The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 683. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} SATURDAY, JANUARY 17th, 1874. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

BIRD'S EYE RETURNS.

DICKINSON,
TOBACCO MANUFACTURER,
22 AND 24, BIGG MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 239

P. OSBORNE,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
FRONT STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Valuations effected for Probate, &c. 227c

ARTIFICIAL TEETH, Quality and Construction unsurpassed, fixed with every recent improvement in Gold, Silver, Coralite, and all pure material known to the profession. Mineral Teeth from 5s. each. Scaling, Stopping, &c. Children's Teeth regulated, and every other operation in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.—DE LACY, Dentist, 70, Grainger Street. 9

BRIAR ROOT AND MEERSCHAUM PIPES.

HORN SNUFF BOXES.

JOHN TELFER has just received a large quantity of very Fine French and German BRIAR PIPES, tipt with beautiful Amber, from 1s. to 2s. each.

Also, a Lot of MEERSCHAUM PIPES, from 2s. 6d. upwards, in Spring Leather Cases.

A Splendid Assortment of Highly-finished HORN SNUFF BOXES, suitable for presents, at

JOHN TELFER'S,
TOBACCO MANUFACTURER,
9 to 11, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE. 894c

JUST FORFEITED.—First-class Gold and Silver Watches, by the best makers, Gold and Silver Alberts, Guards, Wedding and Fancy Rings, at about half the original cost.—J. TAYLOR, Pawnbroker, 12, Broad Chare, Newcastle. 749c

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WHITELAW'S CELEBRATED INDIA PALE ALES, and MILD EDINBURGH ALES. Offices and Stores: 23, WATERLOO STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. WILLIAM MIDDLEMASS, Sole Agent.

McEWAN'S
CELEBRATED EDINBURGH ALES
AND INDIA PALE ALE,
Are daily rising in public estimation.
Newcastle Stores and Offices—
FOUNTAIN HOUSE, Charlotte Square.
343 JAMES C. McINTOSH, Agent.

A. RICHARDSON,
BUILDER, CABINET-MAKER, & GENERAL HOUSE FURNISHER,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

Feathers, Flocks, Rabbit Down, and Mattresses. 892a

BLACKETT STREET TEA AND GROCERY WAREHOUSE,
91 and 93, BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

JAMES JOHNSON, FAMILY GROCER AND TEA DEALER. Teas, Coffees, and Spices of the Choicest Quality. Good Useful Teas from 2s. per pound. Coffees 1s. per pound. Household Soaps from 3d. per pound. All kinds of Drysaltery Goods cheap and of the best Quality. Hotels and families supplied at wholesale prices.

TERMS—CASH. 879a

FUNERAL ECONOMY.

E. H. HUTCHINSON,
HOUSE CARPENTER, JOINER, AND UNDERTAKER,
11, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

IS now prepared to execute FUNERAL ORDERS to any extent. ☞ Coffins always ready, or made to order. 483d

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TO PARTIES FURNISHING.

VISIT ALEXANDER MOLTENI'S
NOTED
FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT,
76, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE,

WHERE a large and excellent assortment of NEW and SECOND-HAND FURNITURE, &c., is always on hand to select from.

Also, PIANOFORTES and HARMONIUMS by the best makers, at exceedingly moderate prices.

All Orders punctually attended to. 172d

WILLIAM WILKINSON,
FURNITURE BROKER & HARDWAREMAN,
CATCHGATE,

BEGS to inform his Friends of Catchgate and surrounding neighbourhood that he has OPENED his NEW PLACE OF BUSINESS, and is now prepared to do Business in all classes of Household Furniture, Flocks, Feathers, and Rabbit Down, Iron Beds, and Paper Hangings very cheap.

W.W. has on hand a Large Stock of WATCHES, both Gold and Silver, Gold and Silver ALBERTS, CHAINS, and JEWELLERY, which he is prepared to Sell Wholesale and Retail.

Hardware and Fancy Goods in all its different branches. 987c

OBSERVE THE ADDRESS—
OPPOSITE THE TOWN HALL, CATCHGATE.

THE TEST OF TWENTY YEARS
HAS FULLY PROVED THAT
THE PATENT LEVER WATCHES
MADE BY
JOHN D. CARIS,
20, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD,
ARE THE
BEST TIME KEEPERS ON RECORD,
WHILE THEY ARE ALSO
CHEAPER IN PRICE.

☞ Buyers of the above, within a radius of twelve miles, are allowed third-class railway fare. 135a

Business Announcements.

ITALIAN WAREHOUSE,
AND GENERAL GROCERY AND PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
THE TEA DEALER,
3, MIDDLE STREET, 11, NELSON STREET, CONSETT; AND FRONT [illegible] LEADGATE.

TEAS OF THE FINEST PICKINGS.
THE NEW INDIAN TEAS,
Specially recommended for Strength and Flavour.

FINEST CUMBERLAND, IRISH, AND AMERICAN BACON.
WESTPHALIAN HAMS.
CUMBERLAND, IRISH, AND KIEL BUTTER.
PRIME STILTON, CHEDDAR, DOUBLE GLOUCESTER, CHESHIRE, & AMERICAN CHEESE.
PICKLED LOBSTERS, SALMON, SARDINES, CHICKEN, HAM, AND TONGUE.

MARMALADES, JAMS, AND JELLIES.
CANDIED FRUITS, RAISINS, FIGS, PRUNES, &c.
SPICES OF ALL KINDS.

☞ *ORDERS FROM THE COUNTRY PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.*

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
THE TEA DEALER,
3, MIDDLE STREET, 11, NELSON STREET, CONSETT; AND FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,

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W. AYNSLEY has much pleasure in stating, that, notwithstanding the considerable increase in the price of WINES & SPIRITS lately made by many other houses consequent upon the failure of the vintages abroad, he is still enabled to supply Messrs. W. & A. GILBEY'S various brands of WINES & SPIRITS at the same prices as hitherto. This is owing to the large stocks which are held by Messrs. W. & A. GILBEY, amounting in some instances to upwards of two years' consumption. Should the upward tendency of prices continue, an increase at some future period will be inevitable, but at the present time the prices of Messrs. W & A GILBEY'S WINES & SPIRITS are considerably below those of any other quoted house, while their quality, which can be easily tested by comparison, has secured for them a trade amounting to a twentieth part of the entire quantity of Foreign Wines consumed in the United Kingdom

The undermentioned WINES & SPIRITS, from their moderate price, are specially suited for ordinary consumption at this season. They are guaranteed by Messrs. W. & A GILBEY to be imported from the places named, and to be according to the descriptions given

BOOKS OF PRICES of upwards of 200 varieties of WINES & SPIRITS forwarded on application

WINES		Per Bott.	Per Doz.	SPIRITS	Per Bott.	Per Doz.
Castle VP *Pale* MARSALA SHERRY *from Sicily, 3 years old*		1/4	16/	Castle UP UNSWEETENED GIN *33 under proof*	2/	24/
Castle 1A *Pale* SHERRY *from Spain, 3 years old*		1/6	18/	Castle UP IRISH WHISKEY *33 under proof*	2/3	27/
Castle 1 SPANISH PORT *from Spain, 2 years old*		1/3	15/	Castle UP SCOTCH WHISKEY *33 under proof*	2/3	27/
Castle 1A PORT *from Portugal, 4 years old*		1/9	21/	Castle UP *Pale* BRANDY *33 under proof*	2/3	27/
Castle A CLARET *from Bordeaux, 4 years old*		1/	12/	Castle D *Pale* COGNAC BRANDY *33 under proof*	3/	36/
Castle 1 CHAMPAGNE (Sparkling) *from the Champagne District*	Quarts	2/5	29/	Castle UP JAMAICA RUM *33 under proof*	2/3	27/
	Pints	1/5	16/6			

W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT & LEADGATE

W. AYNSLEY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WINE, SPIRIT, AND ALE MERCHANT,
No. 11, NELSON STREET, CONSETT,
(Adjoining his Grocery and Provision Establishment.)

Families supplied with the following celebrated Mild and Bitter Ales in bottles, also in nine and eighteen gallon casks:—

BASS OR ALLSOP'S INDIA PALE ALES.
GUINNESS'S STOUT.
EDINBURGH ALES.
SPLENDID EDINBURGH ALE IN SPARKING CONDITION ON DRAUGHT, AT 4d PER QUART.
BURTON ALES AT 5d AND 6d PER QUART, SOLD REGULARLY AT 8d.

Business Announcements.

INDIAN TEA.

(From the "Weekly Chronicle.

SIR,—I was much interested by an advertisement in your paper by MR. W. Stewart concerning Indian Tea, and as a planter of tea myself, I am very glad to find our teas coming into such close notice at home.

Mr. Stewart, while pointing out the superior strength of Indian Tea, surmises that the Chinese plantations are becoming exhausted, to account for the weakness of their teas; but this is hardly the reason. The Assam indigenous plant is in appearance, in luxuriance of yield, and in the strength of its produce, vastly superior to the China tree. We have plenty of both in our plantations—the former being a fine large shrub with broad light green leaves, and the young shoots of quite a silky softness (the China plant is much smaller in size and in leaf); the latter being hard and dark coloured, and it yields not more than two-thirds of the indigenous out-turn. Now, here, tea made from the China plant sells at from 4d. to 8d. per pound lower than that made from the Assam plant on account of its weakness, although the conditions of manufacture are identical; and I think Mr. Stewart and your other readers will see that it is not hard to touch the real reason, i.e., natural inferiority of plant.

Judging from the prices we have been getting for the last eighteen months, and which have quite changed the hue of our prospects, I should say that 4s. per pound is very moderate, as an invoice of good tea will bring over 3s. in Mincing Lane without any duty charges.

After it leaves Mincing Lane, we planters never know what becomes of it, and one seldom sees it directly advertised; but I am confident that people who try it will rapidly give up China tea for good and all, and it certainly can go twice as far.

Yours truly,

Annfield, Debrah Doon, January 9th, 1872. J. F. W. W. 589b

CONSETT STEAM PRINTING WORKS.

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER, STATIONER, LITHOGRAPHER, BOOKBINDER, &
GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

EVERY description of LETTERPRESS PRINTING executed in the first style of typography, with accuracy and despatch, on the most reasonable terms.
SHOW CARDS, BUSINESS CARDS, CONTRIBUTION CARDS, and TICKETS of all kinds.
WEDDING CARDS, FUNERAL CARDS, and MOURNING CARDS.
PAMPHLETS, CLUB RULES, AUCTIONEERS' CATALOGUES, and REPORTS and RULES of Public Institutions and Societies.
PROGRAMMES, BOOKS OF WORDS, and CONCERT BILLS in the most approved styles.
BALANCE SHEETS, INVOICES, and DELIVERY NOTES.
HAND BILLS POSTING BILLS, PLACARDS, and WINDOW BILLS, of all sizes, in black and coloured inks, executed in a bold and effective style.
CIRCULARS, LETTER HEADINGS, and ORDER NOTES.
SERMONS, LECTURES, and all kinds of BOOK WORK neatly and quickly executed.
CHEQUE BOOKS of all descriptions made to order
and CLOTH and PARCHMENT TALLIES.
LITHOGRAPHING and ENGRAVING.
BRASS and ZINC WINDOW and DOOR PLATES.
BOOKBINDING in all its Branches.
A large Supply of LEDGERS, DAY BOOKS, MINUTE BOOKS, and every variety of STATIONERY

THE FOLLOWING ARE KEPT IN STOCK:—
OVERSEERS' COLLECTING AND DEPOSIT BOOKS.
HIGHWAY RATE BOOKS and HIGHWAY RATE RECEIPT BOOKS.
POOR RATE BOOKS and POOR RATE RECEIPT BOOKS.

B. MOODY
WATCH-MAKER, EBCHESTER. 708b

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER, HOUSE AGENT, APPRAISER, AND FURNITURE BROKER,
TRAFALGAR STREET CONSETT.

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

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E. FARNSWORTH,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,
LICENSED DEALER IN GAME and POULTRY of all kinds.

ALSO, Fresh RABBITS always on hand. Wholesale and Retail FRUIT and POTATO Merchant. Fresh BUTTER, EGGS, and CHEESE. Licensed Dealer in TOBACCO. 523c

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KNOX AND BATES,
BUILDERS, JOINERS, CABINET-MAKERS, AND UNDERTAKERS,
GIBSON STREET, CONSETT,

BEG to announce that they have succeeded to the Business for many years successfully carried on by Mr. JOHN ROUTLEDGE, and trust by good workmanship, punctuality in the execution of all orders, and moderate prices, to merit public support. 490

IMPROVED CONCRETE FLOORING.

JOHN DOVE & Co.,
35, CLOSE, NEWCASTLE.

PORTLAND AND ROMAN CEMENT supplied to CONTRACTORS, BUILDERS, and others in any quantities.

CONCRETE FLOORING for COACH HOUSES, STABLES, KITCHENS, and OUT-HOUSES, done by experienced Workmen. Is not effected by Damp or Heat, more Durable than Flags, and not more than HALF THE PRICE.

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE, 35, CLOSE.

AGENT FOR HENRY C. WEBB'S
WORCESTER GEOMETRICAL, MOSAIC, AND ENCAUSTIC TILES.

NORTHERN FIRE & LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
ESTABLISHED 1836.

Capital (fully subscribed)......£2,000,000.
Accumulated Funds..........1,241,000.
Annual Revenue..............413,000.

Farming Stock, Public and Private Buildings, Household Furniture, &c., Stock-in-Trade, and Goods of almost every description Insured on the most favourable terms. All Policies issued by the Company include the risk of *explosion by Gas*, without extra Premium. During the last 10 years the "Northern" has paid more than *One Million Sterling* for Claims under its Fire Policies. Life Assurances, Endowments, and Annuities granted. Tables and full particulars on application to the District Agents:—

HOBSON & LIDDELL,
Neville Street (opposite the Central Station Hotel),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 716

BURRELL AND COMPANY,
METAL BROKERS & GENERAL DEALERS,
LANCHESTER. 21d

JAMES MURRAY & Co.,
HOUSE, LAND, AND ESTATE AGENTS,
GRAINGER STREET, WEST,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

PROPERTIES of every description disposed of at reasonable terms.

Houses wanted in town and country to rent and purchase.

Estates managed and collected wherever situated.

Loans on property effected. 684c

THOMAS LONGSTAFF,
WINE, SPIRIT, AND ALE MERCHANT,
"MASONS' ARMS,"
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,

HAS always on hand the best Foreign WINES, WHISKEY, RUM, GIN, and BRANDY; also, SPARKLING ALES from the best Burton and Edinburgh Breweries.

WEDDING, CHRISTENING, and FUNERAL PARTIES supplied with Spirits in quantities or in Bottles from 2s. 3d. to 3s. 4d. each. 311d

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JOSHUA LAX,
FURNISHING IRONMONGER,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

AGENT FOR THE HOME WASHER (the most perfect Washer yet invented), RIMINGTON'S MANGLES, TAYLOR'S PATENT SEWING MACHINES, and the SINGER SEWING MACHINES. At the Vienna Universal Exhibition the first prize—The Grand Medal of Progress—was awarded to the Singer Manufacturing Company for the unequalled excellence of the Singer Sewing Machines; and the Grand Medal of Merit for the best sewing done. In addition to these, the Company have also received *three medals* for their employés for the superior workmanship and perfection of the Company Manufactures. Illustrated Catalogues and prices may be had on application. Instructions given free.

LAWRENCE'S
CRYSTAL PERISCOPIC SPECTACLES.
Guaranteed to preserve the sight. Every pair warranted perfect. 230d

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A. MAY,
PRACTICAL CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER, JEWELLER, &c.,
No. 4, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

LEVER AND GENEVA WATCHES at All Prices.

GOLD AND PLATED JEWELLERY in great Variety.

GOLD AND SILVER ALBERT CHAINS of the latest Style.

WEDDING RINGS.

English and Foreign Clocks and Watches of every description carefully examined and repaired.

Jewellery neatly repaired, and done on most reasonable terms.

Country Orders Attended to.

Poetry: Original and Select.

BEST SIGN OF THE SEASON.

Of the mildness of the Season
Many a pretty proof we've seen;
Blossoms plum and apple trees on,
Daisies blooming on the green,
Primroses and periwinkles,
Violets, too, on banks that blow,
Hard by where the sheep-bell tinkles,
Lambkins bleat, and heifers low.
Birds that raise untimely voices;
Song and missel thrush that sing,
So as when their kind rejoices
O'er a fine fat slug in spring.
Toads and frogs from winter's slumber,
Which on sunny days awake;
Ere a few more hours they number,
They may find out there mistake.

South-west wind, a green Yule blowing,
Fatten churchyard though it should,
Late mild weather in bestowing
Is a wind that blew us good.
Blew the Ring down, which awaited
Bitter winter; bless their souls!
Kent demand back, and abated,
Prosperous gale, the price of coals.
Of all tokens of the present,
Or the recent, season mild,
This one is the sign most pleasant;
Grate with cheaper fuel piled.
'Tis the best in Country papers
Mentioned, copied thence by Town,
Making them that read cut capers;
News that coals are going down.

—*Punch.*

STRAWS.

The Hebrews, when they had no straws,
To make Egyptian bricks with,
Had for complaint an ample cause
That they were played sad tricks with.
And now and then we modern men
An equal grievance light on,
When called upon to ply the pen—
With nought on earth to write on!

An Editor who wants "a col—
Please turn the tap of verse on;"
While on his chair he's pleased to loll
Is a despotic person,
Whom I should like to kick or strike,
Or set my dog to bite on;—
He wants a column, hungry tyke!
I've nought on earth to write on;

I call, his wicked hopes to scrunch,
My grievance by debating;—
They tell me that he's gone to lunch
And add—"the printer's waiting."
From inky rill I snatch his quill,
The paper scrawl with spite on,
"You may want copy, sir, but still
I've nought on earth to write on!"

But while I write it—here he is:
I wish he wasn't present.
I cannot bear his smiling phiz,
His manners bland and pleasant.
"Thanks, much," says he, "full well I see
You're now Parnassus' height on!"
Confound his bearing frank and free—
I've nought on earth to write on!

Quoth he, "the devil waits outside!"
Oh, how I wish he'd got him!
I wish I'd had the sense to hide,
The courage to garotte him.
Alas! 'tis vain, I must remain
In this unhappy plight on,
Till I've a column off my brain,
With nought on earth to write on.

—*Fun.*

Varieties.

Extracts from PUNCH.

A REGULAR BRITON.—"It was Mr Robinson gave me that boat, Aunty!"—"And did you kiss him for it, Arthur?"—"No indeed! As if men were in the habit of kissing each other, aunty!"

AN ANSWER TO AN ECCLESIASTICAL CORRESPONDENT.—"Gregory's Powder." Quite right. You win your bet. The Rev. Mr Gregory first invented his own powder, and then, as an appropriate compliment, he was made a Canon.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.—Undergraduatesses at Cambridge. Ladies are to be admitted as members of the University. Three Graces have passed the Senate. Next year the Margaret Professorship will be held by a young lady. So will the Divinity Professorship. The holder of the latter must herself be a Divinity.

Extracts from JUDY.

Christmas waits. No, it goes and comes again.

"There's raison in everything," as Pat said of plum-pudding.

"What's port to you is death to me," as the gouty man said to his son.

What bone is best developed in policeman?—The "collar" bone.

A married man of much experience speaks of ladies as the opposing sex instead of the opposite.

DES FEMMES SAVANTES.—Some men say that ladies look better in muslin than print.

It has been stated that the Ashantees are bad marksmen. They don't look very *aimiable* fellows.

What is the best argument against young ladies standing up to play at cricket?—Because they never ought to be bowled.

Extracts from FUN.

INJUDICIOUS INVESTMENT.—Paying a shilling to see a Penny-rama.

MOTTO FOR THE 1ST FEBRUARY.—"Cease you Gunning."

A Common Complaint with Rotten Ships.—Teak dolourenx.

OUT ON YE!—Why is a weather prophet like a night cabman?—Because he is "out" in all weathers.

A STAGE REFLECTION.—A shrewd meteorologist has remarked that, when "the London lights" are distinctly visible from the hills of Kent and Surrey, it is a sure sign—of gas.

MOTTO FOR MR PLIMSOLL.—Crusade to Crow's aid.

FOR BETTER OR WORSE.—*Mrs McCarthy*: "Good morning, Mrs Maloney, and how be you?"—*Mrs Maloney*: "Sure, me darlint, and I'm very ill."—*Mrs McCarthy*: "Bedad then I hope you may keep so, for fear o' being worse."

TRITE, BUT SURELY NOT TRUE.—The favourite quotation: "Still they come."

THE DAY'S NEWS.—Morning broke at the usual hour to-day. The pieces will be shortly on view at the British Museum.—Night fell yesterday evening. It was promptly taken in charge, and brought before the sitting magistrate at Bow Street for being drunk and disorderly.

THE CHILD IS FATHER TO THE MAN.—*Charlie*: "I say, Ma! Pay me that shilling you promised me!"—*Mamma*: "Wait till I've finished my shopping here——"—*Charlie*: "Ah, but you won't have any money at all left then!"

AWFUL EXAMPLE.—(Enter to *Mr Punch*, who is writing his hardest for the evening post, a so-called Friend, who is simply on the lounge.)—*Friend*: Ah, my boy, how are you? Nearly five o'clock. How the days get out!—*Mr Punch*: Imitate them.—(Exit Friend.)

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The stirring and startling news which we have received from France and Spain has lately eclipsed home political intelligence; but now that the immediate crises in those two countries are nearly past, we begin to look again with interest at our own tamer political events. The pending inquiry into the petition against the return of the Attorney-General at Taunton, and the political contest at Newcastle, are the most interesting of immediate political events; but those who look ahead to the now fast-approaching session see in prospective party contests of no mean character. Over that celebrated 15th clause there must be a fight, and the Duke of St. Alban's, in presiding over the annual dinner of the Nottinghamshire Chamber of Agriculture, has just reminded us that we must be prepared for a practical consideration of the question of household suffrage in counties, which, if it be not at once taken up by the Government, will be brought forward by Mr George Otto Trevelyan, the member for the Hawick district, who is a man of mark and livelihood in the Liberal party. He has held office under the Liberal Government, having been a Lord of the Admiralty from 1868 to 1870, and he now commands the confidence and respect of many Liberals, though the whole party is by no means bound to adopt his views on this subject. Mr Trevelyan, however, is determined to bring in his Bill next Session for extending the franchise to the counties on the same terms as in boroughs. Whether, if he do this, he will receive sufficient support to carry it, remains to be seen. I doubt whether he will. Such a measure should be introduced by the Government of the day; and that it would be favourably considered by moderate men, we may conclude from the manner in which the Duke of St Alban's speaks of the measure.

The royal matrimonial alliance which is so shortly to unite the reigning houses of Russia and Great Britain, besides being a matter of public interest throughout Europe, and calling forth all sorts of comments from the British and the Continental Press, becomes the occasion for much royal fraternizing among the parties interested. Thus, when the Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Arthur arrived in Berlin about 7·30 on Monday morning they were received by the German Prince Imperial and conducted to his palace, which circumstance is only the commencement of a round of visits, receptions, fraternizations, and congratulations among the now inter-related families of Great Britain, Russia, Prussia, and Denmark. But all these amenities will be forgotten when a really serious international dispute arises.

