COAL & STONE MACHINES.

OSTON'S COAL BORING MACHINES, all Steel, from 25s. to 35s.

BOSTON'S RATCHET STONE BORING MACHINES, with 3 Drills complete, 85s.

THOS. BOSTON,

WHOLESALE IRONMONGER & TOOL MANUFACTURER, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

T. BOSTON received the highest Award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1882. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 5th

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

ROBERT JACKSON

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,

5, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

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

No. 1,588. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, January 23rd, 1891. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Contracts.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH INSTITUTE, BEAMISH.

TO CONTRACTORS.—The Building Committee are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the ERECTION of the above.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender may be obtained, at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed, "Tender for Church Institute," will be received at the above office, till 4 p.m., on Monday, February 2nd, 1891.

The Committee do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

January 15th, 1891.

TO CONTRACTORS.

PLANS and SPECIFICATIONS for HOUSE and SHOP PROPERTY to be ERECTED at South Moor, may now be seen at the house of Mr John Smith, South Moor, who will receive Tenders for same up to Wednesday, the 4th February.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

J. W. ROUNTHWAITE, A.R.I.B.A. Architect, Blackhill.

21st January, 1891. 816d

TO CONTRACTORS.

PLANS and Specification for ADDITIONS to BUSINESS PREMISES at Craghead, near Chester-le-Street, may be seen at Craghead Colliery Offices, on and after Tuesday, the 27th inst., and Tenders on the form supplied, endorsed, "Craghead Stores," must be delivered to Mark Anderson, Esq., Holmside and South Moor Fitting Offices, Quayside, Newcastle-on-Tyne, not later than 4 p.m., on Friday, 6th February.

Quantities will be supplied on payment of Two Guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a bona fide Tender.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any tender.

J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE, A.R.I.B.A, Architect. Blackhill.

21st January, 1891. 815d

Wanted.

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply, 15, Sh-burn Terrace, Consett. 772d

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT, at once.—Apply to Mrs. TURNBULL, Leazes, Lintz Green. 825d

WANTED, a Staid HOUSEKEEPER, for a Workingman, with a family.—Apply, No. 12, West Terrace, Waterhouses, Co. Durham. 829d

WANTED, to BUY a HOUSE, in Sherburn Terrace, Consett.—Address, Mr. HOWARD, 109, Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT; one able to Milk.—Apply to Mrs. Howe, Greencroft. 836d

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL, with references, aged 17 or 18 years.—Apply to N. CARRICK, Traveller's Rest, Leazes, Lintz Green.

WANTED, in Consett, LODGINGS for a Single Gentleman.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

C. F. COOKE requires a Steady MAN for Carman, and other General Work; Wage, 25s.—Apply at the Establishment, Annfield Plain.

WANTED, immediately, BOY or GIRL, aged 14 before March, to become Pupil Teacher in the Consett Wesleyan School.—Apply, The MASTER.

AGENTS WANTED to push first-class Machinery Oils. Liberal Commission.—Box 31, Post Office, Liverpool. 735d

TO FARMERS.—WANTED, Half-a-score of Young MULE EWES, in Lamb.—Apply, stating lowest price and age to Farmer, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 824d

HEALEYFIELD & ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD.—WANTED, immediately, ASSISTANT-MISTRESS; disciplinarian; Tonic Sol-fa; Drawing a recommendation. Salary £35.—Joseph Proctor, Clerk, Castleside, by Blackhill.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the Grocery Trade; one who has been a year or two at the trade preferred; also an ERRAND BOY.—Apply on Monday to GEORGE EATHERIGHAM, 1, Walton Street, Blackhill. 819d

WANTED, for Lady and Gentleman, PRIVATE APARTMENTS, with 1 or 2 Sitting-rooms, and 2 Bed-rooms, must be in Consett or immediate neighbourhood. Good price will be given.—Address, Mr. HOWARD, 109, Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

WANTED, to Purchase, in Consett, a SELF-CONTAINED HOUSE of Four or Five Rooms, with every Convenience. Must be substantially built, pleasantly situated, and in thorough repair.—Address all letters, stating price and full particulars, to "Vinter," *Guardian* Office, Consett.

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE.—WANTED, SERVANTS able to Milk, Bake, Wash, and do General Work.—Apply at SERVANTS' REGISTRY, 13, Front Street, Consett. 55d

SCOTT'S REGISTRY 122, Northumberland Street.—Managers, Matrons, Housekeepers, Companions, Governesses, Ladies' Maids, Sewing-maids, Nurses, Cooks, Housemaids, Kitchenmaid, Parlourmaids, Chambermaid, Barmaids, Dairymaids, Laundrymaids, Butlers, Footmen, Grooms, Gardeners, Coachmen, General Servants, WANTED and DISENGAGED. Stamp for replies. 285a

Under Distinguished Patronage.

MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 250w

MISS WHELAN'S REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS.—Newmarket Street, Consett. Number of SERVANTS of MISTRESSES supplied with SERVANTS of every Description, on the shortest notice, and all information obtained.

SERVANTS of all classes suited with situations promptly and without any trouble. Communications by letter or otherwise carefully attended to. 514a

To Let.

TO LET, at February Term, HOUSE and SHOP, Front Street Dipton, occupied by Mr J. Coltman.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 826d

TO LET, a LOCK-UP SHOP, situate in Front Street, Leadgate. Possession may be had at February Term.—Apply to Mrs. Shaw, Villa Real, Leadgate.

TWO-ROOM COTTAGE at Woodlands TO BE LET; rent and coals free, in exchange for milking. Constant field work if desired. Apply to Mr HAMMERSLEY, Woodlands.

TO LET, at May Term, WHARNLEYBURN FARM, near Castleside, Durham, containing about 140 Acres, with House.—Apply at Messrs DAVIES and BALDWILL, Solicitors, St. John Street, Newcastle. 827d

TO LET, with possession on the 14th February, that Modern VILLA, "The Firs," situate close to Witton Gilbert Station, on the Durham and Consett Branch Railway. It contains 3 Reception Rooms, 4 Bed-rooms and Store Room, Kitchen, Scullery, &c., with Stable, Cow Byre, Greenhouse, Garden, Pleasure and Lawn Tennis Ground, and all other modern conveniences. Rent, £50 per annum. Further particulars, with cards to view, may be obtained from C. E. BARNES, Esq., Solicitor, Durham, or W. LOGAN, Esq., Langley Park. 814d

For Sale.

FOR SALE, Cheap, a few WELSH BIBLES and TESTAMENTS, at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 840d

For Sale.

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

FOR SALE, New and Second-hand HARNESS and other SADDLERY.—Apply to OXLEY, Blackhill. 826d

HAY FOR SALE, at Woodlands, or free on rail at Knitsley Station. Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands.

OLD BOOKS FOR SALE.

THE Remaining BOOKS belonging to the Late Mr J. C. WYLIE, Schoolmaster, Blackhill, will be cleared out at a great Sacrifice. They are on view on the Premises of Mr A. DOWSON, 5, Derwent Street, Blackhill. 837d

FOR SALE, PRICKLEY COMFREY ROOTS. It will grow from 60 to 120 Tons per Acre in one Season. Is sooner ready in the Spring to cut, than other fodder things. Beasts eat it greedily when once used to it.—For information and price apply to R. JOHNSON, farmer, Ireston. 833d

FOR SALE, Chestnut COB MARE, under 14 h.h.; quiet, 5 years old, has been driven by a Lady; quiet with trains; New Set of Brown HARNESS; TRAP, nearly new; Also, SADDLE and BRIDLE, &c.—J. BRODIE's, Shotley Bridge.

FOR SALE, by Private Treaty, FREEHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, with large Garden and Yard attached, and other conveniences, situate at Hill Top, Dipton.—For further particulars apply to ABRAHAM LEDGER, 60, Oxhill, Stanley, R.S.O.

PROPERTY in Consett FOR SALE.—Apply to Jos. MURRAY, Hope House, Ninth Street. Price, £265; House in Sherburn Terrace. Price, £270. Plot of Building Ground in West Parade, containing 450 Yards, at 2s 6d Per Yard. 832d

FOR SALE a Large Assortment of CART, GIG, and SPRING CART HARNESS, WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, CART COVERS &c.—The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North, Thos. OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. T. OWEN has a consignment of Second-hand HARNESS, &c., for Sale.

Business Announcements.

TOWER TEA, Highest Award, Paris, 1889.

1s 2d, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 4d, 2s 6d, and 2s 8d per lb. Ceylon Tea—Lead Packets, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 4d, and 2s 8d per lb. Every packet bears the Registered Trade Mark, a Tower, and is signed, "Tower Tea." Local agents:—Consett—M. Fawell, Grocer. Blackhill—J. Palliser, Grocer. Annfield Plain—C. F. Cooke, Grocer. 629d

R. WILSON & CO., BIRTLEY GRANGE BRICK WORKS, BIRTLEY.

Prices given for Common Bricks, Flooring Squares, House Tiles, Draining Pipes, &c. Our Siding is connected with Railway direct to Consett and West Districts. Goods packed into Trucks at Kilns. 801z

MUSICAL TUITION.

SILVER MEDALLIST OF THE MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON, FOR PIANOFORTE PLAYING.

GEORGE DRYDEN (late pupil of Mr. Henry Organist of Medomsley Church, having obtained first-class Honours in Pianoforte Playing, also Certificates in Theory and Harmony, at the Examinations (before Dr. E. M. Lott) in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, and in THEORY. Special Preparation for Examinations.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 1, EAST PARADE, CONSETT

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T. JONES is now prepared to supply direct from the Manufacturers, PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS at the Lowest Possible Prices.

A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES.

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.

BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.

MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.

PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

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T. JONES, 5, CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office), CONSETT. 902a

SAFETIES, ORDINARY BICYCLES, TANDEMS, AND TRICYCLES,

FOR SALE.

SPECIAL CLEARANCE SALE OF NEW AND SECOND-HAND.

To make room for consignment of

100 CUSHION TYRE SAFETIES.

New Machines, consisting of several latest pattern Rudge No. 1, 2, and 3 Bicyclettes, shop soiled only. Second-hand Safeties, by all the leading makers, at unheard of price, including several of our own manufacture, and one high Beeston Humber Roadster. Trial, with option of return, on any Machine selected.

SEND FOR SALE LIST,

RUDGE, ST. JOHN STREET, NEWCASTLE.

23d T. D. OLIVER, MANAGER.

OVERCOATINGS AND WINTER SUITINGS.

COMPLETE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK.

J. BRODIE, FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

DOBSON GRADON, WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,

JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN.

HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH LEVER WATCHES, £3 6s. 0d.

OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.

WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE.

165c WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND 20s. an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and 20s. will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA the Finest Tea in the World. Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind for you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,

83, GRAINGER STREET, AND SOUTHWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 4, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES (OVER 60 SIZES UP TO BALMY FROM).

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,

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

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

CHRISTMAS, 1890.

GEORGE RICHARDSON

HAS much Pleasure in announcing that his STOCK is now replete with NEW FANCY GOODS suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS, including Fancy Dress Aprons in French Voile, Washing Silks, and other New Materials, Silk Hankerchiefs and Neckerchiefs, Wool Squares and Evening Wraps, in New Shades. Great variety of Gloves in all makes for Winter wear, and Silks for Evening wear. Large Stocks of Flannels, Shirtings, and Dress Materials, together with a well-assorted Stock in all Departments. DRESSMAKERS, MILLINERS, AND TAILORS KEPT ON THE ESTABLISHMENT. INSPECTION RESPECTFULLY INVITED.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

CHRISTMAS, 1890. 624d

MONEY SAVED IS MONEY EARNED.

ROBERT WILLEY

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that his carefully-selected STOCK OF GOODS IS OF THE FINEST QUALITY PROCURABLE.

5/- IN THE POUND

Can be saved by Purchasing Goods at this Establishment.

NOTED FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS,

BOTTLER OF BASS & CO.'S INDIAN PALE ALE, AND GUINNESS'S DUBLIN STOUT.

MILD and BITTER ALES ON DRAUGHT.

R. WILLEY,

CONSETT TEA HOUSE, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

XMAS.

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.

Call and see their STOCK OF WELL-SELECTED

FRUIT, BACON. CHEESE. FRUIT LOAVES. HAMS, SEED LOAVES. BISCUITS. TINNED GOODS. RICE LOAVES.

And a Splendid Selection of Fancy Goods for the Festive Season.

OUR WINES AND SPIRITS

Are the Finest Quality to be had, and the Prices defy competition. Price Lists on application. We buy direct, and bottle ourselves, therefore the Public can rely on receiving the BEST VALUE FOR THEIR MONEY.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,

WHOLESALE & RETAIL GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

AT HALF THE PRICE USUALLY CHARGED.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND DENTAL CO.

ATTENDANCE EVERY MONDAY, FROM ONE TO SIX P.M.

CONSULTATIONS FREE,

13, FRONT STREET, OVER J. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER), CONSETT.

ALL OUR CELEBRATED TEAS REDUCED 2d. PER LB.

TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.

ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.

JOHN HUME & SON,

BAKERS AND MILLERS, TEA AND TOBACCO MERCHANTS, 8, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

Having recently added the Tea Trade to their Business as Consett for the benefit of their numerous Customers, offer the above Brand—the best and Cheapest Tea in the Market—try it.

"PURE" CEYLON TEA; at 1s. 10d. per lb.
PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.
GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d

TOBACCO.

ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST AND ROUGH CUT, 3d. PER OZ.

Flour & Feeding Stuffs of every description delivered to any part of the District as the lowest possible prices. Sole Makers of the Celebrated "Optimum" Horse Mixtures and "Germ Meal."

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

ESTABLISHED 1817

GEORGE HOBSON,

HARPERLEY & CATCHGATE STEAM & WATER CORN & SAW MILLS. MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, AND SEEDSMAN.

NOTED

FOR THE BEST AND CLEANEST HORSE FEED.

WHOLE OATS, CRUSHED OATS, SPLIT BEANS, PEAS, AND MAIZE, MIXED WITH OATS AS REQUIRED, OR SOLD SEPARATE. ALL THOROUGHLY CLEANED BY NEW & IMPROVED MACHINERY.

G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR.

ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF FINES, SUPERFINES, EXTRA SUPERFINES, AND HUNGARIAN.

TRY G. H.'S PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL, MANUFACTURED BY HIMSELF, AND CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE AND BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c.

Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all Kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices.

G. H.'S CALF MEAL IS NOW WELL-KNOWN—REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

Dealer in Agricultural Implements of all Kinds, including the Special Mower and Reaper, Sole Agent of the North for the McCormick Self-Binding Reapers and Steel Mowers, the Bullard Twider, Tiger Horse Rake, &c. The best and lightest Draught Machines in the Market. Broadcast-Hand Seed Sowers, &c.

NOTE ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LOWE GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,

OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he will visit as usual as MR. F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted, with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the causes of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificia Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

PIANOFORTES. HARMONIUMS.

AMERICAN ORGANS.

LARGEST STOCK IN THE NORTH. SUPPLIED ON THE EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM AND DELIVERED AT ONCE.

	FROM		FROM
PIANOS	£18 18 0	HARMONIUMS	£4 4
AMERICAN ORGANS	6 5 0	CONCERTINAS (LACHENAL)	1 1
CELESTINAS	3 15 0	CONCERTINAS Do. (ENGLISH)	2 12
MUSICAL BOXES	2 2 0	MELODEONS	0 10 6
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EVERY INSTRUMENT NEW AND GUARANTEED FOR TEN YEARS.

LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

BE SURE AND SEE OUR STOCK IF IN WANT OF A REALLY RELIABLE INSTRUMENT; OR WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

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AND BRANCHES THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN AND THE COLONIES.

TAKE NOTICE.—EVERY SATURDAY

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN. SINGLE TOOTH, from 2s. 6d. A COMPLETE UPPER or LOWER SET, from 20s. EQUAL TO NATURE IN APPEARANCE.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO., NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT (OPPOSITE MOUNT PLEASANT HOTEL).

ATTENDANCE: EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 P.M. TILL 6 P.M.

N.B.—Country Patients visited at their own homes by appointment—without extra charge. 858d

BRADY & MARTIN, Scientific Instrument Makers SPECTACLES.—Best Glass, from 3s. 6d.; Pebbles from 5s. 6d.

OPERA GLASSES, MICROSCOPES.

Price Lists on application.

27, 29, and 31, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE ON-TYNE. 141d

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER & VALUER, Land, House, Insurance, and Emigration Agent, Share Broker, &c. Intending Emigrants can be booked in the finest Ships to America and all our Colonies. Valuations and Auction Sales of Agricultural Stock, Implements, Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS INMAN & INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP CO., Ltd, LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every WEDNESDAY Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM SHOTTON, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN ATKIN, Grocer, Leadgate, Colliery WILLIAM GRAY 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Greencroft-street; GEORGE LEADITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; ARTHUR F. FENTON, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. JOHNSON, 90, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95r

WADDINGTON & SONS' "PERFECT" PIANOS, as recommended by Sir CHARLES HALLE, and highly spoken of by the Pianoforte in Great Britain—Iron Frame, Full Trichord, Seven Octaves, most Perfect Repeating Check Action, in magnificent Walnut or Rosewood Case. This Piano is undoubtedly the "Very Best Value for Money," the Price being only £32 for Cash, or One Guinea per Month on the Hiring System for Three Years; is equal, if not superior, to any other Piano at double the price; is warranted for 10 years. Delivered Free

WADDINGTON & SONS, PIANO MANUFACTURERS, YORK, and at 8 Mount Pleasant, Consett.

WADDINGTON & SONS' THREE Years System, introduced by them 20 years ago, has been surmounted by 20,000 Customers, who testify that their Liberal Hire System offers GREATER ADVANTAGES to the Hirer than have ever been given by any other firm, and gives the HIRER the FULL BENEFIT of DISCOUNT FOR HIS MONEY. All intending purchasers will do well to NOTE THESE FACTS.

WADDINGTON & SONS hold the HIGHEST TESTIMONIAL in the WORLD, given by the distinguished Pianist SIR CHARLES HALLE, and have given 20,000 references to purchasers of their Instruments.

WADDINGTON and SONS deliver all Pianos, Organs, and Harmoniums, Carriage Paid, any distance, send one of their Tuners to see the Instruments safely delivered, and guarantee satisfaction to all their Customers.

EVERY INSTRUMENT WARRANTED.

WADDINGTON and SONS being large Manufacturers give the purchaser the BENEFIT of BUYING DIRECT from the producer, THUS SAVING the middleman's PROFIT.

WADDINGTON and SONS have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDALS and other Awards at EXHIBITIONS for the EXCELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS.

THE OPINION OF "SIR CHARLES HALLE. December 16th, 1885.

DEAR SIRS,—"I have great pleasure in expressing the great satisfaction which I have had in playing upon your NEW IRON PIANOS, which for quality of tone and perfection of touch, are all that can be desired. "CHAS. HALLE."

MESSRS WADDINGTON AND SONS.

Write or send for Price Lists and Designs. Second-hand Pianos from £10.

PIANOS ..... From 10s. per Month.
AMERICAN ORGANS ..... From 7s. per Month.
HARMONIUMS ..... From 5s. per Month.

PIANOS TUNED BY PROFESSIONAL TUNERS, FROM 3s. 6d.
Contract Tuning (once per quarter) 12s. a-year.

WADDINGTONS' PIANO WAREHOUSE 5, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.
MR. JAS. EMERSON, MANAGER.

MUSIC.

THE MISSES HARKER, BLACKHILL, TEACHERS of PIANOFORTE & VIOLIN. Pupils Trained for Theoretical and Practical Examinations. Violins, Violin Cases, Bows and Strings from Best Makers, on most Reasonable Terms.

TUTORS, SHEET MUSIC, &c., obtained on the Shortest Notice. 67e

MANCHESTER CORPORATION CONCENTRATED MANURE.

MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT.

BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c,

38-56 per Cent. of	ORGANIC MATTER	containing
3-50 "	of AMMONIA	
9-98 "	of ALKALINE SALTS	containing
0-90 "	of POTASH.	
8-87 "	of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.	
2-50 "	of SULPHATE OF LIME.	

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 50 miles of Manchester in not less than Two Ton Lots, and within 150 miles in not less than Four Ton Lots.—Special quotation beyond 150 miles.

£3 PER TON.

Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made HY WHALEY, SUPERINTENDENT, Cleansing Department, Town Hall, Manchester. 650d

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

HEALTHGIVING.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

STIMULATES DIGESTION.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

A GENTLE APERIENT.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

IS INVIGORATING.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

INVALUABLE TO TOURISTS.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

A BOON TO SAILORS.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

FOR USE IN ALL CLIMATES.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

INDISPENSIBLE IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

Sold in

¼ LB. TINS 4d.
½ LB. TINS 9d.
BOTTLES 1s.

May be obtained of ALL GROCERS AND CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

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.)

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

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

THE CHURCH AND THE PEOPLE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I did not intend troubling your many readers with any further additions to this correspondence, but the last letter from the "valiant defender of the faith" hailing from Shotley demands some attention. It is one of the most wonderful compilations of history, doctrines, and mystery which has graced your columns for some time.

I must express my surprise at the silence of the many Liberal Dissenters who live and have their being in this part of Mr Jones's division. I am informed by one who lives near the ironopolis of the district that the lecturing and preaching have been remarkable since our member made this so-called attack upon the Church. Its reverend defender ought to be made aware that in these days of liberty of thought the people are beginning to think for themselves, and that the "unjustness of the attack may appear very just in other people's opinion."

