ASK FOR
JOHNSON'S INKS
WRITING—COPYING—DUAL—
FOUNTAIN PEN.
GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
A pleasure to write with.
BLUE-BLACK, BLACK, AND COLOURS.
Good Value.
Sold Wholesale and Retail by
ROBERT JACKSON,
"Guardian" Office, Consett.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 2005 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. | FRIDAY, January 20th, 1899. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

A BLESSING TO ATH. KIND
STOREY'S GREEN OIL
Absolutely the best Embrocation. Cures Sciatica, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sprains, Chilblains, Swellings, &c., &c. Gives relief after the first application.
Prepared from the recipe of Mr. R. STOREY, Bonesetter, Dunham Place, Gateshead.
To be had from all Chemists or from the Manufacturers—
ALFRED MAIN,
37, WEST QUAY, GATESHEAD.
Price, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 9d. per bottle; post free, securely packed, 1s. 6d. and 3s. 3d.

Money.

MORTGAGES from £100 to £50,000 can be obtained at a reasonable rate of interest.—For particulars apply J. G. GARNER & Co., Accountants, Town Hall Buildings, Consett.

MR. A. WOLFE, 39, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND, is PREPARED TO ADVANCE FROM £10 to £2,000 ON PROMISSORY NOTE TO ALL PROFESSIONS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS, STRICTEST PRIVACY GUARANTEED, NO AGENT, REPAYMENTS 10s. SUIT BORROWERS' CONVENIENCE; 20 CAPITAL REPAYMENTS, NO LOAN AT THE INTEREST IN 12 MONTHS. NO FEES. DISTANCE NO OBJECT. ADVANCES MADE ON REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES PURCHASED. Telegrams—"Safe" Sunderland. Nat. Telephone 88.

Contracts.

AN SFIELD PLAIN.

TO BUILDERS.

WANTED, TENDERS for the BUILDING of a PRIVATE HOUSE with attic in Bridge Terrace. Tenders to be sent in on or before Friday, February 3rd, 1899. To agree and particulars apply Mr. JAS. NORMAN, 24, Bridge Terrace, Annfield Plain. 46d

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL invite Contractors to TENDER for the REMOVAL of their Ashpit and Midden to the Tip reserved on the Front Street Waste Ball, from 31st March, 1899, to 31st March, 1900.

Tenders desired at so much per house and so much in the total for the year. Contractors will be required to remove the refuse between the hours of Eleven p.m. and Nine a.m., and to observe all the Conditions that may be imposed by the Council, which conditions can be seen at the Council's Office.

Tenders endorsed "Tender for the Removal of Refuse," will be received by me up to Saturday, the 28th day of January, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, and delivered or posted sufficiently in time to be received at that hour. Security Bond will require to be entered into for the due performance of the work, and the names of the Bondsmen and addresses submitted for the Council's approval.

T. W. WELFORD, Clerk.

Consell's Office, Consett,
18th January, 1899. 45d

CONSETT WATERWORKS COMPANY.

SALE BY TENDER, of 3,000 four percent. PREFERENCE SHARES of £10 each, par value each, of and in the Consett Waterworks Company, being part of the Capital authorised to be issued under the provisions of the Consett Waterworks Act, 1894, and required by Section 36 of the said Act, to be offered to the Public.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 48 FRONT SHARE.

The Directors give notice, that they are prepared to receive TENDERS for the whole or any of January next, at the Company's Office, Consett, sealed Tenders (forms of which can be had on application) for the above 3,000 Shares, addressed to me and endorsed "Tender for Shares."

The Reserve Price, below which no Tender will be accepted, has been fixed at £8 per Share.

The allotments will be made to the highest bidders. In the event of Tenders being received in respect of Shares in excess of the number on the Tenders at the lowest price accepted will be apportioned to a pro rata diminution.

A deposit of 10 per cent. will be required to be paid at the time of acceptance of Tender, the remainder to be paid on or before the 15th day of February next.

The Shares will be registered in the name of the purchaser without charge, and will be entitled to dividend from the first day of March next.

By order of the Directors,
ALEX. RUSSELL, Secretary.
Consett, 21st December, 1898. 8l6c

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TOWNSHIP OF PELTON.

THE above Council are prepared to receive TENDERS for the Cleaning Out, Wheeling and Carting Away and Depositing on the Ashes, Night Soil, and Refuse at and about the houses now existing in the several villages, hamlets, and isolated houses in the said Township, for the year ending the month of March, 1900.

The Township will be divided into two portions, for which separate Tenders are invited, viz.:—

Division 1, to include the villages of Pelton, Parkinsyll, Pelaw Cottages in Pelton Township, Chapel Row, Bloomfield Terrace, and all other places in the said Township, eastward of the road leading from the Pelton Fell Railway Station, Ellingham Row, Pelton Le Fields, Bloomfield Terrace, Newfield Farm House to the Rising Sun Public House, containing about 350 houses.

Division II, to include the villages of Newfield, West Pelton, Handen Hold, Co-operative Terrace, Mount Terrace, and all other places west of the road described in No. 1 Division, containing about 470 houses.

Contractors' tendering for both Divisions to state separate prices for each.

The Contractor will be required to provide sufficient boxes of deposit, and keep the whole entirely in order, including new ones erected and used during the year, in a clean and satisfactory condition, and in accordance with the provisions of Section 42 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

Tenders marked "Tenders for Scavenging" to be sent to me, the undersigned, at my house, not later than Wednesday, the 1st of February next.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender, and no Tender will be considered unless the form be obtained on application to Mr. H. WEST, Sanitary Inspector, Chester-le-Street.

By order,
ROBT. DICKINSON,
Clerk to the Council.

Union Offices, Chester-le-Street,
January 18th, 1899. 968c

Lost and Found.

LOST, a Young Black and White SPANIEL DOG, answers to the name of "Snap," —Anyone returning him to 43, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, will be rewarded. 55d

LOST, Cheque Book, Catechism and Hymn, January 8th, a CASE of HYMNS and PRAYERS.—Finder rewarded by returning same to JAMES G. TAYLOR, Newsagent, Consett. 54d

LOST, at Cromwell on January 5th, a White METAL MOUNTAIN QUARTER SHEET, with the Society's name on.—Finder will be rewarded. Advertiser will issue prosecution.—Co-operative Society, Medomsley. 55d

Wanted.

WANTED, an experienced GENERAL SERVANT. —Apply, Mrs. LOWLEY, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 967c

WANTED, at once, APPRENTICES to the Cross-making.—Apply, BELL and BENSON, London House, Consett. 956

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at the Draper's Stationer, &c., 13, Front St., Consett

A GENT WANTED to sell the first-class A Machinery Oil. Liberal Commission.—Box 81, Post Office, Liverpool. 959c

WANTED, PUPILS for Painting, Free-hand Drawing, and Shading. Terms moderate. It per lesson, or 10s 6d quarter.—Apply, Miss M. A. HENDERSON, 39, Park Road, Consett.

WANTED, WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY to repair at reasonable prices. All repairs warranted for one year.—H. WOOD, Victoria Terrace (next door to Crawford's Salesroom), Consett. 950

WANTED, to be known everywhere, that the Wringing Machine ROLLERS of very best quality are fitted and Guaranteed for 12 months at 10s per pair, by J. CRAWFORD, Wringing Roller Maker and Turner, Mount Moor Cycle Works, and Front Street, West Stanley. 939b

ROYAL LIVER FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—Established 1850.—Members' Accumulated Capital, £2,000,000. Claims—paid over £1,000,000. WANTED HEALTHY MEN as Candidates. Victoria District (new). Liberal system, interest in Stocks, good openings for pushing and steady men.—Apply, District Office, 12, St. Cuthbert's Avenue, Bensham, Blackhill, JOHN THOMAS ASHTON, District Superintendent.

WE HAVE a beautiful INCANDESCENT LIGHT! Where did you get it? From W. E. TURNER, Front Street, Consett. Incandescent Lights complete, 4s. each (Mantles at 1s. per dozen); Chimneys and Globes at all prices. Quotations for quantities. Cycles Cleaned, Repaired, and Enamelled like new. Lamps, Satin, and all other Accessories. Gents' EVENING DRESS SUITS a Specialty. Prices to suit all.—W. E. TURNER, 8, Front Street, Consett. 918c

WANTED, A GENERAL SERVANT, age 18 to 21.—Apply, *Guardian* Office.

WANTED, a useful GIRL as GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, Mrs. GERRETT, Watling Street, Leadgate. 29d

WANTED, A GENERAL SERVANT 18 to 20 years of age.— Apply, *Guardian* Office. 30d

WANTED, Good GENERAL SERVANT. —Apply to Mrs HOOPER, 54, Benfieldside Road, Blackhill.

COMFORTABLE LODGINGS for Two Steady Men.—Apply, 3, Derwent Street, Consett. 393

COMFORTABLE LODGINGS for Two Respectable Young Men.—Apply No 7, Carrville Street, Consett. 43d

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT, day girl preferred.—Apply, 18, Durham Road, Blackhill.

WANTED, ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J. GRYCE, Hughes Street, Consett, and Cuthy Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, STRONG GIRL for Farm House, good milker, no washing. Two girls.—Apply, Mr. ATKINSON, Broadoak, Etchester.

WANTED, a STRONG LAD, about 17 or 18.—Apply, H. MALER, Butcher, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 36d

WANTED, must be good miller, two good scone men.—Apply, 49, refreshment room, Mrs. MCINTYRE, H.B. Head House, Burnopfield.

WANTED, good Strong GIRL, sake to Nursing and Sewing, must be well recommended, good wages paid to suitable person.—Apply, Miss EASBY, Consett.

WANTED, a Young MAN to plough and drive a pair of horses on a farm.—Apply to CHARLES THOMPSON, Viewley Hill Farm, Tow Law. 36d

WANTED, immediately, Young MAN, about 16 or 17 to use the Blistering Machine. Also a Lad required to learn Engraving.—Apply to MESSRS. HUDSON, Printers, Consett.

WANTED, immediately, Young MAN, about 16 or 17 to use the Blistering Machine. Also a Lad required to learn Engraving. Apply to M. ADAMSON, Printer, Consett.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD.

WANTED, an experienced DRESSMAKER, to undertake dress commencing.—Apply by letter to the Committee, not later than January 25th, stating age, wages, and references, and enclosing copies of two recent testimonials. 34d

WANTED, a Respectable GIRL as General Servant.—Apply, 3, Young Terrace, Consett. 32d

WOMAN, an occasional hand in the Finishing Department, not to be under 16 years of age.—Apply to the Manager, or to Apply to the Committee on Monday evening, January 23rd, 1899, at 7.30 o'clock.—By order, G. MARSHALL, Secretary.

To Let.

TO LET, a STABLE, for pony and trap.—Apply, No. 1, Medomsley Road. 57d

TO LET, Land, BYRE, &c., with 10 Acres of Land.—Apply to WILLIAM HOOPER, Tweedale, Leadgate. 952c

TO LET, a Two-roomed HOUSE in consequence of the family having married couple.—Apply, Box W., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 950

SUPERIOR DWELLING-HOUSE of Seven Rooms and Bath Room, TO LET, in Durham Road, Annfield Plain.—Apply to JOB BROWN. 53d

TO LET, Two Five Roomed HOUSES, also, a Five-Roomed HOUSE and SHOP, situate at Maudville, Castleside.—Apply, T. ELLIOTT, Castleside. 45d

TO LET, or FOR SALE, a Five-Roomed HOUSE and SHOP, situate in Medomsley Road, Consett.—Apply, J. COATS, Albion House, Consett. 32d

TO LET, a well-situated five-roomed HOUSE, with Wash-house with Copper, Conveniences, Garden, &c., in Durham Road, Blackhill.—Apply, 11, Durham Road, Blackhill.

TO LET, a CONFECTIONERY SHOP in Victoria Street, Consett, now occupied by Mr H. WOOD, Watchmaker and Jeweller.—Apply, Mr. BRAND, Fishmonger, Victoria Street, Consett. 910

TO LET, a HOUSE of Five Rooms, with Bathroom, W.C., and back-to-back, standing throughout, situate 106, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Apply on the premises, or to Messrs. G. WATSON, 72, Front Street, Consett.

For Sale

FOR SALE, Two Stacks of Prime Old Land HAY, and 1898 oversetting.—Apply, Wm. ROBINSON, Auctioneer, Medomsley.

BILLIARD BALLS.

GEO. PATTRICK, 3, Front Street, Consett, has received a large consignment of HYACINTHS, TULIPS, NARCISSUS, and CROCUSES in Bloom. Call and inspect.

BASIC SLAG.

Largest Production, Highest and most reliable varieties.

THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER, for Pastures, Meadows, and Clovers, Wholesale Agents.—LEADGATE BRANCH, Corn Market, Newcastle. Langdale Bros. Patent Manufacturers' Agents, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TO INKKEEPERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, AND OTHERS.—THE RECEIPT and DELIVERY BOOKS, with the name of the Act of Parliament affecting the same, in Vols 1/-, or 1/1 post free, from the Publishers, Printers, Bookbinders, and Wholesale Stationer, "Guardian" Office, Consett.

FOR SALE, Two SPRINGCARTS, and One Governess CAR, all second-hand, but in first rate condition. A large consignment of every description, Materials and Workmanship guaranteed. Will sell cheap for cash or on the hire purchase system.—COWEN'S, Carriage and Rolley Works, Taylor Street, Consett. 941b

FOR SALE, PONY COB, and full size Dog Harness, with solid Nickel Furniture and Non-rattling Bits. Few stock of Horse Sheets from 4s 9d each. Driving and Travelling Rugs, Lamps and Waterproof Aprons, all at moderate prices.—COWEN as above. 962b

SECOND HAND SALE.—Large SHOP Fit, Blayden; suitable for Builders' and Plasterers' Purposes only. T. C. NICHOLSON, The Loop Farm, Blaydon-on-Tyne. 920c

FOR SALE, a large Stock of UN-REDEEMED PLEDGES, Selling off at HALF PRICE.—HEPPLE, Hardware Stock, Blackhill. 739a

CONSETT, 20, John Street.—Large SHOP C with DWELLING-HOUSE attached, suitable for Shoemaker or others; also nice SHOP and COTTAGE. The whole let to four tenants at a gross rental of £60 per annum. Price £470.—Apply to Mr CHAS. HOPPER on the premises, or Mr JOHN LAMBARD, 69, Front Street. 434c

FOR SALE, Two HOUSES, in Delin Vale Terrace, Price £300 each. Four HOUSES in Seymour Street, Price £280 each. The Excellent Building Site (in one lot) on the North side of Delin Vale Terrace, Consett. Price £1 per yard.—For further particulars of purchase, apply N. ELLISON, Auctioneer and Estate Agent, Consett. 686b

Public Notice

C. M. S.

CENTENARY MISSIONARY EXHIBITION.
OLYMPIA, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
FEBRUARY 8TH TO 14TH, 1899.

Business Announcements.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

A NEW FIRST-CLASS REGISTRY OFFICE FOR CONSETT.

MRS O'CONNOR
(Late Miss Rose),
OF 35, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,

BEGS to announce that she has added to her Business a REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS. Mrs O'Connor, who, having spent her years from leaving school with some of the Highest and Oldest County Families of Northumberland and Durham, which enables her to thoroughly understand what is required for those establishments, will take an Interest in this Business, and will, in the first place, endeavour to secure on her books some of the best of Men and Maid Servants for Gentlemen's Situations.

All applications to the above address will be Promptly attended to.

Office Hours: 10 a.m. until 6-30 p.m.

Business Announcements.

WINTER, 1898-9.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,

DRAPERS, AND OUTFITTERS,

NEW DRESS GOODS, NEW PATTERNS IN SILKS, LACES, AND TRIMMINGS. NEW SEASON'S BLANKETS. NEW PATTERNS AND CHOICE COLOURINGS IN TWEEDS AND WOOL SHIRTINGS. NEW SUITINGS IN WEST AND SCOTCH TWEEDS.

Orders taken for Dressmaking and Tailoring, and made up in first-class style.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

JACKSON'S BEAUTIFUL VIEWS

OF CONSETT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

PRICE: ONE SHILLING.

An Elegant Present for Christmas or New Year.

To be had of the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

REMEMBER THAT

JOHN T. CASTLE

Keeps the Finest Selection of CLOCKS, WAT CHES, and SILVER-PLATE in the District.

NOTE ADDRESS:—

CASTLE WATCH WORKS, FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

Suitable for Presentation.—Special Display of Gold and Silver Jewellery for Christmas and New Year's Gifts. 678c

IT IS AN ASTONISHING FACT THAT EVERYONE WHO IS ILL AND CANNOT GET CURED GO AT ONCE TO

GEO. PATTRICK,

CHEMIST, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WHO HAS MADE SOME MARVELLOUS RESTORATIONS TO HEALTH IN CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS.

GO TO HIM AT ONCE IF YOU ARE NOT WELL. THOUSANDS OF CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

"Xmas comes but once a year,
And when it comes, it brings good cheer."

FOR QUALITY AND REASONABLE PRICES GO TO

M. FAWELL

FOR TEAS, COFFEE, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, &c., FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.

LARD, 4d. to 5½d. FRUIT LOAVES, 5d. to 6d. per lb. TOMATOES, 5d.

Our DRAPERY DEPARTMENT, which is well stocked and carefully selected, includes SILK HANDKERCHIEFS and MUFFLERS, FANCY APRONS and PINAFORES, SHAWLS, GLOVES, TIES, FRONTS, &c., suitable for the Season.

ADDRESS:—
40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND 1, DELVES LANE, NEAR THE STATION.

SEWING MACHINES.

Have you seen these WONDERFUL MACHINES? If not, look at our Windows this week and you will be astonished.

We have every confidence in recommending them as they continue to give
ENTIRE SATISFACTION.

PRICE, £4 10s. CASH PRICE, £4.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—

SWAINSTON'S HOUSE FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT,

FRONT STREET AND NELSON STREET, CONSETT.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

TURNBULL BROS.,

GROCERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, WHOLESALE ALE AND SPIRIT DEALERS, LEADES, BURNOPFIELD, AND AT LINTZ COLLIERY.

Letters and Telegrams: Burnopfield.

WE BEG to thank our customers for their support and would ask them to give the following Price List their consideration.

GOOD FLOUR, 1s. 5d. per stone; 12lb. per stone bag.
SUPERS, 1s. 5d. per stone; 13lb. per stone bag.
SNOW WHITE, 1s. 6d. per stone; 14s. per 10 stone bag.

Also, one of the Largest and Varied Stocks of Groceries and Provisions in the District.

PRICE LIST.

WHISKIES (in Bottle)—	Per Bottle.	BRANDY...	Per Bottle.
Lowson	1/8 and 2/	Jamaica	4/6
Consuel	2/	Also a Cheap Brandy	3/6
The Real Mountain Dew ...	2/	The OLD TOM	2/6
In Stone Quart Bottles—	Per Quart.	WINE.	Per Bottle.
Consuel	3/-, 3/6, 4/	Old and Full Flavoured ...	2/6
Consuel	4/6	Magnificent (Specially for Invalids)	4/
Real Mountain Dew (Oldest Scotch Whiskey)	5/- per gallon.	BRITISH WINES (all 13 per bottle).	
Other Whiskies from 1/- to 1/6- per gallon.		ALES AND STOUT (in Bottle)—	
RUM...		Gilt	2/6 per doz.
Jamaica	1/6 and 2/ per bottle.	Pell Pints	2/6 "
... ...	3/-, 3/6, and 4/ per quart.	3-Gallon Chalk XXX Ale ...	10/6 each.
... ...	5/- per gallon.	9-Gallon Casks (From Burton on Trent)	10/6 "

Special Quotation given to Orders for Harvest and Shearing Parties.

We shall take it as a favour to be informed of anything that is not in good condition, or does not give full satisfaction, in order that we may at once replace it.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ALL PARTS.

STILL THE SAME GOOD VALUE IN

TEAS, GROCERIES, & PROVISIONS,

AT

M. MACKENZIE AND SONS,

25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

AND AT LOCKERBIE. 988c

SPECIAL NOTICE.

DELICIOUS CEYLON AND INDIAN

TEAS.

HIGH-CLASS GROCERIES. RELIABLE PROVISIONS.

BEST VALUE IN

FLOUR.

CAN ALWAYS BE OBTAINED AT

JOSEPH POSTLE'S,

16, NEWMARKET STREET,

AND TOP OF PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

FOR FLOUR, CHEESE, BACON, BUTTER, AND GROCERIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION, OF BEST QUALITY AND AT LOWEST PRICES, GO TO

FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,

FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

967c Their Drapery, Millinery, and Clothing Stocks are second to none in the District. 970c

Business Announcements.

MR. E. J. SLOANE, MUS. BAC.,

Trinity Univ., Toronto; National Gold Med allist, Trinity Col., London; L. Mus., L.C.M.; Organist of St. Mary's, Gateshead; Blackhill, Organ, Piano, Harmony, Counterpoint, Canon and Fugue Lessons. Pupils prepared for all Musical Examinations. THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

THE BEST HOUSE FOR WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATE, AND SPECTACLES.

DOBSON GRADON,

WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

Best quality English Lever Watches at Manufacturers' prices, 21s. to 84s.
Price Lists on Application.
Splendid English Lever Watches, £2 5s. Gilt 18ct Gold Watches, splendid quality, £3 15s.
Ladies' Silver Watches, £1 15s.
The "Guardian" Watch, warranted timekeeper, all warranted. Albert guards and chains. Other Watches at lower prices.
Repairs a Speciality. Clocks Cleaned and Repaired in Town or Country.

CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES.
STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH.

FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EASTING POWER AND ECONOMY.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FILLED WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.
SOUND TEETH.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.

CONSETT BRANCH.

ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM THREE TO SIX, AT MR. COCKBURN'S, STATION, 37-39, FRONT STREET (SIDE DOOR.)

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.
THE TEETH supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are as lasting to the mouth as a system of self-acting, without extraction of stumps, or any painful operation, and are guaranteed to be as reliable in every way as within the means of all classes. Every one is tested before leaving the Surgery, and warranted.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL,
SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 8, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed. All Charges Strictly Moderate.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Attendance from 12 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily, from 9a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturdays. Mr. Jos. Dale, Son, Cooke's Building, Annfield Plain, 7th each month.

T. MILNER, M.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,

CONSETT.

For Pure DRUGS and GENUINE CHEMICALS | OLD PORT and SHERRY WINES, in 4d., 6d., WINTER REMEDIES of every Description. | 8d., 9d., 1s., and 2s. per bottle.
CHEST and THROAT PREPARATIONS. | CHEST and THROAT PREPARATIONS to great variety
Large Stock of PERFUMES in Bottles and | Large Stock of PERFUMES in Bottles and
EXTRACT OF MALT and COD LIVER OIL, in | OLIVE OILS, in 1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. per bottle.
1s., 1s. 6d., and 2s. per bottle. | Special Display see Windows.
EMULSIONS of COD LIVER OIL and HYPO-PHOSPHITES, 1d. and 2d. per bottle. | ARROW ROOT, PURE OIL of MEAT and VIGORAL, 1d. and 2d. per small jar.
LEMPRIERE'S DENTIFRICE, 1s. per bottle. | HORSE, DOG, and CATTLE MEDICINES of every Description.
MALT WINES, 2s. and 3s. 6d. per bottle.

NB. Owing to the Duty upon Spirits, and the recent advance upon Foreign Wines, we regret we are unable to supply Cheap Whiskies, Brandies, Gins, and Wines, as heretofore.

A Choice Display of Meerschaum and other Pipes, suitable for Christmas Presents.

JABEZ SWINDALE,

(ASSOCIATE OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN),
DISPENSING AND CONSULTING CHEMIST,

BLACKHILL.

SPECIALITIES.

PURE DRUGS, FINE CHEMICALS FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, &c., NURSING AND SICK ROOM REQUISITES, SURGICAL APPLIANCES, PATENT MEDICINES AT WHOLESALE PRICES, SYRUPS, CHEMICAL FOOD. Our preparation
OINTMENTS—We are Sole Proprietors of the Celebrated Ointment. Try our OINTMENT for TOILET USE, in 6d. Boxes.
GRANULAR EFFERVESCING SALTS, 1s. per bottle. THE STOMACH'S FRIEND.
DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTIONS.—WE HAVE EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCE
GENUINE CORN SOLVENT THAT CRUMBLES'S RIPER. PRICE 1s. PER BOTTLE.
AND EFFECTIVE, IN 4s. BOTTLES.
ANALYSTS OF WATER, MILK, &c.

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS—
SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT, & FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

"LET THEM ALL COME."

TO

PHILLIPSONS', BLACKHILL,

THE PEOPLES CASH STORES.

FOR

CHEAP DRESS STUFFS.

FOR CHEAPEST DRESS STUFFS. FOR CHEAPEST DRESS STUFFS.

Fancy Stuffs at 4½d. double width.	Heavy Tweeds at 6½d. double width.
Black Serge at 6½d. double width.	Plum coloured Cloth at 10½d. double width.
Marone coloured Cloth at 10½d. double width.	Navy coloured Cloth at 10½d. double width.
	Navy and Black Serges at 1s 4½d.

SEND FOR PATTERNS.

TELEPHONE 7. BAKERY, MELSONBURNE STREET, MEDOMSLEY, 1898.

JOHN HUME AND SON,

CONFECTIONERS AND BAKERS,

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.
BIRTHDAY CAKES.
CHRISTENING CAKES.
WEDDING CAKES

(ICED AND ORNAMENTED TO ORDER)

School Treats, Public Teas, Social Gatherings catered for on best terms.
Funeral Orders promptly attended to.
High-class Chocolates and Confectionery always on hand.

AGENTS FOR
BROOKE, BONDS' HIGH-CLASS TEAS.
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Competitors are requested to carefully read the appended rules, and cause to be filled up the coupon and issue, which will be found in the Football-Guardian, on Saturday morning, 21st inst.

A prize of TWO GUINEAS will be offered each week to the person, or persons who correctly forecast the results and number of goals scored in the four matches mentioned, in the coupon. In the event of more than one being correct, the prize will be divided between the winners.

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Guesses must be sent in addressed—Of side," "Guardian," Consett, and marked "Football Competition," NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK ON SATURDAY MORNING. This rule will be strictly adhered to, and all letters arriving late will be destroyed unopened.

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If person send in more than one coupon, he likes in one envelope, on condition that each coupon is accompanied by a penny stamp. Competitors in doubt as to address will NOT cover the postage, and are liable to disqualification if stamp is not sent.

All employees at this Office are debarred from taking part in the competition.

The prize money will be paid to the winners on the Monday after the announcement of the result.

If any other question should arise which is not covered in the above rules, the decision of "Off-side," the football editor, will be final.

MATCHES.

Consett Baptist and Ouston Mission played a draw of one goal each.

Morley Hall Silver Stars beat White-le-Head Temperance by eight goals to nil.

SACRISTON CHURCH ATHLETIC v. WITTON GILBERT UNITED.

These teams met at Sacriston in fine weather. The teams lined up under the charge of Mr. Hilditch (Consett) as follows:—

Sacriston—Goal, Hilditch; backs, Brason and Hall; halfbacks, H. Mole, halfbacks, W. Fowler, T. Hutter, and W. Lumsdon; forwards, J. Rayner, T. Greener, W. Mitchell, J. Grimshaw, and J. Lumsdon.

Witton—Goal, W. Bellerby; backs, A. Mitchell and R. Hixon; halfbacks, J. H. Scott, W. Stoddick, and G. Paxton; forwards, S. Oxley, C. Anne, T. Hall, C. Bellerby, and J. Stapleton.

United won the toss and Mitchell kicked off towards the low goal. Liddle got possession and dirded several times, but soon skimmed the bar with a swift shot from the line. From the goal kick the ball was run up, but Mole relieved with a long kick. Another fine run by Liddle and Mitchell, and Oxley hit the United backs hard, and was nullified for a time. The home team now forced the game, and after a short struggle through Fowler being laid out. On resuming, Greener sent in a fine shot, which was just Bellerby turned behind. From the corner Mitchell scored successfully with a fine shot. Immediately from the centre kick the visitors worked the ball up, and Stapleton equalising allowed Witton to equalise rather easily. The teams rotated the home team and the forwards playing with good combination completely broke the United defence. Greener, in a grand pass to Fowler, Rayner added three to the score. Witton now changed their tactics by keeping in their forwards, and Bellerby saved with all the forwards on him, but Lumsdon rushed, and Greener got possession and scored the third goal. United began to press, but only for a time, and the forwards were quickly back, and Bellerby fisted out from Rayner. A free kick against Witton for nothing, and Witton were attacking when the whistle sounded for the interval. Score:

Sacriston Athletic ..... Three goals.
Witton United ..... Nil.

On resuming a couple of fine runs by Anne placed the home goal in danger, but Hixon got out to meet the danger. They continued to press on the home backs, but Lumsdon and Johnson did their function many chances by kicking out. The ball was now in the centre, heading against the visitors, who were playing a fine game, but could not get the ball by Brason. Mitchell and Greener took play to the other end, where the latter player forced a corner, which was well placed by Rayner, and Mitchell scored a fourth goal from a fine shot. Greener and Paxton struck the bar with a good shot which rebounded into play, and a scrimmage in goal ensued. Witton appealed for a goal, alleging the ball had passed the goal, but the referee would not allow it, whereupon the visitors left the field with the score:—

Sacriston Athletic ..... Four goals.
Witton United ..... Nil.

DURHAM AMATEUR CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

CRAGHEAD ROVERS v. SWALWELL ALBION.

In the above game Craghead had the best of matters, and won by four goals to nil.

SPEN ALBION v. ALLENDALE PARK.

These teams played their ties at the Spen before a moderate attendance. The visitors won the toss and elected to play up the endless. Started the game off, and the visitors by passing to Brown, who was lying well up, he centred, but the ball went to Bell, and the game was stopped for a time, on the restarting Foster sent in a fine shot, but Bell passing to Wheatley, who sent the ball down the field, and Brown put in a swift centre, which was cleared by Bell, who kept up, but the defence of the Spen was good. Brown sent a corner off Robson, which proved useless, the ball being scrimmaged through and the forwards equalised. A mild play followed, and at the interval the scores read—

Spen ..... One goal.
Allendale ..... One goal.

On play being resumed, Talbot made a run for the Park. Treneman made a dash and Talbot and Carnaffan pulled him up. Then the home men pressed, but Talbot came out in fine style. Forester got in several clever runs, but his efforts were all unsuccessful. It looked like taking a draw until Bradley tricked Thompson when Wheatley scored. Fenwick, who had been off, was on the ball in good shot. Both sides did their utmost to score, but their efforts were for the finish, but failed, and the result was—

Spen ..... Two goals.
Allendale ..... One goal.

Spen team—Goal, J. English; backs, R. Carr and J. Short (capt.); half-backs, C. Bell, H. Hudson and C. Bell; forwards, Bradley, Ferry, R. Short, J. Bradley, Wheatley, Jeffrey, Thompson, G. Short.

Referee, Mr. F. McEachin, Leadgate.

LINTZ ROVERS v. SOUTH MOOR.

On Saturday afternoon the above fixture engagement was played on the Linetz ground. Both teams were fairly represented when Mr. J. Costello called them together and they were impressed as follows:—

Lintz Rovers—Goal, M. Hughes; backs, J. Carr and Mitchell; halfbacks, Barnes, Sinclair, and A. Dews; forwards, Pale, O. Hughes, C. Hughes, and Wilson.

South Moor—Goal, Tinniss; backs, Hall and Dodds; halfbacks, Hall, Bell, and Handley; forwards, Chaytor, Fletcher, Smailes, Mills, and Robson.

The Rovers won the toss, and attacked the low goal with vim from the start, and Hall and Smailes put in a good motion for the visitors and immediately after Hughes and Pale defended in first-class style, and Sinclair and his comrades were in full force for the visitors' goal, when Pale registered the first point of the game with a splendid but only waged for four or five minutes. Again the Rovers attacked Tinniss' minutes, and Smailes shot for goal, but Hughes and Pale were compelled to kick out to safety. Victors now pressed, and Chaytor, Smailes, and Mills put in a good shot which, however, went slightly over the bar. The visitors who were now having the best of the play, made another charge, but just to touch. But the visitors tried hard to score, and should have been able to accomplish their object with so strong a wind at their backs, but they inevitably failed. They kept the ball up in pretty warm for some time, and instituted several scrimmages, but the home men were of superior ability and strength and represented all the onslaughts of their opponents. Then, for a few minutes, the visitors returned play to the visitors' half, but the home men were soon back at their play-ing, and again take play to the west end and got down and forced a corner, which was saved, and then the home men had a fine stand when play raged within inches of Hughes' goal. They saved in fine style, and then returned to the "Moor" territory, where play remained until the interval point just before half-time. One of the Moor players, who thought the ball had passed in his decision, left the field, but he was followed by his colleagues, and very childish procedure indeed. Half-time:—

Lintz Rovers ..... Two goals.
South Moor ..... Nil.

In the second half the visitors faced their opponents with only two men on the Rovers' side had all the best of the play, and were for the goal. Chaytor saved in excellent style, and Handley saved in excellent style. Then the Rovers' forwards got away on a corner assault, which proved useless to the visitors' goal. Then followed a long series of unsuccessful corners, and when the final whistle sounded no further score made, to the half-time score which read—

Lintz Rovers ..... Two goals.
South Moor ..... Nil.

PELTON FELL v. JARROW.

This fixture was played on Pelton Fell on Saturday last in windy weather. Teams:—

Pelton Fell—Goal, Hall; backs, Bryson and Hones; half-backs Brason, Usher, and Hughes; forwards, Fawcett, Hall, Hughes, Fish, W. Parker, and J. Parker.

Jarrow—Goal, Tinkler; backs, Linsley and Turnbull; half-backs, D. Lyall, Kane, and Hutchinson; forwards, Trotter, Lyall, Hall, D. Linsley, and Heron.

The Shipsters commenced operations with the hill against them. Pelton pressed with the wind in their favour, and from the free kick was cleared and Hall put the ball in the centre, and Linsley headed to Trotter, who in turn passed to Lyall, but the shot was fruitless, and Jarrow kept the home forwards penned in their own half. Fawcett, Hall, and Hughes tried to get away, but Jarrow kept the homesters penned in their own half. Fish was prominent in the visitors' forward line, but was unable to get away. In taking the goal-kick Trotter miskicked and the ball was run up, but Hall relieved in fine style. Fawcett, Hall, and Hughes again put the ball into the net without touching a second player, but the referee ruled that the ball was dead, but it was only a brief visit, and Trotter and Lyall were away, but Hall and Usher threw corners fell to Jarrow, but not to much purpose, and Hall and Usher put the ball down the field, and Hughes put in a fine shot, which Tinkler rushed up and scored. Just before half-time Fawcett headed through the second goal for Jarrow, and at half-time the score was—

Jarrow ..... Two goals.
Pelton Fell ..... Nil.

Pelton immediately pressed on resuming, but the visitors quickly transferred play to the Pelton half, where Trotter had to throw in. Fouls were against Jarrow on both sides offending. Although playing up the hill Jarrow were having the best of the game, combining far better than the homesters. Fouls were against Pelton for hands, and the ball on the wrong side of the field. Jarrow were playing a fine game, and giving their third goal. Lyall, the visitors' centre-forward, had very little to do, only having to watch the ball when in the centre of the field of game. Pelton occasionally managed to get the ball down, but they could never get past Turnbull or Linsley. Shortly before time was announced Jarrow got a fourth goal, Lyall scoring. Soon after Hughes added a fifth for Jarrow, and the game ended in favour of Jarrow by five goals to nil.

Jarrow ..... Five goals.
Pelton Fell ..... Nil.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC v. BYER MOOR.

These teams met on the ground of the former on Saturday afternoon in fine weather, and a very large number assembled. The ground was in a very soft condition, and rendered the play very heavy and uncertain. The teams lined up as under:—

Celtic—Goal, Collins; backs, Foster, back, Bennett and Lynch; halfbacks, Nicholson, W. Parker, and P. Duff; forwards, R. Foster, Ed. Duff, J. Coyle, J. Gallacher, and Peter P. Bell.

Byer Moor—Goal, Hodgson; backs, Bennett and Lynch; halfbacks, Nicholson, W. Parker, and P. Duff; forwards, R. Foster, Ed. Duff, J. Coyle, J. Gallacher, and Peter P. Bell.

