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The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1845 {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY, January 10th, 1896. PRICE ONE PENNY.

BUYERS OF RELIABLE DRUGS, CHEMICALS, AND MEDICINAL PREPARATIONS should call at
JABEZ SWINDALE'S
BESSEMER STREET, BLACKHILL.
Orders by Post promptly attended to. Terms cash.

Money.

MONEY TO LEND.

A PRIVATE CAPITALIST is prepared to make Advances of from £5 upwards on personal and other Security at a reasonable rate of interest. Repayments to suit Borrower's convenience. Distance no object. Strictly private.—Apply, Mr. COHEN, 16, Fogle Street, Sunderland 601s

Contracts.

VENETIAN BLINDS.—TO CONTRACTORS and others.—Messrs. STEWART and Co. are prepared to estimate for large or small quantities.—No. 1, Westmoreland Terrace, Newcastle. 427r

PERSONS wishing to TENDER for the various Trades required in the ERECTION OF NEW SCHOOLS and MASTER'S HOUSE, at the Causey, for the Tanfield School Board, are requested to send their names to Davidson & Bendle, Architects, Newcastle, on or before Monday, the 13th, when quantities will be supplied. No pledge to accept the lowest or any Tender. 275t

TENDERS are invited for the several works required in the ERECTION and COMPLETION of FOUR HOUSES, OUTBUILDINGS, &c., at Number One, Consett, for Nathan Eldon, Esq. (Tenders for Mason and Joiner's Work, Labour only).

Plans, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and forms of Tender obtained at my Office, New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, on and after Monday 13th inst.

Tenders to be sent in on or before Wednesday the 22nd January, 1896.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

WILLIAM S. SHELL, M.S.A.
Architect and Surveyor.

January 8th, 1895

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are required for the ERECTION of TWO BLOCKS of PROPERTY in Medomsley Road, Consett, for Mr. JOHN T. POTTS.

The Plans and Specifications can be seen, and all information and quantities obtained, at the office of the Architect, 24, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, until Monday, the 13th January, 1896, on which after date Tenders must reach the Architect not later than 5 o'clock p.m. Tenders to be endorsed.

The lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.

JOHN DOHERTY,
Consett. Architect.

Found.

FOUND in Delves Lane, on the 28th inst., a Pair of BOOTS.—For particulars, apply, J. WILLIAMS, 12, Buddle Street, Consett. 265t

FOUND in Consett, a GOAT.—If not claimed in four days, will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply, JOSEPH CHARLTON, 15, Queen Street, Consett.

FOUND, a LADY'S SILVER WATCH and ALBERT, near Lintz Green; owner can have it by paying expenses. Apply, P. C. CURTIS, Dipton, R.S.O. 290t

Wanted.

WANTED, APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply, BELL AND BINNING, Consett. 271t

WANTED, a young Girl as GENERAL, about 16 or 17.—Apply A, *Guardian* Office, on Thursday, January 16th.

WANTED, COOK-GENERAL, also HOUSEMAID for February 1st.—Apply, Mrs. BAGNALL, Rowland's Gill. 227t

AGENTS WANTED to push first-class Machinery Oils. Liberal Commission—Box 31, Post Office, Liverpool. 245t

WANTED, a Strong LAD, about 17; one used to Horses.—Apply J. ROGERS, Broomhill, Ebchester, Medomsley. 294t

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, experienced.—Apply to Mrs. JOHN F. SMITH, Front Street, Annfield Plain. 221t

SERVANTS requiring Situations or Ladies in want of Servants, apply at COCKBURN'S S.R.O., 13, Front Street, Consett. 330q

WANTED, February 10th, Young HOUSEMAID, with reference from former Mistress. Apply to Mrs. SCOTT, Highfield, Consett. 255t

WANTED, a Good GENERAL SERVANT; also, HOUSEMAID. Good references required.—Apply, Mrs. CHARLTON, The Waggs, Whickham. 258t

GROCERY.—WANTED for the Grocery Business a YOUTH to go with Horse and cart and to make himself useful, one who has been at the Trade preferred.—Apply to M. ALMOND, Grocer, Consett.

WANTED, Two or Three respectable BOARDERS; Sitting-room, Bedrooms, and Bath.—Apply to I. STOBBS, Primrose House, Cemetery Road, Blackhill; about five minutes' walk from the Station. 61t

COLLIERY OFFICIALS and MINERS of all ranks and ages. Lessons by Post. The surest road to promotion. Send Penny Stamp for Syllabus.—T. A. SOUTHERN, M.E., late H.M. Inspector of Mines, the Universal Mining School, Derby. 184m

To Let.

TO LET, February Term, HOUSE and SHOP, in Newmarket Street, Consett, now occupied by the 2 W's.—Apply to J. T. POTTS. 292t

LINTZ GREEN.—HOUSE TO LET, pleasantly situated, containing Five Rooms, Bath-room, and Scullery; rent £19.—Apply, MANAGER, South Garesfield Colliery, Lintz Green. 229t

ROSE COTTAGE, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, TO LET.—For further particulars apply to E. H. KERRICK-WALKER, 33, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, or JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Consett.

TO LET, a large BUILDING, suitable for Butcher, Joiner, Blacksmith, or Ginger Beer Manufacturer.—Apply to THOMAS WESTON, Annfield Place, Annfield Plain. 141t

TO LET, a Large JOINER and CARTWRIGHT'S SHOP, with Ground enclosed, at Leazes, Burnopfield, very suitable, and in a splendid situation for Business.—Apply to M. ADAMSON, The Leazes, Burnopfield. 253t

HIGHFIELD VILLA, Durham Road, Blackhill, TO LET, containing Seven Rooms, Scullery, and all Conveniences, together with large Garden, also Two-stalled Stable and Coach-house if required.—Apply to J. W. OSBORNE, 16, Durham Road, Blackhill. 892s

TO LET, WARD'S END HOUSE, six Rooms, Stable or Byre, Garden and Grass Close, near Tow Law; also, TO LET, TWO-ROOMED COTTAGE and Garden, at Knitsley, near Woodlands; also TO LET, FOREST LODGE, Four roomed House, at Red Houses, near Woodlands, with Garden, and with or without Stable and Loose Box, (the above is a very pretty House and Garden).—Apply Mr. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 753s

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

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FOR SALE DEPARTMENT.—HAND QUILTED QUILTS.—Weekly payments. HEPTON'S old established Pawnbroker, Blackhill.

FOR SALE or TO LET, Houses, in Taylor Street, Consett.—Apply, J. W. DAVISON and SONS, Front Street, Consett. 988s

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FOR SALE DEPARTMENT.—UNREDEEMED PLEDGES.—Men's, Women's, and Children's Clothing, Overcoats, Blankets, Rugs, Sheets, Table-cloth, Clocks, Kitchen Chairs, Mail Carts, Flock Beds (set 11s. 9d.), at HEPTON'S Pawnbroker, Blackhill. Weekly payments. 154r

FOR SALE (direct from the Makers), Gent's and Youths' WATERPROOF OVERCOATS in all Styles, Patterns, and Colours, at Manufacturers' List Prices; Liberal Discount for Cash; all Measure Orders carefully executed.—Apply to S. SWALWELL, Clothier and Draper, Dipton. 295t

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FOR SALE, a Good Useful PONY; quiet and good worker.—Apply, J. A. CASTLE, Dipton.

FOR SALE, a Light WAGGON, 9ft. 6in by 5ft.—Apply, G. DODDS, Cartwright, Taylor Street, Consett. 273t

FOR SALE, a FILLY, 2 years old, ex-"Red Prince."—Apply to JAMES COLMAN, Hanging Stone, Annfield Plain. 257t

FOR SALE, 3 Strong SHOT PIGS, and a BACON PIG.—Apply to M. MOYLE, Durham Road, Leadgate. 286t

FLORAL STUDIES, for Painting from, LET OUT ON HIRE, 3d per Week.—*Guardian* Office, Consett. 284n

BUILDING SITES FOR SALE at Number One, Consett. Plan may be seen and all particulars obtained at my Office, New Town Hall Buildings, Consett.—WILLIAM S. SHELL, M.S.A., Architect and Surveyor.

FOR SALE, a large quantity of Well-won OLD LAND HAY; also, a few Tons of Second Crop CLOVER, and 20 to 30 tons of Swede and Yellow Bullock TURNIPS; all delivered within reasonable distance at fair market price.—Apply to M. ADAMSON, The Leazes, Burnopfield. 252t

TO INNKEEPERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, &c.—SPIRIT STOCK RECEIPT and DELIVERY BOOKS, with portions of the Act of Parliament affecting the same. Price 1s or 1s 1d, post free from ROBERT JACKSON, Printer, Bookseller, and Wholesale Stationer *Guardian* Office, and 21, Newmarket Street, Consett.

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THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER, high quality, reliable Basic Slag, use freely for Pastures, Meadows, Clovers. SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS for Chemical Works, late H. and E. Albert, in four Northern Counties of England and Scottish Borders:—

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Drills for sowing lent on Hire. 410s

FREEHOLD BUILDING LAND FOR SALE at Lanchester, on The Alderdean Estate, belonging to J. B. Buckham, Esq., pleasantly situated with fine aspect facing the south. Minerals, &c., reserved. With good Quarry within 100 yards of Sites which will be worked, and stone supplied on to the Sites, at reasonable prices.—For prices and particulars &c., apply to JOHN BUCKHAM, Esq., Alderdean House, Lanchester; or to GEO. THOS. WILSON, Architect and Surveyor, 121, Durham Road, Blackhill. 71s

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HOT DINNERS DAILY.
REFRESHMENTS at Moderate Charges.
WEDDINGS and FUNERALS specially catered for. 82t

VICTORIA DAIRY, CONSETT.

FRESH MILK. Twice Daily.
FRESH CREAM and BUTTER always on hand

G. T. ROBSON,
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J. W. ROUNTHWAITE, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.,
Begs to announce to the Public generally that he has commenced practice as
ARCHITECT AND SURVEYOR,
At 8, PARK ROAD, CONSETT,
and would be glad to receive a share of their work.

LEYBOURN URWIN,
PLUMBER, GAS AND SANITARY ENGINEER, BELL-HANGER AND TINSMITH, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
District Agent for the
"INCANDESCENT LIGHT."

Begs to intimate to his numerous Friends and Customers in the Annfield Plain and Stanley District, that he has taken over the late Mr. M. Brown's Business and Shops, where he will carry on, by a thoroughly efficient resident manager, all the various branches of the above Business.

All Orders or Inquiries promptly attended to by applying at either Workshops, or at Manager's address, Bridge Terrace, Annfield Plain, or at Shotley Bridge. 969s

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SUITS, Ready to wear, from 27s. 6d.
OVERCOATS " 21s. 0d.

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WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, AND SILVERSMITH,
STANLEY, R.S.O.,
Has undoubtedly the Finest and Best Selection of WATCHES, CLOCKS, ELECTRO-PLATE GOODS, DRESS and ENGAGEMENT RINGS, and Jewellery, in the district.
WEDDING RINGS served in Private Room.

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KIRKUP'S
BOOTS AND SHOES,
NO
BOOTS AND SHOES LIKE
KIRKUP'S
FOR GOOD WEAR,
KIRKUP'S
BOOTS AND SHOES
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CHEAPEST AND BEST.
KIRKUP'S
BOOT AND SHOE STORES,
WEST STANLEY.
BRANCH—WEST PELTON. 266t

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

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KITCHEN RANGES
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HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
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SHOW ROOMS, 21, 23, AND 25 PERCY STREET.

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FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.

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CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.
MAKERS OF HIGH-CLASS BRIDE'S CAKES, BIRTHDAY CAKES, &c.
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ALSO, MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF FEEDING STUFFS OF THE BEST QUALITY.
PRICES ON APPLICATION. 178t

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WADDINGTON & SONS, 15, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

Have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDALS and other AWARDS at EXHIBITIONS for the EXCELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS

Being large Manufacturers give the purchaser the BENEFIT of BUYING DIRECT from the producer, THUS SAVING he middleman's PROFIT.

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PIANOS - - From 10s. per Month
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Write or send for Price Lists and Designs.

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Manager, JAS. EMERSON

SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
DECEMBER, 1895.

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HAVE pleasure in announcing the arrival of NEW GOODS for the Season in all Departments, including Choice Selection of FANCY ARTICLES for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS. Extensive Variety in Silk Handkerchiefs and Mufflers. Latest Styles in Fancy, Muslin, and Delaine Aprons. Newest Patterns in Fall Nets. Well-assorted Stocks of Ladies' Lined Kid, Ringwood, and Silk Gloves.

The GENT'S MERCERY DEPARTMENT will be found replete with Choice Qualities in Dress Shirts, Wool Shirts, Vests and Pants. New Styles in Scarfs, Collars, Felt and Silk Hats and Caps. Large and well-assorted stocks of New Dress Materials, in the prevailing shades. Flannels, Wool Shirtings, and Flannelettes, at special prices. Dressmakers, Tailors, and Milliners kept on the Establishment. 5t

IF YOU WANT TO BUY YOUR
FLANNELS,
WOOL SHIRTINGS,
DRESS GOODS,
AND ALL KINDS OF DRAPERY GOODS,
AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES FOR FIRST-CLASS GOODS,
THEN GO TO
ENGLISH'S,
WHO IS NOW SHOWING A LARGE AND SPLENDID ASSORTMENT SUITABLE FOR THE COMING WINTER SEASON.

COME AND SEE OUR SPLENDID VALUE IN FINGERING WOOLS AT 2D. AND 2½D. PER OUNCE.

SPECIAL VALUE IN FLANNELETTES AND WOOL SHIRTINGS
AT
ROBERT ENGLISH'S,
THE NOTED CASH DRAPERY WAREHOUSE,
15, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

FARMERS
BEFORE GIVING THEIR ORDERS ELSEWHERE WILL DO WELL TO INSPECT
G. HOBSON'S
LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF
ALL KINDS OF SEEDS,
OF THE VERY BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE MILLS.
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[Agent for Agricultural Implements of all kinds, including the
PATENT BROADCAST HAND SEED SOWER.
THE LITTLE WONDER, Price 665q

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AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF
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Attends at MRS. JONES, 10, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, every MONDAY, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, LONG ROW, STANLEY, every PAY FRIDAY, from p.m. to 6 p.m.; also, at MRS. D. CRABBS, 10, LANGLEY STREET, LANGLEY PARK, every ALTERNATE TUESDAY from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Made with all the Latest Improvements and Best Materials at 5s., 7s. 6d., and 10s 6d per Tooth. Can also supply a cheaper Tooth if required. They are retained in the Mouth by Suction, a recent American Invention, without the aid of Springs. OLD SETS REMODELLED OR NEW TEETH ADDED, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new. All Sets made not giving Entire Satisfaction, will be attended to if they call at above Address.

ALL TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN,
By a Recent Discovery, which is Perfectly Harmless, thus avoiding the Danger of the Old System, by the use of Chloroform and Gas.

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(THREE DOORS FROM GRAINGER STREET).

ATTENDANCE AT
CONSETT every Saturday, at Mr Brown's, 8, Newmarket Street, 1 till 5.
STANLEY every Monday, at Mr Thomas Armstrong's, Front Street, 1 till 5.

The Best English and American ARTIFICIAL TEETH at moderate prices.
TEETH EXTRACTED BY A PAINLESS SYSTEM, 1s.

Train Fare allowed to all Patients requiring Artificial Teeth, at Newcastle (by appointment).

All operations will be painless, guaranteed, and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or an ENTIRE SET MADE FREE OF CHARGE. 132p

TEETH!!! TEETH!!!
H. B. DICKER,
25, KINGSLEY TERRACE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Attends CONSETT every MONDAY from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., at Mrs. CLARKE'S, 20, NEWMARKET STREET;
Also, STANLEY every TUESDAY from 12 to 6 p.m., at Mr. SWINBURNE'S, Butcher, VIEW HOUSE, FRONT STREET.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH of the Best Quality, from 5s. per Tooth; 10 per cent. Discount for Cash. TEETH EXTRACTED PAINLESSLY by a recent discovery for 1s. No charge made for Extractions when re-placed by Artificial Teeth.
PRICES RANGE FROM 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. PER TOOTH. PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED.

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MARSHALL AND SONS,
NEW TOWN HALL,
CONSETT & BLACKHILL,

Are again offering Special Bargains in Watches and Jewellery for the present Season. We will again present to all Purchasers of a Lady's or Gentleman's Silver Watch during this month, a handsome Gold Plated Guard or Albert and Seal.

Lady's Silver Geneva Watches, from	- - -	15 0
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P.S.—Any of the above Watches sent post free to any address, with written guarantee, on receipt of Post Office Order. 894p

Established for 50 years in this District, and are in no way connected with any other party trading under the same name.

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FLORENCE CORNFORTH, A.L.C.M.,
GIVES LESSONS ON PIANOFORTE AND IN THEORY OF MUSIC.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.
13, HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT. 275p

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY, and ELECTRO PLATE in Great Variety.
OVER 150 WATCHES TO SELECT FROM.
ALSO, A LOT OF SECOND-HAND WATCHES AT VERY LOW PRICES TO CLEAR OUT. ALL WARRANTED.

DOBSON GRADON,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

"CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE-A-YEAR,"
AND WHEN IT COMES IT BRINGS GOOD CHEER"
GOOD TIDINGS.
DRYDEN'S CHRISTMAS SALE
AT 65, FRONT STREET, CONSETT (Next Door to North-Eastern Bank),
Every Christmas and New Year.

The enormous and ever-increasing demand for our Christmas Bottles is "proof positive, that the Wines and Spirits we offer are undoubtedly the best money's worth in the County or elsewhere.

We purchase all our Wines and Spirits in the countries of their productions, and bottle them in our Duty-Paid Stores, thereby saving the numerous profits charged by middlemen, and enabling us to give our Customers Superior Goods at lowest possible prices.

SCOTCH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Scotch Whisky ...	2s
H.M. Special Blend (Vin Vin) ...	2s 6d
O.V.G. Glenlivit ...	3s
Old Glenfyne ...	3s
Old Glenfyne, the Cream of Whiskies ...	3s 6d
Old Melrose, 2 gallon casks ...	24s per gallon
Fine Scotch ...	3s per quart

BRANDIES.

	Per Bottle.
Cognac Brandy ...	3s 6d
Fine Pale Brandy ...	4s
Fine Old (Our Own Blending) ...	4s 6d
Old 10 years old Pale Brandy ...	6s and 6s 6d

Hennessey and Martell's always in stock

GIN.

	Per Bottle.
Gin ...	1s 9d and 2s
Finest London ...	2s 6d and 2s 9d
Very Special (Cream) ...	3s
Hollands Gin ...	2s 6d and 3s
Good Quality ...	3s per quart
Schweppe (Aromatic)...	3s 6d

PORT WINE.

	Per Bottle.
Good Sound Port Wine ...	1s, 1s 3d, and 1s 6d
Vintage Style (Grand Value) ...	2s
Vintage Style, bottled 2 years...	2s 6d
Jubilee Port, very fine	3s
Old Vintage Wines ...	3s 6d to 5s
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BRITISH WINES.

Ainger, Rasp, Orange, &c., ...	1s and 1s 3d
G Special Green Ginger	1s 6d
Australian Burgundy	1s 6d and 2s per flagon.

IRISH WHISKY.

	Per Bottle
Fine Irish Whiskey ...	2s
Special Blend (Our Own ...	2s 6d
Mitchell's Old (Our Own) ...	2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d
Mitchell's Very Old ...	2s 6d
The Famous Quarts ...	3s.

RUM.
Vatted Specially for T. D. D. & Co.

	Per Bottle
Vatted Rum ...	2s and 2s 6d
Very Special Qualities ...	3s and 3s 6d
A Wonderful Rum ...	3s per quart

The best value in the Trade.

CHAMPAGNE & MOSELLE.
Champagne ... from 20s per case to 84s
Hock and Burgundy a Special Line.

SHERRIES.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Bright Sherry ...	1s, 1s 6d, and 2s 6d
Jubilee ...	2s 6d
Vino De Pasto, old ...	3s
Royal Jubilee Vintage ...	3s.
Old Bottled ...	4s

CLARETS.

	Per Bottle.
Gova Claret ...	1s, 1s 6d, and 2s
Chateau Peimet, Special Value	2s.
1887 Medoc and St. Indian	2s and 2s 6d
Chateau La Rose and other Old Vintage Wines	3s & 4s.

SPRUCE BEER.
1s. 4d. per Bottle.
Syphons: Soda, Potash, and other Waters 4d each.
Bass's Beer in Bottles and Casks.
Salts and Co's. Beer in Bottles and 4½ and 9 gallon casks 5s 6d, 6s 6d and 10s 6d
Vaux Beer and Stout in gills and pints Awarded the Prize Medal at the Health Exhibition.
Family Ales, 18 gallons for 18s.

WINE PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.
ALL GOODS DELIVERED FREE BY OUR OWN CARTS.

We would ask you to look at our Groceries, Italian Goods, and Provision Department; without doubt THE BEST SELECTION IN TOWN.

P.S.—On account of the great crush at our establishment on Christmas and New Year's Eve, we respectfully ask our patrons to kindly favour us with their Orders as early as possible, so that they may be attended to with care and promptitude.

Everything we sell is guaranteed to be as labelled.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESS—
T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,
GROCERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
65, FRONT STREET, CONSETT (Next Door to North-Eastern Bank.)

BLACKHILL.
...LISHED POSTING BUSINESS.
PROPRIETOR—
J. CHRISTOPHER.
Telegraphic Address CHRISTOPHER, Blackhill.
...most Modern and Unique Designs ...aches. Carriages for Weddings. Waggonettes for Pleasure Parties. ...all its Branches done upon the most reasonable terms. ...Yard from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., where... 258q

...FROM STANLEY.
(By "Observer.")

...hristmastide festivities, the weather ... mixed, harsh, damp nature, while ... be talked of. There were a few ...choirs, who went out to sing carols; ...or the wind was sharp and piercing, ... not heard to good effect, besides to ... the elements was also a sin against ...lth. Throughout the night, things ... indeed, and on the Christmas Day ...kept within doors.

...cial change in the main thorough... was that the shops all closed for ...er. That was Christmas and the ... This gave the tradesmen a chance ...ves, showing clearly that competition ...by combination. People got suffi... of the matter, so that all necessary ...ld be purchased in time.

...Eve, the Wesleyan Methodist choir ... gave an excellent concert in their ...eautiful and appropriate pieces were ...ccasion. The old chorus, "See ...hero comes," was sung with great ...dience was a most appreciative one. ..., choirmaster, was responsible for ...ffort. Mr. T. Dale, Kip Hill, ...

... Football Association held a grand ... Pelton Co-operative Hall, on Fri... The True Blues were alive with ...d number patronised the effort and ...g was spent.

... of the religious bodies go in for ...ebt, especially on festive occasions. ... Methodist Society at Pelton Fell, ...s tree, with all manner of toys ...ere to be had, and anything reason... We journeyed to Grange Villa, ... of work going on. Lively strains ... selections vibrated in the air, and ...e found tastefully decorated stalls, ...d very favourable. This had com...istmas Eve, and was to be opened ... afternoon again. The Salvation ... Stanley had a sale of work, with ... for the young. The Presbyterians ... sale of work. The Primitive Metho...nley had a bazaar, opened on Satur... by the Rev. W. Gelly. A public ... the bachelors of the society. All ...are of the public patronage.

...s Day the Wesleyan friends as ...ed a grand treat in the shape of a ... entertainment by the children of ...ool. The children had been trained ...ellaneous programme, suitable for ... year, which they gave in a most ...er. The chapel was well filled with ... audience. Mr. Henry Tuby, ...ded.

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...Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

...NER.—At Chapter Row Wesleyan ...h Shields, on the 25th ult., by the Rev ... William, fourth son of the late R. H. ...nsett, to Hannah Short, third daughter ...ner, of South Shields. 217t
...DEVLIN.—At St. Andrew's Presby...ch, Blackhill, on the 24th ult., by the ...aillie, David Coulthard, of Blackhill, to ...dest daughter of Charles Devlin, of ... 210t
...IOT.—At Stanhope Church, 28th ult., ...nd, Hill End, Frosterley, to Mary Jane ..., Stanhope.
...ROWN.—At Stanhope Chapel, 24th ... Wildman, Sutton-in-Ashfield, to Eliza... daughter of Wm. Brown, Butts, ...

DEATHS.

... Stanley, 18th ult., aged 3 years and 4 ...hur Wilson, the beloved son of John ...h Brown. 218t
... South Moor, 27th ult., aged 76, Dinah, ...h Carr.
... Moor, 27th ult., aged 75, Jane, relict of ... Gray.
...eadgate, on the 1st inst., aged 5 years, ... beloved son of William and Ellen ...o be interred on Saturday at St. Ives. 297t
...ll, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill, on the ...ed by an accident at the Consett and ...oods Station, aged 72 years, William ...d husband of Catherine Hay. For 40 ... the North-Eastern Railway Company. ...ed at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Satur...h, at Two p.m. Friends please accept ...y intimation. No cards. 288t
... Marley Hill, Thomas, son of Jane and ...bert Hall.
...Burnopfield, Park View, 28th ult., aged ...Margaret Jane, daughter of Richard and ...Hodgson.
...msley, Salisbury House, 30th ult., aged ...Mace.
...ckley Square, 26th ult., aged 96, Thomas ...
... the residence of his son-in-law (F. ...), No. 6, George Street, Craghead, 24th ..., James Ritson.

...ry of Florence Wharton, who died on ...31st, 1889; also, Alfred Wharton, who ...ruary 16th, 1890.
...Gone, but not forgotten" 294t
...ory of our dear mother, Margaret ... Lane Head, Muggleswick, who died ...31st, 1888; also, of our dear father, ...ilburn, of Lane Head, Muggleswick, ...anuary 2nd, 1895.
...Gone, but not forgotten." 241t

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...ublished by ROBERT JACKSON at the ...ric Printing Works, 59, Front Street, ... Friday, Jan. 3rd, 1896

Correspondence

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

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

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

LEADGATE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

Sir,—While perusing your valuable paper of the 3rd inst., I observed a letter from "Subscriber" re the above Flower Show, asking for a full financial account; also names of Secretary, Treasurer, and Committee, as reports of an unpleasant nature are current respecting the funds of the above Show. Let me say in the first place, Mr. Editor, that the officers of the above Show do not wish to do anything in the dark; but it is rather strange that "Subscriber" should not know the Secretary's name, when he subscribes to anything, and any subscriber can receive a schedule from me, the newly-appointed secretary, which will be issued shortly, and will contain a full financial account; also, names of all officers and subscribers. But, sir, at the same time we must admit that things have been done which are calculated to damage the future prosperity of this show. I can assure you and "Subscriber" however, that these things were unknown to the Committee and all the then officers (excepting one). I trust that this explanation will be satisfactory to "Subscriber" and future intending subscribers, who may rely upon the affairs of the society being henceforth conducted in a thorough satisfactory and honest manner.

I remain, yours truly,
JOHN A. TURNBULL, Secretary,
Pont Head House, Leadgate, R.S.O.

"INCEDO, CASTLESIDEITE, AND OBSERVER."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I must thank you at the commencement of my letter for kindness in inserting it, as I may not have space at the end. I interfered on behalf of fair-play at first, as I know a wrong was committed towards the young men whom the ratepayers of Castleside have delighted to honour. It was my intention to have written one letter only. I did not even intend to reply to "Incedo's" remarks about my letter; but when I was challenged again by "Castlesideite," I could not consistently keep silence as the latter's deliverances demand my attention. I know that "Incedo" is always generous enough to correct a mistake or to remove a false impression when it has been made clear to him. Let me thank him from withdrawing part of his charge about darkness, &c., and let me at the same time assure him that his charge about malice is absolutely false. I know the facts of the case better than "Castlesideite" or he does, and let me asseverate that there is not a shadow of foundation for it. Let me also say to "Incedo," that I hesitated writing the word professional, on which you have played. The word that seemed most appropriate was competent. I simply used the other word to soften the matter down a little. I should like to say further for "Incedo's" information that I have heard, on what I consider the best authority, that when the press motion was made by the two gentlemen named that Mr Pattinson had risen from his seat and had gone to the door. He supported the motion when there was no chance of it being held over. This fact can be attested or denied. There was a strong impression in Castleside for a long time that "Castlesideite" wanted all the news Catchwater (pardon the word) to flow into the Pattinson reservoir that he might have the honour of deciding what news should go to the press and what should be left out. In the notes of "Castlesideite" there is a quotation in inverted comas as follows:—"Liberty and the freedom of speech." I should like to know who is the author. I should also like to know what is the meaning of it? There are two abstract nouns in the sentence, one has the definite article, the other is without it. Two definite articles might alter the sense. "Incedo" used to write prose sometimes and then dash off a few stanzas of very fine poetry, which would of course be contained in inverted commas. Is "Castlesideite" following "Incedo's" example? If so I should advise him to buy a few bottles of ketchup, and then go ahead. In the above poetical sentence "Castlesideite" writes "we cannot," then "our forefathers," the next sentence commences with "we cannot" as he is speaking of himself, and I think I am warranted in referring that when he writes "our forefathers" that he is referring to his own ancestors. I am glad to find that his forefathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers, and great great grandfathers were such distinguished men, made such sacrifices on behalf of "Liberty and freedom of speech." How does their grand example harmonise with his conduct in regard to the two gentlemen whom the ratepayers put on the top of the list for the Council. There must be a missing link in the chain of descent in some place. Some day, when you and I go out for a walk together, we may be able to get it and fasten it on alright again; and then you will give no notes like you used to do long ago. Some of your reports have reminded me of the lad who once had trousers with two back parts:—One before and one behind, and it was said that if you could not see his face you couldn't tell whether he was coming to you or going from you; and when the actors in such meetings of which you gave such reports sent to you to alter them, you seemed indignant. You have twice referred to Russia. Do you know that in most of the towns and villages in some parts of Russia there is a boss. All reports must be sent to him and he keeps back what he pleases, and sends on what he pleases, and he is seldom forgetful to blow his own trumpet and beat his own drum. Is that not so? You talk too, about friendship, Cicero said "that friendship was the only thing concerning the usefulness of which all mankind are agreed." If a bit of plain talk is sufficient to forfeit our friendship then it is not of the right kind. We are none the worse for being candid with one another. Remember the great meeting for lighting the village. Then in your short note in which you settle me forever, you say "Observer," which your able correspondent "Incedo" has quietly put on the shelf. Do you really mean what you say, or are you writing copy. If you actually mean that "Incedo" has taken me up and put me quietly on the shelf. There is then a great deal of credit to Mr — "Incedo and Observer." He is a strong man and he does not crush me. I am a little fellow and do not squeak; but allow myself to be put quietly on the shelf. On whose shelf? On what kind of shelf? Is it on your book shelf? If so, Mr "Castlesideite," there has been more wit on your shelf recently than has ever been in your brains.—Yours truly,

OBSERVER.

JOKERS' CLUB.

The first annual supper of the above club was recently held at the house of Mr. W. Turpin, Whitele-Head, when an excellent and substantial repast was done justice to by the members of the club. After which "Success to the club and its members" was proposed by the Chairman, Mr. B. McMillan, who briefly stated the objects of the club; after which Messrs M. G. Kennedy, Mr. J. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Burt, Mr. W. Christy, Mr. A. Pearly, Mr. T. McLaren, Jas. Miller, T. Spring, Mr. W. Potts, and Mr. J. Nicholson sang several songs. "The health of the host and hostess" was then given and responded to. A pleasant evening was concluded by all singing "Auld Lang Syne."

THE FATAL GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION AT SOUTH MEDOMSLEY.

MINERS DANGEROUS CUSTOMS.

On Saturday in the Newcastle "Daily Chronicle," "Elfin" says:—"I mentioned previously how very careless some miners are in carrying lighted candles and gunpowder in the mine. A sad instance of the grave danger attending this want of care for personal safety has just occurred in the case of Thos. McGee, who died on Dec. 30, in consequence of the injuries he received through an explosion of gunpowder caused by his own neglect at South Medomsley Colliery. According to the evidence furnished at the Coroner's inquiry, McGee had, contrary to the rules, been carrying "bobbins" of powder in his coat pocket, instead of in the "shot-box," or receptacle, which ought to be used for that purpose. It is really alarming to contemplate the terrible risks to which so many hundreds of valuable lives are exposed by the recklessness of some miners, and the great need for the utmost care in pits where there are the slightest evidences of gas, cannot be too earnestly urged. The miner's avocation, surely, is critical enough in all conscience without the additional risks created by thoughtless workmen. It seems almost beyond belief that a single miner can be found at the present time who so far forgets himself as to light a pipe through the "guize" of a Davy lamp in pits known to be "gassy," yet this and other equally dangerous practices daily jeopardize the lives of those who are engaged in our Northern coal field."

"BUCHU-PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, indigestion, inflammation. Of Chemists. F. NEWBERY & SONS, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C

The most important lesson Esculapius tried to impress upon his pupils was that the chief trouble afflicting humanity was due to impurities of the blood. All disorders may be traced to this fact, for unless the source of life is free from disease germs it cannot have that strength which is necessary for good health. Holloway's Pills are composed of the most precious herbs and soothing balsams which Mother Earth can offer to her children, therefore they may be relied upon to supply the nourishment that is craved by the system. It is no vain boast to say that this is the most wonderful discovery [illegible]

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODISTS.

LECTURE BY THE REV. R. HIND.

Special services were given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Consett, on Sunday last; sermons being preached in the morning and evening by the Rev. R. Hind, of Middlesboro', and in the afternoon a choral service was given by Mrs. Leithard, Misses Williams and Stephenson, Mr. C. Stephenson, and Mr. R. Pearson. Mr. G. Stephenson rendered two organ solos with his usual skill. In the interval Mr. Hind gave a short address, which was greatly appreciated. True happiness, he said, was best found in the Christian life of self-sacrifice and service to God and not in a life of self seeking. A somewhat small attendance assembled in the Chapel on Monday evening to hear Mr. Hind lecture on "Superstition." Mr. H. Holliday acted as chairman and was supported by the Lecturer, and the Revs. W. Raistrick and R. B. Hanley.

The Chairman said that he could find in literature guides to the whole duty of man; but he was unable to find anywhere in the whole duty of man, the whole duty of chairman. (Laughter). They were all in the habit of saying this thing was superstition and the next thing was superstition, but when they came to ask themselves what superstition really was, they found themselves in a great difficulty to define where truth began and superstition ended. (Hear, hear.) If they could once and for all settle this point they would have gone a great way towards abolishing the multiplicity of creeds which troubled the world to-day. However, one of the duties of chairman was not to give the lecture himself. (Laughter.) He had therefore much pleasure in introducing Mr. Hind to them. (Applause.)

Mr. Hind, in the course of a few introductory remarks, said it had been his misfortune once or twice to have to deliver a lecture after the chairman had spoken for about forty-five minutes. There had always been a certain amount of superstition in men, at any rate each generation had come to consider that the one which preceded it had had a great leaning towards superstition. The race had been making progress and they had discovered that men had in times past been far too ready to believe stories which they should have doubted for a very long time, and which were the inventions of minds more valuable for their imagination than their veracity and common sense. This had been the case to such an extent that they were sometimes disposed to wonder if their ancestors possessed any judgment at all. He was sure they had all laughed heartily at times when they had thought of the legions of ghosts and hobgoblins which they had been taught to believe in by their grandfathers and grandmothers. Yet it was possible that in a hundred years hence things which they believed in as firmly as their existence might be proved to be as utterly unreal as the ghosts and hobgoblins of their youth, and that the present generation might be considered fully as superstitious as the past. Mr. Hind went on to give some illustrations of the uncomfortable feelings which might be caused in even the greatest unbeliever in superstition by combinations of "erie" circumstances. Just think, said he of the strange methods which were adopted by some people to keep out of harms way. The horse-shoe over the door was far from being a thing of the past. He (the lecturer) sat at a dinner table last week where there were 13 present, and though he did not know this was the case whilst he was at the table he could assure them he felt very uncomfortable when he was told that there had been the "unlucky" number at table. It made him terribly uneasy to see a new moon through glass. (Laughter.) He was always careful to have a few shillings in his pocket in April or May so that if he heard the cuckoo sing he could have it ready. (Laughter.) A large part of his ministerial work had lain among the Durham miners, and he could speak highly of their character; but if a miner was going to work on the fore shift and a woman happened to cross his path he would at once go back to bed. (Laughter.) But a whole army of women might cross his path as he was going to work on the back shift, and it would make no difference to him. (Renewed laughter). This was superstition, not cowardice, for the same man who would do this would go down the pit at the risk of his own life to save an imperilled comrade. (Hear, hear, and applause.) It was simply the quality of the superstition which was latent in every man which made them do these things. Many people seemed to think that only religious people were superstitious. On looking in the dictionary he found that in the two first definitions of superstition given religion was mentioned. He thought this unfair, because scientists and others had shown themselves just as ready to be thrown off the scent and to believe false tales as religious people had been. Superstition might be defined as a too ready tendency to believe what was improbable without asking evidence to support it. He thought that that definition applied just as much to scientific as to religious men. Scientists, especially what might be termed half educated scientists, sneered at religion and condemned it as retarding scientific progress. That was certainly unjust for everybody knew that the opposing schools of science were doing everything they possibly could to injure and stop one another's progress and to bring ridicule upon their discoveries. It was impossible to take the conservative element out of human nature, politics, science, or anything else, it was there and it always would be there. As an instance of the credulity of scientists he might mention a case which was believed by scientific men and quoted as an actual fact by the "Times" in which it was reported that an Australian doctor had obtained a drug from a plant, which, when administered to a sheep, whilst not killing it, put it into such a condition that it could be frozen and brought over to England, when it was thawed and an antidote (discovered by the same medical man) given to it, its vital functions once more resumed their sway, and the sheep scampered off to break its long fast. (Laughter). Many scientific men believed this at the time, especially those who disavow their belief in a hereafter. Of course it turned out to be a mere "canard" but it was nevertheless useful as showing that scientific men could be as credulous as anybody else. They had come to such a state of things at present that nothing done in the name of science was too wonderful to be believed in. If, said Mr. Hind, some people were told that Lord Armstrong had discovered a machine which could tell all the inner workings of the Irish secret societies, or once and for all settle the Irish question, some people would believe it because it was scientific. (Hear hear, and laughter.) Religious beliefs could not be tested by the same means as scientific opinions but no harm could be done by submitting even the most fundamental doctrines of their faith to the fullest investigation. If religious people were to argue on the same lines as these half educated scientists they might say that, because scientists had made many mistakes, science was nothing else but a tissue of mistakes. They had nothing to fear from investigation, the truth could not be disproved, and if any part of their faith was false let them have it taken away from their belief, and for any error which might be taken away they could be sure a new truth would come. (Loud applause.) Mr. Holliday in calling upon Coun. Geo. Lowes to move a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said the lecture had given him much food for thought, and he hoped in time to rid himself of many of the superstitions which he was sure he possessed. He thought everybody must have felt at one time or another the trifles which influenced and swayed their inclination one way or another, and which they could not account for except by the latent superstition that was in every man. Coun. Geo. Lowes moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Hind for his lecture, and Mr A. S. Coates seconded, expressing his gratification at both the spiritual and financial result of Mr. Hind's visit.

