been felt that eminent Chancery leaders like Mr Eddis, Q.C., Mr Bagshawe, Q.C., and Mr Roxburghe, Q.C., should accept positions on the County Court Bench. The fact is there are three times as many judgeships of the supreme Court on the Common Law side as there are on the Equity side, whereas there are more silks in proportion in the Chancery Courts. The effect is that the County Court Bench is getting to be well-manned with Equity counsel who see no prospect of better preferment.

Mr Shaw Lefevre is said, like Lord Palmerston, to prefer the Classic to the Gothic style of Architecture. The new public offices will most probably be in some style of decorated rennaissance. Indeed, this is just now the popular taste, and indeed the professional taste; for architects have their circle of fashions in building, like milliners in dress. Even "Queen Anne" has gone out. Bedford Park is obsolete before it is completed. All the new buildings of any pretension in the City and the suburbs seem to belong to the ornate Italian style, which in the fervour of Ruskinianism only a few years ago was wont to be preached against as *debased classic*. The discontents against the Gothic Law Courts have caused the style of which Street was so great a master to fall just now into greater disfavour than it has been perhaps since that period of bad taste when Smollett could describe York Minster as a horrible and gloomy mass of masonry and Gothic architecture generally as fit only for savages.

The death of Colonel Taylor is a grief to his own party and a matter of regret even to his political opponents. No one was more highly respected on both sides of the House. It is exactly forty-two years since Colonel Tayler, then a young dragoon officer, stepped forward gallantly into the arena. O'Connell was then at the height of his popularity, and many things have happened since; but one change has not yet occurred in Ireland. The people have not yet become educated enough to rise above subjection to demagogues. In the House Colonel Taylor was regarded as the most experienced Whip the Conservative party have ever followed the crack of. A good Whip is invariblya good master of hounds. The qualities of the one, which are summoned up in sodality and love of sport, easily lead to success in the other. Colonel Taylor was at home in both capacities.

The Conservative party are going to put forward Mr Cecil Guinness, Lord Ardilann's brother, and the senior partner in the great Dublin brewing firm, as the successor of Colonel Taylor in the representation of the County of Dublin. It is singular and somewhat unexplained how the County of Dublin is an exception to almost every other agricultural constituency in Ireland. Here the exception is the rule. Colonel Taylor has had a walk over the course ever since he first stepped forward as a candidate as far back as 1841. Mr Parnell made an attempt to dust him as the Nationalist candidate in 1874, but was so badly beaten that he did not repeat the attempt. He intends, however, to try again.

The fourteenth and fifteenth instant will be climax and anti-climax, Beauty and Beast, St Valentine and St. Bradlaugh. The refusal of the Railway Companies to run special trains for the purpose of Mr Bradlaugh's great Indignation Meeting will probably decrease the number of the Demonstrationists. At any rate, if the gathering falls short of the anticipated figures, it will be easy and convenient for him to explain the deficiency by reference to the action of the General Managers. No doubt many country people will regret the loss of a cheap excursion to London under the excuse of lifting up their voices in favour of electoral rights. Making allowances for everything, no doubt Mr Bradlaugh will be able to bring together a good number of adherents His power over the masses is an extraordinary phenomenon. He is not a socialist. He does not promise his followers the abolition of private property. He merely attacks religion and currently-received morality. His authority is in part due to the same kind of wrongheadedness as made the Claimant a popular idol, and in part is a tribute to uncultured but commanding oratory. The demonstrators of Clerkenwell on Sunday last and those who may be expected in Hyde Park and Trafalgar Square on the 15th care nothing about the rights of Northampton electors; for the most part they have no objection to taking oaths either lawfully or profane, but they enjoy backing up a man who has bearded the House of Commons.

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THE SUNDAY CLOSING MOVEMENT IN DURHAM.

MEETING AT LANCHESTER.

A public meeting was held in the National School-room at Lanchester on Tuesday night, in favour of the movement now being promoted throughout the county of Durham for the entire closing of public-houses on the Lord's day. There was a very fair audience. The Rev John Dingle, the aged and respected vicar of the parish, was voted to the chair. After the meeting had been opened by prayer,

The Chairman said it was very pleasing to note that gigantic and spontaneous efforts were now being made towards diminishing the prevalent vice of drunkenness. The object of the present movement is simply confined to the closing of public-houses on the Sabbath-day—an object which commends itself to all those who hope to see a better observance of the Lord's Day. (Hear, hear). This movement would not only be for the good of the inhabitants, but he thought also that it would benefit the publicans themselves. These people must be performing their duty on the Sabbath-day, and besides they have no holiday during the week, at least to the same extent that other men have. The publicans would, therefore, rejoice at the success of their efforts in this respect. He (the Chairman) had observed such a disposition on the part of some, who had told him that they should be very glad if they were released from their labours on the Sunday (Applause). It is, moreover, a very great hardship to those persons who serve in the public-houses. He had heard them complain of the continual drudgery endured in the public-houses, with the harrowing scenes witnessed now and then, during each week; and then the Sabbath-day must be spent in doing what other people perform on the Saturday—in cleaning up the house, and making it somewhat tidy. These people would find the benefits of such a scheme, although they might be unable to realise this to the fullest extent all at once. He need hardly say that they did not enter into the various technical points connected with the temperance question. All that they now asked for was the entire shutting up of public-houses on the Sabbath-day, so that the Lord's day might be kept in these places as in the other business establishments in the county; and the publicans could not think it a hardship if they were placed under the same restraint as other tradesmen were. (Cheers). The Chairman then called upon

Mr George Buckham (Lanchester), who said he had great pleasure in proposing the first resolution —"That this meeting cordially approves of the objects of the Durham County Sunday Closing Association, and pledges itself to support the movement to the uttermost." (Applause).

The Rev H. E. Fox, who was well received, in seconding the resolution, said this was a subject, which if looked at candidly and fairly, will commend itself to the common sense of all Christian people. They must have noticed, in moving amongst their fellow-men, or reading the newspapers, or in coming in contact with the thinking people of the day, how rapidly the feeling is growing among all classes of the community in favour of this movement. (Hear, hear). There will doubtless be a divided opinion on the question, but there can be no doubt there was a vast number who were at first opposed to the movement, having thought it out, have come to think that this legislation would confer an inestimable boon, if not upon the country at large, at least upon the County of Durham. (Applause). They were holding meetings throughout the county to influence public opinion, and to educate the people on the issues of the question. They were not attempting to thrust their principles down men and women's throats, but to reason with them in the most Christian spirit, upon a question which affects a vital interest upon the whole population at large. (Cheers). He was not surprised, for this reason, that the movement has made such rapid strides as it has done, because in the first place it seems to commend itself to their common sense feeling. The grocer, butcher, tailor, carpenter, &c., never think of following their calling on the Lord's day, but here was a particular trade with a special exemption. The licensed victuallers were a class of men engaged in a very laborious and very unpleasant trade, which was very lamentably injurious to the health. According to the statistics of the Insurance Offices, the most unhealthy, the most risky, and the most uncertain life—far beyond those of the railway guard or the miner—was that of the publican. He was sorry for it, and he felt that this was the man of all others to whom they should afford relief. It was said that if the publican pleased, he could shut up his premises on the Lord's day. He must meet the consequences, however. He would tell them that his customers would go over to his neighbour. This might be called selfishness by some persons, but they must remember that there was a good deal of human nature, even in a publican. They should, therefore, meet the question fairly and honourably. They could see that it was a selfish minority that were keeping the vast majority of publicans out of their legitimate rights. In every town, the experience he had gained was this—not only were the working classes in a vast majority in favour of some such measure, but the licensed victuallers themselves would be glad and thankful of the boon, if it could be given to them through the legislature. He (the rev. gentleman) had hitherto been speaking of the common sense side of the question; there was still another aspect. Had these publicans not any souls? Did they not require a day of rest as well as other people? Surely out of compassion for the bodies and souls of these men they were doing but what is just and fair in getting them relieved. But he urged this subject not only on behalf of the publican, but because of his customers. Now, which of the seven days of the week is the working man utterly incapable of perceiving what is the right quantity of liquor for him to take? It was the day when he had nothing to do, and when he had the most money in his pocket. After all, it was only human nature for a man to go into a public-house and spend his time and money in a way which is certainly not advantageous to his health or to the prosperity of his family. More than that—the man who is in the habit of drinking on the Sunday, does not confine himself to that day alone, but often takes what is known as "Saint Monday." (Laughter). There is a great deal of honest labour lost because men could not re-start work on the Monday; and then the probability is that they resume their labours on a Tuesday morning with an aching head and a shaky hand They were not asking the people to adopt a new experiment which had never been tried. The movement has proved exceedingly successful in Scotland 27 years before the passing of the Forbes-Mackenzie Act. Now three of the Isles of Great Britain—Scotland, Ireland, and Wales—possess this great benefit, and they would find that neither the Irish, Welsh, and Scotch members would get up in Parliament and propose the abolition of such a measure. They knew they had got a great blessing and did not intend to let it slip away from them. (Applause). He would ask, what is the difference in the constitution of an average Englishman that so distinguishes him from the average Scotchman, Irishman, or Welshman? Why should not the same advantages be afforded them as their neighbours possessed? In Scotland, during the year 1853, no less than 12,000 persons were convicted for drunkenness alone; but in 1872-3 that number had been reduced from 12,000 to 3,000. This was very remarkable, as showing how far Sunday drinking will effect the week-day drinking. In Ireland, in 1877 before the passing of the Act, upwards of £12,000,000 were spent in intoxicants. What a blessing it would have been to poor Ireland with all her grievances, if this enormous sum had been spent in honest industry. The people were, nevertheless, reaping the effects of their improvidence by a harvest of starvation and misery. It was gratifying, however, to learn that in 1881 this amount had been diminished by no less than £2,000,000. (Applause). No one—not even the best friends of the licensed victuallers—will gainsay this £2,000 000 has been well saved. In 1877 the number of arrests for drunkenness were 110,000, but in the year 1881 they were reduced to 78,000—an enormous reduction. (Cheers). England's great statesman, Mr Gladstone, says the object of all legislation is "to make virtue easy and vice difficult;" and he (the speaker) need not prove to them that this was the object of the Sunday Closing Association. He had been arguing with them on the lines of common sense. Permit him to take one step further. He could not speak to them that night, as a minister of the Gospel, without bearing witness of this—that it is in the name of religion and in the name of their Blessed Lord, who said that "the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath," that they were labouring for this cause. What is it that keeps men and women away from places of public worship? What is it that desecrates the sanctity of home life as well as the sanctity of the public-house was this dirty, filthy habit of drinking on the Lord's day. God gave them the Sabbath day, therefore let no man take it from them. For whatever reason such men might insist, or whatever expediences they might offer in order to induce them to forfeit the privileges of the Sabbath day's rest, let their answer be—"God gave it to me, and you cannot take it from me." (Loud applause). There were two gifts given to man in the Garden of Eden—the Sabbath day and the holy rite of marriage. Whenever the first is tampered with, the other is affected too. Let France be witness to this. Ask a Frenchman how he observed the sanctity of the Sabbath day, and what is marriage to him? For the sake of the Blessed Master, and for the sake of souls He has revived, let them get this desired state of things. It was said they could not make men sober by Act of Parliament. He should like to ask, what fool even said they could? The Temperance reformers always had that ghost placed before them; yet he thought that fallacy had been thoroughly effaced years ago. There was no such intention. They did not make men honest, simply because there were laws prohibiting roguery and thievery. In conclusion, the rev. gentleman urged upon all present, whether Churchmen or Nonconformists, to put their shoulders to the wheel and endeavour to bring about such a happy consummation. (Prolonged Cheers).

Mr John Buckham (Lanchester) next moved that the Chairman be requested to sign a petition on behalf of this meeting for presentation to both Houses of Parliament praying for immediate legislation effecting the entire closing of public-houses on the Lord's day.

Mr T. Binns (Durham), seconded the proposition. He advanced many powerful arguments in favour of the present scheme, and submitted that the working classes had for some time past expressed themselves in favour of this temptation to Sunday drinking being removed out of their way. The speaker held that a few years ago, a larger number of the publicans were in favour of the Sunday closing movement than at the present. Formerly they thought that Sunday closing alone would satisfy the people of this country, but now they supposed that such a scheme was only the thin end of the wedge towards the entire closing of the beershops. The speaker next referred to the success of the total abstinence movement in Scotland, and concluded by urging the people of Lanchester to use their best endeavours in obtaining the shutting-up of public-houses on the Sundays, and asked them all to adhibit their names to one or other memorials which would be circulated in the village shortly in support of the object. (Cheers).

The Rev. H. E. Fox subsequently moved that several gentlemen be appointed a local committee to carry out the scheme.

This was seconded and agreed to.

Votes of thanks to the Chairman and speakers brought the proceedings to a close.

IMPORTANT COLLIERY CASE AT DURHAM.

At the Durham County Petty Sessions on Wednesday (before the Rev A. D. Shafto, chairman, and the Rev Canon Greenwell), 74 workmen employed by the Weardale Iron and Coal Company at their collieries at Tudhoe, Croxdale, and Tudhoe Grange, were charged with a breach of their engagements by failing to attend their work on the 27th January, and 5s damage was claimed in each case. Mr Atherley Jones, instructed by Mr M. Heaviside, solicitor, appeared for the workmen, whilst Mr Cooper, of the firm of Phillipson and Cooper, Newcastle, appeared for the Weardale Iron and Coal Company, who were also represented in court by Mr Du Pre, managing director. The case of Samuel Davis was taken first. According to the statement of Mr Wm. Johnson, the agent of the company at the collieries indicated, the agreement with the company's workmen at the collieries in question was for 23 shifts per fortnight to be worked including the pay Saturday, and he explained that the fore shift usually went to work on the pay Saturday. On 13th January (pay Saturday), the men in that shift did not go to work; the pit was laid idle, and a notice was served on them that the pit would be ready for work for the fore shift on the 27th January, and that the men would not have to regard it as a holiday. They did not go in on the 27th January, and the pit having been laid idle the present proceedings were taken. The witness stated that it was the custom at coking collieries and those producing coal for manufacturing iron to work on the "Pay Saturday," and whilst he stated that the custom had existed at the collieries of the Weardale Iron and Coal Company during the thirty-two years he had been connected with them, he quoted the collieries of Messrs Bolckow and Vaughan, Messrs Pease, and Messrs Streker and Love, as also following the same rule and working on the pay Saturday. He stated that he had heard the custom did not exist at Houghton-le-Spring, Hetton, Pemberton's (Monkwearmouth), and the household coal producing collieries generally, and that the pits were laid in on the pay Saturday. This witness, and also the succeeding witness, the overman at Croxdale Colliery, admitted there were collieries which did not work on that day, and also in the county of Northumberland.—The defence set up was that the custom throughout the coal trade of the North was that the men should not work on pay Saturday, and Mr Atherley Jones alleged that the present defendants carried with them the sympathies of the whole of the Durham coal trade, an assertion which Mr Cooper entered a strenuous denial of. Mr Jones also stated that when specially requested to work, the men could arrange amongst themselves for who went to work. Mr Jones however asserted that the prosecutions were an isolated attempt to sweep away an old-established custom.—The Chairman stated that the case of Samuel Davis would have to be dismissed, on account of the fact that the prosecution had failed to establish the allegation that Davis should have worked on the shift that did not go to work on the day in question, and whose absence caused the present proceedings to be taken.—The other cases were then proceeded with, and eventually the summonses against 24 men were either dismissed or withdrawn. The remainder of those summoned were ordered to pay 5s damage and the costs incurred in each case.

CONCERT AT LEADGATE.

A parish concert of a miscellaneous nature was given in the Redwell Hills School-room, on Monday evening by the choir in connection with St. Ives Church, Leadgate, under the direction of the accomplished leader, Mr Brears. Long before the the time of commencement a large and respectable audience had assembled, the place being comfortably filled. The chair was occupied by the esteemed vicar of the parish, Rev. J. W. Mitchell, M.A., who in introducing the programme said he was glad to see so many present, notwithstanding the very inclement night. They had an exceedingly good programme to go through, and he hoped the audience would thoroughly enjoy the various pieces. He then called upon the choir to open the first part of the entertainment by giving the glee "Sweet and low," the rendition of which reflected great credit on themselves and Mr Brears for the exertions put forth to bring the piece to such a degree of perfection. The choir, during the evening, also contributed the glees—"Old Towler," and "O! hush thee, my babie," all of which received the loud approbations of the audience. Mr Jackson executed the songs, "The pilot," and "Tom Bowling," both pieces being adopted to his deep, rotundo bass, and thus the songs received full justice. He gained an *encore* for the last named song, which he acknowledged. On the appearance of Miss Shield, (who is now becoming a great favourite in the district for her exceedingly charming vocal abilities) she received quite an ovation. This lady sung, in her usual soul-inspiring manner, the beautiful song "The better land," for which a rapturous *encore* was accorded to her. Miss Shield then returned and gave the song "Yes sir," with equal effect. She also sang the ever-popular song "Olivia," in which her exquisite voice was brought out to its full compass, fairly captivating the audience, and was re-demanded by deafening cheers, to which compliment she charmingly acquiesced. Messrs. Jackson and Anderson received a well-merited re-call for the excellent manner in which they gave the duet "All's well." The songs "Chatting by the door," and "Father pray with me to night," given in beautiful style by Miss Stewart, were taken with much acceptance by the enthusiastic assembly, the artiste gaining meritorious re-calls for the same. Mr Robinson, a rising tenor, gave in splendid style the magnificent songs, "The midshipmite," and "Nancy Lee," both of which were heartily re-demanded. Miss Mitchell was the subject for a rapturous *encore* when she contributed the very amusing song "The three old maids at Lee," it being given with captivating grace. Mr Anderson, who possesses a very fine tenor voice, made a good impression on the audience, on rendering the songs, "Anchor's weighed," and "The blue Alsatian mountains," for which he elicited from the company enthusiastic re-calls. The gay song "The summer shower," was contributed in a very pleasing manner by the delicately-impassioned voice of Miss Parker, a very promising *debunte*, whose exertions seemed irresistible, as was evinced by the very uproarous *encore* accorded to her. She returned and gave the very pathetic song, "In the gloaming," with equal effect. Mr Eden fairly convulsed the audience with the very amusing comic song "The school-master," in character, and being re-demanded, kept them in roars of laughter. A quartette was also given by Messrs. Anderson, T. Shield, Robinson, and Brears, entitled "Beware," which was throughout executed in perfect harmony and precision, gaining for themselves an *encore*, for which they gave the latter part of the piece in grand style. During the interval Mr W. H. Hedley caused a great amount of merriment when he read a piece entitled "A Divorce Case: Bardell *v.* Pickwick." Mr Hedley did full justice to it by imitating the various witnessess, &c., whose evidence appeared so amusing as to make the most sober-minded person fairly shake with laughter. The Rev. J. Kirk, the respected curate, also greatly amused the audience when he read in a very droll manner "A night with the baby," which piece kept them in a continual roar of unrestrainable laughter. Miss Mitchell greatly enhanced each piece by the brilliant style in which she accompanied the artistes, her manipulating powers being exceedingly good.

The singing of the "National Anthem" brought one of the most pleasant and enjoyable entertainments ever held in Leadgate to a close, it being in every way a great success.

LATEST FASHIONS FOR FEBRUARY.