Byer Moor—Goal, Hodgson, backs, Bennett and Lynch; half-backs, Nicholson, Ayre, and Hall; forwards, Cook, Wm. Wooly, Welch, Low, and Leighton.

Referee, Mr. J. Wilson, Consett.

The spin of the coin resulted in favour of the visitors, who elected to play up the entrance end. Welch set the ball on its journey, but Collins was not to be beaten, and up the attack, and a rush run by the forwards, but Bennett and Lynch were equal to the occasion, and Hall and Nicholson backed Bennett and Lynch. Keeds and Woody now put their best foot forward, and Leighton put a fine kick in Moore, who relieved with a long kick. Byer Moor were now pressing, and Gallagher in a sprint down the field when he was pulled up by Lynch. The game was getting very dangerous, but Lynch and Bennett were equal to the occasion. The goal-kick the Celtic again took on the run, but only for a time, and the forwards on the part of the forwards enabled them to get down, and Gallacher put in a fine shot, but it was over, with a lightning shot, and Hodgson was beaten. Byer Moor were now playing a fine game, and Welch, Hodgson saved at the expense of a corner, which was cleared by Bennett. From the goal-kick the home forwards made a fine run, but Nicholson relieved in fine style, and Gallacher put in a good shot, but it was over. From the centre kick Byer Moor were again returned to the attack, but Bennett and Lynch were equal to the occasion, and the visitors' forwards

FATAL ACCIDENT AT OXHILL.

A sad accident, involving the loss of life, occurred at Oxhill Road, about 7 o'clock on Saturday evening, to an old man named Edgar Piper, of Castering Place, Annfield Plain. It seems that the deceased, who was some 74 years of age, was refreshing himself at the time already stated, from visiting his son at Oxhill, when he was caught by a trap, which was travelling in the same direction, knocked down, and run over before Dr. Johnson, of South Moor, could be of any assistance to him. The doctor had the body conveyed home.

CORONER AND VERDICT.

On Tuesday at noon, Coroner John Graham held an inquest at the Derwent Hotel, Annfield Plain, to inquire into the case of death. Mr. Thos. Wilson was chosen foreman of the jury.

James Piper, son of deceased, said his father's name was Edgar Piper, and he was 74 years of age. He resided with witness, who is Lucy Street, Stanley, and was a miner. Deceased was also a miner, but was now lame and cabinet-maker. He was a journeyman. He lived at Castering Place, Annfield Plain. He had been visiting him on the 14th, about 12.30 o'clock. He left to walk home to Annfield Plain by Oxhill. He set him up to on the left-hand side and then left him to go on alone, he being very "blowy" night, as strong west wind blowing. He was then in front of the cart when witness saw him out. Deceased was a very active man for his age, and was wearing a cap, and he thought he might get safely to home. About 12.30 he went to bed and was informed by a boy that his father was found him dead.

Alfred Jobling, a police constable, stationed at Oxhill, said he was standing at Oxhill crossing at 7 o'clock on Saturday evening, and saw him coming from the Stanley direction, and, about 100 yards from him, and walking on the left-hand side of the road. There was a light sufficient to observe, while at the crossing, about 50 yards east Sandhole, on the Oxhill side, he saw Mr. Tibbles, who was walking in front of him, whom witness overtook. He afterwards saw a trap going in the same direction. Mr Piper was walking on the left-hand side of the road, and was not visible from the footway. When he overtook saw the trap going in the same direction. Mr Piper was walking on the left-hand side of the road, and was not visible from the footway. When he overtook saw the trap going in the same direction. He should say he should say to the driver that there was a man in front. The driver could not see him. It was dark, but there was a very wild and stormy night. Witness saw the trap and the several occupants, and went to the timber and knocked over. It caught him on the left arm, he thought, and he heard the wheels go on from after the trap and got the driver to take it back to the place where deceased was lying, and then went for assistance, and returned with Dr. Johnson. The driver drove away as they were carrying deceased into the house. He did not see the driver. He knew deceased home, as he did not know who he was. He was not the driver and if he knew the man was he would take him home.

Thomas Wallace, colliery engineer, living at Allendale Cottages, said deceased was a friend of his. He was going to Annfield Plain in company with Crawford, Hall, and Crawford. Crawford and deceased were walking abreast and taking him into the middle, continued the road. He saw the trap which deceased up and sent Crawford to get a drink of water. The doctor was sent for who examined him. The trap caught him, and his head fell back and he was lying on the ground. He could not see what part of the trap struck him.

Wm. Hall, colliery storeman, of Harehope, said he was driving a trap from Annfield Plain to Stanley, and was in company with Crawford. He had both lamps lighted. Crawford was walking behind and taking him into the middle. He continued his journey, and when he heard deceased up and sent Crawford to get a drink of water. The doctor was sent for who examined him. The trap caught him, and his head fell back and he was lying on the ground. He could not see what part of the trap struck him.

Wm. Hall, colliery storeman, of Harehope, said he was driving a trap from Annfield Plain to Stanley, and was in company with a friend. He had both lamps lighted. He was on the left-hand side of the road. On the blowing a hurricane along the Oxhill. He heard a clash at Oxhill, and thought he saw a lamp being out of inside it worse. He could not distinctly tell how he fell, or how he was caught. He concluded from that he was on his proper side of the road. He saw nothing of the trap coming on the road, nor of the witnesses on the road before or after the accident. He saw nothing of it until one of them ran to him and told him that deceased was killed. He and the trap had Crawford run after him and shouted after him, but he could not overtake him. He left it in the hands of the other witnesses. He could not say if the horse trotted or galloped. The stormy weather, and he was obliged to go away.

Dr. Johnson, South Moor, said he was called to see the deceased, who was reported to have been run over by a trap. He found he were two small wounds on the back of his head, and a bruise on the left arm and side. He could not examine the neck properly on the head, as sufficient to cause death. But he had severe concussion of the brain, and could not speak a word wrong there. He had not been knocked up by the trap. He was from the shock of the accident. The only explanation appeared to be that the wheel of the trap had passed over his head. The clothes probably in passing him, and upon him round and he had been dragged by the trap for some sharp stones. There had been considerable bruising, which had been the cause of death. He had not examined the neck for bruises, as he was satisfied that he had died from concussion of the brain, which had been caused by the wheel of the wheel at all.

Mr Sharp, on behalf of the driver, made no remarks on the front of his face. He favoured the opinion that the driver was not aware of the accident because if he had been caught by the wheel, the driver would have felt it. It was a very feasible one.

Mr Smith, one of the jury, said the most unfortunate thing was that the man had not left his name.

Dr. Johnson said when he visited Piper deceased's son told him that he had died at when they replied that in the flurry of the moment they had lost sight of asking for his name and address.

The coroner said the part of the case he was that a little light thrown upon was how it came to be that the trap got off. It was clearly stated at first that he made any offer to take deceased home, but that he had gone on and left him to be sought for afterwards. It did not look like that at this point, and the driver of the trap should be inquired into. That had been done, and it was satisfactory to him. Nobody had asked for the driver's name and address.

Witness Wallace said that Mr Anthony had asked him for his name and address he would not give it.

The Coroner (continuing) said Black's offer to drive the trap home did not rest on any evidence alone. But on the evidence of the deceased's son, and the hurried step in which he made an offer. That was a proof that Black was not to blame. Black could not have asked to take the trap home, and could not think he was to blame. Black could not have done more than he did.

Mr Smith called attention to the fact that Piper was not walking on the proper side of the road that Black was in his right place.

The Coroner, continuing, said Mr Smith had rightly remarked, the driver was driving on the near side of the road, and that the Piper, instead of being on the footpath, was on the crown of the road, so that taking those two circumstances into consideration Mr Piper was the one whose duty it was to be right, so far as their relative positions were concerned. But in the same time there was something more to be considered. The night was very stormy, and the wind blowing in the face, and the trap was overtaken. Then the weather was tempestuous, and made it bad for both parties. Piper, as he was walking, had facing the storm, and that being so, it was certainly incumbent upon the driver to keep himself as safe as possible, and not to have gone on the road, but to have kept on the footpath. But for some reason or other he got on the road, and the driver was not to him or feel him, and did not know anything about the case until he was told. Deceased was called by the man who ran after him. They had the whole of the evidence, and there could be only one opinion about the man. The driver was not to blame. Deceased had been run over, and been caught by the shaft of the trap, and had been killed by it.

Mr Calliott, one of the jury, said he had often travelled the road in question, and thought there would be a little sidewalk made to that part. Many people had made the remark about the lamps being out. It was a dark and windy point, and attention should be paid to it. It was a point which should be better lighted.

Another juryman corroborated the statement of Mr Calliott, and said it was impossible to keep lamps in on that part of the road.

The Coroner: Can't you draw the attention of the local authority responsible for the lighting of the road, and get them to put up a better light than would stand the storm?

Mr Smith thought the only effectual way to deal with the question would be to get a public-spirited gentleman to build a house at the point, and close the open space which existed there.

The Coroner thought that lamp-lighters might patrol the road, and see whether it had been extinguished, and then they blew out. It would not be much trouble, and would be a great convenience, and safety of the people around.

The jury returned a verdict: "That Edgar Piper had died from shock causing from the injuries to the head, and concussion of the brain, by falling violently on the high road, Oxhill, on January 14th, 1899, and that accidentally caused by the deceased colliding with a conveyance in motion."

GOOD HEALTH WITHOUT DRUGS.

4—MOTHERS AND CHILDREN.

Mothers who would keep their children in good health should give them morning and evening baths, and should dress them with warmth. Delicate men and women who have had their lungs "touched" by colds, should use Bile Beans for Biliousness. Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa morning and evening, and they can then be protected against the inclemency of our trying climate. Vi-Cocoa is giving lightness of face and a full vigour of body to many who drink it. Try Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and they can then be free from colds, influenza, and all kindred troubles. Witness the letter spoken from personal experience as to the benefits derived from Bile Beans for Biliousness. Tea opens the pores and temporarily excites the nerves, leaving a feeling of languor behind it. Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa gives strength, and does not excite the nerves. Bile Beans for Biliousness is indeed a wonderful food beverage. Nothing can ever beat Vi-Cocoa as a food beverage. Certainty of its giving lightness of heart, joy of life, and health to the body.

Bile Beans for Biliousness are only sold from a full capacity to enjoy every pleasure. Vi-Cocoa is sold in packets only.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa can be obtained from all grocers, and from chemists, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 5s. 6d., and 6s. 6d., Bonhill Row, London, E.C.

Bile Beans for Biliousness are sold by Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa, and we are prepared to send a free sample to anyone who will write to Dr. Tibbles' Consett Guardian" a dainty sample tin of Vi-Cocoa and Bile Beans.

Primrose League Ball at Shotley Bridge.

On Tuesday evening, under the auspices of the Derwent Valley Habitation of the Primrose League, the annual ball was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge. The attendance was not quite as large as was anticipated, with the result that there was a little overcrowding among those present, nearly the whole of the elite of the district being present. The decorations had very attractive appearance. The decorations consisted of flowers, flowering and evergreen plants, the transformation at the hands of the decorators being very effective. The platform was occupied by the Mayor and Mayoress of Gateshead, Mr. and Mrs. Sellar Walton-Wilson. The walls were festooned with green and the pillars were wreathed in evergreens, and mounted with beautiful sun flowers and primroses, whilst the front of the gallery was the charming dresses of the ladies, and the uniforms of the officers of the League, the Rolling Councillor and Dame President being also in full force. The band was in attendance, and were indefatigable in their efforts to provide the dancers with enjoyable strains themselves. Everything passed off without hitch, and the ball was a great success. The refreshments were carried out by the hon. secretary: Miss Wilson, and Miss Crawford, who secured the services of Mr. Hall to preside at the gathering. The music was of a high order, and Mr. E. J. Skaife, Mus. Bac., supplied by Mr. E. J. Skaife, Mus. Bac., Durham, presided at the pianoforte. The duties of the chair of the music was the supplied. Mr. E. J. Skaife, Mus. Bac., Durham, presided at the pianoforte. The duties of the chair of the music was the supplied. Mr. E. J. Skaife, Mus. Bac., Durham, presided at the pianoforte. The duties of the chair of the music was the programme:—

Waltz	Ammerette Tazes
Quadrille	Patrol—Bache
Waltz	A Runaway Girl
Lancers	Jessamine Dores
Waltz	A Runaway Girl
Polka	Jessamine Dores
Quadrille	Chin Chin—Caryll
Waltz	Deutsche Lust
Waltzing Polka	Tinsellie
Lancers	Dare Devils
Waltz	Ammerette Tazes
Quadrille	Patrol—Bache
Waltz	Little Dolly Day Dream
Lancers	Roger de Coverley

The refreshments, which were purveyed by Mrs. Glass, and gave the most complete satisfaction. The dancing programme was kept up with much vigour until 12.30 a.m., when the ball terminated with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

Among those present were:—Mr. and Mrs. Faber and Mr T. W. Vasey, whilst the stewards were:—Messrs. Wm. Thos. Hall, Hamsterley; R. Hall, L. Irwin, J. Anderson, Hamsterley, Mr. Walton, Hamsterley, another present we noticed the following:—Mr. and Mrs. Hall, Hamsterley; Mr. and Mrs. Von Thiele, Hamsterley Hall, Mr. and Miss Hall, Hamsterley Hall, Bridge.

Mrs and Miss Booth, Summerdale, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Hodge, Sunderland.

Mrs. and Miss Bradley, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Brutton, Miss Brutton, and Master Brutton, Consett Iron Company Offices.

Mrs. and Miss Bradley, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Bradley, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Bradley, Masters Palmer (2), Manor House, Medomsley.

Mrs Coles, Shotley Bridge.

Miss Brown, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Bradley, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Bradley, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Angus, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Glendinning, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Medomsley.

Miss Vasey, Medomsley.

Mrs Mossey, Medomsley.

Miss Bushby, Hole House.

Mrs Bushby, Hole House.

Mrs McMillan, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. Angus, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. Henderson, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs H. Lindsay, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Allen, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Murray, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Bowey, Shotley Bridge.

Miss Surtees, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Surtees, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Surtees, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Jas. Surtees, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Jas. Surtees, Shotley Bridge.

Miss Wilson, Seed, Edge.

Miss Wilson, Seed, Edge.

Miss Hunter, Medomsley.

Mrs. and Miss Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Richardson, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Shotley Bridge.

Mrs Brown, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Bradley, Bendalside.

Mrs Wilkinson, Bendalside.

Mrs Walker.

Mrs Fairless, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs R. Hall and Miss Hall, Shotley Bridge.

Mrs. and Miss Shotley Bridge.

Miss Surtees, Bendalside.

Mrs Stockdale, Bendalside.

Mrs Turnbull.

Mrs Peel, Blackhill.

Mr Maurice Wilkinson, Medomsley.

Mr Harrison, Bendalside.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr Scott, Shotley Bridge.

Mr Scott, Shotley Bridge.

Mr Pattinson, High Waskerley.

Mr Norman, Derwentcrook, Blackhall Mill.

Mr. Norman.

Mr Lavery.

Mr Dickens.

Mr Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Consett.

Mr. T. R. Willis, Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs McDougall, and Miss McDougall, Shotley Bridge.

Mr Oliver, Shotley Field.

Mr Hall, Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr Maurice Wilkinson, Medomsley.

Mr Harrison, Bendalside.

Mr. and Mrs. Nixon, Victoria Garesfield.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs Geo. Wilkinson, Blackhill.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Miss McKenna, Hamsterley.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Misses Waschbank, Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr Oliver, Shotley Field.

Mr Hall, Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Miss Surtees, Bendalside.

Mrs Stockdale, Bendalside.

Mr Turnbull.

Mr Peel, Blackhill.

Mr Maurice Wilkinson, Medomsley.

Mr Harrison, Bendalside.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr Scott, Shotley Bridge.

Mr Scott, Shotley Bridge.

Mr Pattinson, High Waskerley.

Mr Norman, Derwentcrook, Blackhall Mill.

Mr. Norman.

Mr Lavery.

Mr Dickens.

Mr Wilson.

Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Consett.

Mr. T. R. Willis, Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs. Shotley Bridge.

Mr. and Mrs McDougall, and Miss McDougall,

Business Announcements.

WALTER WILLSON,
CONSETT AND LEADGATE,
And One Hundred Branches,

WISHES to thank his numerous Customers for their liberal favours during the past year, and also during the Great December Sale just concluded.

The Quality of the Goods is maintained, while the Prices show that the best value is to be had here.

Pure Blended Teas, 1s. and 1s. 2d. per lb. Pure Rich Assam, 1s. 6d. per lb.
Pure Rich Indian, 1s. 8d. per lb.

WALTER WILLSON'S is the Largest Business of its kind in the Kingdom.

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,
SURGEON DENTIST

Of 16, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE, Attends CONSETT every MONDAY from 1 to 3 o'clock, at MRS. ELLIOTT'S, 9, PARK ROAD, CONSETT. ESTABLISHED 1882. 187v

Please note Time and Address.

ARTIFICIAL DENTURES.

EVERY MONDAY FROM 1 TO 5 AT Mr. BATES', Jeweller, FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

MR. KENDALL,
REGISTERED DENTAL SURGEON. ESTAB. 1850. 270 WESTGATE ROAD, NEWCASTLE

BEST and Purest Materials used. Finished and Artistic Workmanship. Latest Up-to-date Improvements. Strictly Moderate Charges. Natural Appearance. Each and every case made to harmonise in Size, Shape, Colour and Colour with the Complexion and Features. Imperfect and bad-fitting Dentures Remodelled, no matter where made. Absolutely Painless Extractions, by a New and Safe Method.

Daily Attendance, at 270, Westgate Road. Every Thursday, at Mr. Hetherington's, 28, Durham Road, Blackhill, from 1 to 2.30; and Mr. Wright's, Confectioner, Front Street, Shotley Bridge, from 3 to 5.30.

EVERY MONDAY, FROM 2 TO 5, AT Mrs. PEARSON'S, Wesleyan Chapel, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

PELTON, FROM 6 TO 8, AT Mr. LOW'S Chemist.

Appointments made with Mr Armstrong, Clifford's Road, promptly attended.

THE CATCHGATE POSTING ESTABLISHMENT,
CATCHGATE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR.

HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.
MOURNING COACHES. CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS.
BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES, SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23f
FURNITURE REMOVED. ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

LADIES' UNDERWEAR, &c., &c.

UNSHRINKABLE WELSH FLANNEL.

MEN'S SHIRTS, PANTS, VESTS, &c., &c.

Direct from our own Mills, the Largest in South Wales.

Any Garment Shrunk in Washing replaced.
Guaranteed all Home-Grown Wool, and made by HAND LOOMS.

Four yards of our Flannel equal to Six of the ordinary flannel in the Market. Prizemen at the Eisteddfodan, and

PATRONISED BY ROYALTY

at the London Exhibition of 1898. Two Shirts will last THREE YEARS. Ladies' and Gents' Waterproofs in the latest Style from 14s 6d. Renowned for Blouses and Dresses. Suits to measure from 40s

Seeing is believing, so come and try them.

WILLIAMS & CO.,
FRONT STREET (NEXT DOOR TO THEATRE), CONSETT.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.

F. WELCH & CO.,
IRONMONGERS AND JEWELLERS, ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY,

HAVE great pleasure in informing their Friends and Public generally that, after Re-building and Re-modelling their Business Establishment, have re-opened same with a New and Varied Stock.

A FURNISHING DEPARTMENT,

with Novelties in Bedsteads, Chairs, Mats, Rugs, Carpets, &c.
We are now making our USUAL DISPLAY OF TOYS, GAMES, FANCY GOODS, &c., for the CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR. We invite inspection.

F. WELCH & Co., ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY. 666c

MUSIC! MUSIC!! MUSIC!!!

THOMAS JONES,
DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.

PIANOS, ORGANS, HARMONIUMS, &c., BY THE BEST ENGLISH AND FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS.

20 to 25 per cent. Discount for Cash off Makers' Price List.

Newest Designs and latest Improvements at the Lowest Possible Prices. Inspection invited. Sole Agent for H. Mace and Co.'s Pianos, Berlin, and the "Bell" American Organs. The largest stock of Music in the North of England. Pupils prepared for Theoretical, Practical, and Singing Examinations. Latest success in Singing—First and Second Class Honours.

Pianos, American Organs, and Harmoniums Tuned and Repaired.
Special for the Season: Jones's Special 1s. parcel, each containing Four Songs—Comic and Sentimental. Usual price 2s. 6d. each.

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MUSIC EMPORIUM, 5, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT.

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BRANCHES: HIGH SPEN AND CRAGHEAD.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CONFECTIONER, GROCER, PROVISION, FLOUR, AND WINE MERCHANT.

We are giving better value than ever in our 2s. 6d. Presentation Tea. Give it a trial. The Tea and Presents show remarkable value and cannot be beaten.

We have a Splendid Assortment of Tobaccos, Cigars, and Cigarettes, and specially recommend our Golden Roll Twist.

We have a large and varied Stock of Sweets, &c., for Retailers at Wholesale Prices.

Orders carefully and punctually attended to and goods delivered over the District. 21d

THE COMBINATION OF ALL THAT IS BEST IS TO BE HAD AT

JOHN HALL & CO.'S,
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THE FINEST FLOURS. THE FINEST TEAS.
THE CHOICEST FRUITS—CURRANTS, VALENCIAS, MUSCATELS, &c.
FIRST PRIZE CHESHIRE CHEESE, 1s. PER POUND.
TIP-TOP CANADIAN, WENSLEYDALE, AND OTHER KINDS OF CHEESE.
FINEST SMALL HAMS, ONLY 4½d. PER LB.
REAL WILTSHIRE BACON.
CHOICE IRISH ROLLS, AND OTHER BACONS OF BEST QUALITY.
PLUM PUDDINGS, MINCE MEAT, AND CAKES OF RICH QUALITY.
BRITISH WINES. NUTS, ALMONDS, &c. TART FRUITS, TINNED FRUITS, &c., &c.

SEE PRICE LIST; IT IS WORTH YOUR PERUSAL.

WEST END HOUSE MILLINERY AND FANCY ESTABLISHMENT, 2, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

MESSRS. J. & J. PARKER,

BEG to call Special Attention to their Stock of Ladies' White Muslin Aprons, Children's Embroidered Pinafores, the celebrated Mercook Silk Pinafore, Children's Dresses, Hats, Bonnets, Costumes, &c. A Speciality in Ladies' Companions, Fancy Tidies, Silk Pockets, Work Baskets, Needle Cases, Scents, &c. Silk Handkerchiefs, very effective. Ladies' and Children's Kid Gloves. Ladies' Waterproofs and Capes, Skirts and Under-Clothing, Baby Linen, &c. Umbrellas, a splendid assortment.

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P.S.—Fancy Wools kept in Stock; also, a good assortment of Fancy Goods. 8d

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MR. ARTHUR J. LUCAS,
Of 47, CROWN STREET, ELSWICK ROAD,
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Who is now back again in the old district, and personally attends every patient.

ATTENDANCE every Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or any other time by appointment.

NOTE—Train fare allowed to all Country Patients requiring Teeth.

944c PAINLESS EXTRACTIONS.

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HARDWARE DEALER,
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The Shop for Quality and Cheapness combined for all kinds of HARDWARE GOODS, GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, &c. Our Celebrated Electric Brand LAMP OIL, LAMPS, WICKS of all kinds.

Clubs are now being formed for all kinds of Goods. Particulars on application.

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Highest Class of Accommodation for Saloon, Second Cabin, and Steerage Passengers.

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LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA, Calling at Queenstown every Thursday. Passengers and goods are landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has the shortest and most Direct Route to all places in the Western States.—Apply to Richardson, Spence, and Co., Southampton or Liverpool; or to Local Agents, J. Crawford, Victoria Street, Consett; T. D. Dryden and Co., Front Street, Consett; Alfred Philipson, Emigration Agent, Dipton; William Gray, 5, North Road, Durham; Geo. Leadbitter, Accountant, Catchgate; Thomas Storey, Auctioneer, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. Johnson, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Wm. Anderson, Bridge Street, Tow Law; E. Sloane, Post Office Blackhill; or T. A. Brown, 3, Market Place, Crook. 722b

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HOUSE AND CHURCH DECORATOR, PAINTER, GILDER, PAPERHANGER, GLAZIER, &c.,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

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WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FRUIT AND POTATO MERCHANT,
24, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to Thank his Customers for past favours. He will, as usual, give the Best Article at a Moderate Price. Try our BEST SCOTCH MAIN CROPS at 5½d. per stone; also, at FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

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IN MARBLE, GRANITE, &c.

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BEEF AND PORK BUTCHER.

English and Dairy-Fed Pork, 6d to 7½d per lb. Pork Chops, 8d per lb. Fresh Chilled Beef (Fine Quality), 4d to 8½d per lb.

FRESH SUPPLY DAILY.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.

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ACHES and PAINS disappear speedily by use of the newly-discovered KOLACTICUM OINTMENT. Highly recommended for the permanent cure of RHEUMATISM, PILES, VARICOSE VEINS, STIFF JOINTS, SKIN DISEASES, ULCERS, ERUPTIONS, etc., etc. Every sufferer should give this Ointment a trial, and prove its wonderful healing powers. Sold in large boxes with full directions.

PRICE, 2s 9d POST FREE.
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ALL THE YEAR ROUND,
HIGH CLASS PROVISIONS,
FINEST FLOUR,
CHOICE TEAS AND GENERAL GROCERIES,
Can be obtained at
LOWEST CASH PRICES
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Goods Delivered anywhere in the District.

FANCIERS! FANCIERS! FANCIERS!
CALL AT

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FANCIERS' SUPPLY STORES,
RITSON'S ROAD, BLACKHILL,

And see a full selection of
DOBBIE'S FAMOUS SPECIALITIES.
AGENT FOR COUNTY DURHAM.

40 NEW LAID EGGS FOR 6D.

YOU CAN GET THEM if you only treat your birds rightly. The first essential to success is good, sound food. If you are already giving them the best of food and they are not laying as you would like, give them a sprinkling of

COVERDALE'S EGG-PRODUCING POULTRY POWDER

in their morning meal. The result will astound you. I have letters every day from people telling wonderful results, such as these:—

FORTY EGGS for 6D. A WEEK.
Flaxton, near York, Nov., 1898.

Dear Sir,
My hens had not had a single egg for more than a month, but the tin of Poultry Powder you sent me by return has already given me altogether 40 eggs a week and they are still going on. The birds are remarkably strong. I will certainly continue to use it, and recommend it.—H. HIND.

SEVEN TIMES AS MANY EGGS.
Swinton, March 25th, 1898.

Having many fowls and only getting one or two eggs a day, in January, I had a 6d. tin of Egg-producing Poultry Powder, and got 15 eggs. After a week the number of eggs rose to 14 a day.
T. PURDY.

Everyone who uses it is delighted.
To be obtained locally in 1s 6d. and 1s. tins from W. NATTRASS, Medomsley; DAWSON'S Fanciers Supply Stores, Blackhill; or direct from the sole proprietor,
COVERDALE Rotherham

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DINING ROOMS AND CAFE,
4, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,

In thanking the Public for the patronage accorded to her since opening these rooms, begs to state that she continues to provide

DINNERS, TEAS, AND SUPPERS.
PASTRY, CONFECTIONERY, AND PIES.

Dine at the
CONSETT TEMPERANCE HOTEL AND REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
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Hot Dinners Daily. Try our Noted Pork Pies. Good Accommodation for Travellers. Horses and Traps for Hire.

H. HANSOM, Proprietor.

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DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.
ACCOMMODATION FOR CYCLISTS.
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VENICE DUNN,
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Will supply enlarged PHOTOS, finished in Oils, Water Colours, or Crayons, Framed; complete prices varying from 10s to 45s. PHOTOS artistically produced and finished in all sizes and newest styles. Cabinets, 10s to 20s per dozen; Cartes, 3s 6d to 6s per dozen. Bands, Choirs, Football and Cricket Clubs, Lawn Tennis and Wedding Parties taken on the most reasonable terms.

VENICE DUNN, Junr., Travelling Agent, will be glad to call upon any one with samples, and furnish all particulars, take Orders, and supply club cards to all desirous to join the Club. Photos framed or copied. Cameras, Lenses, and Photographic material supplied to Amateurs. 520e

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WHOLESALE GLASS AND CHINA WAREHOUSE,
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SPECIAL TERMS TO ABOVE.

Largest Stock of GLASS, CHINA, AND EARTHENWARE in the district to Select from.

The Trade supplied in all Branches. Good delivered to all parts by our own Vans.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
CHESTER-LE-STREET. 618c

TELFORD & COMPANY,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
WEST STANLEY,

For the NOTED LEMON SQUASH.
Try our STONE GINGER BEER.
SODAS AND LIME JUICE a Speciality.
Goods delivered by our own Vans.
SPECIAL TERMS TO RETAILERS.

NOTE ABOVE ADDRESS. 664c

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GENERAL PLUMBER, GAS, HOT WATER, AND SANITARY ENGINEER,
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Work executed and completed for Public Buildings, Business Premises, Villas, and all classes of House Property.

Gas lighting on the Ordinary, Incandescent, or Acetylene Systems.

Electric Bell Fittings, Baths, Water-Closets, Lavatories, Metal Spouts, Tanks, Railings, &c., of Approved Make and Design.

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BILLPOSTER,
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Good Private Stations. 289w

"SAUCINE," Registered.
THIS IS THE SAUCE.

Stomach Persuading.
Liver Invigorating.
Kidney Stimulating.
Nerve Exhilarating.

THIS IS THE SAUCE.
Ask your grocer for "SAUCINE."
Sole maker—J. J. SMITH, Sauce and Pickle Manufacturer, Tyne Dock, South Shields.

C. H. SMALES,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CONFECTIONER,
6, TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT,

TAKES the present opportunity of thanking his Customers for their past favours, and hopes by strict attention to business to merit their future patronage.

SHOPS SUPPLIED.

DENTISTRY.
J. M. VAN GELDEREN AND SON,
SURGEON DENTISTS.
17, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THOMAS A. TURNBULL,
JOINER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

All orders receive prompt attention. 705a

HOSPITAL
FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.

GENTS BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED—2s 9d
LADIES' Do. Do. 1s 9d

With Leather Turned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled for quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather; as I am the only one in this District who uses the brand. (Signed), J. ORTON.

HESLOP STOREY,
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ATTENDS The House of Mr. John Fitzgerald, Druids' Arms, 43, City Road, Newcastle, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., daily.

H. S. also attends the White Horse Hotel Great Market every TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and Saturday, from 11 a.m., to 1 p.m.

NOTE PRIVATE ADDRESS:
DECKHAM PLACE, GATESHEAD.

ESTABLISHED 1851.

BIRKBECK BANK,
Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

INVESTED FUNDS £13,000,000.
NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS, 85,094.

TWO-AND-A-HALF per CENT. INTEREST allowed on DEPOSITS, repayable on demand. TWO per CENT. on CURRENT ACCOUNTS on the minimum monthly balances, when not drawn below £100.

STOCKS, SHARES, and ANNUITIES purchased and sold for customers.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

Small deposits received, and Interest allowed monthly on each completed £1.

The BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with full particulars, post free.

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.
Telegraphic Address: "BIRKBECK LONDON."
Telephone No. 5, Holborn. 375h

£100,000 ALREADY ADVANCED.

SUNDERLAND NEPTUNE & PARAGON BUILDING SOCIETIES.

CHIEF OFFICE: 20, BRIDGE STREET, SUNDERLAND.

Advances at 1 per cent. to Balloted Members. Advances at 4¼ per cent. any time. Repayments 15s per Month per £100.

Preference Shares issued, bearing interest at 4 per cent. Interest paid half-yearly.

We issued one new £100 Share for every working day during the last year.

There is nothing desirable in Building Society Business which we do not furnish Cheaply, Intelligibly, and Profitably.

GEORGE SHIMMIN, Secretary.

Local Agents:—W. T. GILLIES, Blackhill. East View, Blackhill. GEO GRAHAM, 9, Belle Vue Terrace, Consett. 624b

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
(LIMITED)

FRONT STREET, CONSETT, LEEDS, LONDON, SCARBOROUGH, YORK, DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBOROUGH, DARLINGTON, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, MORECAMBE, AND HULL, &c.

WE PAY CLAIMS.
WE PAY CLAIMS.
TWO MORE PAYMENTS.
TWO MORE PAYMENTS.

STATEMENTS are now being advertised by a Firm who have COPIED ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S FREE LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME, trying to lead readers to believe they (the copyists) have paid hundreds of pounds under the scheme, when it can be shown that ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LTD.) IS THE ONLY FIRM who have paid any claims under the (copied) scheme, viz., the Original Free Life Agreement Scheme.

TWO NEW CLAIMS PAID.
TWO NEW CLAIMS PAID.

FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY-SEVEN POUNDS FIVE SHILLINGS NOW PAID BY ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN under its Free Life Agreement Scheme. "ONE CLAIM on behalf of the husband of the late Mrs. Jane Coulson, 22, Rectory Lane, Bensham, Gateshead, who had only paid the sum of 28s. 10s. when she died. The instrument was valued towards £22 12s. The instrument has been recovered to Mr. Coulson free of all further payment, as per the terms of the Archibald Ramsden Free Life Agreement Scheme.

COPY OF RECEIPT.
BENSHAM, December 29th, 1898
Received from Archibald Ramsden, Limited, Pianoforte Number 12,457 (29,053) as a Free Gift under the Conditions of the Archibald Ramsden (Life Agreement Scheme, in Full discharge of all Liability and Claims upon Archibald Ramsden (Limited).
Signed, THOS. MIDFORTH COULSON.
WITNESS—WALTER COULSON.

ANOTHER CLAIM on behalf of the widow of Mr. Fredk. Widdop, 64, Albert Road, Morecambe, who had only paid the sum of £12 (Is 6d) on account of the instrument when he died. Cheque for £37 10s. 4d has been paid to Mrs. Widdop, and below is copy of receipt:—
MORECAMBE, January 3rd, 1899.
Received from Archibald Ramsden, Limited, the sum of Thirty-seven Pounds Ten Shillings (£37 10s.), in discharge of all claims under Archibald Ramsden Free Life Agreement Scheme, on account of the death of my husband, Frederick Widdop.
Signed, ELLEN BLANCHE WIDDOP.
WITNESS—MRS. CELIA BACK.

A GRAND TOTAL of £467 5s has now been paid by Archibald Ramsden under this unique scheme. SIXTEEN CLAIMS HAVE BEEN PAID. Intending purchasers should note that ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN IS THE ONLY FIRM who have paid claims under this original agreement scheme.

DO NOT FAIL to see Archibald Ramsden's Splendid Pianos and Organs. They are all thoroughly Guaranteed and will stand the test of time and usage. There are two or three cases of so-called Cheap statements—no fictitious prices. The instruments are really good, and have stood the test of time. There are not the introductions at the prices in the market. They are constantly being brought up to the improvements of the time. They are thoroughly reliable—real musical toned" instruments—and give satisfaction wherever they are used.

ORGANS—SPECIAL IMPORTATION, charming cases and tone, £12 12s, cash, or three years' system 8s 4d per month.

PIANOS £19 10s cash, or 12s 9d per month for three years. Wonderful tone and value.

THOSE Wonderful KNAUSS PIANOS.
THOSE Wonderful KNAUSS PIANOS.
THOSE Wonderful KNAUSS PIANOS.

WONDERFUL TONE.
WONDERFUL VALUE.
WONDERFUL DURABILITY.

Built on the Overstrung, Vertical, and Oblique Systems.
May be had from 25s. per month.

SEND FOR FINEST ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE IN THE TRADE.
SECOND-HAND PIANOS.
SECOND-HAND ORGANS.
SPECIAL PRICES, £3, £5, £6, £8, £9, &c.
SEND FOR PARTICULARS.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
(LIMITED)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

FOR EMIGRATION to SOUTH AFRICA and AMERICA, apply to A. PHILIPSON Auctioneer, Dipton.—SPECIAL AGENT. 157c

JAMES FROSDICK is the only Billposter that has rented Stations within the Urban Council Districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 595

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE DAY & BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS. A THOROUGH MODERN EDUCATION. Pleasantly situated in most healthy situation. Successful preparation for all preliminary Examinations.

Next term, January 19th, 1899. Extras on reasonable terms include Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Drawing and Music.

A Field for Cricket, Tennis and Football.
MONTAGU V. STEGGALL, M.A., Head-master.