STANHOPE CHARITIES.

At the monthly meeting of the Stanhope Parish Council on Saturday—Mr. Thomas Robinson in the chair—letters were read from the Charity Commissioners re the local Charities. In respect to the Morgan Charity the Commissioners state that the Stanhope Parish Council and the Stanhope Urban Council are both to be represented on this charity scheme, to be got up by the Rector of Stanhope.—The Parish Council resolved to make application for representation re the Barrack Charity, set apart for the poor of the ancient parish of Stanhope. An extract of copy of will was read, which showed that stints on an allotment were applied and appropriated for the carrying out of the charity. This being only an extract of the will, it was decided to apply at Durham for a copy of the whole will, and the question was postponed until next month. The Bainbridge Charity has for its object the relief of the poor. A committee consisting of Councillors S. Watson, Freeman, and Walton were appinted to procure copy of will and meet trustees before next meeting and report progress.—It was decided to appoint the local committee to undertake to consult the present trustees as to future management of the Frog Hall Charity.—The Clerk intimated that he had received a full account of the disbursement of the Attwood's house, which was considered highly satisfactory. The other clergymen in the dale are to be asked to supply similar accounts of the Parish charities, before the annual meeting in April; also a full account of how the charities left by the late C. Attwood are now disbursed and to whom.

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Dainty Fragrance, Softness on the Palate,
[illegible]

LANCHESTER DISTRICT COUNCIL

On Thursday week, the ordinary meeting of the body was held at the Union Buildings, Lanchester.—Mr. William Logan, J.P. (chairman) presiding—The other Councillors present were Messrs Thos. Lowdon, Thos. Wilkison, Thos. Nichol, R. Burleigh, William Collier, Hy. Greener, George Wailes, J. W. Taylor, Rev. P. C. Fortin, Geo. Hobson, W. Charlton, William Young, the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson), and the Surveyor (Mr. J. E. Parker.)

The Question of an Adjournment.

Mr. Taylor wished for an expression of opinion from the Chairman respecting the question of an adjournment at a meeting two months ago. At the last meeting the Chairman was not present, and therefore he could not get an answer to the question. The Chairman would perhaps remember there was only three members present when the meeting finished, and he would like an answer to his question. He could say there was no motion passed for an adjournment.

The Chairman said he would not now pledge his mind to what did occur at the meeting. It was understood there was to be an adjournment whether a motion was moved or not.

Mr. Taylor said this was a matter he wished to have cleared up. There was no motion passed, and it was only a question of procedure.

The Chairman: If any member moves an adjournment, and the same is carried, the meeting then and then closes.

Mr. Taylor: I only wanted to know the proper course. We were all agreed there was an adjournment; but their was no motion passed that such should be the case.

The question dropped.

The Lighting of Catchgate and Harelaw.

A letter was read from the Collierley Parish Council with respect to the defective lighting at Catchgate and Harelaw. Many of the lamps were not lighted, and the Council thought some pressure should be brought to bear on the party who looks after the lamps so as to get them cleaned.

The Chairman asked the Surveyor if he had heard of any complaints.

The Surveyor said he remembered on one occasion when the lamps were out.

Mr. Taylor: I can confirm all the letter says, as I have seen the lamps out repeatedly.

The Surveyor stated that he had given instructions to have the whole of the lamps put in order.

Mr. Taylor said something should be done so as to get the lamps numbered. If this was done, and they received complaints they could refer to the number, and the matter would have attention. He could give them instances of a large number of lamps which were not burning as they should. What annoyed him was they got no abatement in the charges for these lamps.

Father Fortin: This is a question in which the local committee should act.

Mr. Taylor: The local committee have no power. They have no "locus standi."

The Chairman said the Gas Company should do something to lessen these complaints, and make a reduction in the charge for the supply of gas.

Mr. Wailes said he knew of two lamps that had been lighted very little this winter. The lighting arrangements were bad.

On the motion of Mr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Wailes, the matter was referred to the Suveyor.

A Nuisance at Templetown.

A letter was read from the Knitsley Parish Council, calling attention to a nuisance at Templetown. There was a defective drain, and the road in the back street was unsatisfactory.

The Suveyor said they had very little power over the nuisances in this back street.

The Suveyor was instructed to attend to the same.

The Cornsay Water Supply.

Mr. Burleigh submitted a report of the committee which had investigated this question. He stated they found that for the past fifteen years the present water scheme had been in existence. The mains through which the water was supplied were bad, having formerly been used for carrying water out of the colliery, and therefore were not in a very good condition. When the water was turned off the people got a large quantity of inorganic matter, rust, etc., The people also made a complaint against the stand pipes which were often in a very dirty condition. The pipes were also laid close to the ash-pits, and if they were not properly jointed, there might be contamination. The people desired to have the water supply in their own houses, and the colliery owners objected. The water supply ought to be taken from the colliery company and placed in the hands of the water company, and properly overhauled. If they did this, they would be complying with the wishes of their medical officer.

The Chairman: Do the people say that they have an inadequate supply of water?

Mr. Burleigh: Yes; they can give dates when the water has been turned off, covering a long period.

Father Fortin: Have we any power to insist upon the colliery owners to supply the inhabitants with water.

The Chairman: Yes; the owners are bound to supply the inhabitants with pure drinking water.

After further discussion, the question was again referred to the Committee.

Inquiry at Edmondsley.

The committee submitted their report respecting the recent inquiry held at Edmondsley respecting the transfer of Craghead, to the Lanchester Township.

The report was considered satisfactory.

Crossing at Annfield Plain.

A letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company to the effect that after they had put in the gate-way at the railway crossing at Annfield Plain, they would not be responsible for people passing over the rails.

"Kyo Sewerage Works."

It was agreed that Mr T. Gatiss, junr., should be appointed caretaker of the Kyo Sewerage Works.

Inspector's Report.

The Inspector (Mr J. E. Parker) reported that the plans and specifications, and quantities were finished, and the work may now be advertised for the construction of the Quebec sewerage.

During the past month a large number of private streets in different parts of your district have, by the alternate frosts and thaws, been rendered almost impassible. Powers might be acquired to remedy them under the Private Street Works Act, 1892.

"A sample of the water which now supplies South Pit Cottages, near East Castle, has been sent for analysis, and found to be wholesome and pure.

The County Medical Officer of Health, and myself have visited the cowsheds and dairies in the rural districts which supply the Urban Districts, recently affected with typhoid fever, with milk, and in no case did we find conditions, which would cause the epidemic.

On the 10th ult. I attended the meeting of the Esh Parish Council, with the plans of the Quebec Sewerage, and that body approved of the scheme, and desired the work to be commenced with as soon as practicable.

Quebec Sewerage Scheme.

The Inspector was instructed to carry out this scheme.

This was all the business.

CONSETT POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, January 6th.—Before J. T. Potts, Esq., (presiding.)

Sleeping in a Coke Oven.

A mason named William Scott who said he belonged to Hill Top, Dipton, was charged with an act of vagrancy by sleeping out in a coke-oven at the Consett Blastfurnaces, belonging to the Consett Iron Company, on Sunday night.—P.C. White deposed shortly before midnight he found the prisoner sleeping, and he seemed to be under the influence of drink.—Prisoner stated that he worked for Mr. Davison, at Hobson, near Burnopfield. He walked through to Consett yesterday, and partook of some drink, with the result that he was found sleeping in the box.—Prisoner was committed to gaol for seven days.

Was the Case Squared.

Anthony Gladders, miner, was placed in the dock on a charge of stealing a hen on Saturday night, at Tanfield Moor, the property of George Campbell, miner.—P.C. Tomlinson deposed that about two o'clock yesterday morning he received a complaint that prosecutor's hen house had been broken into. He got the information from the prosecutor, and afterwards apprehended the prisoner, on the highway.—Inspector Best said he would apply for a remand, as the prosecutor had not yet put in an appearance.—The Magistrate: We will wait and see if the prosecutor turns up.—Afterwards prosecutor entered the court, and after having sworn, stated that about 10 minutes to twelve on Saturday night he was in the act of retiring to rest when he heard the outside garden gate open. He put on his clothes, and went outside. Near the hen-cree he saw two men. He asked them what they were doing there, and one of the men attempted to strike him a blow on the face, and then made over the hedge and ran away. At this stage prosecutor stated he was rather short sighted, and could not see the prisoner in the dock.—The Magistrate: You had better come and have a good look at the man, and then state whether he was one of the men or not. Having done so, prosecutor said the prisoner was the man that he found standing near the door of the hen-cree. He got hold of him, and discovered he had a hen in his hands. He took it from him, and put it back into the house, and then spoke to the prisoner, and inquired "What did it mean?" Prisoner replied that it was all right, and it was only a "lark." The staple of the door was broken. Prosecutor firmly believed the prisoner did not intend to steal the hen.—The Magistrate: What is that you say? You believe he did not intend to steal the hen.—Prosecutor: Yes.—The magistrate: What made you have the man arrested?—Prosecutor: Well I think now that it was intended for a "lark"—The Magistrate: That will do, stand down, I will discharge the prisoner.—The police accordingly released prisoner from the dock.

"HOW TO BEHAVE," price sixpence.—To be had [illegible] seller, 20 and 21, New [illegible]

CONSETT TRADESPEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of this association was held on Tuesday evening, in the small hall of the New Town Hall Buildings. Councillor R. C. Foster presided, and three were also present:—Messrs Gibson, T. F. Foster, Harrison, H. Davison, Jno. T. Potts, J. English, J. English, Bolt, Lynn, and Misses Bell and Binning, and Miss Brodie.

The Chairman said he thought they had some reason to congratulate themselves on what they had done—taking into consideration, all the circumstances of the case—in the direction of shortening the hours. They were trying to shorten their hours by two hours a week. He had hoped to see this done for many years, personally he thought the hours they worked to on Saturday nights were very improper hours for young girls. But he nevertheless saw many difficulties in the way of getting rid of them. If they only acted in unity there was every chance of getting them. The existing hours were quite long enough to allow the work to be done considering they had only brought the movement into force on Saturday night last they had done very well. If they were to close early the people would adapt their hours of shopping accordingly. The secretary then read the minutes of the last meeting, which were confirmed, and the meeting was about to elect officers when

Mr. Potts however rose and said he would like to make a few remarks, respecting his absence from the last meeting, which was unfavourably commented upon by some of the members present. He had told Mr. Foster a day or two previously that he might not be able to attend the meeting, and gave him his reasons. He made these remarks in order that he might be acquitted of any accusation of discourtesy towards the meeting and the association.

The Chairman corroborated Mr. Potts.

With regard to the hours of closing Mr. Potts said he was not in harmony with the hours fixed upon by the last meeting. He was quite willing to reduce the hours to 8 o'clock on a pay Friday. He found the amount of business done in the drapery business was decreasing on the pay Friday. On pay Monday he felt that it would not be advisable for him to close at the hour they decided upon. He found that the business was steadily increasing on a pay Monday, and there were a large class of people who would not shop on a Saturday night. To close at seven o'clock on a pay Monday night would not be of benefit to his shop or the people of Consett. A great number of people could not start shopping until six o'clock. He regretted he could not fall in with their views. It would certainly injure him to close at ten o'clock on a pay Saturday, and it would certainly be ridiculous for the Consett people to make music for the tradesmen of Blackhill and Leadgate to dance to.

Mr. R. English said that business certainly was increasing on pay Friday nights, and correspondingly decreasing on Saturday nights. He thought ten o'clock was quite late enough on Saturday nights, but on Monday eight o'clock was early enough to close.

Mr. T. F. Foster thought that the agreement was come to only be cause of a wish for uniformity.

Mr. Kelly: Have you any idea as to what the feeling in Leadgate and Blackhill is upon the question, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: As far as I have been able to find they would co-operate with us.

Mr. J. English: Would Mr. Potts agree to the ten o'clock closing on Saturday night?

Mr. Potts: I would agree to that, but not to the seven o'clock movement on pay Monday night.

The Attitude of the Stores.

A letter was read from the Stores Committee saying they could not join with the Association, although they sympathised with the objects of the movement. The Store employees worked less hours than any other shop assistants. The only difference was that the store kept open till nine o'clock on a pay Friday night.

Considerable discussion then ensued as to what hours would be practicable for the grocers. It was ultimately decided that Messrs Lynn, Kelly, and Davison be appointed a committee to get the names of the various tradespeople who were willing to join, and that the grocers who affiliated themselves with the association should have a separate meeting and fix their own hours.

On the question of the hours of the drapers and kindred trades being reverted to.

Miss Bell thought ten o'clock was late enough on Saturday nights, but had no objection to the extra hour on pay Monday nights.

On the motion of Mr. English, seconded by Mr. Potts, it was decided that the hours agreed to at the last meeting be adhered to, but that an extra hour be granted on pay Monday nights. This motion to apply to the drapers and kindred trades.

The other business was deferred until the next meeting when the deputation will have completed their work.

Business Announcements

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THE FATALITY TO AN OLD RAILWAY SERVANT AT BLACKHILL.

INQUEST AND VERDICT.

A sad fatal accident occurred on Wednesday afternoon week, about two o'clock to Wm. Hay, aged 72 years, employed as a sub-foreman at the Consett and Blackhill Railway Station. It appears that Hay was in the goods warehouse while some waggons were being shunted therein. He went forward to a moving waggon which had the door down resting on the "bench" with the intention of putting a pin in, when by some means he fell down off the "bench" upon the line, and was severely crushed upon the back and body between the "bench" and the warehouse wall. The poor fellow's lips just moved after the occurrence, and he expired almost instantly. The deceased was well-known amongst railway men, having been in the employment of the North-Eastern Company for the last forty years. Originally he was joint agent for Messrs Carver and Co., carriers, and the N.E.R. Company, and afterwards was appointed foreman of the old goods station at Carr House, Leadgate. On the opening of the Derwent Valley line in 1867 he accepted the position of yardman (or sub-foreman) at Consett and Blackhill (formerly called Benfieldside) Station. He was entitled to his pension about ten years ago, but preferred to continue at work.

THE INQUEST.

On Thursday afternoon week, Coroner John Graham held an inquiry at the Station Hotel, Blackhill, into the circumstances attending the death of the deceased. Inspector Sigworth, Newcastle, and Mr J. Harker, station-master at the Consett and Blackhill Station, watched the proceedings on behalf of the North-Eastern Railway Coy. Mr William Raw, Blackhill, acted as foreman of the jury.

The first witness called was William Watson, of Dixon Street, Blackfine. He stated that he was surface manager at the Tinmill Drift, belonging to the Consett Iron Company. The deceased was his father-in-law, whose age last birthday was 72 years, and he resided at Cemetery Road, Blackhill. The deceased was sub-foreman at the Goods Yard at the Consett and Blackhill Station, belonging to the North-Eastern Railway Company. He died shortly after the accident on the previous afternoon.

Thomas William Robson, employed as checker of the goods at the Goods Station, deposed that he resided at the North-Eastern Stables, Blackhill. The deceased's cabin was on the left-hand side as they entered the goods yard from Durham Road. It was Hay's duty to look after the horses and waggons, and he had nothing whatever to do with the loading or unloading of goods at the "bench" in the warehouse. Deceased's duty was simply confined to looking after the horses and rolleymen, and seeing that the goods were brought in and then taken from the station.

A Juryman (Mr Walton): Whose duty was it to load the waggons?—Witness: The rolleymen.

The Coroner: Let us have some evidence and then you can ask the witness any questions you like.

Witness, continuing, said Hay had to supervise where the horses and rolleys had to go to, and the loading of the trucks in the shape of manual labour. On New Year's Day some of the men were off work owing to it being holiday time. Two or three "bench" men, whose duty it was to discharge the trucks of their cargo, were off duty. Some of the rolleymen were also off work; but the work was going on as usual. The accident occurred shortly before two o'clock. There were some trucks partly laden, and others partly unladen; whilst there were also some empty, being shunted. They were in the goods warehouse, and were being brought down to the stationary buffers. Some of the trucks were not coupled. There was one truck empty, standing in the centre of the warehouse which had the side door resting on the "bench" for the convenience of unloading. It was also usual to have a piece of sheet iron to lie partly on the open door, and on the "bench" so as to cause a slope. At the end of the "bench" there was an incline plane on which the doors of the trucks in passing over were lifted up so as to clear the gateway on going out of the warehouse, while the doors in general fell down again when out of the way. Witness was on the "bench," about 10 yards away from the deceased when the accident occurred. He was not far away from the truck in question. The deceased was on the "bench," which he entered by the steps at the end near to his cabin. He did not know what the deceased came on to the "bench" for. Hay remarked there was a quantity of paper standing on a rolley in one of the docks which he thought might be put into the truck that had the door down. The truck then had little or nothing on it at the time.

The Coroner: We see now what Hay was doing at the "bench." He wished the load liberated, so as to get the rolley. Supposing all had gone right, where would he have loaded the truck?

Witness, continuing, stated that the truck would have been loaded in the warehouse. The rolley was standing within the warehouse at the time. The truck was in a convenient place for to receive the paper, and also for the purpose of being loaded. It was this reason that Hay selected the truck in question, and it was standing at the time. About five minutes after this a locomotive engine put some trucks into the warehouse from the high end of the yard. In doing so it moved the truck and others down to the lower end of the shed. Before the engine shunted the waggons into the warehouse, he never heard any signal given that such was going to be done.

The foreman: Who moved the waggons?—Witness: The waggons were moved by the engine.

Witness (proceeding) said the usual signal given before any shunting was done was for the engine to whistle. He saw the trucks commence to move, and deceased after talking to him, made towards the end of the "bench" next to his cabin. He was of opinion that Hay moved away so as to get to the "incline plane" at the end of the "bench," in order to watch for the truck door rising, so as to put the pin in, and keep it up.

A Juryman: Was it usual for them to do such a thing?

Witness: No.

The Coroner: Wait a bit till I get the evidence, and then you can ask questions.

Witness, continuing, stated the next thing he saw Hay do was for him to put both his hands out towards the door of the truck. When deceased did this it brought him sideways to the steps, and he was standing very near to them from the "bench" to the rails. He was apparently working on with the pin of the door. The next thing he saw was for Hay to give a bit of a lift, and he dropped over the end of the "bench" towards the bottom of the steps. The waggons were still moving, and he thought one truck would pass through the shed before they were stopped. The engine was going slowly, and he was of the opinion that the trucks stopped before they got to the buffers. He saw no one in charge of the trucks in the shed. Witness called out to the driver to stop the engine, who was outside the warehouse; but he did not hear him. As soon as the trucks ceased moving he went down the steps to see what had become of Hay. He found him lying with his head against the sharp steel blade of the points of the rails just outside the goods shed. Deceased's feet were lying in a slanting direction towards the steps. The deceased was bleeding from the head, and his neck and face were very much injured, and seemed to be severely crushed. One of the wheels of one of the trucks was resting on his right shoulder.

The Coroner: We see now what stopped the trucks from reaching the buffers.

Witness further stated that assistance was obtained directly after the accident. They removed the truck back into the warehouse, so as to clear the wheel off deceased. When they got Hay picked up, they found him practically dead.

Mr. Walton (a juryman): Whose duty was it to put the pin in?

Witness: It was no one's duty.

Mr. Walton: Whose duty was it to look after the doors when going past this place?

Witness: No one did it. He could not say what made deceased attempt to do it. Witness would have been in charge of the truck. The men had been loading the same.

Mr. Eltringham said he did not agree with witness's version as to what he thought Hay was doing when he met with the accident. He did not think Mr. Hay was a man that would attempt to put the pin in, so as to keep the door up, when it was not the custom to do so. When the truck had passed over the "incline plane" it would have dropped down again, and there would have been no harm done. Mr. Hay was a man that thoroughly understood his duties, and he could not see why he should attempt to do such a thing.

In answer to Mr. Turner (juryman), witness said the deceased left him before the trucks were moved.

Mr. Eltringham: My version is that the deceased was going along the "bench" for the purpose of reaching his cabin, when he was caught by the door of the truck, and knocked off the "bench" against the trucks.

Mr. Stokoe: Did you notice the steps at the end of the "bench."

Witness: Yes.

Mr. Stokoe: Do you think they are in a proper condition?

Witness: It is not for me to say.

The Coroner: We must not mix the two things up together. We are not dealing with the steps, because they were not the cause of the accident. I have no doubt the steps will be repaired after this.

Mr. Eltringham stated it was quite possible the deceased might have been knocked off the "bench" before he got to the incline plane, if he was caught by the door. The deceased might have been raising his hands to get hold of something so as to save himself, and that might account for the witness thinking Hay was endeavouring to fasten the door up.

Mr. Watson: Which side of the door was nearest to the deceased, when you saw him?

Witness: I think the end near the right side.

Mr. Watson: My opinion is that deceased was at the other side of the door, and he was knocked off the "bench" down amongst the trucks.

Mr. Eltringham: What was the deceased doing?

Witness: Deceased was making towards the door when the accident occurred.

Mr. Dowson (juryman) was of opinion that the trucks would overtake the deceased when he was walking along the "bench" and most likely he was caught by the door.

Mr. Eltringham: Did the door catch Hay and knock him off his feet?

Witness: I think the deceased was going to get hold of the door with his hands when he fell.

Mr. Dowson: I think the door as it was dragged along the "bench" overtook him, and caused his death.

The Coroner thought when Hay was before the waggons when they started, and knowing the door was down, would have stepped to one side, and let it pass him.

Mr. Eltringham: Yes; but we must remember they were both going towards one point.

The Coroner: Yes; but it seems to me that the waggon would be following him.

The Foreman pointed out that with the number of years that Mr. Hay had worked at the yard, he would be fully aware what was his duty. They had not heard any evidence yet to clear up what he was really doing; but there could be no question but that it was the door which caught him.

The Coroner: It is only right to state that the piece of sheet iron came down the "bench" along with the waggon, and was found near the deceased.

Mr. Eltringham: That is something fresh, we have not heard anything about the piece of sheet iron.

The Coroner: Well I thought I would mention it, because it is best to have all the facts.

Mr. Turner: The piece of sheet iron might have caught deceased's feet.

John Parker, porter at the goods warehouse, stated that he lived at 62, Wesley Terrace, Blackhill. He was in the warehouse on this afternoon, at the time of the accident. He was working 17 yards away from the east end of the "bench." He was taking some goods out of another truck, which was the second one from the truck in question. The door of the truck he was working in was also down. He saw Hay walking slowly about the "bench" in the warehouse. He noticed the rolley, loaded with paper, standing at the middle dock. Witness saw deceased go towards the steps. There were three trucks put into the warehouse by the engine, and they moved the other four that were already standing in the shed. He heard shouts and whistling before the engine shunted the waggons. When the signal was given Hay was standing about the middle of the "bench," and he afterwards moved away. The deceased's hearing was good, and he would also see the trucks moving as he went down the "bench." The truck with the door down overtook him. The door and the iron plate ran up the "incline plane," and the deceased was close up by the side of it. Witness saw Hay put his left hand against the door, and his left hand against the wall. To do this he would have to reach over the steps from the "bench." After this he noticed deceased drop right down on to the rails.

By the Coroner: The door sliding along the "bench" might have caught deceased, and he put out his hands to save himself. He could not say whether the door caught him or not; but he was close to it. Deceased was in front of the door; but he could not say what it was that caused him to fall.

In answer to Mr. Eltringham, witness said that the door of the truck he was working at was down; but he believed it was put up before the trucks were set in motion.

Mr. Eltringham: It might be quite possible there was more than one door down?

Witness: I don't think there was more than one door down.

By the Foreman: The door of the waggon he was working in would close when it went up the "incline plane."

Mr. Eltringham stated that none of the witnesses could tell them where Mr. Hay was when the door reached the "incline plane." He was strongly of the opinion that there was no intention on the part of the deceased to put the door up. He was simply caught by the door, and was trying to save himself when he put up his hands.

In answer to the Coroner, witness further stated that they found the plate of iron lying close to deceased's feet. He did not think the plate was in use at the time. He thought it was caught whilst lying on the "bench."

Mr. Eltringham said he could not see how that could be. If such had been the case there would have been traces on the "bench," showing that the sheet of iron had been dragged along. The sheet of iron must have been on the top of the door. The door of the truck had fallen as far as it could after it had passed over the "incline plane." It had pulled a "down-comer" down, and done other damage. At this end of the shed the doors of the trucks could not fall down their full length.

In answer to further questions, witness said that in general it was expected that these doors should be put up before the trucks went out at the north end of the shed.

The Coroner said seeing deceased was a man that had a considerable amount of experience, would he not know this. It was in this case a very wide door. Would deceased not know that if the door went past this place it would do some damage, and to prevent such being done he endeavoured to fasten up the door.

Mr. Harker pointed out that it was deceased's duty to go to the "bench" in the warehouse to see that the goods were loaded and unloaded off the waggons.

The Coroner: It was practically in course of his duties to be on the "bench" to see that the work was done. At the same time it was no part of deceased's duty to meddle with the trucks; but if he saw this door down, and knew it would do some damage, there is no doubt he would endeavour to stop it.

Mr. Eltringham: I don't think he was interfering with the door. It was the other way about. The door caught him, and deceased was knocked over the steps.

The Coroner said the engine driver was present, and he would perhaps tell them positively whether any signal was given or not before the trucks were shunted into the warehouse.

Robert Willes, goods engine driver, of 65, Langhorn Street, Newcastle, deposed that on this particular afternoon he was at the Consett and Blackhill Goods Station, in charge of engine No. 714. Witness had to put three trucks into the yard. He got his instructions from the guard, and he sounded the "crow" whistle twice before moving the train inwards to the warehouse. It was the general custom to give this signal before the engine was set in motion. He moved on at slow pace, and the engine-tender and two trucks were outside the warehouse after he put the trucks in. Witness never heard any shouts to stop the engine. He did not remember going against the other waggons in the shed.

Robson, re-called, in answer to the jury, stated there was only one truck door down. He did not notice the truck Mr. Parker was working in, but the door was sure to be down when the men were unloading the same. There might be two doors down. It was the left foot boot that was damaged.

Mr. Watson stated that deceased's head, neck, and arm were very much injured. It was the sharp point that deceased had come in contact with that had caused the injuries. He was satisfied that it was purely an accident.

The Coroner briefly summed up, and said it had not been made very clear how the deceased met his death. There was no evidence to show what the poor man was doing. It was evident to all of them that he was doing his best for his employers. It seemed that Hay was doing his duty, and no one could find fault with him being on the "bench." There was one or two things that had not been made very clear, (1), Whether there were two doors down, or only one, and (2) it was to be deplored that no one on the "bench" had been able to state whether deceased was caught by the door, or he fell off the "bench" whilst endeavouring to clear the door. They could not blame anyone for that. They had been told that deceased was closing the door when he lost his balance and fell over on to the rails, whilst they had another version that it was quite possible for deceased to have been caught by the door, and knocked over the steps. They were left entirely in the dark regarding this point, as they had no positive evidence to prove such was the case. They had also been told there was no room for the door to fall after it got clear of the main building, with the result that damage would be done. If the deceased knew of this fact, it would afford an explanation why he attempted to close the door of the truck. Whether such was the case or not, they could come to no other conclusion than it was simply an accident.

Mr. Parker, re-called, said it was an ordinary sized door.

Mr. Eltringham: It will not be a customary thing for these doors to be dragged along the platform?

Mr. Harker: No.

Mr. Eltringham: Well it seems that the door should have been put up before the waggons were shunted. I am satisfied that deceased was not attempting to close the door.

The Foreman: The whole thing rests on the fact that the trucks should never have been moved when the doors were down.

The engine-driver stated that he shunted the trucks in with great care, and at walking pace. The reason that the waggons travelled the distance they did was owing to their not being coupled.

Mr. Eltringham said the jury were not attaching any blame to the engine driver. If the waggons had not been moved, Mr. Hay would not have been killed. They were standing in the best position for loading, why should they have been moved? This to him seemed to be a mystery, and should be cleared up.

The Coroner stated that it should be someone's duty to see that the truck doors were put up, if this had been done deceased would not have met his death. The jury might make a recommendation requesting the North-Eastern Railway Company to give instructions that in future these truck doors should be put up and properly fastened before shunting took place.

Mr. Harker said it was the duty of those emptying the trucks to fasten the doors up, after the goods were taken out. It was given in evidence that Mr. Hay requested the truck for the paper that was standing on the waggon. This might put the men off their guard, and they failed to put the door up before the other trucks were shunted in. When the signal was given the doors of the trucks were fastened up. There was generally a sprag put in so as to keep the waggons in position; but it seemed that such had not been done on this day.

The Foreman stated that some person should have power when the trucks were empty, to see that all the doors were fastened up, and also to see that the work was done, particularly when shunting was going to take place.

Mr. Harker promised to see that such was done.

The jury accordingly returned a verdict "that Mr. Hay was accidentally killed by falling off the "bench" in the warehouse in the goods yard."

THE FUNERAL.

A further testimony if such were needed of the general respect and esteem in which the late Mr. Hay was held was to be found in the large number of relatives and friends from all parts of the North of England who attended his funeral on Saturday afternoon. The cortege started from the house of the deceased gentleman in Cemetery Road, and proceeded to the Blackhill Cemetery where a few words were said by the Rev. A. Baillie (who conducted the ceremony) on the estimable character of the deceased gentleman, and the loss which the neighbourhood had sustained by his demise. The coffin was covered with beautiful wreaths and flowers, especially those sent by Mr. and Mrs. Parnaby, Mr. and Mrs. Jack, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Eaglescliffe, the boys employed in the station yard, and also from the employees who worked with Mr. Hay in the yard, the clerks and officials at the Consett and Blackhill station, and one sent by his family. Amongst those present at the funeral were the Rev. Mr. Storey, vicar of St. Aidan's, Mr. Parnaby, Cemetery Road; Mr. C. F. Scott, New Bell; Mr. Wm. Ramsey, Mr. John Dawson, Mr. Joseph Eltringham, Mr. William Eltringham, and Mr. George Eltringham, Blackhill; Mr. Reid, Newcastle; Mr. A. E. Turner, Blackhill; Mr. Jno. Lovatt, Blackhill; Mr. A. Houliston, Shotley Bridge; Mr. Strachan, Mr. and Mrs. McDonald, Blackhill; Mr. Walton Shaw, Villa Real; Mr. R. Brown, Leadgate; Mr. George Hardy, Knitsley; Mr. John Beldon, Blackhill; Mr. Stoker, Mr. Batey, Mr. Harker (Station-master), Mr. Hetherington, Mr. Trotter, Mr. Hodgson, Mrs. Sommerville, Mr. Sloane, and Mr. Robinson (Blackhill), Mr. Robson, Mr. J. J. Allan, T. Shotton, Gateshead; J. Walton, Mr. J. Leadbitter, Mr. H. Rule. The chief mourners were Mr. John Hay (son) and family, Sunderland; Mr. James Hay (son) and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Watson (sister of deceased); Mrs. Robinson (sister); Mr. Robinson; Mr. T. Hay, only brother of deceased; Mr. and Mrs. Greaves (niece); Mr. A. Watson (nephew); Mr. R. Hogg, Alnwick, brother-in-law; and Mr. James Hay, Newcastle, nephew; Mr. Glaholme, Windmill Hills, Gateshead; Mr. Weir, Newcastle; Mrs. Wallace, cousin; Mrs. White and Mrs. Chaytor. Letters of condolence were received from Mr. and Mrs. Green, Blackhill; Mrs. Murray, Berwick; Miss Guthrie, Bedford; Mr. and Mrs. McIvor, Middlesborough; Mr and Mrs. Robinson, and other friends.

PULPIT REFERENCE.

On Sunday evening the Rev. A. Baillie preached an obituary sermon, in the course of which he made appropriate reference to the late Mr. Hay. He had been, said the rev. gentleman, a member of their church for over twenty-seven years. It was but a Sabbath ago since they had seen him sitting in his accustomed corner of the church, he looked so well, hale and ruddy, and now in the short space of a week he had been taken from them to worship in a more exalted sphere. There was not a member of the church but was deeply moved by the sad and sudden tidings of his death. Their deepest sympathy was with his widow, who had been so suddenly deprived of her husband after no less than fifty-five years of wedded life. He was sure that she would be borne up in her time of trial by the sympathy of every member of the congregation, and by that of the many friends which Mr. Hay had made in the district. The sad news of Wednesday had taken them as a surprise in the midst of their merry-makings; it had cast a gloom over the whole of the congregation, and had served as a timely illustration of the end to which they all must come. The concluding hymn was sung to the "Dead March," Mrs. Baillie acting as organist.

CONSETT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

On Saturday evening the 130th quarterly meeting of the members of this Society was held in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. There was a large attendance of members presided over by Mr Geo. Lowes (president.)

THE MINUTES.

Mr Davies (Blackhill), said seeing the evening was far advanced he thought it was[illegible] perhaps be better [illegible] only the last month's minutes of the committee were read. He would move that such should be done.

Mr Whittaker was of opinion that the whole of the minutes should be read, as he considered they were the most important part of the business.

It was eventually decided that the whole of the minutes should be read.

THE APPLICATIONS FOR ADVANCES OF SALARIES.

Mr Harrison (Templetown), said he saw from the minutes that had been read that there had been a general application from the employes for advances of salaries. He wished to know if there was any special reason for this, and if their servants were connected with any trade union.

The Chairman explained their employes were connected with no trades union. Many of the applicants thought they had strong grounds for claiming an advance of salary; but according to the minutes they would see that the committee thought otherwise. This thing came up periodically.

Mr Harrison: Would it not be advisable to have a sliding scale?

Mr Douglas (Consett): To slide upwards. (Laughter.)

Mr Hall (general manager): They were not in favour of one.

The question dropped.

MORE KEYS WANTED.

Mr J. S. Kirkup (Consett) inquired if the caretaker was provided with keys for all the several departments. If he had not these in his possession he considered he should have.

The Chairman said this was a question that would be gone into by the committee, so as to provide duplicate keys for all departments for the caretaker.

THE BOILERS.

Mr Kirkup asked what was wrong with the boilers where were they located, and if they were insured?

The Manager: The boilers were not insured. They were the butchers' pot boilers that were out of repair. (Laughter.)

THE PURCHASES PER MEMBER.

In answer to a member, Mr Kirk, one of the auditors, reported that the average purchases per member during the past quarter had been £9 10s.

THE RENTS OF THE PROPERTY.

A short discussion took place relative to the question as to whether the rents received from some of the property was paying 5 per cent.

It was stated that this question was being considered by the Committee.

THE SALES.

Mr Whittaker (Consett), pointed out that in two years the sales had decreased over £6,000. This he considered was a most serious item in the balance sheet.

Mr Kirk stated if Mr Whittaker would look in another column he would see that the amount paid for goods shewed the same difference.

The Chairman said they were not making the progress they should do, but at the same time the bulk of their members were loyal co-operators.

THE REPORT AND BALANCE SHEET.

This report was read as follows:—It is again our duty to submit for your consideration and approval, a statement of the results of the working of your society for another quarter. The total sales amount to £13,756 11s 6d., against £14,230 8s 10½d in the corresponding quarter of last year, and £14,259 5s 5d last quarter. Including balance from last quarter, the total profit amounts to £2,469 11s 10d, which we propose to divide as follows:—Depreciation of property and fixtures, £60; repairs and alterations of building and fixtures, £39 1s 9d; checks bought from non-members, £34 10s 3d.; interest on shares, £404 2s 6d.; dividend on general purchases at 2s in the pound, £1,681 1s 0d.; butchering purchases at 2s 8d in the pound, £249 9s 4d.; and a balance of £1 7d. carried forward. The share capital now stands at £33,434 8s 4d.

During the quarter 28 members have joined, 24 left, leaving 1,647 at present on the register.

On the motion of Mr Whittaker, seconded by Mr Muir (Blackhill), the report and balance sheet was adopted.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Mr Geo. Lowes was unanimously re-elected president for the ensuing year.

Mr Lowes thanked the members for the honour they had once more conferred upon him. It was the 18th time that he had been elected president, and he would endeavour to do his duty in the future as he had done in the past.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE-MEN.

Messrs G. T. Egglestone, W. S. Davies, and J. S. Kirkup, were elected committeemen.

MOTIONS.

Mr S. Harris (Westwood) moved a motion to the effect "That no employe be allowed to carry on the same business as the society."

This was seconded by Mr Davies of Blackhill, and after a lengthy discussion the same was carried by two votes.

Mr Hyden proposed that a separate dividend should be paid on milk purchases.

This was seconded by Mr Matthews, and carried.

Mr Lowson in a lengthy speech moved a motion that members should be allowed to attend the committee meetings.

This seconded by Mr Holliday, (Consett).

On a vote being taken 34 voted for the motion, and 40 against.

The motion was lost.

AUDITOR.

Mr Joseph Kirk, of Blackhill, was re-appointed one of the auditors.

The other business was of a formal character.

PRESENTATION TO DR. SHANNON AT CONSETT.

INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS.