With abundance of money at four per cent, we see the commencement of the natural result, the bringing out of companies. Company promoters, engineers, parliamentary agents, solicitors, and stock-brokers, are now on the *qui vive*; several new companies have been brought out; several more will be launched; and probably the majority will not float for long, but will founder and sink, and in due course will be wound up. A company is like a watch—when it stops, we wind it up; but it is unlike a watch, inasmuch as when a company is wound up it goes no more, unless it be to the dogs. There is a prospect of great enterprise during the spring in the founding of public companies. Let intending shareholders beware. Too many companies are started for the benefit of the class of gentlemen that I have mentioned, as well as for directors, secretaries, &c. These people nearly always find their account in these companies, let that long suffering individual the original shareholder suffer as he may.

Civic London mustered in force on the Holborn Viaduct on the 8th inst., to witness the unveiling of Mr Bacon's equestrian statue of the late Prince Consort. The ceremony was somewhat bungled; but, in the fulness of time, the statue was revealed to the gaze of the assembled crowd, and London owned itself the richer by one more unfortunate statue. For any merit which the figure of the stiff, awkward, fat horse possesses, it might have been placed in Trafalgar Square along with the other monstrosities. The head, shoulders, and fore legs of the horse show life and spirit but for the rest (including the figure of the Prince Consort) the less said the better. I sincerely hope that the efforts which are being made to secure a copy of Mr Foley's "Outram" will result in success. We ought at least to possess one creditable equestrian statue.

I have received a circular from a person calling himself "Thomas Frederick George Guelph, the Duke of York, &c., &c., rightful and lawful descendant by the legal marriage between George the Third and Hannah Lightfoot." Amongst the pretensions, he says he is "entitled to the arms of Hanover, also the dragon of Wales," and that the Prince of Wales "is only entitled to the arms of Saxe-Coburg, the arms that where his father's, who was a Prince, of Saxe-Coburg." It seems also that this aspirant to the throne of England has a sister who believes in his and her own claims. She some time since wrote to Mr Gladstone seeking for "the papers belonging to her brother's ancestors." She adds, "Also T. F. G. Guelph wishes their letter to be read in the presence of the Lords and those gentlemen sitting in council." If Mr Gladstone did comply with their request, how the Lords and gentlemen must have laughed!—Thomas Frederick George Guelph is also a poet, and here is a specimen of his verse:—

"Blest be the chick that brings to light
The dangers of this horrid night,
He who can all the story tell,
And let us know how C——s fell."

This is the seventy-ninth verse "from a poem written years ago." How many more verses there are he does not say, but perhaps this sample of the bulk will be enough.

It may be a mirage after all, but it looks like land. The end of the Tichborne case approaches. While I write, Dr Kenealy is, metaphorically speaking, on his last legs. The impatience of the public for the next phase of the drama is, I might almost say, savagely intense. "Why does not Dr Kenealy resume his seat? It is high time Mr Hawkins had his innings"—in such phrases the popular feeling finds vent. Rumours many and startling are rife as to the ultimate end of the case. We are promised, for example, "a sensation" to wind up with, the which will exceed all sensations that have hitherto distinguished the case. It is said—by the man in the street—that the jury are agreed: we shall see.

The *gobemouches* bid us expect with the end of the Tichborne case the elevation of Mr Hawkins to the Bench to fill the place rendered vacant in the Court of Exchequer by the retirement of Baron Martin. The rumour appears likely of realization. Mr Hawkins's turn has surely come for accepting the reward which to a barrister who has such an immensely arduous if lucrative practice takes the shape of a dignified retirement. Mr Baron Martin, however, will be a great loss to the Bench. A sound lawyer enough, he is moreover a man of great force of character, and it is a pity that the physical infirmity of deafness should deprive the country of the services of a most distinguished judge. In private life the Baron is at heart, a sportsman of the old-fashioned type, who likes "a bit of racing" so long as it is conducted on sterling old-fashioned principles, and takes the keenest interest in breeding problems. An Englishman upright and downright. Baron Martin's absence from the Exchequer is to be deplored.

The death of Mr Oke, the chief clerk of the Mansion House police court, suggests the desirability of having a sound, good lawyer in a similar position at all the metropolitan police-courts. Such a man as Mr Oke, who was the author of numerous legal works, was especially valuable because the magistrates at the Mansion House are not barristers; but even at the other courts, where the magistrates are barristers, it would certainly be advisable to have the aid of an experienced, impartial lawyer as chief clerk. We should not then have so many extraordinary decisions as we now have.

THE ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER AT HEBBURN.

THE INQUEST.

On Friday afternoon, an inquest was held at the Ellison House (Mr Bewick's), Hebburn, before John Graham, Esq., coroner, upon the body of John Foye, thirty-four years of age, who is alleged to have died from the effects of injuries received by being struck with a coal-rake over the forehead by a man named Francis Galloway, on New Year's morning, as we stated last week. The jury, of which Mr Torrens was foreman, having viewed the body, the first witness called was

Mary Syrie, a widow, who stated that deceased and Francis Galloway, lodged at her house in Ellison Street, Hebburn Quay. Deceased lodged at her house from the time of receiving his injuries up to his death. The men worked at Messrs. A Leslie and Co.'s shipbuilding yard. Foye had been to Newcastle, and returned home between six and seven o'clock on Wednesday night. He came into the kitchen of the house, and Galloway was also present. Martin McEwan, another lodger, and witness's son, Andrew Syrie, were also present. Upon Foye's coming into the house, he spoke about being at Newcastle and losing either 35s or 37s. He said he had fallen in a street, and he could not tell where he had lost his money. He did not miss it until he had got to the Newcastle Railway Station. Galloway began to chaff deceased, and said that he must have been amongst the women. Deceased was the worse for liquor at the time, and upon hearing these remarks, he became angry. Galloway was also drunk, but not so much as Foye. A quarrel then took place between deceased and Galloway, but no blows were struck. Witness persuaded them to keep quiet, and they afterwards took tea together, after which deceased went to bed. She thought Galloway went out of the house. About midnight Foye got out of bed, and had some whiskey; Galloway, witness, and the other lodgers being also in the room. Galloway gave the deceased two glasses of whiskey, witness and her son left the house for the purpose of going to a neighbour's house between two and three o'clock in the morning, leaving the men drinking in the house. She returned to her house about four o'clock, and her son went straight to bed. The deceased, Galloway, and McEwan were standing in the room. Deceased and Galloway were then quarrelling, respecting the former losing his money at Newcastle. Witness saw Foye strike Galloway on the head with his right hand and knock him into a closet in the corner of the room. Galloway afterwards came out of the closet, and went up to Foye. At this moment witness turned her head. She heard deceased cry out, "Oh, dear! Frank, you have done that well;" and when she looked round, she saw blood flowing from Foye's forehead, and Galloway with a coal-rake in his hand. The coal-rake produced by P.C. Dobson was the one she saw in the hand of Galloway. Witness took the coal-rake from Galloway, and placed a damp cloth upon deceased's forehead. Witness did not send for a doctor till Sunday. On Thursday, deceased went out, although his head was bleeding very much, to get some skin plaster. Deceased lost a great deal of blood from the wound. Dr McColl attended deceased on Sunday night. He died on Wednesday night, about seven o'clock.—By the Jury: The doctor was not called in sooner, as the wound was not thought to be very serious.—This witness was much confused when giving her evidence she making a number of different statements, and had frequently to be reminded by the Coroner that that she must be careful.

Martin McEwan, "holder-on" to the riveters at Messrs. Leslie's yard, Hebburn, said he lodged with the witness Syrie, and Foye came into the kitchen, drunk on the Wednesday night, saying he had lost 34s or 35s in Newcastle. Galloway and he then larked with him about it, and said he must have lost it amongst the women. Deceased got vexed, and tried to hit Galloway, but witness got between them, and no blows were struck at that time. They subsequently got their tea, and exchanged angry words. Witness here stated that Galloway was struck by deceased before he was twenty minutes in the house, the three men only being present. Galloway did not return the blow, and witness got them pacified. Foye again began to quarrel, and he would have struck prisoner but for witness, who got between them. After tea, witness brought in a bottle of whiskey, and Foye, Galloway, the landlady, and himself had some out of it. Witness got Foye persuaded to go to bed, which he did, but he did not know the time. They called him up when the New Year came in, just after midnight. At that time there were two bottles of whiskey on the table, and Galloway and witness gave deceased drink. Galloway and Foye were friendly for a while, but about half-past one they began to quarrel again, Foye threatening to strike him. Witness put Galloway out of the house, and Foye stripped and went to bed about half-past two. Witness then went out, and found Galloway in the street. After speaking together for some time, they went into the house along with the landlady, between three and four o'clock, and Galloway took up the coal-rake to pull some coals on to the fire. Just then Foye jumped out of bed, hit Galloway on the side of the head with his fist, which knocked him up against the fireplace, and he fell at the corner of the closet. Galloway, who had kept his hold of the coal-rake, got upon his feet, and struck Foye on the left forehead with it. Foye was bleeding freely, and he heard him say "Oh, dear!" The landlady was not far off, but he could not say if she saw the blow struck. He did not hear Galloway say anything, nor did he nor the landlady, to his knowledge, say anything to Galloway. They were too much engaged with Foye to take any notice of Galloway, who went out of the house about half-an-hour afterwards.

Dr McColl, Hebburn, deposed that he was called upon to attend deceased on Sunday night, whom he found suffering from a punctured wound on the left forehead almost over the eye. The frontal plate was fractured, and the wound was superating. Part of the bone and skin were removed owing to the effects of a blow and the superation which followed. The wound had made him in a feverish condition, and he considered him in danger. Witness attended him daily thereafter, seeing him on the day of his death before and after that event. To-day (Friday) morning, witness, with his assistant Dr Johnson, made a *post mortem* examination of deceased. On examining the body externally, which was very much discolored, he found a punctured wound extending over the left frontal eminence, which was fractured. On the back of the left thumb there was a small scratch. On opening the chest, and on examining the heart, he found better than half-an-ounce of fluid in the pericardium, the heart being healthy. The lungs were very much congested, and the cells contained more than the usual quantity of air. He looked into the abdomen, and found the liver very much enlarged and congested. The kidneys were of the normal size, but congested. On opening the skull, he found a piece of the frontal bone, rather larger than the size of a sixpence, pressing on the brain. The piece contained a portion of the external and internal plates, the latter larger than the other, which exactly corresponded with the fracture of the left frontal eminence. He removed the piece of bone in question, and now produced it. The brain was very much inflamed. His opinion of the cause of death was inflammation of the brain, followed by suppuration, occasioned by a compound fracture of the skull, which must have received a very violent blow. The coal-rake produced was a very likely instrument to make the wound, and it must have been made by one of the corners of the blade.

P.C. Cruickshank, who is stationed at Messrs. A. Leslie and Co.'s shipyard, Hebburn, stated that he apprehended the prisoner on the previous morning while at work in the yard. He charged him with causing the death of John Foye, at his lodging, on New Year's morning, when he simply replied, "Who told you that?"

P.C. Dobson, stationed at Hebburn, produced the coal-rake, which he got at Mary Syrie's house, on the previous morning.

The CORONER, in summing up, animadverted strongly upon the manner in which the two first witnesses gave their evidence. He was strongly of the belief that if the parties could have got a certificate from the doctor, they would have said nothing about it, as they endeavoured to deceive him by saying that deceased had received his injuries from a fall in Newcastle.

THE PRISONER BEFORE THE MAGISTRATES.

On Tuesday, at the Jarrow Petty Sessions, Mr T. G. Mabane asked the bench to adjourn the case of Francis Galloway, who stood charged on a coroner's warrant with having caused the death of John Foye. He had been instructed to defend the prisoner, and it was impossible for him to go on with the case that day.—The bench granted the request, fixing this (Friday) afternoon for the hearing of the case.

MR. C. M PALMER ON LIBERALISM

On Tuesday, at the opening of the Sunderland and North Durham Liberal Club, at Sunderland, Mr. C. M. Palmer, in supporting the resolution.—"That this meeting records its belief that the liberal principles in which the country has been governed for the last forty years have contributed largely to its present prosperity and condition."—Said he took occasion to explain, in reference to an observation of the chairman, (Sir H. Williamson), that it was his desire to become acquainted with them. They were possibly aware that there was a large royalty extending from Hylton Castle westward and northward. That royalty was about to be developed, and he and his partners were able to expend something like a quarter of a million of money. He hoped that the improvement of the Wear would be such as would induce them to ship the greater part of the enormous quantity of coal they proposed to work from their royalty on the Wear. He offered the statement of the introduction to them that day, because he hoped that his material interests would bring him very frequently amongst them, and draw his sympathies to the best interests of the port of Sunderland. But they were not then to speak of material interests; they were there for the purpose of agitating the opening of the Liberal Club. He must confess that such an institution was needed in North Durham. He might say that in education they were Liberals. He was glad to see a large number of working men present. It was a pleasure to him to always feel at home when he had to address working men; they knew that his career upon the Tyne brought him more intimately in connection with working men than any other class. Speaking of the Newcastle election, he said that they heard that the moderate Liberals were holding back their support to the Liberal candidate. He could not see that any Liberal could withhold his support from the candidate brought forward by the Liberal interest. The Liberal candidate had been known to him for many years, and he had had frequent occasions to meet with him to discuss the great differences arising between employer and employed. Upon every occasion he (the Liberal candidate) had expressed strong and clear opinions in favour of employers when he knew them to be right, and in favour of working men when they were right. They were told that the Liberal candidate was too advanced in his political creed, well, there might be some measures upon which they did not agree, but they must always look to the pioneers from the great Liberal measures. The Liberal candidate would he hoped be triumphantly returned. The gentlemen who had preceded him had spoken on the Liberal policy for the last forty years. He would ask them to look round on the County of Durham, and also the county of Northumberland, and see what had been done to develop trade and interests not only materially but socially and spiritually by the Liberal party. What would have been the use of their great mineral wealth if they had not had education not only in the middle-class but amongst the working classes, so that they could utilise and support inventions which were being daily introduced, and uphold the supremacy of the country. He sincerely trusted that the policy of the Liberals would receive the support of all classes in Sunderland and in the County of Durham. They required to be united. At the next general election they would most certainly be attacked on every side and in every place. They knew that there was a great Conservative reaction; he did not believe in it. They had been told that Sir H. Williamson's seat would be assailed; he requested them to deal with the whole Liberal creed as one great principle and to be concentrated, so that if the seat was attacked, they would be prepared to defend it. He was sure that if the Liberals were properly organised they would have a large majority.

The sixth annual Trades Union Congress was opened in Sheffield on Monday. The sittings are expected to occupy a week. About 200 delegates are present, representing, it is said, about a million of working men.

The election of a School Board for Halifax took place on Saturday, and resulted in the return of five Unsectarian, five Denominational, and one Roman Catholic candidate.

Carthagena has at length been taken by the Spanish troops. The Intransigente insurrection at Barcelona continues, and fighting is proceeding in the suburbs of the city. The Insurgent Junta and the convicts had left on board the ironclad Numancia which was attacked by the Spanish squadron. The captain-general of Madrid has issued an order proclaiming several provinces in a state of siege. Purtugalete is now in the possession of the Carlists, excepting the church, where the Government forces have taken refuge. The Volunteers of Tolosa refuse to give up their arms.

LITERARY SELECTIONS.

THE MORNING CLOUD.—When we think that the morning cloud is like life, we are sad, but when we see it waiting in royal array at God's western gate, we are glad again, for we think how beautiful may be a dying.

HABITS.—Habits influence the character pretty much as under currents influence a vessel; and whether they speed us on the way of our wishes or retard our progress, their effect is not the less important because imperceptible.

OUR COAL MINES.—Space will not admit of our doing more than to glance at the past history and future prospects of coal-mining. It may be said that up to the end of the last century the art had only smouldered. It was when the invention of the steam-engine revolutionised the industry of this country that mining burst forth with an energy previously unapproached. Probably not more than ten millions of tons of coal were raised at the commencement of this century; yet in 1830 the quantity raised was thirty millions, and in 1851 not less than fifty-four millions. From 1854 downwards, we have returns of the Mining Record Office, which show a general tendency to expansion, though with fluctuations; the maximum having been reached in 1861, when the enormous quantity of [illegible] tons was brought to the surface. Notwithstanding these facts, however, it would be rash to assume that the experience of the past is to be a criterion of the future. We neither wish, nor expect an increase during the remainder of this century at all proportionate to that of the earlier half, and this view is borne out by some of the later returns. Some of our coal fields, as has been shown, having passed their meridian, and, having expended their strength, are verging on decay. Others have retained their maximum, or nearly so; this, indeed, is the case of the majority. The younger coal fields will have much of their strength absorbed in compensating for the falling off of the older; so that in a few years the whole of our coal producing districts will reach a stage of activity beyond which they cannot advance, but around which they may oscillate. Entertaining these views, I am inclined to place the possible maximum of production at 100,000,000 tons a year; and yet it has been shown that even with this enormous "out-pit" there is enough coal to last for eight centuries.—*Quarterly Journal of Science.*

NELSON.—It is not only that in him great political sagacity was united with the most perfect military genius, to which were added the most daring courage and the most ready and unfailing presence of mind; nor that with these qualities which compel our admiration were beautifully blended those softer attributes that attract attention, an almost feminine gentleness of disposition, ever sympathising and ever watchful kindness, and humanity, a generosity of feeling which showed itself in acts as well as in words towards enemies as towards friends; but that these admirable talents and endowments were at all times under the guidance of the most eminent public virtue, of the most unsullied honour, the most absolute unselfishness, the purest patriotism, the most sublime devotion to the cause of his king and country, without the most transitory alloy of a single petty, or interested, or unworthy feeling. It may perhaps be questionable whether, of the great generals whose triumphs at the head of armies have filled the world with their renown, any has been endowed with a higher genius for war. Naval warfare, waged as it is on one universal plain, the sea, presenting neither cities to be taken, nor rivers to be crossed, to be traversed, is, no doubt, simpler than warfare by land, which in a great degree, turns on the address with which such obstacles are eluded, overcome, or at times even converted to one's own advantage. But the more the absence of all distinctive features from the scene of warlike operations tends to place hostile commanders on a level, the more is that genius which, in spite of the apparent equality to which such circumstances seem to reduce all combatants, contrived to show so marked a superiority over every other commander in every country who has at any time led a fleet into battle. In the history of nations, Nelson alone stands at the head of his profession without a rival.—*Younge's History of the British Navy.*

ORANGES IN THE AZORES.—Nowhere are oranges of more importance than in the Azores. These islands live on them, both directly as food, and indirectly as a profitable industry. Just as in other parts of the world a man's wealth is reckoned by the number of sheep, cattle, or horses which he can call his own, so here the orange tree forms the unit of value. You do not say such a one is worth so many thousands pounds, but that he has a *quinta* containing so many trees. High and low, rich and poor alike, derive their incomes from oranges. Whether it be for good or evil, the population are certainly not "divorced from the soil" in the Azores, for while the great proprietor has his thousand or fifteen hundred stems, the peasant rejoices in the "orange tints that gild the greenest bough" upon his own dozen or half-dozen trees. During the years when the orange trees are yielding no fruit, maize or beans are grown between their ranks, but seldom afterwards, unless the owner be very poor or very greedy. The islanders devote their whole time, thought, and energies to the cultivation of the orange, and watch over the trees with great care and anxiety, to preserve them from the violence of the elements, or the ravages of that destructive insect the coccus. The crop is generally bought by the merchant before it has reached maturity, and there are professional valuers who have attained great precision in calculating the produce of each tree. After the bargain is made, however, the weather or the insects may play sad havoc with the quinta, and cause heavy loss to the purchaser. The well-known St. Michael oranges, so much esteemed in this country, come from the largest of the Azores, which, upon an area of two hundred and twenty-nine miles, yields annually oranges to the value of about ninety thousand pounds, and to the number of nearly three hundred millions. A seventh of this quantity is usually consumed by the inhabitants; the rest are exported.—*Chambers's Journal.*

A MAORI MAIDEN AND HER ADMIRERS.—A word or two before we close about Arriana, the object of his adoration. She is a remarkably pretty half-caste, the offspring of an Englishman and a Maori woman. Her mother died some years ago; and her father, one of those restless, unsettled beings so often to be met with in the colonies, left her to the care of her Maori relations, and started for Australia. Nothing has been heard of him since. When the war broke out she was living with a settler near Awamutu; the family was obliged to leave and she was carried off by the rebels. She says that this was done against her will, and while the fighting was going on at the pah she was tied to another woman to prevent her from attempting to escape. We suspect, however, that she was tied only by the gentle cords of love, and that a Maori warrior had something to do with her presence there. When the pah was evacuated she was hit by a bullet which shattered her arm. It would have gone hard with her in the indiscriminate slaughter which ensued had not some brave fellow stood over her, and defended her life. No less than ten men came forward to claim the honour due to this gallant deed: but this was after the report of her beauty had spread over the camp, and each claimant doubtless imagined that he could establish a lien over her heart. Nay, some weeks after the fight, an enthusiastic militiaman travelled all the way from Raglan, a distance of thirty miles, and demanded an interview with the brigadier; he stated that he was the preserver of Arriana's life; he could neither eat, nor drink, nor sleep for thinking of her; so he had made up his mind to make her his wife. He had £50 in the savings bank, which sum he wished to devote to her education, so as to prepare her for the duties of a married life. All that he desired at present was an interview with the object of his affection; Arriana would at once recognise him and rush to his arms. There was only one slight difficulty, he spoke no Maori, and she knew no English; but love has a language of its own; he had no doubt but that they would understand one another. The brigadier, amused at the fellow's earnestness, granted the desired interview, and allowed the interpreter to be present to assist if the silent language of love should prove insufficient. The lover entered the room with a bashful sheepish air, and stared at Arriana, who stared at him in return; but there was no recognition on her part, no outburst of gushing gratitude, no rushing to his arms. On the contrary: she turned to the interpreter, and coolly asked what the man wanted; on learning which, she laughed heartily, and told him to go away, as she had never seen him before, and would have nothing to say to him. The poor man begged, beseeched, implored, and looked unutterable things; Arriana only tittered, and turned away her head. Ever since that time he has continued to urge his suit in letters, written by a half-caste amanuensis; but the Maori maiden is still obdurate. The poor militiaman is not the only man who has felt the power of her beauty, or claimed to be her preserver: so importunate were some of her admirers that a guard had to be stationed at the hut for her protection. She has now almost recovered from her wound; and an asylum will be provided for her in an orphan institution. We have still some hopes of the militiaman; perseverance often leads to success in love, as in everything else.—*Fraser's Magazine.*

The *Swiss Times* says that the Government of the Canton of Berne have resolved to suppress all fairs within their jurisdiction, in consequence of the extension of the cattle plague.

Local and General News.

A boy six years of age has died in Liverpool of hydrophobia, caused by the bite of a dog about a month ago.

On Thursday morning Princess Beatrice was confirmed at Whippingham Church, by the Archbishop of Canterbury, in the presence of a numerous congregation.

The Swiss Catholic Bishops have forwarded a protest against the expulsion of the Papal Nuncio, which the Federal Council had decreed.

The number of births, deaths, and marriages in Paris during 1873 was 39,451, 41,704, and 41,107 respectively.

Wilhelm Brandries, arrested in Liverpool for a murder in Hanover, has been discharged, but was rearrested and conveyed to London.

The *Gaulois* states that Megy, who took a prominent part in the Communist insurrection at Paris, has committed suicide at New York.