BEST SCREENED COALS delivered in Consett and Annfield Plain in loads of 15cwt., at 5s. 6d. per load. Orders left at Mr. EMERSON'S, the Hive Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, or Mr. G. NICHOLSON, Contractor, Dipton. 853a

MISS BECK,
TEACHER (by Diploma) OF SCIENTIFIC DRESSMAKING, to the Local Evening Classes held under the Durham County Council

BEGS to announce that she is OPEN TO RECEIVE PRIVATE PUPILS at her residence, 32, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.

W. RUTHERFORD,
JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, UNDERTAKER, AND FUNERAL FURNISHER
ALL ORDERS EXECUTED WITH DESPATCH.
ADDRESS:—
CATCHGATE, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE NOTED SHOP FOR
CHEAP SUITS
IS AT
C. LUMLEY
6, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT. 399z

NATURAL HEALTH SALT.
IN TINS, 4D. AND 8D.

STIMULATES THE LIVER, CURES BILIOUS HEADACHE, CLEARS THE BRAIN, A SPARKLING COOLING DRINK.

Take a teaspoonful or two in Warm or Cold Water every morning fasting and it will keep you in Perfect Health.

SOLE PROPRIETORS:

WILKINSON & SIMPSON,
LIMITED,
NEWGATE ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HENRY ANNANDALE TOWN
(Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute,)

LAND ESTATE AGENT, VALUER, AND SURVEYOR.

PROPERTIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION SOLD OR LET ON COMMISSION. ESTATES EITHER IN TOWN OR COUNTRY MANAGED ON MODERATE TERMS UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION.

PROPERTY AND TIMBER SURVEYS MADE, Also, MORTGAGES NEGOTIATED.

15, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

THE NEWCASTLE DRAPERY AND CLOTHING STORES. FRONT STREET, DIPTON.

A CASTLE has undoubtedly made the above a Noted Establishment for quality and cheapness. Every Branch of his Trade will be found very complete.

His Tailoring Department is a very special feature, having a range of over 1,000 patterns of the Newest Scotch, West of England, and Irish Woollens to select from. Fit, Style, and perfect fit guaranteed. Gents' Suits to order from 25s.

N. BROWN & SON
SADDLERS, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKERS.

Horse Clippers (to cut over three teeth), warranted, 7s 6d each.

Lined Drivers Gloves from 3s to 5s 6d per pair.

Carriage Candles, per 2lb box, 1s 6d.

Warranted Solid Nickel Stirrups, 6s 6d per pair.

Warranted Solid Nickel Hunting Spurs, long necks with black or brown straps, complete 10s 6d per pair.

Brown Leather (Newmarket) Leggings from 4s 6d per pair and upwards.

Waterproof Cloth Reversible Leggings from 2s 6d per pair.

NICHOLAS BROWN AND SON.

19, FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

RESIDENCE:

MR. JOHN USHER,
LATE MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, for which he has been awarded First Class Certificate £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than any other Practitioner charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED FREE FROM PAIN. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS.

£1 TO £10

THE SNOW'S GREEN COACH, CARRIAGE, AND ROLLEY WORKS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

MESSRS

PEMBERTON & HALL,
PROPRIETORS,

TIMBER MERCHANTS, CONTRACTORS TO HER MAJESTY'S GENERAL POST OFFICE.

Most up-to-date Wood-cutting Machinery in the District.

Timber cut any length.

Estimates given for all kinds of Colliery and Farm Work.

Repairs executed by Experienced Workmen. Five Minutes walk from Shotley Bridge Station.

ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION. A Trial Solicited. 600c

BABY WON'T CRY IF YOU GIVE IT
MOTHER'S FRIEND

AND BABY'S COMFORT. RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION. THE BEST AND SAFEST MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.

CONTAINS NO LAUDANUM, OPIUM, OR MORPHIA. MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Fits, Sore Gums, Gripping Pains in the Stomach or Bowels.

MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Convulsions, Fevers, Fits, and Thrush.

MOTHER'S FRIEND corrects Acidity and cures Diarrhoea.

MOTHER'S FRIEND removes Pain and produces Natural Sleep.

PREPARED ONLY BY

J. ROBINSON,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST, STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN.

AGENT FOR GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE. 305y

MRS E. WILSON,
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD,

Desires to inform the Public that she HAS NOW OPENED HER NEW SHOP, (Next door to Walter Willson's)

FIRST-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.

Extra Large Stock of CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS CAKES, Madeira, Rice, Fruit, Seed, Cocoanut, Ginger Bread, and Cakes of all Descriptions.

HOME-MADE BREAD.
FRESH PORK AND PORK SAUSAGE DAILY.
PATENT MEDICINES
Supplied from leading firms.
Noted Tic Powders, Embrocation, etc., etc.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD.

Business Announcements.

GOLD MEDALS! HIGHEST AWARDS!
1896—1897—1898.

DRINK ONLY

KERSHAW & SONS'
SUPERIOR MINERAL WATERS AND KER'S ALE.

Can be had in Screw-stoppered Bottles, the CLEANEST, the BEST, and PUREST.

SEVEN GOLD MEDALS AWARDED.

KERSHAW & SONS.
ALE AND PORTER BOTTLERS, MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS, LEADGATE, AND GATESHEAD.

34, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

F. TURNER,
HOUSE AND GENERAL FURNISHER, CONFECTIONER, &c., &c.,

CHOICE CONFECTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS.

Please your children by buying your Toys, Dolls, &c., here.

Large Assortment of Goods suitable for Presents.

Christmas and New Year's Cards in endless Variety.

Furnishing in all Departments.

The Cheap Shop for Hardware.

NOTE THE ADDRESS AS ABOVE. 668c

NORTH-WEST DURHAM BAKERY, SPEN.

S. A. FAIRLESS
For Plain and Fancy Cakes, Confectionery and Bread. Parties supplied. 2d.

For finest quality in GROCERIES, &c., try

GEO. J. ROBINSON,
TEA DEALER, FAMILY GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
DERWENT STREET,
BLACKHILL.

A large assortment of CHEESE, BUTTER, HAMS, BACON, LARD, &c., ALWAYS ON HAND.

THE NOTED FLOUR, GROCERY, AND PROVISION SHOP.

JAMES PALLISER,
FAMILY GROCER, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA MERCHANT,
47 and 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.

A Good Assortment of Fruits.
Choice Cheshire Cheese and Fruit Cakes.
TRY OUR SPECIAL BLENDED TEAS.

VICTORIA DAIRY, CONSETT

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

G. T. ROBSON,
PROPRIETOR. 621

WE STRIVE TO GIVE

HIGHEST VALUE for the SMALLEST AMOUNT of MONEY

in all Branches of

LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING.

SPECIAL LINES IN LADIES' COSTUMES (to measure), 47/6

J. L. BRODIE,
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
H. B. DICKER,
5, NORTH TERRACE, NORTHGATE, DARLINGTON.

Attends STANLEY every PAY TUESDAY, from 12 to 4 p.m. at Mr. SWINBURN'S, View House, Front Street, Stanley.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH of the best quality from 2s per tooth. Teeth Extracted Painlessly. Teeth Extracted from 1s. 6d. per tooth. Prices range from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per tooth.

Best Materials only used. Guaranteed for a year.

Established 1833.

WILLIAM POTTS & SONS, CLOCK AND WATCH MANUFACTURERS, OF LEEDS.

Beg to announce that they have OPENED a BRANCH of their business at 22, COLLINGWOOD STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Makers of the Great Clock and Electric Greenwich Time Signal for St. Nicholas' Cathedral. 62p

DON'T FORGET.

GEORGE MCNEAL
BILLPOSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Highwater, Burnhope, Craghead, Tanfield, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Iveston, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton, East Castle, &c.

HURRAH. HURRAH.

We have found the place for good WHISKY, RUM, BRANDY, GIN, PORT WINE, &c., &c., at

Quarts from 3s to 5s; Bottles, 2s 6d, 3s, 3s 6d.

Nicholson's Gin, 3s and 4s per Quart; 2s per Bottle.

Spruce or Black Beer, 1s 6d per Bottle.

A large supply of all kinds of WINES AND SPIRITS.

Not particularised, kept in Stock. The very Best Quality at most Reasonable Prices. 10-year-old Whiskey, very fine, 3s6 per bottle.

ALES AND STOUT.

Half-pints, 1s. 6d. per Doz.; Pints, 2s. 3d; 9-Gallon Casks, 9s.

Nourishing Stout, containing 10 per cent in weight of solid matter, 2s per dozen; Half-pints, 1s. Pints, 3s.

His noted MINERAL WATERS require no bush. Hundreds of dozens always on hand; also SYPHONS.

NATHAN ELSDON,
DELVES LANE (near the New Consett Station.)
ESTABLISHED 1860.

ALTERATION OF DAY.

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.
(ESTABLISHED 1867.)

MESSRS. POTTS and NICHOLSON in response to a requisition from influential Farmers and Butchers in the District, beg to intimate that on and after Monday, Nov. 21st next, they will conduct their Fortnightly Sale on every alternate Monday.

The Auctioneers embrace this opportunity of expressing their Thanks for the Kind Patronage hitherto accorded, and ask their Patrons to favour them with early Entries, in order that same may be duly advertised.

Look out for the Great Christmas Prize Show and Sale.

Sale Office—5, Nun Street, Newcastle.

Business Announcements.

THE OLD ESTABLISHED NEWSAGENCY BUSINESS,

Lately carried on by Mr J. G. Cooke, at 36, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,

Has been taken over by

GEORGE YOUNG,

Who will be glad to receive a continuance of the patronage so liberally bestowed upon his predecessor during the past years.

Daily, Evening, and Weekly Papers, Periodicals and Magazines promptly delivered to order.

A Good Stock of PLAIN AND FANCY STATIONERY.

BEST VALUE IN FLOUR, PROVISIONS, &c., AT

W. WHITFIELD'S
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

If you are in want of FOOTBALLS, BELTS, SHIN GUARDS, INFLATORS, &c. Of any description, for wear and quality, GO TO

WILLIAM BIGGINS.
SADDLE AND HARNESS MANUFACTURER, CHURCH STREET, BLAYDON.

BRANCHES:—Busty Bank, Burnopfield, R.S.O., Tyne View, Lemington-on-Tyne.

COLLIERY WORK CONTRACTED FOR

W. GILHESPY & SON,
THE LEADING NORTHERN SHOE FIRM,

ARE SHOWING ALL THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN BOOTS AND SHOES For Winter Wear.

A LARGE CHOICE OF LADIES' DRESS SHOES
In White Kid, from 2s 11d.
In White Satin, from 2s. 6d.

LADIES' BOX CALF BOOTS & SHOES, From 5s. 11d.

LADIES' GAITERS, From 11½d. to 3s. 11d.

Try our Celebrated GENTS 10s. 6d. BOOTS.

18 and 19, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

W. FITZPATRICK,
TAILOR,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

THANKS the Public for the Support which has been accorded him in the past, and trusts to have a continuance of their favours during the year 1899.

The Latest Materials and Designs of OVERCOATINGS, SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS.

The Suits at 45s having given unbounded satisfaction in the past can be thoroughly recommended, and will receive special attention during the coming season.

PERFECT FIT AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.

W. RICHARDSON,
DRAPER AND MEN'S OUTFITTER.

FOR THE SEASON.

Large Assortment of LACE, GLOVES, &c., &c., for Presents.

DECORATIVE PLANTS for Ornamentation.
UMBRELLAS, HABERDASHERY, AND HOSIERY.

New and Special Consignment.

To Spend Wisely STOP HERE.

TIME SAVED IS MONEY MADE.

The New D9 WHEELER and WILSON SEWING MACHINES are absolutely THE FASTEST, EASIEST, SIMPLEST, and MOST SILENT Machines in the world. ROTARY MOTION, BALL BEARINGS. Dressmakers and Tailors can double their incomes.

No worry. Better work, and more of it. The IDEAL, handsome family machine.

These combined advantages enable Live Agents to increase their income by representing in Sewing Machines—wholesome agency in Sewing Machines—something more than DOING GO HO.

Lists and instruction free and free trial. Agents wanted where not represented.

Sole Wholesale Representatives for Northumberland and Durham.

THE EGBELL CYCLE AND MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.
10, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

LIEBIG'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.

This preparation is made from PORT WINE, EXTRACT OF MALT, and EXTRACT OF BEEF.

Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended.

1s. 6d. per quart bottle (usually sold at 2s. 6d.), 9d. per pint Bottle (usually sold at 2s. 9d.)

Tawagin Port Wine, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle. Sherry, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.

Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s. Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s. Burgundies from 1s. per bottle.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:

ROBINSON & CO.,
DRUG STORES, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, CHESTER-LE-STREET.

THE
NEW STANLEY HOTEL,
THE "QUEEN'S HOTEL,"
IS NOW OPEN

With a Stock of the finest ALES, WINES, AND SPIRITS.

PROPRIETRESS, MRS CHAYTOR.

'ROYAL LIVER' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

CHIEF OFFICE:—
PRESCOT STREET, LIVERPOOL.

Members' Accumulated Capital £3,000,000.

Claims paid over £5,000,000.

Assurances at all Ages, from 1 day to 80 years, for Amounts up to £200. Branch Offices and Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

Wanted Six Energetic Men as Additional Agents, good terms, no Debit System, interest in the district. Apply personally for pushing and working men.

Apply District Office, 17, St. Cuthbert's Avenue, Benfieldside, Blackhill,
JOHN THOMAS ASHTON, District Superintendent.
890c

Business Announcements.

£4,000,000 HAVE NOW BEEN PAID IN RESPECT OF
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
ALL ACCIDENTS
WORKMEN'S ACCIDENTS,
FIDELITY GUARANTEE,
BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.
Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. J. L. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.
Agents required in unrepresented Districts.

Musical Tuition.

MISS FORSTER gives LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE; also LESSONS in LEATHER WORK. Terms on application.—South Pontop, Annfield Plain. 327a.

MISS JACKS,
GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

MISS A. GRAHAM gives LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application.—Burn Vale House, South Moor. 771a

MUSICAL TUITION.
MR. W. RAMSDEN gives Lessons on Pianoforte and in Theory of Music.
28, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

LESSONS given on the Pianoforte and Organ. Pupils prepared for Incorporated Society of Musicians Examination. Terms on application.—JAS. H. COCKBURN, 42, Park Road, Consett. 983c.

MR. JAMES R. FOSTER,
TEACHER of Music. Certificated with Honours. Gives LESSONS on Pianoforte, Organ, Harmonium, and Theory. Pupils attended at their own homes. Terms on application. DURHAM ROAD, LEADGATE.

MUSICAL TUITION.
LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned, post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 921c

Legal Notice.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1890.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that at a Meeting of the Lanchester Rural District Council, being the Rural Sanitary Authority in and for the Lanchester Rural District, after special notice duly given in that behalf, it was resolved that the following Part of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, namely Part III should be adopted within the said District, and that the said Part of the said Act should come into operation on the first day of March next.
Dated this 12th day of January, 1899.
W. H. RITSON,
41d Clerk to the said District Council.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Proprietors of the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company, will be held at the Company's Offices, in Front Street, Shotley Bridge, on Friday the 10th day of February next, at 1·30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of considering the provisions of the Bill now before Parliament intituled "A Bill to confer further powers upon the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company."
At such Meeting the said Bill will be submitted for the consideration and approval of the Proprietors.
Dated this 19th day of January, 1899.
M. RICHLEY,
61d Secretary of the Company.

COUNTY OF DURHAM.

TANFIELD U.D. | ALTERATION OF BOUNDARIES, &c.
ANNFIELD PLAIN U.D.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that in pursuance of the powers given by sec. 57 of the Local Government Act, 1888, and the Local Government Act, 1894, the County Council of Durham made an order on 11th January, 1899, whereby it, is provided amongst other things, (1) that a small portion of the Annfield Plain Urban District and Township of Kyo be transferred and form part of the Urban District and Township of Tanfield; (2) that the Tanfield Urban District be divided into Two Wards for the Election of District Councillors and Guardians; and (3) that the number of members of the District Council be increased from 12 to 13.
Copies of the said Order may be inspected by any Owners or Ratepayers of the Districts affected at the offices of the undersigned, at the Shire Hall, Durham, during a period of one month from 20th instant.
RALPH SIMEY,
Clerk of the County Council.
20th January, 1899. 40d

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF STANLEY.

NOTICE

Of Application for an ORDER TO DIVERT A HIGHWAY, Leading from Cooperative Street, Stanley, to Glower-oer-em and Burnopfield Farms and Craghead.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 3rd day of April next, Application will be made to Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, assembled at Quarter Sessions, in and for the County of Durham at the Assize Courts, in the City of Durham, for an Order for turning, diverting, and stopping up part of a certain Highway, leading from Co-operative Street, Stanley, to Glower-oer-em and Burnopfield Farms and Craghead, namely:—By stopping up such portion of the said Highway as lies between the weigh-cabin of the Louisa Colliery, situate on the North-West side of the Railway sidings, leading to the said Colliery, and a point on the said Highway 133 yards to the East, situate at the divergence of the road to Glower-oer-em Farm (which said point is herinafter called "the Point of Diversion"), and substituting in lieu thereof a New Highway 36 feet wide, running along the North-Western side of the said Railway sidings for 117 yards, and thence at right angles, in a South-Easterly direction, under the said Railway sidings, and the Stanhope and Tyne Branch of the North-Eastern Railway, by means of a subway, 27 yards long and 18 feet wide, and thence in a Southerly direction, by a Highway 66 yards long, to the aforesaid "Point of Diversion," and that the certificate of two Justices, who have viewed the same, together with proof that the several Notices required by Law have been duly published, and a Plan describing the old and the proposed new Highways, and the consents in writing of the owners of the land through which the new Highway is proposed to be made, will be lodged with the Clerk of the Peace for the said County, on the 3rd day of March next.
Dated this 15th day of December, 1898.
JOSEPH ROUTLEDGE,
Surveyor to the said Council.

Church Notices.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 | MR. J. GREENWOOD.
Evening, 6 | MR. A. STODDART.
ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 | REV. J. A. DIXON.
Evening, 6
ALL SEATS FREE.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH MISSION, SNOW'S GREEN.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1899.
Afternoon, 2 | MR. R. RICHARDSON,
Evening, 6 | Blackhill

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 22nd, 1899,
Morning, 10·30, | REV. A. CRAGO.
Evening, 6,

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.
Pantomimes at Newcastle and Sunderland, Poole's Myriorama at Olympia, Tussaud's Waxwork Exhibition in St. George's Hall, and Rugby Football Match at Newcastle. Parisienne Carnival at Sunderland.
An EXCURSION TRAIN will be run as under:
SATURDAY, JANUARY 28th.
From BLACKHILL at 12·10 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, &c.), to NEWCASTLE and SUNDERLAND, returning from Sunderland at 10·30, and Newcastle at 11·10 p.m.
For further particulars see bills.
York, GEORGE S. GIBB,
January, 1899. General Manager.

Public Notices.

THE WINNING NUMBERS of the Shields raffled for at Hobson Colliery for the benefit of Wm. Wailes, are 1st, 207; 2nd, 329.

ANNFIELD PLAIN MISSION.
GRAND CINEMATOGRAPH ENTERTAINMENT, in Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, on Saturday January 21st. Doors open at 6·30, commence at seven o'clock.

REV. F. STEGGALL MEMORIAL FUND.
INTENDING Subscribers to above Memorial are reminded that the Fund will be closed on February 1st. Contributions will be thankfully acknowledged by Coun. WM. ATNSLEY, J.P. (Chairman), Consett; T. L. GLEDSTONE (Hon. Treasurer), Consett; or WM. EALES (Hon. Secretary), Consett. 64d

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS.
PRINCIPAL: MISS TAIT.
THOROUGH education including English, Music, Drawing, Painting, and Languages. The Classes for Drawing and Painting are under the tuition of a trained, experienced Mistress, holding the Art Class Teacher's and Art Mistress's Certificates. Pupils prepared for the South Kensington Exams. in Freehand, Model, Geometry and Perspective. Next term commences Monday, January 16th.
15, EAST PARADE.

WINNING NUMBERS of the Stanley Football Club Prize Drawing:—1st Prize, Meerschaum Pipe, 3,615; 2nd, Chamber Set, 2,478; 3rd, Box of Cigars of 50, 1,935; 4th, Lady's Umbrella 558; 5th, Gent.'s Umbrella, 4,220; 6th, Bottle of Whiskey, 793; 7th, Leg of Mutton, 452; 8th, Pair of Gent.'s Shoes, 338; 9th, Pipe and Case, 2,681; 10th, Couple of Rabbits, 4,778; 11th, Pair of Ladies Gloves, 2,493; 12th, Bag of Potatoes, 2,342; 13th, 4lb. of best Tobacco, 776; 14th, Bottle of Port Wine, 4,184; 15th, Pipe and Case, 4,608; 16th, Pipe and Case, 4,824; 17th, Gent.'s Walking Stick, 1,991; 18th, Pair of Pictures, 3,251; 19th, Pair of Vases, 1,107; 20th, 4lb of Tobacco, 2,242; 21st, Silk Muffler, 1,456; 22nd, Pair of Pictures, 3,457.

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.
SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged........	2260	19	0
Singer Manufacturing Co. (Consett Branch.)........		10	6
	£2261	9	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett; or further information from the Hon. Secretaries—Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Brynglass, Consett; or Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.
A GRAND
SACRED CONCERT
Will be given by the
CONSETT IRON CO.'S WORKMEN'S PRIZE BAND,
In the above Theatre, on
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, 1899.
Concert to commence at 7·45 p.m. prompt.
ADMISSION:—To Pit and Gallery, Silver Collection; Side Circle, by Programme 6d. each; Dress Circle, 6d. extra.

DON'T FORGET THE ABOVE
BAND'S SOCIAL
In St. Aidan's Hall, Blackhill,
ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7th, 1899.
To commence at 7·30 p.m.
ADMISSION: ONE SHILLING EACH.
38d First-class Music Guaranteed.

NEW THEATRE,
CONSETT.
Lessee and Manager - MR. HUGH ROBERTSON
(Also of the Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.)
Resident Manager - MR. LLOYD CLARANCE.

Last Three nights of the enormously successful play—THE
"FACE AT THE WINDOW."

MONDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 1899,
Arthur Jefferson's New Play—
"LONDON BY DAY AND NIGHT,"
Introducing the Gordon Boys' Band.

☞ Look out for "The Lady Slavey." 70d

THE EVENT OF THE SEASON.
Direct from The Vaudeville, Newcastle
After three weeks' enormously successful season
ANDREW ROBERTON'S
COLOURED OPERATIC
KENTUCKY MINSTRELS,
PRINCIPAL 30 ARTISTES,
THE KINGS OF REFINED MINSTRELSY,
WILL VISIT
TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
Friday and Saturday, Jan. 20th and 21st.

Doors open at 7·30. Commence at 8 o'clock.
Reserved Seats, 2s.; Unreserved Seats, 1s. 6d; Second Seats, 1s.; Back Seats, 6d.

ON SUNDAY EVENING, JANUARY 22nd,
A GRAND
SACRED CONCERT
Of Vocal and Instrumental Music, will be given by the Kentucky Operatic Minstrels. Doors open at 7·45, commence at 8·15.
Admission by Silver Collection. 52d

"Sing to me the auld Scots Sangs."
GRAND
BURNS' ANNIVERSARY CONCERT
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
ON TUESDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1899.
(Under the joint auspices of the North-West Durham Caledonian Society and Consett and District Club.

MAGNIFICENT ARRAY OF TALENT!
MISS AGNES MURRAY THOMAS,
Soprano, who recently had the honour of singing before Her Majesty the Queen at Balmoral.
MISS LIZZIE HUNTER,
Contralto, the leading Scottish Contralto, a magnificent exponent of Scottish Song.
MR. A. ALEXANDER,
Tenor, a powerful and artistic Vocalist. Unequalled in singing the songs of his native land.
MR. JAMES FLEMING,
Bass, who recently had the honour of singing before Her Majesty the Queen at Balmoral.
MR. HARRY LAUDER,
The Great Scottish Comedian. A Comedian and Vocalist. The famous "Calligan" King of Scottish Character.
MR. CHARLES BAPTIE,
Pianist,
Special Engagement of
PRIZE PIPERS,
Who will play the world-famed skirl "The Cock o' the North," Dances, &c., &c.

ADMISSION: Reserved Seats (Numbered), 2s each; Family Tickets, to admit four, 7s; for five, 8s; for six, 10s. Second Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d.
Tickets can be had of Messrs J. Mathieson, Benfieldside: W. Ramsay, N.E. Bank, Blackhill, or any of the Members of the above Associations. A Plan of the Hall can now be seen at the above-named Office and Seats Booked.
Doors open at 7·15 o'clock, commence at 8. Carriages at 10·15. 47d

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Nathan Elsdon.

Consett Sale Room.
N. ELSDON will SELL on Monday, January 23rd, 1899 at 7 p.m., in his large and commodious Sale Room, measuring 72 feet by 22 feet and fitted up with large Clapton Lights. A large quantity of Furniture, Mens' and Women's new and second-hand Clothing, Iron Bedsteads, Mattresses, Crockery, Pans, Two Sitting-room Suites in Green and Crimson, Inlaid Walnut Sideboard. Surplus Stock from tradesmen and others, stored free of charge and sold on commission.
Office, Delves Lane, Consett. 80d

NATHAN ELSDON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.
N. ELSDON wishes his friends and customers to know that he has the LARGEST AND BEST SALE ROOMS in the district and that he is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and all classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Sell on Commission according to arrangement.
All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction

Sales by Auction.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.
MONDAY, JANUARY 23rd, 1899.
15 to 20 Fat Cattle.
70 to 100 Fat Sheep.
Calves, Pigs, and Poultry, 1 Bacon Pig about 30 st.
Dairy Cows and Heifers.
Seed and Old Land Hay.
Harness, Ropes, Ladders, &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
AFTER which will be SOLD, FURNITURE, viz., a Couch, Washstand and Dressing Table, 2 Small Tables, Whatnot, Cradle, Swing Glass, 4 brackets, 6 Pieces Oilcloth, 2 Maps, 3 Hearthrugs, &c.
Shoemaker's Seat, Bench, and Tools, from the late Mr Wilson, Shotley Bridge, over 100 pair Lasts, all sizes, Toe and Heel Plates, Eyelets, Nails, Pegs, Hammers, Awls, Measures, and all necessary Shoemaker's Tools, &c.
85d J. S. MURRAY.

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

By Mr. T. D. Dryden.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN will SELL BY AUCTION the whole of the FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, No. 10, Brick Row, Blackhall Mill, on Monday, January 23rd, 1899, at 1 o'clock prompt. For particulars see bills.

Sale of Valuable Property.
MR. T. D. DRYDEN, instructed by Mr Joseph Walton, Contractor, will SELL BY AUCTION at the Freemasons' Arms, Consett, on Tuesday, January 24th, 1899, at 7·30 p.m., Two Self-contained DWELLING-HOUSES, Nos. 20 and 22, Stephen Street, Consett; also, a THREE-STALLED STABLE, with Large Loft. The tenants will show the property. Full particulars next week. All information to be had from T. W. Welford, Esq., Solicitor, or the Auctioneer, Mr T. D. Dryden.
N.B.—Any one having Property or Shares can have them put in this sale by applying to the Auctioneer, Front Street, Consett.

By Mr A. Phillipson

Very Important Sale of Large Business Premises.
MR. A. PHILLIPSON is commissioned by the Dipton Equitable Co-operative Society, Ltd., to offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Old Co-operative Hall, Dipton, on Wednesday, February 1st, 1899 at seven o'clock in the evening (subject to such conditions as will then be produced,) all those extensive and splendid PREMISES, known as the old Co-operative Store, in one lot or otherwise.
Comprising:—The large Provision Shop, front and back, with House of Four Rooms, Pantry, and Out-buildings, occupied by Mr James Taylor; Green-grocer's Shop and House of Three Rooms and Pantry, occupied by Mr Rowe; also, a Lock-up Shop, occupied by Mr J. Buttler. Cottage of Two Rooms, &c. behind, in the occupation of Mr Jos. Turnbull; also a capital Stable and Hay Loft; a Spacious Hall above part of the premises, capable of seating 800 persons, all gas fittings are included in the property. Also a piece of land adjoining the main road, comprising 160 sq. yards or thereabouts.
The Furniture, Forms, Chairs, Tables, Shop Fixtures, Counters, &c., will be offered in separate Lots at the close of the Property Sale.
The Premises are substantially built and in good order, situated in the centre of Dipton, and command a yearly rental of nearly £100.
For further particulars and inspection of the Property, apply to Mr J. Riddle, near the premises, or to the Auctioneer, Dipton. 46d

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

By Mr. J. G. Smith.

Hill Top, Dipton.
J. G. SMITH is instructed to offer FOR SALE BY AUCTION (except such part thereof as might previously be disposed of by private treaty) subject to such conditions as will then be read at Mr Freick's, Grey Horse Inn, Hill Top, Dipton, County Durham, on Wednesday, the 25th day of January, 1899, at 6·30 o'clock p.m. prompt, the following FREEHOLD and COPYHOLD PROPERTIES:—
Lot 1.—A Copyhold DWELLING-HOUSE and LAND, containing 129 sq. yards or thereabouts, on the main road at Dipton, adjoining the Blacksmith's Shop, arranged as Flats, containing Three Rooms up and Two down.
Lot 2.—Three Freehold COTTAGES and GROUND at Ewehurst Head, Dipton, each containing Two Rooms, with large Yard, &c., adjoining the main road, in the occupation of Mr Wilkinson and others.
Lot 3. Two Freehold COTTAGES and GROUND, containg 13 perches or thereabouts, at Ewehurst Head, Dipton, each containing Two Rooms, at the rear of the Grey Horse Inn.
Lot 4.—The Field, Freehold, known as "THE SLEEPER FIELD," formerly belonging to Matthew Southren, containing 2 acs. 3 rds. 16 per or thereabouts.
Lot 5.—The Field, Freehold, adjoining Lot 4, known as "ROBINSON'S FIELD," containing 2 acs. 1 rd. 38 per. or thereabouts.
The Houses comprised in Lots 1, 2, and 3, together with two other houses, are let to the South Garesfield Colliery Co. Ltd., at an annual rental of £54.
Lots 4 and 5 are available for Building Sites, and there is a great demand for houses in the neighbourhood.
The nearest Station is the Lintz Green Station on the Blackhill Branch of the North-Eastern Railway.
For further Particulars apply to Edmund E. Hoyte, Esq., Solicitor, 23, Grey Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne, or to the Auctioneer.
3, West Street, Gateshead, 14th January, 1899. 31d

By Mr. John Crawford.

Victoria Street Salerooms, Consett.
MR. J. CRAWFORD is instructed to remove and Sell at the above rooms, on Monday first, January 23rd, the following Valuable FURNITURE, consisting—Drawers, Tables, and Chairs, all in Mahogany; Saddlebag Suite, 9 pieces; Lavender-coloured Suite, 9 pieces; Brass-mounted Bedsteads; a Large Quantity of DRAPERIES, Ladies' Dress Pieces, Skirts, Sheets, Blankets, Shawls, Tablecloths, Linen, &c.
Sale to commence at 1 o'clock, and recommence with Draperies at 6·30 o'clock.

PLUMBERS' STOCK-IN-TRADE will be Sold January 30th. Particulars next week. JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer.

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

MR. JACKSON GREEN,
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.
Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.
All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.
SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,
AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.
SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.
Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

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

Blaydon

DEATH OF AN OLD INHABITANT.—On Tuesday, amid many manifestations of regret, the remains of the late Mr Thomas Forster, one of the oldest and most highly respected residents of Blaydon, were interred in Blaydon Churchyard. The deceased, who was 84 years of age, was a miner, and had lived at Blaydon almost all his life, during which time he formed many acquaintances. It is worthy of note that there are a total of 136 living descendants of the deceased, viz:—Five sons and two daughters, 60 grandchildren, and 69 great grandchildren.

Lintz Colliery

ACCIDENT AT LOW FRIARSIDE.—On Friday, as a man named James Sinclair was hewing in a low seam, a fall of stone broke his arm and injured other parts of his body. He was taken home, and afterwards conveyed to Newcastle Infirmary.

DIARIES FOR 189., from 6d. upwards for vest pocket, coat pocket, or desk, at the "Guardian" Office, Consett. Lists free.

☞ Will shortly be commenced in the Columns of
The
"Consett Guardian."

TO AVENGE GORDON!
OR
The Last Dash for Khartoum.
A TALE OF LOVE AND WAR.

A NEW AND ORIGINAL STORY, full of Striking Incidents and Sensational Situations.
By MR. J. S. BORLASE.
Author of "Darker than Death," "Riches to Ruin," "An Ocean Secret," "Recalled to Life," &c.

AS a "Story of the Sad Soudan," this stirring Military Romance should prove very attractive at the present time.
Kitchener's Dash for Khartoum, with the heroic deeds of our gallant British Soldiery and their Allies, will be painted in a series of glowing word-pictures, alternating with powerful descriptions of the awful tragedies daily occurring in the Khalifa's Capital, OMDURMAN, "The City of a Thousand Terrors," as one who was kept captive therein for thirteen long years has aptly named it.

Real Characters! Actual Events!
True Adventures!

and, with the exception of the three opening chapters, which describe the murder of the saintly GORDON, the massacre of the Christian population of Khartoum, and the terrible rending asunder of two fond lovers, the beautiful English girl to become the slave of the Madhi and the young Dragoon Officer to be deprived of his reason, until the long-delayed hour of retributive justice restored it to him.

All the Wondrous Incidents of the Exciting Narrative occurred during AUGUST and SEPTEMBER of 1898.

THE TALE will tell how a lovely and wealthy and young English girl, abandoning all the attractions of the gay world, donned the Red Cross, and became an Army Nurse, in the hope of thereby discovering her long-lost sister and father, whom she believed to be prisoners at Omdurman; and it will narrate the gallant deeds of her lover, an officer in that now famous regiment the 21st Lancers, with their startling and thrilling adventures, both when separated and when occasionally together.
More touching still, and far more terrible, will be the sufferings, persecutions and perils of the elder sister, who, for thirteen long years had been the helpless and hapless captive of the terrible Khalifa, and of her half-insane betrothed, the ex-Dragoon Officer, who, dazed of intellect as he is, has ever been seeking her, and at length is destined to find her and his lost memory as well.
Three of the real characters introduced into the narrative will be CHARLES NEUFIELD, SLATIN PASHA and SISTER TERESA GRIGOLINI, the only surviving Nun of the Italian Mission, all of whom endured terrible sufferings under the tyranny of the atrocious Khalifa.

☞ Will shortly be commenced in the Columns of
The
"Consett Guardian."

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM ATNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.
SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. ☞ DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, January 20th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

AS A RULE, THE MEETINGS of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board are of a very humdrum character, but the last two gatherings of that body have been of a rather lively nature. No doubt this will come as a welcome change to our readers. The new order of things has arisen principally upon the initiative of Mr. T. C. Elliott, who seems far from satisfied with the manner in which the business had been conducted in the past. At Tuesday night's meeting of the Board Mr. Elliott moved that the deeds of the school be handed over to the Board, and that the Clerk be instructed to deliver them to the treasurer, and receive a suitable acknowledgment of the same. Now, the deeds in question have been in the possession of Mr. Muse for the past 22 years, for the reason, as he himself explained, that he had been requested to keep them in his safe as a secure place. It will strike most people, we venture to think, that the deeds would have continued to be just as safe in the custody of Mr. Muse as in those of the treasurer to the Board, whoever he may be, and we must confess that we are unable to quite grasp the drift of Mr. Elliott's action. Perhaps there is something in it that does not exactly appear upon the surface, but, in any case, Mr. Muse will probably not consider it any hardship to hand over the precious documents to the Clerk of the Board.

THIS LITTLE MATTER having been disposed of, paved the way for another personal discussion. The following motion stood in Mr. Muse's name:—"I hereby give notice to Mr. T. C. Elliott for his withdrawal and apology for the false statement he persisted reiterated at our last meeting, as to the teaching staff being equal to 280 in 1896." It transpired, however, that Mr. Elliott had withdrawn his statement, and that Mr. Muse had accepted it. Probably the matter would have ended here had not the Chairman, with doubtful taste, said that he would not accept Mr. Elliott's withdrawal in the light of an apology at all, but simply as a withdrawal of figures. Mr. Golightly followed this up by saying that the apology should have come from the other side of the table for the grossly insulting remarks which had been used to Mr. Elliott. We certainly agree that Mr. Muse might have used more courteous language towards the gentleman named at the meeting in question, but what was to be gained by raking this all up again? One would have thought that the Chairman would have tried to pour oil on the troubled waters instead of taking a contrary course. Mr. Elliott, to his credit be it said, was evidently not enamoured of the manner in which the Chairman attempted to champion his cause, and plainly intimated that he would prefer to let the matter drop altogether. As he truly obsedved, there had been plenty of unpleasantness. If we might throw out a suggestion to the members, we would advise them to sink their own petty differences, and pull together as one man in the noble work of education. By doing this they would act to the benefit of both the ratepayers and the children. Cliqueism is a thing to be detested, especially on public bodies.