When it became known that Dr. Shannon, assistant to Dr. George Renton at Consett, was leaving the district, there was a general desire that his services should be recognised in some tangible form or other. At a meeting held at Consett in Mr. Welford's offices on Thursday, December 5th, it was unanimously decided to open out a fund to further the testimonial in recognition of the long and valuable services rendered by Dr. Shannon in the district. The following working committee was accordingly appointed:—Mr. J. Petherick, chairman; Mr. T. L. Gledstone, treasurer; Messrs A. Russell, and John Sloane, hon. secretaries; Rev. F. Steggall, Rev. James Foran, Messrs James Scott, R. Park, E. G. Kirkhouse, L. Matthews, T. W. Welford, Supt. Benzies, W. Maund, J. Kempson, J. Wildsmith, J. Daly, J. Summerbell, G. Turner, Ed. Harris, W. Bell, F. Vickers, J. Stewart, and William McIvor. There was a liberal response to the appeal, with the result that a splendid sum was realised. On Monday evening, there was a large attendance of the elite of the district in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, to witness the presentation made to the genial doctor. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Petherick, who was supported on the platform by Dr. Shannon, Rev. Father Foran, Dr. George Renton, Messrs R. Park, L. Matthews, Thomas L. Gledstone, James Scott, P. G. Benzies, J. Kempson, F. Vickers, J. Sloane, Ed. Harris, W. McIvor, A. Russell, jun., George McCann, and others. During the evening a splendid programme of music was rendered at intervals by the following artistes:—Miss Grainger, Consett; Miss Stephenson, Consett; Mr. J. Sloane, Blackhill, and Mr. J. Symington, Consett. Miss Sloane, Blackhill, ably discharged the duties as an efficient accompanist. All the singers rendered their respective songs in splendid style, and each received an encore. Dr. Renton favoured the company with two recitations, including "Ted White," which fairly convulsed the audience.

The Chairman, in his opening remarks, said that Dr. Shannon was ever most kind and considerate, and he was sure that those among whom he had laboured would all miss him. He knew that wherever Dr. Shannon may settle the best wishes of the people of this district would go with him. He wished him long-life and happiness to follow his noble calling.

Letters were read from the following gentlemen who were unable to be present:—

Dear Sir,—I much regret that I shall be unable to be with you this evening to witness the presentation to Dr. Shannon. Please to convey to the doctor my personal regret that I have lost him as a neighbour, and that the general public of Consett have lost a most considerate and efficient doctor. Wishing Dr. Shannon all happiness and prosperity in his future career,

I remain, yours faithfully,
FREDERICK STEGGALL.

Dear Sir,—I am obliged for your letter of to-day's date, re Dr. Shannon's testimonial. Unfortunately, I have a meeting to attend at Shotley Bridge, and therefore will be unable to attend to-night.

Yours truly, T. W. WELFORD.
Consett, January 6th, 1896.

Dear Sir,—I regret that owing to another engagement, I am unable to be present at the meeting this evening to wish Dr. Shannon God-speed. Kindly accept apology, and pass on my best New Year wishes to the genial doctor.—With kind regards,

Yours sincerely, C. S. WILSON.
Delves Terrace, Consett Jany. 6th, 1896.

The Chairman, in making the presentation to Dr. Shannon, on behalf of the subscribers said he presented him with the gold watch, albert and appendage, as a token of their appreciation and mark of esteem—the inscription on the same being to the following effect—"Presented to Dr. Shannon on his leaving Consett, by his numerous friends, as a token of their esteem and appreciation, January, 1896." Continuing, the Chairman remarked that he hoped the recipient would live long to make use of it. He said that the subscriptions were entirely voluntary—if he was allowed the phrase they had not "taken round the hat" in any sense. He hoped the doctor would be as successful in his new sphere of labour as he had been in this town of Consett, and that he would be as kind and considerate to the sick poor as he had been at Consett, and he would have his reward. (Applause.) He (as chairman) concluded by wishing him God-speed.

The Rev. Father Foran, on rising was loudly cheered. He said it afforded him great pleasure to add his testimony to the worth of Dr. Shannon during the time he had resided in their midst. He re-echoed the sentiments of the chairman, and he could say that no one had been more admired, and had gained the esteem of the general public than the recipient of the gift on that occasion. (Applause.) Dr. Shannon had always been a favourite, and he richly deserved the testimonial. He had lived amongst them for six years, and during that time he had laboured amongst the sick, and he was pleased to say that he (the speaker) had never heard of any complaints. (Applause.) He had always been willing to answer calls during the night, which showed that he was most willing and anxious to do his duty. (Applause.) Dr. Shannon was a gentleman that had the good wishes of all, especially from his old patients, whom he was always most attentive and kind to. He had heard a great deal of talk about the merits of Dr. Shannon since it became known that he was leaving the district all his patients spoke in high terms of him, and fully bore out a statement that a good lady had repeated to him on one occasion. This lady said, just after Dr. Shannon came to the district, that the doctor was too civil, and if he made himself too cheap he would get too many calls. He would have to be more stiff and stern, or else he would be overrun with work. (Laughter.) However, what he had done had proved his success. (Applause.) A gentleman in a public position as a doctor, no doubt, would have his friends and his enemies; but he was glad to say that he did not think Dr. Shannon possessed a single enemy. (Hear.) Medical men as a rule had a great deal to put up with, but Dr. Shannon, with his geniality, and the considerable amount of patience he possessed, as well as his tact and energy, had enabled him to overcome all obstacles, and by doing so he had earned the good-will of all whom he had come in contact with. (Applause.) They all regretted his loss. It was not necessary to say anything about his valuable services, as the testimonial spoke for itself. He would just like to say that many medical men came to the district, and went away again, and they never heard anything about them; but it was not so with Dr. Shannon. He was well worthy of the testimonial, and he trusted it would be a recommendation wherever he went. (Applause.) Dr. Shannon was leaving them to go to another district, so as to make a practice for himself, and he had no hesitation in saying that he would succeed in his new sphere of labour. They all wished him success and he trusted that he would be long spared to carry on his calling amongst the sick. (Applause.)

Dr. Renton said that his presence on that platform that evening was a guarantee to them, and to those who promoted the testimonial, that Dr. Shannon was deserving of their appreciation and of what he had received that night. If he had not thought him worthy of their recognition, he would certainly not have been on that platform that night. He endorsed everything that had been said by Mr. Petherick and Father Foran. (Applause.) He endorsed in every respect all that had been said—not only as regarded Dr. Shannon's medical abilities, but also, as a sincere fellow. (Applause.) In a practice such as he had, he had to depend largely on the integrity of his assistants, and it was a very difficult task at times when he had to make a selection of an assistant, especially where you did not have the opportunity of an interview, where they had to depend purely on testimonials. On the occasion of his engaging Dr. Shannon, when he heard of him living down at Greenwich, he went down, knowing nothing of the gentleman he was going to meet. He went to the house at the appointed time, and the principal calling him to one side:—"Now Mr. Renton, you must not miss this gentleman. He is the best assistant I ever had." He was bound to engage him when he knew he was the best assistant the gentleman had ever had. (Loud applause.) And after an amicable conversation they had he felt at once that he must engage him, and he must say that he had never regretted it. (Loud cheers.) Speaking of the acquirements which were necessary in an assistant—the qualities which constitute a good assistant,—the doctor said he had one man once, who was a most brilliant man—a brilliant practitioner—with a distinguished college and university career, a gentleman in every respect; but in spite of his brilliancy, he never went down with the people. The latter never took to him, because they did not like his manner. There were essential qualifications which medical men require in the knowledge of their profession, they must be genial in their character. They must needs know how to descend to the level of the lowest class of their patients, and likewise ascend to the requirements of the highest classes. Dr. Shannon had showed a most extraordinary activity in the prosecution of his work, as a medical man, and as his assistant in Consett. No man had shown greater zeal or anxiety for his patients, and he owed a debt of deep gratitude for what he had done for him. (Applause.) Consequently he could not speak too highly of Dr. Shannon's character. He had always been a perfect gentleman. They had been associated together for six years now, and during the whole of that time he did not remember one single case in which they had had the slightest opposition of feeling. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Everything had always worked harmoniously, and he thought that the same might be applied to the connection between Dr. Shannon and the people of Consett. (Applause.) He thought that no man had ever fallen in with the desires of the people better than Dr. Shannon had done, and they were losing a very good friend and doctor. He regretted his departure exceedingly. To lose a man like Dr. Shannon, who had satisfied them both so well, must be a wrench, both to them and to himself. The doctor, in concluding, remarked—"At any rate seeing how well they thought of him, and how well he thought of him, Dr. Shannon would go away with the feeling that he had the good will of the good people of Consett and district, and also the hearty good wishes of his principal. (Applause.) He hoped that he would have as great or greater success in his new sphere as he had had in Consett. (Applause.)

Mr. McIvor, in speaking for the working class section of the populace of Consett, said that no doubt Dr. Shannon had merited all the honour that had been conferred upon him that night. Several gentlemen who had preceded him, had dealt most exhaustively with the salient points in Dr. Shannon's characteristics, and to such an extent that there was very little left for him indeed. He had however no hesitation in saying that Dr. Shannon had merited these honours by his assiduous care, and his practical sympathy with the poorer classes of his patients, and he truly merited any reward they could confer upon him. (Applause.) He also referred to the physical courage required by doctors, equally so with the military and naval professions in his opinion, and paid a genuine tribute to Dr. Shannon's conspicuousness in this respect. Doctors, and Dr. Shannon in particular, seemed, he contended, to have an indefinable something about them which rendered them proof against all kinds of disease and infection, into which the duties of their profession brought them into open contact. Medical men also (the speaker continued) required the patience of Job in the exercise of their duties, and this virtue he also claimed for their mutual friend, Dr. Shannon. (Applause.) It was no joke to be called up perhaps twice in one night, and find on arriving at the house of the patient, that it was someone suffering from an over-dose of alcohol, or an aching finger. (Laughter.) Dr. Shannon had shewn great tact and courage in dealing with the people of Consett, and he possessed the qualities he had enumerated in a superlative degree. It would be a long time before his name was blotted out in the annals of the poor of this district, and he asked him to accept that souvenir of his long stay amongst them, not on account of intrinsic value, but as a tribute of esteem and affection in which he was held by all classes of this community. (Applause.)

Dr. Shannon, in responding, was deeply moved, insomuch that parts of his speech were inaudible. He however, thanked those present, and said:—Ladies and gentlemen, these are the happiest moments of my life. (Loud applause.) To receive such tangible proof of your good-will—I feel I shall fail to carry my deep sense of gratitude, which I must ever entertain, for the honour you have conferred upon me to-night. Not for the testimonial alone, but for the appreciation it shows. I can only say that I have always been treated with great respect and appreciation, both by Dr. Renton and the people of Consett during my six years' stay, and I hope that the bond of kindly feeling which has hitherto existed will ever remain. (Applause.) I have always tried to do my [illegible] to the best of my ability, and tried to do [illegible] towards relieving suffering and pain. [illegible] the committee and all those subscribers who have been so good in getting up this testimonial [illegible]. I again thank you most sincerely and cordially, and heartily, not for its intrinsic value alone, but for the many happy memories it carries. I shall always value it as one of my most valuable and precious treasures. I beg to thank you once again, and wish you all health, happiness, and prosperity. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman stated he overheard a remark made by Supt. Benzies to Dr. Shannon, that the latter forgot to mention that he would hand the gift down to his sons.

Dr. Shannon, amidst much laughter, remarked that he had'nt any sons, or he would have said so.

Mr. Scott said it had devolved upon him to carry out an important duty. He was very pleased to be present and meet his old friend Dr. Shannon again, and also to listen to the many interesting speeches that had been given by the chairman and the other gentlemen. He was sure they had all been delighted with the proceedings, an excellent concert had been provided, and he must say that he had been taken by surprise. He was glad he was on the side of the musicians because they had had the best of it that night. So far as he knew the work of arranging the programme and providing the music had been carried out by Mr. Sloane, and he deserved their best thanks. He now proposed that the best thanks should be given to the singers, the lady accompanist, and also the reciter. (Applause.)

Mr. Kempson seconded, and stated that the ladies and gentlemen who had entertained them on that occasion really deserved all the credit they could bestow upon them. (Applause.)

The vote was put, and carried by acclamation.

Dr. Shannon proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding over the gathering. It did not require any words from him, as to know Mr. Petherick was to honour him. (Applause.)

Mr. Park seconded, and stated his presence on the platform indicated that Dr. Shannon's popularity was not confined to Consett alone; but had travelled to the outside more important world—Blackhill. (Laughter.) During the time that he had known Dr. Shannon he had always found him to be a genuine friend, and whatever he thought he was a gentleman that gave expression to his opinion, whether it pleased or not. Mr. Petherick had made an admirable chairman indeed, and had shown rare tack and ability. Good chairmen were very scarce, and he could assure Mr. Petherick that his services on many future occasions would be called into requisition. Mr. Petherick had made his "debut" in taking the chair that night, and he trusted he would be long spared to fill the same position at other gatherings that were held in the district. (Applause.)

The vote was carried by acclamation, and the Chairman suitably acknowledged the compliment.

The interesting proceedings terminated by the company singing "For he's a jolly good fellow."

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL.

At the ordinary meeting of this body held on Saturday at Stanhope, Mr Thomas Robinson in the chair—a letter was read from Mr Minter, Commissioners' agent at Darlington, in respect to the footpath at Wearhead, which with the one at Burnhope were left over to next month.—Tenders were received for improving the footpath at Eastgate Lynn, and that of J. V. Gowland at £2 15s was accepted.—Some other footpath questions were left over for the next meting.—In respect to the next meeting it was decided to meet at St. John's Chapel at 1.30 the first Saturday in February.—The postal authorities wrote intimating that an earlier morning mail for the Weardale district had been granted.—The Chairman and Councillor Barker were appointed as deputation in connection with the Urban and District Councils in respect to earlier morning mails.—Mr. Pattinson is to be written to in respect of the bad state of the footpath at Brown's House, Frosterley, asking him to repair it.—It was agreed to accede to an application of the Highway Board for a diversion of road at West Gate Station, on condition that a footpath was ensured with it for the public.

WHAT THE PEOPLE ARE SAYING.

That everybody was at the Promenade Concert on New Year's Day.

That it was a huge success.

That the long-looked for skating at No. 1 was only a passing shadow, and what little there was was only "rough and tumble" quality.

That more than one gentleman got his socks washed free, gratis, for nothing.

That the vicar hit out fair and square on the Armenian question the other Sunday.

That the New Masonic Hall is making slower progress than anticipated.

That Joe Siddle frames for exceeding his local repute, and becoming a celebrity in the musical world.

That "The Messiah" was a pronounced success, as it deserved to be.

That the streets of Consett have been a regular quagmire since the "fresh."

That the weather generally is very unseasonable.

That a good number of people turned out to the watch-night services to commence the New Year well.

That we hope they will keep faith with their good resolutions.

That we all hope the agitation for an increased train service on the Annfield Plain branch may "come off."

That the roads in the Annfield Plain district are second to none in the county—for mud.

That the people of Leadgate are a patient community.

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COLLIERY SUBSIDENCES AT CONSETT.

£150 DAMAGES.

THE INTERESTS OF THE BAR.

At the Durham Sessions last week,—Before Mr. J. L. Wharton, M.P., (Chairman)—Mr. Murray, solicitor, was proceeding to make an application under the Lanchester Common Enclosure Act, when

Mr. Strachan, on behalf of the bar practising there, made objection to any application being made at those Sessions except by counsel. It had been settled that at all Quarter Sessions where there was a competent bar, and a competent bar had been held at Morpeth Sessions to be where there were two members of the bar, so that each side could be represented, that applications to the court could only be made through counsel.

The Chairman said application was either made in person or by the bar.

Mr. Strachan said it did not affect him very much, but as senior member of the bar present he was bound to protect the interests of the bar.

Mr. Murray said he did not intend any discourtesy to the bar, and had he known it was the practice to instruct counsel in regard to these applications he would have engaged a member of the bar, but he understood previous applications had been made in person or by solicitor.

The Chairman: No.

Mr. Murray said he thought under the Act the present proceedings were in order. Had he known of the custom he would have instructed counsel.

The Chairman said during the last 24 years these applications had been invariably made either in person or by counsel.

Mr. Murray: If that is so it rules me out of court.

The Chairman: I can tell you it is so.

Mr. Murray: There is no intentional discourtesy.

The Chairman: I am sure of that.

Afterwards, Mr. Craig (instructed by Mr. Murray) said he appeared on behalf of certain surface owners to ask the court to assess compensation under the Lanchester Common Act of 1873, for subsidence caused to the said lands by the working of the minerals underneath them by the Consett Iron Company. Notice of the application had been duly posted on the church doors as required by the Act, and he would call witnesses as to the damage sustained. Compensation was obtained in 1880 for similar damages to this farm.

Joseph Armstrong Brown, of the Golden Lion Hotel, Leadgate, son of Elizabeth Brown, one of the present applicants, deposed to affixing the required notice on Lanchester, Satley, Medomsley, and Ebchester church doors.

William Smith Shell, Durham Road, Blackhill, said he was a member of the Society of Architects, and practised as an architect and surveyor at Consett. He was well acquainted with the district. From instructions received, he surveyed the Carabees Farm, the property of Mr. Oliver, and produced a plan then made. The portions coloured green were those which he found had subsided. The surface had gone down from 15 inches to three feet, but the average over the whole was 19 inches. This covered 11a. 2r. 9p. of arable land.

By the Chairman: This land was drained before the injury to it.

The Chairman: In what way is it injuriously affected?

Witness: The drains are all broken, with the result that the water runs back, and causes a lake to form. That portion is at present under water, owing entirely to the subsidence. Besides that there is a number of holes, covering small areas, some of them being six or seven feet deep, but the average is 3½ feet deep. The area of these holes is 1½ acres. The total area of the land damaged by subsidence is 13a. 14p. To level up, it would require for the larger area 3,918 cubic yards yards of earth, and for the smaller 3,017 cubic yards. It would cost to fill in the smaller holes £377 2s 6d, and to fill in the larger area £391 16s, and to re-drain the land £115 10s. This land was under seed, and it would cost about £13 to re-seed it. He estimated the total damage at £897 8s 6d. The land was available for building sites, but in consequence of these subsidences it was not likely to be taken for that purpose. Some of the ground damaged was leased to a Race Company. He had prepared plans for the sale of a portion of this estate. £350 an acre had been paid for some of the land sold for building purposes. For agricultural purposes he estimated the value of the land at £82 an acre. They had sold portions of this Carabees estate at £82 an acre. The nearest building to the subsidences was 400 or 500 yards.

Mr. Oliver said he was the owner of two-thirds of the Carabees estate. The other owner was Jane Elizabeth Brown. The land was held in fee simple, under the Lanchester Common Act. He purchased it in 1875 from Jonathan Richardson and Co.

By the Chairman: He had not the deeds with him. There was a mortgage of £2,000, and the deeds were with his solicitors.

Mr. Abraham Farnsworth, present occupier of the farm, estimated the depreciation in the value of the farm for agricultural purposes at £30 a year, and he had given notice for a reduction to that extent.

By the Chairman: He paid 17/6 an acre.

It was stated that the rates and taxes came to about 3/- an acre.

The Chairman drew attention to the great disparity in the rent actually paid, and the value now put upon the land.

Mr. Craig said he was instructed that the piece of land damaged was absolutely the best on the farm.

The Chairman: It is very unfortunate, but it always is so.

Mr. Henry Oliver, a farmer of large experience, said he was well acquainted with the Carabees Farm, and had seen the damaged land. He thought Mr. Shell's estimate was if anything underneath what it ought to be.

The chairman did not think they need proceed on that line, because it was manifest the amount estimated was much more than the fee simple of the ground.

Mr. William Raw, auctioneer, Blackhill, who volunteered his evidence, estimated the total damage at £145.

The Bench made an order for £150 and costs.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

(By the "Old Crow.")

It is indeed pleasant to notice a revival of interest locally, in oratoria and high class music generally. Quite recently a very enjoyable performance of the "Messiah" was given in the Wesleyan Chapel, Consett, and now in connection with the same body rehearsals have commenced on "The Creation." According to announcement in last week's issue the public performance is to take place on Good Friday, April 3rd, so that there remains ample time to allow of a series of rehearsals sufficient, if properly attended by the members, to guarantee an effective rendering of the oratorio at the time mentioned. The movement is worthy of every encouragement.

* * * * *

By the way, I learn from Mr. Charles Stephenson that he too is contemplating the formation of a Society to be built, if possible on similar lines to those on which the old Consett Choral Society of years ago was constructed. As readers know, it has always been a matter of surprise and regret to the writer that that once highly useful Society was allowed to die as it did. Like most other Societies formed in our midst within the past eight or nine years, it lived prosperously for a short while only—to die in the very height of its popularity, speaking from the stand point of the public, through lack of interest amongst the general members. It was a thousand pities, for, at the time of its fall it had gone very far on the high road to success and had given several really high class and enjoyable performances. There is little doubt that everybody interested in music would hail with satisfaction the formation of another Society with all the original high aims of the old one, and it is to be hoped that Mr. Stephenson will inaugurate his scheme with as little delay as possible.

* * * * *

Mr. Mark Lindon, of the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, is determined to make the most of his opportunities. When pantomime is in full swing at the larger theatres, there is always a better chance for the smaller ones, for in these days of touring companies, the best has to be made of circumstances, and in the scarcity of engagements at the larger places in the towns, touring-managers are glad to book dates wherever they can. Thus it is that the pantomime season is always a good time for the smaller towns. To this rule West Stanley is no exception, and, thanks to the foresight of Mr. Lindon, local playgoers are just now having served up before them some of the best melo-dramas on the road. Last week "The Slums of London" drew considerable audiences, and for the current week a scarcely less meritorious play of the category is being offered in "The Bells of Fate." Well done Stanley!

* * * * *

At the moment of writing the deliberations of the members of the Consett District Council at their adjourned meeting on Wednesday evening are unknown to me. It is to be presumed that the members have met together to hear the report of the Sanitary Committee on the disgustingly insanitary conditions of certain portions of the town as indicated by the Medical Officer in his report at the last meeting. It will be remembered that the report in question was referred to the Sanitary Committee for consideration in order that that Committee might have certain recommendations to submit to the Council this week. It is needless to say that the matter admits of no further delay and that the ratepayers are looking forward to a definite decision being arrived at. That the Medical Officers' report is still incomplete is a matter of no vital importance. So far as it has gone it divulges sufficient of the melancholy condition of affairs to justify immediate action in the part of the Council. It is to be hoped the responsibility will be bravely faced.

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AND
MISS A. C. HARKER
Give LESSONS on PIANOFORTE, VIOLIN, MANDOLIN, GUITAR, THEORY OF MUSIC, HARMONY, SINGING, AND VOICE CULTIVATION.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.
ADDRESS: BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM.

TRY THE NEW DRINK,
KER'S ALE.
(NON-INTOXICATING),
MADE FROM THE FINEST KENTISH HOPS.
PRIZE MEDAL ZOLAKONE
And all other kinds of Mineral Waters of the Finest Quality. Write for Samples and Prices to
J. KERSHAW & SONS,
PLANTATION STREET, LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS CHEAPER THAN EVER!
MRS. M. ROGERS,
23, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
TEA! TEA! TEA! from 1s. 4d. per lb.
Sambotee Prize Packet Teas.
Choice Fruit, Finest Selected Cheese, Good Bacon and Ham,
GIVE US A TRIAL. 47t

HOSPITAL
FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS!
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.
GENT.'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED......2s. 9d
LADIES Do. Do. ......1s. 9d.
With Leather Tanned on the Old-fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand. (Signed), J. ORTON.

See The New Shop!
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY
(Opposite Catholic Burial Ground.)
J. W. WOOD,
DRAPER AND CLOTHIER,
Begs to announce to the Public of Stanley and District that he has Opened Suitable Business Premises at the above address, where he is showing a large Stock of READY-MADES, HATS, CAPS, SHIRTS, TIES, and GENERAL DRAPERY.
Inspection Invited. Suits to Measure.
Fit, Fashion, and Quality Guaranteed. 5t

MUSICAL TUITION
GEORGE DRYDEN, A.L.C.M., SILVER MEDALLIST (Organist of Medomsley Church), gives LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and THEORY OF MUSIC.
G.D. devotes particular attention to the Preparation of Candidates for Examinations, his Pupils having gained over 50 Certificates, including THE SILVER MEDALLIST for 1890; also FIRST, SECOND, and THIRD-CLASS HONOURS IN EVERY GRADE.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.
ADDRESS:—No. 40, Sherburn Terrace, CONSETT

FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.
GEO. McCANN,
RAILWAY HOTEL, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
PRESENTS his Compliments to his numerous Patrons, and wishes them all the Compliments of the Season
Fine Old Malt Whiskey, 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle.
Fine Old Irish Whiskey, Quarts, 3s 6d.
Special Scotch, 12 years old, 4s per bottle.
Fine Old Jamaica Rum, 2s 6d and 3s 6d per bottle. Quarts, 3s 6d.
Fine Old Ales, Stouts, Wines, and Spirits, all of the best quality. 184t

A GRAND DISPLAY OF CHRISTMAS GOODS AT
FOSTER, RUSSELL, & Co.'S
GROCERS AND DRAPERS.
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.
A LARGE VARIETY OF GOODS SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.
SEE THE WINDOWS.
Their Grocery and Provision Departments are Stocked with a variety of CHRISTMAS GOODS —Currants, Raisins, Muscatels, Figs, Oranges, Grapes, Apples, and a large assortment of CAKES at Lowest Prices. They have also a supply of excellent Bacon, Shoulders, Rolls, Butter, Lard and Cheese of various kinds,—including Prize Cheshire from the great Cheese Shows.
THEIR DRAPERY DEPARTMENT
Comprises a Lot of Useful and Seasonable Goods suitable for Presents. White and Fancy Aprons; Silk, Lace, and Embroidered Motto Handkerchiefs; Pincushions, Point Guipore Collars, Mob Caps, Novelties in made-up Lace Collarettes, Ladies' Fur Top Lined Kid Gloves, Gents' Lined Kid Gloves, Gents' Silk Handkerchiefs and Mufflers, Ties, Collars, Shirts, Fronts, Hosiery, &c. 15t

HAMS. HAMS. HAMS.
ALL MILD CURED.
5½d. PER POUND.

BACON. BACON. BACON.
DELICIOUS FOR BREAKFAST.
4d. PER POUND.

SHOULDERS. SHOULDERS. SHOULDERS.
PRIME QUALITY.
4d. PER POUND.

FLOUR. FLOUR. FLOUR.
FROM THE MOST NOTED YORKSHIRE MILLS.
OUR SPECIALITY, 12s. 6d. PER BAG.

TEA. TEA. TEA.
1s. 6d. AND 2s.
AGENT FOR TORELLA TEA,
2s., 2s. 6d., AND 3s.

THOMAS SWAINSTON,
12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Public Notices.

NORTHUMBERLAND COLLEGE OF MUSIC, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—PRINCIPAL: MR. T. ALBION ALDERSON.—Prospectus with full particulars of Professors, Classes, Fees, &c., also, complete list of Certificates obtained by Students free by post. Special departments for young 842r

NOTICE.
RE JOHN SMITH AND SON, ARCHITECTS SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
THE Executors of the late John Smith, Architect and Surveyor, beg to announce that they have arranged for the PRACTICE, carried on by Mr Smith, to be CONTINUED under the direction of Mr W. S. SHELL, M.S.A., Architect and Surveyor, at the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, under the style of "Smith, Son, and Shell," by whom all Buildings in progress and contemplated New Works will be carried out.
Any Moneys due to or from the late Firm up to this date will be received or paid by
J. G. SMITH } Executors
26th June, 1895. J. W. COLLINSON, }

Public Notices

239 and 241 are the WINNING NUMBERS for the Cases of Birds raffled at Pit Hill.

WINNING NUMBERS of Christmas Drawing at Durham Road, Leadgate:—330, 55, 114, 89, 23, 153, 5. 240t

ST. IVES', LEADGATE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 16TH. PUBLIC TEA and LECTURE by the Rev. A. A. BODDY. Subject:—"My recent journey through the Holy Land." Magic-lantern views. See bills. 278t

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.
ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH HALL will be OPENED on Monday and Tuesday, January 29th and 30th, with a BAZAAR and ENTERTAINMENTS. Particulars to follow. 280t

PUBLIC NOTICE.
MRS. THOMAS ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Blackhall Mill, regrets to hear that there is a rumour that they have Fever in the house. She begs to assure her friends that such report is unfounded, and that there are no cases of Fever upon the premises. 970t

NOTICE.—The First Shotley Bridge and District 370th Starr-Bowkett Building Society will hold their 101st APPROPRIATION BY BALLOT in the Sons' of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Monday evening, the 20th day of January, 1896, at 7.30 p.m.—The Members clear will participate.—
By order, D. ORMEROD, Chairman,
183t J. GIBBINSON, Secretary.

R. S. BROWN,
BONESETTER.
Will attend Mrs. DODDS', QUEEN'S HEAD INN, ANNFIELD PLAIN, every Tuesday, from 9 o'clock a.m. till 12 noon.; also, Mr FORSTER'S, STANLEY, Tuesdays, 1 to 4 o'clock.

CONSETT WESLEYAN CHURCH.
ALL SEATS FREE.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 12TH.
Morning, 10-30 | REV. T. DURANT.
Evening, 6 | REV. W. RAISTRICK.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE
FOUNDED 1710.
Sum insured in 1894 - - £393,622,400
For further information apply to
Mr THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Jun., Agent at CONSETT. 261t

LESSONS IN PAINTING.
MISS COMPTON, WEDE PARK HOUSE, DIPTON, is now prepared to receive an increased number of Pupils for instruction in Drawing and Painting in Water and Oil Colours. Miss Compton's Paintings are on view to intending Pupils at her Studio, at above address, Wednesday, between the hours of two and five p.m.

SAMUEL MACE, DECEASED.
ALL PERSONS having any claims or demands against the estate of Samuel Mace, late of Salisbury House, Medomsley, are requested to send particulars of the same to me, the undersigned, at once.
JOHN TURNBULL,
Market Place, Durham,
Jan. 6th. 1896. Solicitor to the Executors.

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, Co. DURHAM.
DAY AND BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS.
A THOROUGH MODERN EDUCATION on reasonable Terms. Shorthand, Book-keeping, Science, and Music. Careful preparation for all preliminary examinations. Healthy situation. Next term, January 21st.—MONTAGU V. STEGGALL, B.A., Cantab, Headmaster. 254t

VICTORIA THEATRE
WEST STANLEY.
Lessee and Manager - MARK H. LINDON.
Acting Manager - F. J. DANIEL.
MONDAY, January 13th, and during the week, the Great Drama—
"THE WORLD'S VERDICT."

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
PANTOMIMES AT NEWCASTLE.
CARNIVAL AT OLYMPIA, NEWCASTLE.
ON MONDAY, the 13th of January, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT AND BLACKHILL at 5·15 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, and Lintz Green), for NEWCASTLE, returning at 10·50 p.m., the same day.
For further particulars see bills.
GEORGE S. GIBB, General Manager.
York, Jan., 1896. 257t

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.
SPECIAL SERVICES
Will be Conducted in the above Church, on SUNDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 1896, by the
REV. R. LEITCH, M.A.,
(Newcastle-on-Tyne, Moderator of Synod).
Service in the Morning at 10·30; Evening at 6.
ON MONDAY NIGHT, JAN. 13TH,
The REV. J. SMYTH-WOOD, M.A., of Sunderland, will Preach.
Service to commence at 7·30 p.m.
A Collection at the close of each Service.
Proceeds to meet recent defalcations at the Bank.

WEST STANLEY BAND CONTEST AND SPORTS.
THE above CONTEST AND SPORTS will again be held on WHIT-MONDAY, May 25th, 1896, when CASH PRIZES to the value of
£110
will be given for an OPEN BRASS BAND CONTEST (Own Choice): also £20 will be given for a Choir Contest (mixed voices); not to exceed 36 performers or under 26.
Judge—RICHARD STEAD, Esq., Choir Master, Straithwaite, Huddersfield.
Any information can be had by applying to the Secretary, WM. INDIAN, 17, Douglass Street, Stanley, R.S.O., Durham. 250t

POSITIVELY FIRST VISIT.
TOWN HALL, CONSETT.
POSTIVELY FOR ONE WEEK ONLY, commencing MONDAY, JAN. 13TH, 1896. Nightly at 8. Doors open at Seven-thirty. Select day performances on Wednesday and Saturday at Three o'clock. Popular prices, 2s., 1s., and 6d. Doors open at 2.30.
HARRY POOLE'S
MYRIORAMA.
Important additions:
JAP-CHINA WAR:
Tokio. The fall of Port Arthur. The Bombardment of Wei-Hai-Wei.
THE SPANISH ARMADA,
In Seven Grand and Beautiful Tableaux.
H.M.S. POWERFUL.
Poole's Consolidated Variety Confederation. All Star Artistes. Important engagement, at enormous expense, of The Wonderfull
LEOPOLD LEGLERE TROUPE
of Acrobats (Five in number).
MISS ANNIE EGGLER, Operatic and Ballad Vocalist.
JOHNNY O'ROURKE,
Negro Comedian, Instrumentalist, &c.
ENGIST AND ORSA,
Comedy Sketch Artistes and Musical Humourists.
LA FLEUR'S WONDERFUL PERFORMING ANIMALS. Domino, the Talking Donkey. Wild West Mule, Athletic Dogs and Boxing Dogs.
SIGNOR ROLINI, Burlesque and Sketch Artist.
POOLE'S LIVING STATUES. A night in Rome.
MR. FRANK FREELAND, Deputy Guide, Typical, Character, and Tyrolean Vocalist. The Original Mountain Guide.
Poole's Laughable Sketch, entitled, "I Show'd 'em.
HARRY POOLE'S ADMIRED ORCHESTRAL BAND, under the Direction of Mr. G. J. Yarwood.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.
MONDAY, JANUARY 13TH, 1896.
15 to 20 Prime Fat Cattle.
130 Prime Fat Sheep.
16 Ewes and Ewe Hogs, been tupped.
Pork and Store Pigs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
A few very useful Young Cows and Heifers.
A clever Dark Brown Dales Cob, 14 h.h., rising 5 years old, warranted quiet in saddle and harness, Spring Cart, Poultry, Harness, Horse Clothing, &c.
5 Tons well won old land hay.
Sale at One o'clock prompt.
289t J. S. MURRAY.

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

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Wm. Robinson.

Manor House, Medomsley, Saturday, Jan. 18th, 1896.
MR. W. ROBINSON, honoured with the confidence of W. H. Hedley, Esq., who is removing from the district, will offer for SALE BY AUCTION at the above place, part of his Valuable FURNITURE, PHÆTON, &c., comprising:—Large Ash Wardrobe, Painted Do., Kitchen Press, Bedstead, Single Do., 2 Feather Beds, Hair Mattress, Spring Do., Kitchen Tables, Toilet Do., Side Do., Hall Do., Chair and Writing Desk combined, Bentwood Chair, Child's Do., Patent Mangle, 2 Cribs, Bed and Bedding, Looking glasses, Large Glass Bracket, Glass and China Ornaments, Pair Venetian Ornaments, Dessert Set of 16 pieces (green and gold), Finger Glasses, Bronze Tea Urn, Telescope, Gasalier and Globes, Curtain Poles, Linoleum, Garden Roller, Lawnmower (new), Lady's Saddle, with patent Stirrups, Lady's Bridle, Stanhope Phaeton, Bath Chair, Tennis Net and Racquets, Pictures, Books, Music, Sewing Machine (Wilcox and Gibbs), Tongue Press, &c. For full particulars see posters.
Sale to begin at One p.m. prompt.
Sale Office—3 and 4, New Fines, Medomsley, R.S.O.

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

By Mr. J. Green.

Lanchester Stock Mart Co. (Ltd.),
MR. JACKSON GREEN, AUCTIONEER.
MONDAY, January 13th, 1896, at 1 30 prompt.
5 Young Cows and Heifers. 1 Veal Suckler.
7 Fat Cattle from Click-em-in, Langley West House, &c.
80 Prime Fat Sheep and Hogs, including some prime b.f. Wethers from Muggleswick, Madden Hall, Park House, Newbiggin, Manor House, &c.
1 Young Sow in pig. Horse Clothing, Rugs &c.
Entries taken to day of sale.
284t JOHN GIBSON, Secretary.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

High Row, Marley Hill, Monday, Jan. 20th, 1896.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON, respected with instructions from the representatives of the late Mr W. Harrison, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION at the above place and date, all his Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and other Effects. For particulars see bills.
Sale to begin at One o'clock. 272t

Sale of Cottage Property at Hill Top, Dipton.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON, favoured with instructions from Mr. J. Bolam, will OFFER FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION at Mr. R. Freick's, Grey Horse Inn, Hill Top, on Wednesday, January 22nd, 1896, at Seven o'clock in the evening,
THREE FREEHOLD COTTAGES,
with all Conveniences, situated at Hill Top, Dipton; as occupied by Messrs Smith, Oliver, and Keily, who will show the Property. The Cottages are let for £25 per annum.
For further particulars apply to Mr R. Freick, Hill Top; or to the Auctioneer, Dipton. 287t

SPECIAL NOTICE.
A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for Cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Office—Front Street, Dipton by Lintz Green Station

By Mr. John Crawford.

DON'T MISS THIS SALE.
MR. JOHN CRAWFORD has received a lot of New and Second-hand MAHOGANY FURNITURE to be SOLD on Monday first, Jan. 13th. The lots are now on view, and must be sold to make room for a large Drapery Sale 285t

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
T. D. DRYDEN, AUCTIONEER, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
Sales, Commissions, Valuations, and Auctioneering in all its Branches, at Moderate Charges, and Quick Settlements. T. D. D. has been commissioned by Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress Warrants under the Agricultural Holdings' Act. Authorised Emigration Agent for the Allan, American, Guion, and Other Lines.
OFFICES—67, FRONT STREET, CONSETT
(Next Door to North-Eastern Bank.)

WILLIAM RAW, AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, Land, House, and Commission Agent. Auction Sales conducted with experience, ability, and care. Prompt Payments. Appointed by His Honour, Judge Meynell, to levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888; also, Architect and Surveyor. Plans for Houses designed, and Buildings carried out for Convenience, Ease, and Comfort. Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill. 102t

Business Announcements

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
Wm. Aynsley, Esq., Chairman.
SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday—(The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday). 648q.