That portion of the letter which says that "the Church of England is older than the Kingdom of England" can be allowed to pass, as it would of itself take considerable space to deal with. Everyone with a slight acquaintance with the history of Church matters will admit there was a *Christian Church* in England before there was a Parliament, but that this Church was Catholic, and not Protestant, can, I think, be proved satisfactorily. I shall not further deal with it, believing other parts of the letter of more importance to us at present.

The amount of unblushing sophistry introduced into the last letter is simply astounding. "It is more correct to say that the Church established the State than that the State established the Church." Now, this is going right against history, and I fail to see the justice or fairness of anyone writing such palpable sophistry as this. Why, the very title of his Church contradicts his statement. In order to show that such a statement is unwarranted by the facts of history, I cannot do better than give a very brief statement of the Establishment of this "creature of Crown and Parliament," as a well-known writer calls it. The Church of England dates from A.D. 1531, when the convocation of the Church separated itself from Rome by acknowledging Henry VIII. "supreme head of the Church and clergy of England." Its final separation was three years later, and to prove the incorrectness of Mr Ross-Lewin's statement, Parliament declared "that our said Sovereign Lord, heirs and successors, kings of this realm, shall have full power and authority to visit and repress, redress, reform, correct, and amend all such errors, heresies, abuses, offences, whatsoever they be, for the conservation of the peace, unity, and tranquility of this realm." (From Herbert's "Life and Times of Henry VIII.") As also showing that the Church was then established, Parliament next passed the Statute of the Six Articles in 1539. Numerous facts of history could be cited to prove that the Church was then established, how that Acts of Parliament were passed for to regulate her public religion, and for the election of her bishops—in fact, it seems to me that this attempt to prove the antiquity of the Church is trying to prove that there was no Reformation at all, and simply saying believe Mr Ross-Lewin against the "History of England."

In paragraph four, Mr Ross-Lewin again says, with that same sophistry which characterises most of his letter, "that at present all religious bodies are subject to Parliament." This is evidently written to white-wash dissentism, as everyone knows that there is an immense gulf between Parliamentary interference with the Church and with Dissenting Churches. Is the discipline, rites, ceremonies, and doctrines of Wesleyanism laid down for it by Act of Parliament, or can they be altered by Acts of the same? Is its officials appointed by the Crown? Can one of their ministers purchase his living and settle down in a parish to keep everyone in purgatory, preach empty platitudes, and wander the highways expecting the working man to lift the hat and bow the knee to him? No. Would such contemptible and shameful abuses be allowed to exist for one moment in any of the Dissenting sects of this country? I trow not. Other statements in Mr Ross-Lewin's letter call for serious consideration; the only other point I will treat of is that relating to tithes. Dr Rigg is quoted as saying that "The Church of England does not derive a farthing of revenue from public taxation." The disposal of such an important principle in one or two brief sentences can only be meant to keep the subject in the background, especially after such a beautiful summing up of the case, as Dr Rigg gives.

Tithes were originally voluntary, and have been diverted from their legitimate use by the Church herself for her own selfish ends. Nobody would have any objection to Churchmen giving their bounties to the Church of their choice, but when it comes to Catholics, Wesleyans, Freethinkers, &c., no Church but one entirely devoid of charity would accept such. In order to lend weight to the statement that tithes were originally voluntary, I give only two out of many authorities to hand.

Selden, in his "History of Tithes," traces the legal obligation to pay tithes to the law. Blackstone, Hume, and, lastly, Southey—the latter, in his "Book of the Church," says "The payment of tithes had at first been voluntary, though it was considered as a religious obligation, King Ethelwulf, the father of Alfred, subjected the whole kingdom to it by a legislative Act." Having shown that tithes were legally imposed (that is, through the law), I hold, and I think reasonably hold, that they do partake of "public taxation," and that instead of the Church not getting one farthing, it gets a revenue of several millions of pounds from the nation every year. The audacity of a clergyman in coming to my house and demanding his tithes when he knows that I am of a different creed, and must support my own, is superb. Such methods of supporting *religion* must in the end bring about its own destruction.

Mr Ross-Lewin again says that "Any scheme of disendowment must therefore involve the repeal of the first clause of the great Charter." Surely this is trifling with words. Have other laws not been repealed with advantage, and are being repealed every year, and the sooner this one point of the Charter is abolished the better for the nation. Age does not lend weight to cruel and arrogant laws; they are just as bad and just as harsh with all their antiquity. Is the cry for religious equality an empty one, or are there men to be found at the present day who can publicly oppose such a noble principle? Theirs be the shame for so doing.

In conclusion, I cannot do better than give one or two authorities of some importance to show that the Church is a State-paid establishment.

Lord Palmerston—"The property of the Church belongs to the State, and the Legislature has the power and the right to deal with that property according to the circumstances of the times."

Lord Coleridge—"If men give property to the Church, and the Church takes it, the property is given and taken subject to State control, on State terms, upon conditions laid down from time to time by the State, and liable to be altered by the power which has laid them down."

Cobbett—"The aristocracy having got rid of Henry III., resolved to make a new Church by law and a Protestant one in order that the Pope might never come and investigate the people to restore those landed estates and titles which they had got into their possession by grants from Henry."

Lord Melbourne—"The tithes and landed property in the hands of the clergy do not belong to them, but are a portion of the national property."

A poet has briefly described the impression which the sight of a bishop made upon his mind in the following lines:—

"I see within a solemn square
A bishop's pompous carriage peer,
The Jehu grave, with powdered hair,
A brace of lackeys in the rear.
His lordship's arms in gules and blue
(Heaven's own) upon the panels shine—
I think of twelve apostles who
Walked barefooted through Palestine."

—Yours, &c., HISTORICUS.
White-le-Head, Jan. 16th, 1891.

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

Football.

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

ASSOCIATION.

Bearpark Albion beat Wingate Rangers, at Bearpark, by four goals to two.

Tow Law Reserve and Howdon Rangers played a draw of one goal each, at Howdon.

HEDLEY HARRIERS v BRANDON ROVERS.—Played on the ground of the latter, before a large number of spectators. Result:—Brandon, four goals; Hedley, nil.

MEDOMSLEY JUNIORS v SPEN HEROES.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in an easy victory for the visitors. Score—Medomsley, four goals; Spen, nil.

TOW LAW JUNIORS v TOW LAW BLUES.—Played on the ground of the former, a very hard and fast game resulting in favour of the Juniors by four goals to one.

LEADGATE EXILES v HEBBURN ARGYLE.—Played on the ground of the latter. The Exiles were weakly represented, and suffered defeat by three goals to nothing.

STREETGATE RISING STAR v MARLEY HILL JUNIORS. Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team, after a good game, by two goals to nil.

CORBRIDGE v MICKLEY.—Played on the ground of the former. The game was very pleasantly and evenly contested, and ended in a win for Corbridge by one goal to nil.

LEADGATE EXILES RESERVE v SCIENCE AND ART 2ND.—This match should have been played at Newcastle, but owing to Science and Art having to re-play their tie in the Northumberland Minor Competition, the game was postponed.

LEADGATE EXILES B v DERWENT COTTAGES RAMBLERS.—Played on the ground of the latter, the Exiles winning a good game by three goals to two, besides having three goals disallowed on the ground of off-side.

CONSETT Y.M.C.A. v CASTLESIDE.—These teams met on the Y.M.C.A. ground, Delves Lane, and after a fast game, in which Castleside on several occasions had hard lines, resulted in an easy win for the home team by five goals to nil. Messrs Storey and Simpson acted as umpires, and Mr Robt. Sanderson was referee.

TANFIELD LEA v NORTH-EASTERN RANGERS (WALLSEND).—Played at Tanfield Lea, but owing to the late arrival of the visitors only 15 minutes each way was played. From the kick-off the home team had the best of the game, and won easily by four goals to nothing.

HEDLEYHOPE HARRIERS v ESH CHURCH INSTITUTE. —This return match was played on the ground of the former. When the visitors turned up, the home team were two men short, but obtained the assistance of Beckwith and Wilson, of Tow Law. The Institute had a good team, which included Trotter and Growcett, of the Esh Albions. The game was a good one, but the home team had the best of it, and won a fast game by three goals to one.

KIP HILL WANDERERS v LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS —We have received reports of the above game from each team. The Wanderers claim to have won the match by one goal and one disputed goal to nothing, whilst the Park maintain that the result was a draw of one goal each. Owing to a dispute occurring, the Leadgate team left the field ten minutes before time.

LINTZ MERRY ROVERS 2ND v CONSETT ALBION B.— Played on the ground of the former, ending in a dispute seven minutes before time, when the score stood one goal each. The Rovers were represented by the following:—Goal, M. Watson; backs, E. Henderson and W. Henderson; half-backs, J. Ryans, J. Lee, and W. Gilfellon; forwards, T. Weedy, T. Watson, J. McGurk, A. Hughes, and P. McKenna.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES HEROES v WEST STANLEY TEMPERANCE.—Played on the former's ground at Medomsley. The home team showed superior form throughout, and gained an easy victory by three goals to nil. The following represented the Heroes:— Goal, A. Hall; backs, T. Burns and Thos. Bailey; half-backs, T. Walton, Wm. Bailey, and T. Coates; forwards, S. Ward (capt.) and W. Egglestone, right wing; I. Gilliard, centre; J. Hall and J. Hunter, left wing.

HELM PARK WANDERERS v BRANDON HEROES.— Played on the ground of the former at Tow Law. The home men played with three of the second team, and after a good game won by one goal to nil. The Wanderers' team was as follows:—Goal, J. Moore; backs, J. Renwick and J. Richardson; half-backs, A. Smith, W. Jordan, and W. Allen; forwards, J. Proud (capt.) and T. Heseltine, right wing; T. Lee and A. Slater, left wing; J. Burke, centre.

QUEBEC ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS v CONSETT ROYAL OAKS.—Played on the ground of the former at Esh Laude, in two thirties, and after a fast and exciting game resulted in a win for the home team. Score:— Quebec St. Michael's, two goals; Royal Oaks, one goal (disputed). The following represented Quebec: —Goal, T. Waugh; backs, Suddees and Carpenter; half-backs, Kennell, Doran, and Garr; forwards, Sargent and Fineran, right wing; Welsh and Finegan, left wing; Cagill, centre.

OAKEY'S LILYWHITES v PIT HILL HARRIERS.—This return match was played on the former's ground, which was covered with snow. The captains agreed to play two thirty-fives, and after ten minutes' play the home team scored. Before the interval they added other three goals, but one was disallowed on a plea of off-side, and at half-time the score was—Lilywhites, three goals; Harriers, nil. In the second period the home team had all the play, and scored four more goals. At the finish the final score read as follows— Lilywhites, seven goals; Harriers, nil. The Lilywhites' team consisted of the following:—Goal, I. Turnbull; backs, D. Jacques and J. Charlton; half-backs, D. Dawson, W. Pearson, and J. Holliday; forwards, W. Lumley and J. Cunningham, right wing; W. Gibson, centre; H. Dawson and R. Ridley, left wing.

DIPTON WANDERERS v TANTOBIE.—Played on the ground of the latter in a bed of snow. The Wanderers kicked off up the hill, and quickly beseiged their opponents' goal; but gradually the home team began to wear down on the visitors' fortress, and had several near shies, but failed to score. The play continued to be even up till half-time, when the score stood—

Tantobie ....Nil
Wanderers ....Nil

Directly the second half commenced, the Wanderers began to show their superiority, and never left the vicinity of the home goal, except for an occasional spurt by the home forwards. However, although the visitors had considerably the best of the game, they could only score once, the homesters defending very stubbornly. When the whistle blew the final result was as under—

Wanderers.............................One goal
Tantobie ....Nil

MR F. McCURLEY'S COMPETITION.

FINAL TIE.

CONSETT LEAGUE OF THE CROSS v. CONSETT RUGBY 2ND.

These teams met on the Consett Rugby Club's ground at Benfieldside in the final of the above competition. About 1,400 spectators were present. In the first half the game was very evenly contested, and at half-time the score stood:—Consett League of the Cross, one goal; Consett Rugby 2nd, nothing. The second period was very fast and stubbornly contested, the League (who had scored another point), leading by two goals till shortly before the close, when the Rugby team came with a rush, and added two goals in three minutes. The final result was as follows:— Consett League of the Cross, two goals; Consett Rugby 2nd, two goals. The latter team wanted to play extra time, but as the League had been playing nearly the whole of the game with only 10 men, they naturally refused. The teams were composed as follows:—

CONSETT LEAGUE OF THE CROSS.—Goal, Wm. Finnigan; backs, J. Swan (capt.) and J. McCarthy; half-backs, J. Griffin, J. Rafferty, and J. Carroll; forwards, J. McKie and P. McKie, right wing; H. Rolands, centre; P. Rafferty and F. Bradley, left wing.

CONSETT RUGBY 2ND.—Goal, G. Sayers; backs, J. Aitken and J. G. Askew; half-backs, Wm. Brown, E. McElrue, and E. Robson; forwards, J. Brown and G. Aitken, right wing; M. Williamson, centre; R. Stobbs and G. Smailes (capt.), left wing.

Referee, Mr J. Ross, jun. (Medomsley).

RUGBY.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

BLAYDON v JARROW CHRIST CHURCH.—Played at Blaydon. During the first half the home team had slightly the best of the game, scoring one minor, and the score at half-time stood:—Blaydon, one minor; Jarrow nothing. In the second period the Blaydon forwards showed so well, one good dribble resulting in Tinkler securing a try. T. March landed a good goal from the place. Nothing further was recorded, and the game ended in a win for Blaydon, the final result being:—Blaydon, one goal, two minors; Jarrow, nil.

HETTON LYONS v HAMSTEELS.—This match, in the above competition, deferred from the previous Saturday, was successfully brought off on Saturday last, in the recreation grounds adjoining Mr Geo. French's hostelry, Stag's Head Hotel, Waterhouses. Much interest was evinced in the game, and a large number of spectators were present. Hetton played with any amount of dash in the first half, having the advantage of the ground, and scored two tries and four minors. In the second half the home team had considerably the best of matters, and won a fast and close game. Final score:—Hamsteels, one goal (penalty), one try, and three minors; Hetton Lyons, two tries and four minors.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[BY "OFF-SIDE."]

THE EXILES AT HEBBURN.

The Exiles travelled to Hebburn on Saturday to bring off their fixture with the Argyle. The visitors were considerably weakened by the absence of Callaghan and W. McGee, who were on the sick list; but their defeat of three goals to nil was not a fair representation of the game. The Exiles had as much of the play as their opponents, but their old weakness in front of goal lost them several chances, whilst Hebburn took advantage of every opportunity that presented itself. The first of the home team's goals was scored while the visitors were claiming for off-side, and no one offered any resistance; but the point was allowed. The third goal was somewhat similar, but there was no alternative but to abide by the decision of the referee. The latter official, I am informed, was very unfair in his treatment of the visitors. After the match the Exiles were very kindly treated, all the players sitting down to an excellent tea provided by the home team, which was thoroughly enjoyed.

A RISING TEAM.

The Hedleyhope Harriers, who were only formed late in the season, have played some excellent games already. On Saturday they beat a strong team of the Esh Church Institute by three goals to one. Their record so far shows that they have played six matches, winning five and losing one (their first game), and scoring 16 goals to four—a very good performance. Next season they hope to have an eleven capable of giving the best of our local teams a good game. I wish the Harriers long-continued success.

THE Y.M.C.A. VICTORIOUS.

The above club, who have suffered many defeats with the utmost equanimity, seem to have changed their luck at last, and gained a very creditable victory on Saturday. Their victims were Castleside, who had to put up with a beating of five goals to nil. The winners played a splendid game, prominent among them being Walker, Jones, Gambles, Smith, and Cooke, whilst Atkinson, Peart, and Snowball strove hard to avert defeat. I congratulate the Y.M.C.A. on their first victory, and sincerely hope they will maintain their good form.

MR F. McCURLEY'S MEDALS.

The final tie of the above very successful venture was fixed to take place on Saturday, and after ninety minutes' hard and fast play the destination of the medals was still left unsettled. Owing to the heavy falls of snow on Friday and Saturday, the going was rather heavy, but this did not seem to affect the contending teams in the least—in fact, they rather seemed to enjoy it. A very large number of the supporters of the rival elevens were present, and they did not forget to let their presence be known whenever their respective favourites did anything to rouse their enthusiasm.

During the first half the League of the Cross had rather the best of the play, although short of their centre half-back (Rafferty), who was unfortunately injured about 10 minutes after the commencement, and did not take any furthrr part in the game. P. McKie shot a very pretty goal for the Leaguers, and this was all the scoring in the first "45." Soon after recommencing, Bradley headed a beautiful goal for his team, who, with two points to their credit, seemed to have a rosy chance for the medals. The score remained unaltered till about six minutes from time, when the Rugby men played up most determinedly, and from a well-placed corner they scored their first goal. Flushed with their success, they added a second shortly after, and amid indescribable excitement the game ended in a draw—two goals each.

Taking into consideration the fact that the League were only playing ten men during the greater part of the game, they did well to make a draw. Their forwards showed much better combination than the Rugbyites, and passed very creditably. Finnigan only kept goal moderately, but Swan played a splendid game at back, and McCarthy also did very well. Griffin and Carroll were an excellent pair of halves, and worked hard all through. P. McKie was the best forward on the field, and was ably assisted by Bradley. The Consett Rugby 2nd are to be congratulated on what may literally be termed "pulling the game out of the fire." They appeared to be much better trained than the League, and were seemingly very fresh at the finish. Their custodian performed well between the sticks, and Aitken was in champion form, his long kicks being of the utmost service to his side. Askew and the three halves also showed up prominently. Williamson was the best of the forwards, but was only poorly backed up.

I understand that it is not definitely settled when the tie will be re-played. Whenever it does take place, another exciting game may be looked forward to. I am informed that Mr McCurley has generously decided to present one of his best "Crown" footballs (value 10s 6d) to the losing team when the competition is finally settled.

Since the above lines were in type, I have received a communication from Mr McCurley, requesting me to publish his emphatic contradiction of a rumour which has gained currency to the effect that he had made a wager of £5 that the Rugby team would prove successful. Mr McCurley offers to present £5 to any charitable institution in the event of anyone proving that he had a single penny wagered on the result of Saturday's game.

THE PROPOSED LEAGUE.

SIR,—The Langley Park Rovers are of the same opinion as the most of the Association clubs in the district—that if a league was formed and properly ruled, there would not be so many disappointments as we often have now. We also think that Mr Knaggs could find a more central place for a meeting to suit the outside clubs as regards the railway facilities. Hoping shortly to hear more about this intended league, and that Mr Smith's suggestion may flourish —I remain, yours, &c.,

J. AGAR,
Sec. Langley Park Rovers A.F.C.

TO-MORROW'S CUP-TIE AT LEADGATE.

The game at Leadgate to-morrow (Saturday), in the Durham Cup competition proper, is creating great interest in the district. Unfortunately, owing to various reasons, the Park have been unable to get very little practice since their match with Bishop Auckland Town. Nevertheless, they are quietly confident as to the result of the game, and intend to do their very utmost to pass into the next round. I understand that their opponents (Sunderland Olympic) are in fine fettle, and have no doubt as to who will be successful. That they are a formidable team may be gathered from the fact that they recently defeated the strong East End Reserves by five goals to one. With the ground in anything like decent condition, a splendid contest should be the outcome of the meeting. Play up, Park!

TOW LAW JUNIORS.

The above club has a splendid record so far as the season has gone. They have played 11 matches, winning nine, drawing one, and losing one, scoring 43 goals to 11. In the match they lost they were only beaten by one goal to nil—Tow Law 3rd team being the victors. Though only a young team, their combination and passing completely put their large and heavy opponents in the shade.

OAKEY'S LILYWHITES.

The Lilywhites have every reason to feel satisfied with their performances this season. Up to and including January 17th their results read:—Matches played, 14; won, 10; lost, 3; drawn, 1. They have also a capital goal average, having 45 points to their credit against 16.

PROMISING JUNIORS.

The Dipton Wanderers have a capital junior team, and I fancy their record will compare favourably with any junior eleven in the neighbourhood. So far this season they have played 15 matches, of which 10 have been won, three drawn, and two lost, having scored 49 goals against 17.

MATCHES WANTED.

Consett Swifts B team (A) would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, from 13 to 16 years. Apply to Thomas Borrow, Templetown, Consett.

Medomsley Juniors (A) would like to arrange matches with any junior clubs from Jan. 31 to April 18. Write to R. Gillender, 4, Green Tree Square, Medomsley, Lintz Green.

Consett White Stars (A) would be pleased to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, from 15 to 16. Address—John McGuckin, 16, Edith Street, Consett.

Trade Notes.

WEARDALE AND SHILDON WATERWORKS COMPANY.

The directors of the Weardale and Shildon District Waterworks Company, at their meeting on Monday, decided to recommend the payment on the 11th Feb. next of a dividend at the rate of 4½ per cent. per annum in respect of the half-year ending Dec. 31st, 1890. This makes, with interim dividend of 4 per cent. paid on the 1st August last, a dividend of 4¼ per cent. for the year 1890, as against 4 per cent. for the year 1889.

COKEMEN'S DISPUTE AT WESTWOOD.