C. M. Palmer, Esq., and his partners in Marley Hill Colliery, have made a donation of £1,000 towards the proposed new church for Marley Hill; and John Bowes, Esq., has also intimated his intention of presenting the site.

A statue of the late Prince Consort, facing Holborn Viaduct, was unveiled on Friday by the Prince of Wales, and afterwards His Royal Highness and about 900 guests were entertained at luncheon at the Guildhall.

On Friday morning the remains of the late Emperor Napoleon were transferred from the chapel at the side of the Catholic Chapel, Chislehurst, to the new mausoleum on the other side of the church, erected by Her Majesty the Queen. The congregation entirely filled the small church.

The Rev. J. Crompton, the Free Christian Minister at Norwich, who recently seceded to the Church of England, will probably seek orders in the diocese of Exeter. Several of Mr Crompton's congregation at Norwich have joined the Church of England.

Locked Up on his Wedding Day.—A man named Peter Broggan was on Monday fined 2s 6d and costs, by the South Shields magistrates, for being drunk and riotous in Alma Street, South Shields, on Sunday morning. The defendant had been married on Saturday morning, and the circumstance having elated him, he had imbibed rather freely, and, becoming noisy, was taken care of by the police, to the distress of his newly made wife.

A Reuter's telegram states that an English steamer, the Ellen Constance, which left Carthagena on Thursday last, laden with iron ore, was fired upon by the Spanish flagship, which afterwards ran into and sank her. A private telegram attributes it to a mere accident. The English Admiral at Carthagena is making a full investigation into the matter.

A Boy Strangled at Rochdale.—On Friday morning, while Charles Wood, a boy aged thirteen years, a resident of Princess Street, Rochdale, was working in Mr Thomas Kenyon's screw manufactory, Guildford Street, Rochdale, his 'slop' was caught by the screwing machine, and he was strangled. At the time he was working alone in the garret, and when found by one of the workmen, must have been dead at least a quarter of an hour.

A Sunderland Crew sent to Gaol for Refusing Duty.—The carpenter, boatswain, and six seamen belonging to the barque City of Durham, of and from Sunderland for Rio de Janeiro, with coals, were, on Saturday, charged, on remand before the county magistrates sitting at Stonehouse with refusing to do duty, which had compelled the captain to put into Plymouth Sound. The prisoners asserted that the vessel was most unseaworthy, but she had been competently surveyed and pronounced to be in every way suited for her voyage. All the prisoners, with the exception of the carpenter, had had advances, and as they still refused to proceed to sea, they were all sentenced to ten weeks' imprisonment.

A Duel in New Orleans.—The particulars a recent affair in New Orleans are thus given by the *Republican* of December 17:—"The difficulty between Messrs. Whitney, of the *Picayune*, and Drury, of the Secretary of State's office, was ended yesterday. A good many hard words and some blows had passed between the parties previously, and the code was appealed to. The sword was selected by the seconds as being the fairest weapon, neither gentleman knowing anything of the art of fence. The peculiar colchimard was selected, and the parties jabbed at each other until Mr Drury's clothes were cut in two places and Mr Whitney received a severe but not dangerous wound in the left arm. Then they shook hands and felt better. Mr Whitney did up his wound and went to the races, and Mr Drury went back to his office."

Poisoning by Mistake.—The village of Creek, the scene of the recent poisoning of Mrs Gulliver, seems unfortunate. An inquest has just been held there on the body of an old man named Thomas Simcoe, a small farmer, who died from partaking of a pudding in which "Cooper's Dipping Composition" had been mixed in lieu of egg-flour. It seems his wife, an old woman of 70, made the pudding, mixing with it the powder, which was in a cupboard with other condiments, and which she supposed to be egg-flour. She and her husband and granddaughter partook of it, and all became very ill afterwards. The old woman and her granddaughter recovered, but the old man succumbed. He was put to bed, and went to sleep, but never woke again. He was found dead by his wife's side.

Shooting Case in Gateshead.—On Thursday night, about nine o'clock, while Dr and Mrs Wood, of Tyne Vale Terrace, Bensham, were proceeding from their residence to Elysium Lane, they discovered a man lying in the tunnel underneath the Team Valley Railway, apparently in a dying state. Another gentleman, named Fenwick, came up at the time, and the man was brought out. Six-barrelled revolver fell from his left hand, and it was then found that he had shot himself in the forehead and the back part of his head, near the ear. Mr Fenwick at once gave information at the borough police station. A cab was taken to the spot, and the unfortunate man was conveyed to the Newcastle Infirmary. He died during the night. From an address card and some papers, which were found in his pocket, his name is supposed to be William Dexle, a Quayside clerk, about 28 years of age, a German.

Murderous Assault on a Mother.—At the Newcastle Police Court, on Monday David Crane (32) was charged with violently assaulting his mother, Ellen Crane, at her house, Catterick's Buildings, Byker, on Saturday night last. It appeared from the evidence given that between six and seven o'clock on the night named, the prisoner's mother was heard shouting "Murder" in her own house, and the prisoner exclaiming after calling her a foul name, "You have lived too long in the world; time you were out of it. I'll kill you." Soon afterwards the prisoner left the house, and on a constable entering the place he found the poor old woman lying on the floor, with the skin and flesh of the right hand taken off to the bone, a severe cut on the left temple, the eye very much swollen, and one of her arms broken. A box and part of the floor were completely saturated with blood. At half-past eight o'clock the same night the prisoner was apprehended, and on being brought to the Ouseburn station his right hand, with his trousers, were found to be stained with blood. The prisoner made no reply to the charge preferred against him. As the mother was unable to appear in court the case was remanded.

A correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette* says that the Duke of Edinburgh will, after his marriage, reside for some time every year at Coburg, where a beautiful palace, arranged with English comfort, has been built for him.

At Oldham, on Friday, a verdict of wilful murder was returned by a coroner's jury in the case of Francis Wynne, aged 65 years, whose death was caused by kicks inflicted by some person at present unknown.

On Saturday afternoon, James Brodie Smith, sixteen years of age, was killed in Hope Street Mill, Dundee. He was engaged cleaning a breaker, when he was accidentally dragged in and literally cut to pieces.

Mr Ald. Ridley has been appointed chairman of the River Tyne Commission, in room of the late Sir Joseph Cowen, M.P., who has filled that post for a period of twenty years. Mr John Clayton, the clerk to the Commission, has resigned.

On Friday night, a man named Maguire, employed by the Marquis Conyngham, shot his son, a young man aged 22. He died two hours afterwards.

The limited supplies of grain in some parts of India have had the effect of increasing its value where famine was not apprehended. Large exports to the threatened districts having caused an increase of prices where it is more plentiful.

A large mill, occupied by Mr Morgan Brierley, flannel manufacturer, and Mr F. L. Stott, cotton manufacturer, was destroyed by fire on Saturday night; and the woollen mill of Messrs Littlewood and Heape partially burnt. The loss is estimated at about £20,000.

The Roumanian Chamber has passed, by a majority of two-thirds of the House, a bill abolishing trial by jury in criminal cases. It appears from the statistics which were put forward in support of the bill, that juries in Roumania are incapable of forming an accurate judgment in such cases.

The Abergele magistrates have convicted three tradesmen and leading "Good Templars" of the town, named Hugh Hughes, T. Morris, and John Edwards, for a gross cruelty to a cat. They turned the cat into a field and set some bull dogs upon it, which completely tore the poor creature to pieces. The total costs and fines in the three cases amounted to £8 14s 6d.

Marshal McMahon delivered the Cardinals' hats to the new French Cardinals with great ceremony in the chapel of the Palace of Versailles, on Thursday. The recipients were Mgr. Chigi, the Papal Nuncio, and the Archbishops of Paris and Cambrai. The Ministers and many distinguished persons were present, and the ceremony was most imposing. The President of the Republic afterwards entertained the new Cardinals at lunch.

Volunteer Statistics.—The Volunteer statistics for 1873, about to be issued by the War Office, prove that there has been a great decrease in the force during the last two years. The number of enrolled volunteers last year was 171,938, as contrasted with 178,279 of the previous year, being a decrease of 6,341; whilst the difference in the figures for 1873 and 1871 amounts to a decrease within the last two years of no less than 20,671.

Fatal Railway Collision.—On Saturday evening, owing, it is supposed, to a fog, the Great Northern Scotch express, which leaves Edinburgh at 10·45 a.m., ran into a passenger train from Boston at Barkstone Junction, near Grantham, just as the last-named train was coming on to the main line. Great damage was done to the Boston train. A passenger, having the appearance of a fisherman, was found dead, two others were seriously hurt, and several severley shaken. The stoker of the express engine was very seriously scalded, and died on Sunday morning.—A collision during a fog also happened on the same evening on the Sutton and Walsall Branch of the London and North-Western Railway near Birmingham, between two local trains, but no one was seriously hurt.

Death by Burning at York.—On Monday morning it was discovered that Mrs Stead, wife of Mr Stead, currier, of Bearpark Square, Groves Lane, York, had met her death in a horrible manner. She was seventy-six years of age, and sat up after husband had gone to bed on Sunday night. On Mr Stead going down on Monday morning, something blocked the stairfoot door, and on pushing the obstruction away and entering the lower room he found it to be the charred body of his wife. Her clothes, with the exception of a single stocking, were entirely burnt, and her features were unrecognisable. There was no evidence as to how her clothes had become ignited.

Our Coasting Trade.—In the year 1873 vessels (in the aggregate) [illegible],608,523 tons entered, with cargoes, in the coasting trade, at ports in the United Kingdom; vessels of 19,387,700 tons cleared with cargoes. The returns, being more complete than heretofore, cannot be compared with those of former years. The vessels (included in the above) employed in the intercourse between Great Britain and Ireland show 8·115,9[illegible]7 tons of shipping entered inwards, and 7,329,040 tons cleared outwards. The coasting trade is almost entirely confined to vessels belonging to the United Kingdom.

Triple Execution at Gloucester.—At eight o'clock on Monday morning the three convicts, Butt, Bailey, and Barry, were executed within Gloucester Gaol, the executioner being Anderson, of Liverpool. Death was in each case almost instantaneous. They all exhibited great firmness, especially the woman Barry, who frequently turned round on the scaffold and wished Bailey good-bye. She observed at the last moment to the executioner, "This is what I always dreamed I should come to." Butt had throughout admitted his guilt, and expressed his contrition. Bailey on Sunday night made to the gaol chaplain a full confession of his guilt, but enjoined that he should keep it a profound secret. He wished it, however, to be made known that his fate was the result of his atheistical principles. He alleges that Barry was a mere tool in his hands, being tempted by the offer of money. Barry also admitted the justice of her sentence. The usual inquest was held. Besides the officials and reporters, about forty Gloucester tradesmen were admitted by pass to witness the execution.

The Ashantee Expedition.—Her Majesty's ship Supply, Staff-commander Inglis, left Deptford on Monday morning with victualling and other stores for the squadron on the Gold Coast. She will remain out there on the coast of the British Protectorate for three years. Large quantities of stores are being despatched by rail from Deptford Victualling Yard to Portsmouth for embarkation in the Nebraska. The Supply, Nebraska, and Lancelot are the only ships at present under orders for the Gold Coast. The Nebraska, after having been suitably fitted up by Palmer's Shipbuilding Company, Jarrow, left the Tyne on Sunday for Portsmouth. The vessel's departure was witnessed by numbers of persons.

The London Engineers' Strike.—At a crowded meeting on Friday night of London engineers on strike, reports were made of interviews on Saturday with the chief employers. All the latter had said they did not wish to part with their men, and were willing to give a rise to all men really worth it, but could not concede it to the inexperienced or enfeebled. They desired the men to return to work next Monday. The masters would then take observations during the week, and at the end give the rise to all they could. They were all firm in their determination not to treat with the men as a body, but they would consider especially the case of any one who felt himself aggrieved. The meeting, by a majority of two-thirds, accepted these terms.

Cornelius Mariner, who was injured by the fatal boiler explosion at Bolton on Thursday afternoon, died on Friday morning. This makes the sixth death.

The Philadelphia *Public Ledger* gives an account of "the champion member of societies," who "belongs to 432 organisations of various kinds, and is the custodian of 1,221 signs, grips, and passwords."

Dried oysters are among the imports into San Francisco from China. They are simply taken out of the shell, dried in the sun, and packed in wooden boxes. The Chinese are the principal consumers.

On the 24th ult., an accident occurred near Malton to a train in passing some points, a portion of the train running off the line. A third-class carriage was overturned, and a man named James Carr, of Swinton, killed. At the adjourned inquest on Monday a verdict of manslaughter was returned against John Jackson, signal inspector, and Francis Boynton, relief signalman.

Borough and County Franchise.—The *Morning Post*, commenting upon Mr Trevelyan's speech at Galashiels, says that the bill which he contemplates will be one of the most conspicuous measures of the session. It is very improbable that Mr Gladstone will give a favourable answer to the demand that Government should themselves take up the question. But it will only enhance the importance of Mr Trevelyan's position that he is not superseded by the Government, but is left to be the champion of a cause which no one is better able to plead. Whatever course Mr Gladstone may shadow forth as likely to be taken by the Government at some future time, it is hardly conceivable, as the country will have to go to a general election some six or seven months hence at the latest, that he would venture on so important a change in the representation as Mr Trevelyan desires, involving, as he has repeatedly owned it does, a redistribution of seats. The pretensions of the bill are modest on the face of it, but no one knows better than Mr Trevelyan that it means much more than it says, and that it is only the thin end of a policy of Parliamentary reform which will block the passage to all other legislation, unless it is met by peremptory rejection.

Attempted Murder by a Maniac at Hawick.—A terrible sensation was caused at Hawick on Friday morning by the report that a young woman, named Margaret Murphy, a native of Dumfries, had attempted to put an end to the life of a middle-aged woman, named Sherman, a widow, residing in Walter's Wynd. It appears that Sherman, with whom Murphy had been staying for a few days, was in the act of kindling the fire in her dwelling-house, about six o'clock in the morning, when Murphy, who had been walking from one end of the room to the other in a rather agitated manner, took a seat close by her at the fireside. After Mrs. Sherman's son and daughter had left for their work, Murphy listened intently, as if to hear whether any one was near, and then produced a knife, which she brandished in the air. She then seized Sherman with her mouth and hands by the hair of the head, and, dragging her from the stool on which she was sitting, stabbed her in several places on the head with the knife, and also bit her very severely. Fortunately, the screams of the woman Sherman drew together a large number of people, and a lodging-house keeper, named McTernan, managed to get the frantic woman secured, and thus prevented further bodily injury being inflicted. As it is, however, Sherman is hardly out of danger, having sustained some very serious wounds. Murphy was apprehended by the police, and two medical men having examined her, she was pronounced insane, and accordingly conveyed to Melrose Asylum on Friday afternoon. The insanity is said to have been produced in consequence of a quarrel between Murphy and a man with whom she cohabited.

Gold Discovered in Bute.—A very interesting discovery has been made in Bute. A young boy, named George Lindsay, upon breaking up a piece of quartz, seams of which prevail in various parts of the island, found a substance, which he had some idea was gold. The specimen was submitted to Dr Peter White, President of the Archæological and Physical Society of Bute, which he immediately pronounced to be gold in a native state, and called by experienced gold diggers "heavy gold." This specimen was found in a vein of quartz which runs out below the Skeoch plantation. It has been alleged by Australian diggers that, if properly searched for, gold would be found in Bute; but whether in such quantities as would yield a remuneration is a question which can only be answered after an experiment has been made. Some time ago Mr James Cameron, watchmaker, Bridge Street, Glasgow, also discovered gold in Bute, the various specimens of which he got made into a [illegible] that was presented to the present Marchioness of Bute on the occasion of her marriage. The specimens were got in different localities, thus showing that the assertions of the diggers are not unfounded.

The Outrage in Cleveland.—On Saturday Henry Shaw, George Bowler, James Fleming, Henry Carter, and Thomas Knight, all of Carlinghow, near Saltburn-by-the-Sea, ironstone miners, were charged before Mr J. W. Pease, M.P., Mr William Whitwell, and Mr J. T. Wharton, at Guisbro', with having committed a ciminal assault on a woman named Mary Ward, who was found dead at the bottom of an ironstone pit at Carlinghow under circumstances previously reported. Mr Robt. Dale, of York, appeared on behalf of the prosecution; and Mr W. R. Fawcett, of Yarm, appeared for the whole of the prisoners.—Mr Dale, in a brief but temperate and effective opening speech, stated that he had no doubt of being able to bring home the capital offence to two of the prisoners, and that the others could be clearly shown to have been aiding and abetting. On account of the length of the evidence the case was not completed, and the prisoners were formally remanded until Tuesday, when they were further remanded until next week. The case has caused great excitement in the neighbourhood. The court was crowded the whole of the day, large numbers of people assembling to see the prisoners brought up to the court and taken away. The prisoners are all young men, apparently about 20 years of age, and seem to think very lightly of the charge.

Three Children Burnt to Death.—Mr T. D. Smith, coroner, held an inquest on Friday at the school-house, in the parish of Felton, on the bodies of three children, named Brunton, of the respective ages of 4 years, 2½ years, and 6 months, the children of a labourer who lived at Haly Cote. On Tuesday morning week the mother went to the pit for some coals, and left the children under the charge of her eldest son, a boy of 7 years of age, sitting near the fire. In less than ten minutes, the boy ran after his mother, calling out that the house was on fire. Wm. Dodds, banksman at Brenkburn Colliery, said that on Tuesday morning he heard cries, and saw Mrs Brunton at the bridge running for water, and crying out "My darling bairns." He went right on and found the house in flames, and the bed, a "cupboard" one, on fire also. The ceiling was beginning to fall. He found and brought out the little girl and then went back and brought out the other two, who were in the cupboard bed. Verdict: Died from injuries received by fire. The jury at the same time desired to express their sense of the heroic conduct of Mr Dodds in rescuing the children from the flames. One of the children was burnt to a cinder, and the other two died the following day. It appears that during the absence of the mother one of the children fancied she heard a noise under the bed, and lighted a candle to ascertain the cause, and, in the act of stooping down, set fire to the bed curtains. The whole furniture in the room was shortly in flames.

A man named Richard Dowson, was killed by the fall of a stone at Trimdon Grange Colliery on Monday.

By a fire which occurred on Tuesday morning on the works of Messrs. Marsden and Co., dyers, of Savile Town, near Dewsbury, damage estimated at from £30,000 to £40,000 was caused.

The Rev. Arch. A. Campbell has been appointed by the Queen to the Ministry of Braemar and Crathie, in which joint parish Balmoral is situated. The Rev. Dr. Taylor, the last occupant of the Crathie pulpit, has been translated to Edinburgh.

Manuel Pastor, a Spaniard, was sentenced to death a week ago for the attempted assassination in July, 1872, of the ex-King Amadeus. The sentence was to have been carried into effect on Monday, but during the previous night the culprit managed to make his escape. There appears reason to suppose some of the prison officials connived at his escape, and they have been arrested.

Naming a Child.—One evening at the house of Dr. Arnott (1852), Mr. Rowland Hill gave some curious traits of the wretched ignorance of a population of sailors in some central district of England with which he was acquainted. A clergyman exerted himself to effect an improvement, and took particular care to get their children baptised. One day, having come to baptise a newly-born infant, whom he understood to be a boy, he asked what name he should give the child. The father was quite at a loss, he had no predilections on the subject. "Shall it be a Scripture name?" "Assent." "Well, what Scripture name?" The man agreed, at the minister's suggestion, that Benjamin would do. As he was retiring afterwards, he heard a great shouting, and turning back, met the father, who exclaimed: "Sir, it wunna do—it maun be done again—the *bairn's a wench!*"—*Dr. Robert Chambers's Scrap Book.*

Coal in County Down.—Notwithstanding all that has been said and written by "eminent authorities," in reference to the existence of coal in the Ards, we have now the pleasure of stating to our readers that there is at present every likelihood of the matter turning out different to what was predicted by many. We are informed that coal in abundance has been discovered at a place called the Prenal, a short distance from this town, and that the Scotch company, a number of whose men have been in our locality boring for some time past, intend commencing operations there without delay. The place chosen for the bringing forth of the "black diamond" is a farm owned by a lady named Mrs Robinson, who has been noticed not to put in any more crop. For the giving up of her farm she is to be liberally recompensed, and receive an indemnity by the company far above its value. Such is the information forwarded us, and we have no reason to doubt its correctness.—*Newtownards Chronicle.*

Jack and the Shark.—Considering the fool-hardy rashness of the negroes in bathing it is surprising how comparatively few accidents happen. "Dive for sixpence, massa," into water where sharks have been seen the same morning; however, he will never venture in after dark. Sharks, like many other fish, bite more freely at night; in fact, sharky waters, where the fish are shy, and bathing is comparatively free from danger during the day, cannot be entered after nightfall without very great risk, the more especially that all night sharks will, like trout, prowl about shallow water barely sufficient to cover them. The writer recollects at Colon two stokers of the mail-steamer Tyne taking forecastle leave one night. The ship was warped alongside the wharf, and these two men crept along one of the hawsers, hand over foot, to reach the wharf. The first got over safely, but the second slipped, and fell into the water. Not at all frightened, he in a low voice, told his companion to lower him a rope from the wharf, but he had scarcely spoken when he disappeared, and did not rise again. A shark's stomach to a sailor is a matter of extreme interest. "Let's see what's inside of him," is Jack's first thought when the monster lies dead on the deck, though Jack is invariably disappointed of finding treasure—a silver watch for example, would fill his soul with pleasure. The ultimate utilisation of the shark in his hands is to make a skeleton of the jaws, and a walking-stick of the spinal column.—*Chambers's Journal.*

A Lesson of Life.—Scene: A School Board Meeting.—Enter a widow about 30, dejected and careworn, and evidently afraid of being gathered into the awful presence of so many individuals. The chairman: So, you are anxious your boy should go to night school.—The Widow: Yes, sir, (falteringly).—A Member (severely): How many children have you?—The widow: four; and I want my eldest boy, 12 years old, sir, if you please, to go errands for a grocer during the day. I have four children, and hard work in the world. He would get 3s 6d per week, and that to me is something with my little family.—A clerical member: How long has he been at school?—The Widow: Since he was five years old.—Another Member: Can he read and write and keep accounts?—The Widow (rapidly dissolving before the questions [illegible]): He can read and write.—A legal Member: This is a peculiar case. The Board must not be imposed on. Let the woman retire, and we'll consider. Retire the woman did, whilst the law was being overhauled. It was found, after divers sections had been examined, that the board had scratched its cranium several times, that the case might be met, a benevolent member remarking "Let the poor body have the chance of the 3s 6d."—The legal Member: The law commands her to bring a certificate, and she must do so. The woman was recalled, and being informed of the result left evidently relieved, and thankful, no doubt, that that the family income was about to be augmented by so large a sum as that named.