The season for balls and parties is now at its height, and consequently the greatest display of dresses are those intended for evening wear. We have already suggested some very pretty and inexpensive toilettes for this purpose; but with young girls who go out a great deal some change is desired, and this with as little outlay as possible. Light-coloured dresses are exceedingly pretty while they last, but, unfortunately, their beauty is of short duration. The fashion of wearing dark bodices over light skirts is quite an economical invention, and looks exceedingly well, providing the shades contrast well. A crême skirt that has lost its first freshness looks well worn with a bodice and paniers of blue broché or coat of cardinal plush. A complete renovation is effected by combining peacock-blue velvet with crême. The pink dresses which have been so popular and becoming to young girls can be made wearable for the end of the season with gathered bodice and scarf of golden-brown surah; or the pink drapery of the skirt might be arranged over a short velvet skirt, introducing the velvet into to the bodice in the form of a vest, if the bodice is high. A costume of old-gold is easily transformed into a handsome-looking dress, with the aid of black lace trimmings, the bodice entirely covered with Spanish lace, the sleeves of transparent lace. Pale blue and crimson are good night colours. In the illustrations in the February Number of *Mrs Leach's Practical Family Dressmaker* will be found several bodices suitable for this purpose. Grenadine dresses are most useful to fall back upon, and these are now tastefully made up over coloured linings, so that the effect is very pretty. Flowers were never more lavishly used than this season. They form complete borderings to the drapery of the skirts, and berthas to the low bodices. With V or square bodices, long sprays extend from the shoulder down the left side. Small bouquets are placed on the fan girdle, or in the centre of the shoulder bow. Very pretty little muffs, composed entirely of flowers, are a tasteful addition to the costume, but of course only necessary with a handsome full-dress toilette. To vary the plainness of the "Newmarket" coats, they are now bordered with a deep fur, and have cuffs and collars to match. Jackets are still worn quite tight-fitting; for early spring wear a thinner make of cloth is used. In the way of trimmings, they have either the collar and cuffs outlined with narrow bands of fur, or the whole jacket is plainly stitched, and the front ornamented with handsome gimp brandebourgs. Young girls wear the deep fur cape, and deep cuffs or gauntlets to match. These are much preferred to paletots, when the weather is warm enough to admit of their wear, and they show off the pretty walking dresses to perfection. For useful mid-winter costumes, plaids combined with plain woollens or velveteens continue the favourite mixtures; the large plaids are made up into box-pleated skirts, and worn with velvet or plush coats, such as we have before-mentioned. The smaller checks make up into stylish polonaises, over velveteen skirts. Quite young girls wear the dress made entirely of plaid, a plaid waist ribbon confining the gathered bodice or blouse, the draperies on the skirt caught up at the side under a bow composed of a number of loops of the plaid ribbon.—*Mrs Leach's Practical Family Dressmaker.*

WESLEYAN CHAPEL EXTENSION: THE NEWCASTLE DISTRICT.

Some idea of the material growth of the Wesleyan Methodist denomination in Great Britain may be gathered from the annual report which has just been issued by the Wesleyan Chapel Committee, whose head-quarters are in Manchester. This report deals with each case of chapel building, enlargement, or reconstruction of premises that has occurred within the connexion during the year, and presents in a concise form an accurate return of moneys expended on all kinds of trust property. The committee have sanctioned during the past twelve months 369 cases. These comprise 122 new chapels, at an estimated cost of £150,616; 14 ministers' houses, at a cost of £12,971; 19 school-rooms, at a cost of £15,024; and 101 alterations and enlargements, the cost of which is put down at £41,279. There are also 80 modifications of cases previously sanctioned, involving an additional outlay of £18,085 on 63 chapels, and £3,995 in regard to 16 alterations and enlargements. Another item of expenditure which has been approved by the committee is £8,461 on 33 organs. The total amount in regard to the 369 cases is £250,431. Of the proposed new chapels, 62, to accommodate 13,595 hearers, are to be erected in places where there were previously no Wesleyan chapels, and 60, estimated to provide accommodation for 21,666, are to supersede former erections. Altogether the total additional accommodation will be 25,562 sittings. The cases reported during the year as completed number 276, the entire sum expended on which has been £329,177. The entire debt remaining is £79,145. Several of these completed cases, and also the proposed erections, are in the Newcastle District. Several gifts of chapels and schools are reported, including a minister's house at Barnard Castle, which has cost £1,000, by Mr Joseph Dixon, and the site for the same, of the value of £200, by Mr C. B. Martin, of Barnard Castle. The following figures are interesting as showing what Wesleyan Methodism has done in the way of chapel building in the Newcastle-on-Tyne District during the past twenty-five years. Expended on new chapels, £123,562; on ministers' houses, £6,069; on the erection of day and Sunday schools, £14,255; alterations and enlargements, £13,796; on organs, £5,098; total expenditure on trust property in the district, £127,239. The entire amount of debt liquidated during the same period has been £36,169. The debt reported as remaining on Wesleyan trust property at present in the district is £21,274. The entire expenditure on Wesleyan Chapel trust property for same period throughout Great Britain is £4,946,483, whilst the amount of debt paid off is £1,454,688; the entire connexional debts at present remaining being only £763,178. The new chapel in course of erection at Jesmond is to cost £8,200, and to give sitting accommodation to 830 persons.

THE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES AT CONSETT.

The fourth lecture of the series was given on Saturday evening by Professor Hodgson, when there was again a good attendance. The lecturer resumed the subject of "Sensations of Muscular Tension, Touch, Pressure, and Temperature," and afterwards proceeded to treat of "The Organ of Sight." From the syllabus of the former we learn that:—(6). Sensibility to pressure and sensibility to temperature are also different for different parts of the body, but they do not vary together, nor do they vary according as the sensibility to touch varies. For example, the sense of pressure is not much more delicate in the tips of the fingers than it is in the fore-arm, whereas the sense of locality through touch is about ten times as delicate. The sense of locality through touch is more delicate on the lips than on the cheeks, but the cheeks are more sensitive to heat. (7). The sensations of muscular tension, pressure, and touch, are the foundation of our knowledge of the external world. These sensations are grouped together in different ways and form the basis of our notions of the size, shape, position, weight, hardness and softness, roughness and smoothness, &c., of bodies. The experiences we thus obtain are aided, enlarged, and developed by the sense of sight. But the first and most important elements are those dependent upon the sensations of our own muscular tensions, such as we feel when we direct the movements of our limbs, together with the touches and pressures we experience. Thus we have "a vast and complicated mass of acquirements, involving a large number of muscles and an immense apparatus of cannecting nerves." Concerning the "Organ of Sight," (1). The eyeball is globular, is at the sides and behind imbedded in fat, and can be turned in its chamber or orbit hy means of six muscles, four straight—the recti—and two oblique—the obliqui. (2). The protective organs are: eyebrows, eyelids, lachrymal apparatus, and conjunctiva, a thin membrane which lines the interior of the lids and extends over the front of the eyeball. (3). The eyeball itself consists of three coats with transparent substances in the interior. (1). The sclerotic is the outer coat, tough and firm and for the most part white and opaque, but becoming transparent and more convex in the fore part of the eye. (2). The choroid is a dark coat lying within the sclerotic, and containing blood-vessels and pigment cells. In the front part of the eye it joins the coloured curtain called the iris, in the middle of which is the round opening called the pupil. The iris is provided with muscular fibres by the action of which the pupil may be enlarged or diminished. (3). The retina lies within the choroid, and consists of an expansion of the optic nerve, which after leaving the brain passes through a hole in the skull at the back of the orbit, enters the eyeball through the sclerotic and choroid a little to the nose-side of the centre, and then spread out into the retina, lining about two-thirds of the interior. (4). The transparent substances within these coats are: (a). The aqueous humour, a watery substance lying behind the cornea, in the corneal chamber, and separated by (b). The crystalline lens from (c). The vitreous humour, a watery substance filling the sclerotic chamber.

Football.

NORTHUMBERLAN AND DURHAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION CHALLENGE CUP (SECOND ROUND).—BURNOPFIELD *v.* BISHOP MIDDLEHAM.—This tie was played off on Saturday, at Burnopfield. The recent heavy rains in this district had rendered the ground most miserable; a strong wind was also blowing from goal to goal. With it the home team scored two goals during the first half; the visitors also shot two, but they were not allowed on account of hands and off side being in the way. When positions were changed, Bishop Middleham, with the wind in their favour, added other three goals to their score, and eventually won the match by three goals and two disputed ones to Burnopfield's two goals. Teams:—Burnopfield: J. H. Brown (captain), goal; G. Mason and T. Curry, backs; G. Green and G. Strong, half-backs; W. J. Cawthorn, G. Holmes, J. Rodham, J. Trewick, G. Watson, and J. Fisk, forwards. Bishop Middleham: J. Craggs, goal; B. Walker and W. Ross, backs; J. Moyes (captain), G. Lee, and G. Chapman, half-backs; T. Field, H. Ross, T. Gibson, W. Greenwell, and G. Raine, forwards. Umpires: Mr Beattie for Burnopfield, and Mr Haile for Bishop Middleham. Referee: Mr W. Hume of the North-Eastern Football Club.

OVINGHAM *v.* PRUDHOE ROVERS.—Played at Prudhoe on Saturday last, Ovingham winning by four goals to nil. Prudhoe Rovers: R. Addy, goal; J. Jackson and H. Robertson, backs; T. Marshall, J. Snowdon, and A. Dodd, half-backs; G. Robinson and G. Charlton (captain), right wing; J. Leonard and W. B. Dodd, left wing; R. Johnson, centre.

WALLSEND 2ND *v.* WINLATON ROYAL OAK 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, at Wallsend, resulting in a victory for Wallsend by two tries and two touches down to nil. Wallsend played to men short.

CONSETT *v.* SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—This match, one of the most important that has taken place in the district, was played on Saturday last at Shotley Spa Grounds, before a great number of spectators. The weather was fine, and altogether suited for a real test of merit. The game commenced by Petherick kicking off for Consett, the forwards following well up held the ball in the home 25. Here the struggle commenced in real earnest. The Shotley team had a great advantage in size and weight and were fully expected to hold their own in the scrimmages, but this they failed to do, for in spite of their efforts to make a stand they were carried up to their goal line—this unexpected performance being greeted by round after round of cheering by the friends of the Consett team. From one of the scrimmages the ball was passed to J. Struthers when close upon the goal, and he ran in with a try. Owing to the strong wind blowing and the difficult angle in which the ball was placed the kick at goal by Jameson failed, Lazenby dropped out, the ball was well returned and again the Consett forwards threatened their opponents' goal when change of ends was called. The forwards on both sides now worked very hard, the most conspicuous being Freek for Consett, whose splendid working powers are always visible in the packed scrimmages; and Benson for Shotley, who played the whole time with unflinching energy. Just before half-time Routledge, by a good punt which he followed up well, scored a try; this Jameson succeeded in rising over the bar. On the ball being again in motion the home team redoubled their efforts to retrieve their lost ground, and it seemed at one time as if they were going to succeed as J. B. Lazenby by some good kicks placed the Consett goal in imminent danger, and forced the captain to touch-down in defence. The struggle raged fast, neither side gaining any ground for the next fifteen minutes, but upon changing ends for the last time it was plainly visible that the Shotley men were waving the signal of distress. Their opponents seeing their difficulty, forced the play faster still, and slowly, but surely worked the ball down again to the home goal line. Now came the feature of the day's play. When about two minutes from the call of time the scrimmage taking place about a yard from the Shotley goal, in which the whole team were engaged doing their utmost to prevent an addition to the score against them, when by a rush which their combined efforts were unable to stall off, the Consett forwards took the ball over the line and scored a try, which Jameson also converted into a goal. Time was now called and left the latter winners by two goals, one try, one touch-down, to one touch-down. For Consett Petherick, Freek, J. Struthers, Jameson, and Routledge played well. For Shotley Benson and J. B. Lazenby showed good play and did their utmost to avert defeat. After the game the Shotley team entertained the Consett men to a substantial tea in the Refreshment Rooms. Subsequently the Captains of both teams expressed themselves highly delighted at the pleasant manner in which the game had passed off, and after three hearty cheers for the rival clubs, both teams parted the best of friends. Teams:—Consett—Back, M. Hobday; three-quarter-backs, C. Routledge, J. Petherick (captain), and W. Kempster; half-backs, J. Struthers and T. Jameson; forwards, J. Richards, W. Saburn, W. Wilson, W. Fittus, G. Freek, A. Struthers, W. Beldon, F. Perkins, and J. Mills. Shotley Bridge—Back, H. Nichol; three-quarter-backs, J. B. Lazenby (captain), and J. G. Murray; half-backs, F. Collinson and N. Raw; forwards, J. M. Lazenby, T. Muse, W. Wilson, R. S. Benson, F. Lazenby, W. Houliston, M. Gibson, J. Thirlwell, W. Richardson, and F. Thompson.

Local and General News.

Special services were commenced on Sunday, in the Wolsingham Primitive Methodist Chapel, conducted by Mrs Thompson, of Ripon.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY TRAFFIC RETURN.—The North-Eastern Railway return of traffic for the week ending February 3rd shows an increase in all departments to the extent of £4,108, made up of £1,173 increase in passengers, £2,204 in merchandise and cattle, £611 in minerals, and £118 in dock dues, &c.

LODGERS "LYING HEADS TO TAILS."—At the ordinary meeting of the Hexham Local Board, held on Monday evening, Mr Taylor in the chair, the Inspector reported two persons for keeping unregistered common lodging-houses in Hexham.—Mr Robinson said that one of the persons had eleven in a room "lying heads to tails" on the floor.—The inspector was instructed to take the necessary steps to bring to offending parties before the magistrates.

CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL, CHESTER-LE-STREET.—The 36th annual tea meeting of the members and friends of this body was held in the Lambton Arms Hotel, Chester-le-Street, on Tuesday. A large number of people sat down to the well-filled tables. In the afternoon the Rev H. Batchelor, of Newcastle, preached in the chapel, and in the same place a meeting was held in the evening, presided over by Mr J. Shephherdson, Newcastle, who with the Revs A. Norris, M. A. Drummond, H. Oakley, and others, addressed the meeting.

BRANDON LOCAL BOARD.—The usual monthly meeting of the above Board was held on Tuesday, at the office of the clerk (Mr J. G. Wilson), Durham. The principal business was the election of a new member of the Board in the place of Mr Wm. Hepple, who, by non-attendance for a period of six months, had vacated his seat. Two candidates were proposed—viz., Mr Geo. French, innkeeper, Esh; and Mr J. J. Lishman, colliery manager, Brandon. Mr French was elected, having received three votes to his opponent's two.

SAD DEATH OF A CHILD AT EDMONDSLEY.—An inquest was held on Tuesday, by Mr John Graham, coroner, at Edmondsley, on the body of Matthew Joseph Oliver, aged 18 months, who died on Friday night from being scalded. On Wednesday last the child, whilst on its mother's knee at the table, upset a pot of hot tea, spilling a quantity of the liquid on its chest. The child afterwards took convulsions, and succumbed to its injuries as above reported. A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

THE DURHAM COAL TRADE.—Messrs. J. Bowes and Partners are having a run of exceptionally good work at their Wardley Collieries in the County of Durham, and so abundant is the coal in the parts at present being worked, that upon a recent day, it is stated, the output reached the enormous quantity of 1,150 tons, and it is not improbable that within the next month or so their average output will be fully 1,500 tons per day. Such are the prospects of a continuance of this remarkable activity and good luck, that the firm seem to have secured all the houses in the neighbourhood, and are said to have endeavoured to come to terms with a view to leasing considerable house property for the convenience of their numerous and increasing staff of miners. The same firm, it would appear, are in treaty for the possession of the Felling Colliery, which has hitherto been worked by Sir George Elliot, and had it not been for some hitch between the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and Sir George, Messrs. Bowes and Partners would have been in possession ere now. We understand, however, that this obstacle has now been overcome, and that the new firm will enter upon the workings at an early date.

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

A QUINTETTE OF VILLAGE PATRIARCHS.—Five old men met in the house of Mr James Donnelly, news agent, Corbridge, recently, whose united ages amounted to 309, averaging within a fraction of 80 years. They were—Messrs. John Bowman, 89; Thos. Fawcett, 79; John Best, 79; Dagg (Middle Street), 79; and Wm. Fairless, 73.

THE STRIKE AT USHAW MOOR COLLIERY.—There does not seem to be any sign of a settlement of the dispute either peaceable or otherwise. It was a great pity, that something similar to the arrangement effected at the Brandon Collieries, during the past week, could not be arranged at the commencement of the Ushaw Moor difficulty. It appears that the causes were the same, only with this difference—that there were fifteen other men besides the delegate discharged at Brandon Colliery, whereas there was the delegate only in the case of Ushaw Moor.—The men on strike received their usual weekly allowance from the Union on Friday last. After which, the money received in voluntary subscriptions from the collieries was distributed amongst them. At Tuesday morning's meeting (Mr John Lee in the chair), the secretary (Mr H. Smith) gave the expenditure for the past week, which was passed as satisfactory.—The secretary then read subscriptions from the following collieries in this district:—Oxhill, Marley Hill, Hobson, Townley, Spen, Whickham, Tanfield Moor, Blaydon Main, and 18 other collieries.—Votes of thanks were accorded to the donors.

NORTHUMBERLAND MINERS' WAGES.—PROPOSED RENEWAL OF THE SLIDING SCALE.—Since the lapse of the sliding scale, under which the Northumberland miners worked until recently, the officials of their union had been endeavouring to ascertain their wishes with regard to the scale on which they desire to have their wages calculated. A series of resolutions have been sent out to the men in order that they might record their votes with regard to them. Of the resolutions, the two that obtained most votes were that in favour of appointing a committee with power to negotiate with the masters for the purpose of getting the best sliding scale they can, and that in favour of asking for 10 per cent. advance upon the present wages as a basis for a new sliding scale. These two resolutions were sent out to the men last week for their final vote on the matter, and the result was that 102 votes were given for the appointment of a committee, and 65 for asking a 10 per cent. advance. The men in the various districts of the union are now selecting their representatives on the committee, which will consist of the officials and six elected members. When the committee has been formed it will seek an interview with the masters, but no effect can be given to the result of their conference without the miners as a body being consulted on the matter.

DURHAM COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—On Saturday, a meeting of this Society was held at the Three Tuns Hotel, Durham, Mr Johnson in the chair. The Secretary (Mr Weatherill) read the report, which showed that last year's show (which was held at Sunderland) was a great success, both financially and otherwise.—The Chairman informed those present that some years ago there was in existence a Chamber of Commerce for the County of Durham, and on its demise a sum of money, which now amounted to £90, was put into the bank in his name. This money he proposed to divide between the Chamber of Agriculture, London, and the Durham Agricultural Society.—The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted in the re-election of the Chairman and other officials.—Some discussion took place as to the town where the next show should be held, South Shields, Gateshead, and Barnard Castle being suggested.

PLACING AN OBSTRUCTION ON THE RAILWAY NEAR TOW LAW.—On Monday, at the Bishop Auckland Police Court, a youth, 12 years of age, named Joseph Stoker, was charged with placing four metal chairs on the rails of the North-Eastern Railway between Tow Law and Crook, on the 11th of January. The line at this part is very steep, and the trains run very quickly. Mr Hannan appeared on behalf of the company to prosecute. The boy was not defended.—A platelayer named Wilson stated that about half-past four o'clock he found the line all right.—John Wearmouth, an engine-driver in the employ of the company, said that as he was going home on the night of the 11th of January, about a quarter to five o'clock, he discovered four metal chairs placed on the rails near to Roddymoor, about two yards apart. He took them off and reported the occurrence, which on investigation being made led to the apprehension of the defendant.—Defendant said that he did not mean to do anything. He was playing with the chairs and left them on the line.—Mr Wilkinson, addressing the boy, said that it was hardly possible to speak in sufficient strong terms of the offence which had been committed by him. No one knew how many lives might have been endangered by the act. A train was very shortly due, and had it come upon the chairs which he had placed a terrible catastrophe might have taken place. Whether done in mischief or malice they could not tell, but at any rate he must be punished. The sentence would be that he pay £2 and receive 12 lashes with the rod.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD.—The following is Her Majesty's Inspector's report for 1882 upon the schools under this Board:—"Swalwell Mixed School: The result of the elementary examinations are again unsatisfactory, while in grammar and geography the children have done considerably worse than last year. The only point in which I note improvement is the girls' needlework, with which proper care seems to have been taken. The order is creditable. The official correspondence is kept in a very unmethodical manner, and it was impossible to examine it without great waste of time. Swalwell Infants' School: The elementary attainments are still unsatisfactory, and show a falling off from last year. My lords have ordered the grant to the mixed school to be reduced by one-tenth for faults of instruction—Article 32 (*b*). Their lordships are again compelled to order the grant to the infants' school to be reduced by one-tenth for continued faults of instruction—(Article 32, *b*). A heavier fine will be inflicted next year unless considerable improvement be shown. Dunston Mixed School: The attainments are still not satisfactory, as, although there is a slightly increased proportion of passes of elementary subjects, the boys have not earned any grant for class subjects, although they only attempted one. The girls fail in grammar, but have done creditably in needlework. The children behave well, except those in the first standard, where the order is weak. The Board should take into their serious consideration the poor attendance at Dunston Schools, and should take more efficient steps than they have hitherto done towards improving matters in this respect. Dunston Infant School: The standard children are very weak in spelling and arithmetic. The infants are doing very fairly. The order is satisfactory. Further improvement will be looked for next year. Marley Hill Mixed School: The children have passed fairly in elementary, and well in class subjects, except that map drawing should receive more attention in the fourth and sixth standard. The order is satisfactory, and the singing and girls' needlework deserve high praise. Marley Hill Infants' School: The order and instruction are creditable, though arithmetic is still rather weak. The show of needlework was good; and I am glad to find that the boys are taught as well as the girls. The grants earned were as follows:—Swalwell School, £168 6s; Dunston School, £128 0s 8d; Marley Hill School, £164 10s; and the passes at Swalwell 57⅔ per cent., at Dunston 64½ per cent., and Marley Hill 80½ per cent.