On Monday morning, the cokemen employed at the range of ovens belonging the Consett Iron Company at Westwood struck work, in consequence, it is stated, of some dispute respecting money matters. Mr Ernest Forster, secretary of the Durham Cokemen's Association, was sent for, and, after conferring with the representatives of the firm (who granted certain concessions), the men agreed to resume work till to-day (Friday), by which time it is hoped the matters in dispute will be amicably arranged.

THE MINING CRISIS IN WEARDALE.

As the time approaches prescribed by the Weardale Iron Company for the stoppage of their mines the interest and tension are becoming more intense, and the developments of the past week are freely canvassed. That the situation is entirely due to the above

ACTION OF THE LESSEES,

and to their not replying to the kindly inquiry of the men through their local manager (Mr T. Teasdale) goes without saying, and it was only when the public stepped into the breach that any notice was given to the men's plea by their employers, towards whom not the slightest hostility is manifested beyond this. The public, whose signatures have been given to the petition, insist upon its despatch to the

AVOWED FRIENDS OF WEARDALE,

the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who, as will be seen from the subjoined letter to the vicar of St. John's (Rev R. Shepherd), who has been in active correspondence with all the parties concerned during the last few days, that "their lordships await the memorial to

RENDER ANY ASSISTANCE."

The first part of the said letter, acknowledging the receipt of the vicar's advice and the report of the last public gathering, generally leads to the conclusion that the tenets of the Iron Company's lease leave them powerless to enforce compliance with the prayer of the petitioners, and it is strongly inferred that assistance may be given to permanently

REMEDY THE LONG-BANNED INDUSTRIES

and prolific mineral resources of the valley in the shape of substantial assistance to a railway, now that a large section of the public press is giving full chorus to our long advocacy of the project, a result considered not at all palatable to the Iron Company, who hold

ABSOLUTE MONOPOLY OF THE COAL TRADE

at their Westgate *depot*, as well as the transit of the lead over the railway from the latter place, *via* Rookhope and Waskerley, while the men in their anxiety to tide over the present stoppage are naturally desirous to avoid aught which might be construed into their conducing to acting mimical to

THEIR EMPLOYERS' INTERESTS.

The latter spirit permeated their deputation, consisting of Messrs Barkas, Lowe, Roddam, Thomas Wilson, and their secretary (Mr T. Hodgson), who met Mr Hollis, manager of the Iron Company, at Stanhope on Monday, to hear the result of which a public meeting was held in the Town Hall, St. John's Chapel, the same night, over which the vicar of St. John's presided. After explaining the object of the meeting, and reviewing the

CURRENT PHASE OF THE CRISIS,

he read the following correspondence, which he had received in the interval. On the appearance of the petition now signed by the inhabitants on January 13th, he received the following telegram from Mr Hollis, manager:—

"Letter *re* Weardale mines is addressed to you by to-day's post."

So that on the 14th he received the following letter:—

The Weardale Iron and Coal Company (Limited).
Tudhoe Ironworks, Spennymoor,
13th Jan., 1891.

Weardale Mines.

REVD. SIR,—We have noticed in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* a report of a meeting under your presidency, from which it appears that our workmen wish to address to our lessors a petition with regard to the future working of the mines. As this course of procedure would be attended with some expense, and would be entirely without such result such as is desired, may I suggest as a preferable line of action that a deputation from the miners confer with me upon the question? If this suggestion be acceptable, I shall be happy to receive such a deputation at this office on Monday, 19th, or, if desired, at Stanhope at one on that day. The adoption of this course would enable me to explain to the miners the position in which we are placed, and would perhaps enable them to see that nothing will be gained with regard to their future prospects by the adoption of their hostile attitude towards us that appears to have developed. I assure you we sympathise most deeply with our men, and regret more than I can express the adverse circumstances of the times, which bears so hardly upon them.—I am, rev. sir, yours very faithfully.

H. W. HOLLIS, General Manager.
Rev R. Shepherd, St. John's, Weardale.

This was followed by another telegram from the same gentleman on the 16th:—

Having no notice of deputation attending, am I at liberty to make other arrangements for Monday? Reply.

At the wish of the men, he wrote to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, fully detailing the situation, and advising the petition, which had been held back till after to-day's interview, and had received the following letter in reply from Mr Porter. (Loud cheers).

Ecclesiastical Commission, 10, Whitehall Place,
London, S.W.,
16th January, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—I have on behalf of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 12th inst., enclosing a *Northern Echo's* report of a public meeting with reference to the projected stoppage of the mines of the Weardale Iron Company. The Commissioners greatly deplore that causes entirely beyond their control are likely to lead to a stoppage of the ironstone mines, and thereby to occasion much distress in the dale. I can assure you the subject is one which will engage the anxious attention of the Commissioners, and that any memorial which may be forwarded will receive their careful consideration.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

A. DE BOCK PORTER.
Rev R. Shepherd, The Vicarage, St. John's-in-Weardale, Darlington.

(Loud applause). Before he made any further remarks, he would call on the deputation, who were received with loud cheers. They stated that the deputation were received by the manager very courteously, and

FULLY DISCUSSED THE CRISIS,

with the result that Mr Hollis expressed the sincere sympathy of the company with their miners and all affected by the compulsory suspension, and pointed out that through circumstances altogether beyond their control the demand for pig iron made wholly or part of Weardale ironstone had become very limited, and that they could not hope to dispose of, by sale and use in the ironworks, any quantity more than would suffice to keep the mines in operation to the extent represented by the continuous employment of a

COMPARATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF MEN.

He further referred to the changed condition of their trade, which had led to the substitution of Siemen's steel for the older wrought iron, a change which tells seriously against the working of the Weardale ironstone, which was altogether inapplicable for the manufacture of steel. He was considering the question whether by stocking the ironstone they could avoid for the present the entire stoppage of the mines, but as to that he could not then definitely promise. (Applause). Mr Hollis also said that they had the lease from 1884 for 42 years, at a

RENTAL OF £4,200 PER YEAR,

and the first question Mr Hollis put was, "Had the petition gone?" "Yes, it has gone"—(cheers)—and anything they could do to assist in getting down their dues they would. (Cheers). The petition would do them good, as well as themselves.

Mr SHEPHERD said: The position which the iron company have taken up clearly indicates that they cannot or will not carry on the working of the ironstone with any degree of certainty or permanency If so, then they ought to

GIVE UP THE LEASE

like human gentlemen—(cheers)—for if they had not broken the letter of the lease they had broken the spirit of it, because simply they can get ironstone cheaper from Spain. (Hear.) It is possible that they may retain the said lease in order to hold the exclusive control of the coal trade from their Westgate depôt. ("Shame.") They would gather from the above letter of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners that they, as usual, were

READY TO GIVE WHAT ASSISTANCE THEY COULD

to the prayer of the petition so ably drawn up by Mr Pentland—(cheers)—and in order to do this he would urge the necessity of the Commissioners taking some important and practical steps, so far as was in their power, for placing the working of the ore mines on a better basis, and if possible assisting in some way the carrying out of

THE PROPOSED RAILWAY

—(cheers)—so that the mineral wealth may be developed and the inhabitants find employment. (Loud cheers.)

Mr Hodgson read a letter from Mr Lindsay Wood in reply to one sent to him. Mr Wood promised to see Mr Porter when in London shortly, and would fully detail.

The Chairman suggested asking the Commissioners to send down a special inquiry agent.

Mr Joshua Dawson and Dr Hewitson also addressed the meeting, which concluded with the customary votes of thanks.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.

The sixth annual general statement and report of the directors for the year ending December 29th, 1890, to be presented at the annual meeting of members on February 2nd, is as follows:—

"In reporting to you the position of the society at the end of the sixth year of its existence, your directors are pleased to state that, under most exceptional circumstances, it is making its benefits known in the district, and the membership is increasing accordingly. A further sum of £1,052 8s 3d has been advanced during the year on most excellent security. The members will all be aware of the very high rate of bank interest which has prevailed during a great portion of the past twelve months, and it was this that made your directors decide, about a year ago, to advertise for money on deposit at the fixed rate of interest of 4½ per cent—a step which they have no reason to regret, as it has been well responded to, and the rate of bank interest subsequently became very high, so that there is no doubt it was owing to this foresight that the directors are in a position to suggest such a satisfactory division of profits.

"The profit and loss account, after debiting interest to depositors, £42 19s 9d, general expenses and salaries, also an enhanced proportion of preliminary expenses—(owing to having to procure certificates, &c., for the depositors)—and carrying the necessary percentage to reserve fund, amounting to £7 18s 10d, and crediting interest on advances, £271, and fines, transfer fees, &c., leaves a net balance of £64 7s 11d for disposal.

"This balance of £64 7s 11d it is proposed to divide as follows:—£57 3s to unadvanced shareholders, being 4 per cent. on their credit balances at the commencement of the year, as also on their payments during the year from the date of such; also the sum of £6 8s 9d to advanced members, being at the same rate on their repayments; carrying a balance of 16s 2d forward.

"Your directors, in conclusion, have pleasure in issuing this report, shewing a balance that enables them to ask you to divide interest at such a favourable rate, and have no hesitation in saying that there is a bright future before the society if the members will only co-operate with them in bringing its benefits prominently before their friends.

"Six of your directors retire, all of whom are eligible for re-election—viz., Messrs W. Aynsley, T. McCourty, H. Nicholson, C. Parnaby, Wm. Eales, and James Hardy. Your auditors also retire, and offer themselves for re-election.

(Signed for the directors).
"WM. AYNSLEY, Chairman."

Cricket.

The Catchgate Cricket Club would like to arrange matches for the ensuing season with moderate first or good second teams. J. Wilson, secretary, 43, East Pontop, Lintz Green.

USHAW MOOR C.C.—The annual meeting of this club has just been held at Ushaw Moor, when there was a good attendance of members. The undermentioned officers were chosen for the ensuing season:—President, Sir Henry Chaytor, Bart.; first team captain, Mr W. Hill; vice-captain, Mr G. Browning; second team captain, Mr A. Lowell; vice-captain, Mr H. Hudson; hon. treasurer, Mr E. Mould; hon. secretary, Mr H. Hudson; committee, Messrs C. Smith, J. Paley, W. Tennick, J. Hutchinson, T. Walker, H. Hope, and J. Gilroy. The club had a pretty successful season last year.

TANFIELD C.C.—The annual meeting was held in the Peacock Inn, on Saturday night, when the following officers were elected:—Patron, Mr T. D. Eden; president, Rev T. H. Archdall, M.A.; vice-presidents, Dr Benson, Messrs N. Clark, R. Atkinson, G. Watson, R. Agar, F. Dixon, W. Taylor, J. Irwin, W. J. Handcock, A. Atkinson, J. Chaytor, J. Robinson, and F. Lowe; captain, Mr J. Laidler; vice-captain, Mr E. Reay; hon. treasurer, Mr R. Johnson; committee, Messrs Wm. T. Brown, J. Robson, J. Allan, M. Paddison, M. Wilkinson, W. Hetherington, and J. Charlton; hon. secretary, W. G. Robinson, Tanfield.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr Murray had forward on Monday, 7 fat cattle, 60 fat sheep, 15 pigs, 13 cows, a quantity of poultry, harness, &c. Prices:—Fat cattle to £17; sheep to 52s; pigs, 12s to £5 6s; cows to £17. A good company of buyers was present, and prices were similar to late weeks. Quotations:—Beef, 8s to 8s 6d per stone; mutton, 8¼ per lb; pork, 5s 6d to 6s 6d per stone.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday, 35 cows and heifers, 7 fat cattle, 8 store cattle, 55 fat sheep and hoggs. Calved cows made up to £23; cows to calve to £22 5s; fat cattle to £17; store cattle to £13; fat black faced wethers to 36s 6d—top, R. Crowe, Hedleyhope; fat black-faced ewes to 29s—top, Mr W. Stephenson, Frosterley; fat half-bred hoggs to 44s—top, Mr Geo. Henderson, Wolsingham.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL JOTTINGS

Major and Mrs William Joicey have arrived at Cadogan Square, London, from Urpeth Lodge.

—:o:—

Joseph Dixon, South Moor, pupil of Mr Robert Wilson, Sandyford Academy, Nixon Street, Newcastle, has successfully passed the Preliminary Veterinary Examination held at the Royal (Dick's) College, Edinburgh, on the 6th instant.

—:o:—

Mr J. M. Nicholson son of Coun. Geo. Nicholson, of Leadgate, and articled to Messrs Monkhouse Goddard and Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, and London, successfully passed the final examination of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, held in London on the 16th, 17th, and 18th of December last.

—:o:—

The death is announced of the widow of the late Mr Henry Fenwick, of Southhill, near Chester-le-Street. The late Mr. Henry Fenwick represented the borough of Sunderland in the House of Commons from 1854 to 1866. In 1854 he opposed and defeated one of the sitting members, Mr. W. Digby Seymour, when the latter was appointed Recorder of Newcastle, and had to seek re-election. When Mr Fenwick was appointed a Lord of the Admiralty he sought re-election, and was then opposed and defeated by Mr. John Candlish. We regret to learn Mrs Fenwick's death took place after a short illness on Sunday, Jan 18th, at Grasse, Alpes Maritimes. She was a daughter of Mr Cookson, of Meldon Park.

"BUCHU-PAIBA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. NEWBERY and SONS, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL & STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES, quickly correct all irregularities, removes all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes, 1s 1½d. and 2s 9d of all chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps by the Maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

OPENING OF LEADGATE WESLEYAN NEW SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

The members of the Leadgate Wesleyan Society have at length accomplished a fact, which only a short time ago was contemplated, and that is the building and opening of a commodious school-room, wherein the children of the place can congregate every Sabbath for the purpose of being instructed in the Scriptures. The block of buildings which now stands so prominently in Front Street are really a credit to this thriving society, and are more so when it is considered that the members for the most part belong that class, who have to go down to the "bowls of earth" in order that they may work for the bread that perisheth. Wednesday afternoon was set apart for the opening of this building. Rev Joseph Robinson, of Newcastle, preached an appropriate sermon in the chapel. Despite the severity of the weather, many availed themselves of the opportunity of hearing the rev gentleman once more. Mr Robinson took his text from Phillipians, iii chapter, verse 13, "One thing I do." A collection was taken at the close. In the evening, Mr Robinson delivered his popular lecture on "The French Revolution of 1688," to a fair and appreciative company. The chair was occupied by Mr A. Phillipson, Dipton. Votes of thanks concluded a successful day's proceedings.

SERIOUS CHARGE OF WOUNDING AT WEST KYO.

SINGULAR EVIDENCE.

At the Lanchester Police Court, on Thursday se'nnight—before Rev J. P. Lee Pledge (presiding) and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.—*John Finnigan*, miner, was brought up on remand, charged with unlawfully wounding his wife, Ann Finnigan, and also with attempted suicide, at West Kyo, on January 5th. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared for the prosecution. Accused, who is an elderly person, still had his head covered with a flannel bandage, and evidently being in a weak state, was allowed to be seated in the dock.

Ann Finnigan, the prosecutrix, who was likewise in a feeble condition, and was permitted to sit while tendering her evidence, deposed that on Sunday night, January 4th, her husband and herself were in bed about ten p.m. She had been ill about four months, and he had been very anxious about her, evidently thinking that somebody was coming to do both him and her some injury.

The Magistrates: Had he been drinking lately?

Prosecutrix: No, he leaves off drinking when I am ill, and won't leave me. He only takes a drop of wine.

Proceeding, Mrs Finnigan said that her husband was very restless, and neither of them went to sleep. At length he exclaimed, "They're coming for us," and jumping out of bed, went to a drawer and seized hold of a razor. Prosecutrix also got up, and besought him to put the weapon down. Her husband was in a low state, however, and did not know what he was doing. He approached her, and when she saw him with the razor she went into a shiver.

The Clerk (Mr A. W. Granger): What made you begin to shiver? Were you afraid that he was going to do you any injury?

Prosecutrix: No; I knew he was not responsible for his actions.

The Clerk: If you make out that he is a lunatic, he will have to be detained in an asylum for the rest of his life. You are only making the case worse for him.

Prosecutrix: I can't help it. I am merely speaking the truth. The neighbours saw that he had got into a low state.

Mrs Finnigan went on to say that her husband did not cut her throat with the razor. There was a mark or scratch on her throat, but she could not tell if it was done by the razor. Her arm was cut, but she could not say whether it was her own fault or her husband's that her arm was cut. She held up her arm to protect herself. She knew that her husband did not intend to do her any injury. After the occurrence, she went from the backyard door, and proceeded to a neighbour's house.

Patrick McCullen, who lodged in Finnigan's house, attested that about 1·30 on the morning of the 5th inst., he was sleeping in the upstairs room of the house, when he was awakened by a noise downstairs. Witness ran into the kitchen, and found Mrs Finnigan standing on the floor, while Finnigan himself was sitting down. Witness observed the razor (which was shut) lying upon the floor, and he went and hid the instrument under a mattress upstairs. It was dark at the time, and he did not perceive any blood on the razor. He did not know whether the parties had been struggling, but the prosecutrix was bleeding from a wound upon the arm. He did not observe any marks or scratches on Mrs Finnigan's throat. Witness advised the prosecutrix to go and seek Mrs McGuire, a neighbour. He (McCullen) remained in charge of Finnigan till 9·30, when he suddenly rushed out of the back door. Witness followed him, and on getting up to the man, found him with his throat cut. Witness seized hold of the knife which he held in his grasp, and threw it upon the ground. The accused was quite sober. He took Finnigan into the house, and tried to stop the bleeding till the arrival of Dr O'Brien.

John O'Brien, miner, who also lodged at Finnigan's, gave evidence to the effect that when he came downstairs into the kitchen, he perceived accused and his wife struggling together in the middle of the floor. Prisoner had hold of a razor, which witness knocked out of his hand. He then seized hold of Finnigan, and advised his wife to get out of his road. The woman was bleeding profusely from the fore part of the arm. McCullen also came downstairs, and they both succeeded in quietening prisoner. Mrs Finnigan subsequently went out of the house, and did not come back. Witness went and sought Dr O'Brien and a police officer.

Witness, in answer to the Bench, stated that prisoner was quite sober, but seemed to be off his head. Finnigan was very much excited. He could not say that he heard any quarrelling prior to descending the stairs.

Dr O'Brien, medical practitioner, of Catchgate, said that at three o'clock on the morning of the 5th inst. he was called in to see Mrs Finnigan, and found her suffering from an incised wound on the right forearm. It would be about three inches long, and was cut through the muscle almost to the bone. There were likewise two red marks or scratches upon the right side of the neck. Witness dressed the wounds, and afterwards saw Mrs Finnigan in a neighbour's house. There was a good deal of hæmorrhage from the wound on the arm. The wound was likely to be caused by the razor produced. The marks on the neck could likewise have been done by a razor or other similar instrument. The skin, however, was not broken—only grazed. At 9·30 the same morning, the doctor was summoned to attend Finnigan, who had sustained a lacerated wound on the throat, about two inches wide. He stitched and dressed the injury. The wound he did not consider a dangerous one, but there was severe hæmorrhage. The knife had just missed the artery. Had the cut penetrated the artery, Finnigan must have died. Witness again saw accused at 11·30 a.m., and ascertained that he was in a very weak condition consequent upon the loss of blood. He was also suffering from fits, which were produced by irritation of the wounds and shock to the system. The knife exhibited in court was a likely instrument to have caused the wound.

By the Bench: He did not think that Finnigan was suffering from the effects of drink. He saw the man again at 11 o'clock the following (Tuesday) morning, and pronounced him fit to be removed to the Lanchester Infirmary.

P.C. Alfred Phillipson, stationed at Annfield Plain, testified that he found Finnigan with his throat cut and bleeding, and Dr O'Brien attending to him. Witness assisted the doctor to dress and bandage the wound. Accused was in a weak state, and was subject to fits. Witness had the man watched during the night, and on the following morning he had Finnigan removed to Lanchester Workhouse Infirmary. On the road to the infirmary he charged the man with the attempted murder of his wife and also with attempting to commit suicide. He replied, "I must have been mad." The officer previously cautioned him. Witness was present at the infirmary on the 8th inst., when the man was again warned and charged. He answered, "I have nothing to say."

The Chairman: When I remanded him at the infirmary, Finnigan said that he had nothing to say, adding that he did not know what he was doing at the time.

Prisoner, upon being charged in court, said: I have nothing to say. I am very sorry for what I have.

The Bench committed him to take his trial at the Quarter Sessions.

The wife wept bitterly during the investigation of the case, and frequently moaned, "Oh, God help me."

The Chairman (to Dr O'Brien): Would it be safe to let the prisoner out on bail?

The doctor: I would not like to say that.

Mrs Finnigan: Are you going to admit him to bail?

The magistrates: No.

Accused was removed to the cells.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 15th.—Before Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE (chairman), and W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Butterworth and *Matthew Jackson*, for drunkenness at West Stanley, were fined 5s each and costs.