SOLOMON'S LINIMENT
IS A CERTAIN CURE FOR
RHEUMATISM, GOUT, LUMBAGO, SPRAINS, SWELLINGS, NEURALGIA, TIC, TOOTH ACHE, HEADACHE, INFLUENZA, COUGHS, COLDS, SORE THROATS, &c.

SOLOMON'S LINIMENT
Is Clean, Fragrant, Safe and positively Magical in its effect.
IT REACHES THE ROOT OF THE EVIL
PRICE, 1s. 1½d.

SOLOMON'S LINIMENT
CAN BE OBTAINED OF
THOMAS MILNER, Chemist, Consett; L. KAY, Grocer, Beamish; and of all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors,
AT REDUCED PRICE
Sent free by post for 1s. 3d. by the Manufacturers, The Proprietors of Solomon's Liniment, 21, Hawthorn Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 932s

GLENDENNING'S BEEF & MALT WINE.
THE MOST RELIABLE WINE FOR INVALIDS.
Composed of Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract and old Port Wine. It forms a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength. Prices: 3/9 Per Bottle; 2/- Per Half-Bottle.
Prepared only by W. Glendenning, Newcastle.
LOCAL AGENTS:—
ANNFIELD PLAIN.—J. LUMLEY, Railway Inn.
BLACKHALL MILL.—T. ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
BLACKHILL.—R. MURRAY, Royal Hotel, W. W. AYNSLEY, Grocer.
BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES, Burton House.
CONSETT.—W. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c.; T. D. DRYDEN & Co., Grocers, &c.; THOMAS MILNER, Chemist; JOSEPH MURRAY, Grocer and Wine Merchant; GEORGE PATTRICK, Chemist and Druggist, 5, Front Street.
DIPTON.—R. ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
ESH.—WM. OYSTON, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
LEADGATE.—WM. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c.; JOHN SNAITH, Coach and Horses Inn.
MEDOMSLEY.—JOSEPH C. DUNN, Royal Oak Hotel.
SOUTH MOOR.—M. DIXON, Oak Inn.
STANLEY.—WM. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c.; T. FORSTER, Wine and Spirit Merchant; J. ROBINSON, Family Chemist.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—M. ELSDON, Wheat Sheaf Inn.
SPEN.—R. BROWELL, Miners Arms.
TANFIELD.—JOHN IRWIN, Pack Horse Inn.
TOW LAW.—J. MOSES, Post Office.
CRAGHEAD.—S. LEIGHTON, Craghead Hotel. E. OXLEY, Punch Bowl Inn.
STANHOPE.—J. CURRY, Grocer and Wine Merchant.
Agents in every town and village
Prepared only by
W. GLENDENNING and SONS,
Newcastle-on-Tyne, 1275c.

DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
DELICIOUS MAZAWATTEE TEAS.
You can tell them by their Delicious Aroma, Dainty Fragrance, Softness on the Palate, Refreshing Effect, and Supreme Delicacy. Of Grocers Everywhere, 1/6 to 4/- per lb.

Business Announcement.

MOST MONEY LENT
on Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1790
12, PILGRIM STREET
(THREE DOORS BELOW BLACKETT ST.)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE, FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
CHEAP WATCHES.
GENUINE ENGLISH LEVERS £1 10s 0d
SILVER GENEVAS 10s 6d
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW

EDITORIAL NOTICE.

WE are compelled to hold over several reports of important meetings and other matters, owing to a pressure of news.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10TH, 1896.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

THE LATE MR JOSEPH OLEY.

By the death, at a ripe old age, of the late Mr Joseph Oley, of Shotley Bridge, one of the most familiar figures in North West Durham has passed away. His business as an agricultural auctioneer naturally brought him in close relationship with a circle of friends and acquaintances in the adjoining counties of Northumberland and Durham, and none in the same line of business were more respected than the deceased gentleman. Of an unassuming and retiring disposition, Mr Oley never took an active part in the work of our local public bodies, but in religion and politics his views were strikingly pronounced, having been an unfaltering member of the Wesleyan body, and an unswerving Liberal of the old school. There is an old house in Wood Street with an inscription which, I believe, has special reference to the settlement at Shotley Bridge of the wandering artizans, who in search of a peaceful home to ply their warlike art—that of sword making, an industry in which they are said to have greatly excelled. Mr Oley was simple in his manner and mode of life, and to that no doubt is due the advanced age to which he lived—a full quarter-of-a century beyond the allotted span. It is only a few months since I drew public attention to the successful effort of a few friends to touch the pulse and purse of the public in the way of acknowledging Mr Joseph Oley, and paying a tangible tribute to a blameless life. It is well that this was done, for Mr Oley well deserved to be the recipient of public favour, and those of us to whom he was personally known know right well how such a tribute of regard would cheer his heart at a time when he knew he stood on the confines of the tomb. The news of his death will be received with general regret, for Mr Oley was a man who chose to follow the even tenor of his way, being temperate in all things, winning many wellwishers and friends and few detractors. Verily, such a man surely sleeps the sleep of the just.

A Long Lease.

If people were only to wait and keep cool and labour the while, the ever-recurring difficulties which ever and anon arise would all be settled in the sweet by and bye. Just think of the quarry question within the jurisdiction of the Kyo Parish Council. The heart burnings in connection with it are beyond computation, but the clouds have at length passed away, and for the matter of one shilling per annum the Council will in future have the old worked-out quarry all to themselves for 999 years all told. After such a contract they may well sleep soundly, for at the end of the term named the most fastidious of them will not care to press for a renewal of the lease, nor to find fault with amateur gardners, or others, who, without permission, builds a greenhouse in its stoney bottom. Let me see; for it is a trifle interesting to note how the inhabitants of this wicked world will date their deeds and communications 999 years hence. The face of the earth is sure to present a very venerable aspect by that time, and the people will no doubt feel quite consequential when they date their letter: "Consett, January, 11th, A.D., 2,894!" Really now, 999 years is a pretty long lease, and if the Kyo Parish Councillors are wise in their day and generation they will cause their names to be inscribed on the sides of the quarry, in order that the coming ages may read the "writing on the wall."

Wars and Rumours of Wars.

At no epoch of our history since the wars with France in the opening decades of the present century, has the world been in such a disturbed state as it is at the moment. No good end will be served by casting imputations on this Government or that, nor on one Company or another. Such matters will form the subject of future consideration, and in themeantime it will take cool head and clear minds on the part of our ministers at the head of affairs to break the force of the billows which seeth and surge around our sea-girt isle, and until the storm is past. It will be well if hypocrities and cavelling politicians were to hold their peace—for to ask such gentry to lend practical aid would provoke their wrath and make them feel about as ill at ease as a fish when drawn from its native water. The hourly tidings from the Transvaal continues to form the all-absorbing topic of discussion, to the exclusion of the every day concerns of the hour. This is especially true of the North of England, from the circumstance, no doubt, that during the past few years hundreds of the flower of our artizans, labouring, and mining population, have gone thither in the hope of turning the last years of their lives to better account than they could possibly do in their native land. It is almost invariably the most intelligent and enterprising of the working class who go abroad, and they have been followed by young men of education in connection with the best families in the land. Such then are the class of men whom the Boers have refused to give the freedom of fairplay so dear to the heart of every Briton. It is the British settlers who are enriching the land by the toil of the workmen in the mines, and the enterprise of er capitalists—the Boers having neither energy nor talent for entering the paths of speculation, nor going into the darkness of the mines. It is known that a section of the population is composed of Germans, but it may be assumed that the majority of them devote their time to killing pigs and manufacturing sausage, just as they do in every town in the Unietd Kingdom. Had Dr. Jameson been a pork butcher the Kaiser would not have been so ready with his hasty and ill-considered message.

Public Opinion.

Blood is thikker than water, and there is no doubt whatever but the 'misadventure to Dr. Jameson and his dauntless band, consisting for the most part of Britons as intrepid as himself, has had the effect of rousing such a feeling of patriotism as the present generation has never before seen. During the past few days I have been brought into contact with military men connected with different branches of our service, and when the Boer question was raised I observed with pleasure that their eyes sparkled with animation, showing plainer than words could express that the blood of their sires ran in their veins, while not a few gave utterance to expressions of threatenings against the Boers, should they treat the prisoners now in their power with the severity and brutality which they have been known to use the men wearing the uniform of Queen Victoria before to-day. It may be that such exhibitions of feeling is natural to military men, but that such a sentiment is by no means confined to that class of men the following incident very conclusively proves. I entered into conversation with a Northumberland farmer on a recent stroll along an out of the way bridlepath, and as the Boer business was introduced, he all at once became excited and vowed that every man of them ought to be shot for their arrogance and narrowness of soul. He told me that his father was a border farmer during our wars with the first Napoleon, or Bonaparte, as he called him, and that several members of the family had nobly played their part in destroying the power of that tyrant. I delighted the old gentleman very much by reciting to him as many verses as I could remember of the rousing old ballad written by Andrew Scott, and entitled, "Symon and Janet." The ground work of the story is that in the year 1804 the beacons on the hills on the Borders were lighted by mistake, and a false alarm was consequently raised that the French had landed on our shores. It appears that Janet went to bar the door for the night when the sight she saw made her hasten to her lord and exclaim:

"O Symon! the Frenchmen are landed,
Gae look man, and slip on your shoon,
Our signals, I see them extended,
Like the red rising blaze of the morn."
"His waistcoat-pouch filled he with powder,
And banged down his rusty old gun,
His bullets he put in the other,
That he for the purpose had run."

It is recorded that Janet attempted to restrain her valorous husband who retorted:

"Let be wi your kindness," quo Symon,
Nor vex me wi tears and your cares,
If now I be ruled by a woman,
Nae laurels shall crown my grey hairs."

"Man," exclaimed the farmer, but our forefathers were grand fellows, and faith I'm not sure but we he added reflectively, would not be just as ready as they were in the day and 'our o' danger."

Announcement.
ONEY LENT
...ches, Jewellery Diamonds, and ... Plated Goods Cutlery, Guns ... &c., at
WILSON'S,
...shed and Largest Pawnbroker ... the North of England.
...tablished 1786
...RIM STREET
... BELOW BLACKETT ST.
... FIRST SIX DOORS IN ...
...
...TLE-ON-TYNE.
...AP WATCHES.
...SH LEVERS £1 10s 0d
...S 10s 6d
...HAT YOU GET TO ... RIGHT ...—No. 12.
...RUCTING ILLUMIN... ...WINDOW

...IAL NOTICE.

...o hold over several reports of ...ngs and other matters, owing to ...

...nsett Guardian.

...ANUARY 10TH, 1896.

...S BY THE WAY.

..."INCEDO."

...TE MR JOSEPH OLEY.

... a ripe old age, of the late Mr ...hotley Bridge, one of the most ...North West Durham has passed ... as an agricultural auctioneer ...him in close relationship with a ...d acquaintances in the adjoining ...mberland and Durham, and none ...usiness were more respected than ...leman. Of an unassuming and ...Mr Oley never took an active ...of our local public bodies, but in ...s his views were strikingly pro...en an unfaltering member of the ...nd an unswerving Liberal of the ...is an old house in Wood Street ...n which I believe, has special ...tlement at Shotley Bridge of the ...who in search of a peaceful ...warlike art—that of sword making, ...ich they are said to have greatly ...was simple in his manner and ...to that no doubt is due the ...which he lived—a full quarter-of-a ...allotted span. It is only a few ...public attention to the successful ...s to touch the pulse and purse of ...way of acknowledging Mr Joseph ...a tangible tribute to a blameless ...hat this was done, for Mr Oley well ...he recipient of public favour, and ...m he was personally known know ...a tribute of regard would cheer ...when he knew he stood on the con... The news of his death will be ...ral regret, for Mr Oley was a man ...w the even tenor of his way, being ...things, winning many wellwishers ...w detractors. Verily, such a man ...sleep of the just.

A Long Lease.

...only to wait and keep cool and ...he ever recurring difficulties which ...e would all be settled in the sweet ...ust think of the quarry question ...ction of the Kyo Parish Council. ...s in connection with it are beyond ...the clouds have at length passed ...matter of one shilling per annum ...n future have the old worked-out ...nselves for 999 years all told. After ...they may well sleep soundly, for at ...term named the most fastidious of ...e to press for a renewal of the lease, ...with amateur gardeners, or others, ...mission, builds a greenhouse in its ...Let me see; for it is a trifle interest... the inhabitants of this wicked world ...eds and communications 999 years ...of the earth is sure to present a ...spect by that time, and the people ...l quite consequential when they date ...onsett, January, 11th, A.D., 2,894!" ...years is a pretty long lease, and if ...Councillors are wise in their day and ...will cause their names to be inscribed ...e quarry, in order that the coming ...he "writing on the wall."

... and Rumours of Wars.

... of our history since the wars with ...opening decades of the present cen...orld been in such a disturbed state ...moment. No good end will be served ...putations on this Government or ...Company or another. Such matters ...ubject of future consideration, and ...it will take cool head and clear ...art of our ministers at the head of ...the force of the billows which seeth ...nd our sea-girt isle, and until the ...It will be well if hypocritics and ...cians were to hold their peace—for ...ntry to lend practical aid would ...wrath and make them feel about ...a fish when drawn from its native ...ourly tidings from the Transvaal ...rm the all-absorbing topic of dis... exclusion of the every day concerns ...his is especially true of the North of ...the circumstance, no doubt, that ...t few years hundreds of the flower ...labouring, and mining population, ...her in the hope of turning the Lest ...ves to better account than they could ...heir native land. It is almost invar... intelligent and enterprising of the ...ho go abroad, and they have been fol...ng men of education in connection ...amilies in the land. Such then are ...en whom the Boers have refused to ...m of fairplay so dear to the heart ...n. It is the British settlers who are ...land by the toil of the workmen in ...d the enterprise of er capitalists—...g neither energy nor talent for enter... of speculation, nor going into the ...e mines. It is known that a section ...ion is composed of Germans, but it ...ed that the majority of them devote ...killing pigs and manufacturing sau...hey do in every town in the Unietd ...d Dr. Jameson been a pork butcher ...ld not have been so ready with his ...considered message.

Public Opinion.

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...red rising blaze of the morn."
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...or the purpose had run."

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...e ruled by a woman,
...ls shall crown my grey hairs."

...aimed the farmer, but our forefathers ...llows, and faith I'm not sure but we ...lectively, would not be just as ready ...in the day and 'our o' danger."

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

[BY "WANDERER."]

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM HAY.

The death of Mr Wm. Hay, of Blackhill—through an unfortunate accident at the Consett and Blackhill Goods Station—takes away another familiar figure from our midst. Mr Hay had been employed at the Consett and Blackhill Station ever since it came into public use, and had been a servant at the old Carr House Station for a number of years prior to that period. He was much esteemed by everybody with whom he came in contact, and was one of those men who, by their never failing courtesy and genial good-will, make themselves respected and admired wherever they go. The congregation of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Blackhill, have lost a very old and valued member, Mr Hay having been connected with the Church for upwards of 27 years.

DR. SHANNON'S TESTIMONIAL.

Monday evening's meeting in the Co-operative Hall, Consett, was a huge success, and conveyed ample proof of the popularity and respect entertained towards this gentleman. His departure will be regretted by a large section of the Consett population. Patient, hard-working, kind, and considerate to a degree, seem to be the characteristic virtues meritoriously bestowed upon Dr Shannon in the numerous and eloquent tributes paid him by "his chief" and other friends in the speeches recorded in another column. Dr Shannon deservedly gained the appreciation of the poorer classes, both by faithful and consistent discharge of his duties, and his genial and sympathetic nature. The substantial testimonial—representing as it does all sections of our community—and raised entirely by voluntary subscription, is a pertinent and pleasing testimony to the regard and respect in which he is held, and is a standing proclaimer to the host of good wishes which Dr Shannon carries with him from the people of Consett for his future success in life.

Local and District News.

CONSETT

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA which opens at the Town Hall, Consett, on Monday evening, is without exception, one of the most marvellous exhibitions travelling. We have not space this week to devote more than a few lines to remind our readers of the excellent treat in store for them, but all who pay it a visit will be delighted.

Queen's Head Sick Benefit Society.—The annual supper of this flourishing society was held on Saturday last, at the house of Mr. Jas. Conway, Queen's Head Hotel, Consett. About 40 members and friends sat down to the really excellent spread provided by the host and hostess, and which was admirably served up by an efficient staff of attendants. After doing full justice to the good things provided, Mr. H. McArdle was voted to the chair, while Mr. R. Lowes acted as vice-chairman. The chairman opened the proceedings by an interesting address on the advantages of a sick benefit society, and especially on the superior qualities of this one, which distributed 12/- to each member, as compared with others. The usual toasts were duly honoured, and songs were rendered by T. Ruddy, H. McArdle, T. Seaton and others. A vote of thanks to the host and hostess was given for the admirable manner in which the supper was served, and also to Mr. Johnston for his services. Afterwards a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close by the singing of "Auld lang syne."

J. AND F. G. PEDLEY'S WAREHOUSE. New Goods for Winter. Send for Patterns. Letters receive prompt attention. Postal Address, Haworth, Keighley.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

A CORRECTION.—In our report of the proceedings in connection with the foundation service of the Primitive New Chapel at Annfield Plain, the following corrections have been sent us:—Mrs Greener subscribed £2 2s.; Mr Porter, £1; and £10 was promised by Mr Joseph Bainbridge. The total amount at the foundation stone laying was over £200.

BEAMISH.

Northumberland and Durham Miners' Permanent Relief Fund, Beamish Air Branch.—The yearly meeting of the above branch was recently held at Shield Row, when the following officers were elected.—Chairman Mr. John Robson; treasurer—Mr. Wm. Little; secretary—Mr. Thos. Potter; Committee—Messrs Wm. Maddison, Wm. Bryden, P. Harkness, and J. Lonsdale. The following are the returns for the year ending December 31st, 1895:—Widows and Children, £54 4s 0d; disabled members, £37 16s 6d; aged miners, £82 10s 8d; minor accidents, £79 1s 3d; death legacies, £29 0s 0d; petty expenses, £3 0s 11d; chairman and committee, £5; officers' salaries, at 1/4 in £., £32 1s 4d; total expenditure, £320 14s 8d. Income:—Members' contributions, £477 17s 8d; superannuation, £3 8s 11d; total, £481 6s 7d; which leaves a balance of £160 11s 11d forwarded to head office. The total number of members inconnection with the society are:—607 members, three widows, five children, three permanently disabled, and eight aged miners.

BLACKHILL.

In our list of this year's officers of the Blackhill Wesleyan Sunday Shool we omited to mention that Messrs Jas. Palliser and Ernest Robinson had been elected organists.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—Special Services will be conducted in the Presbyterian Church, Blackhill on Sunday next—Morning and Evening—by Rev. R. Leitch, M.A., Moderator, of Synod; and on Monday night by Rev. J. Smyth-Wood, M.A.

Supper.—On New Year's night, the members of St. Mary's League of the Cross held their annual supper in the League Room, Blackhill, about 80 members and friends sat down to the good things provided. After the tables were cleared, a social was held, glees were rendered by St. Mary's glee party. There was also other vocal and instrumental music rendered. The party broke up shortly before midnight, having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

BLANCHLAND.

Golden Wedding.—On Friday, Mr. Thomas Oliver and Mrs. Oliver celebrated their golden wedding, the happy couple having been married at Blanchland Abbey Church on the 3rd January, 1846. The event was marked by a family gathering in a quiet way, a few invited friends being also present. The aged couple, who are hale and hearty, were the recipients of many congratulations and good wishes. Mr. Oliver has been a resident in the village the whole of his life, and has lived in the same house and premises he now occupies, where he has carried on a successful business as grocer and carrier for upwards of half a century.

CASTLESIDE.

On Sunday week, special sermons were preached in the Primitive Methodist Church, by Mr John Moffitt of Tyne Dock, and on New Year's Day a sale of work was opened in the Board School by the ladies connected with the above church, which realised £20.

A serious accident befell Mr John Robson, farmer, Foxholes, on Tuesday night, about 7 o'clock whilst on his way home from Consett with his cart and horse. On entering the village, he was met by a dray cart, which came in violent collision with him, knocking him down, and the wheel then passing over him. It is supposed that it passed over his chest. The dray was, we understand, burning two lights at the time. This is only another evidence of the need of the village being lighted during these dark winter months. We have not heard since the time of the accident how Mr Robson is progressing. After the accident he was taken into Mr Buckham's blacksmith shop, and after he had somewhat recovered he was conveyed to his house by Mr Graham Golightly. Mr Robson was carefully attended to by Mr Buckham, Mr Golightly, and Councillor T. J. Muse. Much sympathy is felt for him and Mrs Robson.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

An Old Mansion House.—A historic old mansion-house at Chester-le-Street is now in course of demolition. This ancient mansion-house of the Conyers family. In the parish records the name of Conyers appears very frequently in Church affairs; being sometimes spelled Coniers and in other ways. The building now being pulled down was lately acquired by Messrs Lambton and Co., bankers, who intend building premises for their business there. The last baronet of the Conyers family, Sir Thomas, was found in the Poor's House at Chester-le-Street by Mr. Surtees, the historian of Durham, who at once instituted a fund for his relief, and was able to place the indigent baronet, if not in affluence, at least in comfortable circumstances at Durham, where he died.

EDMONDBYERS.

Ball.—The annual ball was held in the schools at Edmondbyers on New Year's night, about 30 couples being present. Mr. T. Dodd ably acted as M.C., whilst music of an excellent character was supplied by Mr. J. R. Wood, Consett (piano) and Mr. T. Nixon, Benfieldside (violin.) The affair was voted one of the most successful ever held, all the arrangements being efficiently carried out by the hon. sec., Mr. C. Featherstonehaugh.

KNITSLEY.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SOCIETY.—The usual entertainments were held in connection with this society on Christmas and New Year's Day, and were well attended.

LEADGATE.

On Monday night in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate, the Brooms Roman Catholic Amateur Dramatic Society presented the comic drama in two acts, entitled "The White Horse of the Peppers," (written by Samuel Lover), before a very large and appreciative audience.

TEA AND ENTERTAINMENT.—On New Year's Day, the tea and entertainment by the young ladies and gentlemen connected with the Wesleyan Society at Leadgate, proved a complete success. The trustees have cause to be thankful that they have such a noble band of willing workers to help in raising funds to defray current expenses. In the afternoon a goodly number sat down to an excellent knife and fork tea. In the evening a most enthusiastic entertainment was given to a crowded assembly.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST BAND OF HOPE.—On Saturday evening, the usual fortnightly entertainment in connection with the above was held in the school-room, Leadgate, there being a capital attendance, mostly composed of the "younger generation." Mr Marley, Leadgate, occupied the chair. The choir opened the programme by giving a very nice selection, after which Master Sheldon gave a harmonium solo in a manner which promised great things for the future. A capital reading by Mr P. Cameron followed, and then a very young lady (Miss Tinkler) creditably rendered a solo, the String Band next obliging with a tuneful selection. Mr Harrison Scott's rendition of a song in the Tyneside dialect so delighted all present that he had to respond to an unanimous encore, and gave another amusing ditty. A recitation was capitally contributed by Master H. Robson, followed by a stirring selection from the choir, and a nice solo from Miss Bell. Mr T. Thompson's reading was a most interesting one, and loud applause greeted a second excellent harmonium solo by Master Sheldon. After Mr H. Scott had sang "Jessie, the flower of Dunblane," the "piece de resistance" of the evening came on—viz., a humorous sketch, entitled "Is prevention better than cure," in which the parts were admirably sustained as under:—Mr Bounder, Mr Robert Pull; Tommy Atkins, Mr Peter Cameron; Miss Bounder, Miss J. Lee; Kitty Salter, Miss M. E. Robson. The sketch was a most amusing one, and caused roars of laughter. A flute solo by Mr J. Wailes, and one or two other items concluded a very successful entertainment. Mr F. Borthwick ably presided at the harmonium, and good service was also rendered by Messrs Thos. Dickinson and R. Ward (violins), and Mr John Wailes (flute).

MILKWELL BURN.

Choir Supper.—On New Year's Eve, a grand supper was provided for the choir of the above place, and after a most enjoyable evening had been spent, the choir sang several carols around the village. On New Year's night, a very impressive Sacred Song of Praise, entitled "Beacon Light," was rendered by the choir. Much credit is due to the choir for the nice manner in which they executed the musical part of this service, under the baton of Mr. Robert Robinson. Organist—Mr. Wm. Richardson. The connective readings were recited by the members of the choir.

SHOTLEY.

ST. CUTHBERT'S PARISH MAGAZINE for this month contains a chronicle of church events and also excellent and instructive articles.

STANHOPE.

Lawn Tennis Club.—The first annual ball in connection with the above club took place in the Barrington Schools, Stanhope, on Friday evening. The building had been splendidly decorated for the occasion, and the lady members of the club supplied excellent refreshments. The M.C.'s were Messrs John Bell and Robert Thompson, whilst the music—consisting of piano (Mr. John R. Wood, Consett), cornet, and violin—was everything that could be desired. About 40 couples were present, and a most enjoyable time was spent, dancing commencing at 8.30, and being kept up with spirit till four o'clock on Saturday morning.

STANLEY.

PRESTATION TO MRS WANDS.—Last (Wednesday) evening Mrs Wands, wife of Dr Wands, of Stanley, who has been conducting the mothers' meeting at Oxhill, was presented by the members of the same with a Silver Tankard, in recognition of two years' service. The presentation was made by Mrs Crennell, wife of the late vicar of Beamish. The tankard was supplied by Mr J. T. Castle, of Stanley.

TANFIELD.

Lighting.—The Tanfield District Council are proceeding with the lighting of the district. Sixteen lamps have been erected at Hobson Colliery, and on Monday night the village of Tanfield was illuminated, the first lamp being lighted by Councillor Warwick amidst great enthusiasm. The contractors for the lamps were Messrs T. A. Moffit and Co., Gateshead, who have been entrusted with the most of the lighting in the neighbourhood, and was carried out under the superintendence of Mr. R. Heslop, surveyor to the District Council.

WEARDALE.

It is proposed to form a naturalists' field club for Weardale.

The Weardale mineral exhibition is a grand success. Over £100 has now been realized by it and it is still open. The proceeds are to be given to the poor.

The sewing meetings, bazaar, and donations in connection with the Lanehead Wesleyan bazaar have realised £41, which will be applied to the reduction of the chapel debt.

The Guardians thank all the generous donors who have remembered the poor in the Stanhope workhouse this Christmas and New Year's time. A full account of the various presents was received but our space forbids their insertion.

Eastgate Parish Tea.—On Tuesday, the annual soiree and entertainment took place in the village school, which was crowded to hear an after programme of vocal and instrumental music by Mr. W. Pallister, Crook, and other friends, which was immensely enjoyed, as was a dance at the conclusion.

A Vicar's Golden Wedding.—On New Year's Day the Rev. George Monkhouse, Vicar of Heatherycleugh, in Weardale, and Mrs Monkhouse celebrated their golden wedding in a quiet way. There was a family gathering, and at night the church choir and a few friends were entertained to supper. Mr. and Mrs. Monkhouse were the recipients of innumerable congratulations and many presents.

On Tuesday, Sir Joseph Pease and his two daughters, with a party of ladies, visited the exhibition. The member for the division was received at the station by Messrs T. Dawson, J. Watson (Daddry), and J. Peart, St. John's, who, with the secretaries, showed the party over the exhibition. Sir Joseph congratulated those present on getting such a good collection together, as it was a credit to the dale. The party lunched and left by the 4.15 train.

Robberies.—While the tenants of the Hole Farm, Ireshopeburn, were absent a short time the house was broken into, and a bottle of spirits and provisions from the larder were stolen. The thieves also regaled themselves on the "baits" put up for the male members of the family, and the paraffin lamp was smashed. The police, who are actively investigating the matter, attribute the robbery to some one who must have watched the departure and known the house.—The Wesleyan Chapel, Westgate, was broken into and the poor's box and collections stolen. The box was found up Slittburn. There are no clues to the thieves beyond footprints.

CONSETT HOSIERY MILLS.

EXTENSION OF PREMISES.

Messrs F. R. Fenwick and Co., Hosiery Manufacturers, Consett, have this week opened a new addition to their premises, which practically doubles their productive capacity. The firm began business about 10 years ago, their premises then consisted of one storey only. So rapidly was the growth of their business that in four years they were obliged to make an addition, and four years later another extensive alteration was necessary. The latest extension is a second storey, being one huge workroom 67 feet by 42 feet. On entering the premises, immediately on the right is Mr. Fenwick's private office; and on the left, a very spacious stock-room behind this another stock-room, in which active hands are engaged in lying up and papering the goods, and further though, there is a large press room with three presses, two of which are heated by steam. There all the goods receive the finishing touches. On retracing our footsteps, we come to a work-room, on the right of these rooms, where all the gents' fancy half-hose and hose are made; here also are the flat machines for plain goods. At the end of this room is the engine-room, and further through, at the extreme end, is a very large wool warehouse. We again return and enter the mechanics' work-room, from this we ascend a private stair case which leads to the new work-room, which is arranged to hold 150 hands.—In one corner is an office for the use of the manageress. The work people enter the room from a broad stair-case, at the north end of the mills, leading from the yard, where two cloak-rooms and suitable accommodation is allotted to the girls. The firm makes all kinds of Kent hose and half-hose, and the fact that such extensive alterations have become necessary within 10 years speaks volumes for their enterprise and the quality of the goods they supply. On Thursday, Jan. 2nd, to commemorate the opening, the firm gave a tea to all their employees and those who had been engaged in the construction of the new premises, when about 230 sat down to tea. The urns were presided over by Mrs. Moffat and Miss Brown, while Mrs. Fenwick saw that everyone was attended to, and Mr. Sloane enlivened the proceedings with pianoforte selections, which were rendered with his usual good taste. This was followed by a miscellaneous entertainment and dance to which each employee had the privilege of bringing a friend. The room was very tastefully decorated, and the musical programme was well supplied by Mr. T. Hoffman, a few employees, and friends. Mr. Moffat asked for three cheers for Mr. Fenwick which was given in right good style, to which Mr. Fenwick suitably responded; after which all the company joined in with "He's a jolly good fellow." The company after spending a most enjoyable evening made homeward about 11.30 p.m. With these increased facilities at their disposal we hope the firm will continue to increase their trade, and thus benefit the town and district by their important industry.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 9th.—Before Lieut.-Col. Leadbitter-Smith, (Presiding), W. B. Van Haansbergen, E. W. E. Balleny, Wm. Logan, and J. Green, Esqs.

Refusing to Quit at Lanchester.

John McNamma, a miner, was charged with being drunk and disorderly, and also for refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr. John Smith, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester, on the 28th ult.—P.C. Robinson stated that the defendant was ejected from the public-house and when outside he used obscene language, and threatened that he would do for the landlord.—Mr. Smith attested that the defendant came to his house drunk and he was ejected twice, and he insisted upon being admitted. He accordingly sent for the police.—The Bench imposed a fine of 10/- and costs in each case; or in default one month's imprisonment.

Robert Sutton, miner, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and refusing to quit the Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester, on the 29th ult.—Inspector Daley attested that when on duty in the village about 7.30 on this particular night, he heard a disturbance in front of the Blue Bell Inn. The defendant was kicking at the door, shouting and swearing. When the defendant saw him he ran away. About an hour afterwards defendant had to be ejected from the public-house.—The magistrates imposed a fine of 5/- and costs in each case.

Assaulting the Police at Esh.

Charles Janes, miner, pleaded not guilty to a charge of being drunk and assaulting P.C. Clark, at Esh Colliery, on the 7th inst.—The officer stated that at eleven o'clock at night defendant was very drunk, and he dealt him a blow in the face.—Mr. Simpson, Gateshead, defended, and called witnesses to prove that instead of the defendant being the aggressor, it was the officer.—The Bench fined defendant 7/6 and costs for the first offence. The other charge was dismissed.

Owen Brannen, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and assaulting Sergt. Gilhespie on the 1st inst. Sergeant Gilhespie said that at about four o'clock on the 1st of January. He was very drunk. He rushed at the landlord of the Hamsteels Inn as he was standing at the door. He then hit the Sergt. in the face when he went in, and kicked him severely in the stomach and on the legs, and he had suffered considerably ever since. The Bench considered the offences proved, and fined him 7/6 for being drunk and disorderly, and 20/- and costs for the assault.

A New Year's Row at Langley Park.

A batch of miners were charged with fighting at Langley Park on New Year's Day.—P.C. Feasey attested that when he went into Front Street, he caught the whole of the defendants fighting. He stopped them, and one of the defendants inquired if they would get a summons. He told them they would, and the defendants then set to work again and finished the "battle." He heard one of the defendants say that he would fight any man, that was 10½ stones.—Defendants were all bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace, and to pay the costs.

Assault in a Mine at Hedley Hill.

David Logan was summoned for assaulting Robt. Bryant, at Hedley Hill Colliery, on Dec. 27th. Mr Oliver, Durham, prosecuted, whilst Mr Turnbull, Chester-le-Street, defended.—There was also a cross-summons charging Bryant with assaulting Logan at the same time and place.—Bryant stated that he was bringing a "kibble" of mud out-bye when he met defendant. He stopped the "kittle" in order to let defendant pass, and thus enable him to get out of the road. Presently Logan knocked him down, and struck him on the side of the head. He got up and pushed the "kibble" forward.—In answer to Mr Turnbull, complainant said that there had been a considerable amount of ill-feeling existing between them.—For the defence, Mr Turnbull stated that he had a different version of the case to give. It was rather remarkable that the defendant should give the complainant a violent blow, and that there should be no marks on the man's face. The complainant when coming out with the "kibble" endeavoured to jam him up against the wall. Logan stopped him twice, and then Bryant took a shovel and struck him a blow on the face. His client took the shovel from him, and then came out of the drift, made a complaint, and shewed that his eye was "bunged" up with grease, and the mark on his face.—Logan said that he went into the drift about 20 yards, and he heard the tub. Owing to there being only thirteen inches between the side of the drift and the end of the tub, he could not pass it. He thought the man in charge of the tub was named Barker, so he shouted to him. Bryant answered, "Get out of the road you b——," and pushed him and struck him over the face with the shovel.—P.C. Cox said that when Logan made the complaint to him his face was marked as if he had been struck by a shovel.—The Magistrates thought both parties were to blame, and bound them over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay the costs.

Interferring with the Police.

A miner named Joseph Fagan was charged with obstructing Sergt. Gillespie in the execution of his duty at Quebec, on New Year's Day.—The officer alleged that whilst he had a prisoner in custody, and taking him to the police station, the defendant got hold of the man, and requested him to let him go. Defendant then endeavoured to seize the prisoner when he was placing him in the cell. There was a crowd of some 200 people present.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined 5s and costs.

Theft of a Shirt at Lanchester.

John Lees, an old man, was charged with stealing a shirt, the property of the Lanchester Union authorities, on the 2nd inst.—Mr W. Brotherhood, master of the workhouse, adduced that on this particular morning the prisoner discharged himself from the 'House. He noticed the prisoner standing about the gates, and presently he saw a boy named Thomas Donnelly come up and give the prisoner a parcel. He went up to Lees, and asked him what he had got?—Prisoner said it was a shirt, and that Donnelly gave it to him. He questioned the boy as to what he had done, and he alleged that it was the old man who had asked him to get him one.—The shirt was valued at 3s. Prisoner further told him that his other shirt had got burnt at the coke-ovens.—Donnelly stated that when the prisoner was leaving the House he asked him to get him a shirt, as his other one was burnt. Witness did so, and he got the shirt (produced) from the sewing-room.—Inspector Daley stated he charged the prisoner with receiving the shirt, wellknowning the same to be stolen. Prisoner made no reply.—In answer to the charge in Court, prisoner said he was not guilty.—The Magistrates committed Lees to prison for 28 days.

A Gossip's Quarrel.

Mary Jones, of Corby Castle, was charged by Elizabeth Allsworth and her daughter with assault. There was also a counter summons. Mr Oliver (Durham), appeared for Jones. Mrs Allsworth said that Mrs Jones had called upon them, and asked her daughter who it was that had said she would have to remove. When her daughter refused to tell her who it was, she struck her over the face and knocked her down. They had to separate them. Two of Allsworth's daughters corroborated. Mr Oliver contended that it was a very unlikely thing that his client should go into the "lion's den" in this manner and take the aggressive.—Mrs Jones deposed that when she went into the house she wished them a "happy new year," and they asked her to sit down. Mrs Allsworth asked her if she had got removed yet. She said she did not intend to move, and the daughter came and assaulted her.—A woman named Robinson gave similar evidence.—The Bench considered the case against the Allsworth's proved, and fined them 2s 6d and costs each. The summons against Mrs Jones was dismissed.

Stone Throwing at South Moor.

A boy named Joseph Batey was charged with having assaulted an old man named Michael McKay, by having struck him with a stone. The complainant stated that he was at South Moor, and the defendant and some boys were throwing stones, and one struck him on the head. He had to go into Mrs Ellwood's house, to get his head washed as it was covered with blood. Mrs Ellwood's son came, and as he had seen the stone strike him he told complainant that Joseph Batey had thrown the stone. Another woman said that the accused and her son had been to Edmondsley, and had not come back until late in the afternoon of the day in question. Defendent could not be present to throw the stone. The Magistrates considered the offence proved, and fined Batey 2s. 6d., and costs.

A German Jew in Court.

Frank Halliday, and John Shield, miners, of West Stanley, were summoned for having assaulted a German-Jew named Shaftel Cohen, of Sunderland, a hawker, on December 30th.—Prosecutor stated that he called repeatedly at a private house at West Stanley, where the defendants were. He alleged that because he would not stand drinks, one defendant struck him, while the other threatened to stab him with a knife, although he did not see any weapon.—For the defence, two or three witnesses were called, who said that Shield was not there at the time, and the only thing that Holliday did was to offer him a drink. It was a woman that caught hold of the prosecutor.—The Chairman said that although the prosecutor was a foreigner, the Bench desired to treat him exactly as an ordinary British subject. However, there was not sufficient evidence against the two men, and they would be discharged. Complainant was called upon to pay 13s costs.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Benfieldside Edge Board Schools, on Wednesday afternoon—Mr. William Telford (chairman) presiding. The other members present were: Rev. A. Baillie, (vice-chairman), Rev. Father Foran, Rev. G. H. Ross-Lewin, Messrs. F. Walker, W. Ramsay, and the Clerk (Mr. R. G. Barclay).