A FRACAS AT MICKLEY SQUARE.—On Tuesday, at Hexham Petty Sessions, *Henry Luthen*, pitman, Mickley Square, was fined £1 and costs for refusing to quit licensed premises, 10s and costs for being drunk and riotous, £2 and costs for assaulting P.C. Summers, and £1 and costs for an assault upon the landlord of the Miners' Arms at Mickley Square—£4 10s and the costs in four cases.—*William Luthen* was fined £1 for refusing to quit licensed premises, and 10s for being drunk and riotous; and *John Luthen* £1 for assaulting the landlord of the Miners' Aarms.

NIGHT POACHING AT SHOTLEY.—On Tuesday, at Hexham Petty Sessions, *John Angus*, pitman, Medomsley Edge, and *Edward Renwick*, Blackhill, were summoned for trespassing on land in the occupation of Cuthbert Charlton, of High Waskerley farm, and on the preserves of Mr J. W. Wilson, of Shotley Hall. Mr W. Taylor prosecuted, and Mr Maw, Bishop Auckland, defended.—John Swinburn, game watcher, spoke to seeing four men, about two o'clock on Christmas morning, on Mr Wilson's land. It was a bright moonlight morning, and he saw the men ranging the ground with dogs. Each of the defendants carried away a hare.—Defendants were found guilty, Renwick fined £5 and costs, being an old offender, and Angus £3 and costs, or in default of payment a month's imprisonment.—*Robert Hall*, Cutler's Hall, was fined £3 and costs for a similar offence on Christmas morning; and *William Angus*, Medomsley Edge, was fined £3 and costs for searching for hares on December 25th last, in Shotley parish, without a license to kill game.

MAGNIFICIENT RUN WITH THE NORTH DURHAM FOXHOUNDS.—This pack on Monday last visited the Dareness Valley, and enjoyed what was unanimously pronounced the best run that has been had within the memory of the oldest member of the hunt, which reminded old stagers of the traditions of great things which have come down from the long bygone days of Mr Ralph Lambton. The meet was at Square House, above Cornsay, and a small but select field turned up, amongst those present being the Earl of Durham, with his brother-in law, Mr W. Milner, and the Hon. Charles Lambton, whilst the master, Mr A. L. Maynard, was accompanied by Mrs Maynard. A little after time a commencement was made with the Holly Bush cover, but a move on was necessary, the unusual cry of "drawn blank" on this occasion being the result of the beating. Rackwoodside was the alternative resource, and hardly had the hounds been put in when the Vie Hallo resounded from all parts of the cover, and indicated that several foxes were on foot. The huntsman, Dick Freeman, and his whips here showed what good hands they are by their coolness in keeping their hounds together amid the excitement, and by the method they laid them on to a wiry, game-looking old dog fox, which tried to steal away towards Robinson's Whin. A sharp dash was made until he reached that spot, and he dodged about a little as if unwilling to go further. After some finessing he broke cover again, and pointed for Gladdow, and he would probably have gained that shelter, but fur being headed, when he doubled back for Rackwoodside again. The hounds were too close to his brush, however, to allow him the opportunity of getting more than a glimpse of his home, and he was bustled out before them, and again made for Robinson's Whin. He could not negotiate that place on this occasion, so crossing the Browney Road he raced past the low end of Gladdow, and then breasting the hill he made for Black Banks, near Satley. Onward he had to go still, however, and he then popped into a gill, and led his pursuers a rare dance towards Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith's cozy residence at Broadwood Park. Thence he sped off acsoss the west turnpike, near Colepike Hall, and on towards Stobby Lea, after trying in vain to find a resting place in the Browney covers. Here reynard indulged in a bit of dodging, as he was evidently getting away from his accustomed haunts, but the demands of the hounds were too pressing for him to resist, and he eventually again laid himself down for a real gallop, and raced away past Newbiggen, crossed the Woodlands road and then made away across the valley straight for Little Greencroft, and he was going so strong and well that there appeared to be little chance of reaching him. He was allowed no breathing time at Mr Balleny's place, however, and he then dashed uphill and entered the plantation on the Carribees Farm, and sped past the rear of the Grand Stand on the Consett Racecourse. His pursuers were close upon him, and so fresh tactics were necessary. Turning eastward he looked longing at the secure retreat offered by the Bogle Hole cover, but so close on him were the hounds that he could not get near them, so he gallantly raced up the hill, passed the low side of the village of Iveston, and then sped off to Hanging Stone, and he evidently meant to find a place of retreat in one of the numerous cavities formed by pitfalls which are far from uncommon in that district. The pack, however, stuck to him with the pertinacity of grim fate, and finding no shelter, he pointed straight for Leadgate. He passed not far from the Catholic Church at the Brooms, and he then raced off towards East Castle, or, as it is better known locally, the Bantling Colliery, and thence he made tracks for Dipton, evidently dead beat, and the pack in apparently very little better state, the good hard condition of the hounds and their determined resolution alone carrying them along. He tried for South Medomsley, but as he crossed a field near the end of that village the gallant pack ran into him, and brought to a close a capital run. From end to end the run had extended over two hours and a quarter without scarcely a check occurring, during which over twenty-five miles must have been traversed of as stiff country as could be selected in the county of Durham. The master presented the brush to Mr Milner as a trophy of this most magnificent run.

GREENCROFT PRIMITIVE METHODIST SOCIETY.—The anniversary services in connection with the above place were celebrated on Saturday and Sunday last in the following order:—On Saturday, a fruit banquet was held, when addresses were delivered by Messrs W. Atkinson, Stanley; J. Sasbury, Annfield Plain; and J. Taylor, of Dipton. Mr J. G. Ward occupied the chair. Fruit was served at intervals.—On Sunday, three sermons were preached in the morning and evening by Mr Philip Reay, of Annfield Plain, and in the afternoon by Mr W. Atkinson. The services were well attended and a good influence pervaded the whole of the services. Proceeds in advance of last year.

In addition to a grant of land already made, Sir William Armstrong has announced his intention of giving, for the purposes of a public park, the remaining portion of the pleasure grounds in Jesmond Dene.

DURHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL.—The annual meeting of the Governors of the Durham County Hospital was held on Wednesday. During the year there have been 1,425 cases treated, being an increase of 132 over last year. The balance sheet showed that the total income of the institution from all sources (including a legacy from Mr Hodgson of £3,600) was £5,388 18s 6d, whilst the expenditure, including a balance of £266 3s 7½d, was £5,341 10s 11½d, leaving £47 7s 7d to the credit of the Institution. The Hospital Sunday collections showed an increase, whilst Hospital Saturday subscriptions were not so large, the two together, however, amounting to £208 17s 5½d, or £9 3s 2½d more than last year.

TOW LAW.—A highly successful musical entertainment was given at Tow Law, on Tuesday, in aid of the fund for the repairs of the Parish Church of St. Philip and St. James. The hall was crowded. Mr H. White occupied the chair, and Mr H. Whiteley presided at the piano. The Committee, after paying all expenses, are able to hand over the sum of £6 16s 8½d. The usual vote of thanks and the singing of "God Save the Queen" brought the proceedings to a close.

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, February 5th.—Before R. DICKINSON, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Edward Purcell was summoned by P.C. Wood for being found drunk and staggering about the streets of Consett, on Saturday night, 27th ult.—The defendant, who admitted the charge, was fined 5s and 7s 6d costs; in default, seven day's imprisonment.

John Parker likewise pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred by P.C. Wood, of being drunk and incapable at Consett, about half-past ten o'clock on Saturday evening, 27th January.—He was fined 5s and pay costs.

James Evans, alias "The Cobbler" (who has already made three appearances in Court this year) was again brought up on a charge of drunkenness.—P.C. Hudson stated that about nine o'clock on Saturday night last he found the defendant helplessly drunk in Newmarket Street, Consett.—A fine of 5s and 5s 4d costs was imposed, with the alternative of seven days' hard labour.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

TUESDAY, February 6th.—Before C. GRAY, and C. BACKHOUSE, Esqrs.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following persons pleaded guilty and were fined in sums from 13s 6d to 20s:—*William Edgar, James Kay, jun., James Bowel, John Flemming, Robert Currie, John Williams, D. Smith, Sam Jackson, John Evans, Thomas Calligan, R. Proud, Ann Emery, M. McCullay,* and *D. Patterson.*

LARCENY.

Hannah Dodds, of Tow Law, was fined 10s and costs for stealing a pair of boots the property of George Crabtree, of Tow Law, on the 29th ult.

BREACH OF CONTRACT.

Three miners, named respectively *Anthony Merritt, William Wheatley*, and *Wheatley Davison*, were each ordered to pay 4s and 6s 6d costs, for absenting themselves from work on the 5th ult. The complainants were the Weardale Coal and Iron Company.

UNSTAMPED WEIGHTS.

John Robinson, butcher, Tow Law, was fined 10s and 8s 6d costs, for having had in his possession a set of unstamped weights.

CONTEMPT OF COURT.

John Wilson, who had been summoned for drunkenness, was summarily transferred to the cells for attending before the Bench in a state of intoxication.

Correspondence.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—Please give the following extracts from the Agricultural Committee's report in your next week's issue:—

BAD SEASONS.

"Although farmers must always take their chances of the seasons and accept the consequences as they come, yet in some districts and to some extent the worst effects of heavy rainfall may be mitigated.

FOREIGN COMPETITION.

Next to a succession of bad and unfavourable seasons the effect of foreign competition is assigned by the majority of witnesses as a main cause of the embarrassments of the agricultural community. Formerly the farmer was to some extent compensated by a higher price for a smaller yield; he has had in recent years to compete with an unusually large supply at greatly reduced prices. On the other hand he has the advantage of an extended supply of feeding stuffs, such as Indian corn, linseed, and cotton cake, and artificial manures imported from abroad; and disastrous as the combined effect of bad seasons and foreign competition has been, the witnesses who speak in the interests of agriculture recognise the advantages to the community of cheap food.

RENT.

It has been suggested that for many years prior to 1875 rents had been unduly raised. The weight of evidence, however, satisfies us that such a practice was exceptional, especially on large estates, and might be attributed in a great measure to imprudent competition on the part of tenants. It would also seem that this competition was to a considerable extent encouraged by the employment of capital in the shape of advances made by country bankers on personal security, as well as by cattle salesmen and dealers, the sudden withdrawals of such accommodation and the calling in of loans so made, has in our opinion greatly contributed to the late difficulties of the tenant farmers, whilst we strongly object to any legislative enactments or interference in the question of rent between landlord and tenant, we are of an opinion that it will be for the interests of both parties that rents should be so fixed by voluntary arguments as to enable farmers to meet the difficulties of their position.

PEASANT PROPRIETORS.

Whilst we deem it highly expedient to facilitate and cheapen the transfer of land, we are of opinion that no special facilities should be given to stimulate the artificial growth of a system which appears to be ill adapted to the habits of the people or to the conditions of agriculture in this country.

CULTIVATION OF LAND.

Amongst the suggestions that have been made for the amelioration of the position of the tenant farmer is the extension of the growth of market garden crops on a portion of the farm, and as a part of one or more of the courses in the usual rotation deserves notice. The extent to which this suggestion is applicable varies necessarily in different parts of the country, but it seems probable that on some farms hard fruits and less tender kinds of vegetables might be grown to advantage if sufficient capital was applied to the firtilization and cultivation of the land, and an adequate amount of attention was given to the management of crops; but this description of husbandry must depend upon suitability of soil and climate, as well as upon facility of carriage and proximity to large centres of population.

DAIRY FARMING.

Sufficient attention does not appear to have been hitherto devoted to first-class dairy products, and thus many dairy farmers have suffered considerably.

COMPENSATION FOR UNEXHAUSTED IMPROVEMENTS.

It would in our opinion be advisable so for to amend the Agricultural Holdings' Act, so as to make the compensations depend upon the additional value given to the holding, but we wish it to be understood that no compensation should be paid by the landlord or incoming tenant except for outlays which are valuable to him in the future cultivation of the farm.

RESTRICTIVE COVENANTS

We believe that the more restrictive covenants will be found in the older leases and agreements which were prepared at a period when all the conditions of agriculture were different from those now prevailing on well managed estates.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

The best hopes for the future prosperity of agriculture lies in the mutual confidence and friendly relations of the three classes directly engaged in it, viz., landlord, tenant, and labourer; and in the common conviction that their interests are inseparable, and in concluding this report we may be allowed to record our opinion that the condition of British agriculture has never been the subject of a more comprehensive and laborious inquiry than that in which we have been engaged, and that this report confirms an exhaustive record of the extent and immediate effects of the agricultural depression, of the causes to which that depression may be attributed, and of the various suggestions submitted to us from opposite points of view for ameliorating the condition of the agricultural classes." Comment on the above is unnecessary.—I am, yours truly,

JESSE HALL.

THROAT IRRITATION.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections, becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. and 1s. 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice. — Yours faithfully, GORDON HOLMES, L. R. C. P. E., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary." 185g

Business Announcements.

NINTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

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

ESTABLISHED 1830. 962p

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES

(Over 60 Set-up to select from).

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,

PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

ALTERATION OF PREMISES.

J. GOODFELLOW

RESPECTFULLY intimates to his Patrons and Public generally that DURING RE-BUILDING OF PREMISES OCCUPIED BY HIM, Business will be CARRIED ON in the Shop lately occupied by BRODIE & SON, Tailors, &c., a few doors further along same Street. Owing to the Shop being too small for his Stock, he will

OFFER THE WHOLE OF IT FOR SALE,

At such prices as must command a SPEEDY CLEARANCE. Genuine Reductions of from 2s. to 6s. in the pound.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

J. GOODFELLOW, Late Brodie & Son, **MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT**

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,

NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN,

GEORGE HOBSON,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

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

HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF

PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

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

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

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED

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

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF

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

AGENT FOR CATTLE AND POULTRY SPICE.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION. 825q

VALENTINES ! ! VALENTINES ! !

A most extensive variety.

BIRTHDAY CARDS, BOOK MARKS, AND GENERAL STATIONERY

AT

JASPER COCKBURN'S

CHEAP STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENT,

13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Books not in Stock may be had at Two days' notice. 347r

BOTANY ! BOTANY ! ! BOTANY ! ! !

BRITISH AND FOREIGN HERBS, ROOTS, AND BARKS,

MAY BE OBTAINED OF

T. HUDSPITH,

MEDICAL HERBALIST,

BOTANIC DISPENSARY, BLACKHILL.

AGENT for W. BUTCHER & Co.'s HOMŒOPATHIC PREPARATIONS; also, Prof. O. P. BROWN'S HERBAL REMEDIES. 268r

Orders by Post promptly attended to. Trade Supplied.

CARRIAGES.

ATKINSON AND PHILIPSON,

have arranged for the unsold lots of their

SURPLUS STOCK OF SECOND-HAND CARRIAGES

(now stored at Spring Garden Works, Gallowgate, Newcastle), to remain on view two weeks longer. The stock comprises two landaus, three broughams, five waggonette omnibusses, six waggonettes, two park phætons, six pony phætons, eight back-to-back phætons, two brakes, two hansom cabs, three one-horse cabs, four pair-horse cabs, three mourning coaches, an omnibus, a stage coach, a soda water van, two dogcarts, two whitechapels, and four gigs.

Priced catalogue, with further particulars, sent on application to ATKINSON and PHILIPSON, Northumberland Carriage and Harness Manufactory, 27, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A. and P.'s Show Rooms are stocked with every variety of new Carriages. 985q

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OVERCOATS.
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EVERY Description of WINTER CLOTHING direct from the Factory, at the PUBLIC SUPPLY STORES, 55, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE.

HUGH MORTON and CO.'S preparations for the Winter Trade eclipse any effort they have made for previous seasons. Their Stock is larger, and the value better, and as they are Manufacturers certainly cheaper, than can be shown else here. Hugh Morton and Co., cannot here give a detailed List of Prices, owing to the smallness of their profits and the costliness of advertising; and as mere quotations without reference to quality are misleading, they earnestly request the public, before purchasing, to call at their Stores and examine their immense Stock and be guided accordingly. Boys' Overcoats with Capes, from 2s 11d to 12s 11d. Youths' Overcoats, from 10s 9d to 25s 6d Men's Overcoats, from 16s 11d to 39s 6d. Also the "Marvel" Guinea Overcoat, in Naps, Diagonals, Worsted, &c., recommended by the Press as a "marvel of Cheapness and Excellence." Men's and Boys' Suits and Trousers in unlimited variety, and at all prices to suit purchasers. Important Rule.—All goods not approved can be exchanged or the money returned, whichever the customer prefers.

HUGH MORTON & CO.,
CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS,
55, GRAINGER STREET (Corner of Nelson Street), NEWCASTLE.

NEWCASTLE to AMERICA for £4 10s. EVERY TUESDAY.—Apply for Berths to JAMES DALY, 2, Shakespeare Street, Consett; THOMAS ERRINGTON, Post Office, Carrville; J. MACKAY, Burns, Chester-le-Street; JOHN HILLARY, Auctioneer, Tow Law; and GEO. ALDERSON, 7, Middle Row, Sunniside. 398q

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BROOKS'

CELEBRATED

FELT 2s. 6d. HAT,

59, CLAYTON STREET,

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 754q

SURGICAL DENTISTRY.

HENRY DELLOW,

SURGEON DENTIST,

1, NEW BRIDGE STREET (Corner of Higham Place), NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

17 Years with the late Messrs. NIGHTINGALE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH of superior make on most Reasonable Terms, and all Surgical Operations skilfully performed. Attendance Daily, 41, New Bridge Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 877q

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THE CENTRAL PHARMACY.

THOMAS MILNER,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,

By Examination,

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he has commenced business as a Legally Qualified Chemist and Dispenser of Medicines, at

7, SHAKESPEARE STREET,

OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE,

CONSETT.

T. M. having had long experience in First-class Dispensing, Agricultural, and General Retail Trade, is thoroughly acquainted with the requirements of the District, and will endeavour by strict attention to Business, and punctuality in the despatch of Orders, to merit an increasing share of the patronage of the community.

The Stock is now complete with

GENUINE DRUGS, PURE CHEMICALS, PATENT MEDICINES, SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS,

And a variety of other Articles usually Sold by Chemists and Druggists,

TARAXACUM (Dandelion) and PODOPHYLLYN PILLS, invaluable for the Liver and Stomach.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.

FELLON AND OTHER DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES, and other Horse & Cattle Medicines of every description.

OILS, PAINTS, AND COLOURS.

Country Orders punctually attended to. 102

Business Announcements.

J. McINTOSH,

(Cutter for the late Mr. T. S. Atkinson, of Consett),

HAS Commenced Business on his own account, at TAYLOR'S BUILDINGS, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL,

ALL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION

CONCLUSIVE TESTIMONY

IN FAVOUR OF THE IMPROVED

MAGNETIC BELTS,

CHEST PROTECTORS,
LUNG AND NERVE INVIGORATORS,
KNEE CAPS, SPINE BANDS,
WRISTLETS, ANKLETS, SOLES,
GLOVES, &c., &c.

The MAGNETIC CHEST PROTECTOR should be worn by all persons who suffer from Colds and other chest complaints during the winter season.