Michael Ellensworth, hawker, Stoney Heap, for committing the same offence at Annfield Plain, while in charge of a horse and cart, was similarly dealt with.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Thomas Welsh and *Thomas Donnolly*, two young men, pleaded guilty to refusing to quit the licensed premises of Henry Tiplady, at Shield Row, on Dec. 24th. They drank other people's beer, upset the tables and chairs, and endeavoured to break up the house.—Defendants cast some reflection upon the character of the complainant's housekeeper, who retaliated that during her absence at court on New Year's Day the premises were closed. Defendants tried to effect a forcible entrance, and the landlord had to affix props behind the door to prevent them bursting into the place.—Fined 5s and costs each.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Joseph Storey, Malton Colliery, was summoned by Mr John Gibson, acting for the Lanchester School Attendance Committee, for neglecting to cause his child to attend Lanchester National School, on Dec. 8th—the date of the Government examination.—The Bench regarded this as a serious offence, but as Mrs Storey produced a medical certificate, the magistrates agreed to adjourn the case, and advised the woman to get a fresh certificate from Dr Kirkland, showing whether the child was able to attend school on the 8th December.

Anthony Harrison, Cornsay Colliery, for neglecting to send his child to school, was fined 5s, including costs.

YOUNG THIEVES AT CONSETT:

A HARDENED CULPRIT.

Robert John McCulloch, a boy over 12 years of age, the son of an ironworker living at Consett, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing 2s 6d, the money of Ashton Carrick, of Blackfine, on January 5th. Defendant was further accused of stealing 3s from the till of Fred T. Williams, formerly a fruiterer in Front Street, Consett, on the 7th Jan. *McCulloch*, along with *Robert Lumsden*, a lad of 10 years, was likewise charged with stealing two pairs of skates from the shop door of Isabella Wilson, general dealer, Shakespeare Street, Consett, on the 6th inst.

In the first case, Ashton Carrick, aged 10 years, who resides at 3, Buckham Street, Blackfine, said that on Monday, January 5th, he took two rabbits to be sold at the Benfieldside Auction Mart. About three p.m., he saw prisoner near to the mart, and asked him if he would go in and draw the money for his rabbits. Accused went in, and prosecutor waited outside for him coming out, but McCulloch did not return. He then went inside himself, and saw the clerk, who told him that the half-crown had been given to a boy. He informed Sergeant Tate.—Joseph William Osborne, clerk to John Murray, Benfieldside mart, attested that Ashton Carrick sold two rabbits at the mart, and they realised half-a-crown. About four p.m., prisoner came into his office, and asked for the money for Carrick's rabbits, and he gave him 2s 6d.—Sergeant Tate deposed that about 10·30 p.m., he apprehended prisoner at Consett. He took him to the police office, and charged him with stealing half-a-crown, the property of Carrick. He replied, "I got it, and spent it."

Relative to the third offence, both defendants confessed their guilt.—Mary Fraser, who is employed in Mrs Wilson's shop, spoke to hanging two pairs of skates in the doorway, on the 7th inst., and during the afternoon she discovered that the articles were missing. The skates were worth 3s.—Albert Edward Thompson, a boy living in Edith Street, Consett, said he observed the prisoners take two pairs of skates from Mrs Wilson's shop door. McCulloch stole the iron pair, while Lumsden took the wood ones. He followed the lads, and saw them hide the skates in Harrison's field.—Joseph Dimmick, a youth, gave evidence showing that McCulloch offered to sell him the skates, and witness gave 2d for the wooden pair. Afterwards, McCulloch made him a present of one of the skeleton iron skates. McCulloch declared that he found the wood skates on the Delves Lane pond, and the other pair on the Tinmill Bank.—Sergt. Tones said he apprehended the prisoners, and upon charging them, Lumsden stated: "I took the wood ones and McCulloch took the iron ones." McCulloch's reply was: "Albert Thompson took both pairs."

When Mrs Williams was called, however, she failed to respond to her name.

Sergt. Tones stated that the woman faithfully promised to attend the court that day. They had been sold up the previous afternoon, and intended going to London.

Supt. Oliver suggested that this charge should be adjourned till Monday, and he asked their Worships to grant a witness summons for Mrs Williams.

McCulloch's father, who seems to be a very respectable person, explained he could not manage the boy himself, and would therefore like him sent off to an Industrial School. He had flogged the boy times out of number, but it had not done any good. He seemed to be of weak intellect.

The Chairman: Oh, no; he's a strong, healthy boy. We will try a little extra flogging.

Supt. Oliver said that McCulloch was a hardened young thief. He was locked up one day on the first charge, and after being in the cells for some time, the boy began to cry, and promised to lead a better life in future. As he thought McCulloch was sincerely repentant, the Supt. sympathised with the boy and let him out on bail at 3 p.m. The next news he heard was that McCulloch had perpetrated a most daring and outrageous robbery. He stole 3s out of the till in a fruiterer's shop, and when Mrs Williams appeared on the scene, and caught hold of him, he dealt the woman a blow on the breast, knocking her down. It was a most proper course to commit the boy to a Reformatory School.

The father stated that he would not like the boy to be sent to an Industrial School for the full term of five years. He thought three years would be quite sufficient, as the boy would be useful to him when he came out again.

The Clerk (Mr Granger): But if he commences thieving he will be sentenced to penal servitude.

The Magistrates told the boys that they had been guilty of most impudent robberies. Lumsden was flogged at Consett less than three months since, while McCulloch was whipped at Lanchester about six months ago. The punishment had evidently been of no avail. McCulloch was ordered to receive twelve strokes from the birch rod, and be sent to prison for 14 days. After that, he was sentenced to the Market Weighton Roman Catholic Reformatory School for the space of three years. Lumsden had to receive six strokes from the birch.

BREACH OF THE MINES ACT AT CRAGHEAD:

SERIOUS CHARGES AGAINST A BOY.

Joseph Timbey, a boy, employed as a driver at Messrs Hedley Bros. Craghead Colliery, was charged with entering a portion of the mine he was not authorised to do, either by the overman, deputy, or other official, contrary to special rule 91; and further with having then and there received personal injury in the said mine, did not report the same to one of the officials before leaving the mine, contrary to special rule 125.

Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham), who appeared for the prosecution, said that defendant's duties as a driver did not oblige him to go beyond the caution-board, where a man was working in the goaf. On the 24th Dec., this man, while firing a shot of powder, had it burst, and some of the powder was spilled on the ground. This was 200 yards beyond the station where defendant ought to have gone. The man left the powder on the ground, and after mixing it with a damp substance till he thought he had left it quite safe, he returned to his work. Defendant had collected the powder, and with the aid of a match evidently set the explosive on fire, and burnt his face. The man smelt the powder, and coming back to see what was the matter, defendant told him that he had simply burnt his face. The boy was found to be 120 yards beyond the place he was permitted to enter. When an accident of this sort occurred, it was the duty of the boy to have reported the fact forthwith to one of the officials. In coming out-bye, however, he met the deputy-overman, who asked Timbey where he was off to, and the lad replied, "I'm going home." The back-overman wished to know the reason, and Timbey merely answered, "My head is bad." He did not report the fact that he was injured, but only told people that he was laid up with sickness, and that his "head was bad." It was not until a few days afterwards that the officials of the pit discovered what had transpired. It was the duty of the manager to report that any person had been injured in the mine within 24 hours to the Government Inspector, and this he had been unable to do; thereby rendering the manager liable to a penalty of £20. Defendant not only endangered the lives of the others in the pit, but might have lost both eyes.

Evidence was called to support this statement.

Defendant stated that he went in-bye to assist a putter to complete a set. In snuffing the wick of ther light, it fell on the floor amongst the powder, thereby causing the explosion.

The Magistrates thought the miner had been careless in leaving the powder lying upon the ground.

Witness stated that the ground was quite damp.

The Bench having warned the boy against the practice of telling lies, fined him 5s and costs in each instance, the amount being 24s in all.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, Jan. 19th.—Before Coun. J. ANNANDALE (in the chair), J. W. WALTON-WILSON, W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, FRANK PRIESTMAN, and H. W. WATSON, Esqs.

USING THREATENING LANGUAGE.

Ruth Sanderson, a married woman, of Dipton, appeared in the dock with a child in her arms to answer a summons for using threatening language towards Mary Fail, another married woman, living at Dipton, on New Year's morning. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared to prosecute.—Complainant attested that on the day named they had a party in their house. About three o'clock, she went over to Mr Sanderson's house, and defendant, along with several others, were congregated together. After she got in, defendant's husband said to his wife that if she did not "knock complainant's soul out, he would knock her's out." The husband was under the influence of drink. Defendant then got up, and was going to strike complainant, but was prevented by two women. The threat that defendant used was that she "would knock complainant's soul out, and would make her that she could not walk about." Complainant further stated that she had been afraid of defendant ever since the threat was used.—A witness (Mrs Sanderson) deposed that she was in the house, and heard the threat used by defendant, who at the same time attempted to strike complainant.—Defendant denied the allegation, and said that she did nothing of the kind. It was not her that had the "variance." When she went to her husband's father's house, she was ordered out, but refused to go. Those present then commenced to indulge in "beastly language," and she never used the threat to the complainant.—A witness was called to corroborate defendant's statement, but he did not answer to his name.—The Bench bound defendant over to keep the peace for six months in the sum of £5, and pay costs.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

Patrick Hughes and *Oswald Bage*, young men, were charged with fighting at Leadgate, on January 2nd.—Hughes pleaded guilty, but Bage stated that he was fighting in self-defence.—Sergeant Nicholson averred that about 11 p.m., he heard a disturbance in one of the principal streets near to a public-house. Going to the scene, he found defendants fighting, and he ordered them away. About five minutes afterwards, he heard another disturbance, and returning to the spot, he saw defendants again engaged in a fistic encounter, and witnessed three rounds.—In answer to the Chairman, the officer stated that Bage told him he was going home when requested, but Hughes took hold of him and made him fight.—The case against Bage was dismissed, but Hughes was bound over for six months in the sum of £5, and defray the court fees.

Hugh Daley, *Stephen Parker*, *Thomas Nicholson*, *John Parker*, and *Thomas Riley*, miners, were summoned for committing a similar offence at Whitele-Head, on New Year's Day.—Stephen Parker did not appear owing to being indisposed, and J. Parker denied the charge. The other defendants pleaded guilty.—P.C. Richardson gave evidence of seeing all defendants fighting and creating a disturbance outside a public-house. He saw Parker strike one of the other defendants.—Parker stated that when he came out of the public-house, his son was fighting, and he went to part the combatants. Whilst doing so received a blow.—The case against Stephen Parker was adjourned for 14 days; John Parker was acquitted, and the other defendants were bound over to keep the peace for six months in the sum of £5, and pay the costs.

Thomas Doughty, was prosecuted by P.C. Tomlinson for fighting in Durham Road, Blackhill, on Dec. 22nd.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was dealt with in a similar manner.

STEALING A CARRIAGE RUG AT OXHILL.

John Dixon, a cartman, hailing from Scotswood, was brought up charged with stealing a carriage rug, valued at 15s, the property of George R. Hobson, grocer, Catchgate, on Jan. 16th.—Prosecutor stated that he was at Oxhill, about six o'clock at night, and left his trap in front of Mr Errington's, Ox Inn. He placed the rug on the top of the trap. A short while after he returned, and found the rug missing. He gave information to the police, and the rug produced, was his property.—John Errington stated that the prisoner came into his house, along with other two men. Witness served them with some refreshments. Shortly after this, prosecutor entered. Witness did not notice prisoner go out of the house. Prosecutor would be in the house about ten minutes, and then went out to look after his horse, and found the rug missing.—P.C. Vickers deposed that he visited Wm. Charlton's, Stanley Inn, Stanley, and there found prisoner sitting in the tap-room, with the carriage rug on the top of his knees. He charged Dixon with stealing the rug, and he replied, "I never was at Oxhill to-night." Prisoner afterwards said, "I was at Oxhill this afternoon; but never took the carriage rug, I know nothing about it." Witness subsequently brought the man to Consett Police Station.—Prisoner in answer to the charge, pleaded guilty, and said he was sorry for what he had done. In answer to the Chairman, accused stated the reason he was in the Stanley district was to get work, and he had been successful. He was to have started work that morning at one of the collieries, if this had not occurred.—The officer in reply to the Court explained that prisoner had partaken of liquor, but was not intoxicated.—Prisoner's mother appeared in court, and stated that her son was sober and honest. This was the first time that he had figured in a Police Court.—The Bench imposed a fine of £1 including costs; in default, 14 days' hard labour.

COMPROMISED.

Michael Ellensworth, was summoned for using threatening language towards Mary Ellensworth, at Stoney Heap, on January 8th.—Complainant now wished the case to be withdrawn.—The magistrates granted the application on payment of costs.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Robert Williamson, a respectably attired young man, belonging to Consett, again appeared to answer a charge of assaulting P.C. Hughes, on the 1st January.—Supt. Oliver informed the magistrates that the officer was indisposed, not however, from the effects of the assault, and he wished the charge against defendant to be withdrawn.—The Chairman warned Williamson to be more careful in the future, and not interfere with the police, and said the charge against him this time would be dismissed.

A DISTURBANCE AT LEADGATE: ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Patrick Hughes, a miner, living at Leadgate, was proceeded against by Sergeant Nicholson for committing an assault upon him whilst in the exercise of his duty at Leadgate, on the night of the 2nd January.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—The sergeant said about 11 o'clock he was busily engaged in one of the streets, persuading a man, who had stripped himself, to put his clothes on, when defendant came up, and gave him a blow right on the nose. The officer returned the blow with his fist. A short while after defendant came back again, bringing other 20 men and women along with him, and delivered another blow, which knocked the sergeant down. Nicholson then took out his truncheon and dealt Hughes a blow on the forehead, and then attempted to get hold of him, but defendant made for P.C. Lambert, and he could not say whether he struck that officer or not.—Cross-examined by defendant, the officer stated that the first time he struck him it was with his fist.—P.C. Lambert gave corroborative evidence, and stated that when defendant attacked him, he succeeded in evading the blow.—Hughes alleged that he never said a word to the sergeant, until he struck him with the baton, and split his top lip, and then he attacked the officer.—Wm. McGee stated that he saw the sergeant strike the defendant with the baton, when he gave the first blow. He was present all the time.—Defendant's father also tendered evidence to the effect that he saw the sergeant strike defendant with the baton right over the mouth, and sent the blood flying in all directions. (Laughter.) They took defendant away; but he broke away from them, and then the sergeant and defendant had a tussle together, and defendant knocked the sergeant down.—In answer to the sergeant, witness stated that he was standing at defendant's back, when he struck him with the baton.—The Chairman said it was a very serious offence for defendant to be charged with, for he had almost attempted to rescue a prisoner, and he would be fined 40s and costs, in default, one month's hard labour.

RATHER HASTY IN TEMPER.

William Crompton, a miner, living at Lintz Colliery, was proceeded against by Thomas Smith Hogg, a young man, with assaulting him at South Garesfield Colliery, on the 6th inst. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Prosecutor stated that he was following his employment as cartman when defendant came and asked when he was going to get his coals. Complainant told him that he did not think he would be able to lead his coals that day owing to the horse being engaged among the trucks. Defendant then commenced to use bad language, and placing one of his arms round his neck, struck him repeatedly with his fist, one of the blows hitting him right in the stomach, which almost took the wind from him. He informed defendant that he would report him to the manager.—By the Chairman: Defendant got his coals that day after all. He ought to have gone to the "keeker" to see about his coals, because witness had nothing to do with them.—Cross-examined by defendant: He did not say that he had a good mind to knock his head off.—A witness named Ritson spoke to seeing defendant and prosecutor arguing. Witness saw Crompton take prosecutor by the neck, and he never rebelled. Defendant averred that he took prosecutor by the neck, and threatened what he would do; but he never struck him. (Laughter). He was in the office, and Mr Braidford, the manager, sent a boy to tell complainant to take him a load of coals, and then complainant turned round and said that the master never said so.—Prosecutor explained that the coals had to be taken if there was time.—The Chairman: Have you ever been in a Police Court before.—Defendant: No sir.—The Chairman: You are a rough-looking customer. (Laughter).—Defendant: A chap is bound to be rough when he is badly dealt with. (Laughter). I only wanted my coals because I have a large family, and we cannot do without fires this sort of weather.—The Chairman remarked that defendant should not have taken the law into his own hands, and he would be fined 10s and 16s 6d costs.—Defendant left the dock rather surprised at the heavy penalty imposed.

A ROW OVER NOTHING.

Letitia Scott, a married woman, was summoned by Mary McPhilips, living at West Row, Blackhill, for assaulting her on Dec. 20th.—Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) prosecuted.—Complainant called, stated that between four and five o'clock, she was in her own house when defendant came to the door and wanted to be in, she told her to go away. Scott had a basket in her hand, and with it she prevented complainant from closing the door. Defendant then struck at her, caught hold of her dress, and subsequently indulged in calling her bad names. Defendant also preferred a series of immoral charges against complainant's husband. — Two witnesses named Mary Jane Braggs and Mrs Harris adduced corroborative evidence.—Defendant repudiated the charge, and asserted that the parties had been at varirnce for a considerable time, and proceedings had been taken against her through spite.—The magistrates exacted a promise from Scott that she would conduct herself properly in future, and merely inflicted a fine of 6d and costs, which were heavy.

HELPING HERSELF.

The same defendant was furthermore charged with being drunk and disorderly at Blackhill, on the 30 Dec.—Sergeant Tate informed the court that on the evening mentioned, he was requested to eject defendant from the Rose and Crown Inn, Blackhill. She had gone to the house in a tipsy state, and demanded her New Year's gift. The landlord (Mr Young) refused to supply her with any liquor, accordingly the woman went behind the bar and helped herself. (Laughter).—Defendant denied that she was inebriated; but the Bench fined her 2s 6d and costs.

SECOND COURT.

Before F. PRIESTMAN, Esq., and H. C. WATSON, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

The following persons were proceeded against for drunkenness:—*William Liddell*, Consett, 2nd inst., 5s and costs; *Michael Munroe*, Consett, 3rd inst., 5s; *Mary Boyle*, Consett, 11th inst., 5s; *David Brown*, Blackhill, Dec. 27th, 5s; *Andrew Simpson*, Blackhill, 1st inst., 5s; *George Taylor*, Blackhill, 1st inst., 5s; *Robert Nicholson*, Blackhill, 3rd inst., 5s; *Thomas McAloon*, Leadgate, 2nd inst., 5s; *George Hewitson*, Leadgate, 3rd inst., 5s; *William Walton*, Leadgate, Dec. 30th, 5s; *Wilfrid Wilson*, Iveston, 1st inst., 5s; *Walter Parker*, Blackhall Mill, 3rd inst., 5s; *James Maxwell*, Dipton, 6th inst., 5s; *Anthony Gladders*, Tanfield Moor, 1st inst., 5s; *James McGill*, Consett, 16th inst., 5s; *Patrick McAlthaton*, Consett, Saturday night, 5s; *Mary Long* and *Jane Waterhouse*, of Broomhill, at Consett, Saturday night, 2s 6d; *John Fowler*, Consett, same date, 5s.

ASSAULTING HIS MOTHER.

William Schoales, a miner, of Lintz Colliery, who did not appear, was proceeded against by his mother, Ann Schoales, for assaulting her on January 4th.—From the evidence it appears that defendant struck his mother three times in the face with his fist, and thereafter attempted to strike her with a stool or cracket, but complainant managed to escape the blow. Since then her son had gone to live elsewhere.—Defendant was sentenced to undergo one month's imprisonment, without the option of a fine, and be imprisoned for a further term of 14 days in default of paying costs.

ASSAULTING AN OLD MAN.

John Fryer was charged with assaulting Samuel Rudd, watchman, at East Castle Colliery, by striking and knocking him down, on January 6th.—Fined 10s and costs. — Defendant was further accused of doing wilful damage, to the extent of 2s, to complainant's lamp by breaking it, at the same time and place.—Another penalty of 6d, damage 2s, and costs was inflicted.

ASSAULT AT CONSETT.

Bridget Hunter, a married woman, living in Medomsley Road, Consett, was summoned for assaulting William Monaghan, on New Year's Day.—It appeared, from the evidence, that Monaghan took Hunter and his wife to reside in their house. On the date in question, there was a quarrel, and defendant threw a pot, containing some dirty water, over complainant, besides striking at him.—Defendant denied the statement, and alleged that complainant and his wife were tipsy and fighting.—A great number of witnesses were called for both sides.—The magistrates believed the story given by complainant, who was, however, to blame for taking the Hunters into his house. They fined defendant 1s and costs.

DRUNKENNESS AND WILFUL DAMAGE.

Edward Parker was summoned by P.C. Banks for being drunk and falling against a pane of glass, valued at 18s, the property of Mr M. Cassidy, Turf Hotel, Consett, on Saturday.—Owing to the non-appearance of the manager of the hotel (Mr Patrick Henry) through ill-health, the damage was not proved, and this charge against defendant was dismissed. For the other offence, Parker was fined 10s and costs.

Thomas Moran appeared to answer a charge, preferred against against him by P.C. Humphrey, of being drunk at Consett, on Saturday.—Fined 5s and costs.—There was also a charge against defendant of wilful damage to a window, the property of Mr E. Farnsworth, fruiterer, Victoria Street, Consett, at the same time and place.—The damage having been settled out of court, the case was dismissed.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

John Hutchinson was charged by P.C. Haw with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Consett, on Saturday night.—Bound over to keep the peace for six months in the sum of £5, and pay the costs.

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, Jan. 16th.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE, Esq. (chairman), Dr ARNISON, and V. A. RIPPON, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Nicholas Watson was fined 12s 6d for being drunk at Wearhead, on the 23rd ult.

Robert Forster was fined 12s 6d for being drunk at Stanhope, on the 25th ult.