Electioneering Anecdotes.—Sir Edward Watkin distinguished himself in the recent contest at Exeter by his quaintness and tact as a canvasser, and a host of stories are in circulation about his readiness in dealing with hesitating voters. "Lor' bless'ee, sir," said one old dame, when asked about her husband's vote, "my old man can't vote at all this year. Coals is mortal dear." "Yes," answered Sir Watkin—as he his called in Exeter—"it's along o' the Tories." "Be it sure, sir?" "Yes; but if I'm returned you'll have coals cheap enough next year; for I intend to do my best to repeal the law of ent'ai',"—an argument which, if not perhaps conclusive, was puzzling. A shopkeeper in a bye-street was asked if he had voted. "No, I have not yet; for the truth is I have no one to attend to my shop." "Is that all?" said Sir Watkin, taking off his hat, and walking round the counter. "Here put on your hat and go at once; I'll take care of your shop till you come back." And Sir Watkin did. But in a recent contest for the representation of West Gloucestershire a still more piquant instance of this kind occurred. Mr. Marling's partner, calling upon a voter in the Forest of Dean, found him digging potatoes. The voter pleaded this as an excuse for not voting. "To-morrow's market-day, and I shall lose the sale of these potatoes, and Mr. Marling can better afford to lose my vote than I can afford to miss the sale of these potatoes." "Then give me your fork," said the canvasser, "I'll dig the potatoes while you go and vote." The man slouched off to the poll, voted and returning peeped through the parlour window to see [illegible] at work in the potato ground. "He uses the fork [illegible], and a stroke of work will perhaps do him good. I'll have a pipe." And a pipe he had, keeping his eye, however, all the time on the [illegible] in the potato plot, till the canvasser, growing tired, walked round the cottage to find how nicely he had been tricked into an hour's hard labour while the free and independent freeholder was taking his ease with a 'churchwarden' in his chimney corner.—*Sylvanus Urban in "Gentleman's Magazine."*

The election for West Somerset took place on Saturday, when Major Vaughan Lee, a Conservative, was returned without opposition.

The ship Preston of Liverpool, on a voyage from Havre to New Orleans, has put into Weymouth with a mutinous crew. The first and second mates are badly hurt. Each of the seven prisoners was on Tuesday sentenced by the town magistrate to five months' hard labour.

A Fact.—Scene: A Street Corner. *Dramatis Personæ*: Two Mechanics.—First Mechanic: Whei, man, what has Joe Cowen dune for the toon?—Second Mechanic: Whe', what has Hamond dune?—First Mechanic: Weel, within the last six days he has made Joe Cowen believe, both in God and a devil!—*Newcastle Daily Journal.*

"Fraternité!"—Every time the fatal word fraternity is written on the walls of Paris, civil war, says the *Vie Parisienne*, is sure to follow. In this great revolution "fraternity" cost 2,022,903 lives, in 1848, 39,583; in 1871, 57,527. The word is also expensive, as in February, 1848, 1,500 barricades were raised in Paris, which, allowing [illegible] paving stones to each, would make a total of 1,267,500 torn up by the "sovereign people;" 4,013 trees were also uprooted, 3,704 lamps broken, and innumerable police-offices were burnt down.

A New Carlist Project.—News reached London from a Vienna source to the effect that by the advice of Father Beck and other influential ecclesiastics the mother of Don Carlos has written to her son, urging him to adopt the plan already proposed to him of restricting his attempts to the establishment of a "Kingdom of Navarra and the Basques," as it is clear, that the Basque population, of which his army is composed, will not advance into the interior. This plan meets with much favour in the Vatican, as it offers a basis for a reconciliation between the Carlists and Alfonsists, which might further be cemented by eventual intermarriages between the two Royal lines.

Reduction of Wages in the Iron Trade.—The high rates of wages and the increased prices of material have seriously affected the heavy iron trade of Sheffield and the district for some months past. The stagnation in this branch has now become so great that a general reduction of the wages of the men employed in it has been decided upon. The ironworkers employed in the extensive works of John Brown and Co. and Cammel and Co. have consented to accept a reduction of 7½ per cent. About 1,600 men are concerned in this arrangement.

A Nocturnal Thief in a Durham Hotel.—At the Durham Borough Police Court on Monday, a man named Robert Howe, a pitman, at Sacriston, was charged with being in the market Hotel, Durham, kept by Mr George Oswald, on Saturday night for an unlawful purpose, and with intent to commit a felony. The landlord went up stairs to rest about ten o'clock, and had not been long in bed when he was awoke by hearing a man open the door and walk into the room. There was no light, but he heard him take hold of one of the drawers in the chest and open it. Mr Oswald got up and seized the intruder by the neck and held him until the arrival of a policeman. When taken to the police office and searched he said that he had lost all his money, £3 10s, in "schooling."—The Bench considered the case fully proved, and the prisoner was sent to goal for a month with hard labour.

A Preacher Locked Out.—For some time past the Rev. Mr Williamson, minister of the parish of Forgandenny, near Perth has been in bad health, and his pulpit has been supplied by preachers selected by the Established Presbytery of Perth. On Sunday the services were appointed to be conducted by Mr. Bell, who, in addition to being schoolmaster of the parish, acts as an assistant to a clergyman in Perth. On reaching the church on Sunday forenoon, Mr. Bell was astonished to find the congregation assembled outside. The weather being cold rendered the circumstance more inexplicable. It was found that Mrs Williamson, wife of the minister, being on bad terms with the schoolmaster, had locked the door of the church and carried off the keys. In this dilemma no service could be held in the building. Mr. Bell therefore proceeded to the schoolroom, where he preached to a handful of the congregation.

An Ingenious Advertisement.—The San Francisco *Call* says: "Near the Golden-gate Park, San Francisco, lives one Hughes, a bachelor, who raises hogs for the market. On Monday afternoon Mr. Hughes fell into his well, and being unable to get out, was obliged to wait patiently for help, standing up to the waist in water. As no one passed near the place, he shouted until hoarse in the hopes of making some one in the park hear him. On Tuesday morning the carrier of the *Call* left a paper at the house, and the man in the well, hearing footsteps called loudly, but the carrier was in a hurry, and though he heard some one, did not know where the sound came from, and had no time to investigate. On Wednesday morning the carrier noticed the paper of the preceding day on the steps, and hearing at the same time a voice, he thought something must be wrong, so he got off from his horse, and finally found Hughes in the well. He immediately procured assistance, and the man was taken out alive, although, of course in an exhausted condition. As he is a man of good constitution he will probably recover. He continues to take the *Call*."

Life in Oregon.—The *Rosebury* (Oregon) *Plaindealer* has the following story:—"About ten days since Henry Bland and his wife, of Canyonville Precinct, went out into the mountains to look after the sheep. When about three miles from home his dogs got after a bear and, after a severe chase, succeeded in compelling the bear to climb a tree. About the time that Mr. Bland and his wife reached the foot of the tree another ferocious bear suddenly put in appearance and savagely attacked the dogs in the immediate presence of Mr. and Mrs. Bland. The fight now became animated and furious, dogs and bear rolling over each other in the death struggle down a steep mountain into the canyon below. Bland was armed with a Henri rifle, but dare not shoot for fear of killing his dogs. Now came the question how to rescue the dogs; only two cartridges were in the rifle, and these had to be used to the best advantage. Mrs. Bland urged her husband to go to the assistance of the dogs, while alone and unarmed she undertook to keep the ferocious monster up the tree. He started down the canyon to where the conflict was raging, guided by the growls and yelps of the dogs and bear. He arrived not a moment too soon, for Bruin was evidently getting the best of it, and would only be pacified by the last shot from the now empty rifle. It was dark when Bland returned to his wife at the foot of the tree. The situation was anything but flattering. The rifle was of little use, and upon the determination of Mrs. Bland to sit up with the bear, he started for home for more ammunition. The lady, being reinforced by the bleeding dogs, now felt that she was master of the situation. With no fire, far from home, in midst of craggy mountains, this indomitable lady dared to hold at bay one of the most ferocious monsters of the forest. The bear, not liking his new home, determined to descend the tree; but our heroine, with a stick and the barking of the dogs, compelled Bruin to take a sober second thought, and taking up a position on a lower limb, with eyeballs of fire he glared at the scene below; but our huntress was not to be dismayed by the presence of her terrible companion, but stood guard until ten o'clock, when her husband and another came to her assistance. She then started for home through the deep canyons and gorges of the mountains, entirely alone, and it was midnight when she safely arrived at her own dwelling. The next morning, as soon as it was sufficiently light, the bear was shot. He proved to be one of the largest of those known as the cinnamon variety."

Found.

FOUND, a Pair of LADIES' BOOTS. Send description to TAIT'S Academy, Consett; and pay this advertisement on receipt. 567d

FOUND, near Allandale Cottages, a SILVER WATCH.—The owner can have it on paying of expenses, and by leaving description at the Office of this Paper. 571d

FOUND, near East Stanley, on January 1st, 1874, a Little MESSET DOG.—The owner can have it by giving description, and applying to JOSEPH LAWTHER, Annfield Plain. 579d

For Sale.

FOR SALE, by Private Contract (owing to the death of the late purchaser), the LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—Apply to Mr. GEORGE HAWDON, Leadgate. 52d

TO BE SOLD, by Private Contract, a Four-Roomed HOUSE and GREEN-HOUSE, at No. 4, Tinmill Place.—Apply to CHARLES YOUNG, Jun., Blackhill. 573d

FOR SALE, by Private Contract, Three Freehold COTTAGES, situated at Consett. Most of the purchase money can remain on mortgage if required. —Apply to WILLIAM WALTON, Clarendon House, Consett. 576d

Wanted

WANTED, a Person to CATCH MOLES.—Apply to JOHN CALVERT, Consett. 570d

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the PRINTING BUSINESS.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 52c

WANTED, immediately, respectable LADS for the PRINTING BUSINESS.—Apply at the Office of this Paper. 252d

DRAPERY.—WANTED Two ASSISTANTS. Apply to SHAW and ATKINSON, Middle Street, Consett. 540d

MILLINERY.—WANTED a Few APPRENTICES.—Apply to SHAW and ATKINSON, Middle Street, Consett. 541d

WANTED, a Good, Steady CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER.—Apply to J. PARKER, No. 4, Front Street, Consett. 578d

WANTED, a WAGGONMAN. A single man preferred.—Apply to JOHN BUCKHAM, Timber Merchant, Lanchester. 575d

DRAPERY.—WANTED a Respectable YOUTH as an Apprentice. None need apply under 14 years of age.—SHAW and ATKINSON, Middle Street, Consett. 542d

WANTED, by the SHOTLEY BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, a SALESWOMAN for the Drapery Department.—Applications, with Testimonials, to be sent in not later than the 25th Jan. Address the SECRETARY. 577d

WANTED, to be known by every Lover of a Pipe of Good Tobacco, that S. WALKER, Hair Dresser and Stationer, DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL, has just received a beautiful assortment of MEERSCHAUM AND BRIAR ROOT PIPES; also, Fancy CLAY PIPES of every description. Real Meerschaum Pipes, from 2s. 6d. each; Briar Root Pipes, from 3d. each. Also, a Choice Stock of TOBACCOS and CIGARS of the Finest Flavour.

To Let.

TO LET, the TOWN HALL, CATCHGATE, suitable for Concerts, Lectures, Public Meetings, Sales, &c.—For further particulars, apply to Mr. H. HENDERSON, Blacksmith, Catchgate, by Burnopfield.

TO LET,
And may be Entered on February,

A FREE BEERHOUSE, with Eight Rooms, and a good Cellar, situated at Iveston.—Apply to THOMAS SEVERS, Bantling Castle, near Leadgate.

TO BE LET,
And Entered upon at May-day next,

THE FARM, in Medomsley, at present in the occupation of Mr. William Hetherington.

JOHN GRAHAM will show the Farm, and Proposals may be sent in on or before the 31st of this month.

Medomsley Hall, Jan. 8th, 1874. 560d

TO BE LET,
For a term of years as may be agreed upon, and
Entered on the 13th May, 1874,

LOW MUGGLESWICK FARM, in the Parish of Muggleswick, County of Durham, containing about 186 Acres of Arable and Grass Land.

Mr. George Ayre, the present Tenant, will show the Farm.

For further Particulars apply to Mr. WILLIAM RAW, Blackhill, County of Durham, who will receive written Offers up to MONDAY, 26th Jan., 1874. 564d

TO BE LET,
And Entered upon the 12th May next,

NEWTON FELL HOUSE FARM, Tithe Free, containing 117 Acres, of which 42 Acres are in Grass, and at present in the occupation of Messrs. Woodman, situate in the Parish of Bywell St. Peter, and about three miles north of Stocksfield Station.

Isaac Smith, the woodkeeper on the estate, will show the same with Plan, and Messrs. T. and R. ARMSTRONG will receive written proposals for the same until Saturday, the 17th January. 550d

TO BE LET,
Tithe Free, and Entered upon the 12th Day of May next,

WILLINGTON WEST FARM, containing 289 Acres or thereabouts, and at present in the occupation of Mr. John Urwin. The Farm is situate about one mile north of Howdon Station, on the Tynemouth Branch of the North-Eastern Railway Company, and is about one and a half mile west of North Shields.

The Tenant will show the Farm with a Plan of the same, and proposals will be received by Messrs. T. J. and R. ARMSTRONG, Land Agents, Hawthorn Terrace, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, until SATURDAY, the 17th Day of January next. 549d

TO BE LET,
And Entered upon the 12th May, 1874,

THE HAGG and HIGH HAMSTERLEY FARMS, Tithe Free, containing 250 Acres, all in good Grass, in the occupation of Mr. Christopher Armstrong;

PONTHAUGH FIELDS, containing 21 Acres of Grass and Tillage, in the occupation of Messrs. Annandale and Sons; and

DERWENT COTE COTTAGE and TILERY, with 5 Acres of Grass Land, in the occupation of Messrs. Cawthorn.

The same will be either Let together or separately; are situate about three miles West of Lintz Green Station, on the Consett Branch of the N.E. Railway.

Thomas Simpson, woodkeeper on the estate, will show the above, with a Plan; and Messrs. T. and R. ARMSTRONG, 5, Hawthorn Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne, will receive written Proposals for the same until SATURDAY, 17th January. 551d

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Murray.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at CONSETT, on the 26th, 27th, and 28th January, 1874, all the Stock of GROCERIES, FIXTURES, WEIGHTS and SCALES, &c., belonging to Mr. J. S. MURRAY, who is declining the Grocery Trade.

Sale each day at Two and in the Evening at Six o'clock. 583d

MR. JOHN MURRAY will SELL BY AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, February 4th, 1874, at the QUEEN'S HEAD, CONSETT, a Large and Convenient HOUSE and SPIRIT STORE, Wholesale and Retail. Licensed to sell wine, spirits, and ale off the premises. A very large and profitable business now being done, which may be considerably increased. Particulars shortly. 572d

MOUNTSETT, NEAR CONSETT.

MR. JOHN MURRAY, instructed by Mr. ROBERT ARMSTRONG (who is declining the coaching and carrying business) will SELL BY AUCTION, on MONDAY, January 26th, 1874, at the above place, all his Valuable HORSES, OMNIBUS, BRAKES, WAGGONETTES, DOG CARTS, WAGGONS, HARNESS, &c., &c.,

Lot 1. Grey Horse	"Dick,"	7 yrs old,	15	hands high
" 2. Brown	"Billy,"	8 "	15½	"
" 3. Bay	"Tom,"	7 "	15	"
" 4. Bay	"Prince,"	8 "	16	"
" 5. Bay	"Bobby,"	7 "	16	"

1 Omnibus to carry 40 Passengers; 2 Brakes, to carry 20 each; 2 Waggonettes; 2 Carrier's Waggons; 2 Strong Coup Carts; 1 Dog Cart; 4 Sets of Double Harness; 2 Sets of Leading Harness; 1 Set of Chain Harness; 2 Sets of Cart Harness; besides a variety of other articles belonging the business.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

By Mr. Adam Brodie.

LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

IMPORTANT SALE OF LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERY, ON ACCOUNT OF EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Messrs. SHAW & ATKINSON, who are making extensive alterations, to OFFER FOR PUBLIC COMPETITION their Extensive and First-class STOCK OF LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERY (which is the largest in the district), on the Premises, LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, on SATURDAY, January 17th, 1874, and following days. Full particulars in bills.

ORDER OF SALE: Sale to commence each Evening at Six o'clock, and on Saturdays and Mondays at Two o'clock in the Afternoon.

The attention of the Public is directed to this Sale as the most important of the kind ever held in the district. 539d

By Mr Joseph Oley.

CONSETT PARK, NEAR CASTLESIDE.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION at CONSETT PARK, on MONDAY, January 19th, 1874, all the HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, A SINGER SEWING MACHINE, &c., belonging to the late Mrs. ANN AINSLIE, deceased.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer,

Comprising Painted Press; Twenty-four Hours' Clock; Small Clock; 2 Iron Bedsteads and Mattresses; 2 Feather Beds; Feather Pillows and Bolsters; 4 Linen Sheets; 5 Cotton Sheets; Pair Wool Blankets; 6 Quilts; Set of Bed Hangings; Linen and Cotton Pillow Cases; 2 Napkins; 2 Table Covers; Carpet; 2 Hearth Rugs; 2 Silk Umbrellas; 4 Pictures in Gilt Frames; Map of Durham; Dressing Table and Washstand; Oak Folding Tea Table; Round Table; 2 Kitchen Tables; Form; 6 Cane-bottomed Bedroom Chairs; 6 Kitchen Chairs; 2 Arm Chairs; Pair Quilting Frames; 2 Dressing Glasses; a Valuable lot of Glass, Dinner, Tea and other Ware; Set of China Tea Ware; 4 Brass Candlesticks; 2 Pair Brass Snuffers; Table Knives and Forks; Table and Tea Spoons; Tea Caddy; 2 Oil Lamps; 2 Fenders and 2 Sets Fire Irons; 2 Tea Kettles; 2 Boxes; with a lot of Shoemakers' Tools, and a Singer's Sewing Machine. Also a Good Black Polled Cow, bulled July 15th, 1873; 3 Shorthorned Steers, rising 2 years old; Three-year-old Heifer, 6 months gone with calf; Roaned Bull Stirk; 2 Sheep Dogs; 2 Good Bred Sow Pigs, 6 months old, one put to the boar; Hog Pigs 6 months old. A quantity of Cocks and Hens.

Sale to commence at One o'clock in the afternoon.

Business Announcement.

THOMAS LAMB,
STATIONER, BOOKSELLER, PRINTER, AND BOOKBINDER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

BIBLES, Hymn Books, Ledgers, Day Books, and Memorandum Books of every description. School and Prize Books. Periodicals, Weekly and Monthly, of all kinds. All kinds of Tin and Hardware Goods, Jewellery, &c.

Memorial Cards and Raffle Tickets on the shortest notice. Pictures Framed neatly and cheaply.

Agent for the *Consett Guardian*, advertisements for which are received and inserted at moderate charges.

GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL MILLER, and SEEDSMAN,
GROCER, DRAPER, & PROVISION MERCHANT
HARPERLEY STEAM & WATER CORN MILL,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN,

Has always on hand a large STOCK of Pure Linseed and Cotton Cakes; Indian Meal; Pea Meal; Barley Meal; Boxings, Sharps, and Bran; Oats whole and crushed, and feeding stuffs of every description.

G. H.'s Mixture of Permanent Clover and Grass Seeds has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturists of the District upwards of Twenty Years.

Fine SEED PEAS, SPRING TARES, SEED BARLEY &c. &c., on hand. 145d

WILLIAM BEER,
GOLDSMITH, JEWELLER, WATCHMAKER, &c
16, COLLINGWOOD STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
FOR UPWARDS OF THIRTY YEARS PRINCIPAL ASSISTANT TO MESSRS. REID & SONS,

BEGS most respectfully to inform his Friends and the Public generally, that he has COMMENCED BUSINESS at the above Address, where he invites an inspection of his New and Select STOCK of JEWELLERY, WATCHES, &c., and hopes to receive a share of their Patronage and Support. 415d

NEW ARRIVALS of BERLIN, PARISIAN, LONDON, and YORK GOODS in fashionable High Combs, Fancy Arrows, Daggers, Pins, Ornamental Hair Twists and Coils. French Fans and Brushes, Berlin Ivory Fans, Rimmell's Perfumery, Rare Honeycomb Sponge, &c., &c. First-class Artists at counter and in rooms.

29, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE,
C. ROUGIER, PROPRIETOR.
Wholesale Warehouse, York. 448d

CHEESE! CHEESE!! CHEESE!!!

AMERICAN (the Finest) 8½d. per lb. for a few lbs.

CHESHIRE (Rich) Whole, 9d. per lb.; Half, 9½d. per lb.

DERBY (Excellent) 12 to 26 lbs., 9½d. per lb.

2,000 HAMS OF THE FINEST QUALITY,
Equal to those Sold last year, which met with such great success, at 7½d. per lb.

2,000 PRIME MILD CURED HAMS, only 7½d. per lb.

THE GROCERY DEPARTMENT
Is replete with all the Fruits of the Season, including
PEEK FREAN'S CELEBRATED FRUIT CAKES.

THOMAS SWAINSTON,
THE READY-MONEY TEA DEALER,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 517d

IMMENSE SUCCESS
OF THE
GREAT DRAPERY SALE.

THE GREAT DRAPERY SALE which has been causing so much attraction during this week will be continued a week longer, when the whole of the Stock will be offered to Public Competition.

In order to give our Country Customers a chance of attending these Sales, we have decided to have a Special Sale on Saturday and Monday Afternoons, at Two o'clock, and each Evening at Six.

N.B.—We would strongly advise those who have not attended these Sales to do so at their earliest, as it is a rare opportunity of obtaining Goods at such low prices as was never known before.

SHAW & ATKINSON
22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 538d

SEWING MACHINES! SEWING MACHINES!
AND
NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

"EUROPA." "EUROPA."

IN setting forth the claims of this new Patent Lock-stitch Sewing Machine, we may observe that we have been practically engaged in, and connected with the trade from its first introduction into England, during which period we invented and patented several original machines, supplied wholesale to reputed makers of the same. All these Machines obtained for themselves a well-deserved and world-wide notoriety, and for the *soi distant* makers and exhibitors of them much credit and honour, including prize medals at the London International Exhibition in 1862, and at the Paris Exhibition in 1867, besides prize medals at Exhibitions held in Leeds, Coventry, Manchester, Warrington, and other places, in competition with all the chief makers in the world. In view of these facts we determined to perfect, and ourselves offer to the public the above machine, which combines all the best points of the prize-taking Machines, with several novel and important improvements never before applied, leaving no further practical improvement possible, and rendering "EUROPA"

THE PERFECTION OF SEWING MACHINERY.

PRICES CASH.

PLAIN STAND	£6 10s.
WITH ARM FOR SLEEVES	7 0s.
WITH ARM AND ORNAMENTAL STAR STAND,	7 10s.
"LITTLE EUROPA" HAND MACHINE,	4 4s.

FREE DELIVERY. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. INSTRUCTION GRATIS.

PATENTEES:—

SMITH, STARLEY, & CO., COVENTRY.

AGENT:—

G. D. POWELL,
13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

G. D. POWELL having lately taken an agency to supply this district with one of the most improved Elastic Lock Stitch Sewing Machines, intends giving a

FIRST-CLASS HAM
AS A
NEW YEAR'S GIFT

to each of his customers who supply themselves before the end of January, 1874, with one of these unrivalled machines.

APPLY AND INSPECT AT

G. D. POWELL'S,
13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT. 530d

Business Announcements.

JOHN AITCHISON & CO.'S
CELEBRATED
SCOTCH AND INDIA PALE ALES.

OFFICES AND STORES—LISLE STREET, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

JOHN BORTHWICK, AGENT.

NOTICE.