Mr. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following TESTIMONIALS recently received. Further particulars will be found in Descriptive Pamphlet, Gratis on application, or sent Post Free.

BRONCHITIS.

Hodgson's Mills, Blyth, September 23rd, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—In October last, on the recommendation of a friend who had tried your appliances, I purchased a Magnetic Chest Protector for my wife. She had been a frequent sufferer from Bronchitis, and was then ill with a severe attack. In less than a week the Magnetism had greatly relieved her breathing, and every day afterwards there was a gradual improvement until she was fairly well. In addition to the good it did at that time, she has worn it since as a protection against another attack, and I am glad to say it has proved most effective.—Yours, &c.,

Mr D. Lamont. GEORGE TURNBULL.

The MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATOR is specially applicable to Bronchitis, Asthma, Weakness of the Lungs, Palpitation of the Heart, Consumptive tendency, and is most invaluable as a *preventive* of all Chest Affections, Coughs, Colds, &c.

BRONCHITIS.

Prudhoe-on-Tyne, September 19th, 1882.

SIR,—I am happy to say that I have received a great amount of good from the Lung Invigorator I got from you last year. I suffered from bronchitis and a severe cough This brought on spitting of blood, which continued for some time, and left me very weak. It was at that time I began to wear the Invigorator and feel its good effects. It relieved the sore cough and eased my breathing. My chest and back used to have a cold feeling, but now I am quite warm and comfortable, even if the day is cold and damp. I feel confident that it has benefited me in many ways, and I take every opportunity in recommending your appliances.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. W. R. SIMPSON, Newsagent.

THE MAGNETIC WAIST BELT exercises a beneficial influence on the Liver and Digestive Organs, stimulating them to more vigorous action, and thus aiding in the formation of healthier blood, purifies and invigorates the entire system. It cures Lumbago, Rheumatic Pains in the back, Sciatica, Debility, &c,

LIVER COMPLAINT.

Whitehall Road, Gateshead, September 21st, 1882,

DEAR SIR,—Something like two years ago I suffered very much from my liver, and tried everything that was recommended to get relief, but all to no purpose. I might get momentary relief after a dose or two, but only for a time. I resolved to try one of your belts as a last resource, and am happy to say after about a fortnight's wear I found relief. I may state that my symptoms were general depression and severe pain in the stomach, which the belt effectually removed. You are quite at liberty to use this in any way calculated to benefit others suffering from the same complaint.—Yours, &c.,

Mr D. Lamont. THOMAS FOSTER.

THE MAGNETIC KNEE CAP has proved to be of immense service in removing and relieving Rheumatic and other affections of the Knee-joint, Weakness, Stiffness, Swelling, &c., &c.

PAIN IN THE KNEE.

Orchard Field, Blackhill, September 23rd, 1882.

DEAR SIR,—The Knee Cap I got from you nine months ago has done my knee a deal of good. It was injured many years ago. A small bone displaced caused me much pain, and nothing relieved me till I got the knee cap. It has removed the pain and greatly strengthened the knee.—Yours truly,

Mr. D. Lamont. ANDREW DARRIE.

THE MAGNETIC LEG APPLIANCE can be applied to the thigh or any part of the leg, and is recommended for Rheumatic pains, Weakness, Swelling, Varicose Veins, Bad Circulation, Coldness, Sprains, Cramp, &c.

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 hindrance. It has been, and is still, to me a blessing indeed.

Very truly yours,

Mr. D. Lamont. WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

THE MAGNETIC CORK SOLES are of rare value to those who are troubled with cold feet. Thousands have tried and found them effective.

FURTHER TESTIMONY, REDUCED PRICE LIST.

SEE DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET, GRATIS OR POST FREE.

D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT, 44A BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—The Appliances are forwarded Post Free. Consultation by letter carefully attended to. 70

Public Notices.

ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, BENFIELDSIDE.

THE BAZAAR, which it was intended to hold at Easter, is POSTPONED until Whitsuntide.

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

CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

THE HALF-YEARLY CLEARANCE SALE of DRAPERIES, MILLINERY, and READY-MADE CLOTHING, will commence ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH, 1883, And will be continued Fourteen Days only. 361r

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.—Proprietor, Mr. JENKINS; Manager, Mr. DONKIN.—Monday, February 12th, and during the week.—The Charming SISTERS DE LAINE, Duettists and Champion Skipping Rope Dancers of the World. The great PAT ROONEY, and other Artistes. 365r

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society will be held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, 17th February, 1883, at 7 p.m.

RALPH HALL, } Secretaries.
WILLIAM DICKINSON, }

363r

NOTICE.—JAMES TURNER, Argyle House, Marlborough Crescent, Newcastle, and late of Coach and Horses, Leadgate (also formerly of Durham) begs to inform his friends and the public generally that he has taken the above House, where he will be glad to meet with all old Patrons and Acquaintances.

Wines, Spirits, and Ales of the best quality always on hand.

Good Accommodation for Farmers, Butchers, and others attending Markets. 362r

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

CAUTION.

IN consequence of certain parties in this District having got into the careless habit of allowing CARTS, GIGS, BARRELS, &c., to stand over night on the Public Streets to the Danger and inconvenience of the public at large,

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE that in future all such CARTS, GIGS, BARRELS, &c., as are found after nightfall on any Public Street or Highway will be promptly Removed, and proceedings taken against the parties causing the obstruction.

WILLIAM RIPPON,
Surveyor and Inspector.

Local Board Offices, January 25th, 1883. 325r

THOMAS WILSON, DECEASED.

PURSUANT to the Act of 22nd and 23rd Victoria, chapter 35, NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all persons having any Claims upon the Estate of THOMAS WILSON, late of Oak Villa, Shotley Bridge, in the County of Durham, Provision Merchant, deceased (who died on the 31st day of December, 1881), and whose will was proved in the Durham District Registry, on the 18th day of November, 1882, are to send, in writing, the particulars of their Claims to the undersigned, the Solicitor of the Executors, on or before the 8th day of March, 1883, after which day the Executors will distribute the Assets of the said deceased amongst the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the claims of which they shall then have had notice.

Dated this 29th day of January, 1883.

JOHN BOOTH, Shotley Bridge,
Solicitor to the Executors.

329r

Public Notices.

286 IS the Winning Number for A. BENNISON'S HORSE, Raffled at Consett. 366r

VALENTINES!

VALENTINES!!

VALENTINES!!!

AT

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET,
CONSETT.

343r

CASTLESIDE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

REV. RICHARD ROBERTS

LONDON.

ON FEBRUARY 15th, 1883,

MR. THOMAS HARKER,

OF BISHOP AUCKLAND,

Will PREACH in the above Chapel, at 2 o'clock p.m. After which,

A PUBLIC TEA

Will be held in the School-Room. Tickets, 1s each.

At Seven o'clock p.m., the

REV. RICHARD ROBERTS, OF LONDON, WILL PREACH.

A Collection after each Service in aid of Chapel Fund.

MASONIC AND GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICES:

9, NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Every description of Life Assurance transacted.

Assurances effected on all Classes.

Non-forfeitable Policies, premiums payable for a limited number of years, and fixed and liberal Surrender Values under "Positive" Tables of Assurance first introduced by this Company.

Assurances paid during life time.

Annuities granted

LOANS GRANTED ON REAL OR PERSONAL SECURITY.

AGENTS REQUIRED IN DISTRICTS WHERE THE COMPANY IS NOT FULLY REPRESENTED.

For further Particulars and Forms apply to

A. TORKINGTON,
Managing Director.

299r

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Monday, February 12th, 1883.—Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett.—Under a Bill of Sale.—Sale of Fine-toned Cabinet Pianoforte, Household Furniture, Bar Fittings, Pots and Glasses, &c., &c.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to remove from the Imperial Hotel, Harvey Street, and SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-rooms, on Monday, February 12th, 1883, the whole of the Household FURNITURE, BAR FITTINGS, POTS, AND GLASSES, &c., &c., under a Bill of Sale. And, also, Mahogany Sofa; Mahogany Easy Chair; 6 Mahogany Chairs, all in Hair-seating; Best Floor Oilcloth; Feather and Down Beds and Bedding; Wringing Machine; Handsomely Bound New Family Bible, Gentleman's handsome Gold Watch, excellent Grocer's Counter, fine-toned Cabinet Pianoforte, and Sundry Effects, including Earthenware, &c., &c.

Particulars in Posters. 338r

Sale to commence at One o'clock exactly.

Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett.—To Grocers, Drapers, and others.

MR. ADAM BRODIE will include in the above Sale, on Monday, February 12th, 1883, THREE GOOD COUNTERS. 364r

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 26th, 27th, and 28th, 1883.—Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett.—Important Sale of Bed and Table Linen, Lace and Muslin Curtains, Antimacassars and D'Oyleys, and a few lots of best Glass, Ware, real Japanese and other Trays, magnificent Dessert Service, Chamber Ware, Air and Water-tight Cushions, &c., &c., belonging a gentleman at York, recently deceased, interspersed with a choice Stock of Best Linen and Woollen Drapery, Carpets, and Ready-made Clothing sent for absolute Sale.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, February 26th, 27th, and 28th, the VALUABLE GOODS named above, full particulars of which will be given in Bills.

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock each Evening.

5, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge.—Sale of Excellent Household Furniture, Beds, and Bedding, and Miscellaneous Effects.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by the Representatives of the late Miss MARGARET ROGERS, deceased, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at her late residence, 5, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge, on Tuesday, February 13th, 1883, the whole of the Excellent Household FURNITURE and Miscellaneous EFFECTS, as follows—Kitchen Press; Desk Bedstead: Kitchen Table; Tea Table; Arm Chair; 4 Kitchen Chairs; Iron Bedstead and Matttesses: Down and other Beds, and Bed Clothes; Pictures; Fender and Fireirons; Mirror, &c., &c.; together with the whole of the Kitchen Requisites, including Pots, Pans, and Earthenware, &c., &c. Also, a good Wheelbarrow,

Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock. 353r

Middle Rainton.—Sale of Excellent Tenement Property, at present Let to the Most Honorable the Marquess of Londonderry.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed to Offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mr. SAMUEL T. TAYLOR, Foresters' Arms, Middle Rainton, on Wednesday, February 21st, 1883, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon precisely, and subject to conditions to be then and there produced and read, all that Block of

FREEHOLD PROPERTY,

Situate at Middle Rainton aforesaid, and containing Four Tenements, with Coalhouse at east end, immediately behind Mrs. Fosters' Grocer's Shop, as at present Let to the Most Honorable the Marquess of Londonderry.

The Premises may be viewed on application to Mr. Samuel T. Taylor, Forester's Arms, Middle Rainton; and particulars may be had from the AUCTIONEER, at his Office, Town Hall, Consett. 352r

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

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

Mr. A. T. Crow.

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository and Auction Sale Yard, Haymarket, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

THE NEXT SALE of HORSES, CARRIAGES, HARNESS, &c., will take place on Tuesday February 13th, 1883.

SALES BY AUCTION EVERY TUESDAY.

JOHN PEEL, Proprietor.

740q

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

Royal Auction Mart, Benfieldside.

ON MONDAY FIRST, FEBRUARY 12th, 1883, WILL BE SOLD—

50 Prime Fat Heifers and Bullocks (20 out of one Byre, extra prime).

20 Fat Cows and Bulls.

35 Fat Sheep, including 15 Grey-faced Shearlings, extra prime quality, from W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.

25 Prime Dairy-fed Pork Pigs.

1 Strong Cob Pony, 13½ hands high, good worker in all yokes.

Several tons of Turnips, several Spring Carts, Barrow. Also expected a large Consignment of Whips, Rugs, Harness, Bridles, Horse Clothing, &c., &c.

Sale at One o'clock to a minute.

NICHOLSON and MURRAY,
Auctioneers.

An Ordinary will be provided at The Royal. Tickets 2s. each (not returnable).

Several Stirks being entered for this Sale, but being prohibited by the Cattle Mart License, the Auctioneers will treat for them privately. 373r

By Mr. William Raw.

28 Derwent Street, Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, honoured with instructions from Mr. ALEXANDER CRUICKSHANK (who is about to leave the District), will SELL BY AUCTION, on Saturday, February 17th, 1883, the whole of his Household FURNITURE, comprising—Mahogany Dining Table; excellent Polished Cheffioneer Bed; Couch, in American Leather; 6 Kitchen Chairs; Windsor Arm Chair; Kitchen Table; 2 Tea Tables; Ladies' Table; Cornice Pole; Alarm Clock; Oil Lamp, new; Four-poled Bedstead and Hangings; single Iron Bedstead; 2 Fenders and Fireirons; Oilcloth; Cocoa Matting; Door Mats; Clothes Horse; 2 Poss Tubs; Pails; Tubs; Girdle; Pans; Ware; Brooms and Brushes, &c. Also, a very Chaste Set of China, nearly new; a lot of Pictures and Useful Ornaments.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock precisely.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 354r

Important Sale of Valuable Books.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having been instructed, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, a very Valuable LIBRARY OF BOOKS, on Saturday, February 10th, 1883, in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Derwent Street, Blackhill, comprising—Bible, in 3 Vols., with Commentary, by Hewlitt, bound in finest Red Morocco, Gilt Edged; History of the Jews, together with very much instructive and interesting matter; a very neat and elaborately bound Family Bible, Gilded, New; Commentary, by Brown, with Coloured Plates; a very neat Family Bible, Gilt Edged; Pilgrim's Progress and Holy War, with Explanatory and Illustrative Notes, and Memoir of Bunyan; together with other of his Works, Neatly Gilded and Coloured Plates; a very neat copy of the Life of Christ, with Coloured Plates; Family Devotion, unbound, in 40 parts, with 2 of the finest Steel Engravings in each part; Life of Christ, Evangelists, and Apostles, with numerous Explanatory Notes, and profusely Illustrated with Engravings; Gladstone and his Contemporaries, Unbound, Illustrated by a series of 32 authentic and beautifully executed Portraits, complete, in 14 parts; The Popular Encyclopædia, 14 vols., in perfect condition; Royal Dictionary Encyclopædia, 15 vols.; Partington's Encyclopædia of Literature, History, Geography, Law and Politics, in 3 large thick vols.; The National Gazeteer of Great Britain and Ireland, 12 Divisions; The Indian Mutiny, in 7 Divisions; The History of England, by Hume and Smollet, in 3 vols.; The History of America, in 5 vols.; The History of the World, by Smith, in 3 vols.; the Complete Works of Robert Burns, these in 2 handsome vols., new, all in perfect condition.

Also, over 200 smaller Volumes of Works, useful and popular, and a lot of them new.

Sale to commence at One o'clock precisely.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 333r

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Dipton.—Monday, February 12th, 1883.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. C. LUMLEY, who is declining business, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on the above date, at Front Street, Dipton, all his very Valuable Household FURNITURE, in Walnut and Mahogany, comprising—Sitting-room Suite, in Walnut, covered with Hair seating; splendid Walnut Sideboard, Plate Glass Back and Front, and Marble top; Mahogany Centre Tables; beautiful Mirror; Bedsteads and Beds, &c., &c., with a multitude of other Specialities. Also, an excellent young HORSE, rising five, 15 hands, perfectly quiet, sound, and honest.

Sale to begin at One o'clock to a minute. 316r

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By Mr. P. Osborne.

Healeyfield Smelt Mills, near Castleside.

MR. P. OSBORNE, having received instructions from Mr. WILLIAM STOKOE, will SELL BY AUCTION, a large quantity of TIMBER, ROPES, LADDERS, &c., on his completion of a contract for the building of a very tall chimney, at the above place, on Wednesday, the 14th day of February, 1883, at Two p.m. prompt, consisting of about 1,500 feet of Scaffolding Poles, from 23 to 40 feet each; 1,000 feet of 3in. by 7in. and 2½in. by 6in. Battens; 250 Scaffolding Ropes, from 18 to 21 feet; 1 Lift Rope, 420 feet long; 2 Ladders, 31ft. 6in, and 33ft. 6in respectively.

The Materials are all New, having been purchased for this Contract specially.

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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, February 9th, 1883.

ECHOES FROM BLACKHILL.

[By Incedo.]

It has been said with truth that flesh is heir to a thousand ills, and that smallpox is certainly one of the most deadly as well as one of the most loathsome of all the diseases which afflict frail humanity. Some alarm has been felt in our usually healthy community by the appearance of this fell epidemic, and had the pestilence broken out in certain quarters of either Blackhill or Consett the consequences might have been very serious. "God bless providence," said a sailor who miraculously escaped from death at the battle of the Nile; and so it is with many who profess to be very good Christians. Ignorant alike of the laws of nature and health they fail to take the necessary precaution which the exigencies of the case demands, and pay the penalty as a natural sequence. The middle class are more intelligent, and having as a rule better ordered homes, nothing is wanting to stamp out or keep within the narrowest possible limits the "pestilence that walketh in darkness." It is all very well for the followers of the prophet to trust in a blind fatalism, but people who tread the earth in this age of grace would do well to shake from their feet the dust of the Dark Ages.

The members of our rival football clubs had a desperate tussle on Saturday last, and now that the noise of the contest has died away the public expects that the athletes will bury the war hatchet and become fast friends. There is nothing to be gained by fostering a spirit of envy or revenge, and games played under such circumstances lose their original significance and come under the *role* of a very different term than that of sport.

It was customary in days gone by—and is to some extent the practice still—to finish young hopeful's education by a tour through the Continent or elsewhere, and whether the favoured one always profited by the finishing touch or not, travel is certainly one of the very best methods of giving breadth and stability to one's views and opinions. I have never domesticated with the frog-eating Frenchman, nor with the egregious-polite German, but one evening, something less than a decade of years ago, I found myself in a spot where the truth was forced upon me that Blackhill was not the most outlandish place in the world. Perhaps it was a dream, but methinks I had strayed into a far country and wandered up and down in search of a night's lodgings. When I addressed the head of more than one establishment the female domestics turned their backs upon me and thrusting their pocket-handkerchiefs into their mouths finally burst into a fit of uncontrollable laughter. One impertinent virago had the effrontery to whisper to her fellow-servant: "Oh! lor', a Dutchman, sarten." There were street lamps in the place, but they were as dark as Erebus, and I began to soliloquise about the probable age of the moon, knowing full well that at Blackhill the people were not left to wander in "utter darkness," not at least till Luna was seven days old. The scene is changed. It was broad day, and methought I stood in a somewhat dingy office where tomes rose pile upon pile in sombre monotony. A youth approached me, and with the utmost *sang-froid* imaginable said: "Your name, please." Remembering the laughter to which my accent gave rise on the previous evening, I pronounced my name in bold clear tones, taking care to round the syllables with becoming point and finish. The young man's face assumed a puzzled expression and he dangled his watchguard mechanically. I saw his embarrassment and repeated my name in such a manner as left no doubt whatever as to my anxiety to put him right. Still he hesitated and knawed his under lip as much as to say "can't get round that anyhow." Finally he turned on his heel and entered a room marked "private." Presently he emerged, and in answer to the summons "Come in," I entered "Chamber Blue." Within were two gentlemen who greeted me with a very hearty "good morning." I returned the salutation and stood at the "attention," like a recruit in front of a drill sergeant. "You are doing great things in the North, we believe," said the taller gentleman, eyeing me closely. I smiled complacently, as much as to say, "You are perfectly right in your surmises." "Hem—yes, must be smart people, that's evident enough, but," he added in a firmer tone "we can beat you hollow at making iron, for we have been told that plates made in the North are so surcharged with chystals that a plate has been known to break into a thousand pieces by falling from an ordinary railway truck!" Thus it is, reader, that we have such a heterogenous mixture of good and evil in the world. It is almost impossible for individuals, or communities, to bask even for a season under fortune's benign smile without calling forth many unjust strictures. It was so at the beginning, and it is so still.