SLIDING ON THE FOOTPATHS.

John Cox and *John Barkass* two men of the steam navvy class — neither of whom appeared — were charged with sliding on the footpaths at Stanhope, on the 21st ult.—Fined 10s each and costs.

OBSTRUCTING THE FOOTPATH.

Thomas Bright was charged with obstructing the footpath in Front Street, Stanhope, by having a load of coals tipped upon the flags in front of his door, on the 11th December.—Defendant pleaded that there was no other place to tip the coals, except the turnpike, and that was even worse than the flags, the road at this place being very narrow.—The policeman said that the coals laid on the flags about three hours. The coals had to be carried through the house and across the garden into the coalhouse, and Mrs Bright had to both carry the coals and attend to the baby as well, and was consequently longer than usual.—The Bench imposed a fine of 1s and costs.

SHOOTING WITHOUT A LICENSE.

William Walton, Rookhope, was charged with shooting grouse without having a license, on Rookhope Common, on October 27th. Mr Walton (Inland Revenue Officer) prosecuted, and defendant pleaded guilty.—Mr E. Humble, keeper for Messrs Straker, deposed to hearing a shot fired, and found a dead bird, which was quite warm.—Walton was fined £1 and costs.

KEEPING OPEN DURING PROHIBITED HOURS:

AN AWKWARD COURTING INCIDENT.

Sarah Allison, innkeeper, Crawleyside, Stanhope, was charged with keeping open during prohibited hours on Christmas Day, and *Harrison Barkass* with being in defendant's house at twelve o'clock at night.

Sergeant McDonald deposed to finding Barkass in the house at midnight, apparently the worse for drink, and defendant, when asked, said he was a lodger and staying there.

Mr J. T. Proud, for defendant, explained that Barkass was staying all night as a visitor, and was keeping company with defendant's daughter, and had been doing so for some time, and was in the habit of helping them to wait at Christmas time, at the fair, and other throng times. He contended that no breach of the Licensing Act had been committed.

The Bench decided to give defendant the benefit of the doubt, and dismissed the case.

The charge against Barkass was also, on the suggestion of Mr Proud, withdrawn.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fornightly meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight.—Mr Geo. Ridley presiding. There were also present Messrs J. Kirkup, J. Hodgson, J. Crawford, P. Hay, J. I. Anderson, J. Stevenson, J. Orystal, P. Oswald, B. E. Smith, Wm. Gascoigne, Ed. Nicholson, F. Berkley, J. Fowler, G. Swinburne, and the clerk (Mr R. Dickinson).

MAINTENANCE CONTRIBUTIONS.

The Finance Committee presented a report upon the arrears payable by the relatives of paupers, which stated that something like £100 was due to the guardians. In many cases the amounts were irrecoverable. Several of the cases were those of young men contributing to the support of their parents. These it was recommended to enforce payment of, but with regard to a number of other cases, it was recommended that the board suffer the loss.

Mr B. E. SMITH suggested that magistrates orders be issued in such cases in future so that their officers might more effectually discharge their duties.

Mr HAY hardly thought such a course desirable in every case, as many were willing to pay if only given a little time.

Mr OSWALD suggested that the officers of the board prepare a monthly statement giving particulars of the arrears, and that prompt action be taken for their recovery.—This was agreed to.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

Messrs Joseph Armstrong and Robert Turnbull, relieving officers, submitted their accounts, showing that the following sums had been distributed as outdoor relief:—Chester-le-Street, £67 1s 9½d, and Harraton, £49 18s 4d.

MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The master of the workhouse (Mr A. Aikman), reported that he had 104 inmates at present in the workhouse, against 108 last year. During the fortnight 78 vagrants had been relieved, an increase of 12 on last year during the same period. Mr J. Cook had sent a quantity of tobacco on New Year's Day.

CLEAN AND ORDERLY.

The Visiting Committee reported the house to be clean and orderly, and all the inmates, who expressed their gratitude to the Guardians for their kindness at Christmas time, in good health.

SHORT OF MONEY.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the Chester-le-Street Township precepts had not been paid; they were due in October.

Mr OSWALD: What is the amount due?

The Clerk: £500 from poor rate, £400 from sanitary rate, and £18 10s for school atttendance.

Mr OSWALD expressed astonishment that so much should be owing to the Guardians.

Mr HAY: We are getting worse than ever.

Mr KIRKUP: What is the bond.

Mr HAY. £500.

Mr OSWALD moved that the Clerk write the overseers at one, and Mr KIRKUP seconded.

Mr HAY: Perhaps the Ratepayers' Defence Association will take the matter up.

Mr NICHOLSON: The Chester-le-Street Guardians have not been doing their duty.—The motion was agreed to.

The members then sat as the

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

SEWERAGE DISPOSAL.

The Chester-le-Street Sanitary Committee reported respecting the proposed improvements to the Ropery Lane sewage and the sewage disposal lands. They recommended that Mr Balfour's plans for the improvement of the sewage beds be adopted; that the Ropery Lane sewage scheme stand over; that the lessee of the sewage farm, Mr A. Matthew, be liberated from his lease on the 14th February, and that the Authority set about appointing a manager for the lands.

Mr HAY said that with relation to the improvement of the sewage beds, they would be aware that at first the drainage was not sufficient, but that now it had been determined to put the additional drains in each bed, without adding to the original cost. The population of the district had, Mr Hay said, very much increased, and was likely to do so. Considering that, he thought it was better now to spend money, and have the matter settled for years to come.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that Mr Balfour had now found that the soil at the sewage beds was not so porous as he thought at first, and that was the reason of the extra drains. With regard to leasing the Sewage Farm, the Chairman said that the committee recommended that the man be liberated from his lease on the 14th February next.

Mr SMITH: Of course he will pay his rent until then.

The Clerk: Yes.

Mr KIRKUP: Has he paid the arrears of his rent.

The Clerk: No.

The CHAIRMAN said that the committee thought it would be better for the Guardians to appoint a manager, and pay him a wage, so that he would be a servant to the Board.

Mr HAY: It will cost the rate-payers more money, but undoubtedly the work would be done more satisfactorily.

The CHAIRMAN: The consideration is not the making of money, but the proper filtering of the sewage.

Mr KIRKUP: The Clerk had better write to the tenant of the Sewage Farm for the money.

The Clerk: Yes, I will write him.

On the motion of Mr E. SMITH, seconded by Mr J. HODGSON, it was decided that the matter be left to the committee.

The other portion of the report was adopted.

CRAGHEAD SEWAGE.

The Craghead Sewage Committee recommended that permission be given to the Lanchester Sanitary Authority to put in a sewer drain.

The CHAIRMAN: The Lanchester Authorities are agreeable.

Adopted.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr Thos. Barrass reported that the work of putting the drains in order at Birtley had been completed. Some inconvenience had been caused by the recent frost by the water freezing in the pipes, but accidents resulting therefrom had been attended to. He also submitted a plan of the proposed division of the town for the purpose of ashpit cleaning.

Mr HODGSON thought the main road would be the best division, which would make 430 houses on one side and 623 on the other.

An alternative scheme to divide the town at the Middle Chare was also suggested.

The matter was referred to the Chester-le-Street Committee to be reported upon.

MR BALFOUR SEEKS PAYMENT.

Mr Balfour, C.E., wrote stating that the plans of the various proposed sewage schemes were now completed, and he asked for £100 as part payment.

Mr HODGSON moved, and Mr SMITH seconded, and it was resolved to pay the amount asked for.

THE WEST DURHAM RAILWAY.

The North-Eastern Railway Bill came before Mr Campion, one the examiners for standing orders, at the House of Commons, on Tuesday. A portion of the West Durham Railway, extending it is believed between Consett and Annfield Plain, is proposed to be abandoned.—The Bill passed the examiner without opposition.

CONSETT SEWERAGE SCHEME.

A special meeting of the members of the Consett Local Board, was held in the Parliament Street Offices, on Monday afternoon, there being present—Ald. Wm. Jenkins, J.P. (presiding), Messrs J. W. Davison, J. Collinson, Geo. Wade, T. W. Welford (clerk), R. Robinson (engineer), and W. Rippon (surveyor).—Mr Robinson, acting upon instructions, submitted estimates of the approximate cost—which was less than £1,000—of making a substantial foundation for the sewerage pipes in Brickflats Lane, where the contractors have "boled" into the underground workings of the Consett Iron Company. It is intended to construct a reliable wall, 10 feet wide, for the pipes to rest upon.—The Board ordered the engineer to proceed with the work without any delay.

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BEAMISH, PONTOP, AND CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the members of this flourishing West Durham Society was held at Mr Joseph Lumley's, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain, on Wednesday night. In consequence of the resignation of Mr C. D. W. Balleny, of Ebchester, after being in office for a year as secretary, and the principal business being the appointment of a successor, there was an exceptionally large attendance, nearly 100 gentlemen being present from all parts of the district covered by the society. The chair was occupied by Mr John Kirkup, Pelton House.

YEARLY REPORT.

The SECRETARY (Mr Balleny) read the subjoined report:—

At a meeting of the Finance Committee, held previously the same evening, the following report of the transactions of the society, for the year 1890, was agreed to (being the 21st since the commencement of the society):—

The committee are glad to report that the position of the society is stronger than it was last year. There is a slight increase in the number of members. The donations to the special fund amount to £37 18s 6d more than last year. (Applause.) The gate money amounted to £103 18s 3d, and the receipts from the grandstand to £6 4s 3d. The expenses on the other hand are £45 16s less than last year. The number of entries are hardly up to the average, there being only 489, against 504 in the previous year, the difference being chiefly in dogs and poultry, there being a falling off of 27 in the former, and of 36 in the latter. There is an increase in the entries of draught horses of 15; in sheep of 23; and in cattle of 7. The society's receipts for the past year (including a balance of £52 19s 3d from 1889) amount to £644 13s 10d; the expenditure to £335 10s 11d; leaving a balance to the credit of the society of £109 2s 11d.

Description.	Class.	Premiums. £ s. d.
Cattle	9	43	60 5 0
Sheep	10	64	47 9 0
Draught horses	13	74	74 2 0
Blood horses	11	92	72 2 0
Horseshoeing	1	8	3 13 6
Swine	3	9	15 9 0
Butter and eggs	3	34	3 7 6
Poultry	5	11	2 15 0
Implements and cattle food	1	3	7 7 0
Dogs	25	151	58 10 6
		489	345 0 6

The CHAIRMAN said the report was a satisfactory one, and on the motion of Supt. JAMES OLIVER (Consett), seconded by Mr JOHN PARKER (Leadgate), it was unanimously adopted.

The Secretary was ordered to forward a printed copy of the financial statement to each member.

NEW SHOW AT BLAYDON.

The SECRETARY said that he had written to Col. J. A. Cowen, Blaydon Burn, and read a reply from that gentleman to the effect that he was glad to think that Blaydon would be a suitable place for holding the show, and that he would willingly assist them all he could in the matter. (Applause.) He also suggested that a committee should be sent there to select a suitable site.

The CHAIRMAN: Blaydon is right on the borders of our district. I think Chester-le-Street will be a better place.

Mr M. ADAMSON: Blaydon is situate in a most prosperous centre.

Mr PARKER proposed that the forthcoming exhibition should be held at Blaydon, feeling sure that Col. Cowen would exert his utmost influence to make the show as successful as any of its predecessors.

Mr M. ADAMSON (Leazes, Burnopfield) seconded the proposition, remarking that it had been the wish of the Blaydon people for some years, for the show to be held there. There was a large population, and ample railway accommodation; and the gallant Colonel would enter into the spirit of the undertaking with heart and soul. (Applause).

Mr J. S. MURRAY, as an amendment, moved that Chester-le-Street should be the *locale* of the ensuing show, Blaydon lying on the outskirts of their district, was, he thought, a very unsuitable place; and as the district was an entirely new one, and as the members had to appoint a fresh secretary that night, it would be rather a difficult task for the officials to get the people "enthused" into the spirit of the show. However, they had a great many members in the Chester-le-Street district, whereas at Blaydon they had hardly any.

Mr W. J. OSWELL (Shotley Bridge), seconded the amendment.

Messrs PARKER and ED. BALLENY (Little Greencroft), held that the appointment of a new secretary did not in the slightest degree affect the question as to where the next show should be held.

Mr GEORGE HEPPELL (Newfield), suggested the appointment of a committee to visit the two towns mentioned, and ascertain which place would be the most favourable for the coming show. They held it at Gateshead one year, and failed to get any support. He moved to that effect.

Mr ADAMSON: We are asked by Mr Cowen to go to Blaydon. We were not invited to go to Gateshead.

Eventually Mr Heppell withdrew his motion, and it was carried by an over-whelming majority to have the next show at Blaydon.

The date of the show was fixed for Wednesday, August 19th. Two sites were mentioned—viz., Axwell Park and Stella Park,—and the official commitee will report the result at a quarterly meeting to take place at the Douglas Hotel, Blaydon, on Wednesday afternoon, March 18th, at six o'clock.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

Major W. J. Joicey, J.P., Urpeth Lodge, was re-elected president, the vice-presidents were again chosen *en bloc*, with the addition of Colonel Cowen, Mr Jos. Cowen, jun., Sir Hy. Clavering, Bart., Mr Bolam, Mr G. Heppell, and Mr Renwick; auditors, Messrs J. Kirkup, E. Wilkinson and J. S. Murray. Several committes, Rev T. H. Archdall, J. Kirkup, W. Kirkup, John S. Murray, W. J. Oswell, J. B. Turnbull, Geo. Turnbull, Jos. Watson, E. Wylam (Shield Row), E. Wylam (Consett), E. Wilkinson, Ouston; H. Oliver, J. Parker, G. Harrison, Thos. Simpson, J. E. Nicholson, W. H. Ritson, J. Towns, A. Brodie, J. Christopher, J. Humble, G. Hardy, and George Bullerwell (Snod's Hill, Winlaton), Finance, prize list, and show committee—Colonel Cowen, W. Douglas, sen. (Blaydon), M. Adamson, J. Kirkup, G. Heppell, E. Balleny, J. Parker, and E. Wilkinson.

APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY. AN IMPARTIAL (?). CHAIRMAN.

MR BALLENY explained that since he was chosen as secretary last year, circumstances had altered. He now held another position and had not time to devote attention to the duties of secretary. He felt sorry to relinquish the office, for he had met with the greatest courtesy from the members of the society, but he had not being so treated by a few gentlemen from a distance. He spoke of the valuable assistance rendered to him by the late secretaries, and he promised to lend his aid to his successor. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN, who expressed his regret that Mr Balleny had been obliged to resign, and referred to the admirable way in which that gentleman had carried out his duties, and kept his accounts.

Mr T. D. DRYDEN (Consett), rose to speak; but the CHAIRMAN ruled him out of order. He then read the written resignation of the secretary.

Mr G. BULLERWELL (Kyo) asked if that was the formal resignation of the secretary?

The CHAIRMAN replied in the ffiarmative.

Mr DRYDEN again rose, and stated that he had been waiting for the reading of the resignation of the secretary. However as this was not forthcoming he would be in order in moving that the best thanks be accorded to Mr Balleny for his past services.

The proposal was seconded by Mr Hepple, adopted *nem. con.*

There were four members for the post of secretary—viz, Mr Adam Brodie, Consett (proposed by Mr N. Elsdon and seconded by Supt. Oliver.) Mr Wm. Ramsay, Blackhill (proposed by Mr J. S. Murray and seconded by Mr W. J. Oswell). Mr Alex. Atkinton, Causey, near Tanfield (proposed by Mr R. Johnson and seconded by Mr Adamson); and Mr Wm. Johnson, Trench Hall, Gateshead (proposed by Mr E. Wilkinson and seconded by Mr Jos. Watson).

Mr G. T. HYDEN (Consett), stated that they did not know the qualifications of some of the candidates, but the chairman declined to allow any speeches to be made.

Mr BULLERWELL proposed that the question of appointing a secretary be deferred for a month.

Mr J. A. JACK (Blackhill) seconded.

The CHAIRMAN ruled the motion out of order.

It was agreed that the voting should be by ballot and Mr Dryden moved, and Supt. Oliver seconded that the two lowest candidates in the first round should retire.

The CHAIRMAN acquiesced to this recommendation.

After voting once, however, it was suggested that as Messrs Brodie and Atkinson had run so closely, Mr Atkinson should be permitted to participate in the second round.

Messrs Dryden Christopher, Elsdon, and others protested against this course, while Messrs Adamson, H. Nicholson, and J. S. Murray, contended that Mr Atkinson was eligible to be placed in the next round.

The CHAIRMAN favoured the last-named procedure.

Mr DRYDEN: But it was carried that the two lowest should retire.

The CHAIRMAN: It was not put to the meeting. I only said that I thought this idea would be best.

Mr DRYDEN averred that the charman was out of order.

A lively passage of arms hereafter ensued between the chairman and several members.

A QUEER ANALYSIS.

After the wrangle had finished, the chairman ruling being repeatedly challenged, the voting resulted as follows:—

	1st round	2nd round	3rd round
Brodie	21	19	—
Ramsey	25	24	32
Johnson	8	—	—
Atkinson	20	30	40

Mr Atkinson was declared elected.

Votes of thanks concluded a lively but withal enthusiastic meeting.

LANCHESTER WORKHOUSE.

The annual New Year's treat given by Mr Geo. G. Taylor-Smith, J.P., ex-chairman of the Board of Guardians, recently took place at Lanchester Union Workhouse, about 170 of the inmates—adults and juveniles—partaking, of a sumptuous repast, the delicious edibles being consumed to the best of their ability. Afterwards "whiskey punch" was served up, and this was followed by a generous distribution of seasonable gifts in the shape of tobacco, pipes, oranges, nuts, sweets, &c. The customary ball was subsequently held, appended being a list of guests:—

Mr Edwards, Mr G. V. P. Parker, Miss Parker and Miss Hodgson, Miss and Miss M. Reed, Mr W. Dixon, Miss Dixon, Mr W. Cumming, Miss E. Dixon, Miss Brooks, Miss M. Waugh, Inspector and Mrs Mitham, Miss Edith Libson, Mrs Reed, Mrs Towns, Mr and Mrs W. W. Thompson, Mr T. Pallister, Mr Jas. Walton, Miss Parker, Mrs Cummings, Mr W. Cummings, Mr and Mrs J. Wall, Mrs G. W. Wilson, Misses Humble, and Rev F. W. Glyn and Mrs Glyn, Lancheser; Mrs W. Gray, Burnhope; Mrs Nicholson, Mr J. E. Nicholson, and Miss and Mr T. Nicholson, Manor House; Misses Bolam, Maiden Law; Mr Fairbank, and Sergt.-Major and Mrs Mitham, Durham; Mr T. Turner, jun., and Mr A. Wilson, Blackhill; Mr J. R. Wood, Mr and Mrs Shell, Mr T. D. Dryden, Mr Geo. Dryden, and Mr J. C. Hall, Consett; Mrs Dixon and H. Nicholson, Burnhopeside; Mr Robt. Crowe, Hedleyhope; Mr Stokoe and Mr Geo. Brown, Iveston; Miss Scott, Miss A. Scott, Miss Clark, and Mr R. Mothersdale, West Hartlepool; Misses Burdon and Mr W. Burdon, Bargate; Mr and Mrs Mackay and Mr and Mrs Coulthard, Catchgate; Mr Benson, Stockton-on-Tees; Mr Geo. Arkless and Mr Gilhespy, Annfield Plain; Mr and Mrs Geo. Thompson, Allansford; Miss Annie Cockerill, Quebec; Mr Robt. Anderson, Mosswood; Miss Brown, Houghton-le-Spring; Mr and Mrs Darling and Mr Worrall, Newcastle; Mr R. Aynsley, Malton; Mrs Maltby and Miss Maltby, New Sawley; Mr T. Wilson, Hornsby Hill; Mrs Curry, Bradley Lodge; Mr and Mrs Murray and Mr and Mrs Coulthard, Dipton.

The enjoyable proceedings closed with hearty cheers for the donor of the feast, and the master and matron of the Workhouse (Mr and Mrs Walter Brotherhood).

The undermentioned ladies and gentlemen have fowarded gifts to the institution:—20 dozen bottles of lemonade, Mr N. Elsdon, Consett; box of toys, Lizzie, Polly, and John E. Davison, Consett; apples, Mrs Foreman, Leadgate; sweets, Mrs Brysdon, Lanchester; donation of £1 1s, Mr W. M. Annandale, Lintzford; oranges and sweets, Mr T. D. Dryden, Consett; sweets, Mrs Cummings, Post Office, Lanchester; sweets, Mr J. Irwin, Hollingside Hall; 2lb of tobacco, Mr Jos. Towns, Lanchester; 5s for children, Mr J. Parker, Leadgate.

DEATH OF AN OLD LAMBTON SERVANT.