WILLIAM BIGGINS,
SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER,

WISHES to inform his customers and the public generally, that he has REMOVED from Raglan Street, to No. 2, TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

W.B. can supply any sort of Carriage, Gig, Van, Cart, or Pit Harness on moderate terms.

Collieries contracted for if desired. 88d

JOHN PARKER,
CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER,
JEWELLER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT. 288d

A PRACTICAL WORKMAN ON THE PREMISES.

GOOD NEWS FOR NEW YEAR, 1874.

ROBERT DOBINSON
Respectfully calls the attention of his Customers and the Public generally that he has made very LARGE PURCHASES SPECIALLY for the Festive Season, consisting of Teas, Coffees, Raisins, Currants, Jellies, Jams, Fruits, Bon-Bons, Cosquacs, Biscuits, &c.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
ROBERT DOBINSON,
GROCER AND ITALIAN WAREHOUSEMAN,
1, NEW BRIDGE STREET,
547d NEWCASTLE.

ESTABLISHED 1844.

THOMAS JOHNSON,
CURRIER AND LEATHER MERCHANT,
BOTTLE BANK, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE,

WISHES to call attention to the high position the North stands in as manufacturers, AND WHY NOT IN BOOT TOPS? And begs to say that the want experienced to get first class Tops made to measure can be supplied by him on the shortest possible notice; also with MILLER'S PATENT GUSSETS, which all ought to wear.

Agent for HOWE'S and WESTMORELAND'S MACHINES.
Do. MACHINE TWIST and THREAD.
Do. MORRIS and YEOMAN'S NEEDLES.

SUPERIOR WATCHES, SHIP CHRONOMETERS, ENGLISH AND FRENCH CLOCKS.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Silver Patent Lever Watches	3	10	0	to	27	0	0
Gold Patent Lever Watches	10	10	0	to	40	0	0
Geneva Silver Watches	2	2	0	to	5	5	0
Geneva Gold Watches	5	5	0	to	30	0	0
Ship Chronometers	27	0	0	to	40	0	0

LISTER AND SONS,
WATCHMAKERS TO THE QUEEN,
CHRONOMETER MAKERS TO THE ADMIRALTY,
12, 14, & 16, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. 592a

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
COUNTY OF DURHAM.

VALUATIONS MADE FOR PROBATE AND LEGACY DUTIES.

Agent to the Liverpool, London, and Globe Fire and Life Insurance Company.

All Orders attended to with care and punctuality

EMIGRATION AGENT. 27

TODD'S QUININE WINE
stands pre-eminent for
PURITY AND STRENGTH.

It is the best known remedy for Indigestion, Nervous Complaints, Debility, Wasting Diseases, &c., and is recommended by the Faculty.

TODD'S QUININE WINE strengthens the whole system. The genuine is manufactured only by JOE TODD, Chemist, Carlisle, and bears his name on the Government Stamp. Sold by all Chemists. Ask for and have only

TODD'S QUININE WINE.

Agents—W. AYNSLEY, grocer, Middle Street, and D. IMRIE, chemist, Front Street, Consett.

THE CONTINENTAL WINE AGENCY offers to large and small consumers equal advantages in the purchase of PURE AND WHOLESOME WINES.

The CONTINENTAL WINE AGENCY submits every Wine to a SEARCHING EXAMINATION, and enables purchasers to select from a stock POSSESSING RELIABLE QUALITIES. As the Agency does not deal in any but perfectly SOUND AND PROPERLY MATURED WINES, no attempt will be made to compete with prices which necessitate the sale of inferior qualities. Nevertheless, a just comparison of the Wines supplied by the Agency with others at similar prices will at once demonstrate the unquestionable advantages offered to the public.

Among the importations of this Agency, attention is particularly directed to the following SPECIALLY SELECTED WINES, namely—

"MARK LANE SHERRY,"
at 37s per dozen, and
"MANSION HOUSE PORT,"
at 36s per dozen, bottles included.

Distinctive names have been given to these Wines to mark them as SPECIALITIES of the Agency, their excellent qualities and very moderate prices assuring them an exceptionally high reputation. They are most strongly recommended as the best for general purposes, and are well suited to the requirements of the invalid.

The 21s CHRISTMAS BIN contains three bottles Port, three bottles Sherry, three bottles Claret, three bottles Marsala, pure and selected wine, lock and key, bottles included. (Double the quantity, 41s.)

The 30s CHRISTMAS BIN contains three bottles Port, three bottles Sherry, three bottles Claret, three bottles Champagne, superior quality. Lock and key and bottles included.

The 40s CHRISTMAS BIN contains three bottles Port, three bottles Sherry, three bottles Claret, three bottles Champagne, very fine quality. Lock and key and bottles included. (Double the quantity, 78s.)

These Bins are admirably adapted for presents.

NOTE!—A DOZEN OF WINE AND A CELLAR TO KEEP IT IN FOR ONE GUINEA.

THE CONTINENTAL WINE AGENCY,
72, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Post-office Orders payable to J. OSMOND. 479d

Business Announcements.

JOSEPH OLEY,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
10, WOOD STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE. 228c

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER,
LEADGATE AND CONSETT.

☞ PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED OR CONTRACTED FOR. 635b

IF YOUR WATCH STOPS
TAKE IT TO
A. MAY,
PRACTICAL WATCHMAKER,
4, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

BROOKS'
CHEAP HAT AND CAP SHOP,
50, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

NO BETTER HATS AND CAPS in Newcastle than those Sold by BROOKS the Hat Manufacturer.

A LARGE STOCK OF SEALSKIN CAPS.

N.B.—*HATS MADE TO ORDER.* 495d

THOMAS CRESSWELL,
THE NOTED BOOT AND SHOEMAKER,
HAS COMMENCED BUSINESS IN
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL,

and hopes by supplying a good article at a moderate price, together with strict attention, to merit public support. A Large Assortment of Home-made
MEN'S STRONG SEWED BOOTS,
Always on hand.

REPAIRING DONE ON THE PREMISES. 342d

HANDYSIDE,
THE WORLD RENOWNNED CHAMPION
BOOT AND SHOEMAKER,

HANDYSIDE'S BOOT AND SHOES.

For Boots and Shoes, both strong and neat,
With all improvements made complete,
Try HANDYSIDE'S in Middle Street,
The very best in Consett.

You'll find them made with skill and care,
Not made for show, but made for wear,
Without an equal to compare,
At any place in Consett.

They've long and nobly stood the test,
And quite victorious beat the rest,
And proved themselves the very best
And cheapest sold in Consett.
Repairs are well and cheaply done,
By workmen, all pronounced A1,
The championship's been fairly won
By HANDYSIDE of Consett.

5811 — ROBSON LAMB, Manager.

LANGDALE'S PURE LINSEED AND
COTTON CAKES,
ALSO
COMPOUND CAKES,
LOCUST BEANS AND FEEDING MEALS
of all descriptions.
Sold by guaranteed Analysis.
MANUFACTURED BY
S. LANGDALE,
THE WALKER OIL AND CAKE MILLS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 267d

KIRTON & Co., CLOTHIERS,
BOTTLE BANK, GATESHEAD,
PROMISE TO
GIVE EVERY BOY A SHIRT
Who Buys a Suit.

Suits .... from 6s. 11d.
Top Coats .... 8s. 11d.
HATS, CAPS, SCARFS, COLLARS, &c.
Moleskin Trousers, home-made .... 7s. 6d.
ALL KINDS OF CLOTHING.
THE LITTLE BOYS' CLOTHING DEPOT.

CASTILE OR OLIVE OIL SOAP.

FOR THE TOILET .... In Tablets.
FOR THE HOUSEHOLD AND LAUNDRY .... In Bars.
FOR DYERS AND SCOURERS, &c. .... In Bars.

This Soap retains the pure natural scent of the olive, and is the best and cheapest in the market.

Is invaluable in the Laundry, as it does not rot or destroy Linen.

Is admirably adapted for Dyers and Scourers, and for Washing Pitmen's Woollen Clothes.

Is highly recommended for Cleaning and Dressing Leather, Saddlery, Harness, &c.

As a Toilet Soap it is unequalled in its delicate action upon the face and skin, and in retaining the bloom of the complexion.

Apply to the Manufacturers,
THE WALKER OIL SEEDS CRUSHING CO.,
26, GRAINGER STREET WEST,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Or to TAYLOR GIBSON, and Co., 30, Bigg Market, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; J. HOPE, Jun., Hexham; and all respectable Grocers and Druggists. 569d

NEWCASTLE TEA WAREHOUSE.

EVERY PERSON THAT TASTES
OUR JUSTLY
CELEBRATED INDIAN TEA
AT FOUR SHILLING PER POUND,
ARE DELIGHTED WITH ITS
PURITY AND FRAGRANCE.
COME AND GIVE IT A TRIAL!
THE ADDRESS—
NEWCASTLE TEA WAREHOUSE,
[illegible], NEWMARKET, STREET, CONSETT.
JAMES LAKE, Proprietor. 3742

Business Announcements.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
WILLIAM JENKINS,
WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER,
Respectfully announces that he
HAS REMOVED
FROM BLACKHILL
TO MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

☞ For the convenience of Customers Orders may be left with Mr. W. Heaps, Confectioner, Durham Road, and Mr. Reid, Ironmonger, Derwent Street, Blackhill.

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINET-MAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, & CATCHGATE.

HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, in great variety.
IRON and BRASS BEDSTEADS.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN. HARDWARE
PARAFFIN LAMPS and OIL, best quality.
AGENT for the HOME WASHER WRINGING MACHINE.
BURY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS. 574d

Public Notices.

REDUCTION OF PRICE IN COKE.

THE Public are informed that Coke at Shotley Gas Works is REDUCED to 5d. per cwt.

CHEAP COALS.

THE Public can be Supplied with good Unscreened House Coals at 10s. per Ton, or 2s. 6d. per Tub of 5 Cwt. at the new Coal Drift opened out adjoining the Ebchester Railway Station; or with Unscreened Busty Coals at 12s. per Ton, or 3s. per Tub of 5 Cwt. at Broomhill Colliery, near Ebchester Station. Good Unscreened House Coals may also be had at Carr House Coal Depots, at 12s. per Ton or 7½d per Cwt. 464d

MUSIC HALL, CONSETT.
LESSEE ... MR. EDWARD FIELDING.

MONDAY, January 19th, 1874, and during the week,

SIGNOR SYLVESTER,
THE GREAT CEILING WALKER,
Supported by a Powerful Company.

PIANIST .... MR. BURNETT.
STAGE MANAGER .... MR. BROOKS.

☞ FRIDAY, January 23rd, a Fine LEG of MUTTON will be GIVEN AWAY. 583d

EDUCATION.

NORTH OF ENGLAND
MIDDLE CLASS SCHOOLS,
THE CRESCENT, HIGH ST, GATESHEAD.

THE course of instruction embraces every subject likely to aid in developing the moral and intellectual faculties of the Pupils, so as to fit them for the duties of life.

Home comforts. Liberal diet. Terms moderate. Prospectus free. Address the Principal. 419d

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT
GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all or any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry, must first obtain the consent of the Secretary of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default thereof, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Persons will be Prosecuted as the Law directs. The Secretary can be seen daily at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.

By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 2, 1870. 24

RIVER TYNE IMPROVEMENT.
TO OWNERS OF STEAMBOATS PLYING ON THE RIVER TYNE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Quarter's STEAMBOAT DUES, which became due and payable to the Tyne Improvement Commissioners on the 1st day of January instant, must be paid on Monday, the 19th day of January, 1874, at either of the following places appointed for receiving the same, viz:—Tyne Improvement Commissioners' Offices, No. 1, St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; or Tyne Steam Tug Insurance Office, New Quay, North Shields; at which places attendance will be given on the above-named day, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.—By Order.

JAMES GUTHRIE, Secretary.
River Tyne Commission Offices, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 9th January, 1874.

RIVER TYNE IMPROVEMENT.
TO SHIP AND BARGE BUILDERS.

The Tyne Improvement Commissioners require Four Wooden Saddle-back Self-discharging BARGES for conveying material to sea; each Barge to carry 450 tons.—Persons desirous of tendering for the construction of the above may obtain further particulars and Forms of Tender on application to PHILIP J. MESSENT, C.E., No. 1, St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—Tenders addressed to "The Chairman of Tyne Improvement Commissioners," marked, "Saddle-back Barge," will be received by the undersigned not later than MONDAY, 9th Feb. The Commissioners do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.—By order.

JAMES GUTHRIE, Secretary.
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 13th January, 1874.

LOCAL BOARD FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONSETT.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE, that on FRIDAY, the 13th day of February, at the BOARD ROOM of the CONSETT LOCAL BOARD, there will be an Audit of the Accounts of the Local Board for the District of Consett, under and according to the provisions of the Local Government Act, 1858, and that a Copy of the Accounts to be Audited, together with all Rate Books, Account Books, Deeds, Contracts, Accounts, Vouchers, and Receipts, mentioned or referred to in such Accounts, will be deposited in the Office of the said Local Board, and be open during Office hours thereat to the inspection of all Persons interested, for Seven days before the said Audit and Examination, and all such Persons shall be at liberty to take Copies of or Extracts from the same without fee or reward.

Given this 16th day of January, 1874.
JOHN ELLIOTT,
Clerk to the Local Board for the District of Consett. 5893

Public Notices.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all Debts owing to the late ELIZABETH WIGHAM, of the Rose and Crown Hotel, Blackhill, are to be Paid to her Executor, HENRY HARVEY, 4, Foundry Row, Blackhill, who will also Settle any Account that may be presented him. 585d

Local and District News.

NEWCASTLE ELECTION.—The official declaration of the poll on Thursday evening is as follows:—Cowen, 7,356; Hamond, 6,352. Majority for Cowen, 1,003.

MR. C. M. Palmer and the partners in Marley Hill Colliery have made a donation of £1000 towards the proposed new church for Marley Hill; and Mr. John Bowes has also intimated his intention of presenting a site.

GAS FOR CASTLESIDE.—An effort is about to be made by the inhabitants of Castleside to introduce gas into the village. We believe they first intend applying to the Shotley Bridge Gas Company to be supplied. Mr. John Watson is one of the principal movers in the scheme, and we hope he, with his friends, may be successful in this object.

MUSIC HALL, CONSETT.—Large audiences have, during the past week, nightly visited this place of amusement, and all seemed to appreciate it. It is announced in another column that Signor Sylvester, the great ceiling walker, will make his appearance next week, when he will be supported by a powerful company, and, we have no doubt, will be the means of drawing good houses.

PRESENTATION AND SUPPER AT WITTON GILBERT.—On Saturday last, the members of the Findon Hill Lodge held a supper, at the house of Mr John Scarborough, Witton Gilbert, for the purpose of presenting Mr T. W. Bewick, underviewer, and Mr Edward Pickering, overman, each with a beautiful inkstand, with their names engraved on a silver plate. Mr John Chapman, engineer, was called to the chair, and Mr George Gair to the vice-chair. The chairman then called on Mr William Bell to make the presentation, which he did in a most able manner. Both gentlemen returned their thanks in appropriate terms. The utmost harmony prevailed, the evening being enlivened by songs, &c., from Messrs Scarborough, Cummings, Ross, and other gentlemen. The company separated at an early hour, highly gratified with the night's enjoyment.

THE DOCTOR AND THE "OLD WIVES."—At the ordinary meeting of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority, on Thursday, Mr. D. C. Bellamy presiding, Mr Hunter, one of the medical officers, in tracing the cause of the spread of infectious diseases, attributed it to a custom which was very prevalent in this part of the country, especially amongst colliery women, of running into each others houses to show their sympathy. He was sorry to say, however, that in many cases this was false sympathy, the object being rather to demolish as much rum and whisky as they possibly could, and to criticise the remedies or the opinions of the different doctors. "These old wives," continued the doctor, "act as devils to their friends, and send more to the churchyard than did all the doctors at the commencement of their professional career."

BEAMISH, PONTOP, AND CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting of the members of this Society was held at Beamish on Wednesday last, under the presidency of Mr Wm. M. Annandale, of Lintzford, and was largely attended by the members. From the report of the Society's affairs, read by the chairman, it appears that the Society has a balance to its credit of no less than £37 15s 6d, which is very encouraging, considering that the committee began the year with a deficiency of over £5. It was decided to hold the annual show of live stock &c. at Shotley Bridge, on the 26th August next, and a local committee was appointed for the purpose of furthering the interests of the Society in that quarter. The prize list was considerably enlarged, and will be the best one the Society has ever been able to issue to the public. From the favourable situation of Shotley Bridge and the facilities for railway and other communication, we have every reason to hope that the show at that place will be a great success.

SERIOUS ATTACK ON THE POLICE AT CRAGHEAD.—On Monday evening last, a serious disturbance took place at the village of Craghead. It appears that P.C. Kendrew, the officer stationed in the village, was requested to quell a disturbance, and on proceeding to the scene of the row, he identified a man named John Minto, for whose apprehension he held a warrant. The policeman endeavoured to apprehend Minto, but the latter resisted his apprehension, and attacked the officer in a savage manner. A man named John Hall also joined in the attack, and would no doubt have struck the officer with a poker he held in his hand, had not the bystanders interfered and prevented him. On Thursday, at Lanchester Petty Session, before E. T. Smith and T. Greenwell, Esqs., the defendants were charged with assaulting the officer as above described. They pleaded guilty, and were committed to Durham Gaol for six months, with an additional month's imprisonment in default of paying the costs.—They were further charged with damaging the officer's uniform on the same occasion, and ordered to pay a fine of 6d, the damage 10s 6d, and the costs. They were also charged with damaging a hat the property of Joseph Oxley, innkeeper, of the same place.—In this case they were ordered to pay a fine of 6d, the value of the hat, 5s, and the expenses.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.—The ordinary meeting of this Board was held in the Board Room, Lanchester, on Thursday afternoon, Mr. D. C. Bellamy, presiding. In consequence of the unsanitary state of Annfield Plain and the vicinity the Board at their last meeting thought it would be desirable to delegate their authority to a committee of the property holders, and Mr Maynard, the Inspector, was instructed to convene a meeting in order to ascertain the feeling of the property holders. The Inspector now reported that a meeting had been held at Annfield Plain, but the property holders, by a majority of seven to two, had determined to leave the matter in the hands of the Board. —Mr Jenkins: What would be the consequence of delegating our power to a committee in that district? —The Clerk (Mr Thompson): The committee would consult the Board before they did anything that would involve an outlay.—After some further discussion, Messrs Humphrey, G. Hobson, Henry Ritson, and R. Dickinson were appointed as a committee.—The Inspector reported that fever and small-pox had broken out at Cornsay and Quebec. Besides distributing disinfectants at the above places, the Inspector intimated that he had visited Annfield Plain, Dipton, Stanley, and Burnopfield, where a plentiful supply of carbolic acid had been distributed. —Dr Wilson also reported that within the last four weeks scarlet fever had broken out at Quebec. There had been eight cases in all, one of which had proved fatal. Two deaths from small-pox had taken place at Cornsay Colliery. Mr Wilson added that the bodies of the dead were kept longer than they ought, and he suggested that handbills should be circulated in the district, insisting upon burial twelve hours after death, and also that bed-clothes should be dried elsewhere than in the street.—The clerk was instructed to carry out Dr Wilson's suggestion.—The Inspector asked the Board for absolute authority to proceed against all parties who refused to remove privy and ashpit filth. He believed that he had power to order to remove all such filth, and charge the occupier with the cost.—Mr Annandale: The Local Boards have that power.—The Clerk promised to refer to the law on the subject, and report next meeting.—A very elaborate, but somewhat lengthy report, was submitted by Dr Hunter, of Stobbhouse, and referred to the Inspector for consideration. There was no other business of importance.

NENTHEAD POULTRY SHOW.—At the Nenthead Poultry Show on Thursday last, Messrs. James and Jacob Shield, of Beadley Cottages, took the first prizes for best yellow canary, best buff canary, best dun canary, best goldfinch, and best mule; they also took several second prizes, and were highly commended for other birds shown by them.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Glandular swellings about the throat, neuralgia, tic doloureux, rheumatism, gout, lumbago, and other diseases affecting the glands, muscles, and nerves are permanently eradicated by this healing anti-febrile and soothing unguent. It is also a perfect remedy for all skin diseases, and superficial or deep-seated sores soon loose their angry and painful character under its cooling beneficent action. The Pills have never been administered either by hospital or private practitioner, in dyspepsia or liver complaint without producing the desired result.

CONSETT BRITISH SCHOOLS.—The annual presentation of prizes to the children attending the above schools took place on Monday evening. Mr. Jenkins, one of the managers of the school, spoke on the subject of education, and said that the church had done more than any other body in providing channels for the education of the masses.—The Vicar of Consett advocated the formation of School Boards, and hoped that the working men of Consett would take the matter in hand. In the course of the evening the children sung a number of glees, while several of the boys and girls recited pieces of poetry, &c., in a manner that reflected great credit to the master, Mr. Cross. Through the kindness of the managers the whole of the children were entertained to an excellent tea, which they seemed to thoroughly enjoy.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.—The ordinary meeting of this Board was held in the office, on Tuesday last. Present—Messrs. William Ridley (chairman), Joseph Ridley, G. Elliot, M. Thompson, and D. Thompson. The minutes of the meeting held in December were read and confirmed. The Auditor's report was read, which stated that the books were as usual in good order and the rates well collected. Reference was also made to the rating of collieries, which has often been before the Board. A most valuable report was read by the Medical Officer, referring to zymotic diseases in the district, traps of private owners, ventilation and flushing of sewers, removal of ashes, &c. It was determined to enforce the bye-laws relating to the latter subject.—The Surveyor's report was read, and tenders were ordered to be sought for a new sewer.—A plan for twelve houses for the Weardale Iron Coal Company was allowed.—The Inspector's report was read. A pay-bill, amounting to £165 17s. 1d., was approved.—An inspector having been advertised for, Mr. William Garroway, of Tow Law, was appointed.—The Board then separated.

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.

NUISANCES AT CONSETT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—Being a reader of your paper, I find in your last week's issue a letter sent to the Consett Local Board by a person named Lambert, who says he informed the Inspector of Nuisances of a nuisance which had existed regularly every morning before several of the cottages in Havelock Street. Now, Sir, in Havelock Street there are families and consequently some little children, and there may be sometimes such things seen in Havelock Street as are almost unavoidable in the cleanest streets where little children play around the doors. In fact, Sir, such things as Mr Lambert calls nuisances are much more frequent in working men's cottages with their limited conveniences, than they are in Havelock Street; and I am sure, Sir, that any little nuisance there may be in Havelock Street is only such as I have hinted at, and a hint from the Inspector will at secure oncol its removal. But I can assure you, Sir, that the Inspector has very rarely occasion to complain about any such nuisance in Havelock Street. Allow me to say, Sir, in defence of the people who live in Havelock Street, that there never was, since Mr Lambert came to Consett, a nuisance regularly every morning before several of the cottages, and I fearlessly say that Mr Lambert never had any reason to complain of nuisance in Havelock Street, and I think that any person of common sense would never have said what he has said about the people who live in that street. I have no doubt whatever but the people who live there are as clean and as respectable as Mr Lambert is. It is well known in Consett that this street is regarded as one of the cleanest in the place. In fact there is not a cleaner street in Consett. I am told that Mr Lambert has only been in Consett a short time, yet the Inspector, whose zeal he complains of, has actually had to threaten to summon him for creating a nuisance in Front Street. I can inform Mr Lambert that there are some people in Havelock Street who have lived there for years, and the present nor the previous inspectors have never had any reason to complain about them. Hoping Mr Lambert will not again complain without a reason.—I am, yours respectfully,

W. BELL.

Local Police Courts.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, January 12th.—Before H. C. SILVERTOP (chairman); A. TOWN, and R. WALLIS, Esqs.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

Richard Pratt, *William Pratt*, and *Robert Hamilton*, ironworkers, Consett, were charged with having been drunk and disorderly at Consett. P.C. Farnaby stated that on the 2nd inst., about nine o'clock at night, he was on duty in Front Street when he perceived a crowd assembled opposite Brown's bar-house. He at once proceeded to the spot and found the whole of the defendants fighting. Witness ordered them to leave the streets, but they refused. Robert Pratt and Hamilton were each fined 10s and costs, and William Pratt was ordered to pay a fine of 5s and costs.