AFTER A LONG AND protracted delay, the Annfield Plain Urban Council have made up their minds to provide themselves with better housing accommodation. They probably think that after the Surveyor's recent observations on overcrowding have ben adopted and enforced in the cases of other delinquents, their example in that direction would carry more weight with offenders than merely threatening legal proceedings. Be that as it may, they decided on Tuesday evening to adopt the committee's recommendation to purchase the land adjoining the cemetery on which to erect Council offices. As usual, there was some amount of the opposition element manifested by Couns. Storey and Down, who pleaded in favour of the offices being built at Catchgate. When their amendment to the committee's recommendation was defeated Coun. Storey made a final effort to thwart the proposal by seconding Coun. Johnson's amendment to let the matter rest a little longer. However, the other members of the committee spoke their minds in plain and unmistakeable language, and when the vote was taken, had the satisfaction of knowing that their recommendation was adopted. Coun. Johnson favoured the scheme which we suggested when the discussion on the subject was first introduced, and had consulted the Surveyor on the point, who, it seems, did not consider it a practicable step. As is well known, Coun. Down has a strong weakness for Annfield Plain, and would, if allowed, remove everything of importance into that particular village, consequently it was natural for him to favour any scheme which might be introunced for erecting offices, or other important buildings, in the said Annfield Plain district. Since it has been decided to build at Hare Law, his little project will remain an unrealised aerial idealism seeing that the Council prefer to cherish the companionship of the blessed dead rather than enjoy the facilities afforded by being in closer connection with the train service or telegraph office.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT STEP which the Annfield Plain Council has recently taken is the removal of the stone wall on the Marquis of Bute's land between the Black Bull Inn and the Bute Arms, Dipton, which has now been acknowledged by his Lordship's agents to be an encroachment on the highway. The encroachment is said to have been made in 1844, or thereabouts, by the then tenant of the Bute Arms, the late John Fenwick. But times and things have so much changed since then that now the strip of land has been wanted for the purposes of a footpath improvement, and although many years ago, the villagers might think their rights had been wrested for ever from their unwilling hands, those remaining will soon have the satisfaction of seeing their long-lost son return to the loving, outstretched arms of the newly formed local authority, who will take good care not to allow it to wander back into the hands of wealthy landowners. The commencement of operations took place last Wednesday afternoon in the presence of several members of the Council. The commander-in-chief of the small army of workers, the roadmen, was the surveyor, Mr. T. J. Trowsdale, whose orders were promptly obeyed and carried into execution. The first point of the attack was at the high end of the wall, near the public conveniences, where an opening was made in the wall, while at the low end a similar breach was completed without any serious loss. Then the fury of the contingent was let loose on the black boards in front of the Delight Rows, which have proved a great annoyance to those who have a strong liking for the beauties of the renowned Derwent Valley, visible from the front windows. With remarkable rapidity these black-faced giants succumbed to the constant fire of the enemy, and the whole of the line was laid in a horizontal position, where they now await identification by their friends, the Dipton Wanderers Football Club. In connection with the plan of campaign, a length of sewage pipes are to be laid in what used to be the open gutter, an arrangement which will obviate the great effluvia so common in hot weather. Then the footpath, which at present is far too narrow, is to be widened to a width of eight or nine feet to provide an inadequate travelling way, made of ashphalt for the many who use it.

THE VILLAGE GREEN question has troubled the minds of the Lanchester Parish Councillors for a long time now, therefore it is satisfactory to learn that there is likely to be a solution of the difficulty in the near future. The matter has been a bone of contention for a lengthy period between the Parish Council and the Local Government Board, but it really looks now as if the local authority were about to substantiate their claim to and governance over the green to, at any rate, a sufficiently practical extent. It is not quite clear whether they will be empowered to levy tolls, however, on those using the green for grazing or other purposes; but this apart, it will be very satisfactory if they obtain control of the green for the full and complete use and advantage of the parishoners. Perhaps, when this comes about, we shall not hear of certain sign-posts being carted away from the green in the middle of the night and placed under the bedroom windows of innocent and respectable inhabitants, to the natural annoyance of the latter. No, the Parish Council will then see that this wild and somewhat unusual form of amusement is put a stop to, and the said innocent and respectable inhabitants will rejoice accordingly.

IF THE VOLUNTEER movement does not flourish in Consett, the same cannot be said of it so far as Weardale is concerned. Our Stanhope correspondent writes as follows:—"The Volunteer movement just now is very popular in the Wear Valley. The young Britishers in the dale are patriotic, and numbers of young men are joining the Stanhope Corps, and the list of our citizen soldiers will soon reach 120. The War Office should pay more attention to our Volunteers, and augment their strength wherever they can, despite the peace rescript of the Czar. The millenium is not yet, with Russia's 7,000,000 soldiers and the building of 28 battleships. She should set us a better example." We quite agree with our correspondent that the War Office Authorities should pay more attention to the Volunteers, but, in place of encouraging young men to join our citizen army, they seem to be pursuing an exactly opposite course. As an instance of this, we need only point to the obstacles placed in the way of those who are trying so hard to promote a corps for Consett and district. We could easily start a corps two or three hundred strong if only the War Office Authorities would give their sanction.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "ROSICRUCIAN."]

AN APPROPRIATE TESTIMONIAL.

It may be said of Mr. James Tailford that he has literally carved his way into the affections of his fellow commercial travellers. One of a band of those happy and jovial gentlemen, through whose services public necessaries in all shapes and forms are supplied, and who assemble fortnightly in a West Stanley restaurant, he has been in the habit of wielding the carvers, and of thus performing a function the necessity of which need not be further demonstrated. On the occasion of their first gathering in the new year, Mr. Tailford was pleasantly surprised by being made the recipient of a pair of handsome carvers suitably inscribed. Apparently it was an acknowledgement of services already rendered, and a considerable hint for favours to come.

TEACHERS' SALARIES.

Mr. Little, the headmaster of West Stanley Board Schools, can have very little reason to be satisfied with the manner in which his application for an increase of salary has been treated by the Tanfield School Board. He was entitled to a reply of some kind, but as matters stand he will probably read in the "Guardian" the report of the meeting, which will tell him that at some future date the whole question is to be gone into. This could have been done at the time the application was made; but instead, a notice of motion was given, and the Clerk to the Board drew the only inference which could reasonably have been drawn, and that was an intention to discuss Mr. Little's salary with a view to an increase. It seems, however, that it was only intended to raise the matter with a view to a discussion on the whole scale at a future meeting. An incongruous position surely. What need was there to give notice at all if that was the intention? It simply had a tendency to raise a false hope in the mind of an applicant, and bring about a corresponding measure of disappointment. It is a case of hope deferred, but for how long?

MR. DARNEY'S CASE.

Father Thompson made another attempt to have Mr. Darney fully reinstated to the position of a head teacher—i.e., to pay him the salary of a head teacher as well as to name him one. The proposal was ill-timed, and discussion upon it deprecatory. Mr. Darney's position has been so fully explained—and comparatively recently so—that his interests would be better consulted, by silent acquiescence in the position as it stands for the present. These little outbursts, however, prove one thing, and that is the early necessity for the Board to go minutely into the whole question of staffing and salaries, and have it settled on a firm and satisfactory basis all round.

CONSETT.

PRESENTATION.—At the Black Horse Hotel Consett, on Wednesday night week, Mr Thos. Foster, late manager of the Black Horse Hotel, was the recipient of a handsome marble timepiece presented by a few of his friends in Consett, on the occasion of his leaving Consett to undertake the position of manager at Sunderland. Mr. R. Baister occupied the chair, and in the course of his opening remarks mentioned the regret of Mr. Foster's numerous friends on the occasion of his leaving the town, and called upon Mr Stephenson to make the presentation.—Mr Stephenson said it gave him great pleasure to have the honour of acting in such a capacity on this occasion, and among other remarks said that he was sure the goodwill of all his friends went with Mr Foster upon leaving Consett. In handing over the presentation he said he hoped when he looked at the timepiece it would remind him of his friends at Consett. (Applause.)—Mr Foster suitably responded; and a pleasant evening was finished with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."—Songs were rendered by Messrs R. Buddle, Duffy, Slack, Foster, and Stephenson.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Messrs Armadale, Dempster, and Warren's "Face at the Window" company are paying a welcome return visit to this theatre, and are drawing good houses. Since its last visit new sets of scenery have been painted for the piece, which add greatly to its beauty. Many of the company are not unknown to local playgoers, as was evidenced by the hearty greetings they received as they severally appeared in the course of the piece. This was particularly noticeable on the appearance of Mr Edward Vivian ("Paul Gouffett," the detective) and Mr E. Hoggan-Armadale ("Lucio Delgado," alias "Le Loup"), and that the applause was in every way thoroughly deserved their representation of the two parts fully proved, being nothing less than masterpieces of histrionic art. Mr T. W. Dunscombe follows them very closely in his delineation of the part of "Lucian Courtier," a discharged clerk, and Miss Marion Turner wins the approbation of the audiences in the part of "Marie de Brisson," his sweetheart. The part of "Henri de Brisson" is in the capable hands of Mr Leonard Montgomery, while Mr F. Strickland, jun., is an able "Le Blanc," a doctor with peculiar ideas of the possibilities to be achieved with the aid of electricity. Miss Jeannie Dempster appears to great advantage as "La Pinau." The comedy parts are fairly well taken by Mr Henry Osmau ("Peter Pottlebury") and Miss Louie Scott ("Babette"), creating frequent outbursts of laughter.—Next week, Mr Arthur Jefferson, assisted by a strong company, will appear in his highly successful piece, "London by Day and Night." This piece is produced on a very large scale, and in addition to a large and capable company there are some ten or twelve members of the band of the Gordon Boys' Brigade. A large number of local children have been engaged, and will appear in a most realistic scene, representing a children's treat in Epping Forest. No expense is being spared to make the piece as perfect as possible, and local playgoers should not fail to spare at least one night to witness this grand production.

Employees' Social at Dipton

On Tuesday evening the fourth annual social, promoted by the employees of the Dipton Branch of the Annfield Plain Cooperative Society, was held in the Infant Department of the Collierley Board Schools, Dipton. There was a good assemblage of employees and their friends, who seemed to enjoy the evening's amusement, which was ably arranged by the committee—Miss Robson, Messrs J. Ramsay, R. T. Batey, D. Mole, and C. Thornton. The M.C.'s, Messrs Batey and C. Thornton, discharged their onerous duties with marked ability and success, while Mr. W. Robson, of Stanley, supplied the musical accompaniments in an efficient manner. The refreshments, which were supplied by Mr. G. Murray, of Dipton, were excellent, and gave entire satisfaction. Dancing was continued vigorously until three a.m. on Wednesday morning, after which the company dispersed. Amongst those present were:—Mr. and Mrs. A. Brown, Annfield Plain; Mr. R. T. Batey, Mr. J. Ramsay, Mr. C. Thornton, Mr. T. Robson, Mr. T. Elsdon, Mr. and Mrs. G. Morson, Dipton; Mr. T. Kirsopp and Miss Todd, Mr. J. Beatham, Miss Foster; Miss Robson, Dipton; Miss Robinson, Mr. A. Murray, Mr. T. A. Robinson, Mr. A. Robinson, Miss Gibson, Miss L. Hunter, Miss A. Wilkinson Mr. W. Lawson and Miss S. Wilkinson, Miss Craigie, Mr. G. Riddle, Mr. and Mrs. P. Robson, Miss Wilson, Mrs. M. Johnson, Mrs. W. Young, Mr. D. Mole, Dipton; Misses Ledger, Annfield Plain; Mr. J. Hodge, Hare Law; Miss Hunter, Witton Gilbert; Miss Wylam, Mr. and Mrs. F. Turnbull, Mr. Gray, Annfield Plain; Mr. J. Hardy, Dipton; Mr. J. Bowes, Dipton; Mr. J. Bolam, Flint Hill; Miss Gatiss, Dipton; Mr. R. Mason, Mr. W. Daglish, Mr. Larmouth, Mr. A. Smith, Mr. R. E. Herdman, Mr. R. A. Aitken Mr. and Mrs. R. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon, Mr. R. Maude, Mr. R. Thornton, and many others. During the evening several songs were ably rendered by Mr. Tom Holland, Catchgate, Mr. Pudge, and Miss S. Wilkinson.

A TERRIBLE SUNDAY.

CHURCHGOER'S PREDICAMENT.

This startling narrative was given by Mrs M'Dougall, who stays at 8, Allan Park Street, Largs, a well-known visitors' resort on the Firth of Clyde:—
"There is a Sunday which I shall never forget. I went to the Communion, feeling as well as could be, but at service I became light in the head, and when I tried to walk home I failed. Two of the Elders seeing my plight came up to me, and by that time I could hardly speak, for an indescribable pain had got hold of me right across my chest and round to my back. They assisted me home, and I was put to bed. My heart was thumping. The doctor was summoned, and he could not tell what was wrong with me. It was impossible for me to rise, and daily and weekly I grew worse; my appetite left me and my breath: I dreaded I would be suffocated; I could not sleep, and I was, in short, so ill that I verily believed I was about to leave the world. For three months I was in this awful state. I could not move, and I vomited everything I ate. Next the pain went into my arms and down my legs, and as I could not move either, I thought 'Surely I have had a stroke.' My nerves seemed to get quite the better of me, and I lay more like death than life. My family were quite resigned to my leaving them for ever, and to have had my awful sufferings relieved by death would have been welcome. I thought my state could not have been more woeful, but to crown all, there accompanied the shortness of breath a severe attack of bronchitis. Not being able to swallow the least particle of food, the flesh began to fall off my body, though you may hardly think it is possible that a woman of my dimensions could have become so thin as to alarm my family."
"And what cured you, Mrs M'Dougal?" observed the interviewer.
"Well, what cured me only cost the price of one visit from a doctor, and that was Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, which I bought after hearing of the cure of a young friend of mine. After I had taken the contents of the first box I felt I was on the bettering way. I continued taking the pills, and before very long I was not only able to leave my bed, but walk about the house. My family urged me to continue the pills, and I did so, for I found that I was fast regaining strength. My appetite was returning, my sickness was passing away, as was also the palpitation and the tight pain I had across my breast and back. Dr. Williams' Pink Pills also banished the bronchitis, and I could not find words to express my thanks for them."
Mrs M'Dougall's daughter, who was sitting listening to the story, said: "I think it is only right that I should tell you also the untold good which the contents of one box of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills did to me as well. But before doing so, let me corroborate every word that my mother has uttered. My impression at first was that she had had a stroke, for she became practically powerless. Her face assumed a death colour, and we were quite prepared for the change. Little did we think that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills could work such a marvellous cure, but certainly they did it in my mother's case. But about myself, I was a martyr to giddiness, and after taking any food I suffered from flatulence. Nothing I took seemed to agree with me, and I became quite dull and depressed. I had palpitation, and the least thing seemed to worry me. I felt inclined to avoid company, because I was always afraid that the strange feeling I suffered from would come over me. I did not know what was wrong with me. I think it was nervousness. At any rate I said, 'I'll try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills.' Well, I took the contents of one box, and I say it in all truthfulness, I was cured of the nervous sensation, the flatulency, the giddiness, and the palpitation."
The terrible nervous disorders from which both these ladies suffered, particularly the mother (who doubtless had a slight stroke of paralysis), are instances of the extreme cases that Dr. Williams' Pink Pills have repeatedly cured, and are constantly curing. It is not surprising, therefore, that less severe ailments yield to their influence. Neuralgia, nervous dyspepsia, St. Vitus' dance, paralysis, and locomotor ataxy—all in their degree nerve ailments—have been cured. The pills are not a purgative, but they are a blood enricher and blood purifier; by removing the cause they cure such diseases as anæmia (or bloodless), debility, rheumatism, sciatica, and gout; and they have saved the lives of thousands on the brink of consumption, or suffering from the first attacks of the latter. Though sold by chemists, they may also be obtained from Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, 46, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., at 2/6 a box or six boxes for 13/9. Pills sold loose or from glass jars are not genuine.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

ST. CUTHBERT'S MAGAZINE.—The January number of this interesting periodical contains Chapter V. of "John Dobby's better nature," "What changes were made at the English Reformation," "Church progress at home and abroad," "Simon Drake," "The dead preacher," "The dark continent," and a chapter on "The rat."

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH MISSION.—On Sunday, Mr. W. Kelly, of Stanley, conducted the services in the Co-operative Hall. The afternoon's subject was on the "Goodness of God." In the evening he discoursed on "The Redemption." The congregations were good, considering the weather. Select pieces were sung by the choir, under the leadership of Mr T. Prinn, organist, Mr W. Reynolds.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 18th.—Before, Lieut.-Col. Cook (in the chair), and Mr G. Duberley.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following cases of drunkenness were dealt with:—Edward Burnside, 7/6 and costs; John Watkins, 5/- and costs; Mary A. Ferguson, 5/- and costs; John Telford, 5/- and costs; John Handley, 2/6 and costs; Thomas Brannon, 5/- and costs, Edward Fieron, 7/6 and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

John Young, Joseph Henderson, and Jas. Carr were convicted of doing wilful damage to a field at the Flatts, on Jan. 7th, the property of Mr Robt. Ryle, and were fined 2/6 each, 6d. damage and the costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Moses Soulsby, sen., and Moses Soulsby, jun., pleaded guilty to a charge of being quarrelsome and refusing to quit the licensed premises of Peter Graham, at Pelton on Dec. 26th. Mr. Turnbull prosecuted and said the defendants went into the house at about half-past five and started quarelling. They were requested to leave and they became very abusive and really had possession of the house for half-an-hour. The father was fined 5/- and costs, and the son 10/- and costs.

GAME TRESPASS.

Wm. Grey, and John Henderson were charged with having trespassed in pursuit of game near Andrews House, on Dec. 24th. —A keeper said he saw the defendants leave the waggon way and hunt some whins. They then went into a field and killed a rabbit. Witness claimed the rabbit and Grey drew his knife and said he would "put it straight through."—Supt. Rutherford said Grey was a very old and useless man and would not hurt witness.—Witness: I would not give him a chance now.—Neither defendants appeared and Grey was fined 40/- and costs, and Henderson 10/- and costs.

CHARGE OF MALICIOUS WOUNDING.

John Poulton, tailor, was charged with having wilfully and maliciously wounded his son, John James Poulton, at Chester-le-Street, on Jan. 6th.—The complainant said he was a miner living with his father at Chester-le-Street. He went into the house and his father, who was in bed, commenced quarelling with him about his brother's union card. Complainant told him to speak to his brother about it as he did not want to argue with him. Defendant told him to go out of the house, and he replied that his father could not put him out as he was not 21. His father got out of bed and put his clothes on. He then picked up the poker and coal-rake and began swinging them. Complainant rushed for the door and his father hit him on the head with either the poker or coal-rake. He bled a great deal and had to be attended by a doctor for a week.—Dr. Warner, assistant to Dr. Renton, said the plaintiff came to him suffering from a scalp wound about three inches long. It was cut to the bone but there was no fracture. He was very faint and became insensible for two or three minutes through loss of blood. He was now out of danger.—P.C. Parkinson said he apprehended the prisoner, and in answer to thecharge he said, "Yes, I struck him on the head with the poker. If I had not hit him he would have hit me."—In answer to the Clerk the complainant said he wished his father to be dealt with at that court.—The charge was then reduced to one of common assault and the Bench inflicted a fine of £5 including costs.

THEFT BY A YOUNG WOMAN.

Hannah Davy, a young woman, was charged with having stolen a watch, an albert, a gold dress ring, and a leather purse containing 5/-, valued in all at £2 7s 6d, the property of Elizabeth Winstanley, servant at the Chester-le-Street Isolation Hospital.—Evidence was given to show that defendant was also a servant at the hospital and left suddenly. After she had gone the articles named were missed. Defendant went to a lodging-house at Easington and gave the ring to Martha Forster. She afterwards went to Sunderland and pledged the watch and albert with Mr Charles Page.—The defendant now pleaded guilty and it was stated that she had committed a similar offence at Sunderland and had on the previous day been sentenced to six months imprisonment by the Sunderland magistrates.—She was now sentenced to six months to run concurrently with the Sunderland conviction.

SERIOUS CHARGE AGAINST A MINER.

Charles Hailes, miner, was charged with unlawfully knowing Ann Harris, 15 years of age, at Harraton, on the 20th of Dec.—Mr F. Harle prosecuted and Mr John Turnbull defended.—Mr Harle said the plaintiff resided with her parents at Ouston Square. On the day named at 11 o'clock in the morning she was sent on an errand to Chester-le-Street. She went down the line, through the cuts, and then on to High Flatts, past Smith Pelaw Colliery to Chester-le-Street. After she left home she fell in with a woman and walked so far with her, and while so a man who had evidently just come from his work at the pits passed them. The man spoke to her and said, "Hollos Annie, is that you," and she replied, "Hollos Charlie." Complainant walked on to Chester-le-Strtet, made her purchases and return by the same road. When near Pelaw Colliery she observed the defendant come round the corner at the Colliery Offices. He went on in front about 30 or 40 yards to the Cuts. When there the defendant turned round, went up to her, threw her down, and committed an assault upon her. After having done so he got up and went away, but seeing that the complainant did not get up he returned and helped her up, and then hurried back to the Flatts. Complainant went home and made a complaint to her mother and information was given to the police which resulted in the defendant being apprehended. On the second time of seeing the man the complainant would say that he was dressed in a dark suit with a light cap, and that he had only been partially washed. —Ann Harris corroborated the opening statement and added that when she shouted the defendant took a knife from his waistcoat pocket and said, "If you don't shut up I'll stab you." She had known Hailes for six months and she was sure he was the man who assaulted her.—Cross-examined she said when she got home she told her mother it was a man like Charlie Hailes. She did not tell Jane Ann Fenwick that the man who assaulted her had a "blotty" face and that she did not know who he was. She did not tell James Richardson it was not Charley Hailes; that she would know Charley Hailes out of a thousand.—Ellen Harris, mother of complainant, having given evidence, Annie E. Blastable, housekeeper to a hind at High Flatts, said she saw Hailes go past on the 30th December just after they had finished dinner.—Robert Atkin, innkeeper, High Flatts, said Hailes was in his house on the day in question. He would be in for about two hours and went out at 10 minutes to 2. He was in his pit clothes and his face was black with coal dust.—Dr. Miller, Pelton, having given evidence, P.C. Buckley stated that he apprehended the defendant who, in answer to the charge, said he could bring witnesses to clear himself.—For the defence Mr Turnbull said there was not a tittle of evidence of corroboration of the girl's story that his client was the man who committed the offence. He would be able to show that his client was elsewhere and that in the time mentioned there was a material discrepancy. Apart from the evidence given by Atkin he would be able to prove an unmistakable alibi.—Defendant went into the box and said he was a married man. He had been married about twelve months. On the day in question he returned from the pit a few minutes after 11o'clock and met Ann Harris and Mrs Bates. Harris said, "What cheer, Charlie," and he answered "Is that Annie!" He did not see her again that day. He went into Atkin's house, the Plough Inn, at ten minutes to twelve and remained there until ten minutes to two. He was never out during that time. He knew nothing about the charge until the following Wednesday.—Mrs Hailes, Mary Ann Habron, servant at the Plough Inn; Robert John Walton, cartman for a soda water firm, all gave evidence to the effect that the defendant was in the Plough Inn (two doors from defendant's house) between 10 to 12 and 12 to 2.—Mary Ann Fenwick said the girl told her about the assault and said the man had a "blotty" face, but she did not know who it was.—Mr Turnbull had other witnesses, but the Bench stopped the case and the Chairman said it would be dismissed for want of evidence against the accused.

STANLEY.

BENEFIT CONCERT.—On Wednesday night, a benefit concert in aid of Mr. Thomas Nicholson, who has for 18 months been unable to follow his employment through ill-health, was held in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley. Mr. Burt presided over a large audience, and announced that all the artistes had generously given their services free. An excellent programme was submitted, and thoroughly appreciated. Those who took part were the Bros. Calder, musical coons and speciality artistes, of Newcastle, whose clever performance met with great approval; Masters H. and F. and Miss Carlyon; the Bros. Macks, juvenile dancers and comedians; Mr. Henry Percy, quick changing artiste; Miss Wheatley, soprano; Miss Fiddes, contralto; Mr. R. Neil, concertina soloist, Newcastle; and Mr. Henry Pearson, pianist. It is satisfactory to know that the kindness of the artistes, and the efforts of the promoters, will result in a goodly sum being handed over to the beneficiare, who is a married man with several children.

Local and District News.

Consett.

THE REV. STEGGALL MEMORIAL FUND.—Intending subscribers are reminded that this fund will close on February 1st. Contributions will be thankfully received by Mr. W. Aynsley, J.P., Mr. T. L. Gledstone, North-Eastern Bank, or Mr. Wm. Eales, Stephen Street, Consett.

NEW TOWN HALL.—On Sunday evening the world-famed Kentucky Minstrels will give a grand sacred concert in the above hall. The programme, which is an excellent one, will consist of vocal and instrumental music, and will be worth listening to. The time fixed for commencing is 8.15 p.m. and the music-loving public should not miss the opportunity of hearing these renowned artistes.

NEW TOWN HALL.—On Tuesday evening, Jan. 31st, a grand Burns' anniversary concert will be given in the above hall, under the auspices of the North-West Durham Caledonian Society and Consett Cricket Club, by a magnificent array of talent. In addition to the vocolists one of whom recently had the honour of singing before Her Majesty the Queen at Balmoral, a company of prize pipers have been engaged to play the famous skirl, "The cock o' the north," etc.

MEETING OF POSTMEN.—On Sunday afternoon a meeting of postmen employed in Consett and district was held in the I.L.P. Rooms, Consett. There was a large attendance presided over by Mr Smith (President of the Newcastle Branch of the Federation of Postmen), who stated that the object of the meeting was to get the postmen employed at Consett and the surrounding villages federated. It was decided to form a branch of the Federation to be called Consett and District, and the following officers were appointed for the ensuing twelve months:—President, Mr J. Spence, Blackhill; secretary, Mr. White, Shotley Bridge; treasurer, Mr Alf. Spence, Blackhill. A strong working committee was also appointed, and a large number of those present enrolled themselves members of the newly-formed association.

Stanley.

ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday evening, John Baker employed at the Hopper connected with Stanley Colliery, had the misfortune to fall over the quay wall, and badly injure himself. He was conveyed to a house in John Street, where he received all necessary attention.

Mr. Geo. Ridley, J.P., of Stanley House, West Stanley, continues, we regret to say, in a delicate state of health. He is being attended by Dr. Beuson, who has also had the advice of Dr. Drummond, of Newcastle.

"THE INDIAN MUTINY."—As on previous visits to the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, this stirring and realistic drama, illustrative of incidents in the terrible Indian Mutiny, has been drawing crowded houses, and the manner in which it has been produced has given the utmost satisfaction. Splendid new scenery has been introduced, and for stage effect nothing better has been seen at the of the leading parts, and it will be gathered that the drama has had an educational as well as an entertaining effect upon the audiences.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—On Saturday night the 91st quarterly meeting of the West Stanley Co-operative Society was held, when the report and balance sheet, which have been given, were read and adopted, as was also the 12th report of the Burnopfield Farm, showing a net profit of £35 17s 4d. Mr Wm. Hewison was unanimously re-elected president, and Mr T. Armstrong treasurer. There were eight nominations in place of Messrs Matthew Pearson and A. Kuhlman on the committee, and Messrs H. Hardy and Robt. Summerbell were elected. Mr Wm. Simpson was re-elected treasurer.

NEW ORGAN AT OXHILL.

The Primitive Methodists of Oxhill have recently had erected in their chapel a handsome new organ at a cost of a hundred guineas. It was to have been formally opened on New Year's eve, but owing partly to illness and partly to pressure of work, the builders, Messrs Blackett and Howdon, of Newcastle, were unable to complete their task in time. Since then, however, the instrument has been in use at their services, and it is intended at an early date to hold a concert and recital in lieu of the opening ceremony. The following is a description of the organ:—
Manual Compass CC to A .... 58 notes
Pedal Compass CCC to F ...... 30 notes
Great organ.
1 Open diapason, 8 feet .... 58 notes
2 Lieblich Gedact, 8 feet........ 58 notes
3 Viol de Gamba, 8 feet........ 58 notes
4 Viox Celeste, 8 feet........ 46 notes
5 Principal, 4 feet .... 56 notes
Pedal organ.
6 Bourdon, 16 feet........ 30 notes
Coupler.
7 Great to Pedal
The keys are in oak frames with music desk and key fittings, the keys being bushed and worked on oval pins at the front end. In the draw stop action the knobs are of the best ivory and ebony, with oak rods and bushed rings. The trundles are of iron, brass cased, with iron arms, black japanned, working in hardwood frames. The levers are of hardwood, working on steel centres, and the draw rods are of selected yellow pine. The manual actions are of mahogany, bushed squares, best pine trackers, and plated tapped wires. The roller board is of selected material with brass rollers bushed, iron frames, and working on plated centres through bushed hardwood studs. The pedals are of birch, and built to the requirements of the College of Organists, concaved and fitted according to the builders' pneumatic consol, and pneumatic action on the pedal soundboard. The soundboards are of the best selected yellow pine, the tables and slides being of hardwood, and fitted in the lower notes with split pallets and are of ample width to allow of speaking room for all the pipes. The pedal soundboards are fitted with the builders' improved silent pneumatic action, having a full supply of wind with a perfect repetition. The pedal pipes are painted in flat colour. The bellows are of pine, with two feeders taped and leathered and of a very durable nature. The swell box is of substantial thickness and capable of producing a splendid crescendo effect. The building frame is also of substantial thickness and bolted together with iron bolts and nuts, and painted in flat colour. The pipes are of metal and best organ metal up to middle C, above which they are all of the best spotted metal. The pipes are artistically voiced, carefully regulated, and tuned to a temperature of 60 degrees.

Beamish Air and Stanley Aged Miners' Fund

A meeting of the committee appointed by the workmen of the Beamish Air and East Stanley Collieries in connection with the Superannuation and Permanent Disabled Miners' Funds was held on Tuesday week at the Stanley Inn, West Stanley. Mr Wm. Maddison (president) occupied the chair, and there was also present Messrs R. Thompson (treasurer), Joseph Watson (secretary), M. Welsh, Geo. Winwood, John Robson, Wm. Wears, T. Prescott, Wm. Weldon, T. Wilson, A. Rowell, J. Anderson, and T. Thominson.—In reference to the aged miners' supper in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley, last month, when upwards of 100 sat down to an excellent repast, it was stated that the expenses amounted to £14 8s 5d, which left a balance of £18 7s 0d. After carefully considering the accounts it was decided to give each member of the superannuation and permanent disabled miners' funds a grant of 6s, which would leave a small balance to be carried forward. The committee had to acknowledge the following subscriptions:—£2 from Mr T. D. Eden; £1 from Major Joicey; 10s each from Messrs L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P., T. Wright, James Deuchar, the Newcastle Breweries Company, J. Laybourne, and a friend from the Beamish Offices; 5s each from Messrs J. Forster, G. Forster, Cooke, Dr Benson, Anderson, and Geo. Ridley; 2s 6d each from Messrs J. Watson (Royal Hotel), J. Peadon, M. J. Starford, R. J. English, Clark, Summerbell, T. Murray, and J. Forsythe; 2s each from Messrs R. Boal, W. Meikle, R. Kay, Beamish, G. H. Pattison, and B. Johnson. In addition they had the following levies:—Mary Pit, £4 11s 8d; Air Pit, £3 14s; and East Stanley Pit, £2 12s 9d, together with 15s 6d from the officials of the Air Pit, and 15s from the Store employees. Other contributions included 2lbs of tobacco from Mr R. Sinclair, 1lb of tobacco from Mr T. Wilson, and a bag of potatoes from Mr Bates. On the motion of Mr Winwood, seconded by Mr Welsh, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the donors and also to the president, secretary, and treasurer, for the able manner in which they had carried out their duties.

Alberta: I see that Miriam and Mr. Bertwhistle's engagement is off. Athleta: Yes; he bought a bicycle that wasn't the same make as hers.

Mrs. Chinwork: Seems to me your husband is becoming very absent-minded. Mrs. Nexdoor: Indeed he is. Why, last night he forgot to go to the club.

Customer: I wish to get a pair of shoes which will be comfortable the first time I wear them. Dealer (indignantly): We don't keep second-hand goods here.

A little knowledge of English is, indeed, a dangerous thing. At Bombay a native baker has had the words "European Loafer" painted over his door.

Customer (reading bill of fare): Oysters! H'm, oysters are not considered good this month. Waiter: Quite right, sir, but ours were left over from last month

15 & 16, Middle Street, Consett.

You can't do better

Then just call and see our large range of Children's

Pretty Pinafores

Which we are now showing, comprising all the LATEST NOVELTIES and NEWEST DESIGNS which the art of MAN or WOWAN can produce, at the VERY LOWEST POSSIBLE CASH PRICES.

OUR STOCK OF LADIES'

Flannelette Under-Clothing

Is also well worthy

Of your careful attention, as we are now displaying a LOVELY and WONDERFUL CHEAP RANGE of Ladies' Flannelette Under-Clothing, Nicely Trimmed, Well Made, and Well Finished.

ROBERT ENGLISH.

NORTH-EASTERN BREWERIES.

We are reliably informed that the directors of the North-Eastern Breweries, Limited, have completed the purchase of the Broadway-street Brewery at Burton-on-Trent, with a view of supplying the houses connected with the firm with Burton ales of their own manufacture. Since the incorporation of the company their own local breweries at Sunderland, Spennymoor, and elsewhere have been unable to supply beer and stout for consumption in their own houses, and they have been compelled to buy Burton ales at a cost between £30,000 and £40,000 per annum. The brewery at Burton is an extensive concern, and covers an acre of land.

TWENTIETH CENTURY FUND.

THE MOVEMENT in WEARDALE.

The inauguration meeting was held at Stanhope on Wednesday night week. The meeting was addressed by Revs. F. Hunter, A. Wooliscroft, and Mr. W. F. Walton, of Rookhope. Seventy-five names were handed in offering to give one guinea each to the fund, and other promises are expected. The Rev. A. Wooliscroft is circuit secretary, and Mr. Robert Ward, Stanhope, circuit treasurer. It is estimated the Weardale circuit will raise £250.

The Crook Wesleyans have raised upwards of £140 to the Wesleyan Twentieth Century Fund.

WEARDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. J. W. Roddam presided over Friday's meeting.—A petition was read from certain owners and occupiers at Hare Law and district asking for a bridge across the Wear at this place. The petitions (Messrs J. Ridley, Nixon, Dobson, Newton Bainbridge, and Middleton) contended that their rateable value—close upon £4,000—entitled them to consideration. They thought that the bridge could be built for a sum of £300.—Dr. Grey pointed out that the fords which had to be used at this place were often impassable. —Mr. Fenwick suggested that their Surveyor should report upon the matter, and see if it were not possible to make a connection via Broadwood, at less expense.—Mr. Strong asked whether it was not possible to mend the present road.—Dr. Grey said that would not obviate the difficulty.—It was ultimately agreed that the Surveyor should inspect and report.—A letter was read from Mr. F. Fenwick in respect to Wolsingham Barkroad, asking the Council to receive a deputation on the matter. It was decided to meet the deputation on Friday, 27th inst., at 2.30 p.m.—An agreement with the N.E.R. in respect to the supply of water at Daddry Shields was read and signed.—Mr. T. E. Fenwick drew attention to two telephone poles in the Eastgate district that were placed in inconvenient positions. It was decided that the same should be rectified.

WEARDALE GUARDIANS.

THE RATE COLLECTOR'S REMUNERATION.

At Friday's meeting of the Weardale Guardians—Mr J. W. Roddam presiding—the following letters were read bearing upon the application of Mr. W. Watson, etc., collector under the Board, to be placed upon a salary in preference to a poundage system, were read:—

Local Goverment Board.
Whitehall, S.W., December, 1898.