Finance.

The Financial Committee recommended cheques should be signed for the following amounts:—Teachers' Salaries.—Boys' Department—£47 1s 8d; Girls' department—£43 10s 10d; Infants' department—£15 14s 10d; Derwent Street—£17 11s 6d; Salaries of officers £7 1s 8d; Accounts—£13 11s 6d; Pupil teachers' grants—£4; Petty cash, £10; Total, £177 12s.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Rev. A. Baillie, the cheques were ordered to be signed by Messrs Walker and Ramsay.

It Was To Pay.

The Finance Committee reported that the payment of £298 to the Public Works Town Commissioners was only due that day, and vouchers for the same would be produced at the next meeting.

An Important Matter.

The Finance Committee recommended the Insurance policies on the Board's properties be revised, and amalgamated into one policy, and then the new school be insured for £600.

On the proposition of Rev. A. Baillie, seconded by Rev. Father Foran, this was agreed to.

Attendance Officer's Report.

Gentlemen.—Owing to the Christmas holidays there are no school returns. During the month two parents have been summoned for irregular attendance of their children. The cases were adjourned until the 20th of this month.

A. McKEAN.

Caretaker's Report.

Gentlemen,—During the holidays the water in the cooking room has been attended to. Ashpits have been cleaned out; privies and water-closets have been white-washed. Nothing has been done with the grating in the Infants' School.

A. McKEAN.

The two reports were adopted.

School Committee's Department.

This report was read as follows:—Tenders for cementing the girls' yard were received as follows:—Mr. Airey, £155; Messrs Ayton and Sons, £98; Mr. D. Omerod, £73 10s.

The tender of Mr. Omerod was accepted.

The four head teachers met the Committee to talk over the proposed rules for assistant and pupil teachers. The rules were read, and on the motion of Mr. Baillie, seconded by Father Foran, it was agreed to recommend the Board to adopt them, and have them printed.

The Officer was instructed to watch the children of two cases who were brought up and adjourned from the 16th December for six weeks.

The grating in the galleries in the new infants' school have not been attended to owing to the holidays. The clerk is instructed to attend to it now.

The Committee recommend that the May Pole at Derwent Street be lent to the vicar and church-wardens of St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, for the 29th and 30th inst as applied for by Mr. Omerod.

The Clerk reported that he had granted the use of the cooking-room to the caretaker for an evening during the holidays, on the occasion of his daughter's wedding. The Committee recommended that this be confirmed.

Rules for the Teachers.

The Chairman explained that the code of rules were drawn up for the help and guidance of teachers in order to maintain the general efficiency of the schools, as well as to promote the welfare and comfort of the children, and to meet the suggestions contained in recent instructions from H.M. Inspectors. All the teachers to be at their posts at least 10 minutes before opening in the morning, and at least five minutes before the time of opening in the afternoon. The rules would apply to the whole of their schools.

After a short discussion, the rules were approved of, and the Clerk was instructed to have them printed, and a copy presented to each teacher.

The May Pole.

A letter was read from Mr. David Ormerod, on behalf of the vicar and churchwardens of St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, making application for the loan of the may-pole for the 29th and 30th inst.

The Chairman: I did not know we had such a thing.

The Clerk: Oh yes; we have one at the Derwent Street School.

Mr. Walker: Is it in the yard?

The Clerk: No; it is kept in the school.

On the proposition of Rev. A. Baillie, seconded by Mr. Walker, the application was granted.

The Use of the Schools.

Mr. Ramsay said when applications were made for the use of their schools the same should come before the full Board.

The Chairman stated if the applications could be brought before the full Board, it would be better.

Rev. A. Baillie: We could make it a rule that such should be done.

The Clerk: It was holiday time, or I would never have given permission.

It was agreed that if the applications could not be laid before the Board, the same should be left with the Chairman and vice-chairman, so as to deal with the same.

School Material.

On the motion of the Chairman seconded by Rev. A. Baillie, it was decided that the Clerk should order the material that was required for the several departments.

Connolly Before the Board.

The Clerk stated that he had received a certificate from Dr. Page, Medical Officer to the Ashburton Home, Newcastle, to the effect that Catherine Connolly was in good health. She had had no illness since she was admitted to the Home.

The Clerk stated that he had told Mr. Connolly the contents of the certificate.

Rev. A. Baillie: Mr. Connolly is present to-day again, and denies the accuracy of the certificate.

Mr. Connolly was called in, and he stated that his daughter had been ill since admitted to the Home. He wanted her home so as to help her mother.

On the proposition of Father Foran, seconded by Mr. Ramsay, it was agreed that no steps be taken so as to release the girl from the Home.

This was all the business.

LANCHESTER JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

An inquiry was held on Thursday morning at the Union Buildings, Lanchester, by Mr Rienzi Walton, M.I.C.E. The gentlemen present were—Mr Thos. Armstrong, representing the Tanfield District; Mr M. G. Armstrong, representing the Stanley District; and Mr Logan, Mr Muse, and Mr Oliver, representing the Lanchester District.

Mr Thos. Armstrong stated that his Council would be satisfied with the same representation as the other Urban Districts now had—namely, one elected member and the chairman.

Mr Logan said that this representation would meet everybody's approval, and this was agreed to.

The inquiry then ended.

COLLIERLEY PARISH COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held on Wednesday evening, in the Collierley Board School—the chairman (Coun. J. W. Taylor) presiding. Also present—Councillors Wm. Eltringham, J. F. Elliott, T. Clark, T. Reid, J. G. Taylor, D. Mole, H. Beetham, T. Gatiss, W. Jessop, and the Clerk (Mr W. Wilkinson.)

The minutes were read and confirmed, after which a circular was read relative to allotments.

HOSE PIPE.

Coun. Mole moved that a hose-pipe be procured for the village, but in view of the formation of the proposed Urban Council, afterwards withdrew his motion.

The Chairman observed that it was a very desirable thing.

Coun. Clark also observed that it was very necessary.

Coun. Gatiss thought that if a hose-pipe were obtained, it might be taken to extinguish fires which those interested did not desire.

Coun. Reid also wished to draw the attention of the Council to the insanitary condition of East Castle Cottages, stating that several complaints had been made to him about the nuisance in the rows, arising from ashpits full to overflowing, and channels left in an unclean condition, and he moved that the attention of the authorities be called to the matter.

This was seconded and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Armstrong for his attention to and reparation of the footpath in Kingpit Field.

NUISANCES.

Coun. Reid complained of the insanitary condition of the footpath from Flint Hill to Mountsett Fell.

Coun. Gatiss moved, and Coun. Elliott seconded, that the attention of the sanitary authorities be called to the matter.

ALLOTMENTS.

Coun. Gatiss inquired if the Council had been defeated in the above matter, intimating that statements had been made to that effect, and gave notice of motion that he would bring the subject up for discussion at the next meeting.

LEADGATE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

On Wednesday evening, the monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Public Offices, Front Street—Coun. Luke Nicholson, J.P. (chairman) presiding. The other Councillors present were:—Messrs Thomas Keenleyside, T. B. Dormand, H. Cheesmond, Geo. Nicholson, M. D. Greener, Thos. Foreman, W. Robson, W. F. Lane, W. McIvor, the Clerk (Mr. J. H. Coupland) and the Surveyor (Mr. Thos. S. Longstaff).

The Removal of a Wall.

A letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company, intimating that orders had been given for the wall in front of the Co-operative Stores to be set back, as requested by the Council.

The Temporary Road.

Another letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company pointing out that instructions had been given to the contractors to put the temporary back road in order.

Mr. Nicholson: What are the contractors doing at East Castle?

The Surveyor: They are not finished yet. The contractors have put a channel in, and it would be a good thing if they would put in another one at the opposite side of the road.

Mr. Nicholson: Is anything being done at Redwell Hills?

The Surveyor: Yes.

Who Belonged the Road?

Mr. Nicholson: I think we should call the attention of the Consett Council to the condition of the road from the railway to Prospect House.

Mr. Lane: I was going to mention the condition of this road. It was in a deplorable condition.

The Surveyor: The road belongs to this Council.

The Chairman: The Consett Council have nothing to do with the road from the public lamp to the Consett Iron Company's railway.

The Surveyor stated he had seen Mr. Bengough anent the road, and a man had been sent to scrape the same. It was still in a bad condition.

On the motion of Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Lane, it was resolved that the North-Eastern Railway Company's attention should be called to the condition of the road.

The Wooden Erection.

The Chairman reported that with respect to the wooden erections in connection with the Consett Iron Company's property, the matter had been fully gone into. They could not compel the wooden erections to be removed, until they could prove they were injurious to the health. The Consett Iron Company would not undertake to pull them down and build proper coal-houses. The Company had promised to erect back kitchens, and in the course of time very likely these erections would be done away with.

Mr. Greener: The Company are moving very slowly.

The Chairman: They are doing something, and that is sufficient.

THE TREE-PLANTING QUESTION. ANOTHER BREEZE.

This question again came up for consideration, and caused another "storm in the teapot."

The Chairman: I will call upon Mr. Greener to submit his notice of motion before the committee's report is read.

Mr. Lane protested against anything of the kind being done. He considered it was a most irregular procedure for such a thing to be done.

The Chairman: Nothing of the kind.

Mr. Lane: What rule in the Standing Orders are you going by to adopt such a course.

The Chairman: I am going by the Standing Orders. If Mr. Greener's motion is carried it will end the question.

Mr. Lane: If that is done, it will not be correct. There is the report from the Committee, and it should be read first.

The Chairman: I contend Mr. Greener's motion covers everything.

Mr. Lane claimed to have this question fairly considered. He did not think it was right for the Chairman to act in this fashion.

The Chairman: I am perfectly in order.

Mr. Keenleyside: I must say it is most irregular.

The Chairman: Do what you like. I am going to have the motion submitted first.

Mr. Lane: I say the Committee's report should be read. It is most unfair.

The Chairman: I am not going to be bullied in this fashion. I am determined to submit the motion first.

Mr. Keenleyside: Nothing of the kind.

Mr. Lane: I contend you are out of order. It is a question that should be settled by the members.

The Chairman: I hold the motion must come first, and I will move such be done.

Mr. Lane said he did not care whether they planted trees or not. It was the principle of the thing he was fighting for, and held they were out of order if they dealt with the motion first.

The Chairman said it was the regular procedure. It was necessary that such should be done.

Mr. Lane: I will withdraw my protest. I know what is going to occur.

Mr. Greener stated he failed to see the necessity for tree-planting in Front Street and Durham Road. If they had been "a model village" he would not have been opposed to it. If they looked at their footpaths and roads they would see where the money was required. Also there was a big sewerage scheme staring them in the face. He would move that the motion regarding the tree-planting should be rescinded.

Mr. Foreman seconded.

Mr. Robson said he would now like to know what the Committee did in this matter. He would move the report be read.

Mr. Nicholson seconded.

Mr. Lane: Is this in order?

The Chairman: I will now read the report if the members wish it.

Mr. Keenleyside: Why should the report not have been read before. It just seems that if a certain number of the members could do things right, and the others failed. It was unmanly and unprincipled to do business in this manner.

Mr. Lane: Quite right.

The Chairman: I must say there is too much feeling getting introduced into this question.

Mr. Keenleyside: You started it.

The Chairman: I did nothing of the kind. I am now going to put Mr. Greener's motion.

On a vote being taken eight voted for the motion, and four against it.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Mr. Lane: I must say that it is one of the most disgraceful pieces of business that ever came before the Board. There has been a clique.

The Chairman: I am connected with no clique. I have only done what is right.

Mr. Foreman said he must admit he had never seen such a disgraceful "scene" at any meeting that would compare with what had taken place that night. It was a disgrace.

At the request of the Chairman, the matter was allowed to drop.

Medical Officer's Report.

Gentlemen,—Since the date of your last meeting only one case of infectious disease has been notified to me, viz:—One of scarlet fever in St. Ives' Road. The fact that no case of enteric fever has been notified, points to the conclusion that the long epidemic has at last come to an end. I herewith submit to you the vital statistics of your district for the quarter ending December 31st, 1895, from which it will be seen that both the birth and death-rate are abnormally high. The death-rate cannot be attributed to diseases of an infectious nature, for out of 93 cases notified, only four were fatal. The cause must be looked for amongst diseases of an adventitious nature, and without the control of a sanitary authority.

GEO. RENTON, M.D.

Vital statistics for the quarter ending December 31st, 1896. Fifty-two births representing an annual rate of 45.6 per 1,000.—32 males, and 20 females. Twenty-eight deaths representing an annual death rate of 24.5 per 1,000—17 males, and 11 females.

Scarlet fever, 15 cases; diphtheria and croup, 1 case, and 1 death; erysipelas 7 cases; enteric fever 70 cases, 3 deaths. Total 93 cases and 4 deaths.

There has also been 1 death due to bronchitis; 1 to pulmonary consumption; 5 to diseases of the heart; 2 to diseases of the brain and spinal cord; 5 to diseases of the abdominal viscera; other diseases 10; making a total of 28.

The members considered the report a most satisfactory one.

The report was adopted.

Road to Crookhall.

A letter was read from the Consett Iron Company pointing out that they could not comply with the wish of the Council by making a thirty feet road to Crookhall.

Mr. Greener: There will be no road to this place except by Consett.

The Chairman: That will be the only cart road.

A Warehouse Wanted.

A letter was read from the North-Eastern Railway Company stating that sufficient facilities would be afforded for delivering the goods at Leadgate without providing a warehouse.

The Chairman: The Company will be providing a siding.

A Sewer.

The Clerk reported that according to the minutes for 1883 it seemed the old Board decided to purchase the sewer put in by the Leadgate Co-operative Society behind their property.

On the motion of Mr. Robson, seconded by Mr. Foreman, it was agreed the Council should defray the cost of the sewer.

Lanchester Joint Hospital Board.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board relative to an inquiry to be held at Lanchester, dealing with the representation on the Board.

Sanding the Footpaths.

A long discussion took place anent sanding the footpaths during frosty weather.

It was eventually resolved that the Surveyor should have power to sand the dangerous portions of the footpaths when necessary.

A New Public Building Required.

This question was again considered.

Mr. Lane said in his remarks at the last meeting there was a mis-statement.—He was put down to have said the Surveyor received £4 for cleaning; which should have been "that the Surveyor received that amount for storage purposes."

The Chairman said if they went in for a new public building it would cost £1,000.

On the motion of Mr. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. McIvor, the question was relegated to a committee, consisting of the whole of the members for consideration.

Surveyor's Report.

Gentlemen,—During the month a lot of scraping has been done on Durham main road and Redwell Hills Road, and also the scrapings have been carted away. The footpaths of most of your main roads have been ashed. A few loads of broken slag has been put on Redwell Hills and Watling Street ponds. Other general manual labour has been done. Attention has also been given to the gutters, conduits, &c., in wet weather. Total amount of highway payhill, £12 7s 6d.

Inspector's Report.

Gentlemen,—Since the last meeting, the ashpits, privies, and other manures have been fairly well carted out. I have given several notices which have had attention. Your day workmen have cleaned out your Pont settling ponds, also cleaned out the sewerage gutter at Iveston Bank Foot. The gas and Iveston oil lamps have burnt well. The Gas Company have removed the gas lamps as ordered. I wish you would get the new bye-laws; also the cow-sheds and dairies bye-laws ready. Cost of cleaning out settling ponds and Iveston sewerage gutter, £3 12s. I have collected and paid over to the treasurer, the sum of £225 9s 11d on account of General District Rate.

The reports were adopted.

This was the whole of the business.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

The monthly sitting of this Court was held on Wednesday in the Police Buildings, Consett, before Judge Meynell.

SUING THE WRONG MAN.

Israel Jacobs sued James Armstrong for the value of a watch sold by him.—A young man named Jas. Armstrong, said that the wrong man had been summoned. It was an uncle of his that had bought the watch. His uncle was now in Scotland. The representative of Israel Jacobs declared that the man who appeared was the man who bought the watch.—Defendant: It's a lie, sir; my uncle bought it.—His Honour: I will adjourn the case for both parties to bring further evidence in support of their respective claims.

Todd v. Southern.—In this case Southern was sued by Todd for the sum of £14 10s for work done.—Mr H. Wynn Parry, Gateshead, and Mr. Dickinson (of the firm of Dickinson, Miller, and Dickenson, Newcastle) appeared for the parties, and announced that it had been agreed to refer the matter to the arbitration of Mr William Martin Hancock; the case to be adjourned for two months, and his decisions to be made an order of the Court.

Jacobs v. Chisholm.—In this case Israel Jacobs of Sunderland, sued Ralph Chisholm.—Mr. McCartan, Consett, defended. Jacobs was represented by one of his assistants.—Jacobs claimed £4 an account which had been overlooked when they closed the account with defendant. Defendant's wife said the first time Jacobs had claimed £4, but on coming a second time he had claimed only £3 12s. The assistant said that this had probably been through the failure of one of their travellers to enter the sum in the books. His Honour granted an order for 4s per month.

Todd v. Towns.—Edward Todd claimed £50 for balance due on goods supplied by him to Robert Towns, deceased. Mr McCartan, Consett, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr H. A. Richardson, Newcastle, defended.—George Towns appeared and in answer to the summons as executor of his father.—Mr Joseph Pumphrey, who was called as a witness, said he had been living near the farm which was part of the Priestman estate. He estimated the value of the farm stock and crop at £517 at the time of the death of the defendant's father which occurred about three years ago. The estimate was a very general one. Defendant had lately been sold up, and the whole of the goods realised £169 9s 6d. The half-year's rent was £67, and the acreage was about 135.—George Towns said that soon after his father's death 31 of the cattle died of various diseases. He had paid a large amount of debts since his father's death.—His Honour gave judgment for the £31 0s 6d, and the balance *quondo acciderint*.

Blench v. Pace.—This was an action by Mr Blench against Richard Pace for the immediate possession of a public-house on Busty Bank, Burnopfield. Judgment by consent was given; the proprietor to take possession on the 27th January.

AN IMPORTANT RECEIPT.

Mr C. F. Cooke, Annfield Plain, sued Joseph Batey for balance of an account due. The books of the firm showed that only a portion of the money had been paid. Mr Leadbitter, Catchgate, defended.—Defendant produced a receipt in which the whole of the amounts were settled.—His Honour: That settles the question. I must nonsuit the plaintiff. His Honour, at the request of Mr Leadbitter, impounded the receipt for further examination.

A STANLEY DISPUTE.

Matthew Cunningham, Stanley, claimed from Patrick McGowan £50 damages, on account of a wall which had been erected by him and which, it was alleged, was a breach of the agreement contained in the conveyance of the property from the original vendor, and also asked for an order for the removal of the wall. Mr Joel, barrister-at-law, defended, Mr Oliver, Durham, prosecuted.—Mr Thomas Ernest Crossley, architect, of Stanley and Newcastle, said he had examined the disputed erection. The wall which had been erected by Mr McGowan, came 6½ inches beyond the direct line of the centre gable of the two houses. There were nine inches of spaces missing in the plans of the houses of McGowan, Cunningham, and Layburn. On the working plan from which the houses were built only seven feet six inches were allowed for the width of the archway between the disputed property and Mr Geo. Stacey's house, whilst it was in reality eight feet wide. The wall considerably darkened the windows of Cunningham's house. Other evidence was called on each side, and His Honour finally gave judgment for £1 damages and granted an injunction to take down the wall to the centre of the gable.

THEFT BY A BOY AT TOW LAW.

At the Wolsingham Petty Sessions on Tuesday, a boy named Thomas Richardson, of Tow Law (9), was charged with stealing from the shop counter of Henry Welch, grocer, Dans Castle, Tow Law, on ecember 28th, a purse containing £24 in gold, two £5 notes, and a cheque for 12/2.—Mr. R. G. Wooler defended. The defence was that the lad took the purse thinking it was a tobacco pouch, not expecting it to be a purse. He was apprehended by P. C. Banks on the Sunday. He had spent some of the money in train-fare to Crook, had bought a pair of skates and some more things.—Mr. Wooler asked for leniency as the boy was young, and hardly knew what he was doing when he took the purse.—His father was bound over in the sum of £20 for the lad's future good conduct, and to be forthcoming when called upon.

LANCHESTER.

Ball.—A very successful ball was held under the auspices of the Lanchester Private Quadrille Party in the National School-room, kindly granted by the Rev. Mr. Jepson. When the following ladies and gentlemen were present:—Mr. and Mrs. Kirtly, Mr. and Miss T. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Myers, Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Mr. and Miss L. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. McHatton, Mr. and Miss Pickergill, Mr. and Miss Minto, Mr. and Miss Scott, Mr. R. Hall, Mr. Window, Mr. H. Mace, Mr. G. Pemberton, Mr. J. and Miss Pemberton, Mr. Geo. Thompson, Mr. Hudson, Mr. Ed. Dixon, Mr. J. Ward, Miss M. Scott, Miss E. Scott, Mr. Jos. Parks, Mrs and Miss Hunter, Mr. Jas. Hunter, Mr. J. Johnston, Miss E. Dukes, Miss E. Hall, Miss Chinnery, Mr. J. Ridley, Mr. Nicholson, Miss A. and M. Snaith, Mr. Geo. Hanson, Wm. Wilson, Miss A. and M. Snaith, Mr. Geo. Hanson, Wm. Wilson, Mrs E. Lees, Mr. and Miss Donnelly, Mr. Jos. Chapman, Geo. Stones, Mr. and Mrs. Mountin, Miss Mountin, Mr. J. Jackson, Miss Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Sutton, Miss Ethel Scott, Mr. Williamson, Mrs. Hunter, Miss L. and Tilly Vaux, T. Wear, Mr. Brownlee, Miss Leary, Miss Hughes, Mr. R. Aynsley, Mr. and Miss Dixon, Mrs. Eger, Miss Brown, Miss Holt, Mr. James, Mr. R. Thompson, and others. Music was supplied by Mr. John George Minto, Esh. Everything went off in a successful manner, and all concerned are to be congratulated. The stewards were:—Messrs Wm. Parker, E. Myers, Jas. McHatton, John McHatton, J. Ridley. The M.C.s' were—Messrs McHatton and Kirtley.

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Football.

*** Secretaries of football clubs would greatly oblige us by despatching their reports so that they may reach our office not later than TUESDAY morning.

ASSOCIATION.

Kip Hill Wanderers 2nd, two goals; Lintzford, one goal.

Lizzie Celtic beat Pelton Fell by six goals to two, at Pelton.

Blackfine Juniors beat Consett Shamrocks Juniors by six goals to three.

Consett Swifts Juniors beat Blackhill Celtic, at Blackhill, by one goal to nil.

Andrew's House United beat Marley Hill Athletic, on the ground of the former, by five goals to nil.

DIPTON VIOLETS v ALLENDALE PARK JUNIORS.—Played on the former's ground, and after a hard game ended in a win for the Violets as follows:—Violets, one goal; Allendale, nil.

OXHILL VIOLETS RESERVE v TANFIELD LEA CÆSARS RESERVE.—Played at Tanfield before a good company. Oxhill had all the best of matters, and won easily by four goals to one.

DIPTON VIOLETS v CONSETT ATHLETIC.—On the former's ground on New Year's Day, and after a quiet game ended in a win for the Violets. Robson played well for the winners. Score—Violets, six goals; Consett, nil.

ALLENDALE LILYWHITES v BRADLEY WHITE STARS.—Played on the ground of the former. The home team won the toss, and elected to play uphill. The visitors kicked off, but were driven back. The Lilywhites scored two goals, but were only allowed one. Half-time—Lilywhites, one goal; White Stars, nil. On resuming, the Lilywhites had the best of the game, and scored four goals, a pleasant game ending—

Lilywhites..............................Five goals
White Stars..............................Nil

Referee, Mr T. Hanley, Allendale Cottages.

BLACKHILL ST. BEDE'S v CONSETT SWIFTS JUNIORS.—Played at Blackhill on New Year's Day, before a large crowd. The home team played downhill the first half. The game was fast and exciting, each goal having narrow escapes. Walton had hard lines with a shot that hit the upright. Stokell scored for the home team from a scrimmage in the goal-mouth. The Swifts tried hard to equalise, but Murray could not be beaten. Half-time—

Blackhill..............................One goal
Consett..............................Nil

The Swifts came away from the centre kick, and Noble shot into Murray's hands. The greasy ball fell from his grasp, and was rushed through. Finnighan dribbled through most of the home team and shot; Murray caught the ball and threw it out on to McArdle's toe, and he banged it past Murray for the second time. The Swifts continued to press, but Murray saved grandly. The home team roused themselves up, and tried hard to equalise, but Edwards and the backs were always on the watch to frustrate their efforts. The visitors still had the best of matters, and Robinson scored the third point. Perry again beat Murray, and a fast and exciting game ended with the score—

Consett Swifts Juniors..............................Four goals
Blackhill St. Bede's..............................One goal

Referee, Mr J. Smith, Blackhill.

DELVES LANE UNITED v CONSETT JUVENILES.—Played on the ground of the United on New Year's Day. The home team pressed continually, but could not penetrate the visitors' defence, therefore nothing was scored during the first half. The second half was well contested, United putting in some good shots, but could not score. The home team were awarded a "penalty," which was stopped by the goalkeeper, and before he had time to clear the ball was rushed through by the home forwards, scoring the first and only goal of the match. Result—

United..............................One goal
Juveniles..............................Nil

BURNHOPE YOUNG ROVERS v BURNHOPE BLACK STARS.—Played on the Rovers' ground. Lowerson started the ball for the Rovers, who soon made tracks for the Stars' goal, but the backs defended finely. Pigford came away down the wing, but only a goal kick resulted. Liddell got off and scored for the home team, but soon after Gilligan made a good run and equalised. Half-time—

Rovers..............................One goal
Stars..............................One goal

On resuming, the Rovers pressed, and Stobart added a second point. Liddell followed up by putting on a third, and the call of time found the score standing—

Rovers..............................Three goals
Stars..............................One goal

Rovers' team—Goal, C Watchman; backs, J Little and J Peller; half backs, J Winter, J Soulby, and A Clarke; forwards, Heslop, Liddell, Lowerson, Clough, and Stoddart.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS v BARBARIANS

This match was played on the ground of the former on New Year's Day before a large number of spectators. The Rovers were very strongly represented. The Barbarians were much weaker than was anticipated, owing to several well-known players being unable to play, and whose places had to be filled with substitutes almost at the last moment. Shortly after 2-30 the teams lined up, and the ball was set in motion by the Barbarians, who at once began to press. Reed, however, cleared grandly for the Rovers, and then, by good combination among the Shotley forwards, an attack was made on the Barbarians' citadel, but Fox cleared. Give-and-take play continued for about fifteen minutes, and then the Barbarians' defence completely collapsed, the Rovers adding four goals in quick succession, and when half-time was called the Rovers were still pressing. Score—

Rovers..............................Four goals
Barbarians..............................Nil

On the change of ends the Barbarians began to press almost immediately, and had very hard lines in not scoring, Smith and Moriand being particularly prominent in the attack. The home defence, however, could not be penetrated. Some determined attacks were then made by the home forwards, but for a long time, owing to brilliant play on the part of Lishman, Walton, Lynn, and Fixter, the visitors' defence remained unbroken, and then as at the close of the first half, their defence collapsed, and before the call of time the Rovers added two more goals to their score, an extremely pleasant game ending as under—

Rovers..............................Six goals
Barbarians..............................Nil

Referee, Mr Oliver, Shotley Bridge.

ESH VILLA BLUEBELLS v ESH WINNING LILYWHITES.

Played on the ground of the former, on New Year's Day, before a good muster of spectators. The home team won the spin of the coin, and chose to kick uphill. The visitors kicked off, but were soon forced to defend, and the home team, who had all their own way, quickly scored their first goal. The visitors restarted, but could not hold their own, and the Bluebells added No. 2. After the kick-off the home forwards came away with a rush, and scored their third goal, but it was ruled off-side. Not to be denied, the "Bells" pressed, and added two more goals to their score. Half-time—

Villa..............................Four goals
Lilywhites..............................Nil

After a short rest, the home team kicked off, but were playing a very lazy game. After about 15 minutes' play they pulled themselves together, and made it very warm for Clough (the visitors' goalkeeper), who stopped some very good shots, but at last the home team beat him with a swift shot, and soon after they scored another, and an uninteresting game ended—

Bluebells..............................Six goals
Lilywhites..............................Nil

ESH VILLA BLUEBELLS v BLACKHILL ST. BEDE'S.

Played on the ground of the former. The home team won the toss, and the visitors kicked off downhill, and soon made tracks for the home goal, but found E. Raine and his partner great stumbling-blocks. The home forwards began to press, and scored after ten minutes' play. The Bluebells got hold of the ball, and could not be checked until they had put the ball between the uprights, scoring No. 2. After the kick-off play became very even, but nothing further was secured in the first half. Half-time—

Bluebells..............................Two goals
St. Bede's..............................Nil

After a well-earned rest, the home team kicked off, and carried the ball into the Bede's goal-mouth, but their stay was very brief. The "Saints" got away with a rush, but could not score. The visitors, who were playing a good game right through, were expected to rub off the score against them, but found the Bluebells in good form, and to the delight of their supporters the home team played a good game, and made it hot for the Blackhill lads. Both teams strove their utmost to score, but nothing further resulted, and after an exciting and pleasant game the home lads won a capital victory. Final—

Esh..............................Two goals
Blackhill..............................Nil

CRAGHEAD ROVERS v TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS 2ND.

Played on the ground of the latter. The visitors won the toss, and the home team started. Some very even play transpired until the Rovers scored. The home team then braced up, and "Captain" Burns equalised. When the whistle went for half-time the score was—Craghead, one goal; Tantobie, one goal. On play being resumed, Craghead had hard lines, all the players being at the home goal, leaving a clear field when Walton got the ball and made a splendid run. The Rovers tried hard to overtake him, but failed, and he passing the backs shot a goal. The Craghead lads made repeated efforts to score, but were very much hampered by the home backs and goalkeeper. Their perseverance was rewarded by a goal, however, which made the score two each. The Co-operators again scored by a splendid shot from Burns. Some good passing, the ball was centred, and Craghead did score. They were awarded a "penalty," but the leather was kicked away again, and the home team pressed, Werley doing good work, and putting on the fourth point. Time was called, bringing to a close a very hard and exciting game as under—

Tantobie..............................Four goals
Craghead..............................Three goals

The home team was—Goal, J Beck; backs, Jos Hunter and H Green; half backs, Jas Campbell, R Weedy, and G Christy; forwards, T Burns, J G Long, M Saylor, T Walton, and T Morley.

LEADGATE PARK v CONSETT TOWN.

These teams met on the Park enclosure. Consett had not their full team, though their opponents were fairly represented. Consett won the toss, and elected to defend the entrance goal. W. Graham got possession, and took the ball well into the home quarters, but was quickly dispossessed. A miskick by one of the visitors' backs put the ball nicely in the centre, and the Park carried it through with a rush, scoring the first goal. On re-starting, Willey took the ball down the field and passed nicely. J. Wilson putting through. W. Graham very getting away again, but was fouled by [illegible], and the Park once more took the ball down and scored their third point within a few minutes from the start. Some midfield play followed, mainly through the agency of Wake, who was the only player who could make any headway against the homesters. The Park, however, were not to be denied, and rushing down [illegible] through number four. Kempster gave a corner, which was well placed amongst the forwards, and from the ensuing scrimmage, a fifth goal was scored. Immediately on the re-start, Kempster saved well, and it looked as if no further score was to be recorded before the interval. Blackwell got down and forced Crowther to save for the first time, and soon after the Park came away and scored the sixth. Half-time—

Leadgate..............................Six goals
Consett..............................Nil

On resuming play, Consett put a little more life into the game, and managed to keep the Park from scoring, though they could make no headway against their opponents' superior play. The extent to which they were hemmed in was shown by the fact that Crowther picked up a ball on the centre line and kicked it to McClatchie, who nearly scored. Cartmell then got possession, and scored the seventh point, and soon after added another from a free kick close in. Willey immediately after put through the ninth, and Consett then made a rush into the home territory, but were quickly beaten back. Cartmell got possession from a miskick by Haggestone, and put the ball into the net. From the kick-off J. Wilson secured, and the forwards took the leather down into the visitors' goal, and four of the forwards made a rush which took both the ball and the goalkeeper into the net, scoring the eleventh goal. Consett then made a rush down, and forced a corner, from which they succeeded in rushing the ball through. With only a few minutes to go the Park pressed severely, and brought their score up to thirteen before the referential whistle blew. Final—

Leadgate Park..............................Thirteen goals
Consett Town..............................One goal

Referee, Mr A. Little, Leadgate.

DIPTON AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.
KIP HILL WANDERERS 2ND v FLINT HILL.

Played at Kip Hill, and after a good game the home team won by three goals to nil.

OXHILL VIOLETS RESERVE v LINTZ YOUNG ROVERS.

Played at Oxhill before a good company of spectators. The visitors started the ball, and ran down to the Oxhill territory, where Turner relieved and sent well up the field. Play ruled in midfield till the home left ran up to the Lintz goal, and Clennell shot the first goal for the home team. After the ball was re-started the Lintz ran down, and McKie was called upon to save, which he did in splendid fashion. The ball was carried up to the Lintz goal, and Dargue sent in the second goal for Oxhill amid tremendous cheering. Half-time—

Oxhill..............................Two goals
Lintz..............................Nil

The game was resumed after a welcome rest, and play ruled in midfield for a time till Mason took the ball to the Oxhill goal, and shot the only point for the Lintz. After this Oxhill took matters easily, and banged three goals through in seven minutes. The Lintz tried all they could to stop Oxhill from scoring any more, but the Violets would not be defeated, and won easily after a pleasant game—

Oxhill..............................Seven goals
Lintz..............................One goal

The following did duty for Oxhill:—Goal, H McKie; backs, Turner and Pearson; half backs, Armstrong, J Smith, W Hunter; forwards, T Connelly, R Smith, Dargue, J Clennell, and W Bewick.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LEAGUE.
OAKEY'S LILYWHITES A v BEARPARK.

These two teams faced each other at Bearpark before a fair number of spectators. The home team were not long in making tracks for goal, where they scored in three minutes from the start. From the kick-off the home team again pressed, and sent in a daisy-cutter, the visitors' custodian failing in trying to clear. This seemed to arouse the visitors, and they went away with a rush, only to be driven back. The "Whites" now seemed to have got the upper hand, and sent in shot after shot, but could not beat the Bearpark custodian. Wilson made a good run, and sent in the first goal for the visitors. Nothing more resulted, and when the whistle sounded for half-time it found the score—

Bearpark..............................Two goals
Lilywhites..............................One goal

From the re-start the visitors went away with a good deal of dash, treating the home supporters to a bit of fine play. The ball was sent across the goal-mouth, and Chisholm put his team on level terms. Each team was playing hard for the lead, and the visitors sending across again, Wilson headed through. The Lilywhites were having the best of the play at this period, and the forwards made a good run, Purvis sending in a shot which scored No. 4. The home team playing hard, gained three corners in quick succession, but the visitors' defence was good, and when the whistle sounded found the score—

Lilywhites..............................Four goals
Bearpark..............................Two goals

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LEAGUE.

Lizzie Celtic Reserve, five goals; Flint Hill Albion, one goal.

TANFIELD LEA CÆSARS v WHITE-LE-HEAD TEMPERANCE.

Played at Tanfield. The Temperance played four reserve men. Tanfield won the toss, and elected to play downhill. Temple started for the Temperance, who soon made tracks for the home goal. Bird sending by. Smith secured, and getting well down shot in, but Gladders fisted out. Pyle received and transferred to Bird, who crossed to Adams, and the latter shot through, but was pulled up for off-side. From the free kick Pyle again robbed the Tanfield right wing. Cox got away with a run, and caused the home custodian to fist out. Cochrane received and placed well in, Cox shooting through, but an appeal for off-side was allowed. From a free kick Ridley headed through for the home team. Half-time—

Tanfield..............................One goal
Temperance..............................Nil

On resuming, the home team got well up, but Cockburn relieved. The Temperance now pulled themselves together, and went down with a rush, and Adams scored for the Temperance. From the centre kick Gladders placed well in, and out of a scrimmage Temple scored a beauty. Tanfield, roused at this reverse, went away with a rush, and Smith looked like scoring, but Atkinson was upon him and cleared well. Ridley retaliated, but Pyle and Atkinson stopped their rushes. From a free kick Cockrane just missed scoring. The Temperance forward rank now began to press, and from a pass from Temple, Adams scored No. 3. A miskick by one of the home backs gave the Temperance another chance, and Adams again scored. The Tanfield team were now beaten. A shot from Cox was neatly stopped by the home custodian. The Temperance still pressed, and Atkinson scored again, and when the whistle sounded time the Temperance were the victors. Score—

Temperance..............................Five goals
Tanfield..............................One goal

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.
LINTZFORD v LINTZ ROVERS.

These teams met on the former's ground on New Year's Day in beautiful weather, and before a large "gate," the home team easily defeating the Rovers by four goals to one. Referee, Mr A. Little, Leadgate.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v BYER MOOR

These teams met at Byer Moor, before a fair attendance. Brown (the home skipper) won the toss, and elected to play uphill towards the entrance goal. The home lot at once got up, but were repulsed. Not to be denied, they again pressed, and when dangerous one of the visitors handled within the twelve yards line. A penalty kick was awarded to the "Moorites," which Pharoh took. With terrific force he sent the ball in, but it struck the bar and went over. The Park now pressed, and after 20 minutes' play, from a well-placed corner, headed through, and at half-time led by one goal to nil. In the second half, end-to-end play ensued, Byer Moor equalising, and no further scoring being done, a pleasant and hard-fought game ended as under—

Byer Moor..............................One goal
Leadgate..............................One goal

Referee, Mr G. Gray, Marley Hill.

WHICKHAM v SPEN ALBION.