Peter Matthews, of Leadgate, was charged with a similar offence. On the 2nd inst., shortly after eleven o'clock, P.C. Farnaby encountered defendant at the end of Middle Street. He was drunk and caused a disturbance by swearing, in consequence of which he was summoned by the officer.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and the expenses.

Peter McKenna, Consett, was charged by the same officer with a similar offence at Consett, on Saturday night. Defendant, it seems, got more drink than was good for him, and about nine o'clock he was discovered embracing mother earth. Being unable to give a proper account of himself and having no prospect of a night's lodgings, he was accommodated with apartments in the Police Station.—Defendant now pleaded guilty and was fined 5s and costs.

Nicholas Lamb, of Consett, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly at Consett, on Sunday. Between nine and ten o'clock, P.C. Farnaby was attracted to the defendant, who was in Medomsley Road, where he was abusing his wife and threatening to annihilate the whole human race.—Defendant now appeared somewhat subdued by his incarceration, and was discharged on paying a fine of 10s and costs.

William McCann, ironworker, Consett, was charged by P.C. Robinson with having been drunk and disorderly on the 10th inst. Shortly before midnight the officer was patrolling one of the Company's rows behind Front Street, when he came across the defendant, who was unable to find the door of his lodgings, and being unable, in consequence of his having indulged too freely of eau-de-vie, to give a proper description of his domicile, the officer had no other alternative but to take him to the lock-up.—Defendant was fined 10s and costs.

Thomas Ridley, charged by P.C. Riddell with a similar offence at Blackhill on the 13th ult., was fined 10s and costs.

Michael Toovey, labourer, Consett, who had been apprehended on a warrant, was charged by Supt. Oliver with having been drunk and disorderly at Consett, on the 3rd May. Defendant absconded shortly after the committal of the offence, and had only recently returned.—He was now fined 5s [illegible]

Peter [illegible], of Blackhill, [illegible] P.C. Riddell with [illegible] the above [illegible]

ASSAULTS.

Robert Hopper was charged with assaulting Mary and Catherine Gentles at Consett. Complainants reside in Puddlers' Row, and the assault complained of took place on the 7th inst. The defendant was found guilty, and fined £1 and costs in each case.

John Garvie was charged with assaulting Thomas Burns, at Blackhill, on the 10th inst.—Dismissed.

William Steele was charged with assaulting Sergt. Morland, at Dipton, on the 1st inst. The case was proved to the satisfaction of the bench, but as he had been in custody he was let off on paying a fine of £1 and costs, in all £1 13s 4d.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Ann Greening, married woman, Blackhill, was charged by Sergt. Natress with committing a breach of the peace at Blackhill, on Saturday night.—Defendant, who has been repeatedly before the magistrates, was bound over to keep the peace for six months, in addition to paying the court expenses, 7s 6d.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 15th.—Before E. T. SMITH and T. GREENWELL, Esqs.

DRUNKENNESS.

Catherine Malone, married woman, Hill Top, was charged by Sergeant Morland with having been drunk at Dipton.—Defendant did not appear. She was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs.

Patrick Kane, an old man, hawker, Dipton, charged by the same officer with a similar offence at Dipton on the 27th ult., was fined 5s and costs.

Peter McDonald, miner, East Castle Colliery, who did not appear, was summoned by Sergeant Morland for a similar offence at Dipton.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs.

John Dorking, miner, Dipton, was charged with a similar offence on the 26th December. Sergeant Morland [illegible] drunk, and got hold of the officer.—Defendant did not appear, and was fined 10s and costs.

Samuel Ledger, weighman, Dipton, who was represented by his wife, was summoned for a similar offence at Dipton. Sergeant Morland said defendant was drunk and annoyed an auctioneer. Defendant, who had been previously convicted, was fined 10s and costs.

John Laing, miner, Dipton, was charged by Sergeant Morland with having been drunk on the 25th ult.—Defendant was fined 10s and costs.

Jessie Donnelly, a middle-aged woman, residing at Hill Top, was fined 5s and costs for having been drunk at Hill Top, on the 1st inst.

Alfred Drake, miner, Dipton, pleaded guilty to a similar offence at Dipton on the 1st inst.—He was fined 5s and costs.

Owen Waters, labourer, Dipton, charged by the same officer with a similar offence on the 1st inst., was fined 10s and costs.

Joseph McCaffery, labourer, Dipton, for a similar offence on the same occasion was fined 10s and costs.

Michael Hughes, labourer, Dipton, was charged by Sergeant Morland with a similar offence on the 1st inst. —Defendant denied the offence, and called a young man named Charles Mullen, who said defendant was quite sober at the time of the alleged offence.—Sergt. Morland said defendant was not only drunk but was the cause of a great deal of disturbance. He was fined 5s and costs.

James Cafferty, labourer, Dipton, for a similar offence on the same occasion, was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs.

John Smith, labourer, Dipton, charged by Sergeant Morland with a similar offence, was fined 10s and costs.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

Francis McCall and *Martin Ward*, miners, Cornsay Colliery, were summoned by Sergeant Parkinson for having been drunk and disorderly at the above place on the 2nd inst.—Fined 10s and costs.

John Carr, labourer, Cornsay, charged by the same officer with a similar offence at Cornsay Colliery, on the 3rd inst., was fined 5s and costs.

John Dorking and *Philip Burdy*, of Dipton, were summoned by Sergeant Morland for having been drunk and disorderly at the above place on the 1st inst.—Fined 10s and costs.

Christopher Garland was fined 20s and costs for a similar offence at the same place on the same occasion.

John Morris and *Robert Rowell* were charged by P.C. Vasey, the officer stationed at Hill Top, with a similar offence on the 1st inst.—Morris was ordered to pay a fine of 15s and costs; and Rowell 5s and costs.

Thomas Williamson was charged by P.C Reay with having been drunk and disorderly on the 2nd inst. Fined 10s and costs.

Henderson Bell, for a similar offence on the 3rd inst., was ordered to pay a fine of 5s and the court expenses.

Patrick Carley, summoned by P.C. Raine for a similar offence, on the 1st inst., was fined 20s and costs.

Patrick McCue and *Patrick Culligan* were charged by P.C. Thompson with having been drunk and disorderly at Burnopfield on the 2nd inst. They were ordered to pay a fine of 20s and costs.

Thomas Burgess, charged by the same officer with a similar offence at the same place, on the 3rd inst., was ordered to pay a fine of 10s and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Robert Turnbull was charged by Sergt. Morland with the above offence at Dipton, on the 27th ult.—Fined 20s and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

John Elliott, and *Richard Cole*, miners, Quebec, were charged by Sergt. Parkinson with causing a breach of the peace by fighting at Quebec, on the 31st December. —Bound over to keep the peace for six months and pay costs.

James Robson was charged by P.C. Raine with having committed a breach of the peace by fighting on the 1st inst.—Bound over to keep the peace for six months and ordered to pay costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

William Coulson, *James Keeves*, *Joseph Thirlaway*, and *Frederick Harvey* were charged by Messrs James Joicey and Co. with wilful damage at Tanfield Lea, on the 4th inst.—Fined 6d damage and costs.

Robert Rowell was charged by John Young with a similar offence on the 1st inst.—Fined 5s, the damage 13s 6d, and costs.

ASSAULTS.

James Cumming, a boy, residing at Quebec, was charged with assaulting Leonard Short, at Quebec, on the 1st inst. Short was working in a quarry at Quebec, when the boy Cumming went to the top of the quarry and threw down a stone which struck defendant on the arm, the latter being broken.—Two witnesses were called who proved to seeing defendant toss the stone.—Defendant was fined 10s and costs, in all £1 9s 6d.

Edward Sharan was charged with assaulting Mary Ann Lawrence at Burnopfield, on the 9th inst.—Fined 10s and costs.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

The insertion of anything beyond the simple announcement of Births, Marriages, or Deaths, will be charged as Advertisements.

BIRTHS.

CONSETT.—At Nelson Street, on the 15th inst., the wife of William Forster, of a daughter.

EAST CASTLE.—On the 7th inst., the wife of Mr. Robert Scott, platelayer, of a son.

DERWENT COTTAGES.—At 24, on the 9th inst., the wife of Mr. Johnson, of a son.

At 6, Furnace Row, on the 9th inst., the wife of Mr. Wild, of a son.

At 24, Queen Street, on the 10th inst., the wife of Mr. Aitchison, of a son.

At 7, Consett Terrace, on the 10th inst., the wife of Mr. Richards, of a son.

BLACKFYNE.—On the 13th inst., the wife of Mr. Poulton, of a daughter.

KNITSLEY.—On the 15th inst., the wife of Mr. Mitchelson, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

NEWCASTLE.—At St. Mary's Catholic Chapel, on the 12th inst., James, second son of Mr. W. [illegible] contractor, Blackhill, to Elizabeth, [illegible] of Mr. R. C[illegible]

[illegible]

A BLESSED MIRACLE.

I, Ferdinand Brand, an English soldier, lay between life and death in a foreign hospital, nursed by the Sisters who devote their lives to works of mercy, and who showed no less tenderness to those who differed from them in religion than to the more devout of their own sect. But all their kindness could not reconcile me to the weary life that lay before me, if I recovered. They gave me no hope that I should not be blind if I lived, and from the aching depths of my sad heart this thought had torn all that made life worth the having. The days glided on sadly and slowly. The nights, no darker than they, followed them. There were happier intervals; the chat of two convalescents; the pleasant speech of the Sisters; the hymns they sang at the vesper hour; but my heart never lightened, my future never lost its terror. To live seemed more terrible than to die. One day had seemed more bitter than its predecessors, darker, crueller. A comrade had breathed his last very near me. Then I prayed to die. I prayed silently. God, who knew my misery, forgave me.

In the midst of that prayer a strange thing happened to me. I felt a form bend over me. I inhaled the perfume of a breath as sweet as new-mown hay. Two lips softer than rose leaves pressed a kiss upon my closed eyelids, and a tear dropped upon my forehead. Involuntarily I stretched forth my hand; it caught a woman's taper fingers. They wrenched themselves from me, but left in my clasp a ring.

"[illegible] who is this?"

There was no answer. I heard a soft, retreating step, and nothing more. The woman who had kissed me, whoever she might be, was gone. I slipped the ring on my little finger, and fell into a reverie. Who could this have been? Whose lips had touched my lips? Whose hand had I held? Sister Agatha was large, and stout, and elderly. Sister Estelle was hard, and thin, and her kind hands were always as cold as ice. The nuns were not given to the wearing of jewellery.

I questioned Sister Agatha after a while, as to who had visited the hospital. "Only the mother of Antoine," she said; but I knew that those juicy lips, that warm, fluttering little hand, were not those of any man's mother. For one or two days I listened for the return of that gentle mystery. For one or two nights I dreamed of her. Then I stopped dreaming. Life dawned anew for me. I opened my eyes one morning and saw a ray of blessed sunlight. I opened them the next, to see faintly and dimly the outline of the long room, the cots ranged adown it, and the gliding forms of the gray-robed Sisters as they passed from pillow to pillow. I was no longer blind. I should be myself again. It had not seemed so much to be myself once. Now how glorious! Hope healed my wounds. I grew well miraculously. It seemed to me that all this dated from that kiss, given to me by those unknown lips. Ere I left the hospital, I told the good Sister Agatha of it. She looked at me solemnly, and fell to crossing herself.

"My child," she said, "it was the Madonna. It is a miracle—a blessed miracle. She has healed you."

"But the ring?" I said.

"The Madonna gave a ring to Saint Catharine. Why not a ring to you?" she said. "Ah, the beautiful miracle!"

So the story ran about the hospital. I knew that I had held a mortal hand in mine, and that living human lips had touched me; but who would have blighted the nun's pretty faith by persistent contradiction? Madonna, shouldst thou ever leave thy heaven, it might well be to kiss open the sealed eyes of one whose heart was breaking in his blindness.

Five years had passed. The war was over. I was in my native land again. I had almost forgotten my period of suffering in the hospital, but I had not forgotten that kiss. I still wore the ring upon my finger, and I still hoped, absurdly enough, to know one day to whom it had belonged—to know who kissed my blind eyes, who shed for me that pitying, tender tear. I met pretty girls and fine women who might have charmed me but for this haunting thought, but it was as though the ring on my finger was one of betrothal. I was constant to a memory vague as it was beautiful. My heart was adamant to all of them.

About this time my brother Henry married, and brought home his wife, a very lovely girl, who won our hearts at once. She had but one living relative, a sister who had been educated abroad, and who was coming to visit her very soon. She was said to be beautiful, and Henry spoke of her often.

"It would be a lucky thing for you if you could win her heart," he said. "She is almost an angel."

I smiled and shook my head.

"Not that that would be so easily done," he said. "Laura is a strange girl. She refuses every offer. She is two and twenty now, and has had several; but Emma tells me that she will never marry—until she gets over a queer fancy of hers. You'll keep it to yourself, if I tell you, Ferdinand?"

I promised.

"The girls are orphans," said Henry, "and Laura was educated at a convent in ——. By some strange neglect she remained there during the whole of this last terrible war. The convent was safe enough, and she had no fear; but it was outrageous. Well, to cut a long story short, there was a hospital at ——, and it was filled, of course, with wounded soldiers. The girl, just seventeen then, used at times to go with the nuns, and, protected by their costume, to the hospital, to minister to the wounded men. One, a young officer, who had lost his sight, attracted her attention. She used to watch him from afar, and think of him when she left him, until she fell in love with him. At last, one day, when he had been suffering very much, and had, as she thought, fallen asleep, her feelings overcame her. The Sisters were busy elsewhere, and she crept up to him and kissed him. He was not asleep, it seems. He caught her hand, and she, in pulling it away, lost a ring from her finger. But though she hid herself among the nuns, she could not forget him. He haunted all her dreams.

"When she next visited the hospital, she looked for him in vain; his cot was empty. The nuns told her that the Madonna had performed a miracle, and had given him his sight by a kiss. She knew what that story arose from, but she held her peace. And to this day, Ferdinand, she loves that man so entirely that she can love no one else. The ring she lost has been a betrothal ring in her family for generations. She fancies that some spell attaches to it. Otherwise she is a sensible girl—Ferdinand, what ails you?"

"Brother," I cried, "do you not know, do you not remember, it was I who lay blind in that foreign hospital? It was I she kissed. It is I who wear her ring." And I held before his eyes the emerald that I had worn upon my finger for five long years.

My story is nearly done. A week after this I went to meet the evening train from London, commissioned to escort Laura Lee to our old home. When I first spoke to her, she looked at me in a singular way, and her colour came and went rapidly. As for me, it seemed that I had known her all my life. How I told her the story I do not know, but tell it I did, on my way home. And the ring that I had snatched from her hand adorned it again—a betrothal ring in very truth—when we crossed the threshold of home together. Fate had smiled, and we have always blessed Fate.

[illegible] year or two ago—my wife and I visited the Continent, and stopping at ——, went to its famous hospital. A Sister who was quite unknown to us showed us through it. Over one cot was a little shrine and a picture of the Madonna.

"It was here," said the nun, "that Our Lady graciously performed a miracle. She kissed open the eyes of a blind young English soldier, and left in his hands a ring."

My wife stooped over the pillow and pressed her lips to it. I slipped a purse into the hands of the good Sister.

"A blessed miracle," I said.

"Amen," she said, and lighted us with her sweet smile to the hospital's wide portals.

THE WIFE ARTIST.

Lilac Cottage was always a pretty place to look upon, with steep gables, latticed casements, half hidden by the growth of climbing roses, and a little rustic porch; while the tiny lawn, the winding path to the river, and the clusters of ancient linden-trees before the door, were all perfect in their various ways. It was no wonder that Mr. Aubrey looked complacently around his small domain, as he stood on the step buttoning his dog-skin glove.

"Florence! Where are you, Florence?"

And then for the first time he saw the glimmering of something white beneath the branches of the weeping willow, a little way down the slope of the hill—his wife's dress.

Mrs. Aubrey was a beautiful girl of twenty-three or four, at least ten years younger than her husband—a hazel-eyed blonde, with a coil of gold gleaming [illegible] above her head, and cheeks just tinted with the faintest and most delicate bloom. She looked like a picture, as she sat there in her floating dress of white, with the few stray sunbeams which could penetrate the willow boughs braiding a net-work of brightness about her graceful head.

"O!" said Mr. Aubrey, half contemptuously, as he observed the pretty rustic easel before her, and the colour-box on the grass at her side, "you are painting, eh?"

"I am trying to sketch a little," said she.

Mr. Aubrey came close to her and surveyed the canvas critically over her shoulder.

"Pretty well," said he—"pretty well, for a beginner. But it's all time and trouble thrown away, my dear."

"Why?"

"Oh—because. A woman never was a born artist."

"Look at Rosa Bonheur," retorted Mrs. Aubrey, biting her lip.

"That's no illustration at all, my dear," said her husband. "Rosa Bonheur was half a man. There was nothing feminine or womanly about her. And this picture of yours, with the apple blossoms and the spring shower coming up from the west, it's all very pretty, and that sort of thing; but it possesses no merit as a work of art."

"But tell me why, Joseph?"

"O—well—you see, there's a general weakness in the make-up—a lack of individuality in the details. You are capital at a pie or a pudding, Florence, and you are the only woman I ever knew who could mix dressing for lobster salad like a man; but you've mistaken your vocation when you try to turn artist."

"Do you object to it, Joseph?" said Florence, in a stifled voice.

"Object, my dear! No, no; not the least in the world. On the contrary, I'm very glad if you can amuse yourself in that way during my absence. Good-bye, my dear. I'll try to be back in the five o'clock train."

Florence Aubrey heaved a sigh, as she looked after her husband's trim dapper figure striding across the lawn and losing itself in a winding shrubbery of lilacs and guelder-roses.

"And he has quite forgotten that it is the second anniversary of our wedding-day," she murmured to herself.

Even as Mr. Aubrey hurried down the slope in the direction of the railway station, towards which the early train was already steaming, he was chuckling to himself the same sentiment, although in quite a different spirit.

"She's entirely forgotten about this being our wedding-day. I shall surprise her capitally. Ha, ha! Women never do remember things. It takes a man's memory."

Mr. Aubrey did not quite keep his word. He came up from the city an hour earlier than the time he had mentioned to his wife, with a prodigious paper package under his arm.

Florence met him at the door.

"Joseph!"

"Yes, my dear, here I am," said he, setting down the package, and wiping the drops of perspiration from his brow.

"I have just finished embroidering a set of handkerchiefs with your monogram, dear," said Florence, smiling and colouring. "You had forgotten that to-day was the anniversary of our wedding-day?"

"No, my dear, I hadn't," said Mr. Aubrey, complacently. "I never forget anything. Here's my present to you."

And he commenced untying the multitudinous strings and packages that fastened the treasure, while Mrs. Aubrey looked eagerly on.

"What is it, Joseph? Do tell me," she cried.

"It's a picture, Florence. I've seen it on exhibition in Starke and Meriam's windows these two or three weeks. And I thought of you the minute I saw it, and made up my mind to get it for your wedding gift—that is, if the price wasn't too high. And I don't mind confessing that I was a little extravagant; but then two or three other fellows wanted it, and I wasn't going to be bullied for a paltry twenty or thirty dollars."

"A picture!" repeated Mrs. Aubrey, half dubiously. "But, Joseph, I can paint my own pictures."

"Your pictures!"—Mr. Aubrey shrugged his shoulders. "This is entirely a different thing. This is a picture with a soul to it. It's a lovely little landscape—a bit of blue river, and a bower of green trees and clematis blossom, and a little child dabbling its hand in the water. The prettiest fancy you ever saw. And I declare, the river and the trees are so like the bend of our little stream just below here, that I could swear the artist modelled from them. Look here!"

And Mr. Aubrey, having at last succeeded in unfolding the last layer of brown paper, triumphantly held up a small but exquisite painting, in a bijou frame of velvet and gold.

"What do you think of that, Mrs. Aubrey?" he asked.

Florence turned scarlet, then pale, and a roguish smile dimpled the corners of her lips.

"Do you think it pretty, Joseph?"

"Pretty? It's a perfect gem!"

"I am glad you admire it," said Mrs. Aubrey, striving for mastery over her laughter-rippled voice. "Do you know who painted the picture?"

"Some foreign artist, I suppose. There are initials in the corner, outlined in red—'F. A.'"

"Exactly so," said Mrs. Aubrey. "They stand for Florence Aubrey!"

"Eh?" gasped the husband.

"I painted the picture myself, and gave it to the Church Fair Committee, to be sold for their benefit. They put it on exhibition in Starke and Meriam's window, and—"

"And I have bought my own wife's picture!" exclaimed Mr. Aubrey, with very natural pique and chagrin. "And paid a hundred and fifty dollars for it! Never mind, Florence, my dear; I think it's well worth the money, if only to teach me that I have never before properly appreciated my wife's talent. Now give me a kiss, my darling, and we'll go to tea. And afterwards we'll hang up the picture in the place of honour over the mantel."

There it still hangs, and Mr. Aubrey, whenever he looks at it, is a wiser and a meeker man.

Railway Time Tables.

NEWCASTLE TO JARROW AND SOUTH SHIELDS.

Leaves Newcastle (Week days)—6·30, 7·0, 7·45 (*), 8·0, 9·0, 9·35, 10·50, 11·35 (*), 12·30, 2·10, 3·0, 3·35 (*), 4·0, 5·5, 6·0, 7·0, 8·0, 9·35, 10·50.

Leaves Newcastle (Sundays)—6·10, 8·0, 9·30, 2·0, 5·0, 7·15, 8·15, 9·30.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—Gateshead, 3; Felling, 7; Pelaw, 13; Hebburn, 17; Jarrow, 21; Tyne Dock, 26; and High Shields, 31 minutes after the above times, arriving at South Shields about 35 minutes after the time they leave Newcastle.

* First, second, and third-class express trains, stopping at Gateshead at 3 minutes, Jarrow at 15 minutes, and Tyne Dock, at 18 minutes after the above times, arriving at South Shields about 25 minutes after the time they leave Newcastle.

Fares from Newcastle to Gateshead: First, 3d.; second, 2d.; third, 1d.

Felling: First, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 2d.

Pelaw: First, 8d.; second, 6d.; third, 3½d. Return, first, 1s. 2d.; second, 10d.; third, 7d.

Hebburn: First, 10d.; second, 7d.; third, 5d. Return, first, 1s. 6d.; second, 1s.; third, 9d.