Sir,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to advert to your letter of the 12th inst., with reference to the question of your remuneration as collector for the St. John's district of the parish of Stanhope, in the Weardale Union. In reply, I am directed to state that if, as the Board gather, you would prefer to be paid a salary of £55 per annum rather than by poundage, they can only suggest that you should represent the matter to the Guardians, with a view to their considering the question again.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

W. E. KNOLLYS, Assistant Secretary.

Mr. W. Watson, Collector Poor Rates, Ireshopeburn, R.S.O.

Lings Riggs, Jan. 11th, 1898.

Dear Sir,—I wrote the Local Government Board on December 12th, referring them to your letter to the Guardians on June 23rd, 1898. I pointed out to them that the Guardians, upon receipt of that letter, resolved at once to put me on poundage without giving me any choice in the matter, although their letter clearly indicated that such a choice should be given to me. I also reminded them that I had never asked for poundage, but simply requested an increase of £10 to make the salary as good as poundage was prior to the operation of the Agricultural Rating Act, which was the basis upon which the Guardians proposed to fix the salaries of the two collectors. I had reason to think that the Local Government Board had not rightly apprehended the facts of the case, and their reply fully bears out my opinion. They write me on the 30th December that as they now gather that I prefer to be paid a salary of £55 rather than go back to poundage they would advise me to again lay the matter before the Guardians, pointing out this fact. I would add that I hear that some of the Guardians do not clearly understand the grounds of my application, otherwise I fail to conceive of their dealing with it as they have done. When compared with Stanhope district the equality and injustice is manifest. My district is more than double the extent, and contains £4,000 more ratable value in agricultural land, which under the fixed salaries and get £10 less, and upon poundage under the Agricultural Rating Act the disparity would be even greater. Moreover, I am the only servant in the parish under the Board that has not received consideration for extra work caused by the operation of the Agricultural Rates Act. I request you to submit the matter to the Guardians.—Yours truly,

WILLIAM WATSON.

To J. Thompson, Esq., Clerk to the Guardians.

The Chairman: Well, gentlemen, what have you got to say in regard to this matter?

After a short silence, Mr. Muschamp said: I propose that he be put on his old poundage again. He has written to the Local Government Board, and they have never sanctioned the payment of a salary.

Mr. Curry said he would propose that Mr. Watson be put on a salary of £55 per year.

The Chairman said Mr. Curry's best way to do would be to give notice of motion.

Mr. Muschamp: We give Mr. Watson salary, and we give him poundage. I don't know what he wants to get at.

Mr. Curry: He wants to get £55 a year. (Laughter.)

Mr. Gilmour: Perhaps he will want something else in a month's time. The man does not know what he does want. I will second Mr. Muschamp's motion.

Mr. Curry said he would give notice that he would move a resolution at next meeting that Mr. Watson's salary be £55 a year.

Mr. Mainprize asked how Mr. Watson's payments were going on?

The Clerk (Mr. J. Thompson) said that Mr. Watson had been paid practically nothing. He had sent in his bill for salary. He (Mr. Thompson), however, had asked Mr. Watson for his account of poundage and books, but he had not sent them.

Mr. Philipson said it would have been better if Mr. Watson had let the matter rest for a year or two.

Mr. Mainprize: He would have to rest [illegible] years, one way or the other.

The Chairman: Mr. Philipson means, I suppose, that it would have been better if Mr. Watson had not written to the Local Government Board.

Mr. Fenwick said he thought that Mr. Watson was putting himself in a peculiar position by not sending in his books.

On being put to the vote, it was decided not to alter the original decision of the Board, Mr. Watson having to still remain on his system of poundage.

TOW LAW DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. J. Graham presided at the monthly meeting of this body, held on Wednesday week.—The annual report of the Medical Officer (Dr. Tiplady) showed that during the year there had been 159 births and 78 deaths. The birth-rate was 34.8 per 1,000 of the population and the death-rate 17.1. The mortality, etc., might be considered satisfactory. More attention to ventilation, milk supply, and dwelling-houses was required. The water supply was good, and the sewers were in a satisfactory condition. Three hundred and ninety-one notices to abate nuisances had been served and many attended to. Attention to sanitary conditions was required at North Street, Prince Row, Alban Street, and Baring Street.—It was decided to have a sample of the town gas analysed owing to complaints being made about its smell.—The question of removing the Thornley Lane Ends lamp was ordered to be deferred for the present.—It was agreed to have an inspection of samples of proper sanitary gully traps previous to giving instructions to property owners to replace defective ones.—The month's pay-bill amounted to £26 10s 8d.—The Surveyor (Mr. Hillary) reported that he was giving attention to the wretched condition of the roads, paths, and streets.—Proceedings are to be taken against those in arrears with their rates.

PURIFIED PETROLEUM FOR WEAK LUNGS.

Angier's Petroleum Emulsion is extensively prescribed by the medical profession in the treatment of weak lungs and all chronic lung affections and wasting diseases. Possessing a food value equal to that of cod-liver oil, it has besides decided antiseptic power, and has also a wonderfully soothing and healing effect upon inflamed or catarrhal condition of throat or lungs. It not only cures troublesome coughs and heals and strengthens weak lungs, but it invigorates the whole body. It promotes appetite, aids digestion, increases weight and strength, and tones up the nervous system. Unlike cod-liver oil it is pleasant to take and agrees with the most delicate stomach. Of all chemists.

Caution.—Ours is the original Petroleum Emulsion. It is made with a special oil obtained from particular wells and carefully purified by our own process. Imitations made with ordinary petroleum cannot have the same effect. Be sure to get Angier's. A sample bottle sent free on receipt of 3d for postage. The Angier Chemical Co., Ltd., 32, Snow Hill, London, E. C.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES BROKEN INTO AT LOW WESTWOOD.

TWO MINERS IN CUSTODY.

On Saturday, at the Consett Police Court—before Mr. W. Aynsley—two miners named Joseph James Tinnion, of Whitehaven, and Jno. Armstrong, of Esh Winning, were charged with breaking into the Co-operative Stores at Low Westwood, between the 8th and 9th January, and stealing a quantity of drapery goods, boots, hosiery, tobacco, &c., including 3½ dozen silk handkerchiefs, eight ties, gent's tweed suit, the whole amounting to about £12.

Geo. Mordue, the manager of the drapery department, testified to finding that the Stores had been broken into on Monday morning. The thieves had forced four of the doors with a couple of crowbars. Some of the doors were very strong, and fitted with powerful locks, so that considerable violence must have been used. The men had gone all over the Stores premises—even the large hall, reading-room, library, &c., and had ransacked the whole place.

Police Supt. Benzies: I suppose that they were looking for the safe?

Witness: Yes; but it is kept in the manager's house adjoining.

Inspector Best gave evidence of receiving the prisoners into custody at Durham. That morning, he charged them with breaking into the Co-operative Stores at Low Westwood. Armstrong, the younger man, replied, "I know nothing about it. I can soon prove my innocence." Tinnion answered, "I found the things." Witness also visited Armstrong's house at Esh Winning, and obtained a large quantity of tobacco. Other articles had been recovered.

The prisoners were remanded for eight days.

CHURCH HISTORY LECTURE AT DIPTON

At Dipton Parish Church, on Wednesday evening week, the course of Church History lectures was continued under the presidency of the vicar, the Rev. R. Tuson, by the Rev. Arthur Watts, M.A., Rector of Witton Gilbert, who dealt with the period between 597 and 697, between the death of St. Columba at Iona and the death of the Venerable Bede at Jarrow, touching the incident round Bamburgh and Bewcastle, and shifting in centre of action from Iona to Lindisfarne. The rev. lecturer briefly reviewed the work of the members of the early Roman misson from Canterbury as the centre, and their failure, contrasting it with the successful labours of the late members of the older Celtic mission, successes between 635 and 681 won in succession permanently from heathenism the kingdoms of Northumbria, Mercia, Wessex, Essex, and Sussex by the labours of St. Aiden, his followers, and disciples of the Lindisfarne School, Finan Cadda, Chad, Eata, Wilfred, and many others. By a succession of views Holy Island or Lindisfarne was made familiar, and the chief incidents of interest were given in some detail from the "Hateful Year," 633, that year of apostasy and of desolating wars, to the victory of St. Oswald at Heavenfield, near Chollerford, to the advent of St. Aidan from Iona, and choice of Lindisfarne as centre and home, to the establishment of the great See of Lindisfarne, which embraced the whole kingdom of Northumbria, from the Humber to the Forth. Those northern missionaries not only gave us our faith and church, but our education also, and hence the lecturer traced the centre of Celtic learning from Iona to Lindisfarne, Jarrow, and York. He then showed how church property came by a long succession of free gifts, the first one in the north being St. Oswald's gift of Holy Island to St. Aidan. He then threw a deed of a gift of the date 593, happily yet preserved, from a king of Kent to the Church at Syminge to our exiled northern queen Ethelburga. Lastly he drew the picture of our northern king Egfrid standing at the grave of his brother Alchfrid at Bewcastle, when Wilfrid consecrated a cross to his memory, which still stands in the venerable 1,300 year old churchyard. This earliest of English crosses was set up in 670, and exhibits the oldest known words in the English tongue. Then with a brief visit to the present ruins of Lindisfarne Priory, and a long look at the seventh century grave stone, now preserved under glass in the porch of the parish church on Holy Island to Aldberecht, a most interesting and beautifully illustrated lecture came to a close. The lantern was very skilfully managed by Mr. Batey.

Epps's Cocoaine.—Cocoa-Nib Extract. (Tea-like).—The choicest roasted nibs (broken up beans) of the natural Cocoa, on being subjected to powerful hydraulic pressure, give forth their excess of oil, leaving for use a finely flavoured powder—"Cocoaine," a product which, when prepared with boiling water, has the consistence of tea, of which it is now, with many, beneficially taking the place. Its active principle being a gentle nerve stimulant, supplies the needed energy without unduly exciting the system. Sold only in labelled tins. If unable to obtain it of your tradesman, a tin will be sent post free for 9 stamps.—James Epps and Co., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London.

LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held on Thursday of last week in the Council Chamber of the Union Buildings, Lanchester, under the presidency of Coun. William Logan, J.P. (Chairman.) The other Councillors present were:—County Councillor T. J. Muse (Vice-chairman), Rev. Father P. C. Fortin, Messrs James Oliver, P. Kirkup, W. Robinson, Joseph Pumphrey, J. R. Ritson, W. S. Telford, W. Gray, U. A. Ritson, jun., the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), the Deputy-Clerk (Mr W. Thompson), the Surveyor (Mr W. Cummings), the Inspector (Mr J. R. Lupton), and the Medical Officer (Dr. John Wilson, J.P.)

MORE BYE-LAWS.

The members unanimously adopted Part III. of the Public Health Acts' Amendment Acts, 1890.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AT CORNSAY COLLIERY.

It was decided that the agreement for the lease of land required for sewage disposal works at Cornsay Colliery should be sealed.

A letter was read from Mr Stephenson, tenant of the land required for the laying down of the above works, offering to accept £7 as compensation for the loss that he would sustain, and also pointing out that the Council would get full possession of the land at May-day.

Coun. Kirkup said if they agreed to pay the £7 it would indemnify the Council from any further claim, or subsequent amount to be paid to the tenant.

It was decided that the offer should be accepted.

A VERY IMPORTANT STEP.

The Clerk read the following letter:—

Craghead, Chester-le-Street,
January 10th, 1899.

Dear Sir,—The above Council purpose forwarding a memorial to the Local Government Board praying for the alteration of the Parliamentary and County Council boundaries, so that the whole of Craghead Parish may be included in the North-West Durham Parliamentary and Lanchester County Council Division. At present we are in two Parliamentary and two County Council Divisions—North-West Durham and Chester-le-Street, Parliamentary, Edmondsley and Lanchester County Council Divisions, which position causes many householders to lose their votes by simply removing from one house to another in the same colliery village. I have, therefore, to ask your Council whether they have any objections to the above alterations.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN WILKINSON.

The Chairman said the Council could have no objections to the proposal. It would save a great deal of confusion if the whole of the Craghead Parish could be included in one Parliamentary Division, instead of, as at present, having one portion of the village in the North-West Durham Division, and the other portion on the opposite side of the road in the Chester-le-Street Division.

Coun. Muse stated that it would be done if the concession was granted.

The Chairman moved that the Clerk reply to the letter that the Council offered no objections to the proposal.

This was seconded by Coun. J. R. Ritson, and carried.

The Water Supply at Cornsay Village.

A letter was read from the Cornsay Parish Council asking if the Council would receive a deputation respecting the water supply for Cornsay Village.

The Clerk said he did not answer the letter as he thought an explanation from the Inspector might be sufficient. However, he had seen the Clerk to the Parish Council, who informed him that the deputation intended to be present to wait on the Council.

The Chairman: Does any member know what the Pairsh Council wants us to do?

Coun. Kirkup said he understood the deputation was instructed to ask the Council to bring pressure to bear on the owners to get the water put into the houses. At the present time the residents were far from being satisfied with the water supply. The well was situate by the roadside, and was used by all the tramps that were travelling the roads, who generally washed themselves. Besides horses and cattle used the water, and the people afterwards had to use it for domestic purposes.

Mr Suddes was called into the room, and informed the Council they were desirous of having the water into the houses at Old Cornsay.

The Chairman: Can you tell us how many houses there are that require the water?

Mr Suddes said he could not say.

Coun. Kirkup: I think there will be between 12 and 14 houses.

The Chairman informed Mr Suddes that they would instruct the Medical Officer to report on the water supply, and if he said it was necessary that the water should be put into the houses notice would be served on the owners to do so.

THE DERWENT VALLEY TRAIN SERVICE.

The Chairman reported that the joint deputation from the respective local authorities waited on Mr H. A. Watson, district superintendent, Newcastle, on Jan. 4th, with a view of acquiring an improved train service on the Derwent Valley Branch. The deputation which numbered something like 20 representatives, was very courteously received by Mr Watson, who informed them that he was very anxious to do everything he could, not only for this particular branch but for all others, so as to provide extra facilities over the railways belonging to the Company. The deputation held a preliminary meeting with a view to combined action, so that they did not go before Mr Watson with a divided opinion. It was pointed out to Mr Watson the great inconvenience that was caused to a large number of people through not being able to get into Newcastle before a few minutes to nine o'clock in the mornings, and suggested to him that they should have an earlier train to arrive at Newcastle not later than eight o'clock. The Chairman next proceeded to mention the other additional trains that were asked for (a full account of which was published in our last issue), and also showed Mr Watson the necessity for such, mentioning the large number of building sites that were being laid out in the district, including the large estates at Rowland's Gill and Shotley Bridge. The Chairman further pointed out that he took it upon himself to draw Mr. Watson's attention to the need of a passenger station at Westwood, which to his knowledge had been agitated for during the past eight years. Mr. Watson said that his attention had been drawn to the need of a station at this place a short time ago, but he would again take up the matter, and see what could be done. He had no doubt the result of the interview with Mr. Watson would be awaited with interest. Mr. Watson was very anxious to be furnished with information from the respective authorities showing the increase in the population, plans of the new building estates laid out, and anything that would strengthen the application when placed before the directors.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORT.

Dr. John Wilson, Lanchester, reported as follows:—

Gentlemen,—The following are the fresh cases of catching diseases in this district within the past four weeks:—Nine cases of whooping cough, three of measles, and four of diarrhœa at Langley Park; five of whooping cough at Hill Top, near Esh, and four at Esh; one of typhoid fever, one of erysipelas, two of whooping cough, and six of diarrhœa at Ushaw Moor; one of typhoid fever, two of whooping cough, and two of diarrhœa at Cornsay Colliery; five of diarrhœa at Craghead; one of scarlet fever at Burnhope; one at Lanchester, and two at the Workhouse. The case of typhoid fever at Cornsay Colliery, and three of the scarlet fever cases were sent to Langley Park Hospital.

Dr. Bolton, Ebchester, reported:—

Gentlemen,—The following cases of zymotic diseases were notified to me during the month:—One case of scarlet fever at Cold Rowley; one at Consett Park Cottage, and one at Castleside. The Ebchester district continues to be free from infectious disease.

The reports were adopted.

A BLANK REFUSAL.

The Clerk read the following letter which had reference to an application from the Council for a daily delivery of letters in the Cornsay district:—

General Post Office, London,
December, 1898.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 18th ult., addressed to the Postmaster of Durham, I am directed by the Postmaster General to say that he does not know to what public utterances of his in reference to increase of postal facilities you allude, but that the intentions of the Government were clearly stated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who, in bringing forward the Budget for 1897-98, said that steps were about to be taken by the Post Office for affording a delivery, not necessarily every day, but still a regular delivery, at every house in the United Kingdom. The question of increasing the frequency of the delivery in the locality to which you refer, now served three times a week, has been fully considered, but it is found that the amount of correspondence is very small, not sufficient to warrant the additional expense that would be involved. It is regretted that in the circumstances the wishes of the Council cannot be met.

I am Sir,
Your obedient servant,
T. E. SIFTON.

The Chairman said all he could say was that they were given to understand at the time by the remarks of the Chancellor of the Exchequer that arrangements would be made for every house in Great Britain to have a daily delivery of letters.

Coun. Kirkup said it was necessary that there should be a daily delivery of letters. If a letter containing important information was delayed a day very often it caused a great deal of inconvenience.

The Chairman said he was afraid they had done all they could in the matter. It now rested with the inhabitants to say what they were prepared to do.

Coun. Kirkup: I don't see what more we can do. The Post-Master General will not comply with our request.

The question dropped.

APPROACHES AT CRAGHEAD.

A letter was read from Mr James Fairley, Craghead, asking the Council to give attention to the approaches to the bridge over Craghead railway. On behalf of Messrs Thos. Hedley and Bros. he did not desire the Council should take up responsibility with the bridge itself, as they fully recognised the responsibility of keeping the bridge in a safe condition for traffic.

It was agreed, on the motion of Coun. Muse, this should be done.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector reported as follows:—Gentlemen,—During the past month I have visited the villages of Cornsay, Craghead, Hamsteels, Malton, Burnhope, Hedleyhope, Esh Winning, Knitsley, and Ushaw Moor. In the majority of cases the scavenging is satisfactory. The scavenging of the private property at Esh Winning is not at all satisfactory. Hedley Fell Houses scavenging has been very unsatisfactory for a long time. I called on the manager, and he promised to see the contractor, and have the work attended to. I have called the attention of owners and occupiers to defects which required to be remedied. Hedley's property has been repaired, and sanitary conveniences provided. The plans for Cornsay Colliery were laid before the Esh Parish Council, and approved of. As instructed, at the last meeting of the Council, I have prepared a section for sewers from Ushaw Moor to the suggested outlet. The total length of the sewer from near the west end of the Wood Huts would be 1,200 yards. I estimate the cost of laying the sewer, including the necessary manholes, chambers, &c., at £432.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor submitted the following report:—Gentlemen,—I have prepared a section of the road across the River Dearness, near Broadgate, where it is proposed to erect a bridge, and estimate that the cost will be as follows:—Filling in approach and making road on the Lanchester side, £290; bridge about £250, filling in and making road on the Brandon and Byshottle side, £229; making a total of £769. The stream is 37 feet wide, and I have raised the round 17 feet from the water level. I have made provision for a roadway 15 feet wide. I estimate that the cost of kerbing the footpath at Hamsterley on the Derwent and Shotley main road, asked for by the Medomsley Parish Council will be about £27. The cost of fencing by the side of the stream at Fen Hall on the Lobley Hill main road, asked for by the Greencroft Parish Council will be about £12. This is a very dangerous place, and should be fenced. It will be necessary to make application to the County Council for permission to carry the above out. The Medomsley men are engaged laying the kerbing on the Lobley Hill main road at Medomsley, and the work is progressing as rapidly as possible. The wooden cover has been erected over the No. 1 roller, and with your permission I will obtain tenders for a similar cover for No. 2. roller. The rollers have been idle several days during the month owing to the frost bound condition of the roads.

The reports were adopted, and the various recommendations were gone into seriatum.

A BRIDGE.

The Clerk was instructed to write the North-Eastern Railway Company calling their attention to the condition of their bridge at Broadgate.

The Clerk was further instructed to write the Brandon and Byshottle District Council and ascertain if they were prepared to do anything respecting the erection of a carriage bridge over the Dearness at Broadgate.

A DANGEROUS PLACE.

A letter was read from the Muggleswick Parish Council asking the Council to erect 15 yards of fencing in the Gold Hill Lane where it was dangerous and to repair the footbridge between Muggleswick and Edmondbyers, as the approaches to the bridge were in a very dilapidated condition, and the bottom rail across the bridge was too high.

A letter was also read from the Weardale Rural District Council in reference to the repairing of this bridge, and pointed out that in other parishes in this district the Parish Councils have taken up similar cases and repaired both footpath and bridge, charging the cost to the parish. If such repairs were done by the District Council the cost would go to general expenses. If, therefore, one parish Council took up such cases all parish Councils in the same district should do likewise. With regard to this particular bridge they did not know who was liable, and asked if the Council could tell them who repaired the bridge previous to 1896.

The Chairman: What have we to do with the bridge?

The Clerk: Nothing.

The Chairman said the bridge was in the Weardale district.

Coun. J. R. Ritson said the two Parish Councils should defray the cost of repairing the bridge between them. The Lanchester Parish Council has repaired several foot bridges.

The Chairman said the Clerk should inform the Muggleswick Parish Council that it so happens the the bridge was in the Edmondbyers district, and that the District Council had nothing whatever to do with it.

The Clerk: What about the fencing?

The Chairman: Is it a dangerous place?

Coun. J. R. Ritson said it was a very dangerous place, and just as bad as that portion near to Coombridges, which was fenced by the Council.

The Surveyor was instructed to give this matter his attention.

MORE IMPROVEMENTS WANTED.

A letter was read from the Medomsley Parish Council asking if the Council would kerb the footpath leading from Mr. Berkley's house to the new offices at Hamsterley Colliery. The whole of the other portion of the footpath was done with the exception of this portion mentioned.

The Chairman said this was work that had to have the sanction of the County Council before it could be carried out.

The Surveyor: I have mentioned that fact in my report.

The Chairman (to Mr. Robinson): Why does the Medomsley Council not get all their jobs into one letter.

Mr. Robinson: Is there another letter?

The Chairman (humorously): There is generally an application from them at every meeting.

Father Fortin: Generally two or three applications. (Laughter.)

This was all the business.

Chester-le-Street Amateur Opera Company.

On Wednesday week the members of the Chester-le-Street Amateur Opera Company held their third annual concert in the Church Institute, the piece selected being "King Arthur." Prior to the commencement of the performance the Rev. A. Dunn said it was with great pleasure he saw so many present. The performance was in aid of the Institute and Organ fund. The usefulness of the former went without saying, and the organ also needed attention. The greatest thanks were due to Miss Armstrong and Mr. R. Thompson, who were the managers of the concert. The story laid in the admittance of a Knight to the Round Table, and then the breaking of the vows by the Knight, the outlawing of him, and his return to the Round Table. The rest of the story he would leave to others to tell. (Applause.) —The caste was as follows:—King Arthur, Mr. R. Thompson; Guinevere (Arthur's Queen), Miss Gerty Tragheim; Elain (Arthur's daughter), Miss G. Innes; Lancelot (Knight of Arthur), Mr. E. Thompson; Pompo (Court Jester), Mr. J. Turnbull; Bedivere (Attendant to Arthur), Mr. A. Armstrong; Enid (Attendant to Guinevere), Miss E. Dingwall; Gore (Robber King), Mr. T. Beveridge; Endor (Witch), Miss D. Lumley; Fairy, Miss H. Thompson; Nina (Gipsy), Miss A. Parkin; Slut (General Servant to Gore), Mr. T. Lumley. These ladies and gentlemen were assisted by a chorus of about 40 voices, and a full orchestra, under the leadership of Mr. J. Hall. The performance was divided into four acts, the first, third, and fourth representing Gore's Castle. During the interval between the second and third acts a flower song was given by the Misses Clarke, Betts, Jackson, Robinson, Innes, Wheatley, and Joures. Among the performers, Messrs J. Turnbull and T. Lumley, as the comedians, kept the audience in continued laughter, and Mr. E. Thompson made a capital Lancelot. The whole of the artistes acquitted themselves excellently and deserve the highest praise for the manner in which they performed. The entertainment was repeated on Thursday, when, as on the previous night, there was a large and appreciative audience.

News is Food for Active Minds, especially in these days of quick communication, when we are enabled within a few hours to know what is taking place at the other end of the world. The merits of Holloway's Pills and Ointment, which have been familiar for over half a century amongst all civilized people, have been still more widely spread owing to these facilities. To the natives in the uttermost parts of India, Africa, Australia, and, indeed, to the whole human family, these remedies have been amongst the most precious gifts of civilisation. They cure disease and relieve the most acute pain. In cases of fever, ague, and liver and stomach complaints they are unequalled, whilst for wounds, bruises, sores, &c., they are the best known remedies.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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

Letters for insertion should reach us not later than Tuesday morning.

INEVITABLE RESULTS OF VIVISECTION.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

Sir,—The public would do well to direct their serious attention to the strenuous efforts which are being made to expose and oppose the cruel and degrading delusion of vivisection. Were it even dimly surmised what serious mischief vivisection is working to the moral and physical welfare of the public, people would be clamouring for its abolition by law. It is not only the cruelty practised upon animals, which in itself is a disgrace to civilization; or the demoralization of the medical profession which it must unavoidably entail; there is a growing tendency to resort to experiments on human subjects, a possibility as terrible to think of as the revival of the tortures of religious fanatics in bygone ages. In the opinion of many eminent medical authorities, vivisection is productive of the most disastrous mistakes as to the nature and treatment of diseases, and is answerable for the so-called "serum treatment," such as that by which Dr. Koch claimed to cure consumption, but which resulted in the death of all those upon whom it was tried. It is time that the public should be aroused to the dangers of this cruel and indefensible practice.

I am, sir, yours truly,
MAURICE L. JOHNSON.

Alton Villas, Warwick Road,
Fedland, Bristol.

VACCINATION.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

Sir,—I notice that the pro-vaccinators, in their letters to the press, frequently quote the report of Dr. Coupland, which they describe as the only official statement of the Gloucester epidemic. Is not the mere fact that it is "official" enough to make the honest investigator wary of accepting Dr. Coupland's testimony as final, and the more so as his chief backer seems to be none other than that most matter-of-fact witness, Dr. Bond, Secretary of the Jenner Society? But what I wish to point out is that the recent pamphlet published by A. and B. Bradlaugh Bonner, on "Small-Pox at Gloucester: A Reply to Dr. Coupland's Report," by Dr. Hadwen, M.R.C.S., blows to atoms the absurd official theories, and shows upon the evidence of this same Government official that the basis on which the tyrannical Compulsory Vaccination Act was passed, and under which thousands of England's sterling sons and daughters have suffered, was a fraud. For of 1,211 "protected" persons no less than 120 died. "The broad fact remains," says Dr. Hadwen, "that of 1,979 persons attacked in the city of Gloucester with small-pox during the epidemic no less than 1,211 —nearly two-thirds—had undergone the operation which the so-called discovered declared, in the petition for money which he presented to the House of Commons was attended with the singularly beneficial effect of rendering through life the person so inoculated perfectly secure from the infection through small-pox."

How is it that Dr. Coupland has not answered the arguments advanced by Dr. Hadwen? The question is one which Dr. Coupland could answer best himself, but I can assure your readers that he will not do so. Once bitten, twice shy. It has been said that the anti-vaccinists would do well to secure Dr. Bond's services for their letter-writing ring, for already he has made at least one distinguished convert to their ranks and many minor ones, and is doing perhaps as much as anyone to destroy the practice of the vaccination rite, not only in this country, but on the continent as well. The adherence of Lord Grimthorpe to our views is one of the great gains for which we cannot be sufficiently thankful to Dr. Bond.

The modern vaccinist is great in the matter of marks and immunity. Dr. Bond I believe says the more the better: but this is very vague. Dr. Curschmann, the great German authority, gives a definite answer to our question as to how many marks should be made on a child to render it immune. He says six on each arm. We have also the following criminal answers from physicians of unimpeachable vaccinal orthodoxy, excepting as doubtful the original Jenner himself, who said one mark was sufficient:—

1. Drs. Drysdale and Lee say .... One.
2. Dr. Adam, Liverpool, says .... Two.
3. Dr Greenhalgh, London, says ... Three
4. Dr. Sandwith, Wandsworth, says ... Four.
5. Dr. Debenham, London, says ...... Six.
6. Local Government Board capable of saying anything.

Thus has vaccine progressed from the single "scratch-with-a-darning-needle" of Jenner's time up to an apotheosis of tattoo, which in a white man is enough to give the heathen Typee a succession of fits.

Another feature of the vaccine craze in hot dispute, and one of the most comical in its results, is the lymph embroglio. One variety is used in Germany and no doubt "made" there; a different kind is used in France; a third variety is used in Belgium, and in England nearly all have been tried more or less. The L.G.B. is about to try some fresh kinds, old and new; and of course there will be more experimentation on children and animals. There has been compiled a most interesting not to say wonderful list of patent vaccines which well illustrates the extent of the medical confusion, and I doubt if anything could be imagined that would be worse for the reputation of a specific which is thrust upon an unwilling people by a bad law which the helpless state of the profession which it depicts. I subjoin a list of some of the various lymphs introduced and recommended by the rival purveyors, the merits of which are fully set forth in the journals of the trade:—

(1) The Jennerian Equine Virus.
(2) Woodville's Small pox Virus.
(3) Swine-pox (with which Jenner inoculated his own child).
(4) Horse-grease passed through the cow.
(5) Spontaneous Cow-pox (Gloucestershire brand.
(6) Small-pox passed through the Cow (Ceely and Badlock's lymph).
(7) The Beaugency Virus.
(8) Dr. Warlomont's Calf-lymph, in points, tubes or pots of pomade.
(9) Buffalo-lymph, recommended in India as "yielding more vesicle pulp than calves."
(10) The Passy Virus.
(11) The Lanoline vaccine or vesicle pulp.
(12) Donkey-lymph the invention of Surgeon O'Hara.
(13) To these must be added the lymph passed through numberless more or less diseased human bodies, which has been shown by high authorities to be capable of spreading leprosy, syphilis, cancer, consumption, and other loathsome and incurable diseases.

To enlarge on the danger involved in the use of calf-lymph: Gangrenous ulceration has frequently followed its use, much more frequently, perhaps, than is known or suspected; but a doctor, who, alas, is our only source of information, seldom says anything about such cases. Mr. Henry May, a Medical Officer of Health, has deliberately owned to a sinister device, not at all uncommon in this country. He said he suppressed the primary cause of death in fatal vaccination cases; and in thus speaking, seemed to express the general sense of the medical profession.

There are also the deaths of Emma Mable Allen and of Beatrice Ida Woodhouse from the invaccination of contaminated calf-lymph. A horrible affair happened at Castiglione d'Orcia, in Italy, and another wretched case is described by Dr. Moliere in the Lyon Medicale. Undoubtedly the practice of calf-lymph vaccination constitutes a grave danger, and is a greater error than that of vaccine virus, for it has the effect of decultivating bad to worse. The glycerinated calf-lymph is just so much dust in the eyes of the public, as shown in the recent cases of death after vaccination with this nasty concoction. Dr. Charles Creighton's theory is that calf-lymph can produce in a child a disease so closely resembling syphilis that skilled medical experts may be deceived.

Let us now turn to another of the so-called strong points of the vaccinist, as with never failing regularity he trots it out whenever he has a chance. Small-pox, it is said, is fatal to a very large proportion of those whom it attacks, if they are not fortified against it (albeit it is impossible to ascertain what is a secure fortification). Generally speaking, from thirty to forty per cent die.

When and where was this true? Prof. Wallace writes: "The best available records show that the proportion of deaths to small-pox cases is the same now, although a large majority of the population are vaccinated, as it was a century ago before vaccination was discovered." Nothing is more conclusive than that the average small-pox fatality of the eighteenth century hardly exceeded 18 per cent. I decline to believe that our medical men are less competent than medical men of a hundred years ago, and that (despite the great improvement in sanitation and treatment) they are allowing double or treble the number of unvaccinated small-pox patients to slip through their fingers. "It is fallacious" to estimate the prevalence of small-pox not in ratio of the whole population, says Dr. Creighton: "for a just comparison of one period with another we have to take into account, not the death rate per million, but the death rate per million still living under the old world conditions."

We have of late heard under Mr. Chaplin's benevolent dispensation a good deal about free vaccination, free information as to its merits, &c., but little is said about freedom, the one thing vital. It is unfortunately an error to suppose that vaccination, even "public" vaccination, is entirely gratuitous, Nor is pecuniary cost the only thing. There is the cost of the parents' self-respect and happiness; and there is the moral cost, to the nation, of allowing its statute-book to be disfigured by a law which is intolerable to the instincts and good sense of the people. Yes, you may depend upon it, whenever anyone is vaccinated, it costs somebody something. Yours &c.,

JOSEPH COLLINSON
Wolsingham, R.S.O., January 10th.

LOCAL PATENT APPLICATIONS.

14. J. Anderson, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvement in arrangement to control ball taps in cisterns.
98. H. MacColl, Sunderland. Improved form of built crank shaft.
203. F. H. Smith, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Apparatus for making acetylene.
204. F. H. Smith, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in and relating to burners suitable for acetylene.
205. F. H. Smith, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in acetylene lamps.
322. W. J. Brewer and J. E. Cooper, Stockton-on-Tees. Improvements in and connected with fly wheels and bearing therefor.

The above is specially compiled by Pryor & Harvey, late A. C. Chapman, Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks Offices, 3, St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, Nat. Tel. 1934; and at 2, John Street, Sunderland, 25, on Tuesdays, four to seven p.m. Handbook and full particulars sent free on application.

THE PEACE CRUSADE.

A WEARDALE COUNCILLOR'S VIEWS.

At the conclusion of the Weardale Council meeting on Friday, the Chairman (Mr. J. W. Roddam) intimated that he had received a letter from the Bishop of London in respect to the Peace Crusade.

Mr. Fenwick: To the Council, I suppose?

The Chairman: Yes, sent to me as Chairman.

Mr. Fenwick: I am sure that we all approve of it.

Mr. Muschamp: I consider its a proper humbug. (Loud laughter.) If the Czar would set the example by "chucking" his guns into the sea, then we might have a chance. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr. Fenwick: Well, we want to create a peaceful spirit in the world. If we can help I think we ought to do.

Mr. Muschamp: I consider its an humbug. (Laughter.)

Mr. Fenwick said he would like their Clerk to read the letter, as it was only a short one.

Mr. Muschamp: I'd rather have my pipe. (Laughter.)

The Chairman pointed out that the letter was only sent with a view to holding public meetings.

The matter then dropped.

TRAVELLING WITHOUT A TICKET.

A CHOPWELL MAN IN TROUBLE.

At the Gateshead County Police Court on Thursday, John Burn, who resides at Chopwell, was placed in the dock charged with travelling without a ticket between Newcastle and Rowland's Gill, on December 3rd. Defendant pleaded not guilty.

Edward Harrison, a porter stationed at Rowland's Gill, attested that he was on duty on December 3rd. The accused arrived by the 7.30 p.m. train from Newcastle, and when witness first saw the defendant he was standing on the platform after all the other passengers had left. When the defendant came to the gate, he attempted to pass through without giving up any ticket. When witness asked the accused for a ticket he replied that he had not one, but had given the same up to a collector. Witness was the only collector, therefore defendant could not have delivered up any ticket.

Defendant (to witness): Did I not attempt to get out to go with the Chopwell brake, with the rest of the passengers?—You were the last person to pass out through the gate.

P.C. Hudson deposed that he was standing at the station gate when all the tickets were gathered, and he never saw the accused give up any ticket.

Defendant (to witness): Did I not offer to pay my fare?—No, you did not.

Defendant: So far so good. I offered to pay the fare afterwards.

Mr. Wm. Pattison, stationmaster, said the prisoner was brought into the office by P.C. Hudson, as he had no ticket. Witness asked the accused about his ticket, when he replied that he had given the same up to a collector. Witness asked which collector, and the defendant replied that he did not know, but it was the man at the gate. The defendant afterwards offered to pay his fare, at the same time pulling out a shilling, but witness refused to accept it.