Played at Whickham before a good "gate." The home won the toss, and play was very even. Neither team could claim much advantage, but the home team were very quick on the ball, but could not score. The Spen now played up well and gave the home defence some trouble, a good shot just being got out under the bar amidst great excitement. The Whickham forwards put in some good runs, but were always pulled up by the visitors' backs, who saved well time after time. Half-time—

Whickham..............................Nil
Spen..............................Nil

Whickham soon began to show good form in the second half, and kept the visitors hemmed in, but Forster appeared to be a tower of strength to the Albion, who now seemed to play like a beaten team, which the home team were not slow to take advantage of, and Hickson put in a shot which completely beat Cox, and gave Whickham the lead. After this the home team completely ran round the visitors, and Arkless put in a lightning shot which Cox knocked out, only to see Burn head through beautifully, and score No. 2 for Whickham. When the whistle blew the score was—

Whickham..............................Two goals
Spen..............................Nil

Whickham—Goal, A Harris; backs, W Williams and J Scott; half backs, G Taylor, W Jobling, and J Jobling; forwards, Cheesman, Arkless, Burn, Hickson, and Henry.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.
HOBSON v PRUDHOE.

This return league fixture was played at the Hobson before a large company, which included a good following of the Prudhoe supporters. The ground was soft and greasy. The teams lined up in good time as under:—

Hobson Wanderers team:—Goal, J. McNeil; backs, J Weedy and W Liddle; half-backs, T Heslin, E Henderson, and E Muirhead; forwards, R Hindhaugh, J Gibbon, J Newbiggen, A Lown, and J M Maddison.

Prudhoe—Goal, M Scott; backs, Appleby and Cheesman; half backs, Dixon, Howdon, and Maughan; forwards, Kirkpatrick, G Thompson, Jackman, Fewster, and Tyson.

Referee, Mr Davey, Newcastle.

The home team won the toss, and Jackman started up the incline. The Hobson at once pressed, quickly securing a corner, but it was got away. Jackman ran up, but Kirkpatrick could not get up to take his pass, and the ball went into touch. Prudhoe again returned, and Thompson shot just over. From the goal kick the home right ran down, but Maughan managed to clear, and Tyson and Fewster indulged in a fast sprint, forcing a corner off Weedy, which came to nothing. Tyson secured and centred finely, but Liddle headed away. A run by the Prudhoe forwards gave the visitors a chance, but Muirhead stopped them. Still pressing, Prudhoe got close in, and after two or three exchanges in front of goal, Jackman beat McNeil, the referee ignoring an appeal for off-side. Maddison and Lown rushed down from the centre kick, but Howdon saved finely, and was conspicuous again just after for another good clearance. The Hobson forwards here put in some splendid passing, and got close in, but Cheesman and Howdon showed rare defence, and kept their opponents out. Scott had to clear from Hindhaugh, and then a foul against the Wanderers let in the visitors, who, however, made nothing of it. At this point the referee addressed a few words to the players, rather more roughness than was necessary being indulged in. Howdon placed a [illegible] corner, but Maddison ran nicely down the left and centred to Hobson, whose shot resulted in a [illegible] kick. Newbiggen, when he got away, sent [illegible] for the Hobson goal, but Tyson and Fewster got off, but passed too far forward. [illegible] Appleby saved easily, and Weedy cleared pressed. Dixon [illegible] the Wanderers still had the home forwards a chance, but Cheesman getting the homesters eventually [illegible] they put past. The disallowed for obstruction [illegible] Scott, but the point was disallowed. [illegible] After the Prudhoe forwards had reached the [illegible] Weedy, the Hobson [illegible] on, and been repulsed by Hindhaugh [illegible] visitors for a corner in good style. Muirhead let in the visitors after Thompson, which was badly placed, and soon after Thompson had another, and Appleby cleared. The latter Kirkpatrick a nice chance to get away, but Henderson allowed the ball to go into touch. Hobson further increased Prudhoe's position. The ball was well placed, and the visitors had a grand chance, but missed. A free kick for a foul threw followed to the Hobson, who allowed the ball to roll slowly over the goal-line. Appleby cleared in the goal-mouth by giving a fruitless corner, and then the Hobson had a fine opening, but Fewster sprinted away, and a good centre was put past. Howdon robbed the home left, but Maddison again secured, and shot by the home left, and Hindhaugh headed in, but after the ball Hobson came from the goal kick. The homesters attacked, and Scott saved at the expense of a corner, which Hindhaugh cleared finely, enabling Jackman to get away, but Lown stopped him. Appleby cleared close in, and Hindhaugh got off. Kirkpatrick passed, Gibbon robbed Gibbon, and "hands" gave the visitors a chance, but Henderson came over to stop the danger. A free kick for "hands" Henderson put over the top. The Hobson forwards did some clever passing, but Cheesman checked them, and Prudhoe got up. Heslin returning. Cheesman and Appleby here exhibited fine defence, and kept the home forwards out. Prudhoe lost ground, but Kirkpatrick shot past from Tyson's centre. After Fewster had gone up, put by Hindhaugh got away and centred finely, Scott only saving weakly, but Lown sent over the goal-line. Hobson pressed severely, and should have equalised. Half-time—

Prudhoe..............................One goal
Hobson..............................Nil

The visitors resumed without Howdon, who retired from the field at half-time for some reason, and took no further part in the game. No sooner had the leather been set in motion than the Hobson took up the running, and nearly equalised at once, but only a goal-kick ensued. After the home team had again put by, Gibbon placed well in, but Cheesman cleared with a big kick, to which Weedy replied with vigour, and Hindhaugh headed in, but when the Hobson forwards attempted to put through the ball stuck in a sea of mud. The home team pressed very strongly, and nothing but a grand defence kept them from scoring several times. Scott fisted out in good style, and then the Wanderers all but scored through Weedy robbing him cleverly, only for Tyson to secure and run down, shooting past. Cheesman had to clear from Gibbon, and then some beautiful passing by the home forwards ended in the ball going past. The Hobson had all the play, and it was marvellous how they were prevented from scoring. Lown put in a tremendous shot, but Scott tipped it over the bar, Lown putting past from the corner kick. Dixon cleared another corner to the Hobson, but Muirhead returned with a fine shot, and Scott threw out. Jackman ran down, but the ball was quickly back in the old quarters, and Newbiggen sent over the line. Lown and Maddison passed nicely up, the former centreing, but Appleby cleared, Hindhaugh returning just past the upright. The Hobson were continually attacking, but their shooting was miserable. Henderson checked Fewster, and then Jackman put in a really grand run, a corner resulting, from which McNeil effected a magnificent save. The home left ran up, Lown sending in a splendid shot, which Scott barely saved, and then the left centre, and Scott conceded a useless corner. Maddison then ran down through the Prudhoe backs with a fine effort, Cheesman just robbing him in time. From a corner by Maddison, Scott again saved, and Hindhaugh had a rare opening, but the visitors' defence was grand, and withstood all attacks. Liddle placed in grandly, a corner resulting, followed by a second, from which one of the Hobson men forced the ball. About 12 minutes before the close, Lown centred cleverly, and Hindhaugh equalised amidst tremendous cheering. There was now no holding the Wanderers, Lown quickly placing them ahead, while to make the victory secure Gibbon added No. 3 from Newbiggen's pass. Prudhoe were now thoroughly beaten, the final coming with the score—

Hobson..............................Three goals
Prudhoe..............................One goal

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.
FIRST DIVISION.
DIPTON WANDERERS v RENDEL.

Played at Benwell, and after a hard and even game resulted in a win for Rendel by two goals to one. The visitors were only moderately represented.

DIPTON WANDERERS v SOUTHWICK.

The return game between these teams attracted a very large attendance to the Dipton ground on New Year's Day. Teams:—

Dipton—Goal, A Tuson; backs, T Rowell and M Evans; half-backs, R Coates, E. Buck, and J Milburn; forwards, J. B. Robson, W Ellis, W Gray, H Bolam, and T Walker.

Southwick—Goal, Newrick; backs, English and Stewart; half backs, Graham, Lambert, and White; forwards, Jackson, Hodge, Welch, Crute, and Ord.

The home team won the toss, and elected to defend the top goal. Hodge kicked off for the visitors, but Milburn placed badly, and the ball went past. From the goal-kick Jackson made a good run, but Rowell tackled him successfully, and sent on to Walker, who made a tricky run, just missing the goal. Dipton again pressed severely, Walker once more having hard lines. Soon after the Wanderers secured a corner, the ball striking the upright and going out. After some splendid play by Ellis the home team secured another corner, which was only got away with difficulty. "Hands" off Coates relieved the pressure for a while, but Robson soon put the visitors on the defensive again, compelling them to give a corner, which he placed splendidly for Gray to score amid loud cheers. From the centre kick Southwick got up and secured a free kick, but to no purpose, and the Wanderers were soon swarming round the visitors' goal, Ellis only missing by inches. Dipton still pressed until Ord made a grand run, eluding the backs, but Tuson saved grandly. Jackson received the return, and sent over the bar. "Hands" off Evans gave the "Suddickers" a chance, but the free kick was easily got away. A foul off English gave the home men a grand opening, but after a tough scrimmage Southwick cleared their lines. Dipton gained a corner soon after, Robson placing well, and Buck almost scored. The Wanderers continued to press very heavily, the defence of the visitors being sorely tested. Fine play by Robson and Gray ended in Bolam getting an opening, and scoring No. 2. The homesters came again in fine style, Bolam again doing the needful amid much excitement. From the kick-off the visitors got up and secured a corner off Rowell, but this was well cleared. Dipton ran down and got a free kick close in for "hands." Buck placed well in, but English cleared finely. The Wanderers still continued to show grand form, sending in shot after shot, and were awarded an abortive corner. Half-time—

Dipton..............................Three goals
Southwick..............................Nil

Immediately after resuming, Dipton secured a free kick for a foul throw in, and Walker receiving ran up, but the ball went into touch. The home team still continued to maintain the upper hand till a foul off Gray gave the visitors a good chance, of which they took full advantage, Ord centreing well for Welch to head a good goal. From the centre kick the home team got up, Bolam missing a good chance. "Hands" off Evans in a good position was well placed, Rowell giving a corner, which was badly put in. Southwick now began to show up better, Ord sending on top of the net. Tuson only cleared with difficulty, and Gray dropping down, Hodge secured and scored an easy goal. Dipton pressed, and two fruitless corners, and then some good play was witnessed on both sides, a capital shot by Buck being well stopped by Newrick. Soon after Tuson saved twice grandly, while Rowell did some great work in the visitors' quarters, and after some really good play by the Wanderers Ellis scored again amid loud cheers. Crute ran down, but was pulled up by Rowell, who sent well up the field, Bolam missing by inches. After some good play in midfield, Dipton secured a corner, which was finely put in, and Bolam headed through grandly. From the kick-off Ellis made a splendid run nearly the whole length of the field, and sent in an excellent shot, Newrick making a fine save. A free kick for "hands" nearly brought disaster to the home team, Rowell all but putting through his own goal, a corner resulting, which was fruitless. A minute or two later Crute sent in a magnificent shot, but Tuson saved grandly. Excitement ran high, but Tuson proved equal to the occasion, and got the ball away grandly. Final—

Dipton..............................Five goals
Southwick..............................Two goals

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "OFF-SIDE."]

THE HOBSON TURN THE TABLES.

Owing to circumstances which I need not here recapitulate—they will be fresh in the minds of my readers—the return fixture, under the auspices of the Tyneside League, between the Hobson and Prudhoe, gave rise to more than ordinary interest. The visitors did not lack support, as they were accompanied by a pretty numerous following, who continually urged on their favourites with shouts of encouragement. The game was a somewhat peculiar one, as, although the Hobson probably did three-parts of the pressing, they were a goal behind till about ten minutes from the finish, but after they had once drawn level the issue was quickly placed beyond the region of doubt, and, curiously enough, the score at Prudhoe was exactly reversed, the home team winning by three goals to one. It was not a great game by any means, but the heavy and slippery turf had a lot to answer for in this respect, and round about the goal-posts there was a veritable sea of mud, in which the ball often dropped dead, and would not budge until a large amount of force had been used.

I don't think that even the Prudhoe men themselves would deny that the best team won on the day's play. In the second half there was only one team in it. Although it is but fair to mention that during this period the visitors had to do without the services of their centre half (Howdon), and this undoubtedly handicapped them. It is more years ago than I care to remember since I first saw Mat. Scott between the sticks, and I was more than a little astonished on Saturday to find that he still retains nearly all his old ability, and is yet a long way from being done with. Appleby and Cheesman are a sturdy pair of backs who never shirk their work, and if there is half a chance of them getting the ball you may bet upon them coming off successful. Howdon did some fine work at half in the initial "45," while both Dixon and Maughan are clever players, the left wing easily "took the cake" amongst the vanguard. Fewster probably being one of the fastest forwards in the two counties, and he has a capital partner in Tyson. I should say that this pair would be particularly dangerous on a dry ground. Jackman makes a useful centre, but the right wing were extremely moderate, and not to be compared to their colleagues on the other wing.

The great fault observable on the Hobson side was the execrable shooting. The forwards working the ball up cleverly time after time, only to see all their efforts thrown away by a miserable shot from one or other of the front rank. It is true that they had to face a very powerful defence, but still they should have scored on many occasions before they did. Lown played one of his finest games, Gibbon coming next. Maddison, although rather weak at first, eventually settled down and showed splendid form, but I have seen Hindhaugh do much better, and Newbiggen is not a centre forward. The halves, without doing anything savouring of brilliance, are a good level trio, Henderson being perhaps a trifle in front of the wing men, but there was not much in it, and Muirhead's proper place is undoubtedly at half. Weedy carried off the honours further behind, and has developed into a grand back. I understand that Liddle has been "out of sorts" for some weeks, and this will account for the fact that his display was scarcely so prominent as usual, although he was generally equal to all the calls made upon him. McNeil had only about three shots to deal with during the afternoon, but made one superb save in the second half at a critical time, as had he been beaten on this occasion it is extremely likely that the visitors might have pulled through.

THE PARK BEAT THE "SAINTS."

Of course, it does not do to treat football too seriously at the "festive season," and therefore I am not going to comment at length on the Tyneside League game at Leadgate on New Year's Day. The visitors—Gateshead St. Cuthbert's—arrived three short, but were generously supplied with capable substitutes by the home club. The latter played two reserves in the places of Frank Foreman and Anty Burnhope, and ultimately secured the necessary two points by a victory of four goals to one. Wilson played a capital game at back for the Park, and is an extremely useful man. The halves all worked hard and well, but the forwards were not up to concert pitch, Bell and Milburn being perhaps the best. The "Saints" are evidently a pretty fair team, their defence especially being praiseworthy. Two of the "subs." (D. Cartmell and W. Robson) did service for the Gateshead men. Several of the players were evidently suffering from "first-footing" exploits, and their play suffered in consequence. The game was a very pleasant one, fouls being few and far between.

HONOURS EASY AT BYER MOOR.

After an absence of six weeks, Byer Moor made their bow to their supporters on their own ground on Saturday, when they stage-managed a strong reserve team of Leadgate Park. Considerable interest was centred in the meeting of the teams, as the Park occupy a handy position in the table, and they were bent upon squeezing a couple of points out of the Byer Moor lads, but, like many other teams who have visited Byer Moor this season, they found "Jack as good as his master." Barring one fatal mistake, when he allowed the goal to score which equalised the game, Veitch gave a grand display in the Park goal, especially in the first half. Harry Foreman was the pick of the backs, Cartmell in the opening stages being often at fault. The halves tackled well, while the forwards, when they had once settled down, took a great deal of stopping, particularly the outside left, whose name, it was rumoured at Byer Moor, was Wattsford, and who, with Hunter, some few seasons back formed the strong left wing of the Park senior team.

Hodgson once again gave a brilliant exhibition between the home sticks, and fully maintained his reputation. At back, Lamb, for a wonder, was decidedly "off," but his partner (Tom Leighton) made amends for his colleague by playing a splendid game. Cool, calm, and collected, he was always there when wanted, his kicking being well-timed. Pharoh did wonders amongst the halves, and for judgment and determination he has few equals in the district. Keefe also did well, sticking to his opponents like a leech, while Joe Brown, although lacking the judgment of his comrades, worked like a horse. Among the front rank, Nicholls in the centre wandered too much out of his place, and as a consequence his wings were unable to shine as they should have done. Individually, W. Brown and Leighton worked hard on the left, but Clasper and Allan, for reasons mentioned above, were scarcely so conspicuous as usual.

DIPTON'S FIRST WIN IN THE ALLIANCE.

After their somewhat unlucky defeat at Southwick on Christmas Day, Dipton were confident that they would win the return a week later, and the sequel proved that their confidence was not misplaced. The Wanderers played a splendid game, more especially in the first "45," when they completely ran away with the "Suddickers," and the latter have cause to be grateful that they were not more than three goals in arrear at half-time. Both in attack and defence, the winners were very strong, Tuson shaping admirably in goal. The forwards probably played the best combined game that they have done this season, and previous to the interval completely over-matched the visitors' defence. "Tucker" Walker signalled his re-appearance in the team by giving a capital display. English (the old Sunderland back) was the pick of the Southwick defence, while the two extreme men (Welsh and Ord) did grand work in the forward rank, some of their runs being really splendid.

AN AFTERNOON'S SHOOTING PRACTICE.

It was generally expected that the Consett team were in for a drubbing by the Park on Saturday, but few, if any, looked for such a severe defeat as the visitors really sustained. Neither team were fully represented, though perhaps Consett were the worst off in this respect. As soon as the game started the Park ran down and popped their first point through, and after that the game was simply a series of attacks by the home forwards. The Leadgate men never really let themselves out, or the defeat, heavy as it was, would have been much heavier. Spectators have no cause to complain on the score of goals, for they saw fourteen points put on, and the visitor's custodian bundled into the net about five times.

The only man on the Consett side who showed any energy was "Bob" Wake, and had a few more of his colleagues played as well as the left half, the score would have been considerably diminished. Of the Park team little can be said, as they had pretty much their own way, and consequently did not exert themselves a great deal. Both "Tommy" and Joe Wilson were in good form, and seemed to enjoy the "shooting gallery" immensely. The backs and goalkeeper had very little to do, Crowther getting over the centre line several times in the second half in his search for work. McClatchie got well forward, and nearly scored with several shots.

THE TEMPERANCE WIN AWAY FROM HOME.

Although they had to journey to Tanfield without McKiver, Reay, Cain, and Spinks, White-le-Head managed to pull off a handy little victory of five goals to one—and with it a pair of useful points at the expense of the Cæsars. The Temperance custodian (Gladders) stopped some smart shots in fine fashion. Cockburn and Richards were safe at back, their tackling being excellent, while the halves—Pyle, Cochrane, and Gilliard—were perhaps the strongest part of the team, Pyle stopping many dangerous rushes on the part of Smith and Ridley. The pick of the forwards were Bird and Atkinson, the latter fairly waltzing round the home halves, Temple, Cox, and Adams were rather slack in the first half, but improved considerably as the game wore on.

The most conspicuous of the Tanfield men were Ridley, Smith, and the left back, the two former putting in some fine runs, but Cockburn and Pyle generally managed to rob them. Milburn in goal had plenty of work, and did very creditably, notwithstanding that he was beaten five times. The Temperance have the following capital record:—Played 15, won 10, drawn 2, lost 4; goals for, 44; against, 27. Lizzie Celtic Reserve are due at White-le-Head to-morrow. Now, Temperance, don't let it be six goals to nil this time. Put your best foot forward, and let us see you give the Lizzie men a tight game.

HAMSTEELS WIN IN THE LAST FIVE MINUTES.

Blackhill Rovers journeyed to Hamsteels with a weak team—especially forward—Mr. McClay, Warwick, and Anderson being absent, and, in addition, they had to play one short throughout. From the start it was evident that the home forwards would have all their own way in the packs, the Rovers not once being allowed to get possession of the ball. The Hamsteels forwards managed to screw the scrimmages brilliantly, and gave their backs any amount of chances, with the result that the Blackhill backs had a lively time defending, but by hard work they pluckily kept out the home men until five minutes off the finish, when Dodds crossed the line, and still pressing, they ran in two more tries, and thus won practically on the post by eleven points to nil.

The visiting forwards played a plucky game all through, but were handicapped by the superior weight and strength of the home forwards, and only the strong defence of the Rovers' backs saved them from a crushing defeat. The Blackhill defence was very fine, as is shown by the fact that, although their forwards were quite overplayed, they kept their line intact until five minutes previous to time. Notwithstanding that the Rovers' forwards did their utmost, they were compelled to give way before the fast and strong rushes of their opponents. On Saturday the Rovers travel to Tyne Dock, where they will have all their work cut out to prevent disaster, as the "Dockers" polished off South Shields (the cup-holders) but a fortnight since.

DIPTON GIVE RENDEL A HARD GAME.

Rendel are a notoriously powerful team to tackle on their own ground, as nearly every team that has visited Benwell this season know to their cost, amongst the victims being Sunderland A and Bishop Auckland. When it became known, therefore, that Dipton had had to journey minus Morris and Evans, a crushing defeat was generally prognosticated for them. However, the Wanderers—who, by the way, are just now in rare form—came near giving the Rendelites a fright, as, by playing a fine game, they put on the first goal, and it was some time before the homesters could manage to equalise. The scores stood level till a few minutes before time, when Sam Wood headed through and won the game for the Benwell club.

Although defeated, Dipton are entitled to nothing but praise for the grand game they played under adverse circumstances. Morris, I understand, will probably not be able to take the field for some time, owing to a severe injury sustained at Southwick, whilst Evans was absent through a sad domestic bereavement. Rowell stood out as perhaps the best back on the field, showing magnificent defence. Brown—who, I take it, is the old Hobson Wanderer—shaped capitally in goal, and is a very useful man to be able to fall back upon. The halves tackled for all they were worth, while the forwards again exhibited good combination, Robson, in addition to scoring a fine goal, being very conspicuous. Dipton have only to keep up this form to quickly hand over the "wooden spoon" to some other member of the Alliance.

THE PROPOSED PRESENTATION TO MR WM. SMITH.

At the conclusion of the ordinary business of the Derwent Valley League, on Saturday night, the meeting proceeded to consider the question of the presentation to Mr. William Smith, the very able and popular secretary of the league. It was agreed that every club in the league should contribute 5/- towards the fund, and that the presentation should take place at a supper—the date to be arranged later on—to which each club must send two representatives. The following gentlemen were elected as a committee to bring the presentation into more practical shape:—Mr. T. Dixon, Lintzford; Mr. G. Grey, Marley Hill; Mr. J. Cairns, Lintz; and Mr. T. Amos, Hobson, Burnopfield, who was appointed secretary, and to whom all subscriptions must be sent on or before February 1st. I trust that all intending subscribers—and I have little doubt there are legions—will "not stand upon the order of their sending, but send at once." Mr. Smith deserves a real "bumper," and I feel certain that the presentation will be one of the most popular ever started in the district.

THE DRAW FOR THE JUNIOR CUP.

A meeting of the Challenge Cup Committee of the Durham Football Association was held on Monday night at the Three Tuns Hotel, Durham, for the purpose of appointing referees for the first round of Durham Cup, drawing the first round Durham Junior Cup, and selecting a team to oppose Cleveland on January 18th. Mr. A. Grundy, Whitburn, presided, and amongst those present were Messrs. T. B. Swinburne, Darlington; John Glover, Haughton-le-Skerne, hon. secretary; J. R. Douglas; A. Speak, Bishop Auckland; J. Conqueror, Southwick; R. Bennett, Gateshead; and others. I give the result of the draw so far as it concerns our local clubs:—

CONSETT DISTRICT.

A—Hobson Wanderers v. Lizzie Celtic.
B—Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's v. Swalwell Axwell Rovers.
C—Lintzford v. Greenside.
D—Consett v. Oakey's Lilywhites.
E—Lintz Rovers v. Leadgate Exiles.
F—Hedley Hill Terrace Rangers v. Consett Town Swifts.
G—Whickham v. Dipton Wanderers.
H—Kyo United v. Spen Albion.
I—Leadgate Park v. Byer Moor.

Gateshead District.
Gateshead Engineers v. Pelton Fell.
Craghead Rangers v. Ouston.
Birtley Reserve, a bye.

Bishop Auckland District.
Tow Law Reserve v. Howden-le-Wear.
Byers Green Star v. Stanhope.
Waterhouses and Esh United v. Stanley Albions.

There promises to be one or two very warm games in the Consett district, as, for instance, those between Hobson v. Lizzie, Consett v. Oakey's Lilywhites, Hedley Hill v. Consett Swifts, Kyo v. Spen, and Lintzford v. Greenside. The teams mostly fancied for the trophy have steered clear of each other in wonderful fashion, and we may expect some rare struggles in the next round. Marley Hill will probably give Axwell Rovers something to do, but the Exiles, Dipton, and the Park should all qualify for the next stage. In the Gateshead district, Craghead should beat Ouston, and Pelton Fell, although they have to travel to Gateshead, should give the Engineers a hard game. Tow Law Reserve can scarcely hope to oust Howden Rangers from the competition, and in the other game I fancy Stanhope, Wolsingham, and Waterhouses.

THE COUNTY TEAM.

The following team was selected to represent Durham v. Cleveland, at Darlington, on January 18th:—Goal, J. H. Allison, (Tow Law); backs, right wing, R. Pennington (Bishop Auckland), left, R. Thompson (Tow Law); half-backs, right wing, Monteith (Stockton), centre, R. Wilson (Leadgate Park), left wing, T. Martin (Gateshead N.E.R.); forwards, outside right, Wilson (Southwick), inside right, S. Ormston (Sunderland A), centre, Lowes (Darlington), inside left, Wilson (Bishop Auckland), outside left, Lumsden (Tow Law).

There is no doubt that this is a very strong team, and one which may be depended upon to give the Cleveland men some trouble. I hasten to congratulate the Park captain on his selection, which few, I think, will feel disposed to cavil at. "Tommy" Wilson is a fine player, and may be depended upon to do justice to himself and honour to the district. I had rather expected that Callaghan would have been chosen as goalkeeper, and I certainly think that he deserved a place, as there are few more consistent custodians in the county. At the same time, Allison is undoubtedly a good man, and Tow Law will have the honour of supplying three men to the team. Taken altogether, I think the committee are to be congratulated upon having discharged an extremely difficult and thankless task with much credit to themselves.

SAD DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN CRAGHEAD FOOTBALLER AND CRICKETER.

It is with much regret that I learn of the sudden death of William Cummings, of Craghead, who passed away last Friday after an illness only lasting four days. Poor Cummings was one of the best-known men in the Craghead district, being a prominent member of the Craghead Rangers Football Club, and was also one of the successful cricket team which brought the Durham Challenge Cup to Craghead last year. Deceased was highly respected and esteemed by all who knew him, and his place will be difficult to fill. In consequence of the sad event, the Rangers cancelled their games last Saturday. Cummings' remains were interred at West Stanley on Tuesday amid every sign of sympathy and respect.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

The usual monthly meeting of the above League was held on Saturday last at the headquarters, Rowland's Gill—Mr. T. Dixon (Lintzford) in the chair. Marley Hill protested against their game being awarded to Whickham, alleging the cross-bar was not the required size. The protest was not sustained. Marley Hill also protested against the qualifications of several players belonging to Lintz Rovers, but the protest was not sustained. Spen Albion questioned (by protest) the rulings of the referee in the game with Hobson Reserve, and after hearing both sides and the referee's statement, this was also dismissed. A protest by Lintz Rovers on the ground of encroachment of spectators, and the field not being properly marked at Lintzford, was answered to await the referee's statement. Lintz Rovers appealed again against the decision of committee with reference to their game with Whickham, alleging that Whickham were the cause of the game being stopped, owing to their late arrival. The committee, after a review of the evidence, ordered the game to be re-contested, Whickham to receive half-gate. The appointment of referees for February ended the meeting.

NEWS.

Frank Foreman is the reserve back for the county team.

I should like to see Frank get his cap, but he is yet young, and it is only a case of honours deferred.

It is a curious coincidence that no less than three players of the name of Wilson are chosen to assist Durham, and another one figures amongst the reserves.

While passing through Annfield Plain the other evening I had a look at the Sembetee Cup, which is on view at one of the silversmith's art, and well worth winning.

By the way, Pickering Nook are drawn to play St. Mary's R.C., Newcastle, in the second round of the above competition, the local club having choice of ground.

There will be a "battle royal" at Marley Hill to-morrow, when those "near and dear neighbours," Marley Hill and Byer Moor, meet in the return league match, and as the first game ended in a draw, visitors may expect to see one of the hardest-fought struggles ever witnessed in the Marley Hill district.

The veteran Mansell once more assisted the Park on Saturday, and can still hold his own with a lot of the youngsters.

Consett will have to improve a deal on Saturday's form if they hope to reach the next round of the Junior Cup.

It was expected in some quarters that the game at the Hobson would be a rather rough one, but I was pleased to say that such was not the case. The referee, Mr. R. Davey, kept a pretty tight hand on the players, and there was very little to complain of.

Yet another football player has joined the ranks of the Benedicts.

I refer to E. Keefe, late of Byer Moor, who on New Year's Day led his blushing bride to the altar "for better or for worse." "Neddy" first began his football career with the old Burnopfield club when dribbling was all the fashion, and he had few, if any equals, in that department of the game in this district. May his married life be a happy and prosperous one.

Allendale Lilywhites complain of being disappointed by Leadgate Young Park.

In reply to the challenge of East Stanley Heroes, Tanfield United think the Heroes should be satisfied when they have been defeated both at home and away.

The United are also of opinion that the Stanley men should procure a set of goal-sticks before issuing any challenges.

I have received a report of a match between Burnhope Young Rovers and Louisa Terrace, but about all I can understand about the match is that the Terrace had no goal-sticks, so how the game was played I am at a loss to know.

The Park skipper had a try amongst the forwards on Saturday, and gave them a lesson in shooting, bagging no less than five goals himself.

An important game amongst the "younger generation" come off to-morrow, when the junior teams of the Park and Exiles meet in a Consett and District Junior League match.

This will be a rare tussle, as the winners are expected to secure the championship of the league.

Hamsterley White Stars were disappointed on Saturday by Consett Young Juniors.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Result up to date:—

	P	W	D	L	Goals For	Ag't	Pts
Craghead Rangers R's'r'y	14	8	3	3	47	33	19
*Lintz Rovers	12	7	3	2	40	17	17
White-le-Head Temp.	13	7	2	4	35	26	16
Kip Hill Wanderers	12	7	1	4	29	28	15
*S. Medomsley Heroes	13	5	3	5	36	25	13
Lizzie Celtic Reserve	11	5	2	4	40	26	12
Byermoor Reserve	10	5	0	5	26	29	10
Tanfield Lea Cæsars	11	4	2	5	22	17	10
*Stanley Athletic	9	4	1	4	20	24	9
Kyo United Reserve	14	2	4	8	25	40	8
Burnhope Rovers	12	3	1	8	23	30	7
Flint Hill Albion	11	2	2	7	19	44	6

* Owing to Burnopfield Exiles resigning from the League, Lintz Rovers had four points deducted, and Stanley and South Medomsley two points each.

DIPTON DISTRICT LEAGUE.

Results up to date:

	P	W	D	L	Goals For	Ag't	Pts
Oxhill Violets	6	5	1	0	28	5	11
Flint Hill Lilywhites	7	3	3	1	19	10	9
Burnopfield Temp. Res.	7	3	2	2	13	10	8
S. Medomsley Heroes 3rd	6	2	3	1	14	11	7
Dipton St. John's	7	3	1	3	15	19	7
Kip Hill Wand. Reserve	7	2	1	3	8	12	5
Lintzford Juniors	6	0	3	3	5	20	3
Tanfield Lea Cæsars 2nd	4	0	2	2	2	8	2
Lintz Young Rovers	3	0	0	3	2	14	0

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P	W	L	D	Goals For	Ag't	Pts
Consett	11	6	3	2	30	18	14
Marley Hill St Cuthb'rts	9	5	2	2	20	15	12
Shotley Bridge Rovers	12	5	5	2	33	35	12
Whickham	14	5	7	2	19	46	12
Byer Moor	11	3	3	5	25	17	11
Leadgate Park Reserve	9	4	2	3	19	14	11
Lintzford	9	4	3	2	26	16	10
Spen Albion	9	5	4	0	25	16	10
Lintz Rovers	7	2	3	2	14	13	6
Hobson Wanderers Res	11	2	9	0	24	43	4

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

The table to date is as follows:

	P	W	L	D	Goals For	Ag't	Pts
Sunderland A	14	11	3	0	36	17	22
Blyth	11	8	2	1	37	14	17
Jarrow	11	6	1	4	25	15	16
Newcastle United A	14	6	5	3	25	12	15
Gateshead N.E.R.	13	6	4	3	30	22	15
Willington	9	6	2	1	28	13	13
Southwick	14	5	6	3	24	35	13
Shankhouse	13	5	6	2	22	17	12
Rendel	10	5	4	1	12	12	11
Hebburn	15	5	9	1	28	31	11
Birtley	11	3	6	2	12	28	8
Axwell Rovers	15	2	9	4	18	50	8
Newcastle East End	12	2	9	1	9	26	5
Dipton	10	1	7	2	12	21	4

MATCHES WANTED.

Consett Shamrocks Juniors are in want of matches; ages, 13 to 16. Apply, M Page, 20, Dixon Street, Blackfine.

Tow Law Lilywhites want matches; ages, 16 to 19. Address: John Currey, High Street, Tow Law.

Lintz Home Rulers are in want of matches; ages, 10 to 12. Address: W Nevin, Lintz Colliery, Lintz Green.

Hamsterley White Stars would like to arrange dates with junior teams; ages, 13 to 16. Apply, C Rudd, 10, Prospect Row, Hamsterley Colliery, near Ebchester.

Tanfield United would like to arrange matches with junior teams; average age, 16. Please note change of secretary—J Frame, Tanfield, Tantobie.

All clubs having dates with Tantobie Lilywhites are requested to cancel them, as the club is broken up.

Allendale Lilywhites have several vacant dates; ages, 11 to 13. Apply, John McClain, 5, Dean Bank, Allendale Cottages, near Medomsley.

Burnhope Young Rovers would like to arrange dates with junior teams; ages, 12 to 15. Apply, G Nicholson, 5, Fell Cottages, Burnhope, near Lanchester.

Burnhope Black Stars have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible. Apply, J Gilligan, 7, West Store Row, Burnhope Colliery, near Lanchester.

All clubs having dates with Tantobie Heroes are requested to cancel them, as the club is broken up.

All teams having friendly games with Tanfield Lea Cæsars 2nd are requested to cancel them. Note the change of secretary—J Smith, 5, George Street, Tanfield Lea.

High Row United have several vacant dates for junior teams; ages, 10 to 14. Apply, John Gardner, High Row, Swalwell.

Esh Villa Bluebells 2nd have all dates vacant; ages, 14 to 16. Apply, T Lock, Esh Village, Durham.

Hobson Young Wanderers have a few vacant dates; ages, 12 to 15. Apply, A Wilkinson, 96, Hobson Colliery, Burnopfield.

Crookhall Wanderers Reserve (late Delves Lane Excelsiors) would like to arrange matches with junior teams; average age, 16. Apply, E Harris, 15, Buddle Street, Delves Lane, Consett.

All clubs having dates with West Stanley Rovers are requested to cancel them, as the club is broken up.

Marley Hill Royal Oaks are in want of matches, and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages, 10 to 13. Apply to J Willey, 71, Marley Hill, Swalwell, R.S.O.

Blackhill St. Bede's Reserve (late Celtic) have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up; ages, 13 to 16. Address: S Johnson, 24, Roger Street, Blackhill.

All clubs having dates with Marley Hill Young St. Cuthberts are requested to cancel them, as the club is broken up.

Kyo United 3rd team have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible. Please note change of secretary—W Foggon, West Kyo, Annfield Plain.

All clubs having dates with Flint Hill Lilywhites are requested to note change of secretary—Jos Ramsey, near Railway Gates, Dipton.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr Murray had forward on Monday a large entry of fat stock of extra good quality. Cattle were an exceptionally good lot, but there was not a good demand, and prices were very irregular. The best class of sheep and hoggs made very good prices. Pigs were also a fair trade. 19 fat cattle: Heifers from Mr R. Dixon, £15 5s to £17; Mr Jas. Teasdale, £16 5s to £17; Messrs Anderson, £16 15s to £17 15s. Cows, £17 5s to £18. Sheep, of which there was a large entry, made fair prices, according to quality. Hogs to 45s, from Mr Johnson Pattinson; young sheep to 46s 6d, Mr W. Potts; Scotch wedders to 48s, Mr Pickering; ewes to 31s; bh ewes to 45s. Pigs, 16s 6d to £4 5s.

Chester-le-Street.—Mr. James Turnbull held his first sale this year in his mart on Monday. There was a large attendance of the usual customers, but trade was not so brisk as might have been expected, butchers apparently not having yet killed up all their Christmas purchases. The supply consisted of 35 fat cattle, 150 fat sheep, 17 grazing cattle, 16 new calved and in-calving cows, 10 pork pigs, 1 bacon pig, 20 young pigs, and 4 horses. Fat cattle to £20, top Mr. Joseph Hedley, Chester Moor; fat heifers to £19, top Mr. H. Potts, Harbour House; kyloe heifers to £15, top Birtley Iron Co.; fat cows heifers to £15, top Birtley Iron Company; fat cows to £16 12s 6d, top Mr. E. J. Weightman, Middle Herrington. Fat sheep: Shearlings to 48s, top the Birtley Iron Company; hoggs to 47s, top Mr. M. Thornton, Tribley; fat ewes, to 50/-, top Mr. T. Young, Broomyholme; Iceland shearling wethers to 34/-; bacon pig, £4 15s; young pigs to 29/6; pork pigs to 55/-. Milch cows were a duller trade, top price £19 5s; incalvers to £20; ponies to £12. This mart is announced to be held weekly from this date. Everything was cleared except about half-a-dozen young cattle. A consignment from Hexhamshire met a good trade at from £11 10s to £12 15s.

Throat Irritation and Cough.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d., tins 1/1½, labelled "James Epps & Co., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr. Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr. Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease."