Mr William Stewart died at the North Lodge, Lambton Park, on Monday morning, at the advanced aged of 80 years. As under gamekeeper, Mr Stuart had served the Lambton family under three earls, gaining the esteem of his employers, and the goodwill of his fellow servitors and the public with whom he had dealings. He was in his usual health on Sunday morning and went, as usual, for the milk, but the intense cold appears to have been too much for his aged frame, and he succumbed to the chill early on Monday morning. For some years Mr Stewart has not devoted that energy to the work of his department, which characterised his earlier days, and has lived in that comparative ease and repose which the house of Lambton so thoughtfully and so generously provides for its old retainers and servitors. Not long ago during one of the great shooting parties at Lambton, Lord Durham saw the veteran among the ranks of the assistants, went up to him, shook hands with him and inquired as to his health and welfare generally. The old man complained of the pains of age, and of his inability to do as he had done, when his lordship said that so long as he choose to come and see the sport they would always be glad to see him, but they hoped he did not come there to do any work, they did not expect that of him. Being the oldest servant on the estate, Mr Stewart possessed a large fund of information respecting the Lambton family, and a complete cyclopœdia of anecdotes respecting the stirring scenes of strife, and often bloodshed, enacted within the precincts of the Park, when properly organised bands of poachers defied every plan devised to prevent their predatory practices. In several of the affrays between keepers and poachers 40 or 50 years ago Mr Stewart was severely handled, and on one memorable occasion only escaped being shot by a fellow keeper knocking down his assailant's gun, and then the would be assassin. He was buried in the parish churchyard at Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday, the funeral being largely attended.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT. — Some occupations tend to the development of certain diseases, and these who toil as miners are peculiarly liable to rheumatism, lumbago, and other allied complaints. In the gold-fields and copper mines Holloway's remedies have been largely patronized by the workers to their very great advantage, and they can be confidently recommended as invaluable remedies for inward congestions, spasms and cramps in the bowels, and all those conditions of the lungs and liver to which those who work underground or in impure atmospheres are so peculiarly liable. For cuts, bruises, sprains and stiffened joints, the action of Holloway's Ointment is eminently healing and soothing, and a supply should always be at hand in case of need.

RUPTURES.—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Picadilly London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell you IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

Business Announcements.

EIGHTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 5 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 29, MOUNT PLEASANT. ARTIFICIAL TEETH, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Best English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1850.

E. J. SLOANE L. MUS., L.C.M.,

PROFESSOR OF MUSIC. NATIONAL GOLD MEDALLIST, TRINITY COLLEGE.

Gives LESSONS in the following: ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, COMPOSITION, FUGUE, HISTORY, &c.

ADDRESS:—THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

E. SLOANE, SEN., has always in Stock a good Selection of PIANOS, ORGANS, VIOLINS, &c., unrivalled in Tone, Quality, and Model, from the best Manufacturers, at the Lowest Possible Prices.

ORGANS, PIANOS, &c., Tuned and Repaired. 817b

DON'T FORGET THAT YOU CAN OBTAIN THE BEST VALUE IN HOUSE FURNISHINGS, GLASS, CHINA, EARTHENWARE, IRONMONGERY, CUTLERY, LAMPS, BEDSTEADS, and BEDDING, WRINGING MACHINES, PAPERHANGINGS, AT

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,

HOUSE FURNISHERS AND IRONMONGERS,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

NOTE.—WE KEEP THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT IN THE DISTRICT. 439d

W. RICHARDSON'S

BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.

(TWO MINUTES WALK FROM THE RAILWAY STATION.)

IS the Cheapest Shop for all kinds of DRAPERIES, for DRESS FABRICS, PRINTS, SILKS, VELVETS, UNDERCLOTHING, FURS, LINENS, SHEETS, BLANKETS, GLOVES, HOSIERY, LACES, HABERDASHERY, and TRIMMINGS. Hats and Caps in endless variety, direct from the Manufactory. In READY-MADES none can beat him. Men's, Youth's, and Juvenile's, direct from the best Manufacturers in the newest styles. Also, 1,000 Patterns to choose from to Measure. Latest designs in Tweeds, Coatings, &c. Having every confidence as regards Cheapness, Excellency of Workmanship, Style, and Durability of Material. ☞ Give him a call and judge for yourselves.

☞ REMEMBER THE ADDRESS:

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ARTIFICIAL TEETH

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 adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes.

Every Set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s. to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS, from 3s. to 10s. per Tooth

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL

SURGEON DENTIST,

No. 8, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-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 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. 772b

T. SWAINSTON,

12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

INVITES THE PUBLIC ATTENTION TO THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONAL LOW PRICES:—

BRAN, 5s. 6d. BOXINGS, 8s 9d. PER SACK.

FLOUR, 14s., 15s, and 16s PER 10 STONE BAG.

REGENT and MAGNUM POTATOES at Lowest Market Prices, direct from East Lothian, Fifeshire, Cumberland, and Yorkshire.

OUR USUAL QUALITY OF HAMS, 6½d. PER LB.

FINE MILD CURED BACON, 4½d PER LB. (WHOLE OR HALF-SIDE.)

SHOULDERS SQUARE, 4d. PER LB. ROLL DO, 4½d PER LB. (WHOLE.)

THE SUN FREEHOLD LAND SOCIETY (LIMITED), LONDON.

How to Purchase a House for 10s. 3d. per Month, value £150, and No Rent to Pay.

Withdrawable Shares issued payable by subscriptions of 2s. 6d., 5s., or 10s. per Month, to which 5 per cent. is added.—For particulars apply The Superintendent, 38, Durham Road, Blackhill.

Local Secretaries Wanted. 537b

JAMES PALLISER,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA DEALER

GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT.

FOUNDRY ROW, BLACKHILL.

SPLENDID TEA 1s 8d, 1s 10d, 2s, AND 2s 4d.

J. R. BRODIE,

TAILOR, MENS MERCER AND HATTER.

NEW PATTERNS IN TROUSERINGS AND SUITINGS.

TROUSERS MADE TO MEASURE FROM 12s 6d TO 21s. SUITS FROM £2 5s.

Latest Styles in Hats and Caps. Hats from 1s 11d to 4s 11d; Caps from 6d to 1s 6d.

THE SOLE FOR SILK SCARFS, LINEN COLLARS AND CUFFS.

BOYS READY-MADE SUITS, IN THE NEWEST STYLES, ALWAYS IN HAND.

J. R. BRODIE,

6, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT. 397b

JOHNSON HEDLEY,

MANUFACTURING and WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER, DRYSALTER, &c.,

NORTHUMBERLAND CONFECTIONERY WORKS, PRICE STREET,

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Superior Jams and Marmalades.

Biscuits of all kinds. 894

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

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

F. A. AND E. WELCH

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

ANNFIELD PLAIN. 920

THE

ALL IMPORTANT

DUTY

OF

EVERY HOUSEHOLD

WHO MAKE

HEALTH

THEIR

FIRST CONSIDERATION

IS

TO USE

WEIR'S

PURE CANE

SUGAR.

TRADE MARK. "BLUE BANNER." REGISTERED.

GUARANTEED FREE FROM BEET AND CHEMICALS.

A PERFECTLY PURE DRY SUGAR FOR FAMILY USE.

PACKED IN 4LB. AND 7LB. COTTON BAGS.

TO BE HAD FROM ALL THE LEADING GROCERS AND CO-OPERATIVE STORES IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

Business Announcements.

PHOTOS.

VENICE DUNN,

PHOTO ARTIST,

15, MEDOMSLEY ROAD,

Is prepared to supply the Public of Consett and District with Beautiful

ENLARGED PHOTOS finished in OIL, WATER-COLOURS, or CRAYONS,

Framed complete, at Prices varying from 15s. to 35s., according to finish.

PERSONS wishing to join our CLUB will be supplied with Club Cards and all particulars on application. Subscriptions received according to wish of Customers.

Photos artistically finished in latest and most improved style, at following Prices—Cabinets from 10s. to 12s. per dozen; Carte-de-Visites from 5s. to 6s. per dozen. 599d

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS.

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS.

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS

AS SUPPLIED

TO ROYALTY AND THE ELITE OF EUROPE

THE ROYAL FAMILY.

H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE.

THE MARQUIS OF LORNE.

THE QUEEN OF ITALY.

THE KING OF HOLLAND.

THE MIKADO OF JAPAN.

THE RT. HON. ROBERT BOURKE, Governor of Madras, India.

THE MARQUIS OF LANSDOWNE, Governor General of Canada.

HIS EXCELLENCY LORD DUFFERIN, Viceroy of India.

THE GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

HIS EXCELLENCY COUNT VON FELBINGER, of Austria.

AND THE NOBILITY GENERALLY, ARE THE

LEADING HIGH-CLASS INSTRUMENTS,

And are for Sale by all First Class Music-sellers.

Our STYLE 89 and PIPE TOP, as supplied H.R.H. THE PRINCESS LOUISE, and our CONSORT ORGAN, as supplied THE KING OF HOLLAND, are Strongly Recommended as Particularly Saleable.

PRICES FROM 16 TO 400 GUINEAS.

Every ORGAN FITTED with MOUSE-PROOF Pedal attachment, and guaranteed for 6 years.

Every home should have a BELL AMERICAN ORGAN.

No home is complete without having a BELL AMERICAN ORGAN.

The Special style 3 at 23 Guineas, is a marvel, no better value ever placed before the market.

Styles 4 (b) or 49 (b) are very suitable for Mission rooms, and Churches.

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS, are the best value for the money, that can be had anywhere.

BELL AMERICAN PIANOS

BELL AMERICAN PIANOS.

BELL AMERICAN PIANOS.

RENOWNED FOR TONE AND DURABILITY.

THE BEST PIANO THAT CAN BE MADE FOR THE MONEY.

PRICES FROM 100 GUINEAS UPWARDS

EVERY PIANO FITTED WITH PATENT TONE SOFTENER.

BELL AMERICAN PIANOS

BELL AMERICAN ORGANS

Bell American Pianos.

MAY BE HAD ON THE NEW PURCHASE SYSTEM.

NO DEPOSIT REQUIRED.

50 PIANOS AND ORGANS ALWAYS IN STOCK.

CATALOGUES AND FULL INFORMATION GIVEN UPON APPLICATION.

INSPECTION INVITED.

ONLY AUTHORISED AGENT FOR THIS DISTRICT—

MR. THOMAS JONES,

CHURCH STREET,

CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

JAMES TAGGDICK is the only Bill-poster that has posted Stations within the Stanley Local Board districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Beckwithside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 598

EDWARD BRADY & CO.,

CHIMNEY SWEEPS,

HARVEY STREET, CONSETT.

DRAINS CLEARED BY MACHINERY.

PURE SOOT FOR SALE.

☞ Orders left at Messrs. A. DAVISON'S Smelters' Arms, Castleside; or W. HUTCHINSWORTH'S, 38, Durham Road, Blackhill, punctually attended to.

AMERICAN LINE.

UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,

EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for Passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

The Shortest and Best Route to the West.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, vor Limit Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne 21z

FEMALE DOMESTIC SERVANTS from 17 to 35 years of age obtain FREE PASSAGES BY STEAMER TO QUEENSLAND, where they are greatly in demand and receive high wages. Only payments required—£1 for ship list, and fare to depôt in London.

ASSISTED PASSAGES are also granted to labourers whose labour is connected with the land, such as PLOUGHMEN, GARDENERS, MINERS, QUARRYMEN, &c., and to approved females such as DRESSMAKERS, TRAINED NURSES, &c.

An experienced Surgeon and Matron accompany each steamer, and on sea-trial passengers are received into the Governments depôts free of charge.

Forms of application, rates of passage, handbooks, and all other information may be obtained on application to the Local Agent,

A. BRODIE,

TOWN HALL,

CONSETT.

All persons who pay their own passages to the Colony, should apply for LAND ORDER WARRANTS before embarking. Forms and particulars to be obtained from the Shipping Firms booking the passengers, or from the Agent-General for Queensland. Warrants will now be issued to persons applying after they have left England. 917b

"A MINISTERING ANGEL"

When your liver ceases to discharge its proper functions the whole system goes wrong. Your appetite is bad; you have a bitter taste in the mouth, and your tongue is coated with a thick fur. You are troubled with wind, water-brash, heartburn, acidity, headache, giddiness, pains in the shoulders, aching pains in the limbs, and lassitude. These are all symptoms of a disordered Liver, and may result in total prostration. No one need suffer from such distressing ailments if they will but have recourse to the Sovereign Remedy, TODD'S PILLS, which have absolutely no equal in restoring a disordered Liver, and are altogether unrivalled as a safe, sure, and speedy means of curing a bad stomach. The first dose gives immediate relief. Manufactured only by JOE TODD, Chemist, Carlisle. Sold everywhere by Chemists and Patent Medicine Dealers in boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d.

Always ask for

TODD'S PILLS.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT

IMPORTERS

OF

CHOICEST

DANISH BUTTERS.

PERFECT QUALITY DIRECT FROM THE FARMERS,

ONLY 1s. 2D. PER LB.

MARGARINES, QUALITY AND PRICES

ONLY TO BE HAD AT THE ABOVE.

TIP-TOP MARGARINE, 6d. PER LB.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,

CONSETT.

FOR WINTER REMEDIES & SPECIALITIES.

FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

Cod Liver Oil and Extract of Malt.

COD LIVER OIL EMULSION. PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.

Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT AND MALT WINE.

Invalid Port, and other Wines, recommended by the Medical Faculty.

QUININE WINE prepared according to the Pharmacopœa.

Chest Protectors, Magnetic Belts, Knee Caps, Porous and other Plasters.

Quinine and Iron Tonic, 1s. per Bottle; Blood Purifier, 1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle; Balsamic Cough Mixture, 1s. per Bottle; Indigestion Mixture, 1s. 6d. per Bottle; Dandelion and Podophyllin Pills, 1s. per Box.

Prescriptions accurately dispensed according to the British Pharmacopœa.

MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle.

Glycerine of Cucumber, 6d. and 1s. per Bottle.

SCENTED SOAPS, PERFUMES, and TOILET REQUISITES in great variety.

GENUINE HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

Mineral Waters in Bottles and Syphons.

SHEEP DIPS IN GREAT VARIETY.

PURGING, COUGH, AND ALTERATIVE BALLS FOR HORSES AND DOGS.

ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES and CATTLE, in Tins 1s. each.

FELLON, CLEANSING, AND NOURISHING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

SEQUAH'S INDIAN OIL AND PRAIRIE FLOWER, 2s. per Bottle.

Handyside's and Currie's Medicines.

Postal Orders promptly attended to.

MILNER, CHEMIST & WINE MERCHANT, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S, "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 9, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

DON'T FORGET!

GEORGE McNEAL,

BILL-POSTER,

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 3s per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Pit Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton East Castle, &c.

N. ELSDON,

MANUFACTURER OF HIGH-CLASS MINERAL WATERS.

(SEE ANALYTICAL REPORT.)

BOTTLER OF DUBLIN STOUT & BASS'S PALE ALE, &c.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:

DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

☞ ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 280c

TAILORING (PAR EXCELLENCE).

S. SWALWELL,

TAILOR AND DRAPER, DIPTON,

BEGS to INTIMATE that his PRODUCTIONS in CLOTHING are giving unbounded satisfaction to the numerous Customers who entrust him with their Orders.

OVERCOATINGS, COATINGS, SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS in the Newest Patterns, at lowest Prices, consistent with quality.

A TRIAL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

£1 TO £10. £10.

MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH. 2s 6d, 5s, 7s per Tooth, to £10 per Set—Lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Pasts in time to return same day. RAIL FARE ALLOWED.

A BIG DIVIDEND.

THE GREATEST DISPLAY OF TWEEDS & WORSTED PATTERNS in the North of England. ☞ See Windows.

OVERCOATS.

☞ My Leading Overcoat 35s. Scotch and Irish Tweed Suits, £2 5s., splendid value. Special Fancy Worsted Trousers, 12s. 6d., unequalled. Black Worsted Suits, £2 15s., at desperate prices.

3s 6D. IS SAVED IN THE POUND BY BUYING YOUR SUITS AT J. HUTCHINSON'S, FOR CASH ONLY.

London Fashions Weekly.

J. HUTCHINSON,

MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

Public Notices.

THE HOBSON SPORTS will be held on Saturday, June 13th, 1891. 821d

NOTICE.

ANYONE who lets Watches, Clocks, &c., with D. WHERRY, Victoria Street, Consett, please to give full particulars in writing to John Crawford, Auctioneer, Consett.

CONSETT WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE & TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

A MUSICAL and LITERARY ENTERTAINMENT will be given in the Gibson Street Schools, on Thursday First, January 29th, in connection with the above society. Chair to be taken at 7-15, by Mr H. Holiday, Consett. Collection in aid of "Banner of Hope" funds.

MISS. HETHERINGTON begs to draw the attention of the public to her Refreshment Rooms, Mount Pleasant, Consett, and begs to state that she is also prepared to undertake orders for Funerals, Weddings, &c., on the shortest notice. A large variety of Confectionery of the best kinds, Toys, Fancy Goods, Tobacco, &c. 630d

MR. ALLAN McPHERSON RUNS A BRAKE from TANTOBIE to CONSETT every Saturday and Monday; leaving Tantobie at One o'clock, and Dipton at Half-past One, Half-past Three and Seven on Saturdays; and leaving Tantobie at Nine o'clock, and Dipton at Half-past Nine and One o'clock on Mondays. The Brake leaves Consett at 2-30, 5, and 9 o'clock on Saturdays, and at 12 and 4 o'clock on Mondays. 482c

PIGEON SHOOTING AT GREENHEAD.

MR JOHN HALL will add £1 to all Entrance Money of 3s each, on January 31st, 1891. Shooting to commence at One o'clock. Admission to Field, 3d each. 815d

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

MR. G. REED has pleasure in announcing that he intends (D.V.) to open a PRIVATE SCHOOL in the U.M.F.C. School-room, Foundry Row, Blackhill, early in February, 1891.

For particulars see future advertisement. 740d

THE Members of the First Shotley Bridge and District 370th Star-Bowkett Building Society will hold their first APPROPRIATION by Ballot, on Monday, the 9th of February, 1891, in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, at 7-30 p.m.

By Order,

D. ORMEROD, Chairman.

J. GIBBINSON, Secretary.

230d.

NATHAN FAWELL, JUN.,

41, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, BOOKSELLER, FANCY GOODS DEALER, &c.

BIRTHDAY, CHRISTMAS, AND NEW YEARS CARDS & BOOKLETS.

A GOOD SELECTION OF DOLLS AND TOYS.

☞ Weekly and Monthly Papers and Magazines.

TOBACCO, CIGARS, AND PIPES.

S. THOMAS'S CHURCH, COLLIERLEY.

A GRAND EVENING CONCERT will be held in the MARK LAW BOARD SCHOOL, on Monday, January 26th, 1891. Artistes:—Miss Fairley, Craghead; Mr Stout, South Shields; Miss Mitchell, Eyo; Mr G. Arkless, Annfield Plain; Dr Rea, Catchgate; Miss Swallow, Bushblades; Mr A. W. Thomson, South Shields; Rev. J. A. Bridges, Tanfield; Mr Bell, South Shields; Dr Duncan, Catchgate. Songs, Duets, Quartettes, Violin, Violincello, and Banjo Solos, Recitations, &c. Proceeds in aid of Church Decoration Fund. Admission—Front Seats, 2s; Second Seats, 1s. Doors open at 7; to commence at 7-30. Carriages at 10. N.B.—Ticket-holders only will be admitted from 6-30 to 7. Tickets may be had of Messrs Telford, Hare Law; W. Smith, G. Arkless, H. Brown, Annfield Plain; John McGowan, Eyo; M. Ross, South Pontop; Dr Duncan, Catchgate; Wardle A. Swallow, Bushblades; Wm. Black, Oxhill. 829d

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

"THE MESSIAH"

Will be given on

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 1890.

SOLOISTS:—

MISS HENRIETTA TOMLINSON, Leeds, &c.

MRS MARIE BELLAS BELL, NEWCASTLE.

MR. T. H. ARMSTRONG, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

MR T. LEWIS CAMPION, DURHAM CATHEDRAL.

LARGE CHORUS AND ORCHESTRA.

Leader, Mr J. H. Bears. Other Special Instrumentalists are Mr Robert Smith and his celebrated Son. Also, Messrs Mugall, Moakhouse, Vinycombe, &c.

Admission, 2s, 1s, and 6d. Plan of Hall to be seen, and Seats secured at Mr Thos. Jones, Pianoforte Dealer, Church Street, Consett. Tickets also to be had of Messrs R. J. Lamb, H. Crawford, J. Cockburn, Consett; Mr G. Cooke and Mr Grange, Blackhill; Mr J. Shotley, Shotley Bridge, and from Mr Ridley Heyman, Hon. Secretary.

Doors open at 6-45; Concert to begin at 7 o'clock. Carriages may be ordered for 10-15.

Public Notices.

THE SERVICE OF SONG, entitled "COALS OF FIRE," will be given in Highgate Baptist Chapel, on 26th January, at 7-30 p.m. Admission, 6d.

A CLASS FOR PAINTING, under a Certificated Art Master, is held at Miss TAIT'S SCHOOL on Saturday Mornings.—For terms, &c., apply to Miss Tait, 23, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 336d

C.M.S. SIMULTANEOUS MEETINGS To be held throughout the Province of York, Jan. 26th to February 6th, 1891.

IN connection with the above, a SPECIAL MEETING to set forth the Claims of the Foreign Mission Field upon the Church, at Home, will be held in Medomsley National School, on Monday, January 26th, at 7-30 p.m. The Rev R. E. TAYLOR, M.A., Vicar of Crewe-cum, and others will address the Meeting. No collection. 812d.

PRIVATE TUITION.