Jarrow, Tyne Dock, High Shields, or South Shields: First, 1s.; second, 9d.; third, 5d. Return, 1s. 8d., 1s. 3d., 10d.

SOUTH SHIELDS TO JARROW AND NEWCASTLE.

Leaves South Shields (Week days)—6·5, 7·0, 8·0, 8·30 (*), 9·0, 10·0, 10·50, 12·30, 12·50 (*), 2·0, 3·5, 4·0 (*), 4·15, 5·5, 6·15, 7·15, 8·15, 9·15, 10·40.

Leaves South Shields (Sundays)—6·15, 8·0, 9·5, 2·5, 5·0, 7·20, 8·20, 9·25.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—High Shields, 3; Tyne Dock, 8; Jarrow, 13; Hebburn, 17; Pelaw, 21; Felling, 26; and Gateshead, 30 minutes after the above times, arriving at Newcastle about 35 minutes after the times they leave South Shields.

ON SATURDAYS.

Relief trains leave Jarrow for Newcastle at 2·5 p.m. and 3·5 p.m., calling at all intermediate stations.

* First, second, and third-class express trains calling at Tyne Dock, Jarrow, and Gateshead, leaving Jarrow 10 minutes after the above times, arriving at Newcastle about 25 minutes after they leave South Shields.

Fares from South Shields to High Shields or Tyne Dock: First, 3d.; second, 2d.; third, 1d.

Jarrow: First, 5d.; second, 4d.; third, 3½d.

Pelaw, Felling, Gateshead, or Newcastle: First, 1s.; second, 9d.; third, 5d.

SUNDERLAND TO SOUTH SHIELDS AND JARROW.

Leaves Sunderland (Week days)—6·0, 6·50, 7·50, 8·50, 9·50, 11·0, 12·20, 1·50, 2·55, 3·50, 4·50, 6·5, 7·5, 8·5, 9·5, 10·50.

Leaves Sunderland (Sundays)—6·5, 7·50, 9·25, 1·55, 4·50, 7·10, 8·10, 9·25.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—Cleadon Lane, 7; Tyne Dock, 13; High Shields, 17 minutes after the above times, arriving at South Shields about 20 minutes after the time they leave Sunderland.

Passengers between Sunderland and Jarrow *change carriages* at Tyne Dock.

Fares from Sunderland to Cleadon Lane: first 6d., second, 4d.; third, 3d.; Tyne Dock, first, 10d.; second, 8d.; third, 6d., High Shields and South Shields first, 10d.; second, 8d.; third, 6d.; Jarrow, first, 1s. 4d.; second, 1s.; third, 7½d. Return tickets to Jarrow: first, 2s. 3d.; second, 1s. 6d.; third, 1s. 2d.

JARROW TO SOUTH SHIELDS AND SUNDERLAND.

Leaves Jarrow (Week days)—6·23, 7·21, 8·21, 9·21, 10·16, 11·16, 11·53, 12·51, 2·31, 3·21, 4·21, 5·36, 6·21, 7·21, 8·21, 8·56, 11·11.

Leaves Jarrow (Sundays)—6·21, 8·21, 9·51, 2·21, 5·21, 7·36, 8·36, 9·51.

These trains leave intermediate Stations as follows:—South Shields 4, High Shields 7, Tyne Dock 11, and Cleadon Lane 16 minutes after the train leaves Jarrow, arriving in Sunderland in about 24 minutes.

Fares from Jarrow to South Shields: first, 5d.; second, 4d.; third, 3½d.; High Shields: first, 5d.; second, 4d.; third, 3d.; Tyne Dock, first, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 2d.; Cleadon Lane, first, 10d.; second, 8d.; third, 4½d.; Sunderland, first, 1s. 4d.; second, 1s.; third, 7½d. Return tickets to Jarrow, first, 2s. 3d.; second, 1s. 8d.; third, 1s. 2d.

NEWCASTLE TO TYNEMOUTH.

Leaves Newcastle—Central Station—(Week days)—6·10 (*a*), 7·0, 8·5, 9·0 (*), 9·15, 9·45 (*c*), 10·15, 11·0, 12·0, 1·0, 1·45 (†), 2·0, 2·30 (†), 3·5, 4·10, 4·45 (†), 5·15, 5·35 (†), 6·10, 6·45 (†), 7·10, 8·10, 9·0, 10·0, 11·30 (*e*).

Leaves Newcastle—Central Station—(Sundays)—6·10 (*a*), 8·30, 9·30, 10·5, 1·0 (†), 1·15, 2·0 (†), 2·15, 3·0 (†), 3·15, 4·0, 5·0, 6·0, 6·35 (†), 7·0, 7·35 (†), 8·0, 8·30, 9·15.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—Manors 3, Heaton 7, Walker 11, Wallsend 16, Howdon 21, Percy Main 25, and North Shields 30 minutes after above times, arriving at Tynemouth 35 minutes after leaving Newcastle.

* First, second, and third class express trains, stopping only at North Shields.

† These trains stop only at Manors and North Shields Stations.

a.—This train stops at intermediate stations when required, to set down passengers arriving from the south by either the 4.35 or 5·35 a.m trains.

c.—The 9·45 p.m. train from Newcastle will stop at all Stations on Saturdays and reach Tynemouth at 7·20 p.m.

e.—The 11·30 p.m. train stops at intermediate Stations when required, to set down passengers.

[illegible] third, 1d.; Walker, first, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, [illegible]

Fares from Newcastle to Tynemouth: First, 1s. 3d., second, 1s.; third, 8d. Return, first, 2s. 0d., second, 1s. 6d., third, 1s.

North Shields, first, 1s.; second, 9d., third, 6d. Return, first, 1s. 8d., second, 1s. 3d., third, 10d.

Percy Main: First, 10d., second, 8d., third, 6d. Return, first, 1s. 6d., second, 1s. 2d., third, 10d.

Howdon: First, 10d., second, 8d., third, 6d. Return, first, 1s. 6d., second, 1s. 2d., third, 9d.

Wallsend: First, 8d., second, 6d., third, 3½d. Return, first, 1s. 2d., second, 10d., third, 7d.

Walker: First, 6d., second, 4d., third, 2½d. Return, first, 9d., second, 7d., third, 5d.

TYNEMOUTH TO NEWCASTLE.

Leaves Tynemouth (Week days)—5·20, 6·40 (*a*), 7·45, 8·30 (*), 9·0, 9·30 (*), 10·0, 10·30 (*), 11·0, 12·0, 12·45, 1·45 (*), 2·15, 3·0, 3·30 (*), 4·0, 5·0, 5·30 (*), 6·0, 6·30 (*), 7·0, 7·30 (*), 8·0, 9·0, 10·0, 10·30 (*b*).

Leaves Tynemouth (Sundays)—7·35, 9·40, 1·0, 1·45 (*), 2·0, 3·0, 4·0, 5·0, 5·45 (*), 6·0, 6·35 (*), 7·0, 7·45 (*), 8·0, 8·45 (*), 9·0, 10·0 (*).

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—North Shields 5, Percy Main 9, Howdon 12, Wallsend 16, Walker 19, Heaton 24, and Manors 30 minutes after above times, arriving at Central Station, Newcastle about 35 minutes after leaving Tynemouth.

* First, second, and third class express trains, stopping only at North Shields and Manors stations.

a.—The 6·40 a.m. train stops at intermediate Stations to take up passengers booked to the Central Stations.

b.—The 10·30 p.m. train stops at Stations up to and including Walker on Saturdays, and does not reach the Central Station until 11·30 p.m.

Fares from Tynemouth to North Shields, first, 4d.; second, 3d.; third, 2d.; Percy Main, first, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 3d.; Howdon, first, 8d.; second, 6d.; third, 4d.; Wallsend, first, 10d.; second, 8d.; third, 6d.; Walker first, 1s.; second 9d.; third, 6d.; Heaton, first, 1s.; second 9d.; third, 6d.; Newcastle (Manors or Central), first, 1s. 3d.; second, 1s.; third, 8d.

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY.

GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	6·35	12·40	3·30
Benfieldside	,,	6·58	1·40	4·20
Rowley	,,	7·2	1·48	4·25
Burnhill Junction	,,	7·12	1·57	4·45
Tow Law	,,	7·24	2·9	4·58
Crook	arr.	7·35	2·20	5·10
Crook	dep.	7·35	2·30	5·20
Bishop Auckland		8·5	2·55	5·50
Darlington		8·35	3·40	6·40
Stockton		9·25	[illegible]	7·10
Middlesbro'		[illegible]	4·20	7·22
Saltburn		10·10	4·55	8·0

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Saltburn	dep.	6·45	11·25	[illegible]
Middlesbro'		[illegible]	12·2	[illegible]
Stockton		[illegible]	12·12	[illegible]
Darlington	dep.	7·15	1·5	[illegible]
Bishop Auckland		7·45	1·35	[illegible]
Crook	arr.	[illegible]	1·57	[illegible]
Crook	dep.	[illegible]	2·25	[illegible]
Tow Law		8·27	[illegible]	[illegible]
Burnhill Junction	,,	8·42	[illegible]	[illegible]
Rowley	,,	8·52	2·55	6·10
Benfieldside	arr.	9·5	3·5	6·20
Newcastle	arr.	10·0	4·15	[illegible]

MANUFACTURE OF COCOA.—"We will now give an account of the process adopted by Messrs. James Epps & Co., manufacturers of dietetic articles, at their works in the Euston Road, London."—See Article in *Cassell's Household Guide*.

"A VISIT TO EPPS'S COCOA MANUFACTORY.—Through the kindness of Messrs. Epps, I recently had an opportunity of seeing the many complicated and varied processes the Cocoa bean passes through ere it is sold for public use, and, being both interested and highly pleased with what I saw during my visit to the manufactory, I thought a brief account of the Cocoa, and the way it is manufactured by Messrs. Epps, to fit it for a wholesome and nutritious beverage might be of interest to the readers of 'Land and Water.'"—See Article in "Land and Water," October 14.

BREAKFAST.—EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills."—*Civil Service Gazette*. Made simply with boiling water or milk. Each packet is labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."

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Cure of a Bad Leg.—I was cured of an Ulcerated Leg of six years standing. Was told at the Newcastle Infirmary that it would have to come off. Was cured by F. Duran in seven weeks.

Cure of Deafness.—This is to certify that I, Thomas King, Queen Street, North Shields, was cured of Deafness in five weeks, after having spent over £50 in medicine. Will answer all communications.

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Mrs. AMERY, of Redhouse Farm, Jarrow, daughter-in-law of the late Dr. Amery, of South Shields, who has been suffering for a few years from dropsy and heavy in pain, and which has baffled the skill of the profession, has been permanently cured by Dr. McGUIRE.

[illegible] Queen Street, cured of White Swelling.

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[illegible] back of Vaults, No. 8, [illegible] in both [illegible] pronounced incurable [illegible] London, [illegible] cured by Dr. McGUIRE [illegible] to be ulcerate on the brain. Other local Testimonials can be seen on application.

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"There's native bard [illegible] you
For wit and hum[illegible] seldom
And they sang so sweet in you
Good faith I [illegible] I hear [illegible]"

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Aw's sure aw'll not stop lang."

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"[illegible] is Geordy Black, aw's getten very awd,
Aw've hewed tons o' coals i' maw time."

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Containing Geordy Black, Deeth of Renforth, The Drum Major, Bob Chambers, The Bathin' Lass of Tinmuth, Oriodo, The Bonniest Lass of Sheels, Sawdust Jack, The Barber's Shop, Jack Simpson's Bairn, Somebody's Stole Me Bottle, Two Married Men, Johnny wi' the Gaunsey on, Threehapence for a Shave, and Threepence for a Crop, The Chep on Stricke, Ned Fry, Aw laff her bad temper away and others, as sung with great success by the Author.

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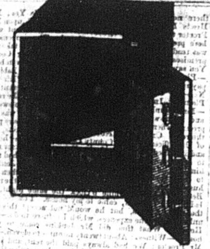

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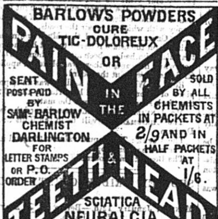

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LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary monthly meeting of this Board took place at Leadgate, on Wednesday afternoon, the Rev. Canon Kearney presiding. The following members were also present:—Rev. J. W. Mitchell, Mr. J. Fletcher, Mr. Edward Charlton, Mr. W. H. Hedley, Mr. T. Longstaff, Mr. W. Jenkins, Mr. John Bland, and Mr. John Parker. The minutes of the previous meeting were passed, and signed by the Chairman.

THE SUPPLY OF WATER TO IVESTON.

The CLERK (Mr. Coupland) intimated that he had sent to the Local Government Board the following letter:—"The following difficulty has lately arisen within the district of the Board regarding water supply, and I am instructed by the Board to refer it to you for advice and direction. For a considerable period the whole of the district has, with one exception, gradually become supplied with water from the works of the Consett Water Company, the occupiers or owners paying the usual rate required by the Company. The exception referred to is the village of Iveston, situate about one mile from the nearest main of the Waterworks, which, up to three or four years back, was favoured with an unfailing supply of excellent water from a number of wells within and around it. Recently, however, these springs in dry seasons have failed, some partially, some altogether, so that the scarcity of water is daily becoming more serious in consequence, the villagers attributing the failure of their springs to the workings of the collieries belonging to the Consett Iron Company (Limited), in the vicinity. The Company, on the other hand, deny their liability, and ascribe the cause to the working by the villagers themselves in the midst of their village, of a small colliery for their own use, of the topmost seam of all, and therefore the one most likely to effect the damage complained of. The latter, however, urge on their side, 1st, that one of their best public wells has entirely disappeared, although considerably removed beyond the outcrop of the seam above-mentioned, and therefore cannot have been effected by it, but must have been by the workings of one of the Consett Iron Company's collieries immediately beneath; secondly, that the Company have to some extent admitted their liability by laying down a water pipe to this very water place for the exclusive accommodation of the farmer in whose land it is situate, but to which the public have always had free access and right from time immemorial; and, again, by paying compensation for destruction of springs to some other individuals in the locality. The villagers have made an urgent appeal to this Board, requesting them to procure for them a supply of water, of which they are so much in need; stating, also, that they are willing to pay the usual water rate, but under protest, *i.e.*, subject to the adjustment of the dispute between them and the Consett Iron Company. This Board now respectfully asks for the counsel and guidance of the Local Government Board in the matter—whether they are called upon to interfere, and if so, in what manner?"

The CHAIRMAN was about to read a communication from the Local Government Board, when

Mr. JENKINS, interrupting, said he protested against the conclusion arrived at by the Board forming the basis of the letter to the Local Government Board. If they submitted a question to the Local Government Board, having come to certain conclusions beforehand, the answer to the letter would necessarily very much depend upon the information submitted.

The CHAIRMAN assured Mr Jenkins that no conclusions had been arrived at, but that both sides of the question had been placed before the Local Government Board in as fair a manner as possible.

Mr JENKINS: In the letter just read, it is distinctly stated that the whole blame rests on the Company.

The CHAIRMAN: No, it does not.

Mr JENKINS: The fore part and the latter part of the letter says so.

The CHAIRMAN thought that both sides of the question were fully laid before the Local Government Board.

Mr JENKINS said the proper course for the Board to have adopted was to have appealed to them (the Consett Iron Company.)

The CHAIRMAN: The matter was referred to the Company, and Mr Hedley sent Mr Longbottom to make an examination of the workings of the colliery, and we were afterwards told that the Company did not consider themselves liable.

Mr JENKINS: Am I to understand from the letter to the Local Government Board that the Company have admitted their liability?

The CHAIRMAN: They appear to have done so.

Mr JENKINS: I ignore that altogether.

The CHAIRMAN: I will now read the answer from the Local Government Board. The answer is in accordance with my own opinion, and also with the opinion of other members of the Board. The Chairman then read the following letter addressed to the Clerk (Mr Coupland):—

"Sir,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th ult., enquiring in what manner the Leadgate Local Board can interfere in order to obtain a proper supply of water for the village of Iveston, within their district. I am directed to state that it appears to the Board that, [illegible] there is a deficiency of adequate supply of water for the village in question, the Local Board should take such steps as may be necessary for procuring such supply. The Board, however, cannot, under the circumstances mentioned by you, advise the Local Board to involve themselves in any proceeding with regard to the conduct of the colliery company.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

"[illegible], Assistant Secretary."

The CHAIRMAN: That is just my view of the matter—that we have nothing to do with the dispute between the villagers and the Consett Iron Company, but that we should take the necessary steps for supplying the village with water.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: The letter virtually leaves us where we were at the first.

The CHAIRMAN: Excepting that it tells us that we should supply the people with water.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: We knew that before.

Mr JENKINS: Are we obliged, as a Local Board, to provide water? I do not think we are.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: The Local Government Board have power to do so, but there is no obligation.

The CHAIRMAN: The reply of the Local Government Board implies obligation.

Mr JENKINS: I presume that we, as a Board, may [illegible] in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN: The letter says "should;" that implies obligation.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL did not read it in that way. [illegible] the Local Board were bound to supply water to the villagers. With regard to the question under discussion, the Board, he thought, ought to pay the difference between what the Company charged [illegible] the water and the cost of laying [illegible]

The CHAIRMAN: Mr. Gladstone, the Secretary of the Water Company, told me that the rateable value [illegible]

Mr. [illegible]: [illegible] could readily be got over if the Consett Iron Company would allow the Board the use of the pipes from Leadgate to Iveston Colliery.

Mr. CHARLTON: I believe Mr Jenkins (the agent) has been spoken to regarding the pipes.

Mr JENKINS: The Board has not broached the thing to the Consett Iron Company in a cordial, courteous manner. At the last meeting of this Board, one of the members asserted that the Company had admitted their liability by paying compensation [illegible] the villagers, but that they [illegible] All this does not tend to bring about a cordial feeling between the parties engaged in the dispute, and, to begin with, the statement was not true.

The CHAIRMAN: Objection should be taken to such statements at the time they are made.

Mr JENKINS: I was not present when the statement was made, and therefore could not object; but I object now.

The CHAIRMAN repeated that objection should have been made at the time the statement was made. He considered that it was unfair both to the members and to those who conducted the business of the meetings that the same ground should be gone over and over again, because of the non-attendance of a member.

Mr LONGSTAFF, the member who, it will be remembered, made the remarks anent the Company, essayed to speak to Mr Jenkins, but the latter gentleman, in a somewhat peremptory manner, intimated that [illegible] with Mr Longstaff, whose remarks as well as [illegible] he considered beneath his notice. After [illegible] no further remarks.

Mr [illegible]: Let us set aside all feeling in the matter, and ask ourselves what is to be done.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: Are you willing to allow the Water Company the use of the pipes between Leadgate and Iveston Colliery?

Mr JENKINS: Put the request in writing to the Company.

The CHAIRMAN: It would simplify the matter if you would allow the Company the use of the pipes as far as Iveston Colliery. I may say, however, that I spoke to Mr Jenkins, chief clerk on the subject, and that gentleman promised to lay the matter before Mr Jenkins, but I heard nothing more about it.

Mr JENKINS: These things should never be made personal, and should be dealt with in a business-like manner. No question can be carried on successfully where there is anything like ill-will introduced into it.

The CHAIRMAN: I can assure you that there has been no ill-will on my part.

Mr JENKINS (interrupting): I never said that there was, and you have no right to assume it. It has been said that the Company is liable; that I deny, and it is for the Board to prove it.

The CHAIRMAN: We should be going out of our province if we attempted to do so. The Local Government Board says we should provide the water, but leave the dispute to be settled between the Company and the villagers.

Mr JENKINS: In the letter to the Local Government Board you assume that the Company have done what was wrong.

The CHAIRMAN: No, no.

Mr JENKINS: The language of the letter implies that the Consett Iron Company are the defaulters. I protest against it.

The CHAIRMAN: I entirely differ from you.

Mr JENKINS: It is no use differing from the language of the letter; there it is.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: There has evidently been a miscarriage in the matter. It was understood that application had been made to the Consett Iron Company for the use of the pipes to Iveston Colliery, but as no reply had been received it was thought right to communicate with the Local Government Board. It seems now, however, that the application for the use of the pipes did not reach the Company, so that the only thing remaining for them to do was to begin *de novo*.

The CHAIRMAN said he, as Chairman of the Board, went to the Consett Iron Company's Offices in order to endeavour to come to some arrangement respecting the pipes, and Mr Evans, the Secretary to the Company, promised to lay the matter before Mr Jenkins, who was from home at the time.

Mr JENKINS: I did not consider the matter as an official application by the Board, or I should have answered it.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: If the Consett Iron Company will allow the Water Company the use of their pipes as far as Iveston Colliery it will materially decrease the cost of carrying water to Iveston.

Mr PARKER (to Mr Bland): What do the people of Iveston say about it, Mr Bland?

Mr. BLAND: They are willing to pay the usual rate, but no more.

Mr PARKER: Does the Company's Act not include the village of Iveston? He thought that the latter place was within the Water Company's limits.

Mr BLAND: The Company's Act would include Iveston. The latter place was the name of the township, and not Leadgate.

The CHAIRMAN read an extract from the Water Company's Act, [illegible] it was laid down that the Company could be compelled to furnish a constant supply of water within their water limits.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL: Is Iveston within the water limits?

The INSPECTOR thought it was. If so, the Board could compel the Company to take water to Iveston.

Mr. LONGSTAFF: The Water Company are quite willing to extend their pipes to Iveston, provided it pays 10 per cent.

The CHAIRMAN: They also want a guarantee in writing that they should have the use of the Consett Iron Company's pipes as far as Iveston Colliery.

Mr JENKINS: If the Consett Iron Company assist the inhabitants of Iveston to get a plentiful supply of [illegible] water, they ought to go a little out of their way to get it.

Mr. BLAND: We could not get better water than we formerly had. Better water never ran.

Mr. JENKINS: If the Water Company give you the water, it will be superior to anything you ever had.

Mr. BLAND: It could not be better. Besides, the people of Iveston considered that they were as much entitled to a good supply of water as the people of Leadgate.

Mr. FLETCHER: If the Consett Iron Company allow the Water Company to use their pipes as far as Iveston Colliery, that is all that is required.

Mr. HEDLEY: I understood the Chairman to say if the Iron Company gave a guarantee in writing for the Company to have the use of the pipes as far as Iveston Colliery, that the Water Company would take the water to Iveston.

The CHAIRMAN: There was nothing definite specified, but Mr Gladstone said the Water Company might entertain the thing.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL proposed that the Clerk be instructed to write to the general manager of the Consett Iron Company asking for a written permission to use the pipes between Leadgate and Iveston Colliery.

Mr. FLETCHER seconded the motion, which was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

Mr. BLAND: When is it to be carried into effect? It is hard to see the poor creatures going about in search of water amongst the snow.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL observed that the people of Iveston might have got the water earlier had they not informed the Board that they did not want water unless they got it free.

Mr. CHARLTON (to Mr Bland): Did you ever know such a drought as it has been this summer? It has not only been at Iveston where the springs have been dried up, but the same thing has happened all over the country.

The matter then dropped.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,—In the record of disease for the past month, the only feature [illegible] the comparative immunity from zymotic or other forms of disease enjoyed by our district. One case of enteric fever has been noted at No. 341, Leadgate, and it stands alone in the district. Two cases of continued fever have occurred at No. 135, and one case at No. 17[illegible], Leadgate. In all other respects the health of the population has been in as satisfactory a condition as could be hoped for.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant, GEORGE RENTON, M.D.