Sporting Items.

COURSING.

Burnopfield.—In a field near the house of Mr. Dodds, Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, a large company assembled to witness a match between Mason's Piper, and McWater's Gashouse Lass, for £20, the best of 15 courses. Scores:—Gashouse Lass, 1, (no go) 01101111—7; Piper 0 (no go) 10010000—2. Betting ruled at 5 to 1 on the winner. Mr. R. Wailes, Burnopfield, officiated as referee; Wm. Dodds kept the scores; R. Bell slipped the winner; and J. Clements the loser.

Burnopfield.—On Saturday afternoon, at the above grounds, a match was decided between Regan's Blue Bell Lass and Riley's Merry Girl, who ran the best of 17 courses, for £30. There was a large attendance, and any amount of money was laid at evens. A one-sided contest resulted in an easy win for Blue Bell Lass. Scores:—Blue Bell Lass, 0111111111—9; Merry Girl, 1000000000—1. W. Laws, Clough Dene, was referee; R. Errington slipped the winner; while D. Forster was pistol-firer.—This was succeeded by a small dog sweep, Mr. T. White adding £6 5s for 16 dogs, at 8s 6d per lot, best of three courses. Results:—First round—Lynn's Jenny Ford beat Meggison's Paggaballa by 2 to 1; Barrons Lost Ticket beat Pearson's Coffee Cooler by 2 to 0; Need's Soft Lass beat Ledger's Tommy Roger by 2 to 0; Ledger's Grozer Cake beat Purday's Fred by 2 to 0; Everitt's Little Lady beat Wright's Dot; Waile's Wild West beat Riley's Merry Girl by 2 to 0; McGuire's Monkey Brand beat Meggison's Young Pedlar by 2 to 1; Morton's Monkey Puzzle beat Pears's Tipton Slasher by 2 to 1. Second round—Jenny Ford beat Lost Ticket by 2 to 1; Grozer Cake beat Soft Lass by 2 to 0; Wild West beat Little Lady by 2 to 0; Monkey Brand beat Monkey's Puzzle by 2 to 1. Semi-finals Crozier Cake beat Jenny Ford by 2 to 0; Wild West beat Monkey Brand by 2 to 1. Final—Grozer Cake beat Wild West by 2 to 1, and won. Referee, T. White; scorekeeper, Jos. Fenwick.

SHOOTING.

Tanfield Gun Club.—In past years this club has held three shoots per season, but this year it was decided to have one, the event taking place on Saturday afternoon, in a field adjacent the house of Mr. J. Irwin, Pack Horse Inn, Tanfield. The weather was dull and foggy, consequently many pigeons got away. Scores:—W. Stones, 19, 1111010; G. Charlton, 21, 1110101; J. Irwin, 0010011; T. H. Smith, 19, 1000111; D. Hogarth, 23, 0000001; R. Johnson, 23, 1011000; T. Green, 21, 0001011; W. Smith, 21, 0111111; F. Heslop, 23, 1100010; W. Thirlway, 18, 1011011; T. Irwin, 18, 1100111; G. Watson, 23, 1100100; Rd. Pace, 21, 1111111; R. Smith, 23, 01111010; J. Turnbull, 22, 0111111; J. Hunter, 18, 1111000; J. Coxon, 1110010. Mr Jos Watson, Tanfield, acted as referee, T. Green as bookeeper, and W. Thirlway as trapper. At night the members had their usual dinner at the above hostelry, Mr. John Turnbull occupying the chair, while Mr. Jas. Hunter filled the vice-chair. A social and pleasant evening was spent.

"LITTLE SHORT OF A MIRACLE."

SURPRISING AFFAIR IN YORKSHIRE.

Ejaculations of surprise greeted Miss Elizabeth Emsley, when met in the streets by former companions. Miss Emsley had been seriously ill; the doctors appeared to do her no good, and her cure was considered little short of a miracle. The case was noised abroad, and to make an independent inquiry, a reporter of the "Pudsey News" recently visited Mr. Emsley's home at No 9, Valley-road, Littlemoor. He says:—"I was accorded a hearty welcome. Mrs. Emsley told the story of her daughter's case. She said: 'Our Lizzie commenced to grow ill a year last Whitsuntide, that is, at Whitsuntide, 1894. She was then sixteen years old. We dallied a fortnight, but the pains all over her body, particularly in her legs and hands, became so bad that we were obliged to call in a most able doctor, who attended her for three months, but without recovery of health. The doctor declared it to be a case of rheumatism. She was not able to walk (without assistance) or kneel, and her hands were so much swollen that she could not have wrung a cloth if it had been to save her life.'"

An Interruption.

At this juncture of the interview a noise was heard outside, and one of the little ones cried "Our Lizzie's coming, mother," and immediately the subject of the interview came smilingly forward, and joined in the conversation. She had heard her mother's last remarks, and exclaimed, "Yes, sir, I could not stir; my father had to carry me to bed at nights, and fetch me down again in the morning, and I had to be 'paddled' about just like a child."

"Yes, that is so," put in the mother, "and she

Could Neither Dress or Undress

herself and besides being unable to walk or use her hands, could not even feed herself. Day after day and week after week passed without any signs of improvement, and she was confined to her bed.

"Well," continued Mrs. Emsley, we did not know what to do for her. We would take hold of her one on each side, and guide her to a neighbour's house fronting on to the main road, where she could sit in the doorway, and receive some pleasure by seeing people pass. Everything it was possible to get, which people recommended, I think we got, but of no avail."

"But she does not seem to ail anything now! What has cured her?" queried the reporter.

"Well," replied the mother, "we had read so much about the marvellous cures by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People that at last I said to my husband: What do you think if we try these Pills: to which he responded 'Well we have tried everything, I think we can try them.' Accordingly I went for a box. After taking the first box she could walk better. We continued getting the Pills, and she has mended ever since, and now sir, she can do anything as well as anybody almost. Yes, they have done her £20 worth of good, and she is now taking the twelfth box."

"Do you honestly believe and attribute your daughter's recovery to these Pills?" asked the interviewer, to which Mrs. Emsley emphatically answered "I do sir, and to nothing else," an opinion in which the father and the girl herself were equally confident. "And" continued Mrs. Emsley, "she has never had anything else since she started taking them. Before she had no appetite, but now she

Can get up at any Time,

is always ready for her meals, and can eat first-rate too."

"Have you any objection to this interview being published?" asked the reporter, to which both the father and mother promptly replied "No, not the slightest. It is true, as scores of people who are familiar with the case can testify, and who have told us that it should be made known, and we think that it is only right that people who are similarly suffering should know of it."

Mrs. Emsley mentioned several persons in the vicinity who had derived advantage from taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills on hearing of her daughter's case and cure. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills act directly on the blood, and thus it is that they are so famous for the cure of rheumatism, influenza, anæmia, scrofula, chronic erysipelas, and to restore pale and sallow complexions to the glow of health. They are also a splendid nerve and spinal tonic, and thus have cured many cases of paralysis, locomotor ataxy, neuralgia, St. Vitus' dance and nervous headache. They are now obtainable of all chemists, and from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, at 2s. 9d. a box, or six for 13s. 9d., but are genuine only with full name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People. A specific for all ladies' troubles, and for the numerous ailments of men which result from worry, and excesses, whether of work or otherwise.

THE LIGHTING OF WITTON GILBERT TOWNSHIP.

A ceremony full of interest to parish councillors Engineering Company, Limited, Newcastle, Wigan, Saturday night, when the lighting of the streets and roads of the township of Witton Gilbert by electricity was formally inaugurated. This installation, which has been erected by the Corlett Electrical Engineering Company, Limited, Newcastle, Wigan, and Lancaster, is probably unique as an example of incandescent electric lighting. A coupled high the inspection, the Council, reinforced by the Limited, Lincoln, drives a Crompton 250 volt dynamo which supplies current to about 180 16-c.p. lamps distributed over about 10 miles of wire, the furthest light being over two miles from the dynamo. The light having been switched on by Mr. Brass, chairman to the Witton Gilbert Council, the whole body of coucillors drove over the district and inspected the light, which gave great satisfaction, it being as bright and powerful at the most distant lamp as it was near the dynamo. After the inspection, the Council, reinforced by the Councils of the adjoining parishes of Kimblesworth and Plawsworth, which villages have recently been lit by the firm, adjourned to the Queens Head, where an excellent supper, prepared by Mrs. Stevenson was served. After supper the toast of the "Queen" was duly honoured. "Success to Parish Councils" was proposed by Mr. Holmes, and responded to by Mr Brass. The toast of "The Contractors" was proposed by Mr Brass, and responded to by Mr Corlett and Mr Fairweather. Mr More gave the "Army and Navy," and Captain Williams responded. A pleasant evening was spent under the presidency of Mr Brass.

The Mazawattee Ceylon Tea Co., have issued a useful Pocket Diary for 1896, which is even better than the preceding ones. This compact little book, is handsomely bound in limp, red cloth, lettered in gold, and neatly ruled throughout in red, three days to a page. It contains a complete Calendar for 1896, and a fund of other useful information. This unique Diary can be obtained from the numerous Family-Grocer Agents of the Company.

DURHAM MINERS' CONCILIATION BOARD.

THE MEN AND ITS PROPOSED ABOLITION.

MAJORITY AGAINST IT, BUT MANY NEUTRALS.

Saturday was the final day for receiving the results of the ballot amongst the Durham Miners on the question of abolishing the Conciliation Board. A great many of the large collieries have sent their results to the newspapers, and these, so far as they have appeared, showed general and in some cases large majorities against the Board. The whole of the returns had not been received at the Durham Miners' Hall on Saturday, and the staff was engaged in tabulating the results. No official information can yet be given, but the results show that the miners have voted strongly against the continuance of the Conciliation Board. It is expected that the cokemen will also be generally opposed to the Board, but the mechanics and enginemen are understood to have voted in its favour, so that it is somewhat uncertain what the final result will be. There is good reason to believe, however, that the majority is against the Board, which cannot be dissolved without six months' notice.

The ballot amongst the miners employed at the Burnopfield Colliery has resulted in about an equal number of votes being recorded for and against. The lodge secretary, however, is not at liberty to disclose the actual figures.

On Monday, a meeting of the Federation Board of the Durham Miners' Association was held at the Miners' Hall, Durham, under the presidency of Mr. John Forman, chairman of the association, to receive the result of the ballot of the miners of the county taken upon the question of the continuance or otherwise of their Conciliation Board. The result of the ballot was declared as follows:—

For the maintenance of the Board	14,894
Against	30,566
Neutral	20,000

The Secretary (Mr. W. H. Patterson) was thereupon instructed to communicate the result to the Coal Trade Hall, giving six months' notice of the Federation's withdrawal from the Board.

THE EPIDEMIC OF GLANDERS IN WEST DURHAM.

THE DISEASE STILL SPREADS.

The epidemic that recently broke out amongst the horses and ponies at South Tanfield Colliery, Oxhill, still continues, despite the strict precautions taken by the officials to prevent the spread of the disease. Several valuable animals have had to be destroyed in consequence of suffering from glanders.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.

GENEROSITY OF MR. THOMAS SPENCER OF RYTON.

Mr. Thomas Spencer of Ryton-on-Tyne has just sent the vicar of Consett (Rev. F. Steggall) a cheque for £70, which amount extinguishes the debt resting upon Christ Church for special expenses. Mr. Spencer has already contributed very handsomely towards the erection of the church and the extensive range of school premises. He also sends every Christmas a donation of five guineas towards the provision of rewards for the Sunday school children, but on this occasion Mr. Spencer has forwarded ten guineas for this purpose. We may add that about £900 has been raised for Church work in Consett during the past year.

BERLIN INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION 1896.

The Prince of Wales has been gracious enough to accede to a request made by the Exhibition Committee and has promised to lend his valuable prizes won in the Yacht Races at Cowes, also those presented to him and to the Royal Yacht Squadron Club by the Emperor Wilhelm. These magnificent presents will later on be handed to the London representative of the Exhibition to be forwarded to Germany. One of the special features of this gigantic Exhibition is to be an interesting and instructive Department of Horticulture. Five Hectars will be opened for the purpose of the Horticulture Section. This portion is being carried out under the direction of the Economy Councillor, Herr L. Spath, an acknowledged authority on Horticulture, and owner of the largest tree garden in Europe. Some 80 firms in Berlin and environs are here represented in a more or less prominent manner. About half of the ground allotted to this group is claimed by the tree plantation exhibitors, and by the landscape gardeners. A splendid park of 1,800 square metres has also been skilfully arranged on well chosen ground, and several prominent gardeners have secured a large and desirable position to utilise for original landscape gardens. A lawn tennis ground in true English style is also contemplated. Flower beds of every kind will please the visitor by their rich and variegated hues, whilst the great profusion of roses will shed their delightful fragrance around in a truly charming and artistic manner. Fruit culture of every species will also play an important part in the Berlin Gardening Industry, and the whole Exhibition promises to be a very great and lasting success.

NOTES FROM STANLEY DISTRICT.

[By "Observer."]

The year 1896 is new in name if nothing else, and reminds us that we are growing older; nor can we alter the decision of time, for it faces us right up with the truth. Life at best is a puzzle, and may be termed a bundle of possibilities. Some figure very prominently, others are hidden in obscurity. It would seem as though some could not be missed, or great industries would suffer. But their action is stayed by disease and they die off. They are talked off for a few days, then it only is a case of memory, and the world's machinery moves on as brisk as ever. We can all be done without; and one naturally asks,—Is it wisdom to put forth strenuous energy to acquire knowledge for a fateful fluctuation of vanity and speculative vexations?

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In my rambles on New Year's Day, I found things much about as usual. The first-foot custom is still very popular. Some like a dark man, others go in for a very fair man, and the superstitious relic will live a few years longer; yet it was surprising to find so many youths with the whiskey bottles in their pockets. It is not a favourable sign, and bears an impress of failure. One fully developed man, with an average amount of intelligence, declared to me that if whiskey was taken from this world he would not care to stop another moment. He said it was his only comfort on earth, and I believed him. There are thousands of similar cases. These are pitiable wrecks; yet they exist.

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A young woman named Jackson, of great respectability and appearance, residing with her parents at Pelton Fell, was married on Christmas Day to a young man named Usher. They went off to Tynemouth for their honeymoon. The young lady, however, took ill of scarlet fever, and died on New Year's Day. Great sympathy is expressed on their behalf; for they are widely known and respected. The funeral, which was a large one, took place a few days later. "Orange blossoms faded; brightest hopes crushed; beauty and sunshine both withered and wrecked."

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The West Stanley Co-operative Society's quarterly meeting was held in the Society's Hall, on Saturday evening last, when the 79th report and statement of accounts were submitted to the members. The sales for the quarter are £35,082 7s 3d. The sales for the year are £125,855 11s 5d, being an increase of £4,923 7s 3½d. over 1894. The share capital is now £49,809 3s 6d, average per member £23 13s 0½d. The average purchases per member, per week, £1 3s 2½d. There are 2,105 members on the roll. The net profit for the quarter is £6,264 14s 3½d, which was divided as follows:—To a dividend of 3/6 in the £ on £34,252 10s, checks sent in, which will amount to £5,994 3s 9d; £100 to extra depreciation; £70 to reserve fund; and the balance of £100 10s 6½d to next quarter. The report was considered satisfactory. The 9th annual report of the Society's Burnopfield farm was also considered. The committee pointed out, that they had laboured under considerable disadvantage, inasmuch as they had been compelled to change the management twice during the year. The land had also suffered much through subsidences which produced a water logged effect on much of the best land, and that it is a matter of great difficulty to recover reasonable damages in these cases. The dairy department is considered in a fair condition, and, with a skilled efficient management, there may soon be a turn in a profitable direction. Other business of a private character was transacted dealing with a branch store for Burnhope; also, a co-operative lifeboat house at Cullercoats; and the election of officers for the ensuing year. A good number was present and Mr. Hewison, chairman of the Society, presided.

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The great Co-operative Northern Tin Plate Factory, situated near to Birtley station, is now ready to commence active operations.

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The Wesleyan Society, at West Stanley, held a Sale of Work on New Year's Day. A Cafe Chantant was held in the evening, which was a great success. It consisted of songs, recitations, etc., and a stump speech. A good company was present.

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The Beamish Wesleyan Society held a Sale of Work on New Year's Day. Various attractions were put in operation. Magic lantern; galvanic apparatus etc. A liberal patronage was accorded.

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The weather is fairly good and very mild, yet there are several cases of sickness, and many are compelled to keep to their beds.

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The collieries in the district are working fairly well, and things generally present a hopeful appearance.

PUBLIC BODIES IN WEARDALE.

STANHOPE SCHOOL BOARD.

At the ordinary meeting of this body held on Friday at Stanhope—Alderman Livingstone presiding—the report of the average attendances showed a considerable difference, ranging from 69 to 92 per cent. The average of the whole schools was 80 per cent.—Miss Jennie Herring was appointed Assistant Mistress at Frosterley.—Mr. Maddison proposed that the Attendance Officer's salary be £55 per year, an increase of £5 per year, and no bonus. He did not believe in paying a man for doing certain duties and then giving him a bonus to do it! Mr. Monkhouse proposed, and Mr. Wooller seconded, that the officer's pay remain as it is, salary and bonus. The amendment was carried by 5 to 2.—A heated discussion took place with regard to the enlargement of the Board School at Stanhope (rented from the Wesleyan Society), it being reported as being too small by Her Majesty's Inspector, and in danger of sustaining loss of grant. The Rev. Mr. Hartley contended that, as there was already sufficient accommodation in Stanhope, and seeing that many infants under five years (whom they had no need to provide for) were attending the school, there was no need to build. There was more accommodation in Barrington School than of places required in the other school. Mr. Monkhouse supported Mr. Hartley in a vigorous speech, pointing out that they took the school over from the Wesleyan Society when they (the society) could no longer keep it on. And now it was proposed to enlarge the school and keep it in repairs for 50 years, and then hand it over to the society for nothing. At present the school only partly belonged to the Board; it belonged to the Wesleyan Society in the evenings, Saturdays, and Sundays, and they found the society with gas and coals. The Rev. R. Hartley raised strong objections to providing increased accommodation by the Board when there was accommodation in the Barrington Schools for 86 and 88 more children.—Mr. Fenwick asked how it was that the people send their children to the Board school when there is so much room in the Barrington Schools.—The Chairman: They prefer the Board school.—Mr. Monkhouse proposed, and the Rev. R. Hartley seconded, a resolution "That we do not build any more accommodation now, and that the matter drop."—Three voted in favour of the resolution, and seven against it.—The discussion waxed very lively, Mr. Monkhouse protesting warmly against the expenditure.—Edward Fairless and Co.'s tender for work at Westgate School was accepted.—The attendances were reported as under; Lanehead, 69 per cent.; Wearhead, 81.3; St. John's Chapel, 81; Westgate, 76; Rookhope, 92; Frosterley South, 78; Frosterley North, 89. Stanhope School is closed on account of measles.

WEARDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

On Friday, the usual monthly meeting of this body was held at Stanhope—Mr. Lowdon presiding—The report of the Medical Officer for the St. John's, Upper Weardale, district showed a birth-rate of 6.1 per 1,000, while the death-rate was 2.9 per 1,000, and the district free from infectious disease, which speaks most favourably for Weardale as a health resort.—The Local Water Committee of Cowshill are to pay the excess on the amount allowed them to explore for water at Queensberry.—The Surveyor's report showed that there are some rickety houses, as well as bad flagging, at Wolsingham.

WEARDALE BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting of this Board was held at Stanhope on Friday—Mr. J. A. Snowball presiding—A discussion took place in the method of the Relieving Officer's payments to out-relief paupers. It was thought desirable to have cards at time of payment and get the signature of the recipient on such occasions.—Wm. Watson, rate collector for Park and Forest Division of Stanhope parish, came before the Guardians asking for an increase of salary.—The matter was deferred for a month.—Mr. Mainprize proposed that the minute passed at a previous meeting increasing Mr. R. Thompson's salary by £15 be rescinded.—On a division, 6 voted for and 6 against.—The Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of Mr. Mainprize's motion.—The Guardians thanked various persons for Christmas and New Year's gifts to the Workhouse children and inmates.—The question of the salaries of the officers of the Board is becoming quite a vexed one, and the Rev. Mr. Jagg is alarmed lest the Board becomes a laughing-stock by passing resolutions at one meeting and rescinding them at the next.—Mr. Mainprize proposed that the resolution raising Mr. Thompson's salary and poundage be rescinded, and this was carried by the casting vote of the chairman.—Mr. Rippon stated that by the time they met again all their officers would be ready to apply again. (Laughter.)

INTERESTING TEMPERANCE ADDRESS BY MR. GUY HAYLER.

At a meeting of temperance workers at Medomsley, last week, Mr. Guy Hayler, the well-known temperance advocate, delivered a very interesting speech, in the course of which he said, there were a lot of people to-day who had the idea that the Temperance movement began in this country somewhere about 50 or 60 years ago, and that the first founder of temperance principles was Joseph Livesey. They however dated their origin very much further back than that, and in that ancient book, the Bible, they found that the first man, Adam, drank of the stream of pure water. (Cheers and laughter). Again, they were taunted by some people, who told them they were not one bit further advanced in the cause of sobriety to-day than they were 60 years ago—that is, when the seven men met at Preston, but to-day, instead of seven only, they had not less than seven million abstainers enrolled on the books of their societies and lodges. (Loud applause.) Sixty years ago the public-houses were opened at one o'clock on the first of January, and closed again at twelve o'clock on the 31st day of December. People could then sit and drink all the hours of the day. Now, they had in many places chopped off 66 hours per week. At that time working men nearly always received their wages on licensed premises, but in 1883 the "Payment of Wages in Public Houses' Act" was passed, which said that no workman should be paid his wages in a public-house under a penalty of £10 for each offence. (Applause.) Then the old politicians would remember how men revelled in public-houses in days gone by, when men sat drinking from morning until evening at the expense of the candidate who sought parliamentary honours, but in 1883 all that sort of corruption was knocked on the head. This all went to show they were in the right, notwithstanding any arguments to the contrary. They had all the Sunday School teachers, the day school teachers, the leading physicians, and the leading ministers of all classes and denominations on their side, and it was because of this that the few had grown into the many. (Cheers). If man had been intended to take snuff, his nose would have been made so that the snuff could be shovelled down in a natural sort of way. (Laughter.) They had been put on in that way so that the escaping gas could be smelt without the need of striking a match. (Renewed laughter.) They could eat to repletion of genuine food, but if they drank too freely ill-health and insanity was the result. Sixty years ago there was not a public asylum in this country, and drink was the great factor in the production of insanity this country. Pauper lunatics in London alone were increasing at the rate of 500 a year. Thus every four years it would be necessary to erect a new asylum at a cost of half-a-million. (Shame.) The asylum at Sedgefield was too small, and it had been necessary to erect an additional one at Ryhope. Another enlargement had been made in the Coxlodge asylum, and yet another in North Lancashire at a cost of £30,000. Drink made a man incapable of appreciating anything beautiful in taste, smell, or hearing. (Shame.) It had been said that a man was drunk when he stuck himself in the umbrella stand and put the umbrella to bed. (Laughter.) They had one publican to every 250 people manufacturing lunatics, and after the publican had got rich the people had the privilege of keeping the lunatics. Working men should be prohibitionists from a commercial point of view. In 1894 they spent 8/- per head on coal, 8/3 on cotton goods, and 11/- on wollen goods; but on drink £3 11s 6½d. Thus they saw the big "bungs" swallow up the money that ought to go into trades that are productive of wealth and happiness, instead of poverty and misery. Whenever the miners had their big meetings at Durham the station-masters choose their temperance men from all over the system, because they have clear heads and steady hands. (Cheers.) Mr. A. Seed proposed, and Mr. N. Brown seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. Hayler for his excellent address.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN DURHAM AGRICULTURIST.

We regret to record the death of Mr. George Turnbull of Twizel Hall, near Chester-le-Street. Few men were better known or more highly respected than Mr. Turnbull, not only in his own immediate neighbourhood, but throughout agricultural circles generally. Mr. Turnbull succeeded his father in the tenancy of Twizel and Ousterley under the Messrs Fenwick. He was a member of the Durham County Agricultural Association and the Beamish and Pontop Agricultural Association, and was an active member of the Chester-le-Street Farmers' Club and kindred associations. He was acknowledged to be one of the best judges of stock and agricultural produce, more especially so of draught horses, making a speciality of this useful animal. Indeed, at the Twizel stud, founded by the deceased, there have been bred many of the finest draught horses in Durham county, the fame of which spread far beyond the county, and even the country. His services as judge were always in request and eagerly sought after, while his advice was also in equal demand, such was the high opinion held of his judgment and well-known integrity. Personally Mr. Turnbull was of singularly quiet and unassuming manners kindly and genial in his disposition, and most homely at all times. After a brief illness he died on Tuesday evening at the age of 57, leaving a grown-up family.

BURNHOPE AND DISTRICT PLOUGHING ASSOCIATION.

The first annual ploughing competition (postponed from the Thursday previous on account of the snow and frost), in connection with the above association, took place on Thursday week on land granted by Messrs Hornsby and Turnbull, at Collin's Green and Clergyman's Well, at Maiden Law, near Lanchester. There was a large attendance, and the several events were keenly contested. The judges who officiated were:—Ploughing—Messrs George Bramley, New Brancepeth; James Humble, Lanchester; and George Bolam, Pontop Hall, Dipton. Groomed horses—Messrs Thos. Howdon, Pockerley; and George Bolam, Pontop Hall. Mr. J. Turnbull, of Collin's Green, acted as hon. secretary.

Awards:—Class 1.—Swing ploughs (for men who have never won a first prize); eight entries.—J. Henderson, Tanfield Lane, 1; George Ridley, Try-'em-All, 2; George Carr, Burnhopeside Hall, 3.

Class 2.—Wheel ploughs (for men who have never won a first prize); twelve entries.—T. H. Smith, Tanfield, 1; Wm. Gilroy, Shield Row, 2; Wm. Robinson, Woodside, 3.

Class 3.—Wheel ploughs (for lads under 18 years); three entries.—Wm. Rutherford, Dipton, 1; J. T. Hedley, Manor House, 2; T. Smith, Moorside, 3.

Class 4.—Best groomed horse and harness; four entries.—Wm. Brown, Hollingside Hall, 1; J. Lamb, White House, 2; J. T. Hedley, Manor House, c.

Dinner was afterwards served at the Three Horse Shoes Inn, Maiden Law, Mr. James Humble presiding.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE.

Thousands of people have been cured by these preparations, of all diseases. The reason they cure all diseases is that they are composed of vegetable extracts, which are God's natural remedies.

The PILLS, prepared by G. Handyside are the best pills known. They contain no medicine, but are a pure vegetable extract, therefore restores the health without ruining the constitution, as most medicines do.

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

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TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup has been used over fifty years by millions of mothers for their children while teething with perfect success. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is pleasant to taste; it produces natural quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." Of all Chemists, 1/1½d per bottle.

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

A Mass of Valuable Information for every Home is to be found in the "Family Doctor" for this week. Special Articles by Physicians and Surgeons bearing on Health, Food, and Hygiene of the greatest importance to every Reader. It is stored with Useful and Practical Hints for the preservation of Health. Ask your Newsagent to supply you weekly with the "Family Doctor." It costs only One Penny and will save you Many Pounds Yearly. Send for a copy at once:—Advt.

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

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

IMPORTANT TO LADIES.—Valuable and never failing remedies for all irregularities and obstructions, however obstinate or long standing, and never fails to bring about the desired result. These really wonderful medicines are without parallel in medical science; they preserve health, and have saved thousands trouble illness, and expense; heaps of unsolicited testimonials. Send at once stamped envelope for most invaluable particulars. (The only effectual remedy on earth.) A. DASMAIL, 641, Langdale, Walthamstow. Est. nearly 50 years.

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

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The Blood is the source from which our systems are built up, and from which we derive our mental as well as our physical capabilities. If the blood is diseased the body is diseased and enfeebled.

Clarke's Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. In cases of Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, Bad Legs, Skin and Blood Diseases, Pimples, and Sores of all kinds its effects are marvellous. Thousands of wonderful cures have been effected by it.

"It is with great pleasure that I write to let you know of the wonderful effect of Clarke's Blood Mixture has had upon me. For four months I have had places break out on my arms and wrists (numbering about 36), large, painful, and very much inflamed, causing me to give up work. I have been to two doctors, and was also an out patient at one of our leading hospitals for six weeks, but did not get any benefit from their treatment, so I thought I would try Clarke's Blood Mixture, and am happy to say that I soon felt better, and after having three bottles I feel a different man altogether; in fact, it has not only cured me, but has taken away the scars from my arms, which other medicines did not do. You can make use of this if you like, as no doubt there are many who will be glad to know of Clarke's wonderful Blood Mixture.—Yours truly,

"J. SAUNDERS."

"36, Hill Street, Peckham, London, S.E., 2nd Sept., 1895."

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"J. C. WATERHOUSE.

"Moorlands, Hampton Road, Teddington, 6th September, 1894."

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For cleansing and clearing the blood from all impurities, Clarke's Blood Mixture cannot be too highly recommended.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, the proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

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CONSETT DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The adjourned meeting of this Council was held on Wednesday night, under the presidency of Coun. Geo. Ainsworth, J.P. The other members present were—Councillors Wm Aynsley, J. W. Davison, J. Daly, G. Wade, J. Kempson, G. D. Powell, G. T. Hyden, J. Lowes, J. Summerbell; the Clerk (Mr T. W. Welford), and the Surveyor (Mr Wm. Rippon.)

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Was first dealt with, and as there was no subject of any particular interest no discussion ensued. The report, on the motion of Coun. Aynsley, was adopted.

THE NUISANCE AT CROOKHALL.

The Sanitary Committee reported that they had held a meeting on Dec. 2nd. They had consulted with the Leadgate Committee with regard to the alleged nuisance at Crookhall. Coun. Aynsley had thought that the sewerage should be carried further into the field, and Coun. Keenleyside had concurred. The Leadgate Surveyor (Mr Longstaff) thought that the sewage should be dealt with in the Consett district before it got the day water from Number One Road.

The Surveyor said that the sewerage might be deviated from the Leadgate district by deepening the drain and bringing it back over to join the existing sewers at Number One manhole. He produced a rough sketch after having surveyed the proposed route, which showed the plan to be feasible. The committee recommended that further inquiries be made.

Coun. Aynsley: I did not think we could do anything with this report. The committee had some conversation, but there was really nothing done. He did not think there was any inclination on the part of the Leadgate committee to take any serious steps. It was suggested that the matter might be deferred.

The Chairman: You say that the plan is feasible and recommend its adoption by the Council. The plan only shows the levels, and does not show how the pipes are going. The slope of the land might allow of the scheme, but the nature of the land might not.

Coun. Powell: We do not want to go so far as to pledge ourselves to lay in this pipe.

The Chairman: If we adopt this report we will be going too far.

On the motion of Coun. Hyden, seconded by Coun. Kempson, the committee's report was adopted, the matter being thus deferred for further consideration.

THE SEWERAGE SCHEME AT BAXTON BURN.

The committee appointed to go into the matter of the apportionment of the amount paid by each of the Councils of Consett and Benfieldside to the sewerage scheme, reported that they had met Councillors J. Lax, J.P., Jas. Annandale, J.P., W. Telford, and Jos. Eltringham, the clerk (Mr John Booth), and the Surveyor (Mr John Dixon.) The committee had agreed that the rateable value of Benfieldside should be taken at £7,324, and that of Consett at £2,963, subject to the figures being confirmed from the Benfieldside rate-book.

The Chairman: We went carefully over the figures, and we compared them with those of the Benfieldside people. We finally checked them over, and arrived at the points on which we differed, and ultimately came to what we thought was a fair and just proportion for us to pay. The figures were subject to the decision of the clerk (Mr Welford), who was to check them over with Mr Booth from the rate-books.

Coun. Aynsley: The only thing remaining is to see that the basis is properly settled, so that our new property may be dealt with.

The Chairman: Quite so. As for the settlement, the members all seemed agreed upon it.

Coun. Davison: Is their precipitation scheme successful?

The Chairman: We have nothing but their word for it. They, however, have got it too small, and if they have to alter them we will have to pay our share. The alterations will cost a certain sum. What the cost of maintenance would be he did not know.

On the motion of Coun. Hyden, seconded by Coun. Kempson, the report of the committee was adopted.

THE ALLEGED NUISANCE AT GROVE COTTAGE.

The Surveyor said there was very little to be seen. Of course, on washing days a little soapy water would go on to the land, but there was very little nuisance.

The Chairman: You therefore think there is nothing serious?

The Surveyor: No; a small cesspool would remedy everything.

Coun. Hyden: You think there would have been no complaint if it had not been that the typhoid scare was prevalent at the time.

The Surveyor: I don't think there would.

It was decided to inform Mr Jesse Hall what the Surveyor had said.

A TELEGRAPH POLE.

Permission was given to erect a telegraph pole in Rippon's Lane.

THE RECENT AUDIT.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board stating that the authority had received from the District Auditor a report, in which he stated that no highway expenditure account had been kept.

Mr Rippon stated that there was a book kept, and that the auditor had overlooked it.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Local Government Board pointing this out.

The Board also wrote giving instructions as to the manner in which the documents should be forwarded to them for consideration. Notice was also given of the inquiry to be held at Lanchester to-day (Thursday) in connection with the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board.

THE INSANITARY CONDITIONS.

The following report of the Buildings, Sewerage, and Nuisance Committee's was read:—

The report of the Medical Officer of Health having been read the Committee recommended that the following alterations be made:—

(1.)—No. 4, Melbourne Street. That the gully and grate be removed a short distance from its present position.

(2.)—Nos. 3 and 4, Raglan Street. That two month's notice be served upon the owners to remove the middens from the gable-end of No. 2, Rippon's Lane, and that a water-closet be substituted instead of a common privy. The water-closet to be next the gable end, and the ashpit to be placed where the common privy now stands. The ashpit to be cemented, covered, and ventilated.

(3.)—No. 10, Raglan Street. That two month's notice be served on the owners to repair the roof of the midden, and, in future, to abstain from putting any offal from slaughter-house in it, and also to cement it out.

(4.)—Nos. 2 and 3, Rippon's Lane. That the owner be served with two month's notice to close the houses as unfit for human habitation.

(5.)—Nos. 37, 38, and 39, John Street. That the owners be served with two month's notice to have gully trapped, and to put the privy and drainage into a proper sanitary condition.

(6.)—No. 14, Pitt Street. That two month's notice be served on the owner to close the house as unfit for human habitation.

(7.)—No. 15, Pitt Street. That two month's notice be served on the owner to close the house as unfit for human habitation.

(8.)—Nos. 18 and 19 Pitt Street. That two month's notice be served on the owners to put the drainage into proper order, and that the ashpit must be removed from the gable-end of the house.

(9.)—Nos. 10, 11, and 12, Pitt Street. That two month's notice be served on the owners to pave these yards.

(10.)—Trafalgar and Pitt Streets. That two month's notice be served upon the trustees of John Dickinson, deceased, to erect seven water closets for the accommodation of their 14 houses situate in these streets, and that the ashpits must be removed from the main walls of the houses in Pitt Street.

Considerable discussion ensued as to whether one or two month's notice should be given.

Couns. Foster and Davison thought that one month's notice was sufficient.

The Clerk: The Act says you must give reasonable notice, and you must decide what is reasonable notice.

Coun. Powell thought that they wanted very reasonable notice in winter. It was eventually decided to give two months' notice, and, on the motion of Councillor Aynsley, seconded by Coun. E. Foster, the committee's report was adopted.

PLANS.

The plans for the Primitive Methodist New Chapel and Schools in Park Road, Blackhill, were ordered to be passed subject to the duplicates being produced.

CROOKHALL SEWAGE AGAIN.

A further discussion took place regarding the sewage it was alleged ran into Crookhall.

Coun. Aynsley suggested they might ask the Surveyor to draw up a plan for the emptying of the sewage into the Leadgate sewer.

The Chairman: Perhaps Mr Robinson had prepared pipes to carry a certain amount of sewage, and if the pipes would not carry the increased amount of sewage he might say I have not prepared for this. He did not say it could not be done, but Mr Knight. It would be better to enquire into the matter.

Coun. Powell: In the meantime there is one of our sewers which is only one-and-a-half or two feet below the surface of the road, and the sewer was in danger from the very heavy traffic on the road, and as the Surveyor now has the road opened out I thought it would be a small matter to lay it deeper down.

The Chairman: Coun. Powell is out of order.

STREET-MAKING.

The question of making the street beside the Gibson Street Wesleyan Day Schools was then gone into.

Considerable discussion took place as to whether the Board should make half the Street.

Coun. Powell enquired if the Board were to make the street, and then some individuals were to take over the school for private purposes could they claim the money from the private persons?

Mr Welford: It is very bad to make money come back like that, Mr Powell.

The Chairman said that the Company had had to pay for half the street making adjoining their schools. He then moved that notice be served on the owners to make the street, and Coun. Wade seconded. The motion was carried.

Cheques to the amount of £126 1s 1d were signed.

BALANCE IN HAND.

The Treasurer reported that the amount in the bank to the credit of the Council on 31st December was £1,091 16s 4d.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr William Rippon) reported that whilst the condition of the place was on the whole satisfactory, he found the refuse was increasing in several places. People were allowing their refuse to remain after the specified time, having the impression that the Council had decided to take the cleaning of the ashpits into their own hands at once, and they were now waiting for the carts to come.

The workmen had been engaged in putting 40 yards of nine inch pipe across from Sherburn Terrace in order that they might connect with the North Eastern Railway Company's Sewer from their new houses now in the course of erection.

The Chairman: I suppose the only way in which we can remove the misapprehension of the people as to the Board being about to clean out the ashpits, is to serve an order upon the offenders.

The Surveyor was accordingly ordered to do this.

THE DIRTY FOOTPATHS.

Coun. Ainsworth remarked on the greasy state of the footpaths during the recent moist weather.

Coun. Wade: I think the dirt is sometimes scraped to the side of the streets and then left till it stiffens. It would be an improvement if it could be taken away at once.

Mr Rippon said the slop carts were fully employed.