The Ambulance Corps raised at Consett Iron Works a month or two ago promises to become one of the most useful of the thousand and one branches of the huge tree which shelters with its far-spreading boughs the intricate mechanism of our social life. Formed chiefly of the foremen, or heads of departments, its members are of more than average intelligence, and to this fact alone the rapid development of the corps is mainly due. But facts speak for themselves, as the following incident aptly shows. The other evening the wife of an honest puddler had the misfortune to fall into an engine pit whilst engaged in the very laudable duty of carrying her husband's supper. Her cries for help speedily brought to the spot a number of nightshift men. One sympathetic son of Erin swore by the boot that the woman was "kilt intoirely." Another declared that one of her legs was broken, and this was the opinion shared in common with the fast-gathering crowd. Nay, she insisted that on the least movement of the unfortunate leg the rasping of the shattered bones was quite audible! Subsequently she was carried to her home, and in the interim a member of the Ambulance Corps hearing of the catastrophe hurried to the spot. Nothing loath he confronted the injured one forthwith; and assuming a professional air, felt the patient's pulse and looked grave. Equal to the emergency he divested himself of his coat and proceeded to manufacture splinters of the most approved principle. This done he set the limb, smoothed the patient's brow, and was about to leave the house when who should enter the apartment but physician No. 2. The professional man took in the state of affairs at a glance; and examining the ailing one his countenance assumed an amused expression. Turning to his assistant he complimented him on the skilful manner in which he had performed the task which had so unexpectedly devolved upon him. The good woman made a most remarkable recovery. In the phraseology of her humble neighbours—"She was hopping about next day."

William Johnson, the railway guard who died at his residence, 6, Beaconsfield, Newcastle, on Monday night last, from a self-inflicted wound in the throat by a razor, was well-known in the Lanchester and Derwent Valleys, having been empoyed as a guard on the Consett Branch of the North-Eastern Railway since its formation. Deceased was a man of steady habits and irreproachable character. His melancholy and untimely end was accelerated, it is said, by family affliction.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Board-room, on Wednesday evening, under the presidency of the chairman, Mr W. Jenkins, J.P. There were also present Messrs J. W. Davison, W. Shell, J. Collinson, G. Hawdon, T. Siddell, J. Calvert, W. Taylor, J. H. Hudson, W. Aynsley, the Rev F. Steggall, the clerk (Mr T. W. Welford), and the surveyor (Mr W. Rippon).

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

MR SKIDMORE'S PROPERTY.

With reference to this gentleman's dilapidated property in Medomsley Road, the Chairman asked if there had been anything done to it?

The Surveyor said that when the original plan for alterations was rejected, Mr Skidmore promised to send another one in. He had seen his agent that day, and he (the agent) expected that a plan would be sent in to the Board, but none was forthcoming.

The Chairman: What shall we do then, gentlemen, in this case?

Mr Davison explained that the Building and Highway Committees had inspected the place along with the agent, and they had found the place to be in a beastly condition. They then gave various suggestions as to abating the nuisance, and also with regard to the dilapidated condition of the houses. The agent promised to send a plan in with the various suggestions given to him on, but there had nothing been done. The owner had had plenty of time to send in a plan, and he thought some stringent means ought to be taken.

Mr Shell said, considering the great nuisance there was, it was quite urgent that the alterations should be commenced with as soon as possible.

The Chairman: What is the nature of the nuisance?

Mr Shell: There are no less than six privies with one ashpit in a little bit of a yard hardly fit to hold one out-house, which are in very bad condition. If there were water closets put in I think that would stop the nuisance caused by the privies.

The Chairman: The tenants are living there on suffrage. It would hardly be human to turn the people out; but still if there was anything happening through the houses not being fit for habitation we should get the blame. What had we better do?

Mr Davison: I think the owner ought to be ordered to have it done in a given time, and then if he fail, to go to law with the question.

The Chairman: If some strong-worded letter were addressed to the owner, I think that would meet the case.

Mr Aynsley: Mr Skidmore had had notices served on him again and again for the past two years, and I think it is time something more practical ought to be done. If he will persist in putting off renovating the property, I would suggest that we close it.

Mr Shell: The state the property is now in, it would be only right to shut up the houses.

The Chairman: What do you say to giving him twenty-eight days to send in a plan?

Mr Collinson thought he had had plenty of time during the past month to send in a plan.

Mr Calvert: With regard to abating the nuisance, can we insist upon water-closets being put in, instead of the privies that are there now. I don't think we can.

The Chairman: If the privies are not likely to abate the nuisance, we can force them, if we think the water closets will remedy the same.

Mr Calvert: At any rate, if the owner does put water closets, I do not think the sewerage drain that is in will be large enough to carry the sewerage away, it being only a 4in. pipe. In that case they could not compel the owner to put water closets in; they could just make him put the privies right.

The Surveyor: I beg your pardon, Mr Calvert, but there is a 6in. pipe in; although if you were to compel them to put water closets in, I would suggest that you continue the 12in main sewer that is in Store Street right up to the top of Bath Street, then the sewerage could run into that.

Mr Shell: In the case of Mrs Chatto's property she was told that she must put water closets in, and why not compel Mr Skidmore?

Mr Aynsley: Certainly; if water closets will abate the nuisance, then I would say, make him put them in. The privies that are in now, if they were repaired, would still be a nuisance. To think that there were six privies in an exceedingly small yard for about a dozen tenants! it was something disgusting to think of?

The Chairman: Why not convert one of the houses into a place for the water closets. We have made other people do so, and why not in this case?

Mr Hudson: With regard to the interview with the agent, was he not led to believe that the Board wanted privies put in?

Mr Shell: Yes; but still we think that water closets will act far superior to the privies.

Mr Collinson (to the Surveyor): What would you suggest, would privies or water closets be best?

The Surveyor: I do not think you can compel Mr Skidmore to put in water closets, when there have been privies in before.

The Chairman: If the privies will not do away with the nuisance, which I am certain in this case they will not, we can compel him to put in water closets. There is a great nuisance, and it must be done away with, or else we will have some serious epidemic spread in the district.

Mr Siddell: If water closets are kept clean, they are much superior to privies.

Mr Hudson: I do not think they are; privies would be best. But if the Board are determined to have water closets, then I would suggest that the 12in. main sewer be carried into Medomsley Road, so that the sewerage from the same could run into them.

The Chairman: Are we in a financial state to lay a 12in. pipe from Store Street to Medomsley Road?

The Clerk: Oh yes.

The Chairman: Then we are all right; the next thing is what have we to do about Mr Skidmore?

Mr Aynsley: I propose that notice be served on Mr Skidmore to forward a plan of the proposed alterations within twenty-eight days, and if he does not comply with this then close the property.

Mr Taylor: I think that Mr Skidmore has had sufficient time to send in a plan, and there ought to be other means taken.

Mr Shell: I have been informed that the notice was not a proper one; is that so, Mr Clerk?

The Clerk said the notice served on Mr Skidmore was in every way proper, and a copy of the same was read, which satisfied the Board that the notice was quite legal and proper.

Mr Collinson: I think there has been sufficient notices given to Mr Skidmore, and we ought to proceed against him.

The Rev F. Steggall: Mr Skidmore has had quite sufficient time to send in a plan since the last notice has been served on him. If we gave him twenty-eight days there might a very serious epidemic come into the district through this dilapidated property. I would say give him fourteen days.

Mr Hawdon and Mr Shell thought they might go on giving him notices and he would never do it. They had served notices on him for two years, and it was high time something more stringent ought to be done.

Mr Hudson and Mr Calvert, having expressed a similar opinion, the Chairman suggested that the Clerk be instructed to take proceedings against Mr Skidmore, and the alterations might be done.

The Surveyor: Have they had sufficient time to make the alterations on the plan suggested by the Building Committee?

Both Mr Shell and Mr Davison expressed an opinon that there had been ample time to make up a new plan since last month. Their only course was to summon Mr Skidmore.

The Chairman: I beg to propose that the Clerk be instructed to institute proceedings against Mr Skidmore. It was their best way to get to work.

Mr Siddell seconded the proposition, which was carried without opposition.

With regard to the sewerage pipe for the water closets, it was proposed by the Chairman, that the 12in. main sewer in Store Street be carried forward to Medomsley Road, and that water closets be put in in the place of the present broken-down privies.

This was seconded and agreed to.

AN APPLICATION.

Mr Eltringham, contractor, Blackhill, appeared before the Board to make a request. He said that he had taken a contract to alter the premises of Mr Hedley Nicholson, which abutted Shepherd's Alley, and in order to carry out the alterations he would require the use of this street, and also that part of Middle Street where the shop front went into. If the Board would allow him Shepherd's Alley to cart the material into, he would only require to put a temporary hoarding in Middle Street, which he would take down at night, thereby keeping that street clear. He wanted to give the Board as little inconvenience as possible, and if they would allow him Shepherd's Alley they would greatly oblige. He had asked the Surveyor, but he referred him to the Board.

The Chairman: Is it a cart road?

Mr Eltringham: Yes; but there is another opening.

The Surveyor: If there is a footpath left, I think there is nothing in the way for Mr Eltringham to have the use of Shepherd's Alley.

The Chairman: Are the adjoining property-holders willing.

The Surveyor: Mr George Brown is the principal property-owner there, and he expressed himself quite willing.

Mr Hudson thought that every facility ought to be given to builders to make the property better.

After some further discussion Mr Shell proposed that Mr Eltringham's request be granted, with the exception that a footpath be left in the Alley, and he be responsible for all accidents occurring by the hoarding, &c.

This was seconded by Mr Calvert and carried.

MRS CHATTO'S PROPERTY.

With reference to the alterations that had been ordered to be done at this lady's property, the Chairman asked if the work was going on.

The Surveyor stated that the contractor (Mr Shell) was going on with the work as speedily and satisfactorily as possible and he hoped by next meeting to report that the dwellings were fit for habitation.

The matter was ordered to be continued on the minutes.

THE ALLEGED DAMAGE TO THE BOARD'S MAIN SEWER.

At last meeting a deputation was formed to wait upon the general manager of the Consett Iron Company (Mr W. Jenkins) with a view to ascertain the grounds why the Company would not pay for the damage alleged to have been done by their colliery workings to the Board's main sewer in Medomsley Road. On doing this the deputation were informed that Mr Jenkins would give reasons at the next Board meeting.

The Chairman then said that the reason the Company did not pay for the damage done was that they conscientiously felt that it was not caused by them, and they had no right whatever to pay for the damaged sewer. If the Board were still determined to go to law, the Company were quite willing to enter into a friendly law suit with them.

Mr Calvert: Do the Company admit that the damage was done by the colliery-workings.

The Chairman: No, certainly not; they assert that it was something off the road that did it. The Company had consulted with their solicitor, and he had advised them that the Local Board could not get damages from the Company, even if it were their workings that did it, under the present Lanchester Common Act.

Mr Hudson: But we have the Local Government Act, which rules over the Lanchester Common Act.

The Clerk stated that it did not.

Mr Siddell: Are we prepared to say that the subsidence was caused by the colliery-workings.

Rev F. Steggall: We will have a poor case if we cannot. I have always been given to understand that it was the workings that caused the breakage of the pipes.

Mr Calvert: I expect when the occurrence took place the Surveyor in his report stated that it was through the colliery-workings that the damage was done.

The Surveyor denied this, asserting that he only said that the main sewer had been shifted some inches from its original position, and was greatly damaged.

Mr Hudson: What would you say caused the damage.

The Surveyor: It was by a subsidence, but he could not swear that the colliery-workings caused it.

Mr Anysley: We would have a very poor chance of winning a case if our Surveyor could not swear that the damage was done by the colliery-working.

Rev F. Steggall: I propose that Messrs. Calvert, Shell, and Collinson, in conjunction with the Surveyor look into the matter and state at next meeting whether there would be any possibility of winning a case.

Mr Shell: The case is a good one; but we have no evidence. I do not see how we can go to law about the affair at all.

Mr Calvert: Why not ask the opinion of the *Justice of the Peace* on the matter. When the matter first came up, I always understood that the Surveyor was of opinion that it was caused by the colliery-workings. It is strange that he should change his opinion.

Mr Taylor: I always understood that it was the colliery-workings that caused the mischief.

The Surveyor then produced a copy of his report (the original of which had been lost) which appeared in the *Consett Guardian*, in which it merely stated that there had been a subsidence in Medomsley Road, and that the main sewer had been seriously affected by the same.

The Clerk stated that with regard to consulting the *Justice of the Peace*, it would just give the same answer as their Chairman had said, that under the rules of the Lanchester Common Act there could be no blame whatever attached to the Company.

Mr Hawdon: I move that the subject be swept off the Board.

Mr Collinson: I second this. The matter seems so conglomerated, and the case poor, that I think this will be our best course.

Mr Davison thought they had better not act rashly in the matter, but to leave the subject over for another month to see if they could get conclusive evidence that it was caused by the colliery-workings.

Mr Shell: I think Mr Hawdon's motion will be best—to throw the matter out altogether, and not go to court until we can get a better case.

The discussion was carried on for some time, some of the members thinking that the damage was caused by the workings, while others believed that it was done by the subsidence, and if they took it into a law court that they would loose the case, and eventually the matter dropped.

THE INSPECTOR'S SALARY.

The Clerk stated that he had filled up the form sent to the Board at last meeting with regard to the Inspector's, antecedent's previous occupation, and nature of character, and had forwarded it to the Local Government Board, and he had had a reply, which was to the effect that if they wanted them to pay half of the Inspector's salary, which would commence from December 7th, 1882, they would have to appoint the Inspector every year by advertisement, and when that took place they had to acquaint them (the Government Board) of the fact.

After a little deliberation, the Chairman proposed that they make a declaration through the papers that the Inspector had been re-appointed, and that the Clerk acquaint the Local Government Board of the fact.

Mr Hudson seconded this, which was carried unanimously.

THE ROAD LEADING TO THE BLUE HEAPS.

The Surveyor stated that as instructed at last meeting the Highway Committee had visited this place, and found it to be in an exceedingly bad condition, and suggested that it be put right as soon as possible, as it was a most dangerous and inconvenient place in its present condition.

A long discussion took place on the matter as to who were the proper persons that ought to mend the road, and as most of the deliberations have been recorded in past reports it would be useless inserting them here, but merely stated that the matter was left over for another month.

NEW OFFICES FOR THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY.

The Chairman stated that he was requested to inform the Board that the Consett Iron Company intend shortly to erect new offices directly opposite Furnace Row. He wished to know if the Board would require plans for the building. Of course they would get block plans showing the various drains, &c., but he questioned whether they had anything to do as to the erection of the offices.

Mr Hudson thought they had a right to have plans for the offices.

Mr Calvert: I think we have have had plans sent in for other offices that have been built, but it was only a matter of courtesy on the part of the builder.

The Chairman promised to bring the several plans as a matter of courtesy, as suggested.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr Rippon) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Consett Local Board.

Office, Parliament Street, Consett.

Gentlemen,—Since your last Board meeting all the broken limestone in stock, with the exception of a small quantity, has been laid on the roads in your district. Rough limestone is now coming to hand, and is being broken for immediate use. Chippings for footpaths are difficult to obtain. I have used small slag on the Tin Mill and Pasture Drift footpaths, and consider it suitable, especially where limestone has been previously used, as the mud which comes from limestone chipping has the tendency of binding the slag and making it firm and consolidated. Portions of the footpaths on Castleside, Knitsley, Delves, Leadgate, and Medomsley roads have been covered with coke ashes, and the remainder will be attended to as soon as more ashes can be obtained.

I observe that the fence on each side of Pasture Drift Road is in a very bad and broken condition, as also is the stone wall along the edge of the old quarry on Medomsley Road, near Number One, and I require instructions from you with regard to them.

I have frequently inspected your district during the past month, and have had some difficulty in keeping down accumulations of house refuse. I have served 31 notices for the abatement of nuisances, the most of which have been attended to. I consider it will be necessary to do something at the High end of Howdon Burn before the warm weather sets in, the slag-balls are keeping back a quantity of sewerage matter, which threatens to become a nuisance.

The licensed slaughter houses are all clean and in good order. Matthew's lodging-house has been satisfactorily kept. I am also glad to report a decided improvement in Green's lodging-house, in Harvey Street, as far as cleanliness is concerned, but would suggest that the owner be served with a notice to either cement or pave the yard, and afterwards that the house be registered.

The following sums of money have been paid to the Treasurer:—

	£	s.	d.
Market tolls	£1	18	0
Total amount paid to Treasurer on account of General District Rate	927	15	7
Uncollected	30	0	0
	£959	13	7

I beg to remain, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
William Rippon.

February 7th, 1883.

THE DIFFICULTY OF OBTAINING LIMESTONE CHIPPINGS.

The Surveyor said that limestone chippings were exceedingly bad to get, and had been using small slag for footpaths, which he considered very suitable. He had an order away for chippings, but he could not tell when he would get them. He awaited instructions.

Mr Siddell said that he had travelled over several footpaths made of small slag, and he thought it was far superior than the chippings. He proposed that in future small slag be used instead of chippings.

This was seconded and carried without opposition.

PASTURE DRIFT ROAD.

The Surveyor wished to know whose duty it was to put the fence right complained of in his report.

The Chairman: I expect the Board should keep that right.

Mr Hudson said that the Board only had a right to keep the fencing in order on the embankment, and the other part to be done by the owners (the Consett Iron Company).

Mr Siddell thought the Consett Iron Company had nothing at all to do with putting the fencing right.

This was disputed by several members, they holding that Mr Hudson's assertions were true.

Ultimately it was agreed that the Surveyor put the part right under the jurisdiction of the Board, and in the meantime find out who was really to do the other part of the fencing.

THE OLD QUARRY IN MEDOMSLEY ROAD.

A question arose as to the ownership of this quarry, and who would have to repair the wall that surrounded the quarry, which was in a very bad state.

Mr Taylor informed the Board that Mr George Brown, Consett, belonged to the quarry, he having bought it off Mr George Howard, and thought that that gentleman would have to put it right.

After a little discussion had taken place on the subject, Mr Shell proposed that the Surveyor serve a notice upon Mr Brown to repair the wall.

Mr Taylor seconded the proposition, which was agreed to.

HOWDEN BURN.

As stated in the Surveyor's report the sewerage matter at this place was being kept back by the slag-balls that had been rolled into it, and the Surveyor begged to inform the Chairman that it was about time something was being done by the Consett Iron Company to stop this nuisance by taking their culvet further down towards the river.

The Chairman also informed the Board of a certain sewer at the same place belonging to the Board which was creating a dreadful nuisance, and was very disgusting to persons passing down that way.

After a protracted disquisition it was arranged that the Sewerage Committee meet the Consett Iron Company's engineer (C. P. Douglas, Esq.) on the spot, and see what is the best course to take, and report at next meeting of the Board.

THE LODGING-HOUSE IN HARVEY STREET.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Shell, it was resolved to serve a notice on the owner of the above lodging-house, Mr Johnson, ordering him to put the house into proper repair; and when this is done that notice be served on Mr John Green, the tenant, to obtain a license for the same, registering it as a proper lodging-house; or else he must cease taking in tramp-lodgers.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Chairman read the Medical Officer's (Dr W. M. Renton, M.D.) report, which the members received with satisfaction, and it was adopted.

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE OF WAGES.

The five roadmen employed by the Board sent in a petition for the Board to raise their wages. They had two shillings per week less than Benfieldside roadmen, and also worked two hours more on the Saturdays. They hoped that the generous gentlemen would look kindly upon their application and grant them for what they plead.

The Chairman: Is this true what the men assert?

The Surveyor: Yes, sir; and they work in all kinds of weather.

Mr Taylor: What wages have they?

The Surveyor: 21s per week.

Mr Taylor: I think they have a very good wage for labourers.

Mr Shell: Yes; they are paid better than the ordinary labourers, and I don't suppose have so much work to do.

The Chairman thought the matter was rather premature, and ought to be adjourned.

Mr Siddell moved that the subject stand over for a month, and in the meantime the Surveyor to procure information as to the wages paid and all other necessary particulars concerning the roadmen employed by other Boards, and report on the same at next meeting.

Mr Aynsley seconded, and it was carried.

APPLICATION FOR MORE LIGHT.

A letter was read from the Rev C. Longstaff on behalf of the trustees of the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Consett, begging to draw the Board's attention to the fact that a lamp erected in front of their Sunday-school would be a great boon to them, as when the people were coming out of the place it was so dark that they could not see their way, which made it exceedingly dangerous.