MR. JOSEPH ROUTLEDGE (Undergraduate of London University, late Foundation Scholar and Classical Honourman of Durham University) gives PRIVATE TUITION in Latin, Greek, French, Elementary Mathematics, and Preliminary English Subjects. Pupils prepared for Examinations.

ADDRESS: EDITH STREET, CONSETT.

PRIVATE DAY SCHOOL.

U.M.F.C. SCHOOL-ROOM, FOUNDRY ROW, BLACKHILL.

MR. GAWEN REED begs to intimate to the Inhabitants of Blackhill and vicinity that he will (D.V.) open the above School on the 9th proximo.

A limited number of Pupils (Boys and Girls) from 8 years of age, will be received.

Instruction in Elementary and Advanced English Subjects. Also, in Foreign Languages.

A SEWING CLASS for Girls will be conducted by Mrs Reed.

Terms on application at No 5, Dixon Street, Blackhill. 820d

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

SOLE LESSEE & MANAGER - - R. J. BIDDER.

ACTING MANAGER - - - MR R. BROWN.

MONDAY, January 26th and during the Week.—Mr Warwick Grey's London Company will produce the Great Sensational Drama, "BLACK DIAMONDS." All the special Scenery being carried by Mr Gray, the piece will be staged in a most complete manner.

Seats can be booked at Tyler's Boot Shop, Middle Street.

N.B.—A new Act Drop will be shown on Saturday evening, the 24th inst.

LOOK HERE.—For

STATIONERY of every description, FANCY and other USEFUL ARTICLES.

☞ Spectacles for all Sights.

BOOKS BOUND, PICTURES FRAMED,

AT THE

J. COCKBURN,

STATIONER, CONFECTIONER, &c.,

18 and 14, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF CONSETT & DISTRICT.

E. S. BELL,

THE CUTTER AND TAILOR,

25 YEARS WITH J. T. POTTS, CONSETT,

WILL shortly OPEN the SHOP, No. 11, Front Street, Consett, as a READY-MADE CLOTHING and TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT, where he intends to keep a choice Selection of Goods suitable for the incoming Season, and hopes by strict attention to Business to merit a share of Public Patronage. As regards my abilities, I give you my late Employer's last week's advertisement as below:—

TAILORING DEPARTMENT.

The Special Order Department is still under the supervision of one of the most experienced Cutters in the North of England, who, for over 25 years, has given satisfaction in Cutting Garments for thousands of people. The same attention and care as ever is bestowed, and the Best Fit and Newest Styles guaranteed.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:

E. S. BELL,

THE CUTTER AND TAILOR,

11, FRONT STREET,

CONSETT. 818d

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mr. John Crawford's Sale-Rooms, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to remove to the above Rooms, a lot of Valuable Household FURNITURE, to be SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday February 2nd, 1891.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

Anyone die posing of their Furniture can have it sold on reasonable terms at any time.

Sale Office, Victoria Street, Consett.

Farm Stock Sale.

MR JOE IN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr THOMAS CARTER, Elm Park, near Shotley Bridge Station, who is declining Farming, to SELL BY AUCTION, the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, DAIRY UTENSILS, POULTRY, and FURNITURE.

Sale will be as an early date, and full particulars. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK, PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCK IN TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. People that are leaving the District can have their Furniture stored into Cash at once by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 1834a.

By Mr. William Nicholson.

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.

Wednesday, January 28th, 1891.

Present Entries:—

A number of Calving Cows.

Fat and Keeping Stirks.

Pigs, Calves, Poultry, &c.

Also, the very Valuable Household FURNITURE and Effects, the property of Mr John MacPherson, who is leaving the neighbourhood.

Entries to day of sale.

WILLIAM NICHOLSON, Auctioneer.

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

ASSISTED PASSAGES TO CANADA, Cheap Rates to America by the WHITE STAR, AMERICAN, and other popular Lines. Also Lowest Possible Fares to the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES, SOUTH AFRICA, and other parts of the World. Auction Sales carried on efficiently and upon the very Best Terms.

All Emigrants and Luggage taken to the Railway Station Free of Charge; and for the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply at once to A. PHILIPSON, Auctioneer and Emigration Agent, Dipton 498c

JOSEPH OLEY,

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,

10, WOOD STREET SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

JOHN LOWES,

AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.

Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.

VALUATION INVESTED FOR PROBATE, ETC.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. A. & R. J. Brodie.

Monday, February 2nd, 1891.—Victoria Sale-Rooms Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture, including Mahogany Drawers, Mahogany Dining Table, 2 Hair-seated Couches, Easy Chair, 12 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating, 2 Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses, 2 Feather and 2 Down Beds, Bolster and Pillows, Cornice Pole and Rings, Fenders and Fire Irons, Pictures, Pots, Pans, and Earthenware. Also, Fine-Toned Trichord Pianoforte, 9 Stop Harmonium, and other Effects.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, February 2nd, 1891, the whole of the Superior Houshold FURNITURE and Effects.

Sale at Half-past One o'clock exact time.

Preliminary.

TO BE SOLD BY PRIVATE TENDER, as a going concern or otherwise, the Aerated Water Manufacturing Business, as at present carried on by Mr LOTHIAN, at Chester-le-Street, with all the first-class and nearly New Machinery, recently fitted up with all the latest improvements. Stock of Bottles of different kinds, Flat Cart, 2 Sets of Harness, and other Equipments. Mr Lothian will shew the Premises, Inventories of the Machinery. Forms of Tender, and other particulars will be ready in a few days, and may be had from Mr ADAM BRODIE, Public Accountant, Town Hall, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—A. & R. J. BRODIE, Auctioneers and Valuers, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the SALE OF PROPERTY of every description either by PUBLIC AUCTION or otherwise, on reasonable terms. FORTNIGHTLY SALES held every Pay Monday, at the Victoria Sale-Rooms, in which Furniture or other Goods can be included, or if preferred, will be Purchased for Cash. Bailiffs under the Agricultural Holdings Act, and under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

By Mr. William Raw.

Fines Cottages, Medomsley.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having received instructions, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. MACE's, Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, on Wednesday, February 11th, 1891, all those TWO DWELLING-HOUSES, pleasantly situate on the Main Road, called Fines Cottages, Medomsley. One House contains 4 Rooms, Cellar, Small Byre, and Conveniences, now in the occupation of Mr. William Thompson, as Tenant thereof; and the other contains 2 Rooms and Conveniences, now occupied by Mr. George Robson, as Tenant thereof.

The Property will be Sold in one Lot.

Sale to commence at 6-30 p.m. prompt.

For further particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, or to JOHN BOOTH, Esq., Solicitor, Shotley Bridge.

Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill. 830d

7, Constance Street, Consett.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, instructed by Mrs. JANE BROWN, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above address, on Monday, February 2nd, 1891, the whole of her Household FURNITURE, comprising—Splendid Oak Press; Oak Drawers; Kitchen Press; Mahogany Turnover Table; 12 Polished Birch Chairs; Mahogany Couch Bed, in Leather; Chest and Drawers; Fourpoled Bedstead and Mattress; Kidderminster Carpet; Hearthrugs; Fenders and Fireirons; 10 Pictures; 2 Good Oil Lamps; Ladies' Dress Skirt Stand; American Eight-days' Clock; Eight-days' Clock, in High Mahogany Case; 2 Kitchen Tables; 6 Brass Candlesticks; Poss-tub and Staff; Looking Glass; Quilting Frames; Clothes Basket; Dinner Ware; Kettle, Pans, Ware, Glasses, and numerous other Articles.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, JAN. 26TH, 1891.—50 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 6 Fat Cattle; 70 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 5 Store Cattle; 6 Finger Calves; Bay Horse Pony, 11 h.h., 6 y.o., quiet and good worker in all yokes; 3 Sets of Harness and other Saddlery Goods.

Entries to day of Sale.

Sale at 10-30 a.m.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

MONDAY, JANUARY 26TH, 1891.

7 Prime Fat Cattle.
70 Fat Sheep.
30 H.B. Gimmer Hoggs, mostly expected to be in Lamb to Leicester Tup.
A number of Calving Cows, Calves.
A number of Bacon, Dairy Fed Keeping Pork and Store Pigs.
Poultry, Goat, Harness.
Several new Patent Blocks and Chains.
Pair Gig Lamps, and other Lots.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

J S. MURRAY.

Medomsley, Wednesday, February 4th, 1891.—Sale of Furniture, &c.

MR J. S. MURRAY, favoured with instructions from Mr S. MACE, who is retiring from Business, will SELL all his Surplus STOCK OF FURNITURE, HORSE, HARNESS, TRAP, &c., on Wednesday, February 4th, 1891.

Particulars in Posters and next week's issue.

Royal Auction Mart, Benfieldside.

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

Business Announcements

E. BROOKS
THE
GENTLEMEN'S HATTER,
57, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE.
"LATEST LONDON STYLES KEPT."

STRENGTHENING AND ENERGIZING

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE.

This valuable preparation is composed of Old Port Wine, Kepler's Extract of Malt, and the Liebig Company's Extract of Beef.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is strengthening, flesh-forming, and nourishing.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE, in small quantities, is especially valuable for sick children.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE being easily digested and readily assimilated, is "a tissue former," and "a force producer" of the utmost importance to those who require strength.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is recommended by hundreds of medical men and hospital nurses to their patients, and the Proprietor holds a large number of testimonials in its favour.

PRICES: 3s 9d PER BOTTLE; 45s DOZ. BOTTLES 2s PER HALF-BOTTLE, 23s 6d DOZ. HALF-BOTTLES.

Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SOLE AGENTS:—
RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT, BENFIELDSIDE.
MESSRS T. D. DRYDEN & Co., WINE MERCHANTS, &c., FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST, &c., SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.
ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT DIPTON.
WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL, STANLEY.
WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL, ANNFIELD PLAIN.
RICHARD BROWELL, MINERS' ARMS, THE SPEN,
AND
WILLIAM STONES, BURTON HOUSE, BURNOPFIELD.

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property
Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. Interest, repayable at Three Months' notice.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Public (Incorporated) Accountant, Secretary.

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Cutlery, Gems &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739y

TO ADVERTISERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

COMMUNICATIONS should reach us *not later* than Thursday morning.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, JANUARY 23RD, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

"SOME WERE WISE AND SOME WERE FOOLISH."

History is said to repeat itself, and just as true is it that every successive generation has its contingent of pitiable individuals who, mistaking impertinence for wisdom, let their tongues wag until, weighing them in the balance, the world stamps them fools. This peculiarity of human nature was well illustrated at the last meeting of the Benfieldside School Board. Lacking in those sterling qualities which distinguish a man from his fellows, Harry the Valiant has evidently resolved that he will again come to the front by hook or by crook, and if he cannot be famous he will at least be notorious. Any clown can play the fool; but sense and worth proclaim the man. It is more in pity than in wrath that I refer to the latest performance of my erratic, but attached friend—Henry. It is passing strange that this wonderful old gentleman should love me with a measure of affection that knows no shadow of turning. Had I said as much about other men as I have said about him the best tempered of them would have invested in a six-shooter; but dear old Henry adores me, simply because I tickle him ever and anon as the spirit moves me. All this is passing strange, of course; but Byron says that truth is always strange—stranger than fiction. Personally, I am disposed to regard the sayings and doings of Henry as foolish to a degree, but on reflection, I am in a sense consoled with the thought that even in the golden age—some were wise and some were foolish.

OLD WOMEN *versus* ASSES.

If Henry had been a man capable of turning the wreckage of the past to some account and constructing a pathway to the better things of the fragments of previous failures, the gratuitous statement, worthless as it was, that there were seven old women sitting on the Board, had never been uttered. There were eight present, and if there were seven old women the valorous Harry doubtless wished the public to understand that he and he only was the hero of the hour. That sort of thing is Harry to the letter; but the game is played out, and the performer has very properly been relegated to a back seat. It must be sheer torture to gentlemen of the intellectual attainments of Rev Alexander Baillie, Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, Rev E. W. Jenkins, and Rev J. Foran, to be compelled to listen to the latest ravings of a mind diseased. Nothing but a high sense of duty, coupled with good breeding, could induce them to breathe for five minutes the atmosphere of the same room in which such an unwelcome individual is for the time being allowed to enter. Had Harry been a man gifted with but an average share of common sense, he would have discovered more than a decade of years ago that the public prized worth, and hated buffoonery. Few men have had such opportunities of gauging public opinion as Harry has had; and fewer still have profited so little by the lessons taught them. Twenty long years have come and gone since I first saw Harry in the flesh. He was an elderly man then; but the snows of successive winters have unfortunately wrought no change in him for the better. It was his wont to insult men in those days—better men than himself—and forgetting everything and learning nothing, he persists in following the same course to this day. It is true that Henry pretends to be one of the soundest of Radicals; but his acts prove him to be a Tory of the most despicable type. The votaries of Liberalism claim that they scan the horizon and set every sail to catch the passing breeze of reform. That is a lofty ideal, but it is one that Henry never yet saw even in the dim distance. Henry mapped out his course at the beginning, determined to reach the desired haven in spite of wind or tide. He failed as a matter of course, and every man deserves to fail who for the passing triumph of holding office on this public body or that, strives to climb to distinction by senseless expressions, worthy only of the street-corner loafer.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

CONSETT WATER COMPANY.—The directors of the Consett Water Company have recommended a dividend of 7 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending Dec. 31st, 1890. This compares with 6½ per cent. for the corresponding period of 1889.

YEARLY BENEFIT FUND.—A yearly society was commenced at the house of Mr Thomas Redshaw, Commercial Inn, Consett, on Saturday evening. Mr M. Charlton was elected steward; Mr J. Sewell, chairman; and Mr J. Spedding, secretary. A fair number of members were enrolled.

SPECIAL SERVICES.—At the Consett Primitive Methodist Chapel, Miss Johnstone, Lanchester, an evangelist, has been conducting special services for the past fortnight, with very satisfactory results.

The members of Consett Young Women's Christian Association had a very enjoyable tea and supper in the National Schools on Friday night. The interval was devoted to games, &c.

WESLEYAN MUTUAL AND IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.—On Monday evening, the members of this association held their usual meeting at Consett. The chair was occupied by Mr Wm. Goudie, and there was a capital attendance.—A paper on "Our Church's duty towards the children," was read, and discussed freely by those present. A pleasurable evening was spent.

CONSETT WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE.—As will be seen by our Advertisement columns, this flourishing society re-commence their popular meetings in the Gibson Street Schools next Thursday evening, at 7·15. The election of officers took place on Thursday night last, when the following appointments were made:—President, Mr E. Hobday; secretary, Mr T. Foster ("Banner" editor and secretary, Mr Collin); treasurer, Mr V. Dunn; auditor, Mr J. Lowes; choir master, Mr W. Lowrie. The secretary's report showed that during the past year ninety members had been added to the society.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Mr Brandon Ellis and his company are paying a return visit this week, and have been performing before fairly good houses. In the *World of Pride*, produced on Wednesday and Thursday, Mr F. J. Daniel was a capable "Sir Francis Oswald." Mr Leslie Douglas acquitted himself with credit as "Colonel O'Cleary." Mr H. E. Braham as "Father Egan" was a typical "Soggarth Arvon." Mr Chalmers Mackay as "Tricky Mickey Moran" was the life and soul of the piece, his Irish brogue being excellent, and the native wit most prominent. Mr Horace Sidgely as "Monsieur Beauregat" gave every satisfaction. "Crawley Coppy" was faithfully deliniated by Mr J. Liddle. Miss Dorothy Coote had a most disagreeable part as "Lady Isabel Oswald," nevertheless her pourtrayal of the character was perfection, the same remark applying with equal justice to Miss Cicily Braham as "Katie Fitzgerald," whilst as "Biddy O'Hare" Miss Kath Leinad fairly brought down the house, especially with her song and dance. For to-night and to-morrow night *The Thugs of Paris* is billed. Next week the great drama, *Black Diamonds*.

BLACK DIAMONDS OR LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF PIT LIFE.—This is the title of a new and sensational drama to be performed at the Theatre Royal Consett, next week, by Mr Warwick Gray and a specially selected company. "Black Diamonds" was first produced at the Gaiety Theatre, West Hartlepool, on Monday, January 12th last, and has been pronounced both by press and public to be a genuine and artistic success. It is in five acts, and is the joint production of Messrs Fenton, Mackay, and Louis S. Denbigh. The story of "Black Diamonds" in consistent, while the sensational incidents give scope for striking effect, especially in the case of the finish act, a most realistic scene being introduced of "The old workings at Gaythorne Pit," where an explosion is supposed to have taken place, and a rescuing party arrive in time to rescue the entombed miners. There is no lengthy "preachy" dialogues. It is bright and concise, superflous talk being avoided, and action and "go" maintained, from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Besides, an abundance of original comic business runs through it, and relieves it at all points. In nothing does it overstep the bounds of nature, yet it plays in and commands the every emotion of an audience—from laughter to tears. As this company carry most of the principal scenes, Consett play-goers may be prepared to see "Black Diamonds" put on the stage with every attention to detail. This being a most expensive engagement, we trust that the theatre-going public, will rally round Mr Brodie, and so enable him to bring similar companies to Consett, again and again.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

OCCASIONAL COURT.—At the Shotley Bridge Court-house, on Tuesday, before Mr J. W. Walton-Wilson, *Terrence Mulllghan*, labourer, and *Jas. Williamson*, coalwheeler, of Edith St. Consett, were fined 5s each and costs, for drunkeness and disorderly conduct at Blackhill, on Monday night. —On Wednesday, before Councillor Jas. Annandale, *James Henton*, hailing from about the Tweed, was found guilty of committing a like offence, at Consett, on Tuesday evening; he was similarly treated.

SUNNISIDE.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CHAPEL.—The monthly temperance meeting was held on Saturday night, when the following took part. Mr W. Askew, Mr R Rutherford, Thos. Young, and James Place; Miss Young, and Miss Johnson. Mr Thos. Henderson, who was presented with a handsome writing-desk, with a suitable inscription on brass plate, by the members of Sunniside Chapel, has been 52 years a Sunday-school teacher and is much respected Mr J. Fenwick presided.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

SUPPOSED DEATH FROM SUFFOCATION.—On Sunday morning, a baby named Phyllis Wilson, aged three months and 15 days, of Cornsay Colliery, expired, it is supposed, from the effects of being suffocated. The child was sleeping in bed all right when the mother, Dorothy Wilson, retired to rest at one o'clock on the morning. When Mrs Wilson awoke at 7 a.m., the infant was dead. The babe was lying on its side, with its face on its breast. No inquest was held.

LANCHESTER.

Our readers will be sorry to learn that Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., is lying ill at Colepike Hall.

ILLNESS OF REV. J. P. DE PLEDGE.—We regret to learn that the Rev. J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Vicar of Satley, is seriously indisposed, and confined to his bed.

DEATH FROM SUFFOCATION AT THE WORKHOUSE. —An inquest was held at Lanchester Workhouse Infirmary, on Thursday se'nnight, before Mr John Graham, coroner, respecting the death of Christiana Smith, the illegitimate child of Catherine Smith, who has been an inmate of that institution for some time.—The mother, who was still confined to her bed, said she belonged to Tantobie. The baby was born on the 30th December, and lived four days, dying while getting the breast on the morning of January 3rd.—Dr J. Wilson, who saw the infant on Sunday morning, stated that after the child had been sucking it began to cough, and laid its head upon its mother's arm. His opinion was that the child died from suffocation while in the act of coughing.—A verdict was returned that the baby's death was from suffocation, due to spasms.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

MAGIC-LANTERN ENTERTAINMENT.—On Saturday evening, a magic-lantern entertainment and lecture on "Stanley in Darkest Africa" was given in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain. Mr James Smith exhibited the views by means of his excellent lantern. Rev A. Bromley, of Blackhill, explained the illustrations, and was occasionally relieved by the chairman (Mr Stirling). The remarks of both gentlemen were much appreciated. There was a good attendance and the entertainment was highly successful.

CHORAL SOCIETY.—On Wednesday evening, the members of this choral society at Annfield Plain held a concert in the Greencroft Board Schools, Catchgate. The first part of the programme was the sacred cantata, "Lauda Sion"; and the second part miscellaneous. Mr Charles Stephenson, Consett, conducted. There was a good company present. A full report will appear in our next issue.

BURNOPFIELD.

DINNER.—On Saturday se'nnight, the members of "Rose of Burnopfield Lodge" of the Ancient Noble Order of United Oddfellows (Bolton Unity) held their annual dinner at the lodge room, the Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield. About 60 brethren and a few friends sat down to an excellent dinner.

SWALWELL.

SWALWELL Y. M. C. A.—On Friday night, the Mutual Improvement Class was re-opened for the second quarter at Swalwell. Mr Thos. Moffatt Newcastle, read a paper on "America, and what I saw there." Mr John Burnlinson presided. The young men were highly delighted with the paper which was both amusing and instructive. On Saturday night, Jan 17th, under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A., Mr Moffatt delivered his popular lecture, subject—"The sin and danger of impurity, and its remedy," in the Methodist New Connexion Chapel, Rev. Wm. Dryburgh M. A. B. D. presiding. A collection was taken at the close in aid of the Y. M. C. A.

CRAGHEAD.