Coun. Lowes said he had seen the men taking it off the footpaths at Durham.

Coun. Foster had seen sawdust scattered on the pavement and left for a short while, and the whole mass could then be cleared away at once.

The Chairman: That would be a somewhat expensive matter.

Coun. Foster: I should think a very simple matter would be to play the hose pipe on the footpaths. At any rate, the disagreeable state of the streets would probably be remedied on the first heavy shower.

THE LAMPS.

Coun. Hyden wished to ask the Surveyor if the whole of the lamps specified had been erected?

Mr Rippon: They had not all been erected yet.

Coun. Powell asked that the fire lamp at the back of the "Guardian" buildings should be moved to the opposite side of the street.

Coun. Hyden moved that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Gas Company pointing out that the lamps had not been erected, and this was carried.

Coun. Lowes complained that the new street which was to be called Livingstone Street had not yet been numbered.

Mr Aynsley: If not too late I would like the street named Jameson Street.

Mr Rippon said a stock of numbers and street names was on order, but had not yet come to hand.

RESIGNATION OF MR W. RIPPON.

The Chairman stated that he had a very important announcement to make. He had had the following letter placed in his hand, and which it was now his duty to read to the Board. The letter was addressed to the members of the District Council, and ran as follows:—

January 6th, 1896.

Gentlemen,—Allow me to thank you for the honour you have done me in electing me from time to time for the lengthy period of 17 years as your Inspector of Nuisances, Inspector of Dairies and Cowsheds, Inspector of Milk Shops, Inspector of Slaughter houses, and Inspector of Lodging-houses; also, as captain of your Fire Brigade and market manager. I have to thank you also for the confidence you have reposed in me as Collector of your District Rates, and further, as Surveyor of your Highways, which also includes preparing plans, sections, estimates, etc. In connection with the private street making, the apportionment of such work and the collection of accounts. I need not stay for one moment to remind you how the various duties have been performed in the past, as this is known to every member of the Council. But it only remains for me now to say that, after mature consideration, I have decided to place my resignation in your hands, which I enclose herewith, trusting the change which will necessarily have to be made will not inconvenience you.—I am, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM RIPPON.

The following was enclosed:—

Gentlemen,—I herewith give you notice that in one calendar month from this date I will cease to hold office under the Consett Urban District Council.—I am, etc.,

WILLIAM RIPPON.

The Chairman said he would only be expressing the opinions of the rest of the Board. This had taken them completely by surprise. He could only express his regret that Mr Rippon wished to sever his connection with them. He did not think there had ever been any friction between the Council and Mr Rippon.

Coun. Hyden: Perhaps it is from health considerations.

Coun. Aynsley: I think it would not be improper to ask him if he is resigning because he was getting too old for the job, or because he had some ulterior motive.

Mr Rippon: I think the better plan would be not to re-open the question.

Coun. Aynsley: Then we have no alternative but to accept the resignation.

Coun. Foster: I presume there is no other explanation he would like to give.

The Chairman: Personally I can only say that I shall be exceedingly sorry to part with Mr Rippon. During the length of time I have been on the Board, I have always found Mr Rippon a most energetic and zealous servant of the Board. There was one thing Mr Rippon had given his notice in for a month. That would give them a very short time to appoint a successor. It would be a great convenience if Mr Rippon could see his way to give them two months notice.

Mr Rippon said he would much rather leave in a month's time, but if it was to inconvenience the Board he would agree to stop for another month. The notice was altered accordingly.

The Chairman thought they had better adjourn the meeting for a day or two to consider the position. Mr Rippon's concession would be a great convenience to them.

Several of the members of the Board spoke of Mr Rippon's good qualities and devotion to the interests of the Council.

The Chairman moved that the resignation be accepted, and this was carried.

It was ultimately decided to adjourn the meeting until Monday night when the question of appointing a successor to Mr Rippon would be considered.

FURTHER PRESENTATION TO DR. SHANNON.

On Tuesday evening, a large company of gentlemen assembled at the house of Mr Geo. McCann, Railway Hotel, Consett, for the purpose of taking part in another presentation to the popular doctor. In the absence of Dr George Renton (who was unexpectedly called away at the last moment), Mr John Sloane, Blackhill, very ably fulfilled the duties of chairman. Amongst those present were—Dr Shannon, Dr Hensley (Leadgate), Dr Graham, Dr McCay, Dr Bratton, Coun. John Kempson, Messrs Wm. Jenkins, Salkield (Delves), V. Thirlwell, E. J. Sloane, F. Vickers, W. Redshaw, P. Ward, and many others.—The Chairman, in making the presentation—which consisted of a valuable case of surgical instruments—on behalf of Dr Renton, referred to the admirable manner in which Dr Shannon had discharged his duties, thus endearing himself to the people of Consett. (Applause.)—On the outside of the case was a plate bearing the following inscription:—"Dr W. J. Shannon, from Dr Geo. Renton."—Dr Shannon returned thanks in a few well-chosen words.—Some excellent songs were then given during the evening by the chairman, Messrs Kempson, Jenkins, Redshaw, Thirlwell, &c., Mr E. J. Sloane accompanying on the piano in his usual finished style.—A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman, and the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought to a close an extremely pleasant and successful gathering.

LEADGATE LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

SOCIAL GATHERING IN THE MINERS' HALL.

On Monday evening, the members and friends of this Association held a social entertainment which took the form of a "smoking concert," in the Miners' Hall at Leadgate. There was a capital company present, although, owing to counter-attractions, it was scarcely so large as had been anticipated. The popular president of the Association (Mr. Thos. Keenleyside) occupied the chair, and amongst those present we noticed—Messrs C. Weaver (Consett), H. Whitfield, Coun. Jos. Armstrong, R. Wilson, sen., W. Whitfield, W. Rowe (vice-president), T. Lammonby, W. Hardy, R. Pull, T. Dickinson, Geo. Walton, T. Reed, Bainbridge, T. S. Innes, E. Coulson, J. Hodgson, N. Parker, C. Morgan, (hon. sec.), and others.

The Chairman briefly opened the proceedings by expressing his willingness to do all that he could to further the Liberal cause. (Applause.)

Mr. H. Whitfield said he rose with pleasure to propose the toast of the evening, "Success to the Leadgate Liberal Association,"—and in doing so he explained that the object of their meeting that night was twofold—firstly, to blend together and strengthen the Leadgate Liberal Association. It had been said that unity was strength, and that was true in every sense of the word, but for was also necessary to fight the fight of fairplay and justice. (Applause.) There were a great number of men in the district who were looked upon as Liberals to the back-bone, and they were no doubt true Liberal men, but he was sorry to say that they took little interest in the great questions affecting that England of theirs. (Hear, hear.) These were the men they were trying to get hold of, and they wanted to get them to take an interest in the various questions of to-day, and to revive their enthusiasm, so as to make them useful members of their Association. (Applause.) The time had come when every man ought to make his politics part and parcel of his religion. It was only right and just for every man to take an interest in every question affecting their country. (Applause.) There was also another question—and this was a most important one—they should try to do everything possible to get hold of the young men of the district. They were the strength of the party, being full of energy and enthusiasm, and these were the men whom they must look to to lift up high in the political world the flag of truth and justice. (Applause.) That Association was only beginning to live, and he could only compare it to a young man starting out in life with nothing in his pocket. But with this difference—the young man generally furnished their house on the hire system, but the members of that Association intended to pay ready money for everything. (Applause.) They had to send four men to represent them on the Liberal Council, and this meant a subscription of £4 10s for them to pay, but they were determined to do it. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Weaver. (Loud applause.)

The toast was heartily drank amid cheers.

Mr. Weaver, in responding, remarked that Mr. T. Carr, a gentleman whom they all highly respected, was expected to respond to this toast, but was unable to be present. In the cause of a somewhat lengthy but extremely interesting and instructive speech, the speaker said that Liberalism was an enormous subject, and if he read about it for a fortnight he could talk about it for a week. (Laughter and applause.) When reading men read the lives of the great men of the Liberal party, and the lives of the men who had brought Liberalism into prominence, they would find it a marvellous and beneficial subject. There were two sides to Liberalism—the ideal and the practical. Liberalism in its ideal was first conceived by some great men who live in the history of England, and who might be termed martyrs. Some of the men who came forward in those days and advocated Liberalism were men of business, and there were actually men who refused to support them because of their adherence to Liberal principles, and they were thus ruined. They were as much martyrs as the men who went to the stake. (Hear, hear.) They had men to-day who were advocating Socialism. Liberalism was practically Socialism, but the Socialism of Christ—that men should do to others as they would have them do to them. (Applause.) Although Liberalism was not what it should be, it was a great thing, and had done a lot for everyone sitting there that evening. All present had benefitted by the spread of Liberal doctrines. (Applause.) He remembered when he was a young man having a lot of Sunday School boys in his Bible Class, and he had known those boys never to see the daylight from Sunday night to Saturday night. They worked in the mines, and long hours. They went into the mine in darkness, and came out in darkness. Wasn't that dreadful? Who had they to thank for altering that? They had to thank the Liberals. (Applause.) Didn't they think that one single thing enough to make them all thorough-going Liberals? Think what an enormous benefit it would be to their children. (Applause.) If they had twopence in their pocket they should give a penny to help forward the work of the Association. There was such a thing as consistency. If a man spoke the truth and acted the truth then he was consistent. If a man told the truth but acted treacherously he was inconsistent. If they got great benefits and refused to acknowledge them, he charged them with downright inconsistency. If they were consistent men they must support the great power which gave them those great benefits, and which would give them greater benefits still. (Applause.) It remembered when the working-classes did not know what it was to taste flesh meat except at certain intervals, and when they invariably wore corduroys and fustains, and hob-nailed boots. Now they sat down to a decent meal every day, and wore good clothes. How did this come about? By the exercise of Liberalism. (Applause.) Could they then, when knowing these things, ignore Liberalism? Let them help forward those men who were working for Liberalism in that district, and encourage them. He did not want to say a wrong word against other people. He had read both sides of the question—and he believed in reading both sides in religious, political, and other things—and he knew both sides of the question, and he believed he knew which was the right. Conservatism, as its name implied, meant selfishness, and selfishness meant the devil. Those were strong words, but he was quite ready to defend them. The Conservatives have always legislated for the benefit of their own class, and if that was not selfishness he did not know what the word meant. The Liberals had legislated for all the people, and especially for the working classes. (Applause.) And why? because the Liberals had seen that the working class had been over-ridden by the capitalist. If Liberalism did not assert itself they would be over-ridden again. Let them in Leadgate be wise in time, and see to it that Liberalism was triumphant. (Applause.) Let them be consistent, and help forward their Association, and as sure as they did this they would find those meetings become the jolliest meetings in Leadgate. (Applause.) The people in Leadgate take such an interest in anything he did not understand. Why did the people in Leadgate take such an interest in football? Because they understood it. Let them try and get more members, and get them to understand the matter, and thus help the association. (Applause.) If they did this, they would send Mr. Atherley-Jones—(applause)—back to Parliament with a still bigger majority. Liberalism would never have been born if it had not been for the people. The people began to learn their wants from the first martyrs he spoke about, and as soon as the people said they would have those beneficial measures they got them. (Applause.) If they sent Mr. Atherley-Jones back to the House of Commons, and he said they wanted Home Rule for Ireland, Home Rule for themselves, Home Rule for the Welsh, and Home Rule for the Scotch—if they said that, and kept on saying they would have it, and Mr. Atherley-Jones also said it, they would get it. (Applause.) They wanted Home Rule, which he had advocated since a young man, and had never closed down for advocating it. It was a thing that ought to come—and, what was more, it would come. (Applause.) Did it not stand to reason that they could manage their own homes and families better than anyone else? Then why not let the Irish manage their own affairs? Why not let the Welsh manage their own affairs? And why not let them manage their own affairs? (Applause.) There must also be an Imperial Parliament in England, and so many members sent up from each country. If the public were wise, and learnt to understand these things, they would take care that the representatives sent to the House of Commons were real, and not sham representatives. They wanted the people to so understand Liberalism that they would see that the best men were sent to Parliament. (Applause.) Let them do all they could—both by working and by their presence at these meetings, to make their Association the best in the district. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman remarked that he thought they as Liberals were descended from some of the noblest men that ever lived—such men as Oliver Cromwell. (Applause.) The Conservatives said that they were the poorer class, but their own Queen's father was the whig Duke of Kent. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. Bainbridge proposed "The health of the member for North-West Durham—Mr. Atherley-Jones"—(loud applause)—and said they all knew that Mr. Atherley-Jones first came amongst them a perfect stranger, but by his honesty and earnest views, which were in consonance with their own, they returned him to the House of Commons, where he had ably represented them for the past eight years. (Loud applause.)

Coun. Armstrong said it afforded him great pleasure to support the motion. He did so because he thought that Mr. Atherley-Jones had served them remarkably well as their member. (Applause.) His father was a grand man, and he was the worthy son of a worthy sire. (Applause.) So far as he (the speaker) had read he knew very well that it was hard to get anything from either party without they were forced, and until they got more representatives of their own class into Parliament, they would not get that emancipation for the working classes that they should be. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Atherley-Jones would further in this direction than many so-called Liberals, and he (Coun. Armstrong) believed their member would do his utmost for the emancipation of the people. (Applause.)

Three hearty cheers were given for Mr. Atherley-Jones.

On the motion of Mr. H. Whitfield, seconded by Coun. Armstrong, cordial votes of thanks were passed to the Chairman and those ladies and gentlemen who had done their best, in various way, to make the gathering a success; and the Chairman briefly returned thanks.

During the evening a capital programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered by the following:—Pianoforte solos, "The Black Watch" and "The Nile Expedition," Master Salisbury, Redwell Hills; songs, "Three acres and a cow" and "When you and I were young, Maggie," Mr. H. Thompson; reading, Mr. W. Hardy; songs, "Nannie that lived next door" and "Johnny the bellman" (encore), Mr. R. Wilson, sen.; song, "The anchor's weighed," Mr. C. Morgan; recitation, Mr. C. Weaver. Mr. Cockburn, Consett, ably acted as accompanist. Excellent refreshments were provided, and in this connection we must mention Mr. Rowe and the ladies who prepared and dispensed the viands. The arrangements were admirably carried out by the secretary (Mr. C. Morgan), and altogether the affair may be written down as a big success.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL.

On Tuesday evening, the ordinary meeting of this Council was held in the School-room, Burnhope—Mr J. R. Ritson (chairman) presiding. The other Councillors present were Messrs J. Chapman, J. Thompson, J. Heckles, J. Shipley, W. Elliott, A. Hartley, R. Innes, W. Bowman, H. Steele, and the Clerk (Mr J. Thompson.)

A Separate Parish for Cragbead.

A letter was read from Mr R. Simey, clerk to the Durham County Council, so as to get an expression of opinion from the Council relative to making Craghead into a separate parish.

The Clerk explained that the petition, which had been sent to the Durham County Council praying for this to be done, was signed by the colliery owners, householders, tradesmen, and farmers residing in the village of Craghead and neighbourhood. The petition was to the effect that they asked the Durham County Council to grant the petition of the Chester-le-Street District Council respecting the transfer of the eastern portion of Craghead from Chester-le-Street Union to the Lanchester Union for several reasons. As present their local affairs were administered by two Parish Councils, two District Councils, two School Attendance Committees, consequently such a state of local government complicated administration, and hindered needful improvements.

The Chairman: Are the Councillors in favour of allowing Craghead to be a separate parish or not?

The Clerk: The plans respecting this question can be seen at Mr Simey's offices at Durham.

Mr Shipley proposed that the Council be in favour of Craghead being a separate parish.

Mr Hartley seconded.

This was agreed to.

The New Footpath at Old Biggen.

A letter was read from Mr J. Lyons, contractor, Consett, respecting the amount of work he had completed in the formation of a new footpath at Old Biggen. He said he had 260 yards ready for ballast, and he considered it was time he had some money for work done.

The Clerk thought the contractor would have some 240 yards of the footpath formed.

Mr Hartley: I think the contractor will require some money.

The Chairman: There are 760 yards of footpath to make altogether.

Mr Innes: I think we will be perfectly safe if the work keeps in advance of the pay. (Laughter.)

Mr Chapman moved that a cheque be signed for a certain sum and handed over to the Clerk to pay the contractor for the amount of work done.

The Clerk: I will only pay the contractor according to what he has worked for.

Mr Bowman seconded.

Mr Elliott considered what the contractor asked for was reasonable. He would move an amendment that the contractor be paid £3 5s 0d for the amount of work done.

Mr Steel seconded.

Mr Chapman: We appoint our Clerk as an inspector to see that the contractor carries out his contract properly. We receive a report from him, and I think we should stand by what he says. The motion was that the Clerk should hold a certain sum of money, and for him to pay it over to the contractor as he thought fit.

On a vote being taken, four voted for the amendment, and five for the motion.

The Chairman declared the motion carried.

Footpath at Dorman's Cottages.

The Roads Committee recommended that a footpath should be made at Dorman's Cottages, and also that a portion of the road should be drained.

Mr Chapman pointed out that the present footpath was in such a condition that it was only passable in certain weather.

Mr Elliott did not think it was right to make another footpath when there was already one existing. They had nothing to do with the place.

Mr Chapman: It is a question of repairing the old footpath, which was travelled over every day.

After a lengthy discussion, Mr Chapman moved that steps be taken to make a footpath by the roadside.

Mr Hartley seconded.

Mr Bowman moved an amendment to the effect that the Council decide which side of the fence the footpath should be made, and repair the sides.

Mr Innes seconded.

Only the mover and seconder voted for the amendment, with the result that the motion was carried.

The Allotment Question.

Mr Wagper, Salter's Gate, wrote stating that he had decided to abandon the question of allotments for the present.

The Clerk explained that he wrote the Wolsingham Parish Council, seeing that the land Mr Wagper desired to have was an allotment. He got a reply to the effect that Mr Wagper did make application to the Wolsingham Council, but he was not a resident in the parish, and it was resolved no action should be taken in the matter.

The Rowland Wilkinson Charity.

Mr Innes reported as to what the committee had done respecting this Charity. The question was now referred to Charity Commissioners for them to decide who should look after the same.

The Clerk stated that he understood there were a number of parishes now applying for their share of this Charity, which had never received anything from it before. The committee who met had opposed them, and the names was then left in the hands of the Charity Commissioners.

Mr Bowman: Who has the management of the Charity at the present time?

The Clerk: It is in the hands of the churchwardens and the four-and-twenty of Lanchester. The money will be lying till the question is settled.

Mr Bowman: Ought not the Council to have some account of this Charity?

The Chairman: The accounts, &c., of the Charity are in the hands of the churchwardens. We cannot get possession of it, till it is decided by the Commissioners who shall look after it.

After further discussion, it was agreed that the matter should stand in abeyance for a month.

Nuisance near Dorman's Cottages.

Mr Bowman brought forward his motion regarding a nuisance near Dorman's Cottages. He said he was sorry to have to trouble the Council again regarding this question, as he fully expected it would have been abated after the attention of the Lanchester District Council had been called to the same. There were 20 houses and only five ashpits. There were four tenants who had to deposit their refuse into one ashpit. Now, the owner or lessees took away the refuse from these ashpits and deposited it in cart loads upon the public road. This was only a few yards away from the houses. It was nearly impossible to get along the road for tin bottles, rags, old shoes, &c., which were spread over the road, along with the sweepings of the ashpits. This was a nuisance, and should not be tolerated. He would move that the Clerk write the Lanchester District Council, and ask them to authorise the Sanitary Inspector to take action at once, so as to stop the nuisance on the road.

Mr Innes seconded.

After a short discussion, the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business of importance.

DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH OLEY, OF SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

With deep regret we have this week to record the death of Mr. Joseph Oley, which took place on Tuesday at his residence, 10, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge, at the advanced age of 90 years. The deceased who was of German extraction, descended from a family of Oleys, who settled on the banks of the Derwent near Shotley Bridge two centuries ago, where they commenced business as swordmakers. Mr Joseph Oley carried on business for 53 years as an auctioneer, and so he may be said to have occupied a foremost position in his profession. The last sale he conducted was the letting of Hamsterley Parks in 1894, when he caught a chill, and was never afterwards able to officiate. Since that time, Mr William Robinson, of Medomsley, has acted for him, and continues the business. Mr Oley was an ardent disciple of Isaac Walton, and for nearly 30 years a staunch teetotaler, an enthusiastic gardener, and for many years a strong adherent of the Wesleyan body. He was also one of the staunchest Radicals to be found in the country side. In all dealings he was upright and conscientious, and being well known and held in the highest esteem in the Derwent Valley, his death will be generally regretted. Although deceased obtained so great an age he was never strong, in fact his life was despaired of at the age of 17 years, but by careful attention to the state of his health, his life has been prolonged much beyond the allotted space. It was only a very short while ago that a testimonial was presented by the local residents to Mr Oley. He was a widower, but leaves a family. The funeral will be at Ebchester on Friday afternoon.

CRICKET.

MATCHES WANTED.

Allendale Park Cricket Club have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up with second or moderate first teams. Address: J. Bewley, 81, Allendale Cottages, Medomsley.

HOCKEY.

DERWENT VALLEY v ST. GEORGE'S B.

At Shotley Bridge on Saturday. The Valley team will be chosen from the following:—T. D. Dales (capt), J. R. Parker, J. E. Thorpe, H. G. Young, J. M. Nicholson, G. G. Bolam, F. von Fischer, J. W. Ormerod, J. Todd, F. J. Wiggins, G. Walton, J. Spencer, and C. T. Foreman. Bully-off at 2-30.

FOOTBALL.

TEAMS FOR SATURDAY.

DIPTON WANDERERS v LEADGATE EXILES.

At Dipton. The Wanderers will try two new men—T Joyce, of Shotley Bridge, and T Houston, of Axwell Rovers. The following will do duty for Dipton—Goal, W Ellis; backs, T Rowell and M Evans; half backs, R Cesses, T Houston, and J Milburn; forwards, J R Robson, H Bolam, W Gray, T Walker, and T Joyce. Kick-off at 2-15.

HOBSON WANDERERS v OAKEY'S LILYWHITES.

This fixture, for the benefit of the Stanley Cricket Club, will take place at Stanley, when Hobson will be chosen from the following—McNeil, Weedy, Liddle, Heslin, E Henderson, Pearson, Muirhead, Gibbon, Bell, Lown, and Maddison. Referee, Mr E Gailes.

BLACKHILL ROVERS v TYNE DOCK.

At Tyne Dock. The Rovers' team will be as follows:—Full back, T Elliott; three-quarter backs, Carr, R Stobbs, J Brown, and R Dodds; half-backs, P Dodds and J Anderson; forwards, A Taylor, J McCay, G Myers, G Hewitson, J Dawson, F Warwick, H W Wilson, and J Askew.

STANLEY ATHLETIC v OXHILL VIOLETS.

These teams have arranged to meet at Oxhill to play a match for the benefit of a lad who got his leg broken at Tanfield early in the season, in the game Stanley v Tanfield. It is to be hoped that there will be a large attendance, as the object of the match is a deserving one. Oxhill team—Goal, J Smith; backs, J Roddam and J McCabe; half backs, R Cutter, M Dargue, and T Shield; forwards, Dawson, McClennell, Hunter, Storey, and Smith. Referee, J Mumford. Linesman, J Mumford. The Stanley team will be chosen from the following—Goal, Handy; backs, R Henderson and T Wheatley; half backs, W Atkinson, M Smith, E Duffy, and J Lowery; forwards, E Foster, S Renfrey, M Dawson, J McGregor, R Chaytor, and H B Anderson.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

CONSETT v WHICKHAM.

The following team will represent Consett on the Whickham enclosure—Goal, F Kempster; backs, T Robinson and C Prescod; half-backs, T Simpson, J Carruthers, and R Wake; forwards, J Blackwell and R Robinson, right wing; F Smith, centre; R Harkness and W Graham, left wing.

MARLEY HILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v BYER MOOR.

At Marley Hill, when a good game is sure to be witnessed. The "Saints" will be as follows—Goal, T Grant; backs, B Davison and J Ringer; half backs, P Cullen (capt), E Cullen, and J Croft; forwards, McEnaney, P McDermott, D McDermott, J Gilbert, and W Douglas. Byer Moor—Goal, R Hodgson; backs, B Lamb and T Leighton; half-backs, J Brown, G Nicholls, and T Pharoh; forwards, W Allan, B Casper, P Keefe, E Leighton, and W Brown. Kick-off at 2-15. Referee, Mr John Ross, jun., Consett.

SPEN ALBION v LINTZFORD.

These old rivals will meet under the league flag on the Spen pitch. The meeting of the teams is awaited with keen interest, as both have a like number of points to their credit. A hard struggle is confidently looked forward to, and should the weather prove favourable, a monster gate is expected. Lintzford team—Goal, T Smith; backs, J Smith and Andrews; half-backs, Gibson, Dodds, and Anderson; forwards, Jas Andrews, T Smith, J Laing, Seymour, and Ferry. Kick-off at 2-30. Referee, Mr C Ternent, Consett.

HOBSON WANDERERS RESERVE v SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS.

This fixture takes place at the Hobson, when the following will be the home team—Goal, Wilkinson; backs, Smith and McOne; half backs, Hall, Croudace, and Johnson; forwards, R and W Hindhaugh, Cook, Bell, and Layton. Kick-off at 2-30. Referee, Mr G Short, Spen.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LEAGUE.

CONSETT TOWN SWIFTS v KYO UNITED.

At Consett. The Swifts' team will be—Goal, H Highfield; backs, T Skelton and J McKie; half-backs, J Rafferty, B McKie, and J Allison (capt); forwards, J Little and J Dempsey, right wing; F Dawsey, centre; M Eustace and J Turley, left wing. Linesman, J Finnigan. Referee, Mr Brown.

CHESTER-LE-STREET LEAGUE.

OUSTON v OAKEY'S LILYWHITES A.

This league fixture will be played at Ouston. The following will do duty for Oakey's—Goal, Brydon; backs, Shield and Cunningham; half-backs, Gailes, Brydon, and Harrison; forwards, Cunningham, Purvis, Gibson, Masterman, and Wilson. Referee, Mr Gibbon.

CONSETT & DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

CONSETT TOWN SWIFTS RESERVE v CROOKHALL WANDERERS.

At Crookhall. Swifts' team—Goal, A McDonald; backs, J Walton and G Wood; half-backs, J Sheldon, R Bradley, and T Clark; forwards, B Halliday, G Hamilton, J Jones, J Hamilton and R Tindle. Linesman, J White. Referee, Mr T Reed, Leadgate.

CONSETT SWIFTS JUNIORS v CONSETT JUNIORS.—To be played on the latter's ground. Swifts' team—Goal, T Edwards; backs, C McNally and E Marshall; half backs, W Atkinson, P Mcardle, and M Moore; forwards, W Walton, J Finnigan, A Robinson, E Pratt, and J Noble. Juniors' team—G Lewis; backs, J Lee and T Thompson; half backs, Dimmick, Lowdenson, and Mullen; forwards, J Longhorn, Morgan, J Lee, S Dimmick, and T Jones.

BLACKHILL ST. BEDE'S RESERVE v HAMSTERLEY UNITED.—This match will be played at Blackhill, when the following will represent the home team—Goal, S Johnson; backs, W Moore and M Robinson; half backs, R Moss, W Anderson, and J Grayson; forwards, Coyle, Harrison, Tweed, Russell, and Lodge.

HAMSTERLEY WHITE STARS v BLACKFYNE JUNIORS.—At Hamsterley. Stars' team—Goal, C Budd; backs, J Hay and T Blacklock; half backs, J Nichol, T Ellwood, and J Lewthwaite; forwards, B Grey, G Richardson, J W Hogg, C Kirtley, and F Cawthorn.

DURHAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION.

We have to acknowledge the receipt of a circular from Mr John Glover, giving the draw for the Junior Cup, together with the names of the referees appointed. We append those for the Consett District:—Hobson v Lintz, J. Costello, Leadgate; Marley Hill v Axwell Rovers, J. Ross, jun., Consett; Lintzford v Greenside, A. Fletcher, Swalwell; Consett v Oakey's Lilywhites, T. Amos, Hobson; Lintz Rovers v Leadgate Exiles, G. Grey, Marley Hill; Hedley Hill v Consett Swifts, J. Hall, Lintzford; Whickham v Dipton Wanderers, H. Smith, Gateshead; Kyo v Spen, J. A. Smith, Tanfield; Leadgate Park v Byer Moor, R. W. Little, West Stanley. To be played on ground of the first-named club, on Jan. 18th. Kick-off not later than 2-15.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, January 1st, 1896.—Before Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker (in the chair), and F. S. Newall.

Drunkenness.

For this offence fines were imposed as under.—Cuthbert Robson, 5/-; John Greveson, 2/6; Mat. Wear, 2/6; Henry Baty, 2/6; Thos Muluy, 5/-; Henry Batey, 2/6; Thos. Handyside, 2/6; John Gaffney, 5/-; Wm. Marshall, 2/6; Richard Chiley, 5/-; Jas. Potts, 1/6; Frances Cumcarn 10/-. Costs following in every case.

Pugilists.

John O'Hara, and Thos Houghton for fighting at Chester-le-Street, were ordered to be bound over in the sum of £5 each, and to pay the costs. William Armstrong and Edward Scott for a similar offence at Eighton Banks were dealt with in the same way.

Pitch and Toss.

Martin McGee, Thos. Shevells, Wm. Pattison, Robert Pattison and John Johnson were charged with playing pitch and toss at Pelton Fell, on the 15th December. Sergt. Urwin proved the case, and defendants were fined 2/6 each and costs.

More Light.

James Parkinson was charged under the County Bye Laws with driving with insufficient lights at Birtley, on the 23rd December. Sergt. Hutchinson proved the case and defendant having admitted the charge he was fined 2/6 and costs.

Maintenance of Parents.

At the instance of Mr. John McKay, relieving officer, the Beech made orders for the maintenance of parents as under:—George Caisley 1/- week; Nicholas Simpson was ordered to pay £2 12s 6d., arrears; Matt. and Robert Hutchinson, the latter of whom did not appear, were brought up in arrears. Matt. being a hair dresser at Hebburn, order made for £3 against Matt.; and £3 9s., against Robt. Abraham Dyson ordered to pay 1/- a week. Thos. Hall, Lavinger Hall, George Hall, and John Hall, were ordered to pay 6d. a week to their mother. William Aisher and George Aisher, were ordered to pay 2/- a week to their father. Chas. Dockerty, Francis Dockerty and Peter Dockerty were ordered to pay 1/- to their mother. Matthew Dodds, who is in arrears £2 5s for his mother's maintenance, defendant said two of his children had died in the meantime, and the pit had worked badly. Ordered to pay the amount.

BLACKHILL

OLD ESTABLISHED POSTING BUSINESS.

PROPRIETOR:—

GEORGE J. CHRISTOPHER.

Postal Address: Geo. J. Christopher, Blackhill. Telegraphic Address: Christopher, Blackhill.

Hearse of the most Modern and Unique Design. Mourning Coaches. Carriages for Weddings. Brakes and Waggonettes for Pleasure Parties. Posting in all its Branches done upon the most reasonable terms.

Attendant at Yard from 7 a.m. until 9 p.m., where orders may be left. 258q

SERIOUS FIRE AT CONSETT.

NARROW ESCAPE OF THE INMATES.

£700 DAMAGES.

On Tuesday morning, a fire, which might have been much more disastrous had it not been for the prompt action of the authorities, occurred in the shop premises of Mr. William Evelyn Turner, clothier and tobacconist, Front Street, Consett. It appears that Mr. Turner arose at seven o'clock, and admitted the servant girl, not observing anything amiss, he returned upstairs again, and retired to rest again, sleeping with his wife and only daughter (aged about 5 years) in a room over the back part of the shop. During that time, however, it will be seen that a fire had been smouldering amongst the drapery goods at the back part of the shop. About 8 o'clock, Mr. John Davison, as he came down the street, perceived smoke issuing from the fanlight over the shop doorway. He immediately gave an alarm, and entering the house by the side door. He found the servant girl was busily employed in the kitchen. The smoke must have penetrated the bedroom above the shop, because Mr. Davison experienced some difficulty in rousing Mr. Turner and Mrs. Turner, and daughter, this was only accomplished with the utmost difficulty, as they were apparently overcome by the suffocating fumes and smoke. Mr. Turner at once endeavoured to enter the premises, but as soon as the doors were opened he was met by a large volume of smoke and flame. Before anything could be done the lower part of the premises, in which the stock was confined, was ablaze, and the flames were playing and havoc. Very soon the flames spread, and ignited a large quantity of matches stored in the shop, and it was thought at one time it was going to be a hopeless case, and all the whole block of property along with the stock-in-trade would be destroyed. Messrs J. W. Davison and Sons, who have a large furnishers' establishment opposite to the property occupied by Mr. Turner, rendering every assistance with a small hose pipe, until the Consett Fire Brigade, under the direction of Captain Wm. Rippon, Town Surveyor, vice-captain George T. Egglestone and Lieutenant Andrew Thompson arrived on the scene. Capt. Rippon at once took prompt action, and whilst he was engaged in opening out the fire-plugs he quickly despatched Lieut. Thompson to the Fire Station, which was close at hand, with his assistance, immediately had the two appliances to hand, and in less than six minutes, the stand pipes were fixed, and water was playing on the flames. With a plentiful service of water at hand, the Brigade men had the whole of the hose pipes in operation, and began to operate on the flames, both from the front and back of the premises. Some delay was at first experienced in getting the stream of water focussed on the centre of the burning mass at the rear of the shop, but as soon as this was done, the firemen's work began to show effect in subduing the flames. After active operations had been carried on for about an hour, the flames were got under at half-past nine. It was then ascertained that the greater portion of the stock was entirely destroyed. The fire had originated at the back part of the shop; but from what cause it is not known. Mr. Turner, whose stock had been augmented for the Christmas season, had fully £700 worth of goods on his premises. The loss is only partly covered by insurance. Luckily, the flames were confined to the shop, and the building and furniture and household effects were but slightly injured, which was principally caused by the smoke and water. Every credit is due to Capt. Rippon for the way he got his brigade-men to work. Inspector Best, Sergeant Dryden, and a force of police rendered valuable assistance in controlling the crowd, while P.C. Carruthers deserves special mention for his exertions inside the premises.

MOURNING CARDS in all the Newest Patterns printed neatly and expeditiously at the Guardian Office, Consett. 534p

TO THE BEREAVED.

T. C. RAWES & Co.

Beg to say that they have made special arrangements and can now supply OAK, ELM, and PITCH PINE POLISHED COFFINS at the following rates, guaranteed the best workmanship and quality:—

Adult Polished Oak Coffin, brass-mounted with a Pair-Horse Hearse, from £5 5s.

Adult Polished Elm or Pitch Pine, brass mounted, with Pair-Horse Hearse, from £3 10s. 0d.

Adult Black Cloth, with Pair-Horse Hearse from £2 2s. 0d.

Children's at equally low prices.

Cabs, Coaches, &c.

A Stock always in hand, which can be finished at a few hours notice. Attendance day and night.

Shrouds, Wreaths, &c.

FUNERAL FURNISHERS, CONSETT.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

RIDLEY.—At Wearhead, on the 30th ult., the wife of H. A. Ridley, of a daughter. 2771

MARRIAGES.

DODD—TURNER.—At Chapter Row Wesleyan Chapel, South Shields, on the 28th ult., by the Rev J. Leathley, William, fourth son of the late A. H. Dodd, of Consett, to Hannah Short, third daughter of Mr G. Turner, of South Shields. 2625

DEATHS.

BELL.—No. 4, Westwood, 1st inst., aged 63, Mary Ann, wife of John Bell.

CRESSWELL.—Dipton, 3rd inst., aged 58, Mary Cresswell, wife of the late John Evens.

KENNEDY.—Hand-in-Hold, West Pelton, 1st inst., aged 2 years and 7 months, William, son of David and Isabella Kennedy.

OLEY.—Shotley Bridge, 10, Wood Street, in his 90th year, Joseph Oley, late auctioneer. To be interred at Ebchester on Friday, 10th inst. To lift at 2-30 p.m. Friends please accept this intimation. 2701

REAY.—Stanley, Ramsey Street, 4th inst., aged 2 years and 4 months, Mary, daughter of Mary and the late Wm. Reay.

SMITH.—Dipton, Hill Top, 2nd inst., aged 48, Thomas, husband of Isabella Smith.

TURNBULL.—Twizell Hall, Chester-le-Street, 31st ult., aged 57, George Turnbull.

In affectionate remembrance of Ann Price, beloved wife of James Wiseman, Watling Street, Leadgate, who died January 12th, 1895.

"Thy will be done." 2671

In loving memory of my dear grandmother, Ann Mayer, who died January 7th, 1880, at Weskerley, aged 66 years.

"Ever remembered"

By her Grand-daughter, A. P.

2671

In affectionate remembrance of Barbara Oyston, the beloved wife of Jos. Oyston, who died at Logan House, Jan. 7th, 1894, aged 60 years.

"Ever remembered"

2631 By Husband and Family.

In loving memory of Mary Gibson, the beloved wife of Samuel Melvin Gibson, who died on January 13th, 1894.

A light is from our household gone,
A voice we loved is stilled;
A place is vacant in our home
Which never can be filled.
"Gone, but not forgotten." 2613

In affectionate remembrance of William Cannon, of Consett, who died January 6th, 1892, aged 49 years.

"Gone, dear Willie, gone for ever,
Here no more with me thou art;
Suddenly it came upon me—
Willie, dear, with thee to part."
"Ever remembered"

2675 By his Wife.

GEORGE HOPE, MONUMENTAL SCULPTOR IN MARBLE, STONE, AND GRANITE, LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD, AND STANLEY. INSCRIPTIONS neatly executed in Town or Country. Special Designs and Estimates on application.

WM. AYTON & SONS' MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN STONE, MARBLE, & GRANITE, JESSAMINE COTTAGE, BENFIELDSIDE. Designs on application, and Special Designs prepared. Inscriptions neatly cut at moderate charges. Works & Show-rooms in Goods Yard, Blackhill.

Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON at the Atmospheric Printing Works, 50, Front Street, Consett,—Friday, Jan. 10th, 1896