The defendant, in his defence, said he had purchased a return ticket available between Rowland's Gill and Newcastle. He gave up one half at Elswick, and put the other part into his pocket. When he got back to Rowland's Gill he found that the return ticket was lost. He offered to pay his fare but it was not accepted.

Supt. Darrell remarked that had the accused offered to pay his fare at first, then it would have been accepted. The Company, did not, however, wish to press the charge.

The Bench, after a short consultation, imposed a fine of 2/6 and costs—11/6 in all.

SUCCESSFUL HOME DYEING.

EVERY WISE WOMAN SHOULD SEE WHAT DIAMOND DYES CAN DO.

In special cotton colours the Diamond Dyes far excel all other Dyes. These special cotton dyes are recent discoveries of the best dye chemists in the world, and are remarkable for fastness against exposure to strong lights, and for standing any amount of washing with soapsuds.

Special attention is directed to Diamond Dye Fast Black for Cotton and mixed goods. This marvellous black has proved its title to the foremost place as a dye for all cotton and mixed goods. It excels all other dye stuffs in every good quality. One package of this dye, which only costs sixpence, will do as much work as three of any other make, and do it well.

The Diamond Dyes are first and best, and the cheapest to use.

Tell the dealer that you must have the "Diamond."

BEAMISH COMPANY 4th V.B.D.L.I.

The members of the shooting club of the above company held their annual dinner on Saturday night last, at the house of Sergt. J. Grundy, Durham Ox Inn, Beamish. The repast, which was of the highest order, reflected the greatest credit on Sergt. and Mrs Grundy, who have just recently become mine host and hostess and augurs well for their future success. The inhabitants of Beamish and district ought to be proud of having such a rifle club, as it is one of the best in the country. After the cloth was removed, Capt. A. E. Humble was voted to the chair, and Lieut. G. Humble to the vice-chair. The Chairman gave "The Queen"; the Vice-chairman, "The Prince and Princess of Wales and rest of the Royal Family," which were enthusiastically received. Mr Willis then gave "The Army, Navy, and Volunteer Forces." He said although he was not a military man, when he read of such heroic deeds done by Lord Kitchener and his men in the Soudan, he felt ready to rush to their assistance if called upon to do so. (Applause.)—Sergt.-Inst. Palmer responded, and said as a soldier who had had experience in Egypt, he could confirm all that had been said about the hardships of a soldier's life in the Soudan. He could tell them that from a soldier's point of view the fighting was the easiest part of the business—the marching over the desert sands under a tropical sun being much more trying to the men than the actual fighting.—Col.-Sergt. Mole then gave "Colonel Perkins and officers of the 4th V.B.D.L.I.," which was responded to by the Chairman on behalf of his father, Lieut.-Col. Humble, who was unable to be present owing to indisposition.—Sergt. T. Wrangham then gave, "The officers of D. Company," and at the same time he had very great pleasure in presenting to Capt. A. E. Humble, on behalf of the members of the Beamish Rifle Club, a painting in oils of the camp, Brackenber Moor, Appleby, Westmoreland. The painting has been executed by R. Lennox, of the Beamish Company, and proves that he is an artist of no mean ability. Capt. Humble feelingly responded on behalf of Mrs Humble and himself, thanking them very kindly for their present.—The Chairman then presented the club prizes, Private Lockie taking first prize from scratch with an average of 93.2; Private J. Pattinson taking second prize. He also gave the toast "Success to the Beamish Rifle Club," hoping that they would remain in the future as in the past—one of the best shooting clubs in the county. (Applause.)—Sergt. Grundy responded.—Sergt. Johnson proposed "The health of Sergt.-Inst. Palmer," who suitably replied.—Private Pattinson gave, "The Host and Hostess"; and Sergt. Pinkney, "Our next merry meeting."—During the evening songs were sung by Lieut. G. Humble, Mr Montford, Mr Willis, Col.-Sergt. Mole, Sergt. Pinkney, Privates Scarr, Hills, and Noble. The whole company singing "God save the Queen" brought to an end one of the pleasantest evenings ever spent with the members of the Beamish Rifle Club.

The Drink Question

Is, perhaps, one of the most important of modern times, and one which moves to anxiety and seriousness all classes of the community. Hourly from morn to eve, we hear the questions,

'WHAT WILL YOU TAKE?' 'WHAT ARE YOU DRINKING?' 'WHAT WILL YOU HAVE?' ETC.

Some of these questions are asked by Medical Men; some by Fanatics; some by real Sociable Friends. All are important! Morally and socially what we eat and drink have a deal more to do with our welfare than is generally considered. Health, wealth, and happiness depend upon it largely,

AND THE ANSWER

Comes to us, clear and resonant, from hundreds who have tried its rare value, and they have christened their favourite beverage, so full of character and worth,

AYNSLEY'S WONDERFUL TEA.

Wonderful in Fragrance! Wonderful in Quality! Wonderful in Price!

☞ DRINK IT! 2s. Per Lb. ☜

William Aynsley, Ltd.,

TEA DEALERS, PROVISION and WINE and SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

Confectionery of every description, at

MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

AYNSLEY'S BUILDINGS, WEST STANLEY. STANLEY VILLA, WEST STANLEY.
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE. AYNSLEY'S BUILDINGS, BLACKHILL.
AYNSLEY'S BUILDINGS, BLACKHALL MILL.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

Shocking Death of a Consett Man at Stockton.

Mr J. Hyslop Bell held an inquest at Stockton on Saturday regarding the death of William Stephenson, a labourer, employed at the Stockton Malleable Works, and a native of Consett, who had died on the previous day from injuries received whilst following his employment.

The body was identified by George Stephenson, a brother of deceased, residing at Edith Street, Consett, the age being given as 38.

Edward Hooper, soaking pit fireman, residing at Portrack, and employed at the Malleable Works, had a conversation with the deceased immediately before the accident, and left him to attend to his duties. The crane by which the deceased was injured was only a short distance from the fires, and was used to remove the covers of the furnaces in order to get the ingots out. He afterwards saw the deceased lying dead in the cabin, but did not know the extent of his injuries. He was not aware that the deceased had ever had a fit.

Thomas Ellis, the driver of the crane, saw the deceased speaking with Hooper, and he disappeared when the witness was called to raise the furnace covers. He blew the whistle before moving the crane, and several who were about got out of the way. He moved the crane five and a half yards along the line and then about two yards back. On looking over his shoulder he saw a man lying on the line a short distance from the ash-hole. He shouted for help, and the deceased was removed to the cabin. He supposed that the cog wheels of the crane caught the deceased, and that he was crushed between them and the ground. The deceased's breast and shoulder were much torn and bled profusely, but he did not notice that he was also wounded on the back of the head, and that the blood came from his eyes and nose. He thought the deceased must have fallen on the line, and then the crane crushed him in passing.

Mr Pidd, the engineer of the works, who appeared for the company, suggested that the deceased probably had a fit or slipped and fell on the line. There did not appear to have been anything to knock him down.

The Coroner having addressed the jury and pointed out that there was no means of knowing how deceased came to be on the line, or whether he was hit on the head or not, a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

Mr E. V. Clark, Inspector of Factories, Newcastle, was present during the inquiry. The deceased, it may be added, was a married man with a family.

The funeral took place on Sunday, and was largely attended, many Consett friends being present.

The Lighting of Burnopfield.

The Tanfield U.D. Council are to be congratulated upon the steps which they have taken in lighting the village of Burnopfield by electricity. It is doubtful whether such an undertaking would have been carried out had it not been for the action which Mr John Wigham, of Burnopfield, brought against the Tanfield authority, in reference to the lighting of this village, and which our readers are no doubt fully cognisant with. Three months have barely elapsed since the scheme was first brought before the local authority, when tenders were invited, with the result that the work was placed in the hands of the Co-operative Wholesale Society, Ltd., and which has been carried out through their Newcastle branch, under the superintendence of their engineer, Mr Wm. Fletcher, of Swalwell, who is deserving of the highest praise for the prompt and efficient manner in which the work has been executed. On Wednesday evening week a representative of the "Guardian" was present when the final trial in connection with the installation took place by the contractors, under the guidance of Mr Fletcher. We are pleased to record that everything passed off in a highly satisfactory manner, and not the slightest hitch was observable. We might here mention that the Chairman of the Tanfield Council (Mr H. Curry Wood, J.P.) expressed his approval at the manner in which the undertaking has been carried out, and was well pleased with the result of the final trial, which affords congratulation to both parties.

This new illuminant will certainly prove a boon to not only the inhabitants of Burnopfield, but also to those whose business brings them to this village, which has a population of about 3,000 people. The lights, of which there are 46, being of 16 c.p., are located at the most suitable places. The mains are carried overhead on poles, the total length of wire being over three miles. The current is supplied from the installation belonging to the Burnopfield Co-operative Society, and consists of a steam plant, comprising a "Robey" 25 B h.p. undertype engine, and a Tyne dynamo, with an output of 130 amperes at 105 volts. The switchboard for the public lighting is located in the engine-room, and consists of one main switch and two circuit switches, east and west, volt meter and amp meter, mounted on an enamelled slate with frame.

Sudden Death in a Local Train.

On Friday last, a gentleman was seen to hurry into the Annfield Plain train due at Bensham at 11.25. In the compartment in which he entered there was only one other passenger—Mrs Dixon, of High Pit, Dipton. Immediately after taking his seat his head fell back, and Mrs Dixon seeing that something was wrong communicated with others at the first opportunity. She obtained the assistance of Mr James Allan, Bigg Market, Newcastle, and Mr P. F. Higgins, of Brighton Grove, Newcastle, and these gentlemen called the attention of Mr Hammond, station-master at Lamesley. There being no doctor within immediate reach Mr Hammond deemed it advisable to go on to Birtley, and on arrival there the man, who had evidently died immediately after the train left Bensham, was carried into the first-class waiting room, and Dr. Wilson was sent for. That gentleman's assistant attended, and after making a careful examination he pronounced life to be extinct. P.C. Lumley searched the pockets of the deceased with a view to identification, and written upon a label (one of Mr J. T. Castle's, of Stanley) was the name, "Mr Young, Causey, 1898." Mr Hewitson, station-master at Birtley, who acted with commendable promptitude throughout, wired to Mr Newton at Shield Row, and as a result of enquiries made by Mr James Howe, clerk at Shield Row, one of the sons of deceased arrived at Birtley, and identified the body as that of his father, Mr Thomas Young, of Andrew's House, near Marley Hill. Deceased, who was about 59 years of age, had a single ticket from Bensham to Shield Row. Sergt. Gray, of Birtley, communicated with the Coroner, but inquiries made elicited the fact that the deceased had been professionally attended by Dr. Smith, of Whickham. Mr Graham, therefore, did not deem an inquest necessary, and on Saturday morning authorised the removal of the body. A sister of Mr Young's died very suddenly some time ago.

Benfieldside School Board.

The usual monthly meeting of this body was held at the Benfieldside Schools on Friday afternoon, under the presidency of the Rev. A. Baillie (chairman.) Also present: Canon Ross-Lewin, Rev. E. W. Jenkins, Mr. W. Ramsay, Mr. G. J. Robinson, Mr. John Sloane, Mr. J. Dowson; and the Clerk (Mr. R. G. Barclay, J.P.)

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee recommended that sums amounting to £226 be paid, and this was approved of.

MEASLES.

The School Committee reported that owing to a severe outbreak of measles, they had decided to close Derwent Street School until the 23rd inst.

It was resolved that the School Committee be empowered to re-open the schools on the 23rd, or keep them closed after that date, as seemed best to them.

NEW PIANOS.

On the recommendation of the School Committee, it was agreed that Mr. E. J. Sloane, Mr. J. Surtees, and Miss Harker should be asked to send in estimates for supplying two new pianos for the schools.

ONE APPLICATION.

There was only one application for the vacancy advertised by the Board—viz., that of Miss E. Rudd, who is mistress of a school near Kirby Stephen.

The Clerk stated that Miss Rudd was unable to wait upon the Board that day, but had written to say that she would come to Blackhill on the Saturday morning.

It was decided that the Chairman, Clerk, and Miss Kinnear should interview Miss Rudd.

A WISE STEP.

Mr. Dowson moved that the services of Miss M. J. Walton—whose apprenticeship expired at Christmas—should be retained under Art. 68 at a salary of £30 per annum, to increase £2 10s a year.

Mr. Jenkins seconded the motion, which was carried.

AN INCREASE.

On the motion of Mr. Sloane, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, it was resolved that Miss Wood should receive an increase of £2 10s per year.

FOUND AT LAST.

A letter was read from Mr. Shell, stating that owing to changing his office the plans had got all mixed up. However, he hoped to be able to let them have the plans of the school by the week-end.

RE-ENGAGED OR RE-TAINED?

The Clerk read a letter from Miss Graham stating that she was recovering from her illness, and hoped to be able to resume her duties in a short time.

Mr. Jenkins moved that Miss Graham be re-engaged.

Mr. Dowson seconded.

Mr. Ramsay moved as an amendment that Miss Graham be retained in accordance with the terms of her letter.

Mr. Sloane understood that she had left.

The Clerk: So she did.

Mr. Ramsay: But we went back to her and asked her to stay.

The Chairman remarked that the letter did not state definitely when she would resume her duties.

Mr. Dowson: If we retain or continue her services, and she does not return for six months, have we to pay her?

Mr. Ramsay: There is a resolution on the books dealing with the sickness of teachers.

Mr. Sloane said that Miss Graham admitted she had no claim on the Board.

Mr. Ross-Lewin said they might appoint another teacher. If Miss Graham returned within a reasonable time they might consider the question of paying her for the time she had been off.

After further discussion, Mr. Ross-Lewin seconded the amendment if it was only a matter of a few weeks. At the same time Miss Graham had no claim on the Board.

Mr. Dowson said she was just making a tool of the Board.

Mr. Robinson: She gave in her notice and we re-engaged her up to the end of the year, and then she took ill. If she is likely to come back within a month's time I think we ought to retain her services.

Mr. Ross-Lewin said the Board had no liability.

Mr. Ramsay said if they did not continue Miss Graham's services they would pay more in advertising the vacancy than her wages for the short period would come to, and then they would be in the market again.

Eventually, Mr. Ramsay expressed his willingness to withdraw his amendment if the Clerk was given discretionary power to remunerate Miss Graham for the time she had been off, supposing she returned within a month.

Messrs Jenkins and Dowson consented to amend their motion to this effect, and the latter was then carried.

This concluded the business, and the Board rose.

CALIFORNIA SYRUP OF FIGS.

"If you wish to go shopping and not regret it,
When you ask for an article see that you get it."

This preparation has found favour with the public and the medical profession because it is pleasant to take, as well as remarkably beneficial—a combination rather rare in medicinal preparations. When it is further added that its action is perfectly painless—it acts, in fact, just as healthy Nature should act—there can be no doubt that its success is due entirely to its exceptional merits as a household laxative remedy. Habitual constipation, the cause of most ordinary complaints, such as headaches, indigestion, biliousness, depression, feverishness, &c., is speedily overcome by the use of California Syrup of Figs, which cleanses the system thoroughly without the slightest inconvenience, and promotes the regularity of habit without which good health is out of the question. Best of all its acknowledged merits, it does permanent good, strengthening the organs, instead of having the weakening and lowering effect of ordinary pills and purgatives, and keeping the liver, kidneys, and bowels in a condition of healthful activity. California Syrup of Figs; ask for it in full; simply asking for "Syrup of Figs" won't do. Look for the name and trade mark of the California Fig Syrup Co., which is on every bottle of the genuine. Put up in two sizes, 1/1½ and 1/9. Of all chemists.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

The Gas Company's Bill.—The petitions in respect of the second hundred private bills to be promoted in Parliament during the forthcoming session came on Monday before the Private Bill Office at Westminster. Among the measures against which there were no memorials, and which will therefore pass unopposed through the first stage is the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Bill.

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MEN'S, YOUTHS', AND BOYS' CLOTHING,
GO TO
J. W. WOOD'S
Noted Cheap Warehouse, Front Street, West Stanley.

SKINS ON FIRE

With torturing, disfiguring, itching, burning, bleeding, scaly, and pimply humours, instantly relieved by a warm bath with CUTICURA SOAP, a single application of CUTICURA (ointment), the great skin cure, and a full dose of CUTICURA RESOLVENT, greatest of blood purifiers and humour cures.

Cuticura Is sold throughout the world. British depot: F. NEWBERY & SONS, London. POTTER D. & C. CORP., Sole Props., Boston, U.S.A. "How to Cure Torturing Humours," post free.

BABY'S SKIN Scalp and Hair Purified and Beautified by CUTICURA SOAP.

GARDENING NOTES.

The Editor's object in inaugurating these articles is to provide expert advice for such of our readers as are interested in gardening or agricultural matters; and we have therefore made arrangements that all questions directed as beneath will be fully answered, free of any charge and by return of post.

Both the Editor and Mr. Toogood will be obliged if the two following rules are adhered to:—Pack all specimens of fruits, flowers, insects, plant-diseases, etc., sent for identification, in cardboard or tin boxes which will not be crushed in transit; and send at least three specimens of any fruit of which the name is required.

If any reader who is in a difficulty with reference to his garden will write direct to the address given beneath, his questions will all be answered in full detail, free of charge, and by return of post.—[Ed.]

It is particularly requested that specimens submitted for identification be packed in boxes that will not be crushed in transit. Hundreds per week now reach us in envelopes and broken cardboard boxes, thus involving us in an enormous amount of extra labour.

GARDENING NOTES.

THE VEGETABLE GARDEN IN JANUARY

General.—Wheel out manure during frost, but keep off the land while it is soft after rain. Push on all preparatory work, such as the trenching of spare plots and making ready of rich beds for peas and beans. It must be borne in mind that the rougher land can be thrown up before frost, so much the greater will be its fertility.

Globe Artichokes.—The young leafage should be slightly earthed up, and covered with some dry, light litter, which must be removed in April, when the ring of earth should be drawn away, a dressing of rotten manure applied, and the beds forked over without injuring the roots.

Asparagus.—Beds should be well manured now, but it is better not to fork the manure in.

Beans.—Broad beans may be sown towards the end of the month on warm, rich borders in double rows three feet asunder, placing the two lines forming each double row nine inches distant from one another, arranging the seeds about seven inches apart for the plants to come alternately, and using a quart to 25 feet. Cover with three or four inches of good soil.

Cabbages.—Continue planting out whenever weather permits. Spare plots are always usefully employed under crops of cabbages, as these vegetables are generally acceptable at any season.

Cauliflowers.—Make a first sowing in boxes on a gentle hot-bed or under a cool frame in a very warm corner, using an ounce of seed to four square yards in shallow drills 10 inches apart. The produce will be ready for planting out in April.

Cress.—Make successional small sowings of cress in boxes under glass, using an ounce of seed to 1½ square yards. Cover thinly with fine soil, or else press the seed down firmly, and lay a sheet of glass over each box or pan till germination is accomplished. Cut the produce directly it is fit for use, and while each stem is plump, green, and tender. Too thick sowing often results in "damping-off." The young seedlings commence to decay near the surface of the soil in rings, and the disease spreads with great rapidity. Admit air freely to the plants; water moderately only, keeping the surface as dry as possible; and, above everything, change the soil for each crop.

Cucumbers.—Cucumbers do best in turfy or peaty loam, with some admixture of leaf mould. Early crops are, of course, specially valuable. Sow the seeds two inches deep, about a month before the plants are required, in pots or pans of light, rich, turfy loam, on a hot bed or in a sunny corner of the greenhouse. In the latter case the pots or pans must be covered with slates until germination is accomplished. For house culture it is customary to cover the hot-water pipes with large inverted pans, and these in turn with slates and a bed of strawy manure and leaves. Lightly cover the whole with soil, and heap up mounds of turfy loam every five feet along the bed. Raise the heat to about 75 degrees, with a minimum night temperature of 60 degrees; and plant out a strong young cucumber, or sow several seeds, in each heap. Treat as advised beneath for frame culture, save only that the side shoots and fruiting stems require stopping, while the plants, of course, must be trained up wires or strings at least a foot from the glass. Once a fortnight top-dress the mounds with a layer of warm soil, and keep the walls and passages frequently damped. In frames preserve a day temperature of 80 degrees, and a night heat of 60 degrees. If a little air can be admitted through the whole day without the temperature falling below that specified, it will be very beneficial. Always keep a can of warm water in the corner of the frame, so that it may become of the same temperature as the plants. Syringe both foliage and frame twice or thrice daily, and never permit the roots to become dry underneath. Give air and water in proportion as the temperature rises and falls, decreasing the supply in cold or bad weather, and increasing it as the heat becomes greater. When the plants have made four leaves, pinch out the tip, and treat the new shoots then produced in a similar manner, when they in turn have each a like number of leaves. After this, nothing in the way of stopping or training is necessary beyond the occasional removal of crowded or old shoots and leaves, pegging down unruly vines to cover the bed, and stopping each fruiting stem at the second leaf beyond the fruit. Hand fertilization is usually essential. As often as the roots show on the surface, give a top dressing of good loam.

Horse Radish.—Roots should be planted early in spring, twelve inches apart, the crowns being just beneath the surface of the ground. Those without crowns must be placed a little more deeply. Thoroughly trenched, rich, and rather moist soils are best.

Lettuce.—Make small sowings in pans in a greenhouse or frame to provide plants for putting out during April. Prick out the seedlings as early as possible into frames or boxes of light, rich soil.

Mustard.—Treat white mustard as advised for cress, remembering that the former arrives at maturity a week before the latter.

Peas.—Early outdoor crops may be sown on a warm sheltered, sloping, south border, in good soil, but for very early dishes seeds must be sown on turves, turned grass side underneath, in frames, or in pots or long shallow troughs under glass. Directly the seedlings are visible dust them over lightly with lime and soot mixed, to protect them from slugs, and thin them out to about two inches apart when they are two or three inches high. Early outdoor sowings must be shielded from keen winds, and it is well to support the plants with brushwood when they are three or four inches high. As the seedlings appear under glass, air must be given whenever possible, to promote sturdy growth, and it will, of course, be necessary to water occasionally.

Potatoes.—Towards the end of January pack a number of sets on end closely, one layer deep, in shallow boxes, which must be placed near the glass in a cool conservatory, or in some other light position, where they will be safe from frost. Select a dry warm, and good border, and, if it be not sheltered by a wall, line it out into ridges six inches high and about two feet apart. The addition of mellow, thoroughly decayed manure and sand will be beneficial.

Radishes.—Most acceptable crops can be obtained in any warm and light position, such as a partially spent hot-bed. To ensure a good succession, cover about two feet of half decayed stable manure with four or five inches of soil in a frame, so arranged that the surface of the bed is near the glass, and make thin broadcast sowings every two or three weeks.

Sea Kale.—Cover the plants with proper pots or with a layer of about a foot in depth of clean leaves, kept in position by planks and a little earth. Plants may be forced where growing by covering the beds and sea kale pots with a good layer of fermenting manure.

Tomatoes.—Sow in sandy soil in a warm house to provide plants for growing under glass. Maintain a temperature of 60 to 65 degrees at night, and 75 degrees by day, and prick out the seedlings singly into small pots directly they have made two leaves.

E. KEMP TOOGOOD, F.R.H.S.,
pre Toogood and Sons,
The Royal Seed Establishment,
Southampton.

AGRICULTURE.

THE BEST PASTURE GRASSES.

Cocksfoot-Grass; Orchard-Grass (Dactylis glomerata).—Perennial, forming cushion-like tufts, flowering from June till August, and maturing seed from July. Starting into growth tolerably early in spring, yielding moderately the first season, and attaining to its maximum the second or third year, this is one of the hardiest and best of "top grasses." It gives two cuttings annually; grows well under trees and in the shade; succeeds on all soils excepting poor sands and heaths; luxuriates in moist and deep good lands which are rich in humus; is little affected by draught or winter cold; thrives under irrigation, and produces excellent green fodder and hay, relished alike by horses, cattle, and sheep. After being cut, it rapidly throws up new herbage, and it is considered to yield the most nutritive aftermath of any grass. The following yields per acre are recorded:—Sinclair, at the time of flowering, 27,905 lbs. green or 11,859 lbs. dried, produce with an aftermath of 11,910 lbs. on rich sandy loam; Pinkert, 3,520 lbs. of hay; and Vianne, 15,570 lbs. from a light, moist and fertile soil. Cocksfoot is generally grown alone, or with clovers only, for seed production. Hard fescue-grass and meadow fescue-grass are common impurities. Good commercial qualities should have 85 per cent. of germination, and 90 per cent. of purity, 24.2 lbs. being required per acre. Owing to its tufted growth it is not adapted for sowing alone, but up to 15 per cent. may be used in mixtures of seeds for permanent pastures and leys of three or more years duration. Stebler mentions perennial rye-grass, meadow foxtail, timothy and clovers as being specially suitable for sowing with it; and he advocates only a small proportion being used at first in order to allow the other grasses to develop, additional cocksfoot being sown later. Grazing cattle sometimes uproot the tufts of grass, especially during periods of drought, though Sinclair observes that the herbage, when suffered to grow old, loses half its nutritive worth, and that it is therefore more valuable for depasturing than for hay. Rank tufts, which grow beside unspread droppings and are therefore rejected by stock, must be cut with a scythe. Manuring is most profitable.

Meadow Fescue-Grass (Festuca pratensis).—Perennial, forming compact tufts; flowering at the end of June, and ripening seed during August. One of the best grasses for grazing or mowing. Meadow Fescue constitutes a great proportion of the herbage of our most valuable natural pastures; commences to grow very early in spring; yields three productive cuttings of nutritious and grateful fodder annually in favourite soils and seasons; is uninjured by winter cold in suitable situations; resists moderate drought; grows well on all soils rich in humus; luxuriates in rich, moist lands in humid climates, and thrives under irrigation. The plant endures grazing very well; gives a moderate yield the first season, its maximum produce being attained in the second and third years, and becomes stunted on poor, dry or shallow soils. Sinclair obtained 13,612 lbs. green fodder, or 6,466 lbs. hay, from an acre of fertile peat; the following yields of hay per acre have been recorded—Vianne, 6030 lbs. the first, and 10,340 lbs. the second year from a loamy soil; Pinkert, 4930 lbs, at two cuttings from stiff sandy loam; and Sprengel an average of 4400 lbs. Sinclair says that in point of early produce in the spring this grass stands next to meadow foxtail, and is superior to cocksfoot; and he adds that—"It makes excellent hay, and though a large plant the leaves or herbage are succulent and tender, and apparently much like dby cattle, as they never form rank tufts, which is the case with the larger grasses." Seed is easily harvested, and should be saved from the first cutting. Commercial qualities often contain 50 per cent of perennial rye-grass, the adulteration being very difficult to detect without long practice. The grass should be cut before the flowering period, as it soon afterwards becomes hard and decreases in value. Good seed has about 95 per cent of purity and germination, some 41 lbs. being required per acre. Cultivated alone only for seed production meadow fescue is a most valuable ingredient of mixtures for permanent pastures and alternate husbandry, though not adapted for clover-grass or very short leys. Stebler says that for irrigated lands and for meadows it can form 20 per cent. or even more, of the whole mixture; and for short leys rarely more than 15 per cent. It benefits from applications of farm-yard manure.

Meadow Foxtail Grass (Alopecurus Pratensis).—Strictly perennial, untufted, generally forming short underground stolons; flowering in April May, and June, and ripening seed during June and July. The sweet-tasted produce, both green and dried, forms nutritious and much relished food for all stock. Sharing with sweet-scented vernal the quality of being the earliest of fodder grasses in spring, it gives a small crop the first season, attaining to the full maturity only the third year; withstands the most extreme cold, grows well under trees, is one of the most valuable of top-grasses, yields abundantly, and succeeds best in good soils containing humus; especially in clays, and rich, moist, sandy loams, from which three crops a year can be taken, the lattermath being specially large. It soon dies out from poor and dry lands, and though adapted for moist situations, and consequently for irrigation, it will not endure stagnant water. Sinclair secured, at the time of flowering 20,418 lbs. of green, or 6,125 lbs. of dried produce per acre on clayey loam; and Vianne records 27,026 lbs. green fodder, or 3,932 lbs. of hay from two cuttings on an acre of fertile loam. The harvesting of fine seed is difficult, as the spikes ripen unequally, and it is generally necessary to strip it by hand before carefully drying it in an airy place. Moreover, the seed is often seriously destroyed by the larvæ of a small fly. Slender foxtail grass, Yorkshire fog, and creeping soft grass seeds are frequently used as adulterants. The first-named impurity is somewhat difficult to distinguish. Good seed should have about 65 per cent of germination, and 95 per cent of purity, 10 lbs being required per acre. This grass may well form one-eighth part of all mixtures for permanent pastures, and it is most desirable for leys which are intended to last for three years and upwards. Manure of any kind is very beneficial.

Timothy Grass; Meadow Catstail Grass (Phleum Pratense).—A deeply-rooting perennial, forming small, united, and tolerably compact tufts, which having a slight tendency to creep, thinly cover the land; flowering in July, and maturing seed about the end of August. Though rather late and soon becoming hard this grass is invaluable on cold, wet clays and drained moorlands. It is greatly benefited by rolling, developes tolerably rapidly, giving a crop the first season; luxuriates in deeply ploughed, moist, loamy soils and clays, being stunted by dry situations; is supposed to assist in eradicating moss from meadows; resists extreme drought and winter frost; thrives under irrigation; and begins to grow thin after about three years. At Woburn it was considered superior to cocksfoot grass for producing early herbage, and Sinclair states that the valuable foliage may be cropped to a late period of the spring without injuring the heavy hay, which, if cut a little time before flowering, is not very hard, and which, being rich in nutritive matter, forms a palatable and very wholesome fodder when mixed with clovers, especially for horses. The green herbage, either alone or in conjunction with clovers and other grasses, is relished by all stock. The produce largely depends upon the character of the soil and amount of moisture available; but as a general rule the aftermath is comparatively small. Sinclair records 40,837 lbs. of green, or 17,355 lbs. of dried produce at the time of flowering, with 9,528 lbs of lattermath, from an acre of clayey loam; and the following yields of hay per acre have been obtained—Vianne, 5,280 to 13,200 lbs; Werner, 5,280 to 6,160 lbs.; and Pinkert, 4,050 lbs. The seed, the purest of which comes from North America, is produced abundantly and is easily harvested when the spikes become tinted with orange. As it is sometimes sifted out from clovers samples must always be examined for the seeds of dodder. Good commercial qualities should have 97 per cent of germination and 98 per cent of purity, 14.7lbs being required to sow an acre. Stebler says that from 5 to 20 per cent of timothy may be used in mixtures for temporary grass lands, according to the character of the soil; but that 10 per cent must not be exceeded for permanent pastures. Excepting for seed crops it should always be sown in mixtures of clovers and other grasses, alsike and red clover being specially suitable to produce leys of two or three years duration in conjunction with it, about 5 lbs of timothy being sown with 10 lbs of clovers. The application of liquid manures and fertilizers is always profitable. Bulbous catstail grass (Phleum nodosum), a form in which the lowest joints of the tems become swollen in the forms of tubers, is merely an adaptation of the ordinary variety of dry soils.

Smooth-Stalked Meadow Grass (Poa Pratensis).—Perennial, with very long underground stolons, forming tufts, and so completely covering the surface of the ground; flowering early in June and ripening seed during the beginning of July. This moderately nutritious variety starts into growth early in spring; attains to its maximum produce in the third year, yielding only poorly the first season; forms a good "bottom-grass;" resists the greatest extremes of drought and cold; luxuriates in warm, loose lands, rich in humus; grows well in all soils excepting those which are very stiff, wet or sour; succeeds in shady situations, and should be cut when in flower, as the foliage grows hard afterwards. The great objection to this grass consists in the smallness of its aftermath. Sinclair obtained, at the time of flowering, 10,209 lbs of green, or 2871 lbs. of dried produce, with 4083 lbs. of lattermath, from an acre of rood peat; and Vianne and Sprenger respectively record 6250 and 3500 to 4400 lbs. of hay per acre. Most of the seed found in commerce comes from North America. Good qualities should have 95 per cent of purity and about 60 per cent of germination, some 14.7 lbs. being usually rolled in per acre. Inferior samples are often adulterated with chaff, and the seeds of tufted hair-grass. The seed is never sown alone excepting for lawns; but it may be advantageously added to mixtures for permanent and temporary pastures for dry land, though it is not adapted for clover leys. Thoroughly decayed manure is beneficial. Apart from other botanical differences Poa pratensis is easily distinguished from Poa trivialis by its stolons being under, instead of on, the surface of the ground.

Rough-Stalked Meadow Grass (Poa trivialis).—Enduring perennial, producing creeping and rooting branches along the surface of the ground, and so forming a very close sward; flowering in June, and ripening seed in July. This grass, the most reliable and desirable of the meadow grasses, shoots tolerably early in spring; succeeds best in moist situations, on mountains, by rivers, in irrigated meadows, and in rich, moist soils generally, and is unsuitable for dry and light lands or sunny situations. It forms a good "bottom-grass" in permanent pastures; is soon stunted and scorched by drought; resists cold well as a rule; luxuriates under irrigation and in the shade, and yields a large cutting of nutritious and most palatable fodder under favourable conditions, though producing very little aftermath. Giving only small produce the first year it attains to its maximum yield in the second season, and its creeping roots soon overrun and cover the land, though it never mats like fiorin. Cutting should take place before flowering, as the culms have a tendency to become rotten near the ground. At Woburn Sinclair obtained, at the time of flowering, 7485 lbs of green fodder, or 2246 lbs. of hay, with 764 of lattermath, from an acre of manured brown loam; while Vianne secured 5280 lbs., and Pinkert 3170 lbs. of hay per acre. The seed is generally collected from wild plants and in commerce that of smooth-stalked meadow grass is often substituted; while annual meadow grass is sometimes employed as an adulterant. Good qualities should have about 90 per cent of purity, and 85 per cent of germination, 11.3 lbs being usually sown per acre. Rough-stalked meadow grass is a most valuable variety for permanent pasture in rich and sheltered soils but it is not desirable for alternate husbandry, as it gives only one cutting a year. It is adapted for forming lawns in confined situations in towns. Top dressing with compost is beneficial, and nitrate of soda, in conjunction with other artificial fertilizers, encourages the growth of the plant.

WILLIAM TOOGOOD, Southampton.

IMPROVEMENTS AT "NO PLACE."

To readers who are unacquainted with this singular piece of nomenclature, the head above will have a strongly negative flavour. There is a vein of Gilbertian paradox in the statement that "No Place" is a thriving place, and yet it is an incontrovertible fact. To get at the origin of the term one might imagine the chairmen of the Chester-le-Street and Stanley authorities facing each other with a blank space of some 140 feet dividing them, and each declaring "thus far do I come but no farther." The dividing space being in no parish, it is to be presumed that we thus find ourselves in "No Place." Not many years ago the road leading past "No Place"—about midway between East Stanley and Beamish—was sandwiched between a vast forest, but in keeping with the rest of this part of North-West Durham, a change has come over the scene. Trees have disappeared, the architect, the contractor, and the shopkeeper have been drawn thither as a needle to the magnet. Yet still the two authorities named are stationary. The kerbing of one has been suspended at a certain point to the east, and the road-making of the other has a carefully measured line of demarcation to the West. And so the dividing space remains No Place and is now giving name to a rapidly growing village. Already there are 84 houses, a branch store, and an off wine and spirit license attached to a really handsome building, which will, no doubt, in due course, become a fully licensed hotel. Preparations are being made for the erection of 30 more houses, and the Stanley Council are widening and repairing the road from East Stanley by making it into a 40 feet roadway and laying down fresh metal. Near at hand is the "Jacky" pit, where there are some 15 houses, and when all these items are added together it will be seen that "No Place" does in reality belie its name.