FINANCE.

The CLERK reported the balance in the hands of the Treasurer to be £[illegible].

THE [illegible] HIGH [illegible]

The INSPECTOR (Mr. Rowden) reported that the footpath and road in High Pond [illegible] were in a filthy state, being almost impassable.

Mr. PARKER said the footpath ought to be properly [illegible] present footpath was much too narrow. The Highway Committee had for the last two years recommended the Board to improve the road.—It was resolved to carry out Mr Parker's suggestion.

A DANGEROUS ROAD.

The CHAIRMAN read a letter from Mr Foreman, veterinary surgeon, calling the attention of the Board to the dangerous state of the road in front of his house. Several times he and his horse had nearly come to grief.

The CHAIRMAN explained that a new footpath had been made opposite the houses, and it was for a considerable distance lower than the road.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL said the Board would have to lower the road for a distance of about twenty yards. The road was exceedingly dangerous in its present state.

The CLERK, in answer to Mr Jenkins, said the cost of lowering the road would be £60 and upwards.

On the suggestion of the Chairman, the matter was referred to the Highway Committee, with power to push on with the work.

ALLEGED NUISANCE IN FRONT STREET.

The INSPECTOR reported that a person in Front Street complained of a nuisance alleged to have been caused by a person named Graham, who was in the habit of boiling cabbage, the smell from which was particularly offensive.

Mr. HEDLEY: Why does Graham boil cabbage?

The INSPECTOR: For the pigs.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL observed that scores of people in the place boiled cabbage.

Mr. LONGSTAFF: If we stop one, we must stop all.

The CHAIRMAN: How many pigs does Graham keep?

The INSPECTOR: One.

From the conversation which followed, it transpired that the complaint was the result of ill-feeling, and the Inspector was requested to endeavour to appease the parties.

SETTING THE BOARD AT DEFIANCE.

The INSPECTOR reported that about five weeks ago he called the attention of the agent of East Castle Colliery to a nuisance caused by the filth from their cottages, running in an open channel into the Local Board district. The agent at the time promised to attend to the matter, but had not done so. The Inspector also recommended the Board to lay down a sewer into the same outlet, a little lower down, as the road at that place was often in a filthy state.

Mr. PARKER: The East Castle Company appear to hold this Board in defiance.

Mr. JENKINS did not think it was the wish of Mr Cuthbert Bainbridge that the Board should be defied.

Mr. PARKER: When the Highway Committee met Mr Cuthbert Bainbridge they got little satisfaction. We were actually laughed at.

The INSPECTOR was instructed to serve a notice for the abatement of the nuisance complained of.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY'S COTTAGES.

The INSPECTOR reported that he, in conjunction with one of the Consett Iron Company's agents, had made a house to house visitation, and while they found some of the houses clean and comfortable, others were in a most filthy state, and scarcely fit for human habitation.

Mr. JENKINS: What is the object of the house to house visitation?

The INSPECTOR replied that it was to examine into the overcrowding that was believed to exist in some of the cottages.

Mr. CHARLTON: Has anything been done with regard to the case of overcrowding you reported at a previous meeting?

The INSPECTOR: I went to the woman, and she told me that she only had three lodgers.

Mr. CHARLTON: She has sometimes thirty.—The subject then dropped.

PROPOSED NEW BOARD-ROOM.

On the suggestion of Mr. Jenkins, a committee was formed to report at the next meeting as to the desirability of erecting a new Board-room, the present "hole," as it was designated by Mr. Jenkins, being considered too small for the requirements of the Board.

STATE OF THE ROADS.

Mr. COUPLAND, Surveyor of Highways, reported since last meeting a considerable quantity of material had been applied to the roads. Several of the footpaths had received his attention. As instructed last month, he had written to the Consett Iron Company, calling their attention to a pit-fall in the footpath leading from Redwell Hills to the Brooms, near the latter place. He had also called the attention of the Company to a subsidence of the road at the end of Annfield Lane. The Company had promised to attend to these matters.

BILLS.

The Surveyor's monthly pay bills, amounting to £[illegible] 1s 9d, were passed and ordered to be paid.

PLAN.

A plan of three cottages for Mr Shearer, of Iveston, was passed subject to the approval of the Building Committee.

LANCHESTER COMMON ACT.

The CHAIRMAN said that under the Lanchester Enclosure Act, the Bishop of Durham and his representatives had almost absolute power in working the royalties of Lanchester Common. In case of damage caused by the working of royalties, however, a portion of the Woodlands estate was allotted for the purpose of indemnifying aggrieved parties, but there was a provision in the Act which stated that if the money was not used in that way, it was to be applied to the roads within the district. For the last twenty-four years he had never heard of a single application for the money, and he thought that the Board should endeavour to get a [illegible] of the money with which to repair the roads.

The CHAIRMAN observed that Mr Dolphin made a claim upon the estate referred to, but he understood that his claim had not been met. When Mr Dolphin got what he wanted, there were plenty of applicants for damages without the Board.

Rev. J. W. MITCHELL said it was an important piece of information, and he certainly thought that the Clerk should enquire into the matter.

Mr. JENKINS: Who is the custodian of the land?

The CHAIRMAN: It will be in the Rolls Court in Durham.

The CLERK: The annual value of the land is £30.

The matter then dropped.

The Board then adjourned.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE COUNTY COURT.

Monday, January 12th.—Before E. J. [illegible], Esq., Judge.

ALLEGED ILLEGAL SEIZURE AT BLACKHILL.

WANLESS *v.* HEADS.—Plaintiff in this case is a beer-housekeeper and grocer residing at Benfieldside Edge Road, and the defendant also carries on the business of a grocer at Blackhill. Mr Proctor appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr Cook for the defence. Mr Proctor, in opening the case, said this was an action to recover the sum of £25, damage alleged to have been sustained by his client in consequence of an illegal seizure by defendant. Defendant was agent for some property at Benfieldside Edge Road, amongst which was the beerhouse and premises occupied by Mr Wanless. In August, 1871, his client took possession of the house in question, it being agreed that the rent should be paid quarterly. On the 20th November last, three days before the rent became due, defendant levied a distress upon plaintiff's goods for £5 10s (a quarter's rent), in consequence of which proceeding Mr Wanless had sustained great loss. Mr Proctor then called James Wanless, the plaintiff, who deposed that in August, 1871, he took a grocer's shop, beerhouse, and other premises at Benfieldside Edge Road, for which Mr Heads acted as agent. The rent was to be paid quarterly to Mr Heads. The first rent was paid in November.—His Honour (interrupting): Was there any agreement between you respecting the quarter days?—Plaintiff: No.—Mr Proctor (to plaintiff): When did you commence to pay rent?—Plaintiff: On the 20th November, 1871. The rent, however, was not due until the 23rd November.—His Honour: Why did you pay it on the 20th, then?—Plaintiff: He came and asked for it on that day. I had the money, and I gave it him.—Mr Cook: You took possession on the 12th August?—Plaintiff: Yes.—Mr Cook: Was there no [illegible] Yes; Mr Heads [illegible] upon Mr Proctor [illegible] was here [illegible] take the [illegible] was read [illegible] Cook: [illegible] premises [illegible] November? You say [illegible] habit of [illegible]—Plaintiff: Yes.—Mr Cook: [illegible] Plaintiff: [illegible] paying [illegible] rent?—No. [illegible] rent. Plaintiff: [illegible] sworn, —Mrs Wanless, wife of [illegible] was not and in answer to Mr Proctor, stated that [illegible] always paid present when the [illegible] On the 20th November last, Mr Jenkins, one of the officers of the County Court, came to her house and informed her that he had a [illegible] warrant for rent [illegible] to serve upon her husband. [illegible] told Mr Jenkins [illegible] to come back about eight o'clock at night, when my husband would be at home, and he could pay the rent. Between eight and nine o'clock the same night, the bailiff, Mr Clement, came to my house. I offered him the rent, [illegible], but he would not accept this sum unless I paid the expenses, which I refused to do.—His Honour: What time did Mr Jenkins come to your house?—Witness: About twenty minutes to eleven.—By Mr Proctor: We had always paid the rent, and I was surprised that Mr Heads should have done such a thing. On the 12th November last, Mr Heads came to my house for the rent, and I said that I would send it up when it became due.—Mr Proctor: Why did you refuse to pay the expenses?—Witness: Because the rent was not due until the 23rd.—Mr Proctor: Did you say that to Mr Clement?—Witness: Yes.—Mr Proctor: Have you sustained a great amount of injury in consequence of the proceedings taken by Mr Heads?—Witness: Yes.—His Honour: In what way have you sustained damage?—Witness: Both in character and business. Mrs Wanless added that on the 21st November, between nine and ten o'clock in the morning, she went to Mr Heads's, and paid him the rent, but Mr Heads agreed to pay the expenses. On the following morning Mr Clement brought her a receipt, which was dated the 12th November. Since the above occurrence, the receipts of the shop and beerhouse had considerably fallen off, and she estimated the loss at fully £40. Their credit had been injured, and they had been unable to get another place of business.—His Honour: Have you left the beerhouse?—Witness: No, but we are under notice to quit.—Mr Cook: When Mr Heads came to your house on the 12th November, was there anybody with him?—Witness: Yes.—Mr Cook: Who was it?—Witness: Mr Pattison.—Mr Cook: You say you told Mr Heads that you would not pay the rent until it became due?—Witness: Yes.—Mr Cook: If that was the case why did you pay the rent on the 20th November, 1871?—Witness: It was to save him the trouble of coming to seek the rent again. I told him, however, that it was not due then.—Mr Cook: When did you next pay your rent?—Witness: On the 12th February, 1872.—His Honour: Did you ever tell anybody that Mr Heads had levied a distress warrant upon your goods?—Witness: No.—His Honour: Then what made your custom fall off?—Witness: It got spread about, and people said we were badly off, and I suppose they would think we had nothing in the shop worth buying.—His Honour: How do you make up £25 loss?—Witness: Where we formerly took £5 in the shop, we do not now take 30s. Formerly we sold three barrels of beer in a week, and now we don't sell one barrel.—John Jenkins, bailiff, produced his authority for making the distress. When witness read the warrant over to Mrs Wanless, the latter remarked that Mr Heads had been rather sharp, and that she intended to pay him as soon as possible. There was nothing mentioned about the rent not being due.—Mr. Cook: You are quite certain Mrs Wanless never said that the rent was not due?—Mr Jenkins: She only said Mr Heads had been very sharp.—Mr Cook: Did you leave anybody in possession?—Mr Jenkins: No.—This being plaintiff's case, His Honour asked to be allowed to look at the receipts. The latter having been perused, His Honour remarked that they were against the plaintiff, who would therefore be non-suited.

FAMILY DIFFERENCES AT EAST STANLEY.

HARRISON *v.* HARRISON.—Sarah Harrison, West Pelton, administratrix of the late G. Harrison, sued Mary Ann Harrison, of East Stanley, for the wrongful detention of several articles of furniture, valued at £50. Mr Chambers, Durham, represented plaintiff; defendant did not appear. Mr Chambers stated that shortly after the death of plaintiff's husband, Thomas Harrison, the eldest son, married the defendant, whom he took to his mother's house. He subsequently turned his mother to the door, alleging that he was the eldest son and had a right to the furniture. Eight or nine months after this event, however, Thomas Harrison died, and his wife now refused to give up possession. Plaintiff, on being sworn, deposed that she was the administratrix of her late husband, George Harrison.—His Honour: When did your husband die?—Plaintiff: On the 20th April, 1870.—The articles of furniture mentioned in the list produced belonged to her late husband, and were in the house when he died. Application had been made for them, but the defendant refused to give them up.—His Honour gave judgment for the value of the goods, the amount to be reduced to 1s, if given up within seven days.

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

BOLTON *v.* AMOS.—William T. Bolton, surgeon, Ebchester Hill, charged Mary Ann Amos, Busty Bank, Burnopfield, domestic servant, with breach of contract, compensation to the amount of £2 being claimed.—Defendant admitted the agreement, and produced a doctor's certificate showing that she was ill for ten days after the day on which she was hired, and consequently unable to enter upon her duties.—His Honour: Why didn't you go when you got better?—Defendant: I went as soon as I could, but Mrs Bolton would not believe that I had been ill.—His Honour: Did you tell Mrs Bolton that you were willing to enter her service?—Defendant: No.—His Honour: What set you there?—Defendant: To see if she had got a girl.—His Honour: Did you take your things with you?—Defendant: No; but if Mrs Bolton had offered to take me I should have sent for my box.—Mrs Bolton, in answer to His Honour, said defendant never spoke of having been ill until the summons was taken out.—His Honour said he would adjourn the case for a month for the production of Dr Attwater, of Whickham, who had attended defendant in her illness.

THE RECENT COLLISION ON THE CONSETT BRANCH.

HUNTER *v.* CLOUGH.—Plaintiff is a surgeon residing at Stobbhouse, and the defendant is an innkeeper living at Thornley Colliery, but formerly carried on business as a publican at Leadgate. Plaintiff claimed the sum of £19 3s. "for work done as a surgeon and apothecary to the defendant, and medicine supplied." Mr Salkeld, of Durham, appeared on behalf of plaintiff; defendant was represented by Mr Proctor. In opening the case, Mr Salkeld said on the 21st December, 1872, defendant's wife sustained an accident on the Consett Branch of the North-Eastern Railway, near Rowland's Gill Station. He might say that Mr Clough brought an action against the Company, and was awarded substantial damages.—Plaintiff was then sworn, and in answer to Mr Salkeld, said on the 23rd December, 1872, Mr Clough went to his house and requested him to visit his wife, who was injured in the railway accident on the previous Saturday evening. Plaintiff accordingly attended Mrs Clough from the 23rd December until the May following. He had charged her at the rate of 5s a visit, and half-a-crown for each 8oz. bottle of medicine, and sixpence for each powder. Mr Clough told plaintiff that he had claimed a certain sum of money as compensation for his wife's injuries, but that the Railway Company refused to pay it. He subsequently told witness that the Company had paid £300 into court, and witness strongly recommended him to accept this amount. Witness was subpoenaed to give evidence at Newcastle Assizes, and received a guinea a-day for his attendance.—His Honour: How often did you get altogether?—Plaintiff: Two guineas.—Mr Salkeld: Why does Mr Clough refuse to pay the bill?—Plaintiff replied that he sent the account with his assistant, but Mr Clough refused to settle it.—Mr Proctor (referring to a memorandum): How many of these visits do you charge for?—Plaintiff: You will see by referring to the book.—Mr Proctor: You did not yourself always attend upon Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: No; my assistants sometimes attended.—Mr Proctor: Is Mr Pinchen one of your assistants?—Plaintiff: Yes.—Mr Proctor: Has Pinchen a diploma?—Plaintiff: No.—Mr. Proctor: Is Mr McGregor another of your assistants?—Plaintiff: No.—Mr Proctor: Will you tell us the last time you attended Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: About the 21st May.—Mr. Proctor: Was Dr Bolton attending her then?—Plaintiff: Not that I am aware of.—Mr Proctor: You had some conversation with Clough, I believe, in December, 1872?—Plaintiff: Yes, with regard to his wife.—Mr Proctor: Were you not acting for the North-Eastern Railway Company when you attended upon Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: No. The Company paid a bill of mine for attendance on three or four other persons, but it did not include attendance upon Mrs Clough.—Mr Proctor: Was that for attendance on parties in your district?—Plaintiff: Yes. Mrs Clough is not in my district.—Mr Proctor: Did you send a claim into the Company for attendance upon passengers who were injured in the collision?—Plaintiff: I sent in an account to Mr Granger, who was acting on behalf of Mr Clough.—Mr Proctor: Did you include Mrs Clough as one of the passengers you had attended, when you sent your account into the Company?—Plaintiff: No.—Mr Proctor: Why did you not charge for Mrs Clough as well as the others?—Plaintiff: Because Mr Clough's action was then pending.—Mr Proctor: How much did you claim originally from Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: I claimed £50, thinking that the money would be paid by the Company.—Mr Proctor: After the trial, didn't you send in an account to Mr Clough for £53 3s.?—Plaintiff: Yes; the three guineas was for attendance upon Mr Clough himself. I was under the impression that the £300 paid as compensation included my account, and I did not find out my mistake until I wrote to Mr Raine, the Company's doctor. I then decided to lower the rate of charges and accordingly sent in a bill for the amount now claimed.—Mr Proctor: How much money did the North-Eastern Company pay you altogether for attendance?—Plaintiff: They sent me a cheque for £35 10s for myself and £5 10s for my assistant.—Mr Proctor: How do you make up the amount paid by the Company?—Plaintiff: Dr Raine himself suggested the amount I should receive.—Mr Proctor: How do you make up the £50, the original amount of the claim, for attendance upon Mrs Clough? Plaintiff: I was only subpoenaed to attend the Assizes the night previous, and I put down the amount as a lump sum.—His Honour: When did the Company send you the cheque for £35 10s?—Plaintiff: A month or six weeks after the accident.—Mr Proctor: Have you not charged more to Clough than anybody else in this book? Plaintiff: Clough lives three miles away, and the others are quite at hand.—His Honour: How do you regulate your charge for visits?—Plaintiff: According to the position of the patient.—His Honour: Supposing you attended a patient five miles off, how much would you charge him?—Plaintiff: Seven shillings and sixpence a visit.—His Honour: Supposing it should only be two miles?—Plaintiff: My charge would be 5s to those who could afford it, and 2s 6d to those in poorer circumstances.—Mr Proctor: Didn't Messrs Pinchen and McGregor generally attend Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: Mr Pincher only attended twice or thrice.—Mr Proctor: Why did you cease to attend Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: Because she had quite recovered.—Mr Proctor: Didn't you about the [illegible] May cease to attend Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: I cannot speak to the exact date.—His Honour: There is only one charge after that date.—Plaintiff: After I had ceased to attend, Mrs Clough came to my house, and my assistant paid another visit to Mrs Clough.—Mr Proctor: After you got the money from the company you ceased to attend Mrs Clough?—His Honour (interrupting): He says he got it a month or six weeks after the accident, and he appears to have attended Mrs Clough until May?—Mr Proctor: Had you not a settlement with the company in May.—Plaintiff: No. It was about six weeks after the collision.—Mr Proctor: Did you assign any reason when you ceased to attend Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: I discontinued my visits of my own accord, as I considered she was in good health.—James Sutherland, surgeon, residing at Burnopfield, was called by Mr Salkeld, and stated that he considered the charges made by Mr Hunter were very moderate.—This being the plaintiff's case, Mr Proctor called the defendant, who stated that on the 21st December, 1872, his wife happened an accident on the railway. Witness heard that Mr Hunter had been engaged by the Company, and on the Monday following he went to Dr Hunter's house. I asked Mr Hunter if he was engaged by the company and he replied that he was. I then asked him to come and see my wife. He visited her the same night. The next day he told me that he had reported the case to the company, and received from Dr Raine instruction to attend her very carefully on the company's behalf, at the same time showing witness the letter he had received. The company sent out a doctor on the 9th January. Dr Hunter never attended his wife from that date until the 18th of April. On the 19th May Dr Hunter said he had been discharged by the company. Witness afterwards employed Dr Bolton.—Cross-examined by Mr Salkeld: When I went to Dr Hunter's house, he told me that he was employed by the company to look after those who had sustained injuries in the accident. I kept a diary, which contains all the visits made by Dr Hunter and his assistants.—His Honour: Why did you keep a diary?—Defendant: For my own information.—Mrs Clough, wife of defendant, said she was only visited by Dr Hunter four or five times. Mr Hunter said he was employed by the Railway Company.—Edward Halliday, a young man, said he lodged with Clough at the time of the accident. He was present on one occasion when one of Dr Hunter's assistants said his master was employed by the company.—Plaintiff, re-called, denied in toto what had been said respecting the conversation alleged to have taken place about being employed by the company to wait upon Mrs Clough.—His Honour: What did Clough say to you when he came to your house?—Plaintiff: He said his wife had happened an accident on the Saturday night.—His Honour: What was the matter with Mrs Clough?—Plaintiff: She was suffering from compression of the spine. At the beginning it was a surgical case, but subsequently I treated it as a medical case.—His Honour: In this case I find for the plaintiff for £19 3s.—Mr Salkeld: Will your Honour allow costs for Dr Sutherland's attendance?—His Honour: Yes.

HUNTER *v.* FOSTER.—This was a similar case to the last. The defendant resides at Hill Top, and was, like Mrs Clough, a passenger of the train which came in collision on the night of the 21st December, 1872. Mr Forster, Newcastle, defended.—In answer to His Honour, defendant said he sustained a fractured jaw, for which he had since received from the company compensation to the amount of £400.—His Honour gave judgment for the amount claimed, £9 18s.—Mr Salkeld, on behalf of plaintiff, asked His Honour to make an order for the amount to be paid within fourteen days. Defendant was a grocer, and owned a number of houses at Hill Top.—Defendant: I am not the owner of the houses. I cannot pay more than 5s a month.—His Honour: You got £400 from the Company, and you can surely pay the doctor's bill.—Defendant: I have receipts to show that I paid £400 away. If you make it more than 5s a month I will go through the Bankruptcy Court.—His Honour: I shall make an order for 10s per month.—Defendant: Then I will let it go through the Bankruptcy Court.

HUNT *v.* DICKINSON.—Plaintiff in this case is a labourer, residing at [illegible], and the defendant was Robert Dickinson, of Shotley Bridge. It was an action to recover the sum of £1 8s 9d, balance of wages due.—His Honour, after hearing the evidence of James Dow, coachman to Mr Dickinson, who engaged the plaintiff, gave judgment for the defendant.

SMITH *v.* THIRLWELL.—Ann Smith, the plaintiff, is a widow residing at Benfieldside Edge Road, and the defendant, William Thirlwell, is a cowkeeper living at Iveston. Mr Forster, Newcastle, appeared for plaintiff; Mr Patrick defended. The action was to recover the sum of £12, "for money had and received by the defendant to the use of the plaintiff." Mr Forster, in opening the case, said the plaintiff, Ann Smith, sued the defendant for £12, value of a cow, purchased by plaintiff from the defendant, which had not turned out according to the representations made by the defendant at the time of sale. At the time of sale, defendant said the cow was seven years old, and gave from four to five quarts of milk at a meal. The cow, however, on being milked, only gave two quarts of milk, and since then the quantity of milk given by the cow had gradually lessened.—His Honour: Is this an action of warranty?—Mr Patrick: I take it that it is an action upon total failure of consideration.—After some conversation with the legal gentlemen, His Honour advised that the case should be struck out in order that plaintiff might bring a fresh action.

DYER'S WORKMEN'S WATCH CLUBS.—Mr. George Dyer, the eminent watchmaker, 90, Regent Street, London, has organized a system of Workmen's Watch Clubs, which enables members to obtain, at wholesale list prices, his celebrated silver watches by the payment of as low a sum as 1s weekly. The advantage to working men and others of obtaining good watches on such a system is fully recognised by the numerous clubs which are and have been established in all branches of trade, and in Her Majesty's service at home and abroad. Secretaries are required at all places to establish and conduct them, and any party wishing to obtain the management of a club can obtain particulars by postal-card or letter, on application as above. The system has proved a real boon to thousands of the members, tending to encourage provident habits and enabling others to obtain valuable watches without trouble or inconvenience to themselves.

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