A communication was also read from Mr Smith, of Ridley Street, Blackhill, asking the Board for additional light at the bottom end of this street, which was highly necessary.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Davison, it was resolved to leave the matter in the hands of the Lighting Committee.

BUDDLE STREET, DELVES LANE.

Mr Collinson said he had had some complaints from persons living in this street of a nuisance that existed there. The Surveyor's attention had been several times called to the fact, but he had taken no notice of it.

The Surveyor admitted that his attention had been called to the fact, but he had done nothing to it.

He was instructed to make an inspection on the nuisance, and report at the next meeting of the Board.

THE PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY FOR CONSETT.

Mr Taylor called the attention of the Board to the proposed railway to be laid from Consett to Annfield Plain and other places. He would like to know how the project was going on, and thought they as a Local Authority had a right to know.

The Chairman said they had received nothing officially about the affair from the North-Eastern Railway Company, but he had no doubt that if they wrote to the secretary of the Company they could get all necessary information.

Mr Taylor proposed that the Chairman write as suggested by him (the Chairman), not forgetting to remind the Company that they wish both a goods and passenger station to be erected at Consett.

On the Chairman acquiescing to this, it was agreed to.

The Board then rose, after sitting nearly four hours.

MINING OPERATIONS AND SURFACE RIGHTS.

High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division.—Before Baron Pollock and Mr Justice Manisty.

CHAPMAN v DAY.

This case raised a question of some importance in mining districts, as to the liability of persons mining for injuries to property in the soil over their mines. The plaintiff is the owner of certain allotments of waste land, allotted to the Duke of Leeds as lord of the manor under an Enclosure Act of 1777, and conveyed to the plaintiff in 1861, and the defendant is the lessee of the minerals lying under or adjacent to the same allotments and under other parts of the waste allotted to the commoners by the Commissioners, and the plaintiff's claim was for damages for subsidence of the soil caused by working the coal underneath, and consequent damage by injuries to buildings erected within twenty years and since his purchase of the land. It was contended that there was a clause in the deed giving right to compensation, or that, if not, there was a common law right to it, not taken away. The case was argued before Mr Justice Denman and Mr Baron Pollock, who had taken time to consider their judgment, which was now given in favour of the plaintiff.

Mr Baron Pollock first read a long and elaborate written judgment of Mr Justice Denman to that effect, in which the learned Judge said,—I am of opinion that in the present case there is nothing in the Enclosure Act or in the documents to interfere with the right of the plaintiff, as owner of the land in question, to have it supported by the subjacent and adjacent minerals, and that, the defendant having by his working caused a subsidence of the land, the plaintiff is entitled to any damage sustained by the plaintiff in consequence, it being found in the case that the subsidence in question was caused by the working, and that it was not occasioned by the weight of the buildings themselves. We think, therefore, the defendant is liable for any injury to the buildings directly caused by the subsidence of the surface by removal of subjacent and adjacent coal, the amount to be referred to arbitration as agreed. Mr Baron Pollock then read some written observations of his own, declaring his concurrence with his learned brother. He agreed, he said, with his learned brother as to the common law right of the plaintiff to maintain the action, and he added the reasons which had led him to that conclusion.

Judgment for the plaintiff.

One Box of Clarke's B41 Pills is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s 6d each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, Barclay & Sons, Loddon, and all the Wholesale Houses.

Original Poetry.

DEATH AND LIFE.

IN MEMORY OF J. M. OF DIPTON.

Tell the solemn death-bell slowly,
Raise the death-song deep and holy:
Low, subdued, the sound of weeping
O'er a son, a brother sleeping;
Broken hearts and hopes surround him,
Man has lost, but God has found him.
Miserere Domine.

One amid the flock is taken,
While the flock is sad forsaken;
Sorrow makes their heart-string quiver:
"Shall we see him, meet him never?"
Ah! he rests where all shall find him,
None immortal stay behind him.
Miserere Domine.

Saw ye him, the young immortal
Pass the shining pearly portal?
Saw ye how the skies were riven
As the pilgrim entered heaven?
Eden's bliss he gains before us,
There to shed a blessing o'er us.
Gloria tibi Domine.

Rest in peace! we wait the dawning
Of the Resurrection morning,
When the Trump of God shall sever
Life and Death at once for ever;
There, O lost one, shall we meet thee,
And in joy and gladness greet thee.
Gloria tibi Domine.

HAMILTON HENDERSON.

Stobb House, Dipton.

BREACH OF THE CATTLE DISEASE REGULATIONS.—On Tuesday, at the Hexham Petty Sessions, before Captain Atkinson, Mr C. Riddell, and Major Waddilove, *John Thompson*, farmer, Westend, was summoned for unlawfully moving two cows from the county of Durham into Northumberland on the 24th ult.—P.C. Peter Spratt, stationed at Shotley, deposed that he met the defendant between Newlands Bridge and Newlands driving two cows. Witness asked the man where he had came from with the animals, and defendant stated he had brought them from his brother's farm near Lanchester.—Defendant who admitted the offence, was fined £2 and costs.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Weak stomachs.—The distressing symptoms arising from enfeebled digestion are almost numberless, and all of them can be readily dispelled by these admirable Pills. They clean the furred tongue and remove all unpleasant tastes from the mouth, with flatulency, and constipation. Holloway's Pills rouse the stomach, liver, and every other organ, helping digestion to that healthy tone which fully enables it to convert all we eat and drink to the nourishment of our bodies. Hence these Pills are the surest strengtheners and the safest restoratives in nervousness, wasting and chronic debility. Holloway's Pills are infallible remedies for impaired appetite, eructations, and a multitude of other disagreeable symptoms, which render miserable the lives of thousands of our fellow creatures. These Pills are approved by all classes.

THE SAD DEATH OF A LABOURER AT LANGLEY PARK COLLIERY.—An inquest was held on Saturday morning by Mr John Graham, coroner, at the Durham County Hospital, Durham, on the body of Joseph Connell, aged 47, who died in the above institution on Thursday night, about two hours after his admission, from injuries he received that day by being partially buried beneath a fall of clay in a cutting which himself and a fellow workman were excavating at Langley Park Colliery, in forming a new road. The fall of blue clay forced Connell up against the metals, fracturing his skull, breaking his leg in two places, and injuring him otherwise. The poor fellow was removed in a cart to the County Hospital, where Dr. Milburn, the house surgeon, gave him every aid, but no hopes were entertained for his recovery from the first.—A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

COMPLIMENTARY SUPPER AT WEST STANLEY.—At the house of Mr Joseph Ramshaw, Stanley Hotel, a supper was held on Saturday evening, on the occasion of Mr John Nicholson attaining his 81st birthday. This gentleman, for upwards of thirty years, has been employed under Messrs. Joicey, and for the last 17 years has been overman at East Stanley, commonly called Jacky's Pit. He retired about 10 years ago.—After the cloth had been removed Mr Thomas Charlton was appointed chairman, the vice-chair being filled by Mr Thos. Wright.—After the usual loyal toasts, the toast of the evening—"Our Guest, Mr John Nicholson," was drunk with great enthusiasm, and responded to in a very suitable manner.—During the evening some capital songs were given by Messrs. J. Bunskell, Wm. Herran, Edward Dunweedy, J. Fewster, T. Forster, and Joseph Ramshaw. The health of the "Host and Hostess" which was responded to by Mr Ramshaw on behalf of himself and wife. "The Chairman and Vice-Chairman" having been given enthusiastically, the pleasant evening terminated at eleven o'clock the company joining in "Auld Lang Syne."

CONSETT GROUNDS.—The conclusion of the £10 rabbit coursing at these grounds resulted as under, J. Dodds being judge, and N. Lamb pistol firer:—First round—Sayers's Underhand, 17½, beat Maxwell's Jack, 17½; Robinson's Match Girl, 15½, beat Kirkup's Give Him a Chance, 16½; Wilkinson's Cripple, 14½, beat Steven's Bridget, 14½; Armstrong's Lass of the West, 17, beat Kirkup's Give Him a Chance, 16½; Sayers's Underhand, 17½, beat Dodds's Wolf, 16½; Cockburn's Spring, 16½, beat Armstrong's Lass of the West, 17; Johnson's Dry Remark, 16, beat Parkins's Moorhen, 16½; Liddle's Polly Liddle, 14½, beat Sayers's Underhand 3rd lot, 17½; Davidson's Pauper, 15½, beat Regan's Do What You Can, 14½; Davidson's Pauper, 15½, beat Robinson's Match Girl, 15½; Glenwright's Queen Death, 16½ beat Cockburn's Spring, 16½; Parkins's Moorhen, 16½, beat Liddle's Polly Liddle, 14½. Second round—Underhand beat Cripple, Spring beat Underhand, Match Girl beat Lass of the West, Pauper beat Dry Remark. Queen Death beat Pauper, Moorhen beat Polly Liddle. Third round—Spring beat Pauper. Underhand and Match Girl got one rabbit each, and the sweep was divided, Spring taking two shares and the others one share each.

NORTH DURHAM FOXHOUNDS.—These hounds have had two fine runs this week, one on Monday from Hedleyhope, and after two hours of fine hunting, killed; and on Wednesday they found at Silksworth, Mr Chapman's cover. They first went east towards Sunderland, then came away by Pallion and Hilton for Pensher Hill, and raced over the big fields for Errington, where they killed, after one hour and forty-five minutes very fine hunting.—On Wednesday last the hounds met at Warden Law, when, owing no doubt to the hard frost overnight, there was but a small meet. Tunstall Hope and one or two small neighbouring coverts being drawn blonk, the hounds were taken on to Mrs Chapman's coverts at Silksworth, where a good fox was found almost immediately. Breaking covert on the north side, he made for Herrington Hill, but changing his mind, he left Herrington on the left and shaped a course by way of Flinton Hill and Offerton, near to South Hylton, where he sank the hill close to the Wear. Here he was viewed on two fields ahead of the hounds Finding the earths stopped at Pensher, he ran back over the hill, and skirting New Herrington, made again for the main earths at Herrington Hill; but before reaching them he was run into just outside the covert, after a most excellent hunting run of an hour and a half. The pace was not of the fastest, but every one seemed delighted with the run. It was pleasing to note several farmers over whose land the run took place riding well in front, and apparently enjoyed as much as any one. Mostly all the east country farmers are good sportsmen, and whether they actually ride themselves or not they one and all like to see good sport when the

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STRANGELY WOOED: STRANGELY WON.

By INA LEON CASSILIS,

AUTHOR OF

"Guilty without Crime," "The Mystery of Weeping Cross," "Sinner or Victim?" &c

CHAPTER XI.

"Bear with me!" she muttered, brokenly, "I cannot—I do not—love you."

"Hyacinth!" There was a quick anguish in his voice that had almost conquered her. He moved a step nearer and laid his hand, trembling now, on her wrist. "Hyacinth, are you speaking from your heart? For God's sake do not trifle with me! Is it because your mother condemns me that you tell me you cannot love me? Or"—his brow darkened and he set his teeth—"because you have suffered Tracy Mansfield to bind you?"

"No, no—indeed, indeed no,—I did not think of my mother just now, and why should I suffer Tracy to bind me if I did not love him?"

"And you do not—I know that. Hyacinth, you are not indifferent to me; you do not hate me nor even dislike me. Aye, shrink from me, but I read your heart better than you yourself read it. But you distrust me—you cannot forgive the past—you have no faith in the future."

All that she had heard of Vincent Lorraine's wild career rushed before the girl's soul. She glanced in the handsome face and trembled. Was it likely that he would really break with those vices that had become passions once he was not lover only, but husband also—possessor; was he the safe guardian of a woman's happiness?

"Hate you—dislike you," she said, slowly. "No, you are right; but I do not love you. I suppose if I did I should forgive all and trust you blindly. But now, how could I trust the future?"

Lorraine folded his arms on his breast and paused a moment before he answered—

"How would you have me prove to you that I will be true to my love—true to my plighted word? By a season of probation? Bah! I should be lover still—still hoping;—and when the end was gained I might be false to the faith I had pledged. You say well, if you loved me you could trust; and yet ——" He suddenly clasped her hand in both his own, and the old half sarcastic calm fell from him like a mask; all the man's passionate heart was in his eyes—on his lips—"and yet, I am not deceived. I cannot tell if you love me, you are not like the women I have known—but this I know, that I am more to you than you—even in solitude, in self-communing—dream of. I cannot live without you, Hyacinth. For your sake I would shed my life's blood, drop by drop; but live apart from you—no. That were the nobler heroism; be it so—I cannot reach those heights. There is no rest, no peace away from you. When I say 'I love you,' I seem to speak coldly—to utter a half truth; for it is worship. I could more easily pluck out my eyes, and yet see, than pluck you from my life and retain the power to love again."

Could she dare put from her such mighty love as this? White as death, she bowed her face down on the hands that held hers and whispered quiveringly, "Spare me! spare me! Oh, I could not dream you so loved me, and I cannot give you what you ask."

"You can give me yourself, Hyacinth. I can make you love me."

"No, no!" she started up with a wild look of fear, "not that; and you forget my mother. I could not oppose her."

"I do not forget," said Lorraine, with a flash in his deep grey eyes that, fearless as she was, made her quail, "but no being on earth shall stand between us two; nor shall your own lips make me yield you up."

Hyacinth did not tremble now, she did not even strive to draw her hand from the clasp that held it, but stood quite still, and gazed steadily for full three seconds into the eyes of the man who had spoken those words to her; and his gaze did not falter once.

"This then," she said, in a low clear voice, "is the love for which I am to sacrifice duty and happiness. There was always the steel gauntlet under the velvet glove, Mr. Lorraine; but I scarcely understand how even your strong will can make good what you have not scrupled to say to me."

Lorraine dropped the girl's hand and drew back a step, folding his arms again, and a curious smile flitted over his lips.

"I should love you less, Hyacinth," he said, "if you did not defy me; and your heart would be further from mine than it is if I had wooed you as other men woo. He is no over-bold warrior who boasts he will possess the citadel whose guardian is ready to betray it. I shall see you again, and you will give me then what you have denied me now."

The girl looked at him with superb scorn, roused to an almost fierce antagonism by his words that utterly blinded her to a consciousness of their truth.

"I will never see you again," she said, deliberately.

"No? Yet I shall see you again—and soon. Hyacinth, Hyacinth, the threads of our two lives are woven in one web, and you can no more escape its meshes than I can."

Truly he wooed in strange fashion, and the girl's heart beat with a vague feeling of being inclosed within the embrace of a power from which escape was impossible; from which, could she have analysed her own soul, she did not—despite the anger that burned so hotly within her—desire to escape. Even while she said, "I will never see you again," she knew that Vincent Lorraine would have his will, as he had had it from the beginning. If her own character had been weak she must have succumbed to that force against which she now struggled, and struggled vainly, because—as Lorraine told her—her own heart betrayed her. But then he had never given his love to a weak nature. Such men despise where rule is so easy as to be a hardly conscious exercise of power.

Hyacinth did not answer him. She stood a moment quite silent; and then it came upon her suddenly, a sense of growing lateness; the sun had long set, and the evening shadows were creeping up over the scene. She started, and made a step forwards.

"I must return home," she said. "Will you let me pass, please?"

Lorraine bowed in silence, crossed the stile, and pausing offered his hand. The girl hesitated one second—no more—than gave him her hand.

"Thank you," she said. "Good night."

"Good night here? I must not ask you, then, to let me escort you. Well, I know it is needless, save for courtesy's sake; you are perfectly safe—far safer, as you once said, than I am."

A quick quiver of lip and eyelid—that was all; but it did not escape the dark eyes that dwelt on the young face. Lorraine smiled.

"It should be 'good-bye,'" he said, bending down a little, "for those parting for ever; but I accept the omen of your forgetfulness, as I accepted another omen."

He drew her closer to him, and before she could obey the prompting of the quick terror that sprang into her eyes, he had wrapped his arms about her [illegible] knew it, and did not strive; her heart gave one wild throb, and stood still—one breathless moment while her lover held her to him; then he stooped and kissed her lips—once, twice, and said softly, tenderly, steadily—"Sweetheart—my wife—good-night," and released her.

She could not answer—could not speak—or even move from where he left her. She only knew that he was gone—only heard "the crashing of her blood on the brute silence," and felt his kiss on her lips. Had Vincent Lorraine by that last daring act—that last claim of a right denied to him—lost all? or had he flashed into the girl's soul a light so dazzling that her eyes perforce must read the golden language written therein?

He might have been better able to answer that question than Hyacinth herself just now; but of one thing he little dreamed—and that was how different in time, place, and manner from anything he had planned would be his next meeting with Hyacinth Desmond.

CHAPTER XII.

'TWILL BE MOONLIGHT TO-NIGHT.'

> Affairs that walk (as they say spirits do) at midnight, have
> In them a wilder nature than the business
> That seeks despatch by day.
>
> —*Shakspere.*

It would not have been possible for Hyacinth to hide from her mother—even if she had sought to do so—so much, at least, as the purport of what had passed between her and Vincent Lorraine. Mrs. Desmond would naturally ask what had detained the girl so much later than she had intended to return home, and Hyacinth would as soon commit a crime as tell an untruth. Besides her face would shew her mother that something had occurred to trouble her. The poor child would have given the world to escape uttering a word on the subject, but the ordeal must be gone through, and it was no use to shrink from the inevitable.

Mrs. Desmond was standing at the gate when Hyacinth came up; and it was almost dark; but the mother only said quietly, "You are late, dear," and the girl, without a word, followed her into the house.

"Tea is ready, dear," said Mrs. Desmond, but Hyacinth shook her head.

"I can't touch anything," she said, flinging down her hat. Mrs. Desmond looked at her, sat down in the low arm-chair which she usually occupied, and stretched out her hand—"Come here, mavourneen."

Hyacinth went forward, knelt by her mother's side, and hid her face on her knee.

"My child!" said the mother, trembling, and laying her hand on the soft curls. "I know that you have met Vincent Lorraine to-day. Tell me what passed."

Then brokenly—not once looking up—giving only the substance of the truth, Hyacinth told her tale; but breathed not a word of the parting moments,—that clasp—that kiss; those words that rang in her ears with a strange sweetness only half comprehended. In silence Mrs. Desmond listened, and when she spoke it was with resolute calm.

"Hyacinth, this man is even worse than I had believed him. He loves you; but were his promises regarding the future carried out, I should never forgive his past—no, my child, not even if you loved him, for with all his dazzling qualities, he could not make you happy. I could not trust you to a man who has wasted his life in dissipation, and I scarcely know how he dares to ask your love; still less to ask you to trust to him to teach you the lesson you have not yet learned. It is a strange beginning to such teaching to shew you, and desire you to follow that example, how little he cares for the most sacred ties. He certainly would not scruple at any means to gain his end."

Hyacinth knew what her mother was thinking of, but she whispered, "He could not, mother, there is no one here who would aid him."

"No, my child, but he may find means elsewhere. Understand me, Hyacinth. What I mean is this—I think that Lorraine will wait a little; perhaps try to persuade you to elope with him—he knows well he could not gain my consent to his wishes; and failing your yielding to his persuasion, he will not hesitate to use force, to the extent of imprisoning you at Curramore for a day or two, or thinking that, by that time, you would believe your good name injured, and so consent to be his wife."

"Mother!" The girl lifted her head, and her black eyes burned like living fire, "Vincent Lorraine knows me too well to dream of that; he knows that I would rather brave all the world could say than sacrifice my life to a man, whom, even if I had loved, I should hate then for such a deed. And, mother, he would not, he could not dream of such villainy!"

But Mrs Desmond thought she could better gauge Lorraine's character than her daughter, and fell into a mistake. She misjudged Lorraine's intellect, and indeed, his honour also. *Roué* the man might be; but he was utterly incapable of seeking to gain his end by such cowardly terrorism, and had he been, he could not have fallen into the mistake of supposing that a strong-willed, high-spirited girl like Hyacinth could be frightened into submission by the phantom of the world's opinion. But the girl kept in her heart her own thought—shrinking, she hardly knew why, from uttering it; and it did not seem to occur to Mrs. Desmond. Bride Desmond was certainly no match for Mr. Vincent Lorraine, and Hyacinth, who could have helped her, was something very like a traitor in the camp.