Mr. Geo. Cranston seems to have been more alive to future needs than most people, for in place of a small wooden erection where a "snack" was to be had, he has put up a building which would be a credit to any town. In naming it the "Red Robin House," he has, no doubt, in view the prospect of the Licensing Justices seeing the need in the near future of granting a full license for the accommodation not only of a growing resident population but also of passing travellers upon a much frequented road. The new house, which has been built of Stanley stone by Mr. Matthew Scott, contractor, of Gateshead, from plans prepared by Mr. T. C. Nicholson, architect, Blaydon, has a really handsome exterior appearance. It stands well back from the roadway, and though at present only licensed for the sale of wines and spirits off, it has been built on a full and ample hotel basis. That is to say, the turning of locks and keys and a bit extra furnishing are all that remains to be done should a license be granted. On the ground floor there is a bar 14 feet by 18 feet, with a straight solid counter and gantry for present accommodation. Behind the counter is a trap door which leads to a large and commodious cellar, well and solidly walled, and running the whole length of the building. Right and left of the bar are a commercial room and a parlour, each 14 feet by 15 feet 6 each, being in direct communication with the bar. Behind the latter is a very large and lofty kitchen which is kept entirely private from other portions of the house. There is also a taproom 16 feet by 14, and near at hand is a fine wide staircase, with a handsome landing window 7 feet by 4, which leads on to a lengthy corridor dividing several bedrooms from a very fine dining room the dimensions of which are 41 feet by 14. This room is lighted by four large windows, all facing the front, and affording a capital view. Communication is had with the bar by means of a lift, and every facility is afforded for catering to a large party. The bedrooms are very comfortable in appearance, and in dimensions are from 13 feet by 14 feet to 13 feet by 16 feet. Behind the building are two large yards—one public and the other private—and a considerable sum of money has been spent in providing good stabling and coachhouse accommodation. There is ample room in the public yard for conveyances to be driven straight in or straight out and away, leaving the public roadway absolutely free from possible obstruction. The building has been erected at Mr. Cranston's own cost, and he has therefore a great interest in having it put to a good use. It has been suggested to him that he might turn it into a club, but it is satisfactory to know he has no intention of doing so.

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THE PRINCE OF WALES AND PRIVATE SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The following letter has been addressed to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales by the Committee of the Humanitarian League:

"We venture to express our deep regret that your Royal Highness should have permitted your name to be associated with the recent action of the Smithfield Club, in opposition to the proposal of the London County Council to substitute public abattoirs for private slaughterhouses.

"We humbly suggest that your Royal Highness's intervention in a matter of long-standing controversy between public principles on the one side, and private interests on the other, is contrary to recognised precedent; and we cannot believe that your Royal Highness has been fully informed as to the grave evils inherent in the present system of private butchery, the discontinuance of which is urgently desired, both for humane and for sanitary reasons, by all classes of social reformers, and has been strongly recommended in the Report of the late Royal Commission on Tuberculosis."

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BROOMS AMATEUR MINSTRELS.

An entertainment in connection with the above was given in the Schoolroom at the Brooms on Wednesday evening week. There was a crowded attendance. The following represented the Minstrel Troupe:—Sopranos, Misses Stoner, Small, Matthews, Robson, Slane, Healey, and Mrs. F. Foreman. Altos, Misses Donaghy, McVeigh, Hogan, Pearson, and B. McVeigh. Tenors, Messrs J. Burke, J. Heslop, I. Gilliead, R. Kelly, and J. Matthews. Bass, Messrs J. Clare, B. McHugh, A. Heslop, W. Harker, and J. Kelly. Comedians, Messrs G. Stokoe, J. Turnbull, J. Murray, J. Monaghan, W. Costello, and F. Foreman. Interlocutor, Mr. R. Kelly. Musical directress, Miss Harker, A.L.C.M.

The opening item of the first part was a chorus by the troupe, which gave a good keynote to the proceedings. This was immediately followed by a comic song, "Lulla," rendered by Mr. J. Monaghan, in which the soloist made a good impression, as also did the troupe in the chorus, the song being infinitely pretty and catchy. "The Old Fashioned Rocker," by Mr. I. Gilliead was another pretty piece of music, being interpreted equally well by both soloist and chorus. "Far away ober der," by Mr. W. Costello, came next, and then Mr. B. McHugh came on with "Bring back de old folks," which, as a sentimental song, was well appreciated, and formed a nice contrast to the comic song just preceding it. Mr. F. Foreman was the next soloist in the comic song, "Put on de Golden Sword," which he gave in a free and easy style. "Yachting," by Mr. R. Kelly, was an airy sea song, and sung with spirit, the effort being received with loud applause by the audience. "Judy Blink," by Mr. J. Turnbull, was another interesting comic song, dilating upon the sweetness of this lady. Mr. J. Heslop sang "Inez, Rovina" in a good clear voice with splendid expression, the soloist putting his whole soul into the song, and receiving a well-merited round of applause. Songs were given by Mr. J. Monaghan, "The Water Melon Party," and Mr. A. Heslop, "Come back to me," the latter song, being given with splendid effect, the singer evincing a good powerful voice, and imparting pathetic expression into the sentiment of the song. A round of applause greeted the conclusion of this popular piece. Mr. Costello sang "Martha's Wedding Day," a light and catchy piece of music, the refrain being taken up by the chorus in pretty style. "Sweet Rosie O'Grady" received a good interpretation by Mr. W. Harker, after which came the concluding item of the first part of the programme in the chorus entitled "Good Night," which also formed the concluding item by the troupe. The chorus singing throughout possessed both volume and balance, the parts being heard to distinct effect. The jokes and conundrums were also very original and well taken with by the audience. In the interval, Father Magill thanked the audience and all those who had helped, for their attendance and support on the occasion. They were, he said, greatly in need of an organ. They had about fifty pounds in hand towards this object, and he was sure that that evening's proceedings would greatly augment the fund. He would conclude by wishing them all a happy new year. (Applause.) The opening item of Part II. took the form of a mandolin duet by Miss A. Harker (Blackhill), and Miss Whitehead (Consett), the same being received with continuous applause by the audience, an encore being given, Miss Whitehead, however, taking the mandoline alone on this occasion, whilst Miss A. Harker gave her selection on the piano. A variation to the programme came in the shape of an exhibition performance on the bones by Mr. G. Stokoe, the rendition being a very clever performance. Mr. J. Heslop gave a nice rendering of "Good Company," the audience again being undeniable in their demand for an encore, to which Mr. Heslop responded with "By the Fountain." A piano duet by Miss G. Hall and Miss A. Kelly was very creditably rendered by these two young ladies, evincing careful and finished training in this connection. Another interesting feature was a mandolin and zither duet by Miss A. Harker and Mr. I. Davis respectively, the two instrumetns forming a harmonious combination, "When other lips" being given with exquisite sweetness, and which lent itself to the ear of the audience very markedly, an encore being demanded. Mr. Davis responded by himself with "Killarney," which piece again suited the instrument admirably, and was listened to with much enjoyment. A further demand upon his services, however, was not acquiesced in. A stump speech by Mr. J. Murray kept the audience in roars of laughter, as the speaker extemporized on "Temperance," "Australian Mutton," "Cleopatra's Needle," and various other things in a general grand mix-up. The evening's entertainment concluded with the laughable sketch entitled "The Photographer" (arranged by Mr. J. Turnbull), the characters being:—Jones (a photographer down on his luck), Mr. W. Harker; Butcher Grocer, and Tailor, tradesman all wanting accounts settled, Messrs J. Monaghan, T. Foreman, and R. Kelly respectively; Undertaker, Mr. J. Turnbull; Young Lady (jilted by Jones), Mr. A. Heslop; Jim (a disappointed customer), Mr. G. Stokoe.

LECTURE ON INDIA AT STANHOPE

Mr. Joseph Walton, M.P., delivered his highly interesting and popular lecture on India in the Town Hall, Stanhope, on Tuesday night week, to a crowded audience. Mr. J. W. Roddam, J.P., presided. The lecture was beautifully illustrated with magic lantern slide views manipulated by Mr. J. A. Mason. At the close the Bishop of Richmond proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Walton for his very interesting lecture. A collection was taken in aid of the poor of Stanhope. The lecturer showed up the need of, and the advantage of developing India with railways, which would give a great impetus to the trade of this country, and would even help the limestone quarry trade in Weardale, besides being of untold value to India. He also advocated the construction of a railroad between India and China, thus connecting the 300,000,000 of India with the 400,000,000 people of China. He instanced Russia, a poor country, constructing railroads on a gigantic scale, while we as a wealthy nation were slow about it. The lecturer was listened to with great attention, and was highly appreciated. It has also given at Frosterley on Wednesday night.

STANLEY.

Father and Son Again.—Henry Sproats and his son, J. H. Sproats, old offenders, were, with George Gray and John Allan, brought before Mr Jonathan Green at Stanley Police Station, on Friday, charged with sleeping in the coke-ovens at Stanley Colliery on the previous night. Allan, who made his first appearance, was dismissed with a caution, and the others were sent to Durham gaol for fourteen days each.

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

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"You cannot do better than gargle with 'Condy.'"
—Sir Morell Mackenzie, M.D., Physician to the late Emperor of Germany.
GARGLE WITH CONDY'S FLUID
All substitutes are inferior.
Insist on buying "CONDY'S."

PRESENTATION AT BIRTLEY.

THE EX-STATIONMASTER.

On Thursday night last Mr. R. S. Johnson, who retired some time ago from the service of the North-Eastern Railway Company, after being 43 years in their employment, 29 of which were spent as stationmaster at Birtley, was presented with a purse of gold at his residence, Station Road, Birtley. The testimonial was purely spontaneous, and Mr. T. Ward, who took an active part in its promotion, found a ready response, and, at the same time, found that Mr. Johnson's lengthy service had been deeply appreciated by all classes of the local public. Mr. Johnson started at the bottom, and by force of character, completeness of work, and a genial courtesy worked his way up, and at each step increased the confidence his employers felt in him, and at the same time secured the goodwill of the public. He was "an old railway hand," having been one of the men who had charge of the drums at the old Loud Engine rooms at Annfield Plain, in the time of the Stanhope and Tyne line. He subsequently became waggon inspector and in this respect he gave so much satisfaction, that before long he was promoted to the position of stationmaster, and took charge of Birtley in 1868, where he remained up to the time of his retirement. On the occasion of the presentation the chair was taken by Mr. Wm. Smith, stationmaster at Annfield Plain, and in a few prefatory remarks he asked Mr. R. Wilson, of The Grove, Birtley, to hand over the testimonial.

Mr. Wilson said he had very great pleasure in performing the duty which had been allotted to him, and he would do it to the best of his ability. He had known Mr. Johnson since 1866, or about two years before he became stationmaster at Birtley. He knew him when he was an inspector, and when he used to make periodical visits to the Birtley Iron Works to see they were not taking advantage of the N.E.R. On those occasions he used to have many a genial chat with Mr. Johnson, who, at the same time, knew all that was going on round about. At that time the North-Eastern Company had a most dutiful, faithful, and painstaking official. (Hear, hear.) During the time he was stationmaster the public had always found him most courteous, most obliging, and most attentive to his duties, and they lost a good friend when they lost Mr. Johnson as stationmaster at Birtley, and the North-Eastern Company lost an excellent servant. Mr. Johnson seemed to have all his mind and interest in the management of the station, and in obliging the public. It was a great qualification in a stationmaster to be obliging. Only that day he (Mr. Wilson) had had business with Mr. Pickering, goods manager at Newcastle, and he seemed very pleased to find that the public of Birtley were acknowledging the services of an old and valued servant of the company. He was in the Highlands a while ago, and called upon Mr. T. A. Wilson, who also was very pleased indeed to think that the people of Birtley were recognising Mr. Johnson's valued services. Only on the previous morning he had received a letter from Mr. Wilson, trusting they might have a pleasant gathering, as Mr. Johnson was considered one of the best servants of the North-Eastern Company. In making the presentation he knew it was not the money Mr. Johnson needed, but they thought it best to leave him to make a choice for himself of a memento of the occasion. Their intention in handing over a purse of gold was quite as sincere as in handing over any article in the usual way. What they desired to do was to assure Mr. Johnson of the respect in which he was held, and of the appreciation his services had called forth. He trusted Mr. Johnson would have long life to enjoy the retirement he had so richly earned. (Applause.)

The Chairman said a stationmaster's life was no sinecure at the present day, and it gave him great pleasure to hear it said that Mr. Johnson had so managed affairs during the long time he had been at Birtley as to earn the goodwill of all. (Hear, hear.) He was glad to find Mr. Johnson in good health, and in the position of knowing that his services had been appreciated.

Mr. Johnson briefly acknowledged the gift, and thanked every subscriber. Particularly were his thanks due to those who had promoted and carried out the testimonial. He knew that matters of that kind could not be made a success without someone taking an active part, and to those who had done so he was very grateful. He could conscientiously say he did his best both for the Company and the public, and he had no reflections. It was a pleasure to find his efforts appreciated in such a way as they had done that night. He thanked them sincerely for their handsome testimonial. (Applause.)

Mr. T. Ward, as one of the promoters, assured Mr. Johnson that the work had been one of love to them, for they fully appreciated the kindly qualities of the late stationmaster.

Mr. Wm. Johnson having made a few remarks, votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

BLAYDON.

Blaydon and District Trade and Labour Council.—The monthly meeting of the above Council was held on Monday, Jan. 9th, in the Commercial Hotel, Winlaton—Mr. R. Hutton presiding, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. Joseph Robson; vice-president Mr. Robert Parker; secretary, Mr. Wm. Jeavens; treasurer, Mr. Thomas Palmer; auditors, Messrs Nicholson and Hogg. After which the balance-sheet was presented, showing a debit balance. The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the annual report, said that this being their first year, and recognising the many difficulties that hindered the progress of a Council such as theirs, he still ventured to believe that they had done some good and useful work, work which in many cases had met with such success as to stimulate and encourage them to persevere more diligently than ever in their efforts to bring about the bettering of the condition of the workers. (Applause.) Their sphere at present was very limited, but he sincerely believed that if every member who had the objects of the Council at heart would do his best to forward the cause, and more especially in endeavouring to induce other societies to join them, the Council could be made a great factor for good and right throughout the district (Applause.)—It was resolved to hold a public meeting in the month of February, and invite public speakers to attend. After transacting other business, a vote of thanks to the Chairman brought a successful meeting to a close.

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

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Dr. Bardsley's Antibilious Pills—for eradicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

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THE MARVELLOUS WORK HANDYSIDE'S
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IS PERFORMING NO ONE CAN BELIEVE, therefore he has opened DISPENSARIES,
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MRS. CARTER, 35, LOW STREET, SUNDERLAND,
that she could not see her finger before her eyes. Her sight is now restored by taking Handyside's Consumption Cure, and is now able to walk about the streets nursing her child. I asked the lady when she came for the medicine how much she would give to be cured. She replied she would give £10,000 if she had it. I beg to ask ministers of religion, tradesmen, newspaper reporters, and all classes of people to come and investigate the wonderful powers of Handyside's Consumption Cure. Although Handyside's Consumption Cure has restored a good many blind people to perfect sight it must be clearly understood that if the organs of the eye are damaged or any part destroyed this medicine will not cure, but to the thousands of people who have weak sight from debility this medicine is a great boon. This dispensary at Sunderland will only be open for eight weeks and I would recommend everyone who is troubled with consumption, cancer, indigestion, weak hearts, costiveness, looseness of the bowels, and sleeplessness, who have not the means to pay for the medicine, not to delay, for when the dispensaries are closed the lamentations are loud and general. One person, ill of cancer, who had not the means to purchase the medicine, her wailings were so great that the neighbours subscribed money to purchase her a lot of Handyside's Consumption Cure to allay her unbearable pains. Let me advise everyone not to dally with consumption, for although this medicine has cured thousands of consumptive people, yet they dally on with other things until their lungs are eat away, then nothing will cure them. The Consumption Cure only has cured 80 per cent. of cancer cases. If the Pills prepared by G. Handyside, were regularly taken, and the directions strictly attended to, they would not only add five years to their lives, but to a great extent prevent those acute diseases which make life unbearable and send them to an early grave. They contain no medicine therefore cannot ruin the constitution, as most medicines do. The great good they do is by strengthening the stomach and enriching the blood. If you cannot get the medicine from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, 12, Bentinck Crescent, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this body was held on Wednesday evening in the Council Chamber of the Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge, under the presidency of Councillor William Telford, J.P. (chairman.) The other members present were:—Councillors C. Parnaby (vice-chairman), H. Carss, Ed. Sloane, J. Heymer, R. G. Barclay, J.P., J. Dowson, Jas. Annandale, J.P., W. M. Annandale, Geo. J. Robinson, R. Eccles, Jos. Eltringham, the Clerk (Mr. J. B. Lasenby), and the Surveyor (Mr. J. Dixon.)

A GREETING.

Before commencing the business, the Chairman wished the members a bright and prosperous New Year.

THE MEDICAL OFFICERSHIP.

The Clerk stated that he forwarded the Local Government Board a letter relative to the appointment of Dr. Allen as Medical Officer for the district, and enclosed a statement shewing the rateable value of the district, and also the total of the population. He had received the following reply:—

Local Government Board,
Whitehall, S.W., Dec. 23rd, 1898.

Sir,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th ult., and to state that under all the circumstances they will not refuse their assent, for a period of one year, to a salary of £30 per annum being assigned to the office of Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Benfieldside. The Board must, however, request the District Council to re-consider the amount of the salary with a view to an increase at the end of the period for which they have assented to the arrangement. The particulars of the appointment of Dr. W. Allen to the office in question should be communicated to the Board in one of the enclosed forms.

A. D. A. SHAW,
ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

Coun. Eltringham said the Local Government Board should appoint the Medical Officer and pay him themselves.

The Clerk: They don't pay anything.

Coun. Eltringham: Well the County Council has to pay it.

The question dropped.

MORE POWERS.

A communication was read from the National Telephone Company intimating that it was their intention to apply to Parliament for more additional powers.

The Clerk said this was a matter that affected the Council very materially, and he had a letter from the Urban District Councils' Association asking if the Council would join them in opposing the Bill.

Coun. Eltringham pointed out that so far as the County Council was concerned they were exempt, but this only applied to the main roads.

Coun. Parnaby suggested that it would be wise for the clerk to look carefully through the Bill, and see what the additional powers meant, and if it was found necessary that they should do something in the matter he could confer with the Chairman with a view of calling a special meeting and have the question considered.

The suggestion was agreed to.

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee reported that they had gone into the accounts, and found them in order, and recommended that the necessary cheques should be signed.

On the proposition of Coun. Jas. Annandale, seconded by Coun. Barclay, the cheques were signed.

MR. STEPHENSON'S PLANS.

Another Wearisome Discussion.

The Building and Sanitary Committee reported as follows:—

Mr. Jon. Stephenson met your committee re St. Aidan's Place street-making, and he stated that he was not informed when he purchased the ground from the Consett Iron Co. that this Council required the front of the houses to be fenced, and that he has done all he expected we required to be done in the front of the houses; but he offers to carry out the work (pointed out in our last report) in the end street or Back St. Aidan's Street, viz., kerb, channel, and cement the footpath providing the fencing in the front is left undone. We are satisfied that there has been a mistake between himself and the Consett Iron Co. as to the conditions on which the plan was passed for the street. We recommend that the Clerk write the Consett Iron Co. and ask them if the conditions were shewn, or given to Mr Stephenson, or not, and if in writing could they forward a copy. The plans submitted by Mr. Geo. T. Wilson, architect, for property in Durham Road, were considered, along with a letter from Messrs J. G. Murray, Richmond, and Aynsley, solicitors, on behalf of the executors of the late Mr John Christopher. The committee cannot recommend them to be passed on account of the objections set forth in the letter, dated Dec. 20th, 1898. Mr Sloane's plan for additions to property in Derwent Street, we recommend that it be passed and sealed.

After Coun. Eltringham had clearly laid before the Council the understanding that had been arrived at between Mr Stephenson and the committee, the substance of which is contained in the report,

Coun. James Annandale said at the last meeting he proposed a certain motion relative to this question, which was carried. He did this on receiving an answer from the Surveyor regarding the palisading. He had since found out that the work had been carried out according to the plan stamped by the Council. He thought they should not go any further into the matter. They never had any plans from Mr Stephenson respecting the street work, and if it was necessary he was prepared to give notice to rescind his previous motion that was entered in the minutes. The plan which Mr Stephenson had submitted had received the sanction of the Council, and he had a perfect right to carry out the work which he had done. He did not see why they should have anything to do with the Consett Iron Co.

The Surveyor: There is a line on the plan for the palisading.

Coun. Eltringham: We had a plan for the street from the Consett Iron Co.

Coun. J. Annandale: We have a plan from Mr Stephenson shewing what has already been done.

The Chairman thought the plan from Mr Stephenson was passed subject to it being in conformity with the ground plan.

Coun. Jas. Annandale said he had already pointed out that they had a plan from Mr Stephenson showing the work that had been carried out. He framed the motion at the last meeting through the answer he received from the Surveyor.

The Surveyor said the line on the plan showed the gardens divided from the footpath.

Coun. Eltringham said he could bear the Surveyor out in that respect. Mr Stephenson's plan for the street was never considered It was only for the houses. The plan from the Consett Iron Co. was for the street.

The Chairman reiterated his former statement that he thought the plan was passed subject to it being in accordance with the ground plan.

Coun. Jas. Annandale: There is nothing to that effect on the plan. It shows everything betwen the rows of houses, but not the palisading.

Coun. Parnaby said he did not know why Coun. Annandale had taken up the position he had regarding this matter. There were certain conditions laid down when the plans were passed and the question that had to be answered was did Mr Stephenson know of these conditions, and if he did why had they not been carried out?

Coun. Carss said that Mr. Stephenson honestly and fairly offered to carry out the work mentioned in the report providing they would let him off doing the palisading. Seeing this was the case what was the use of discussing the question any further.

Coun. Barclay: Seeing there is so much misunderstanding regarding the plans I think they should be produced.

The Surveyor accordingly placed a plan on the table.

Coun. J. Annandale: This is not Mr Stephenson's plan. It is the plan of the street passed for the Consett Iron Co.

Coun. Eltringham: Yes, it is the Consett Iron Co.'s plan.

Coun. Annandale: We have nothing to do with that plan. We are now dealing with Mr Stephenson.

Coun. Eltringham: This is the plan we had to consider first.

The Chairman remarked that the committee passed the plan expecting the palisading was going to be put on. This had not been done, and there appeared to be a mistake somewhere.

Coun. Sloane said they should not put all the blame on Mr Stephenson.

Coun. Carss: Of course not.

The plan for Mr Stephenson's property was now placed on the table, and closely examined by the members.

Coun. J. Annandale again maintained that Mr Stephenson had carried out his plan.

Coun. Eccles said there seemed to have been some correspondence between the Surveyor and Mr Oliver, the architect for the Consett Iron Co., respecting the palisading, and Mr Stephenson did not appear to know anything about it. At any rate the conditions did not seem to have been conveyed to Mr Stephenson.

Coun. Jas. Annandale stated that Mr Oliver's signature was on the plan which went to show that it was correct.

Coun. Parnaby: I take it the signature shows that it was in harmony with the surrounding buildings.

Coun. Eccles: We find that the plan is signed by Mr. Oliver eighteen month's after we have passed it.

The Clerk said that by passing Mr. Stephenson's plan he thought the Council had waved the other conditions made with the Consett Iron Company.

Coun. Parnaby stated that Mr. Oliver had said that the condition with regard to the street did reach Mr. Stephenson.

Coun. Carss concurred with the views of Coun. Jas Annandale, and said the Council had passed the plan, and there was no mark on it respecting the palisading. Mr. Stephenson had carried out the work according to the plan, and he thought they should let the discussion cease, seeing that Mr. Stephenson was willing to meet the Council by undertaking to carry out the work mentioned in the report.

Coun. Eltringham said when the plan was passed for the Consett Iron Company they were made aware of the conditions. He had contended all along if Mr. Stephenson did not know of the conditions it was not the Council's fault. However, what they wanted to know now was under what conditions did the Constt Iron Company sell this plot of land?

The Clerk: Supposing the Company say that Mr. Stephenson knew the conditions, what then?

Coun. Parnaby: They do say so.

Coun. Eltringham: It will be satisfaction for us to know who is right in the matter.

Coun. Robinson thought the Council ought to accept the Committee's recommendation.

The Chairman expressed the opinion that the question had been discussed sufficiently.

Coun. Eccles said he was glad the question had been discussed. They had no right to be thrown into a muddle through the fault of someone else.

Coun. Robinson had repeated time after time that the plans were not clear enough, and this just proved his words. They had relied all along on the conditions forwarded to the Consett Iron Company.

After further discussion, a motion was passed to the effect that the offer of Mr. Stephenson should be accepted in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee.

Coun. Jas. Aannandale gave notice to rescind the motion that was passed at the last meeting.

The other recommendations in the report were agreed to.

THE JOINT BURIAL BOARD.

THE TREASURERSHIP.

Coun. Heymer said that according to the report in the local papers of the proceedings of the Joint Burial Board for the district he noticed they had taken a step which he wished to call the Council's attention to, and also with a view of obtaining a little information from their representatives on that body seeing they had two of them present on that occasion. He saw they had appointed a treasurer, which meant that the Board's banking account would be transferred from one bank to another. He did not wish to say very much about it, and therefore would simply ask a question or two. First, is it a fact that at the last meeting, Mr. W. Ramsay was appointed treasurer to the Board, and if this meant the withdrawal of the banking account from Messrs Hodgkin and Company's bank? Secondly, what is the reason for the proposed change? He knew nothing about the question, except seeing it in the local papers; but he thought they had a right to know something of the why and the wherefor for this drastic change.

The Chairman said he could not furnish Coun Heymer with any information. He knew the Burial Board had had an account with Messrs Hodgkin and Company for a long number of years, and he could not really say what had caused the Board to change from this bank to another.

Coun. Carss wished to know what power they had in the matter. He thought this was a question more for the Burial Board to deal with than the Council, unless the representatives present felt disposed to give them a little information.

Coun. Sloane said it was a fact that Mr. Ramsay was appointed at the last meeting, and it would naturally follow that the Board's banking account would be transferred to another bank. At the meeting he took a strong objection to the proposal, as he considered they had no right to do anything of the kind, seeing they were only there as a committee, and not as a Board. They were not incorporated, and, therefore, had no seal. Seeing this was the case he maintained they had no right to deal with such an important question without first receiving some instructions from the respective Councils. He saw no reason why the banking account should be changed, and also from the fact that it had been with Messrs Hodgkin and Company for the past 22 years, to his knowledge, and who had always been on the best of terms, and had served the Board well. There had never been any complaint, and he thought it was very unfair that such should be done. He also took into consideration if it was not convenient for to have the banking account at Consett, it could easily be transferred to Messrs Hodgkin's bank at Blackhill. At the last meeting of the Burial Board there was nothing advanced to convince him that there should be a change, and accordingly submitted a motion that Mr. Kirsopp should continue to be the treasurer for the Board. This did not receive a seconder, and the motion for the appointment of Mr. Ramsay was carried. He had given them as clear an explanation as he possibly could, and he was far from being satisfied with what had been done.

Coun. Eccles said, as one of the representatives on the Burial Board, he would give them his version as to why a treasurer was appointed. The sole reason was the amount of money the Clerk had in his possession from time to time which caused the question of a treasurer being appointed. At a meeting of the Board three months previous to the action taken at the last meeting it was found that the Clerk had a balance of £68 in his possession.

Coun. Carss (interposing): In his private possession?

Coun. Eccles, continuing, said such was a fact, and seeing that the amount was increasing, this led them to seriously consider the appointment of a treasurer. They also thought it would be advisable to have a treasurer seeing what had transpired at other places in the way of robberies from safes where it was known large sums of money were kept. They considered to do this would be the best in the long run. He knew there was a banking account with Messrs Hodgkin and Co., but he was ignorant of the fact that the Board had a treasurer previous to the appointment of Mr. Ramsay. It was not his intention to conceal anything. If he had done wrong he was prepared to stand by the consequences. They had already heard what took place at the last meeting. Mr. Ramsay was appointed treasurer by the majority of the Board. He might say that he supported Mr. Ramsay. He had no interest for or against the bank where the money was deposited. The treasurer was appointed, and it was found necessary to do so for the safety of the public money. It was never mentioned that the money would be transferred; but it naturally followed that it would go into the North-Eastern Bank. This was a question they had nothing to do with, as it was pointed out the treasurer could carry the money in his pocket if he chose, so long as he gave the Board the necessary bond. The treasurer appointed was asked to provide a bond for £200. He went to the Burial Board to look after the interests of the people, and to see that everything was done for those that sent him there.

Coun. Barclay said that the Benfieldside Burial Board as far back as June, 1875, opened an account with Messrs Hodgkin and Co., at Shotley Bridge, thus appointing them their treasurers. This was done through the Public Works Loan Commissioners depositing with them the sum of £2,000 for the use of the Burial Board. From that time up to the last meeting. Messrs Hodgkin had always had the account, and have been looked upon as the treasurers for the Board. Although he (the speaker) had two or three times told the Clerk (Mr. Whinney) that that account was not used as much as it might have been with advantage to the Board, it had been worked to mutual satisfaction ever since, and on Messrs Hodgkin and Co.'s opening a branch at Consett it was taken there for the greater convenience of Mr. Whinney, whose other business took him to Consett daily during bank hours. He wished to point out to the Council that the new appointment, if conferred, involving as it did the transfer of the account to the North-Eastern Bank, Blackhill, would be distinctly detrimental to the public service as placing an irksome inconvenience on the Clerk, whose duties prevented him ever being at Blackhill during banking hours.

Mr. Eccles (interposing) said that in opening the banking account with the treasurer it was understood that Mr. Whinney would be able to see him any time, and at any hour, at his own house.

The Chairman said the discussion was rather out of place. The Clerk informed him that the Board had certain powers under the new Act, and they had a perfect right to place their money where they liked, and they, as a Council, had no power in the matter.

Coun. Barclay said he would like to finish his remarks. He would ask them if it was right, just, or honourable that a connection of so long standing should be thus uncourteously broken without a hitch, or cause of difference between the parties, or without any reason being assigned. He would ask the Burial Board, and their much respected Chairman, how they would like a regular customer of 22 years standing to suddenly leave off dealing with them for no better reason than can be given for this strange and thoughtless action. He would hand to the Chairman for inspection a paid cheque of the Burial Board on Messrs Hodgkin and Co., and ask them whether the office of treasurer or banker (for the terms were in such a case synonymous), was in their opinion vacant?

Coun. Eccles: I have no particular interest. I go there in the interests of the public. I have told you the reason why I supported a treasurer being appointed. If Coun. Barclay's name had come forward I would perhaps have as readily supported him as I did Mr. Ramsay.

Coun. Barclay: I would not have taken it under such circumstances.

The Chairman: Have you any suggestions to make to the representatives?

Coun. Heymer: If we have no power, what is the use of interfering in the matter.

The Chairman: We might make a suggestion.

Coun. Eccles: I am perfectly willing to take any suggestion.

Coun. Robinson thought it was hardly fair that they should prompt their representatives; but it was necessary that they should know sometimes what was being done by the Burial Board.

Coun. Carss failed to see what advantage was going to accrue from changing the banks.

The Clerk said it might have been suggested to Mr. Whinney to have kept a less balance in hand.

Mr. Sloane: Just so.

After further discussion, the question dropped without anything definite being arrived at.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

SECOND SUBSCRIPTION CONCERT.

"THE MAY QUEEN," AND MISCELLANEOUS SECOND PART.

ON FEBRUARY 8th, 1899.

ANNFIELD PLAIN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Burial Board Office, Hare Law, on Tuesday evening, under the presidency of Coun. J. W. Taylor, J.P. There were also present—Couns. J. Storey, W. Down, R. Hall, T. Clark, J. G. Taylor, W. Johnson, W. Young; Mr. T. L. Watchman (Clerk), and Mr. T J. Trowsdale (Surveyor.)

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This committee recommended that the plan submitted by Mr. J. E. Parker for proposed alteration to premises at Annfield Plain, for Mr. Lazenby, be approved, and that he be requested to increase the height of the rooms in the existing buildings to the same height as the proposed new buildings; that the plan submitted by Mr. J. Dunn for the proposed erection of house and shop at West Kyo, for Mr. Stevens, be adjourned, pending the receipt of further information; that the consideration of the matter contained in a letter from Mr. J. A. Curry, with respect to street works done at the Square, Dipton, be adjourned for a week, and that in the meantime the committee inspect the same; that the Council be recommended to purchase a piece of land adjoining the Cemetery, Hare Law, on which to erect Council offices; that the design and estimate submitted for roof and iron railings for the public conveniences at Annfield Plain be accepted, and that the estimate of the roof and railings complete for £45 be approved.

BYE-LAWS.

The Clerk reported that the bye-laws submitted to the Local Government Board had been duly confirmed, and it was resolved that a thousand copies of the bye-laws be printed; that parts two and four of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 be adopted; that a letter be addressed to the Post Office Telegraphs Engineer asking what would be the rate for having Annfield Plain a telephone exchange and communication with the trunks.

DIPTON STREET WORKS.

The Chairman asked if the committee had inspected the place at Dipton?

Coun. Johnson said the drain was stopped up, and the place was flooded.

Coun. J. G. Taylor said the place was flooded, and he was of the opinion that it was due to the negligence of the tenants in allowing the drain to be filled up, and not the cement which the Council had laid had stopped the water course.

THE WARS OF THE SITES, RENEWED.

Coun. Storey said he would like to move an amendment to the purchasing of the piece of land for Council Offices at Hare Law. He moved that instead of purchasing the land according to the recommendation of the committee, the Council purchase the piece of land from Messrs Joicey at Catchgate, opposite Mr. Down's house. Before long they might want a piece of ground to add to the cemetery. It would be an awkward business if they had to go to another portion of the district to find ground suitable for burial purposes when the chapel was at Hare Law. Again, he could not see any reason for them to have to pay so much money more for the piece of land etc. at Hare Law than they could get at Catchgate from Mr. Clark. It was just as well in their pockets as in Mr. Porter's, and he had not the slightest idea in his mind that the Catchgate land was just as safe as the other. If there had been any doubt he would readily have given way. But seeing that one piece was as safe as the other, he could not see the reason for purchasing the land adjoining the cemetery. He moved that the words, "adjoining the cemetery," be substituted by the words, "at Catchgate."

Coun. Down seconded the motion. There could be no new arguments to raise. As Mr. Storey had said the land adjoining the cemetery in a very short time would be required for cemetery purposes. It would cost from £60 to £80 more than the other piece of ground would, and another thing, they could get as much at Catchgate for out-offices as they required, while at the cemetery they were limited. Both pieces were too far away from Annfield Plain. Both were a mile distant from a telegraph office and the station. He favoured Mr. Storey's amendment.

Coun. Johnson moved that the paragraph be deleted altogether.

The Chairman said the question had been discussed a great deal. His preference was all for the piece of ground adjoining the cemetery, and irrespective of price it was the best site, but for the sake of unanimity on the point, he would not force the opinion if there was no possibility of their agreeing on the matter. They wanted offices, and they should be shaping their course in providing suitable accommodation for their officials. But it was a question upon which they were not agreed, and if there was a possibility of their differing upon the matter he would second the proposal not to go on until there was some reasonable chance of agreeing upon the matter.

Coun. Mason was just in favour of the motion as it stood in the committee's report.

Coun. Johnson: Have we decided how much we want?

The Chairman: We will soon decide how much we want when we decide where it is to be.

Coun. Young: At the last committee meeting there was a large majority in favour of the committee's recommendation.

Coun. Eltringham moved that the report as read be adopted. It was useless to go any further into the matter, because it would only be repeating what had already been said at a previous meeting. As far as his knowledge of the district was concerned he was more in favour of the land adjoining the cemetery than ever.

Coun. Clark seconded the motion. He thought the question had been shelved long enough, and thought they should not put the matter off any longer. For his part he was in favour of land adjoining the cemetery, and the price of a shilling a yard should not be a stumbling block in the way.

For the amendment there voted—Couns. Storey, Down, and Hall; while for the adoption of the report as read, Couns. Mason Clark, Eltringham, Taylor, and Young.

Coun. Johnson then moved that the paragraph be deleted altogether until the thin be thoroughly fought out.

Coun. Storey seconded, and Coun. Down supported.

For the amendment there voted—Couns. Johnson, J. W. Taylor, Down, and Storey. Against—Couns. Hall, Eltringham, J. G. Taylor, Young, Mason, and Clark. The report of the committee was carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This Committee recommended the payment of accounts amounting to £495 6s 3d and also that the Council be recommended to obtain a typewriter.

Coun. Storey moved, and Coun. Eltringham seconded the adoption of the report.—Carried.

A TYPEWRITER.

Coun. J. W. Taylor moved, and Coun. Storey seconded the motion, that the Council purchase a No. 5 "Yost" typewriter.

The motion was carried.

HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

This Committee recommended that the Council remove and re-construct the retaining wall at Kyo for the road improvements at Kyo, and that the several persons on whom notices to remove obstructions had already been served, be asked to remove the same without further delay; that a slurry cart be obtained; that application be made to the Local Government Board, under section 33 of the Local Government Act, 1894, conferring on the Urban District Council of Annfield Plain the powers of a Parish Council under section B (2) of the Act, with respect to the repair and maintenance of all or any of the public footpaths not being footpaths by the side of a public road, within the Urban District of Annfield Plain.

THE RECENT FATAL ACCIDENT.

Coun. Storey drew attention to the fact that a man had been killed at Oxhill, at which time some of the lamps were not lighted. He thought they should do something to light that part more efficiently.

The Chairman: Is it in our area?

Coun. Storey: It is in the Stanley district.

The Chairman: The Stanley people would tell us to mind our own business, as they did before.

The report was adopted.

SIGNING CONTRACTS.

The Council signed and sealed the contracts for the cleansing of ashpits, privies, &c., in the Urban District with Thomas Robson, George Stobbs, John Scott, Jas. Bolam, and George Nicholson, on the motion of Coun. Johnson, seconded by Coun. Down.

INSPECTOR OF NUISANCE'S REPORT.

Mr. T. J. Trowsdale, Inspector, called the attention of the Council to a serious nuisance existing in various parts of the district, caused by a portion of the inhabitants throwing slop water, ashes, and refuse on to the streets and highways. The practice was quite common in some localities, and in order to put a stop to the nuisance he recommended that notices in the form of a bill be posted, prohibiting the practice, and warning offenders of their liability to be proceeded against. He had made general inspections in the district, and the matters coming under his notice were receiving attention. In several instances of overcrowding reported recently, several of them had been abated, while the remainder were still under observation. Considerable difficulty was experienced in dealing with that matter owing to the great scarcity of dwelling-houses in the district.

The report was adopted.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The Collector, Mr. Bates, reported that during the month £516 5s 6d had been collected on account of the General District Rate, proportion of highways, fines 6d, private street works, £449 5s 7d, the total being £965 12s 6d, leaving a balance in the bank of £2,057 15s 5d.—The report was adopted.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. T. Benson, Medical Officer, reported that scarlatina was the only notifiable disease present in the idistrict during the past month, and the number of cases reported to him was thirteen. They all resided in the same localities mentioned in his last report, viz., Dipton, Catchgate, South Pontop, and Loud, and all practically occurred within an area to have acquired the disease. One case was sent to the hospital. No other form of infectious disease come under his notice in the above period. The month's mortality was slightly above the average; 17 deaths were returned, giving a death-rate equal to 18 per 1,000 per annum. Not a death, however, resulted from preventible disease.

A SUB-COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen were appointed a sub-committee to move in the work of visiting adjoining Council Offices for the purpose of recommending what kind of offices should be erected.—Couns. Eltringham, Storey, Johnson, Down, and the Chairman.

The Council then rose.

FIRE AT LEADGATE.

Hay Shed Burnt Down.

Great Delay in the Arrival of the Fire Brigade.

About five minutes to nine on Wednesday evening a hay shed belonging to the Leadgate Co-operative and Industrial Society was discovered to be on fire. There was a high wind prevailing at the time, which at once fanned the flames and enveloped the whole shed in a very short time. Great volumes of smoke and sparks were driven off by the wind upon the people in the streets, of whom there was a large concourse, almost the whole of the inhabitants turning out to witness the conflagration. The crowd was also augmented by visitors from Consett and the surrounding places. The shed itself was obviously doomed from the commencement, but fearing danger to the adjacent block of houses and the Co-operative Hall and premises from the immense showers of sparks which were being emitted, the Urban Council Fire Brigade was at once sought. We learn, however, on the authority of several members of the Co-operative committee, that the surveyor refused to sanction the services of the brigade without a written agreement as to payment. Whatever the reason may have been, suffice it to say that it was over an hour from the first discovery of the fire before the first drop of water was brought to play upon the burning heap. A derisive cheer arose from the crowd upon the advent of the first stream of water, whilst the firemen were made subject to a running fire of uncomplimentary and facetious remarks from those immediately around them. A further delay of five or ten minutes was again occasioned amidst much jeering and laughter when the water supply gave way, almost immediately after a start had been effected. This was stated to be due to the defective hose pipes. Some of the spectators at any rate got a drenching here and there from the leakages. A fair start, however, was eventually made, and before half-past ten the fire was extinguished. There was about five tons of hay stored in the shed valued at about £20. The loss, we understand, is covered by insurance. The origin of the fire is entirely unknown up to the present. The local police also lent their aid, being assisted by others from Consett, but the crowd was very good humoured and orderly. The Hockey Club ball in the Co-operative Hall adjoining proceeded without any interruption. Luckily the wind blew the sparks clear of the neighbouring block or a serious conflagration might have resulted.

WEDDING AT CONSETT.

On Tuesday week, a marriage was solemnized by the Rev. J. Foran, in St. Mary's Catholic Church, Blackhill, between Thomas Quinn, son of Mr. M. Quinn, Consett, and Miss C. McGrievy, eldest daughter of Mr. O. McGrievy, Consett. The parties being well-known and popular round the district much interest was evinced in the event. The bridegroom had as his groomsmen Mr P. McGrievy (brother of the bride), Mr F. McCourt, and Mr P. Finnigan; whilst the bride was accompanied by Miss E. Quinn (sister of the bridegroom), Miss Quigley, and Miss Brown. The bride wore a violet coloured costume, primrose satin blouse with chiffon trimming, and hat to match. The bridesmaids were dressed in cream corduroy with cream satin and chiffon trimmings, and wore black velvet picture hats. After the ceremony a reception was held at the residence of the bride's parents, were a wedding breakfast was served. The newly married couple afterwards left, with hearty congratulations for Newcastle. In the evening, a large number of friends and guests, numbering over 40 couple, assembled in the Masonic Hall, Consett, were a most enjoyable evening was spent. Music was supplied by Messrs Maughan and Welch. The following are a list of the presents—

Mrs Quinn, set of carvers and bread knife.
Mr P. McGrievy, chamber set and wash stand.
Mr O. McGrievy, half-dozen silver tea spoons and sugar tongs.
Mr Finnigan, silver teapot.
Mr and Mrs Quinn (Blackhill), pair fancy ornaments and silver breakfast cruet.
Mrs Loughran, two sets of linen pillow cases.
Miss C. Quinn, pair brackets.
Miss E. Cogie, silver butter dish, bread knife, and trencher.
Mrs Lappin, set of jugs.
Miss Eccles, tablecloth.
Mrs Fields, pair oak brackets, placque, and fancy fans.
Miss McGhee, fancy tea cosey.
Mr J. W. Maughan, ruby butter dish, sugar basin, and cream jug.
Miss Maughan, pair glass cake plates.
Miss A. Maughan, breakfast cruet.
Mr Maughan, pair placques.
Miss Maughan, sugar basin and cream jug.
Mrs Scanagan, half-dozen china cups, tea pot, and cream jug.
Miss Reay, silver butter knife.
Miss Murray, pair photo frames.
Mrs Smith, pair fancy ornaments.
Miss Evans, silver jelly spoon.
Miss Shields, cushion.
Miss Brown, pair photo frames and silver match-box.
Mrs Hamilton, silver jelly spoon.
Mrs Kurron, set of pillows cases.
Mr Quigley, brass kettle.
Mrs Quigley, cheese dish.
Mrs Mullen, half-dozen tea knives.
Mrs Cannon, pair of fancy ornaments.
Mrs Rogers, pair linen sheets.
Mrs Donaghy, pair vases.
Mrs R. A. Hagron, pair hand painted plaquues.
Miss B. McGrievy, flower basket.
Miss K. Scanagan, counter pane.
Mrs Walton, pair match pockets and pin cushions.
Mrs McGeoghan, half-dozen pocket handkerchiefs
Mr Struthers, pair bath towels.

SWALWELL.

BAND OF HOPE.—This weekly meeting was held on Monday evening in the Board School. Mr. L. Bradshaw, of Gateshead, presided with much acceptance. Mr P. Dickinson opened the meeting with a pianoforte solo, tastefully rendered. Misses Lily and Florry Dunn were the lady vocalists. Each appeared twice, and were warmly applauded, especially Miss F. Dunn for "The wishing gate."—Mr J. Baty, of Gateshead, also sang twice, and "The Star of Bethlehem" was much appreciated. An eloquent and practical address was given by Mr Lynn, of Shieldfield. Recitations were given by local members—M. A. Leybourn, Ella Harrison, and Michael Turner. Miss Speers accompanied the singers with her usual grace and skill. The meeting was closed with the Doxology and Benediction.

HUMAN LIFE.—Fifty years record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Diseases and the Preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr. Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D., author of "Patriarchal Longevity Returnable." "Earth-life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every sufferer, Sound and Practical, Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 48, Theobald's Road, Holborn, London, W.

LATE CORRESPONDENCE

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

SIR,—I trust you will pardon me in taking up your space, but in reading over the account in your last issue of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society's quarterly meeting I notice one or two statements in that report which are not correct, and which I think, in justice to those members who do not attend the quarterly meetings, should be corrected. I notice, relative to Simpson's case, your report says:—"It seems that at a previous meeting of the committee it had been decided to remove Simpson to the butchering department, that having been done Simpson's wage was considerably reduced, and the case was taken up by the members." The correct statement as given to the members was as follows:—"Some time ago Simpson's health gave way. During his absence from business his position was filled by another as journeyman butcher (he served his apprenticeship with the society) and on his return the committee passed a resolution that he should be put in the check office temporarily, until a vacancy occurred in the butchering department, a minute of which is recorded in the society's minute book. Recently a vacancy occurred at Langley Park Branch, to which Simpson was sent. After the first week he appealed to the committee to re-consider his case. During the discussion, I understand, he was asked if he would accept any other position if offered to him, or would he try for three months, after which if unable to do the work they would reconsider his case, both of which he declined. The committee then confirmed their previous resolution (having previously engaged a girl to do his work at 21s a week less money), and decided to re-consider his case, if necessary, at the end of three months, and the following week he sent in his resignation of his own accord. With respect to his reduction of wages, no such thing was ever intended, and would not have affected him one farthing. The latter part of your report refers to the consideration of plans and estimates for the extension of the drapers shop and the provision of a manager's house, the present one being too small. It was resolved to leave the former part in the committee's hands, and the latter part was not entertained. I did not hear such a statement made that the manager's house was too small, but it was stated that the drapers shop was too small, and it was only one of the suggestions (as per plans) of the committee to take the manager's house to enlarge the drapery department. You will therefore see your report has a very different meaning. Again apologising for taking up your space,—I remain, yours &c.,

JUSTICE.

January 17th, 1899.

HEALEYFIELD SCHOOL BOARD AND THEIR RATE.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

SIR,—In answer to Mr Scott's letter, in the first place, I was very much surprised that he should have written about a subject he had no business with whatever; secondly, his trying to draw a red herring across his path to mislead the ratepayers. The facts are these:—In the year ending September, 1896, the School Board had a balance in the bank of £28 18s, and the rateable value of the parish was £2,866. But, as every ratepayer knows to his cost, the rates were raised all round (except the land) in 1897 to £3,667; then in 1898 the Railway Company's was reduced £500, which still leaves the present rateable value of the parish at £300 more than it was in 1896. Then he (Mr Scott) makes the greatest blunder of all. He says that the School Board ought to have collected a penny in the pound more for six or seven years, so as to have a reserve fund. Mr Scott must know that neither he, or the School Board, has any right to collect more from the long-suffering ratepayers than will reasonably meet the yearly estimate. We don't live in Egypt.—Yours faithfully,

T. J. MUSE.

Healeyfield and Rowley School Board

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Board Schools, Castleside, on Tuesday evening, when there were present—Messrs J. W. Golightly (presiding), T. J. Muse, T. C. Elliott, W. Pattinson, Rev J. Wallis, and the Clerk (Mr J. Proud.)

THE ATTENDANCE.

The Attendance Officer's report showed a large number of scholars absent through sickness, and the list of absentees was discussed in committee. Several of the scholars were reported to be suffering from scarlet fever and scarlatina.

WATER METER.

Mr Elliott moved that the Clerk write to the Water Company reminding them that they had already had a meter in, and that it was taken out at the wish of the company themselves.

The Chairman suggested that they might inform the Water Company that instructions had been given to the caretaker to exercise supervision with regard to the use of the water as far as possible.

Mr Elliott agreed to include this in his motion, which was seconded by Mr Pattinson, and carried.

HEAD-MASTER'S REPORT.

This report stated the number on the registers as 109 boys, 101 girls; total, 210; average present, 161; percentage, 77; average of infants, 46. The average was very low on account of sickness.

WILFFUL DAMAGE TO SCHOOL PROPERTY.

Several cases of wilful damage were mentioned in the head-master's report. Window cords had been cut, a window broken, table broken, &c.

Mr Elliott thought that they ought to make such a charge for letting the schools as would indemnify themselves against such repetitions of the damage, such surplus to be used in paying for the repairs.

Rev J. Wallis remarked that the caretaker should be instructed to enter the particulars of all damage done at the time, and then they could come upon the parties who had hired the school.

Mr Elliott moved that this be done.

Rev J. Wallis seconded.—Carried.

REGULAR ATTENDANCE.

The head-master suggested, in his report, that the distribution of certificates be made a special occasion, as an encouragement to the children.

It was ultimately decided to have the distribution on Friday, the 21st inst, at three o'clock in the afternoon, and that invitations to attend the same be sent to the members of the Board.

SCHOOL DEEDS.

In accordance with notice of motion, Mr Elliott moved that the deeds of the school, with any memorandum of terms on which the various loans were granted, be handed over to the Board, and also that the Clerk be instructed to deliver the deeds to the treasurer, receiving a suitable acknowledgement of the same.

Mr Muse said that the deeds had been in his possession for twenty-two years. They had only thrice been up at the school in that time. He hoped and trusted that they would be as well taken care of during the next twenty two years. Mr Muse explained how the deeds came to be in his possession, he having initially been requested to keep them in his safe, as the safest place in the village.

Mr Elliott said it was the usual thing for the treasurer to keep the deeds.

Mr Muse: No; not at all

AN APOLOGY OR WITHDRAWAL?

Notice of motion by Mr Muse was read as follows:—"I hereby give notice to Mr T. C. Elliott for his withdrawal and apology for the false statement he presistently reiterated at our last meeting, as to the teaching staff being equal to 280 in 1896."

The Chairman pointed out that there was practically no necessity for this motion now, as Mr Elliott had withdrawn the figures.

Rev J. Wallis: And Mr Muse has accepted it.

The Chairman: Yes.

The Chairman, continuing, said that he couldn't accept Mr Elliott's withdrawal in the light of any apology at all, but simply as a withdrawal of figures. It was merely a misstatement of figures, and Mr Elliott had simply withdrawn the statement as regarded his figures. He (the Chairman) thought that the apology should have come from the other side of the table for the "grossly insulting remarks" which had been used to Mr Elliott.

Mr Muse: Withdraw.

Mr Elliott: I think we had better let the matter drop.

The Chairman: I simply wished to make the statement that Mr Elliott offered no apology.

Mr Muse: You ought to withdraw your statement with respect to the "insulting remarks."

Mr Elliott: Let the matter drop where it is, and be done with it.

Mr Muse: I was not going to say anything if the chairman hadn't made his statement.

Mr Elliott: Well, there's no good in opening it out again. We have had plenty of unpleasantness. Let's leave it alone.

Ultimately the matter was allowed to drop.

The Chairman then declared the business ended.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr Pattinson said he would like to call attention to a matter that he referred to two months ago in repect to the discussion of the Inspector's report, and of which he gave notice. Business called him away two months ago, and owing to sickness last month he could not possibly be with them.

The Chairman however ruled Mr Pattinson out of order, as the business of the meeting had concluded.

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TANFIELD SCHOOL BOARD.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Tanfield School Board was held on Tuesday night, in the Council Chamber, Tanfield—Mr. H. Curry Wood, J.P., presiding. There were also present—Mr. Jonathan Green, J.P., the Rev. T. H. Archdall, the Rev. Father Thompson, Messrs M. G. Armstrong, W. Bulmer, W. Severs, and the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson.)

AN OBJECTION.

On the reading of the minutes, which stated that the Rev. T. H. Archdall had given notice of motion that the salary of Mr. R. W. Little be increased to a sum to be determined upon, the rev. gentleman took exception. He said that what he conveyed was that the matter be discussed at that meeting with a view to the determination of the salary at a future meeting. He merely wanted the matter discussed.

Mr. Bulmer said he believed that was quite right, but they could not blame the Clerk for the way in which he entered the matter on the minutes.

Mr. Green said he understood Mr. Archdall's motion was to be in favour of considering an advance.

Mr. Archdall: At another meeting. The minutes, however, might stand, and they could discuss the matter on his motion.

The minutes were then adopted.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE REPORT.

Mr. Seymour Meddick (School Attendance Officer) reported that since the last meeting he had made 24 visits to schools, 266 absentee visits, served four bye-law notices, one official warning, and reported 13 children to other officers. The schools were re-opened on Monday, the 9th inst., when the children returned to school in good numbers with the exception of Tanfield Board School, which was closed the same day on account of measles being epidemic. There were also a few cases of fever in the Stanley district.

TEACHERS' REPORTS.

The teachers reported that the average attendances at the various schools for the month had been as follows:—East Stanley Mixed 221, Infants 105; West Stanley Senior 455, Junior, 237, Infants 202; Pickering Nook Mixed 190, Infants 78; Lease Mixed 202, Infants 97; Tanfield Lea Mixed 185, Infants 84; Causey Row, 127; Tanfield, 73.

THE SALARIES QUESTION.

The Rev. T. H. Archdall was then called upon to move "that the salary of Mr. R. W. Little, the head teacher of the West Stanley Board School, be advanced to such a sum as may be determined," and, further, "that Miss Burnip's salary be advanced to such a sum as may be determined."

The Chairman said he thought these matters were out of order. He did not see how they could consider questions of advance of this kind when they had a standing scale under the Board by which the salaries were regulated. The proper course would be to move the abolition of the scale.

Mr. Archdall thought a month's notice to alter the scale was sufficient providing they did not try to alter it within three months of its adoption.

The Chairman said so long as they had a scale governing the salaries of all the teachers it would be quite out of order to move that any particular teacher be exempt. If they were going to deal with the salaries at all, they ought to deal with the question of the scale, and not in the way of exemption of individual teachers from the operation of the scale.

Mr. Archdall said that was really his intention, and he understood that to put him in order to bring the matter before the Board notice had to be given in the form drawn up by the Clerk. His intention was that if the matter was to be discussed the salaries should be fixed at some future time, and be in reference to the whole scale. He asked if he might say a word in reference to the motion?

The Chairman: No, I don't think you should.

The matter thereupon dropped, as, for similar reasons, did a motion by Mr. Bulmer, "that Mr. A. Bolam be allowed house coals."

MR DARNEY'S SALARY.

The Rev. Father Thompson moved, "that the resolution of July 5th, 1898, reducing the salary of Mr. Thomas Darney to £110, be rescinded; also, that he be paid on the same scale as the other headmasters, as was formerly the case with him." He said this matter fell under the present scale of salaries to the teachers, and he merely applied for the application of that scale to Mr. Darney. The Board would remember that the reduction of Mr. Darney's salary was made at a committee meeting last July, and that a motion was made by Mr. Archdall later on which was defeated. He took it for granted that Mr. Darney was one of their head masters, and was entitled therefore to the same application of the scale as other teachers. If a notice of motion had to be given respecting an advance of salary, notice should also be given with regard to a reduction of a man's salary. If they evicted a man out of a house they naturally gave him notice beforehand.

The Chairman did not think Father Thompson was accurately stating the the facts with regard to Mr. Darney.

Father Thompson said he was merely taking it as a reduction of salary, and he considered Mr. Darney had a right to be treated like other head teachers. He (Father Thompson) felt very strongly on the point, because he thought it looked a very ungracious act on the part of the Board to treat one of their head teachers in that way. Mr. Darney had spent a quarter-of-a-century in educating the youth of Stanley. He looked upon the matter as unjust, because if Mr. Darney was a head teacher he was justly entitled to claim the same salary as other head teachers. When a man was in advanced age, after spending a long life in the education of the district, to have a reduction of salary served upon him looked like sheer brutality.

The Chairman objected to such a remark.

Father Thompson said he felt strongly on the subject.

Mr. Green said they could reply to him.

Fther Thompson thought the Board ought to treat Mr. Darney in the same way as other head masters.

The Chairman: I hope you will give us credit that we do not wish to treat anyone with sheer brutality.

Mr. Archdall said he rose because he felt he was bound to do so from the action he took before. He was sorry the motion had been brought now. It was an inopportune time for it. It was better that they should go into the whole question of salaries.

The Chairman: This is out of order altogether.

Mr. Green said he would second the motion to put himself in order. He claimed the right to reply to some of the statements which had been made. There was no need to get into a temper. He only wanted to state one or two facts. In the first place they had dealt in an extremely generous manner with Mr. Darney. Father Thompson previously wanted teachers dismissed at 60 years of age, and Mr. Darney would be sixty next month. The Chairman thought that would scarcely be fair. He (Mr. Green) would have liked to have had the school under the management of a head-mistress, whereby they would have saved £60 or £70, but he afterwards thought the Chairman's course was the more generous—not the best for the school, but the more generous. Therefore the term Father Thompson had used was a very strong one, and, he thought, would re-act upon him in that instance. Mr. Darney only had Standard I. and II., and it was entirely in consideration for his feelings and position that they kept him in the school. Mr. Archdall, on the other hand, agreed that it would be better to have a change, and would have dispensed with Mr. Darney's services.

Mr. Archdall: No, no—an assistant.

Mr. Green: Very well, that would have been less salary than now. By taking the middle course it was far more generous. When they paid a man £110 with house and firing for teaching two standards—one generally in the infant school instead of the mixed—he did not think they could be charged with being ungenerous.

The Chairman said he only wished they had not had that discussion that night. He did not see that any good could arise from discussing Mr. Darney's personal position so often, and he was sure the people who were the means of raising the question were not the friends of Mr. Darney. His own conviction was that there was no personal feeling between members of that Board and Mr. Darney. If they did not do Mr. Darney justice it was not because they did not want to do so. He did not think there was a man there but who wanted to do the fair thing to Mr. Darney. Surely there was no brutality, and he was only sorry that that kind of discussion should go forth and give people the impression that some of them had some kind of animus against Mr. Darney. It had a tendency to put Mr. Darney in a false position, and it created a position, which was mis-represented. He only hoped they would let the matter drop until they had discussed the salaries of the others, when the whole question would be gone into.

Father Thompson said if Mr. Darney's salary had been £140, as it once was, the motion would not have been made.

The Chairman said they discussed that matter in committee of the whole Board, and immediately after that it was discussed at the Board meeting, when they had the whole situation explained. Certainly a lot of statements were made that would aggravate the position instead of cooling it down. No sooner had they settled it than they had it brought up again to stir up the smouldering embers. He did not think it was a wise course.

On being put, only Father Thompson voted for the motion, which was consequently lost.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Wesleyans of West Stanley applied for the use of the Board Schools on Good Friday, Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, for the purpose of holding a tea, sale of work, and trades exhibition.—The application was granted.—Mr. Severs drew attention to the bad state of the yard at East Stanley Schools, and it was resolved to request Mr. Bendle (architect) to have the yard put right.

The meeting then terminated.

BILLIARDS.

ALLENDALE v. CONSETT TOWN HALL.

Three of the Consett team journeyed to Allendale on Wednesday night, two of whom suffered defeat. Scores:—

ALLENDALE.		CONSETT.	
R. Ashby	97	J. W. Bryant	100
G. Walton	100	J. Murray	62
W. Beck	100	W. Collinson	82
	297		244

FOOTBALL.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Langley Park Res	11	8	2	1	35	17	17
Annfield Plain CR	10	6	1	3	31	9	15
East Castle Wan.	11	5	4	2	27	19	12
Swalwell Albion R	11	4	3	4	19	20	12
Winlaton West E	11	4	6	1	17	25	9
Dipton Wan Res	7	4	3	0	11	9	8
Hamsterley Reser	7	3	4	0	11	17	6
Spen Albion Res	8	3	5	0	13	14	6
Byer Moor Res	7	2	4	1	11	14	5
Winlaton	2	1	1	0	6	4	2
Tantobie Co. Res	6	0	6	0	1	23	0

Winlaton United finish the Hobson fixtures.

W. H. DAWSON, Secretary.

Fixtures for Saturday, Jan. 21st.

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

BISHOP AUCKLAND v. LEADGATE PARK.

The Park journey to Bishop Auckland on Saturday to meet the leaders. They will be assisted by the Exiles' captain, J. Daly, and hope to make a decent show.

LEADGATE PARK—Goal, J. Hunter; backs, J. Daly and R. Coates; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, T. Houston, J. T. Willey, Jos. Wilson (capt.), G. Milburn, and B. Cook. Reserves, G. Forster, and J. Wood.

Leave Blackhill Station by 12-15 train.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

STANLEY v. SUNDERLAND A.

For this match at Sunderland on Saturday, Stanley have a slightly altered team. Graham is to be given a rest, and Pearson will play inside right, and the vacancy at half-back will be taken by Sutherland, of the second string. The following will therefore represent

STANLEY—Goal, Morris; backs, Joyce and Bell; half-backs, Sutherland, E. Buck, and Redpath; forwards, Pearson, Ellis, Howe, Wood, and J. Masterman.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. THROCKLEY.

The above Tyneside League fixture will be decided at Consett, when the home men will endeavour to gain the points at stake. The undermentioned will play for

CONSETT—Goal, S. Johnson; backs, J. Laidler and R. Charlton; half-backs, R. Wake, W. Harrison, and W. Atkinson; forwards, W. T. Spence and B. Rafferty, right wing; J. Finnigan, centre; J. Morgan and J. Turley, left wing. Reserves, D. Marshall, J. Lee, and P Smith.

Referee, Mr W. Halliday. Kick-off at 2-30.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CELTIC v. HOBSON WANDERERS.

This game is down for decision at Annfield Plain, when the following will do duty for

ANNFIELD PLAIN—Goal, S. Foster; backs, A. Moore and R. Pearson; half-backs, A. Coyle, W. Parker, and T. Rowell; forwards, R. Foster, J. Hewison, P. Daly, J. Coyle, and T. Bell.

Referee, Mr J Roseby. Kick-off at 2-15.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. LINTZFORD.

To be played on the Park enclosure. Teams:

LEADGATE PARK—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, W. Walton and A. Aitkin; half-backs, D. Cartmell, G. Temple, and R. Dawson; forwards, J. Harper, M. Robinson, W. Crowther, T. Cook, and J. Birtley. Reserves, C. Todd, C. Walton, and W. G. Robson.

LINTZFORD (chosen from)—Gibbons, I. and W. Adamson, W. Seath, T. Middleton, J. Seath, R. Weightman, W. Allanby, W. Jackson, T. Seath, M. Bell, and D. Seath.

Referee, Mr H. Cruddas, Iveston. Kick-off at 2-30.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS v. LINTZ ROVERS.

On the ground of the former.

TANTOBIE—Goal, M. Hayes; backs, J. Jardine and J. Gladders; half-backs, R. Atkinson, C. Elliott, and T. Hanover; forwards, R. Hindhaugh, W. Fletcher, Jos. Beck, R. Atkinson, and J. McKever.

Referee, Mr R. Milligan. Kick-off at 2-15.

BYER MOOR v. SOUTH MOOR ALBIONS.

To be played at Byer Moor.

BYER MOOR—Goal, R. Hodgson; backs, G. Bennett and S. Lamb; half-backs, G. Nicholls, T. Spoor, and J. Reed; forwards, G. Weedy, P. Keefe, J. Welch, E. Leighton, and H. Lowe. Linesman, T. Leighton.

Referee, Mr J. W. Bryant. Kick-off at 2-30.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. MEDOMSLEY WHITE STAR.

This league encounter will take place at Blackhill, when a good game is sure to result. Teams:—

ST. CUTHBERT'S—Goal, A. Smith; backs, T. Redshaw and G. Johnson; half-backs, T. Dempsey, Taylor, and Wilkinson; forwards, W. Walton, Richards, McGowan, E. Higgins, and S. Barrass.

MEDOMSLEY—Goal, T. Bell; backs, F. Graham and Wilson; half-backs, Whealey, Calvert, and Cavannagh; forwards, Healey, Turner, Walton, Kelly, and Grant.

Kick-off at 2-30.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

WINLATON v. EAST CASTLE WANDERERS.

To be played at Winlaton.

EAST CASTLE (chosen from)—Tilley, Toole, Graham, Haughan, Reay, Press, Walker, W. and T. Young, Rutherford, Liddle, Hughes, Stewart, and Gladders.

Leave Mr Lax's at 12-30.

Kick-off at 2-30.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

CRAGHEAD v. BEARPARK.

These teams meet at Craghead, when a good game is expected.

CRAGHEAD (chosen from)—Laycock, Old, Sheraton, Nesbit, Scott, Allison, Hawkes, Scott, Ellison, Scott, Smart, Emmerson, and Dodds.

BEARPARK—Goal, Crooks; backs, Jamieson and Pickering; half-backs, Wren, Carlin, and Carter; forwards, Maughan, Simmonds, Patterson, Dixon, and Hepple.

CHESTER-LE-STREET v. WATERHOUSES

This match will be played at Chester-le-Street, when the following will play for

CHESTER-LE-STREET—Goal, Elliott; backs, Willis and Harle; half-backs, Bagg, Quinn, and Gray; forwards, Grievson, Legg, Ritson, Pentland, and Clark.

FRIENDLY FIXTURES.

CONSETT BAPTISTS v. SOUTH MOOR VIOLETS.

To be played at South Moor.

CONSETT—Goal, W. Turner; backs, A. Bidwell and J. Taylor; half-backs, J. Sheldon, G. Ward, and H. Collins; forwards, J. Spence, C. Peacock, G. Liddle, W. Milburn, and A. Mathieson.

CLOUGH DENE v. PICKERING NOOK TRUE BLUES.

This game will be played at Clough Dene.

PICKERING NOOK—Goal, Moyle; backs, Ferguson and Adamson; half-backs, Adamson, Oyston, and Bell; forwards, Greenacre, Moyle, Oyston, Smith, and Hudspith.

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WEARDALE NOTES.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

THE WESLEYANS.

The twentieth century fund of the Stanhope Wesleyans is steadily creeping up to the hundred guineas; seventy-five were promised at the first meeting. More has come in since. By the week-end it will be close upon ninety. The Weardale Circuit should easily raise 300 guineas. Big things are expected of the Wolsingham Circuit.

THE NATURALISTS.

The Naturalists' Field Club meeting on Saturday at their new quarters, the Board Room, Stanhope, was a success. A splendid paper was read by the hon. secretary, Mr. W. M. Egglestone on "the colouring of flowers." An interesting discussion followed, in which the colouring process of birds eggs was introduced. The club is looking up. The annual meeting promises to be a success. The following gentlemen have signified their intention of being present:—Lord Barnard, Dr. Manson, of Darlington, Dr. Kitchen, the Dean of Durham, and other notables. A Clergyman botanist, the Rev. Reginald H. Maister, now at Etherley, but who was located in upper Weardale last summer, has reported to the Naturalists' Field Club that he found 324 wild flowers and 15 ferns growing in the dale which he could name. He even sent the secretary a list of the names. There are vastly more flowers in the Wear Valley than 324, and at either Bollihope or Sunderland Cleugh may be found 15 ferns growing in one spot. Still the rev. gentlema nhas done well. Weardale, like Teesdale, is a seventh heaven of botanists.

AN INTERESTING LECTURE.

The lecture on "Stock in health and disease," given at Stonhope on Saturday night, by Mr. Meek, of the Durham College of Science, was well appreciated by the Weardale farmers.—The Bishop of Richmond showed his sympathy with the agriculturists by presiding on the occasion.

A LADY PREACHER.

Mrs. Wolliscroft, sister to Judge Waddy, Q. C., preached at the Stanhope Wesleyan Chapel on Sunday night to a crowded audience. She is a splendid talked, and has had few equals in the dale.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

DEATH OF MR. WM. MIDDLETON.—We regret to announce the death of Mr Wm. Middleton, a native of Chester-le-Street, which occurred on Wednesday morning at his residence, the Black Horse, Front Street. The deceased gentleman, who was about 54 years of age, was well-known and respected throughout the district. He was a widower, his wife having predeceased him by about twelve years. He was a quiet gentleman of a retiring disposition and took no active part in public affairs. He leaves a grown up family of one son and three daughters.

TEMPERANCE MEETING.—On Tuesday evening, a meeting was held, under the auspices of the North of England Temperance Society, in the Wesleyan Church, Chester-le-Street. The chair was occupied by Mr Thomas Telford, and he was accompanied by Miss C. J. Tinling, of London, and Mr Guy Hayler, of Newcastle. The meeting was in connection with the great recruiting campaign, and the proceeds were devoted to the expenses of the campaign. The meeting passed off harmoniously with temperance hymns, and the greatest attention was given to the speakers. A resolution in favour of Sunday Closing was unanimously adopted, after speeches by the parties named.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Marriages.

ELLIOTT—PEARSON.—At Wolsingham, on 14th inst., Jonathan Elliott to Nellie Pearson, both of Stanhope.

LOWES—HENDERSON.—Stanhope Church, on 2nd inst., Thomas Lowes, of Newcastle, to Lizzie Henderson, daughter of Mr Joseph Henderson, of Stanhope.

RICHARDSON—ROBSON.—At Stanhope Church, on 16th inst., J. C. Richardson, of West Hartlepool, to Hannah Robson of Frosterley.

SINCLAIR—WATSON.—Stanhope, Primitive Methodist Chapel, on 31st ult., Wm. Sinclair, of Stanhope, to Miss Watson, of St. John's Chapel.

Deaths.

COLE.—Dunston, 2, Railway Street, on 15th inst., aged 23, Robert Daniel Cole.

ELLIOTT.—Consett, 10, Livingstone Street, on 18th inst., aged 70 years, Elizabeth, relict of the late Samuel Elliott. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery on Sunday, 22nd inst.; lift at 2 p.m. Friends please accept this intimation.

FARNSWORTH.—At Delves Terrace, Consett, on the 18th inst., aged 10 months, John George, beloved son of E. and I. Farnsworth. To be interred on Saturday at Benfieldside Cemetery; to lift at 2-30 prompt.

FORSTER.—Blaydon, Mary Pit (at the residence of his son-in-law, Thomas Wilson), on 15th inst., aged 84, Thomas Forster.

FRAME.—Whickham, Middle Town, on 17th inst., aged 76, the wife of John Frame.

HARRISON.—North Side, on 16th inst., G. Harrison.

HESLOP.—Blaydon, Close Head, on 15th inst., aged 42, John Heslop.

HUNTER.—Tanfield, on 13th inst., aged 50, Margaret Ann Hunter.

LEE.—High Row, Marley Hill, on 12th inst, aged 2 years and 7 months, William Burley Helyer Lee.

MAWSON.—Stanhope, on 15th inst., aged 21, John, son of Thomas Mawson.

McCANN.—On January 3rd, 1899, at Pittsburgh, U.S.A., Mary McCann, the beloved mother of John McCann, of Blackhill.

SMITH.—Swalwell, Napier Road, on 14th inst., aged 2½ years, Hilda Dobson Smith.

STEPHENSON.—On 13th inst., aged 38 years, William, beloved husband of Mary Stephenson, accidentally killed at Stockton, late of Castleside.

TURNER.—Stanley, 11, Evelyn Terrace, on 14th inst., aged 82, Margaret Turner.

WINTER.—Stargate (at the residence of her son-in-law, John Wilson), on 11th inst., aged 56, Elizabeth Winter.

WHEATLEY.—Marley Hill, Andrew's Houses, on 16th inst., aged 49, Henry Wheatley.

WATSON.—At 51a, North Cross Street, Leadgate, on 18th inst., aged 1 year and 8 months, Florence, beloved daughter of James and Mary Watson. To be interred at St. Ives, on Saturday; to lift at 2. Friends please accept this intimation.

YOUNG.—Marley Hill, Andrew's Houses, on 13th inst., aged 56, Thomas Young, 32 years engineman under Marley Hill Coal Co.

In affectionate remembrance of my dear father, George Lumley, late of Consett, who died at Annfield Plain, Jan. 16th, 1898, in his 81st year. Ever remembered by his son George.

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