Mrs. Desmond had only looked in her child's flushed face while Hyacinth thus equally defended Lorraine's astuteness and morale, and shook her head a little sadly, but as Hyacinth rose, she added, "I shall be compelled to leave this place. Mr. Lorraine is severe on the lawlessness of tenant farmers; but he has himself done more than they have to restore the anarchy of the Middle Ages."

"Leave here!" Hyacinth started, and recoiled. Then a sudden light sprang into her face, which her mother, watching her, misread. If they left Ballygoyle—then Lorraine would follow—would seek her (Hyacinth), and so he would be safe. The girl breathed more freely.

"But there is no need, mother," she said, turning to the door.

"No need yet—not just yet; but there may be soon."

Hyacinth made no reply to this, but went slowly out of the room and sought her own, and there she knelt down again, and covered her face, and tried to think. Heart and brain were in a tumult. Had she been wrong after all? had she been unjust to Vincent Lorraine in turning a deaf ear to his prayer? Was he right when he said he was more to her than she had dreamed of? She travelled over all the incidents of the time since she had known Lorraine; and her throbbing heart, amid passionate sobs, half joy, half grief, gave back only one answer. "Your heart would be further from me than it is if I had wooed you as other men woo," Lorraine had said; and now—now she owned the truth of those words. Even when she was most angry with him she was not farthest from yielding to his influence. Why did she not hate him—scorn him, for that last daring act that was almost insult; those words that, had other lips uttered them, she would never have forgiven? Yet there was no scorn—no hatred—in the young face lifted for a moment to the soft moonlight that streamed into the chamber, and hidden again, the sensitive woman nature shrinking from that light as though it could pierce her soul and read its secret—scarcely

That night, while Hyacinth lay sleepless, Mrs. Desmond wrote a letter to Vincent Lorraine, and sent it early the next morning.

Hyacinth appeared at breakfast; indeed, she was in the garden, gathering the usual summer bouquet for the table, when her mother came in. Mrs. Desmond did not speak of Lorraine, but she remarked that Nellie had called last evening and said that Tracy was going to Dublin in a few days. Hyacinth coloured painfully, and her eyes filled with tears; but she made no reply. What could she say? She was glad that Terence O'Conor called in the course of the morning, and she went out riding with him. He thought her wilder than ever; she laughed, jested, ran mad races, and seemed in reckless spirits. The day was sultry, and two or three times Terence complained of the heat, but Hyacinth always revelled in heat and when Terence said there was a thunderstorm brewing, and he believed the electricity was influencing her, she said with mock gravity, "Am I so mad, then? I suppose it is the electricity."

On the way homewards the riders passed Regan's holding. The man was in the front garden of his cottage, digging, but he looked up and saluted respectfully as Terence and his young companion approached. O'Conor would have passed with a simple response to Regan's "Top o' the marning, yer anner, an' Miss Hyacinth," but the girl drew rein. She generally stopped and talked to all the people; she had a special motive now in talking with Lorraine's tenants. Her quick eye had noted, too, that Regan was planting flowers,—she had seen that some way off—and she saw that as the man paused, leaning on his spade, he so placed it as to partly conceal the little plant he had been inserting in the ground.

"Why, Regan," said the girl, carelessly, "are you planting flowers?"

"Sorra a bit, missy," replied Regan, with the readiness of his nation. "What'll I be puttin' flowers in for when I'll be turned out in a few days? I was just diggin' up a few, missy, to take away wid me. I suppose Misther Lorraine won't grudge me a few plants that cost scarce anything?"

"Sure, no; but it would be better to pay the rent, I think, and then you need not go."

Regan shook his head gloomily. "I can't do it, missy; but Misther Lorraine's hard, and won't believe me."

"He wasn't hard to Doolan's widow, Regan," interposed Terence.

Regan shrugged his shoulders, and was silent. He could not very well deny this fact; but he was not going to speak a good word for his landlord.

"What about the weather, Regan?" said Hyacinth, coming to the rescue. "Mr. O'Conor will have it there will be a storm to-night."

Regan looked up quickly—glanced over the sky, and his glance as it travelled downwards rested for half a second on the towers of Curramore, visible from his spot. He shook his head.

"No, missy," he said, cheerfully, "there'll be no storm to-night, 'twill be moonlight." As he spoke, he stooped, picked up a little bunch of displaced weeds, and flung them aside; but the insignificant action was another link, to Hyacinth's keen, watchful intelligence. She noticed the look at Curramore, that might well have escaped an experienced detective, and the discrepancy between the tone of Regan's reply and his action in throwing away the weed, gave her an important clue. He spoke lightly—cheerfully; but the weed he did not cast away carelessly, as became a mere idle action; he almost flung it down; his fierce, impatient thought found relief in the act; the cheerfulness was the mask. Then the planting of the flowers seemed to argue a feeling of security hardly consistent with the shrewdness of Regan's character; for the man well knew that Lorraine would employ force to carry out his will. This was what Hyacinth read: "I can plant safely, for Mr. Lorraine will not live to disturb me. We want a night of storm, or at least darkness, for our work. To-night will not do—it will be moonlight. Curse it!"

"Well, Regan, I hope it will be moonlight," she said, brightly. "Good morning."

And the riders went on; and all the while on the homeward road, the girl's heart was sick with the terror of the future. The fell scheme was terribly near its fulfilment; yet that brave heart did not faint. She would yet discover the plan and foil it—she, this tender stripling—this girl of eighteen, who had a man's strength of mind with all a woman's—and an Irishwoman's—winning tenderness. She was certain that the scheme—whatever it was—which had been hatching ever since the day when Dermot Grady fired—as he believed—at Lorraine and missed, had its headquarters at that worthy's farm. Grady was the leading man among the tenants—the best off in worldly matters, and his premises were better suited for secret meetings than those of many of the others; for there were barns and outbuildings almost hidden from the house; and Hyacinth knew that Mrs. Grady, though willing to shut her eyes, and pass by things she was not compelled to see, would not countenance meetings in her house which could bear no other complexion than conspiracy. At Grady's the girl might obtain some clue, without which it was useless to warn Lorraine. Her mind was made up before she reached the Wood Cottage. Quick in thought, fearless in action, subtle in wit, they must be cunning and powerful who foiled Hyacinth Desmond. If to-morrow threatened a night of storm, to-morrow afternoon she would go to Grady's farm. She must save Vincent Lorraine, come what may; she had watched to this end when she did not know how dear he was to her, and now—now—if evil befall him;—it would be the signing of her own death warrant.

To be continued.)

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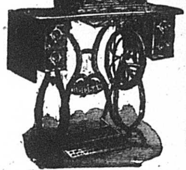
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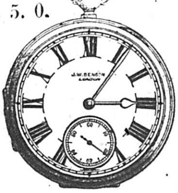

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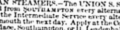

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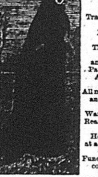

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LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

Thursday, February 8th.—Before M. Kearney, Esq. (chairman), the Rev J. P. De Pledge, Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., Capt. Edward Leadbitter Smith, and Major W. J. Joicey.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

William Doyle was charged by Sergeant Nicholson with being drunk and disorderly at Quebec, on the 27th of last month.—The officer said the defendant was ejected from Marley's public-house for misbehaviour, and he saw him afterwards staggering about the streets very drunk, and wanting to fight. Witness observed the defendant on the preceding night (Friday) fighting with other men, when he received a proper thrashing.—The defendant, who was represented by his mother, was fined 5s and 8s 6d costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

William Stobbs, William Lawson, George Lawson, John Siddell, Robert Murray, George Wallace, George Dawson, John Sweeney, Peter Hines, and *Patrick Hines,* were summoned for playing at pitch and toss at Burnhope, on Sunday afternoon, 28th ult. Peter Hines failed to put in an appearance, but the remainder of the defendants pleaded guilty to the offence.—P.C. Hawley stated that on the afternoon referred to, he watched the whole of the defendants playing at pitch and toss on the highroad near Lockhouse's public-house for over twenty minutes.—The Chairman said this was a very demoralising practice at all times, but more especially on a Sunday. Peter Hines would be fined 5s and costs, but the other defendants would be let off on payment of 2s 6d and 7s 6d expenses.

ASSAULT AT WEST STANLEY.

Margaret Chambers, a young woman, was summoned for assaulting Annie Bennison, at West Stanley, on January 17th.—It seems that the parties live close together, and on the day before-mentioned the complainant was proceeding to an out-house for some coals, when she encountered the defendant, who stared at her and struck her blow in the face, causing blood to flow, and afterwards flung the shovelful of coals she was carrying out of her hand.—John Platten stated that he did not witness the assault, but he heard the complainant scream, and subsequently saw her face covered with blood.—The offence was emphatically denied by the defendant, and two witnesses—a girl and boy.—The Bench believed an assault had been committed, and imposed a fine of 5s and costs; £1 in all.

MISCHIEVIOUS LADS.

Three boys, *Thomas McGuire, James Thomas Parkes,* and *William Henderson,* each pleaded guilty to wilfully damaging certain buildings, to the amount of £2, the property of Mr John Henry Burn, of the West Stanley Colliery, on the afternoon of Sunday, 21st January.—Sergeant Tranmer explained to the Bench that when playing the defendants had maliciously damaged the brick ovens coal-houses, and privies, connected with the above-named pit. This statement was corroborated by two lads, who saw the offence committed; and Mr Simpson, the colliery engineer, certified that the damage done amounted to £2.—After a brief conversation with his colleagues, the Chairman (addressing the defendants) said he never knew of a more wanton or mischievious act, and they all deserved a good whipping. The Bench, however, regretted that it was beyond their power to administer a severe flogging to the lads; and if they inflicted the full penalty, the punishment would fall on the shoulders of their parents. The Bench would merely order the defendants to pay a fine of 10s each, including costs, and defray 10s a piece to cover damage incurred. Addressing the boys' parents, the Chairman observed that they were very much to blame in not looking more strictly after their children. Such conduct arises through not receiving due chastisement at the proper time.

TRESPASS IN PURSUIT OF GAME.

William Sayers, farm hand, pleaded guilty to a charge of unlawfully setting spring traps for the purpose of catching hares, on land belonging to Lord Durham, at Langley Park, on the 21st January.—Henry Foster, the game watcher, stated that he found the defendant with the trap produced ranging the High Langley Farm.—He was fined 20s including costs.

A YOUNG POACHER.

George Lee, a lad of about 13 years, was placed in the dock on a charge of trespassing in search of game. As the defendant failed to understand the nature of the offence he was accused of, his father explained that he was attacked by the fever seven years' ago, which had made him almost deaf and dumb. Moreover the lad was not exactly right in his mind.—Newton Steadman, the keeper, deposed that on the 3rd February, he saw the defendant place the snares (produced) in the Ushaw Moor Plantation. When he visited the spot the next morning (4th inst) he observed a rabbit in one of them. Concealing himself behind the hedge back, he watched until defendant came up and killed the rabbit. Afterwards he took it out of the net, and re-set the snare. Witness emerged from his hiding-place and caught the defendant, who told him that his father had set him on to poach.—The defendant alleged that the witness hit him with a thick stick and and gave him two "smacks" in the mouth.—Another witness having spoken in support of the charge, the defendant was fined 10s including costs, and warned not to repeat the offence.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Matthew Beck was summoned by Mr W. Ward, on behalf of the Lanchester School Attendance Committee for not sending his child to school.—The Bench issued an order requesting the defendant to make his child attend school regularly.

OBSTRUCTING THE HIGHWAY AT USHAW MOOR.

William Robinson, John Cowan, Thomas Cowan, George Wigham, William Robinson, jun., John Brown, and *John Cranson,* all strike hands, were summoned for obstructing the highway at Ushaw Moor Colliery, on the 16th January. Mr A. O. Smith, of Durham, defended.—P.C. Raine adduced that about ten o'clock on Tuesday morning, he saw a group of twelve or thirteen men standing on the turnpike road near the village. He observed Oyston, the blacksmith, coming from the colliery in the direction of the houses. The defendants stood in a line across the road, and caused Oyston to travel some distanse out of his way in order to get past them. Witness went up to them and asked the reason why they were obstructing the workmen at the colliery? One of the defendants replied that he had nothing whatever to do with it; and said it was "only a lazy b—— like him that would wear that coat." The officer walked down the road again, and about ten minutes afterwards he saw a stoker named Defty coming from the colliery in the same direction, when the defendants deliberately obstructed him, and he had to make a detour by going through a gap in the fence. These men, witness added, congregated at that spot about nine o'clock every morning to annoy the workmen.—To Mr Smith: He knew the whole of the defendants. Only saw Oyston come down from the colliery once. Witness was standing at the end of the blacksmiths' shop. Would swear that Oyston came within three yards of the men—in fact he brushed close past them. The defendants did not speak to Oyston. Witness did not call these men "a set of lazy b——s." It was Brown who said it was only such men as himself that wore the uniform. Calling him a "lazy b——" did not "nettle" him in the least. It was not a fact that if they had not indulged in most abusive language towards him the Bench would have heard nothing further about the affair. Defty was coming home from his work at the time.—William Oyston, blacksmith, stated that on proceeding to the colliery, he had to step out of his road in order to get past the defendants. When he returned he saw the policeman ordering these men away. He heard the officer say, "Let men work that will work."—To Mr Smith: He had to walk at least three or four yards out of his way. The defendants didnot molest him in the least.—To the Chairman: It was usual for the men to call him names. He heard some of them say, "stop the b——."—Cross-examined by Mr Smith, witness denied that he had ever been convicted by a Bench of magistrates in his life, although he had frequently been summoned for various offences.—William Defty, stoker, employed at the colliery, said that as he was going towards Ushaw Moor, on the 16th ult., he noticed these men congregated on the highway. When he reached the gateway he halted, as he could not get any further. He was compelled to go through the fence, as the defendants were standing in the gateway.—To Mr Smith: He came close up to the men before he turned away through the fence. Never told Mr Lee that neither Oyston nor himself had been obstructed in any shape or form. He said he did not wish to come to the Court, because it hurt his feelings to have to give evidence against any of the workmen. He had never being convicted in a Court of Justice in his life.—Wm. Scott, store keeper, adduced corroborative testimony.—On behalf of the defendants, Mr Smith submitted that the Act of Parliament requires that the obstruction should be wilful, and by "wilful" was meant anything done purposely. He did not deny that the men were not parading along the highway, but he contended they had a perfect right to do so. He did not mean to uphold their conduct, on this occasion, but so long as his clients were not obstructing any person, they were at perfect liberty to walk up and down the highway whenever they pleased. He asserted that in the present instance, the man Oyston had deliberately gone out of his road, solely with a view of coming into contact with the defendants for the purpose of getting up a case of obstruction against them. There was ample space for either Oyston or Defty to have gone about their business without coming any way near the defendants. Mr Smith thereupon called John Robinson, who said that on the day referred he was standing at the Cock House in company with two other men named Taylor and Dawson. Oyston never had to stept one iota out of his way to get past the defendants. Defty stood near the drift, and he did not move a single yard out of his way in order to reach his home—To Captain Smith: He was one of the strike hands.—In answer to P.C. Raine, witness admitted that both his father and brother were standing in the dock accused of this offence.—The officer explained that this witness was standing with the other men, but he was unable to ascertain his name at the time.—John Taylor and Thomas Dawson also denied that the least obstruction was caused by the defendants on that particular morning.—The Chairman said the Bench were unanimously of opinion that the action of the defendants in this case was both unjustifiable and wrong. They did not wish to deal impartially either with one side or the other, but the workmen must be protected from intimidation. The defendants were each ordered to pay a fine of 20s each (including costs); or go to gaol for 14 days' in default.—As the defendants were without funds, they were allow three days to pay the penalty.

ALLEGED LARCENIES AT CONSETT.

Patrick Burns, late of the Durham Light Infantry, was brought up in custody charged with stealing a muffler, shirt, pair of drawers, and other articles, of the value of 10s, the property of Thomas Reddy, labourer, of No. 15, Sunderland Street, Consett, on the 29th ult.—The prisoner lodged at the house, and it seems that on the day in question, when intoxicated, he carried off a quantity of the prosecutor's clothing, and left some of his own in its place. A portion of the property had been pledged by the prisoner at the establishment of William Taylor, pawnbroker, Crossgate, Durham.—Prisoner agreed to defray the pawnborker's fees, and the case was dismissed.—A similar charge of larceny against the prisoner was then withdrawn.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

Wednesday, Feb. 7th—Before E. J. Meynell, Esq., Judge.

NOVEL WAY OF DISCHARGING A DEBT.

Maddison v. Knowles.—In this action, Mary Ann Maddison (executer under the will of the late George Maddison, of Dipton), sought to recover from Richard Knowles, the sum of £14 13s 9d for goods supplied to his wife. Mr Welford (Consett) appeared for plaintiff.—The defendant pleaded that it was an unjust debt. He alleged that he had on two occasions forwarded remittances of 3s in stamps to Mr Leadbitter, of Catchgate, in payment thereof, and he had put the amount down as 2s 6d in his book. Mr Leadbitter had told him many a time that it was a just debt, and said the only way to get shot of it was to go off to America. (Laughter). Defendant also alleged that when Mr Maddison failed some years ago, his account book was taken away from him.—In reply to His Honour, Mr Leadbitter stated that he did not recollect anything about the account being wrong. He remembered defendant saying something about the matter, but he (witness) informed Knowles that he had only sent him 30 stamps instead of 36.—It was agreed to deduct this small sum from the amount. His Honour accordingly gave judgment for the plaintiff for £14 5s to be repaid at 6s a month.

SHEEP WORRYING.

Nevins v. Golden.—John Nevins, farmer and grocer, Burnopfield, sued Michael Golden, platelayer and diaryman, Lintz Colliery, for the sum of £2, the value of a sheep alleged to have been worried by one of the defendant's dogs.—The plaintiff stated that the animal was worried in March, 1878, and the reason he had let the matter rest for so long a period without taking action was because the defendant had promised to pay him for it.—The defendant's wife denied that her husband ever offered to pay the plaintiff the value of the sheep. She alleged that it was a dog belonging to Mr T. Foster, of Townhead, and not their dog, that worried the animal.—Judgment was given for the plaintiff, for £2, to be paid at 10s monthly.

A SHOEMAKERS' BILL.

Watson v. Grundy.—In this case, John Watson, boot and shoemaker, claimed from John Grundy the sum of £3 17s 7d, for boots and shoes made and sold to the defendant and his family.—His Honour gave a verdict for plaintiff for full amount, to be paid in monthly instalments of 15s each.

UNABLE TO "RAISE THE WIND."

Sloane v. Sloane.—Bernard Sloane, general dealer, Consett, brought an action against his wife, Caterine Sloane, to receive certain moneys which were paid to his wife, when he was carrying on the business in the shop. Mr Harle (Newcastle) appeared for the plaintiff; and Mr Welford (Consett) for the defendant.—As the plaintiff was unable to raise sufficent funds to secure a hearing, the case was struck out.

WHO IS THE HOUSEKEEPER?

Aynsley v. Rogan.—Mr Welford appeared for the plaintiff, John Aynsley, butcher, of Consett, who sued Patrick Rogan, ironworker, for the sum of £3 15s 5d for meat sold to the defendants' sister whilst she was keeping the house for him, but wh had since been married.—The defendant said he knew nothing at all about the debt, as he never got any meat from Mr Aynsley. He alleged that his sister kept the house for his father, and that he paid 15s per week for board and lodgings.—Plaintiff stated he sued the defendant because he was regarded as the tenant of the house, and paid the rent.—The defendant explained that his father occupied the house (which belonged to the Consett Iron Company) and that the rent was merely deducted from his wages at the Works on pay day, but the money really came through his father.—His Honour pointed out that the plaintiff had not evidently taken the trouble to enquire into to matter, and had sued the wrong person. He found for the defendant with costs.

The Whickham School Board have appointed Miss Jane E. Coates, of Stockton, mistress of their Infant School at Swalwell.

The Consent contingent of the Salvation Army visited Gateshead on Monday last, and took part in the special gathering held in connection with the Army in that town.

Local Hunting Fixtures.—North Durham Foxhounds—Monday, Feb. 12, Maiden Law; Wednesday, 14, South Hetton; Friday, 16, Stanley—10·45. Braes of Derwent—Saturday, February 10, The Ship; Wednesday, 14, Whickham; Saturday, 17, The Kennels—10·30.

Health of Wolsingham.—The returns of mortality for the year 1882 in the town and rural parish of Wolsingham, gives a total of sixty-one in a population of 3,095, being at the rate of 19·7 per thousand of the population. It is worthy of note that the above returns of mortality include the following ages:—Two at 70, one at 73, one at 75, two at 76, one at 80, two at 82, one at 87, one at 90, and one at 98.

Sad Death of a Child near Burnhope.—On Friday last, Mr Coroner Graham held an inquest at Mr John Robson's, Hill House, on the body of a male child, aged about five weeks, named Miles Barron Green, who died on the 30th ult. It seems that on the night of the 29th January, the mother, Mary Ann Green, went to bed as usual with the child, and when she got up the following morning, about half-past five o'clock to light the fire, she left the infant in bed apparently all right. When she went to the bedside about ten minutes later, she noticed that the child did not look well, and she then called Mrs Dixon, her neighbour, into the house, but the infant expired five minutes afterwards. A verdict that death had resulted from general debility was returned.

The proprietors of West Pelton Colliery (Messrs J. Joicey and Co.), are about to erect forty additional cottages at that place for the accommodation of their workmen.

New Magistrate.—Mr James Joicey, of Orchard House, Gateshead, qualified as a magistrate for the county of Durham at the adjourned Quarter Sessions held at the city of Durham on Saturday morning.

Accident at Consett.—On Thursday se'nnight a young man, named Frederick Little, whilst following his employment as a hewer in the Saint Pit, Consett, had his knee cap broken through a quantity of of loose coal falling upon his legs and also on his body.

Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Sunday last Miss Coates, a distinguished lady-evangelist, preached two special sermons in the above place of worship in the afternoon and evening, to crowded congregations.—During the week the same lady has been conducting a series of revival services each evening in the school-room adjacent, all being well attended.

Browney Colliery.—On Saturday evening the members of the Primitive Methodist Society gave an entertainment, entitled "The Prodigal Son," in the new schoolroom, kindly lent for the occasion by Mr R. Harle. The entertainment was divided into three sections—1st, "The prodigal at home;" 2nd, "The prodigal away from home;" 3rd, "The prodigal returning home." Mr John Banks presided. The choir was in attendance, and rendered several hymns, under the conductorship of Mr William Gray. The proceeds amounted to over £4, the whole of which was devoted to the harmonium fund. Votes of thanks brought the meeting to a close.

A Deserving Memento.—We are gratified to learn that the officers and seamen on board H.M.S. Superb have subscribed amongst them the sum of £10 for the purpose of erecting a suitable tribute to the memory of the late George Pattinson, son of Mr Thomas Pattinson, of Puddlers Row, Consett, who, it will be remembered, was killed in the service of his country during the bombardment of Alexandria, on the 11th July last. The remittance, accompanied by a sympathising letter from the commander of the vessel, has been forwarded to the relatives of the deceased in Consett, and the memorial will be erected in Benfieldside Cemetery forthwith.

Sad Accident near Annfield Plain.—On Tuesday, whilst an old man named Robert Lawson, who is a screener at the Willie Pit, was walking along the railway, and being very dull of hearing, a locomotive which was shunting some trucks up to the colliery at the time was approaching, one of the buffers of which struck him and knocked him down, and three trucks passed over his right leg, which was seriously mutilated. Dr J. T. Hooper was soon in attendance and amputated the leg below the knee. Lawson is 66 years of age, and lives by himself at Kyo, and is in a very weak state from loss of blood.

The Health of Weardale.—On Friday the medical officers of the Weardale Union presented their returns of death and diseose during the year 1882.—Dr. Bourne, of the St. John's Chapel district, with a population of 3,960, reports a still declining population. Deaths nnmbered 61 (against 77 in 1881) and births 98, contagious disease only seizing one victim.—In Wolsingham district there were 82 births and 64 deaths, the mortality being heaviest in the June quarter.—The Sanitary Inspector (Mr Egglestone) says that in the Union (exclusive of Stanhope and Tow Law Local Board districts) 198 deaths and 300 births were registered, the average death-rate standing at 18·7, as against 18 for the last four years. The death-rate amongst children under five years has been highest in Stanhope and Newlandside quarter.

Suicide of a Railway Guard in Newcastle.—William Johnson, a railway guard in the employ of the North-Eastern Railway Company, committed suicide on Monday evening at his residence, 6, Beaconsfield Street, Newcastle. The deceased was discovered with his throat cut by his son, who sought assistance from a neighbour and sent for a doctor. Dr I'Anson arrived shortly after the occurrence, but Johnson was then dead. The deceased was 50 years of age.—An inquest was held on Wednesday night at the Gloucester Inn, Westgate Hill, Newcastle, before Mr T. Hoyle (deputy coroner), on the body, which the jury returned a verdict of "Suicide while in a state of temporary insanity." The remains of the deceased, who was a guard on the Consett Branch line, were interred in Elswick Cemetry yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, the *cortege* being followed to the graveside by a large number of friends.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Sunday-school, Blackhill.—Annual Meeting.—The annual meeting of the teachers in connection with this school was held in the school-room, on Wednesday evening. Mr Imrie presided, and there was a fair muster of male and female teachers. The minutes of last meeting having been read and adopted, the treasurer submitted his annual report, which showed that financially the school was in a very satisfactory condition, the balance in hand being £5 2s 10d. The election of office-bearers for the current year was then proceeded with. It was proposed and carried unanimously that Mr Imrie be superintendent. Mr Imrie demurred; he liked the work of the sunday-school, but his acceptance of the superintendency would necessitate his giving up a large class of boys to whom he was much attached. Eventually, at the earnest desire of the teachers, he consented to undertake the duty for a year. Mr Cranston was re-elected treasurer. The other office bearers are: Mr Robert Moneylaws, secretary; Miss Lumsden, librarian; and Miss McDonald, assistant librarian. The treasurer was empowered to purchase bibles from the British and Foreign Bible Society to the amount of £1.

Consett Waterworks Company.—The following is a copy of the annual report of this company:—"Your directors have pleasure in reporting the continued increase of revenue, the mechanical rents being £389 15s 8d, and the domestic rents £110 10s 10d in excess of last half-year. After payment of interest on bonds, income tax, and management expenses, their remains an undivided profit of £4,813 12s 3d, out of which your directors recommend payment on and after 24th of February instant of a dividend (clear of income tax) at the rate of £6 per cent. per annum, at the bank of Messrs. Backhouse and Co., Durham, leaving to be carried over to the credit of the next half-year's account an undivided profit of £156 8s 11d. The duplicate main from Smiddy Shaw Reservoir to Consett has been completed during the past half-year, and a constant supply of excellent water has been given through the company's district. The company's engineer reports that the reservoirs and pipe lines are in good working order with the exception of the Loud Service Reservoir, which remains as before.—(Signed) John Burdon, chairman; William Boyd, vice-chairman; William Wiles, secretary."

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

Market Reports.

Newcastle Meat and Poultry, Saturday.—

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

Durham Provision, Saturday.—Beef, 8d to 10½d; mutton, 9d to 10½d; veal, 10d to 10½d; pork, 8d to 10d; bacon, 6d to 7d; ham, 7d to 8d; cheese, 6d to 8d; lard, 8d per lb; chickens, 2s 4d to 2s 9d; ducks, 2s 9d to 3s 3d; turkeys, 6s 6d to 10s; geese, 7s to 9s; hares, 4s to 4s 6d each; rabbits, 2s 9d to 3s 0d; pigeons, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per couple. butter, 1s 8d to 1 9d; do. salt, 1s 0d to 1s 2d per lb; eggs, 7 to 8 for 1s; apples, 2s to 2s 6d; onions 1s to 2s 0d per peck; potatoes, 8d to 10d.

Hexham Provision, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 4d to 1s 6d per lb; eggs, 8 to 11 for 1s; turkeys, 11d to 1s per lb; geese, 9d to 10d per lb; chickens, 2s 9d to 3s 6d; ducks, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each; hares, 3s 6d to 5s 6d each; rabbits, 3s to 3s 6d per couple; potatoes, 8d per stone; onions, 10d to 1s 4d per stone; carrots, 8d per stone; cooking apples, 2s 8d to 3s 0d per stone; cabbage, 1d each; lemons, 3d each; melons, 1s 6d to 2s each; do, dessert, 2s to 3s; dessert apples, 4d to 6d per lb; grapes, 8d per lb; flour, extra superfines, 2s 2d; superfines, 2s 0d; fines, 2s 0d; maslin, 1s 8d; oatmeal, 2s 4d to 2s 6d per stone.

Newcastle Corn, Saturday.—At market this morning there was a fair supply of local wheat in fair condition sold at late rates, whilst our country barleys moved off slowly at late rates. The demand for foreign and south-country wheats was by no means active, although sellers were very firm, and in some cases demanded an advance of 6d to 1s per qr. Fine malting barley sold quietly at last week's prices, but middling and common lots were 6d lower, whilst grinding samples were 6d dearer. Scotch oats were in fair demand, and about late rates were realised for the fine descriptions, lower grades, on the other hand, being somewhat neglected, whilst foreign parcels were in steady demand at prices rather favouring sellers. American maize moved steadily into consumption at full prices, but both beans and peas ruled quiet. The flour trade appeared to be hardening, and some sellers asked 6d advance.

	BRITISH.	PER QR.	
Wheat,	Northumberland and Durham, White	40 to	48
	Do. Red	40	44
	South Country, White	44	48
	Do. Red	42	45
Barley		27	40
Oats	Scotch Potato	24	32
	Scotch Common	21	31
Malt		40	50
Peas		36	46
Beans		36	42
Flour	Northumberland and Durham, per sack (280lbs)	30	33
	Norfolk and Suffolk Whites	29	32
	Scotch	27	31
	FOREIGN.		
Wheat	Lower and Upper Baltic	44	48
	American	45	48
	Russian	40	43
Barley	Saal	40	50
	Californian	46	50
	French	34	38
	Danish and Swedish	28	40
Oats		18	24
Peas		37	41
Beans	Alexandrian	42	44
Flour	Hungarian	40	50
	American	34	50
	Baltic	33	36
	French	35	40

Newcastle Corn, Tuesday.—Arrivals into Newcastle for week ending Feb. 6, 1883:—Coast and rail—Wheat, 3,340; maize, —; barley, 999; malt, 168; oats, 4,757; rye, 105; beans, 232; peas, 5 9; flour, 5,521 qrs. Foreign—Wheat, 4,480; maize, 7900; barley, 870; malt, 25; oats, 509; rye, —; beans, —; peas, —flour, 11,600. At this day's market there was a good arrival of both coasting and foreign wheat, whilst the supplies of foreign flour are excessive. To-day, the wheat trade ruled exceedingly slow, and although holders only demanded last week's prices very little business was done. Maize steadier, and in some instances 3d advance paid. Malting barley inactive, supplies are smaller, but no advance on last week's rates can be made. Scotch oats a slow sale with prices rather in favour of buyers. Foreign oats, beans, and peas steady. Grinding barley met with a good inquiry at 3d advance. Flour with large supplies, sold at irregular prices, last week's rates in some cases being exceeded for fine brands.

Hexham Corn, Tuesday.—Good supply of barley at market this morning, which met a fair sale at a little over late rates. Oats fair supply, dull sale, and a shade easier in prices. Only one sample of wheat on offer from farmers.

Newcastle Cattle, Tuesday.—The arrivals from a distance consisted of 96 head of cattle and 260 pigs from Aberdeen and the counties of the North-East coast of Scotland; 2,310 beasts, 130 sheep, and 97 calves from foreign.

The show of stock presented for sale exhibited an increase of 549 beasts, but a decrease of 400 sheep as compared with that of last week. Respecting quality both that of cattle and sheep were below an average for the time of the year. 712 head of cattle left Newcastle by rail for the South. The supply of beef comprised 1809 head. The beef trdse to-day has again been in an unsettled state, sales were very irregular, and accurate quotations were rather difficult to arrive at. For the better classes of both oxen and heifers from 10s 3d to 10s 6d per imperial stone was about the general top figure. There were some lots of cattle bought for the metropolitan market, as it is the only market they are allowed to be shown in after being branded with the broad arrow. The number of sheep was 1,890, against 3,600 in the corresponding week of last year. Owing to the unprecedently high prices, the mutton trade is getting into fewer hands week after week. A few pens of choice wedders of the smaller class were sold by weight at 1s per lb., but the general top figure for mutton was 11½d per lb., sinking offal. Pigs: 873 were shown. The pork trade ruled steady at about late rates. The day was favourable for holding the market, but the weather was raw and cold, with a gloomy aspect.

PRICES FOR THIS DAY SINKING THE OFFAL:

Beef, prime heifers, per stone	10s 3d to	10s 6d
Secondary sorts	8s 9d ..	9s 3d
First-class oxen	10s 0d ..	10s 3d
Middling	8s 0d ..	9s 3d
Foreign bulls and cows	7s 9d ..	8s 3d
Pork	6s 9d ..	8s 9d
Sheep (good vendable wedders), per lb	10½d to	11½d
Middling and inferior	9½d to	10d

NUMBERS AND PRICES OF THE CORRESPONDING WEEK IN THE LAST THREE YEARS.

	Beasts.		Sheep.	
1880	1,730	5s 6d to 9s 6d	4,100	6d to 9d
1881	1,254	6s 6d to 9s 3d	2,650	8½d to 10d
1882	2,700	7s 3d to 9s 9d	3,600	9d to 11½d

Newcastle Fruit and Potato, Saturday.—Scotch potatoes, 10d per stone; onions, 6d to 10d per stone; cooking apples, 1s 8d to 2s 4d per stone; dessert apples, 4d to 6d per lb; figs, 4d to 6d per lb; grapes, 6d to 8d per lb; cauliflowers, cabbages, roots, and other classes at late rates.

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £3 16s to £4 12s; this year's growth, £0 0s 0d; new land hay, £3 18s to £5 5s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s; clover hay, £3 0s to £4 0s per ton; wheat straw, 2s 2d to 2s 8d; barley straw, 2s 0d to 2s 3d; oat straw, 2s 1d to 2s 6d per thrave; carts of hay at market, 114; carts of straw, 47.

Mr Simon Parkin, proprietor of the Phœnix Hotel, Stanhope, died very suddenly about twelve o'clock on Tuesday night.

Ushaw College.—In the matriculation lists of London University, just issued, we find in the first division the name of Domingo de Treitas De Silvia, who studied at St. Cuthbert's College, Ushaw.

Floriline!—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

WESLEYAN HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

The annual sermons on behalf of the Wesleyan Foreign Missions were preached in the Annfield Plain Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday last. The Rev Henry Smith, of Shotley Bridge, occupied the pulpit both in the afternoon and evening, and preached eloquent and thoughtful discourses to very good congregations.—On the following day (Monday) the annual missionary meeting was held in the same place of worship, when suitable addresses were delivered by the circuit ministers—the Revs W. Hare, H. Smith, and Vetranio Tyas—and several other gentlemen. Collections were taken at the close of the services and meeting in aid of the Foreign Mission Funds.

CONSETT.

Last Sunday, the Rev V. Tyas, of Annfield Plain, preached the annual sermons in the Consett Wesleyan Chapel, and pleaded for the Wesleyan Home Mission and Contingent Funds. There was an excellent gathering at the morning and evening services, especially on the latter occasion.

Last night (Thursday) the annual public meeting was held in the chapel, when there was a fair attendance, notwithstanding the inclement state of the weather. Mr George Richardson, of Shotley Bridge (the junior circuit steward), occupied the chair. The meeting was opened by praise and prayer, after which

The Chairman offered a few remarks. He said he intended to make his duties that night very pleasant indeed. He hoped they would all help forward this cause by their prayers and contributions. He trusted they would have a happy evening, and that the spirit of God would pervade throughout the meeting. The Chairman then called upon

The Rev W. Hare to present the annual report, which set forth that the income of the Home Mission and Contingent Fund for the past year had been £35,408 11s 10d, representing an increase of £1,197 19s 7d on the preceding year. The expenditure for the same period was £33,903 5s 4d, being £43 18s 9d less than the previous year. They would therefore observe that with respect to one of their funds, at least, the expenditure is below the income. (Applause). The difference been the income and expenditure was £824 11s 4d, thus leaving a balance of £680 15s 2d in hand, which it seems the committee have devoted to evangelistic work. The larger the surplus in hand the more extensive the work will be. The Shotley Bridge and Consett Circuit has contributed during the past twelve months the sum of £36 13s 8d, received from the following sources:—Class meeting, £19 5s; public collections, £13; public meeting, £4 7s; Juvenile Association, £4 1s. The fifth source was derived from private donations, but unfortunately they had none at all from this circuit. Of this amount Consett alone contributed as follows:—Class meeting, £2 1s 3d; public collection, £3 10s 6d; Juvenile Association, £4 1s. How far they contributed to the public meeting fund he was unable to say, as there was no distinction made between the several societies in the report. Compared with the rest of the circuit, they might call this amount respectable. The Juvenile Association this year had collected £4 6s 2d. Nearly 300 circuits had been directly assisted by the fund, although the whole of the circuits had been to a certain extent indirectly aided by it. About 100 home missionaries had been appointed; 12 of those were selected as district evangelists, and 14 more to the army and navy, besides hundreds of voluntary working co-operators. (Loud applause).

The Rev H. Smith next gave a few very interesting facts relating to the condition of the Warminster Circuit, where he had laboured for nearly three years, and pointed out in what respect the Home Mission and Contingent Fund was beneficial to this and other circuits in a similar position.

The Rev J. Bush, of Altrincham (who attended as the Conference deputation), followed with an instructive and able address on the work accomplished by the above fund.

The usual collections were made in aid of the Home Mission Funds, and the proceedings closed with votes of thanks to the Chairman and speakers, and the pronouncing of the benediction.

The speeches were interspersed by a choice selection of anthems and hymns, ably rendered by the choir, Mr C. Stelling officiating at the organ.

Hymns for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rate, by Robert Jackson, "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates furnished

The most wholeome 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.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Newbiggen House, Lanchester.—5th inst., the wife of Mr W. J. Stephenson, of a son.

Lintz Colliery.—3rd inst., the wife of Mr J. T. Whiteford, of a daughter.

Tow Law.—Grove House, 2nd inst., the wife of Mr Chas. Maynard, mining engineer, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Lanchester.—At the District Register Office, 3rd inst., Mr W. Bell to Miss E. Harrison, both of Hamsteels.—Same day, Mr T. D. Robinson, of East Hedleyhope, to Miss E. A. Pattison, of Cornsay Colliery.—Same day, Mr B. Long, of Tanfield, to Miss M. A. Wright, of Stanley.—6th inst., Mr T. Barron to Miss E. Unsworth, both of Blackhill.

DEATHS.

Blackhill.—Roger Street, 2nd inst., aged 9 years, Jane Ann, daughter of Mr Thomas Turner.

14, Derwent Street, 5th inst., aged 52 years, Honer Elliott, widow of the late Edward Elliott, of Blackhill.

Benfieldside.—Cutler's Hall Road, 5th inst., aged 17 years, Elizabeth Green, daughter of John Green.

Tanfield Lea.—James Street, 3rd inst., aged 17 years and 9 months, son of Christopher and Ann Scrafton.

East Tanfield Cottages.—3rd inst., Mr J. Robinson, aged 64 years.

Langley Moor.—7th inst., aged 38 years, Mr William Richardson.

Tow Law.—3rd inst., aged 32 years, Mr John Henderson, engineer.

Craghead.—4th inst., Elizabeth, widow of Mr George Henderson, late of Newfield and Humble Burn.

Stanhope.—At Eastgate, 31st ult., aged 76 years, Mr Joseph Stephenson.

At East Lane, 3rd inst., aged 45 years, Mr William Sinclair.

At Phœnix Inn, 6th inst., aged 48 years, Mr Samuel Parkin.

Birtley.—St. John's Place, 4th inst., aged 37 years, Elizabeth, wife of Mr George Craggs.

Lumley.—At Sixth Pit, 3rd inst., Elizabeth, widow of Mr Robert Leatherd, of Chester-le-Street.

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