THE TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT.—The third of a series of most enjoyable temperance social gatherings was held in the Hedley Memorial Schools on Saturday night. Mr H. Greener presided in the absence of the president, Mr H. Bell. About one hundred assembled, amongst whom were a great many young men. Hymns from Sankey's collection were sung by the company, during which eleven joined the the society, making a total of seventy-eight since the society was formed six weeks ago. An excellent address on "Temperance" was given by Mr Wm. Miles, after which followed round games in which all very heartily joined. At intervals the following songs and recitations were given in excellent style: —Song "Oh to be nothing," Miss Leggett; recitation, "Little Willie's prayer," Miss M. J. Harvey; song, "Ehren on the Rhine," by Miss Riddell; recitation, "Curfew must not ring to-night," Miss Kate Fairley. About the middle of the programme bags of fruit were handed round to the company. Altogether this "temperanse kettledrum," as the gatherings are called, was the most enjoyable, and the most successful, of any temperance meeting yet held in this village.

STANHOPE.

FLOWER SHOW.—At a meeting of the Stanhope Flower Show Committee on Tuesday evening, Mr J. A. Mason, schoolmaster, Barrington Schools, was chosen secretary for the ensuing year.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN STANHOPE MAN AT MIDDLESBROUGH.—Joseph Stephenson, tinsmith, plumber, and glacier, late of Consett and Stanhope, died on Sunday last at Middlesbrough, at the age of 51. He was a native of Stanhope, and was well and widely known. He was the son of Jonathan Stephenson, one of the old standards of Stanhope, who for many years was tinsmith at Stanhope. Joseph succeded him in business, and for years carried on a very successful business, and kept a hardware shop replete with every thing in that line. Bad fortune, however, overtook him, and he removed to Consett, where ill luck still pursued him. He removed to Middlesbrough, where his wife died. A run of ill luck undermined his constitution, and he gradually sank until last Sunday terminated his chequered career. Much sympathy is felt for the family in Stanhope, where at one time he was one of Stanhope's principal characters, and was greatly respected.

DEATH OF A STANHOPE MAN IN NEWCASTLE.—John Hall, a native of Stanhope, died in Newcastle, on Sunday. Deceased was well-known and highly respected in Stanhope. For a long time he was an employee of the London Lead Company at their lead smelting works, at Stanhope. He afterwards removed to Nenthead, were he acted as an overman with both credit to himself and the company, having earned the good will of both masters and men while there. Three or four years ago he removed to Newcastle, when failing health overtook him, and he succumbed on Sunday last.

DEATH OF A STANHOPE MAN IN SUNDERLAND. —Robert Dixon, late of Stanhope, died last week at Sunderland. Deceased was a leadminer and worked for years at the London Lead Company's mines at Nenthead, and afterwards removed to Stanhope, where he laboured for years at the limestone quarries. He removed to Sunderland a few years ago, where he died last week.

TOW LAW.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.—The half-yearly meeting of the Tow Law Co-operative Society was held on Monday. The president (Mr James Vickers) occupied the chair.—The secretary read the balance sheet, which showed the sales of the half-year to be £7,625; profits, £1,298; share capital, £4,018. After allowing £54 for depreciation, adding £40 to the reserve fund, and paying 3s in the £ dividend on members' purchases, there was a balance of £68 carried forward.—After the balance-sheet had been adopted, there was a long discussion on the advisability of establishing a branch store at Wolsingham.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.—The meeting was held in the Mission Room, Tow Law, on Monday night. Rev George Samuel was elected speaker, and briefly acknowledged the honour conferred upon him. The "Government" had a lively time answering questions, and a large number of questions were given to be answered at the next meeting. A debate on "Ought capital punishment to be abolished" was introduced, which led to a lively discussion. The debate was adjourned, and after some further remarks, the "House' adjourned. There was a fair attendance.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY SCHOOL.—This school at Tow Law is again to the front in the Scripture examination for schools in Stockton and Darlington district. Twenty scholars sat to answer the questions, and sixteen of these have passed. Three out of the sixteen have each gained a prize given by the district, in addition to the certificates. These are the two Miss Cuthberts and Miss E. Dixon. This school is in a very flourishing condition. There are two select classes—young men and women—with over 40 scholars; 20 in Bible and Testament classes; and an Infant School with over 100 children. Two classes have been formed in which the scholars will meet during the week—one for young men and women, the other for scholars under 14 years of age. Efficient teachers have been placed to the classes, so that the future prospect of the school is brighter than it has ever been before. The officials and teachers think it is just as easy to keep the lambs in the fold, as it is to let them stray and then go into the wilderness to bring them back.

TANTOBIE.

SINGING CONTEST.—A singing contest was decided at the Commercial Hotel, Tantobie, on Saturday night. £1 was given to lads under 17 years, working in mines, for which five entered. The following are awards:—1, Mr T. Johnson, Dipton; 2, Mr J. Nicholson, White-le-Head; 3, Mr Tom McKenna, Lintz Colliery.

BLAYDON.

FUNERAL OF A VOLUNTEER.—On Tuesday, a military funeral took place at Blaydon, being the interment of Priv. J. Donolly, H Company, 5th D. L.I.V. Deceased had been a member of this company for several years, and was highly respected. A detachment and firing party, under Major Douglass, escorted the remains to St. Joseph's, Stella, where the funeral service was impressively intoned by Father Kunac. The firing party fired three volleys over the remains of their departed comrade, and marched back to the armoury to the strains of the band.

CASTLESIDE.

DEATH OF A WEST DURHAM AGRICULTURIST.—On Saturday se'nnight, Mr John Drummond, of Wharnley Burn Farm, near Castleside, (formerly of Hole House Farm, Allansford) died, after a long illness, at the age of 77 years. The deceased never appeared to recover after the death of his wife twelve months since. Mr Drummond had for a considerable period lived in the immediate district, and was at one period regarded as one of the leading agriculturists in West Durham and the borders of South Northumberland. He was for some years waywarden for the township, and sat on the Lanchester Highway Board, feeble health compelling him to retire about two years since. Mr Drummond was a strict Wesleyan Methodist, and supported the Castleside society very liberally. He leaves a grown-up family. The funeral took place on Wednesday afternoon, at Castleside Church-yard, in the presence of a large number of mourners and friends.

WEST STANLEY.

At a meeting of ratepayers held on Wednesday se'nnight, it was decided to take steps with a view of forming a Local Board for West Stanley.

FIRE.—About 10 o'clock on Friday night, a fire occurred in a dwelling-house at West Stanley, in the occupation of Wm. Regan, miner, of the Louisa Colliery, the dwelling belonging to the owners of the South Moor Colliery Company, Limited. Fortunately, the household had not retired to rest. When the fire was first observed, the house was enveloped in flames, and with the prompt assistance of the neighbours and police, who threw buckets of water on the flames, the fire was extinguished in the space of an hour. A quantity of furniture was destroyed, and the house itself was almost wrecked. Some of the household goods, however, were rescued.—It has been since ascertained that the servant girl went upstairs into one of the rooms to find her jacket. There was some straw lying, and it is supposed that the young woman struck a match to enable her to see, and threw it down causing the straw to ignite. Mrs Regan, was the first to discover that the premises were on fire. The damage is estimated at about £10.

POOR PEOPLE AND RICH PEOPLE.

Poor people often imagine that rich people are necessarily happy; but this is a great mistake. Happiness is a temperament of the mind independent of the mere possession of wealth. When a labourer on the road-side, who, perhaps, toils ten hours a day for a shilling, sees a carriage roll past in which a genteel middle-aged man is reclining, apparently at his ease, he probably says to himself, "how lucky that man is! how happy must he be in enjoying such luxuries! I wish I were as well off as he." Now, if the labouring man reasoned in this manner, he would most likely make some serious miscalculations as to the exact amount of happiness enjoyed by the gentleman whom he envied. He would not reflect upon the circumstance that the acquisition of every new object of wealth and luxurious indulgence brings with it a new care—something disagreeable, which was not previously calculated upon—and that this, in every instance, forms a considerable discount off the supposed amount of happiness. If we were to inquire into the condition of the gentleman in the carriage, and find that be was a landowner by inheritance, a person standing in the highest class of society in the district, we would not on that account perceive that he has nothing troublesome to reflect upon. He is, in all likelihood, involved, whether it be his inclination or otherwise, in the conflict of political partisanship in the county representation, and at last election was hissed at the hustings; he is vexed about one of his chief tenants becoming bankrupt just before his half-yearly rent was due; he now finds his income too small to support the expenditure of his wife and family; he has just received a letter from his law agent in town, mentioning that the bond of £1,400 granted last year must be taken up before Christmas and that "money was never so difficult to be had as at present:" he has also been a good deal bothered with his son-in-law's affairs, and been dragged into a litigation regarding the salmon fishing on the river. These and many other causes of vexation to the landowner do not occur to the mind of the labouring man, when he envies him his apparently happy condition.

Let us suppose, on the other hand, that the gentleman in the carriage is not a proprietor of lands, but lives, as it is called, on the interest of his money. An individual in these circumstances is rarely a happy man; that is to say, unless he possess the principle of contentment, or an easy mind; for, in most cases, he has much greater concern in disposing of his funds to the best advantage, than the poor man has in labouring for his bread. The monied man is in a continual fret regarding the security of his property. If he lay out his capital on houses, the gathering of his rents affords an inconceivable degree of annoyance. "Never was there a poor wretch so plundered as I am," will he sometimes say to a friend; "there I have sunk £2,000 on a property that hardly produces a rent, on an average, fit to pay for the repairs. Two years ago, I let it to a Captain Cormorant and his family, who removed, nobody knows where, the night before term-day, and so never paid a sixpence of rent. Last year I allowed it to stand empty rather than let it to tenants of whose appearance I was not very fond; and this year, after laying out £15 on repairing the roof, and mending the windows, and other £5 11s. on painting the dining-room and lobby, I have actually let it for two-thirds of the former rent; which, after all, I am not very certain of getting. Besides, I am beginning to discover that the street in which this unfortunate property is situated is fast losing its respectable character, and there is no saying if in a year or two the premises will let for any rent at all." Such are some of the groans of the landlords of house properties, and from which those in humbler circumstances are altogether exempted.

But the grand source of disquietude to monied men is generally found to be their families. If they escape from the struggles of business with £50,000, and two sons and a daughter, they do not by any means retire to a state of perfect felicity. It is, on the contrary, more than probable that, from the day they depart from their ancient place of trade, and enter their elegant new mansion, "where they expect to live happy all their days," they at once bid farewell to everything like comfort, and commence an existence of genuine misery, which is only terminated when death kindly interposes to close the scene. It is wonderful how knowing the sons of a wealthy man are regarding their father's affairs, and how considerate they are in helping him to spend the savings of his industry. A poor man with a family seldom finds any of his sons inclined to loiter away their time in indolence; each appears more anxious than another to go out into the world to exercise the faculties with which he has been endowed for his independent subsistence. But the sons of the rich have generally a different way of thinking. They lean upon their parents' resources in all possible ways, and imagine that all they can get is quite little enough. Whether they be put into business, or into the army, or be bred to the law or medicine, or any other genteel profession, or no profession whatsoever, their cry is uniformly the same. Nothing but demands for money! money! is heard by the old man, day after day, and year after year. It is of no use for him to say that be will give them up; for they take care to grant bills and promissory notes, which he must liquidate, or see them all furnished with ignominious lodgings in the county gaol. As for his daughter Maria, she becomes, at her first entrance into life, an object of heartless calculation to half the young men about town, and, ten to one, is either married to a base youth, who requires to be supported by her father all the rest of his days, or to a less indigent person, who does not give her the honour of a slave. Even after he *has* got her fairly off, he labours under the fear of *coming back upon him*, with a family of three girls and a boy—the youngest just cutting its first teeth—all delicate ailing children, affected with measles and whooping-cough, and so requiring nurses, doctors, and drugs without end.

It must not be supposed that the wealthy who have no families are much better off as to the amount of their happiness. No rich man can be happy who is without some one, either nearly related to him, or bound to him by ties of affection, to whom he may bequeath his wealth with the expectation that it will not be squandered foolishly. Rich men without families are, therefore, apt to be peevish, and their feelings are not improved by having a shrewd guess that their death is longed for by some distant relations. Such persons are also objects against whom all kinds of subscription papers are regularly levelled.

Besides these sources of irritation to the minds of many of the rich, there is yet another, which is the cause of unceasing discontent. This is idleness. To have nothing to do is a dreadful evil, and ten times worse to bear than hard work. It is so grievous that many individuals so situated fall into very bad habits, and frequently commit extravagances which they would not do were their minds in a healthy state of action. Idleness is also productive of bodily diseases; and these, whether real or imaginary, are not borne without repining. The very circumstance of having no appetite is in itself frequently a subject of bitter lamentation to the rich and the indolent, and of this the poor man generally knows nothing. But why pursue this catalogue of miseries endured by the wealthy? for they might be lengthened out to any extent, and yet not be half exhausted. Let us therefore try to impress it indelibly upon the minds of the humbler classes of society, that happiness is distributed, with the most astonishing impartiality, in even measure, over the whole human race.

The moral to be drawn from such a picture of human disquietude is, that the poor man should not, in any case, be envious of the condition of the rich, or discontented with the lot into which he has been cast. Nevertheless, we would not that he sat down in stupified indifference, or was regardless of all feasible and honourable means of rising to better circumstances. The consciousness of rising in the world through industry, and the force of genius and virtue, yields in itself great comparative happiness, and the possession of wealth so acquired affords innumerable opportunities of doing good, and exercising some of the best principles of our nature.—C. J.

A SWEDISH servant-maid, finding that her mistress was troubled with sleeplessness, told her of a practice of the people of her country who are similarly afflicted. It was to take a napkin, dip it in ice-cold water, wring it slightly, and lay it across her eyes. The plan was followed, and it worked like a charm. The first night the lady slept four hours without awaking—something she had not done for several months. At the end of that time the napkin had become dry. By wetting it again she at once went to sleep, and it required considerable force to rouse her in the morning.

WORTH KNOWING

MONTE DI PIETA.—This is an establishment at Rome, which has existed ever since the year 158[illegible]. It is certainly the greatest pawnbroker's shop in the world, and in its kind one of the noblest charities. Any person that brings a pawn may borrow from a sixpence to thirty crowns without paying any interest, but all that is lent above that sum pays after the rate of two per cent. per annum. At the end of the year, the borrower may renew, which is done without any expense; but, at the end of two years, if the pledge be not redeemed, nor interest of the money paid, the pledge is sold, and the overplus of the debt is laid by for the owner, who has it in his power to demand it within one hundred years.

HOW TO AVOID FAMILY QUARRELS.—Here is a recipe for avoiding family quarrels which may fairly claim credit for good sense and originality. It was given us by an old man as invented and practised by a couple he used to know. "You see," he said, "they agreed between themselves that whenever he came home a little contrary and out of temper, he wore his hat on the back of his head, and then she never said a word; and if she came in a little cross and crooked, she threw her shawl over her left shoulder, and then he never said a word." If similar danger signals could be pretty largely used, how many unnecessary collisions would be avoided, and how many a long train of evil consequences would be safely shunted till the line was clear again.

BIG BLASTS.—The mightiest of gunpowder blasts in connection with railway works, if not the very greatest blast ever exploded, was that by which Sir William Cubitt blew away, with one charge of nineteen thousand pounds of gunpowder, the entire mass of the Round Down Cliff, which rose to the height of three hundred and fifty feet above the level of the sea within a few miles of Dover. This monster blast, fired by galvanic electricity at several points instantaneously, at once heaved off from the cliffs a mass of more than a million tons of chalk, which rolled down upon the beach—the dislodged stuff covering a space of fifteen acres, which may still be seen by the traveller along the South Eastern Railway, stretching towards the sea near the western base of the well-known Shakespear's Cliff. By means of a similar blast on the Londonderry and Coleraine Railway a hill was thrown into the sea by a charged of three thousand pounds of gunpowder, and thirty thousand tons of material were thus instantaneously removed from the line of the works.

HOW TO BECOME RICH.—A Danish superstition says: If you would be rich, you must go out on Twelfth Night to a cross-road where five ways meet, one of which leads to a church; and you must take with you in your hands a grey calfskin and an axe. When you reach the cross-road you must sit down on the calfskin, the tail of which must be extended in the direction of the road which leads to the churchyard. Then you must look fixedly at the axe, which must be made sharp as possible. Towards midnight the goblins will come in multitudes and put gold in great heaps round you, to try and make you look up, and they will chatter, grimace, and grin at you. But when at length they have failed in causing you to look aside, they will begin to take hold of the tail of the calfskin and drag it away with you upon it. Then you will be fortunate if you can succeed in cutting off the tail with the axe without looking about you and without damaging the axe. If you succeed, the goblins will vanish, and all the gold will remain by you. Otherwise, if you look about you or damage the axe, it will be all up with you.

LAUGHERS.—We may range the several kinds of laughers under the following heads. The dimplers, the smilers, the laughers, the grinners, the horse-laughers. The dimple is practised to give a grace to the features, and is frequently made a bait to entangle a gazing lover; this was called by the ancients the Chian laugh. The smile is for the most part confined to the fair sex and their male retinue. It expressed our satisfaction in a silent sort of approbation, doth not too much disorder the features, and is practised by lovers of the most delicate address. This tender notion of physiognomy the ancients called the Ionic laugh. The laugh among us is the common *risus* of the ancients. The grin, by writers of antiquity, is called the Syncrusian; and was then, as it is at this time, made use of to display a beautiful set of teeth. The horse-laugh, or the sardonic, is made use of with great success in all kinds of disputation. The proficients in this kind, by a well-timed laugh, will baffle the most solid argument. This upon all occasions supplies the want of reason; is always received with great applause in coffee-house disputes; and that side the laugh joins with is generally observed to gain the better of his antagonist.

ORIGIN OF FAIRS.—The origin of fairs, like that of many other ancient institutions, is involved in much obscurity. The almost universal belief is that they were associated with religious observance; or, as Prof. Morley poetically puts it, "the first fairs were formed by the gathering of worshippers and pilgrims about sacred places, and especially within or about the walls of abbeys and cathedrals on the feast days of the saints enshrined therein. The sacred building and its surroundings being too small to provide accommodation, tents were pitched, and as the resources of the district would no more suffice to victual than to lodge its throng of visitors, stalls were set up by provision dealers, and later these were turned to more general purposes of trade." This incidental origin seems, in some cases, hardly sufficient to account for the results which followed; but then it has ever been the genius of commerce to follow close upon the wants of the people. The establishment of fairs as a source of revenue to religious houses was probably a later development. The Church has always been keenly alive to its temporal interests; and while it was one of its principal functions to administer hospitality to the needy and decrepit, there was justice in drawing contributions from those who too soon might have to rely upon its bounty. Certain it is that nearly all the early charters were shaped in view of granting tolls and revenue to the purposes of religion and charity.

GHEE.—The following is an extract from an article that appeared in the *St. James's Gazette*, which, probably, will be of some interest to our readers. One often reads of the Indian Ghee, but perhaps not many know how it is prepared: "What is ghee? How is it used by the natives of India? And why is its adulteration by cows' or pigs' fat so obnoxious to them? Clear answers to these questions will bring home to Englishmen the cause of the present agitation about ghee in India. "Ghee is prepared by boiling fresh-drawn milk in earthern pots for an hour or more, and adding, after it has cooled, a little curdled milk. The curdled mass is then churned for half an hour, some hot water is added, and the churning continued for half an hour longer, when the butter forms. This butter is then boiled until all the watery particles and curds have been thrown off by repeated skimmings. The clear oil is poured into a vessel to cool, and the granulated mass thus formed is ghee. It is kept in earthen pots, and sold in banyas' shops at the rate of 2lb. to 8lb. for a rupee." "If well made, ghee will keep good for years, losing its flavour somewhat but not its properties, which improve with age. In some old families you will find ghee over a hundred years old buried under the earth in earthen jars. Instances are known of the preservation of ghee, without taint, for two hundred years, and even longer. "All but the poorest classes in India, whether Hindoos or Mahommedans, use ghee for ordinary cooking purposes. Where the English cook uses butter, suet, or lard, the Indian uses ghee. In frying potatoes, in cooking dal, in making sweetments, in preparing tasteful dishes, the upper and middle classes always use ghee, which is also rubbed over chupatties, the flat flour-cakes serving for bread, and poured over rice at the time of eating. "One of the secrets of the fine flavour of Indian-made curries is the use of good ghee. And neither Hindoos nor Mahommedans will touch any food that is cooked with ghee which they believe to be adulterated by pigs' or cows' fat."

Blacking is first mentioned in the 16th century. We then hear of a "pair of pumps with a cross cut at the toes for corns; not new, indeed, but cleanly blakt with soot, and shining like a shoeing horn." Blacking was brought from Italy; for it is said that the shoes of the Neapolitan factors upon the Exchange in London shone with blacking.

Soane Jenyns shrewdly remarks, that if Christian nations were nations of Christians, wars would be unknown among them.

The smallest hair casts a shadow; the most trifling act has its consequences, if not *here*, at least, hereafter.

Force yourself to reflect on what you read paragraph by paragraph.

A wise man stands firm in all extremities, and bears the lot of his humanity with a divine temper.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By Wearsider.]

Public affairs in Chester-le-Street are in a sad mix. We have the mains of the Chester-le-Street Water Company, and also of the Consett Water Company, and yet the city is not at all satisfactorily supplied with water. There is no fault found with the Consett supply; there is always plenty of it, and a good pressure; but only some places have it. On the other hand where the "old water"—as it is called—is in, there are continual complaints. The water is shut off every night shortly after ten o'clock, and not turned on very early in the morning, consequently people who have horses, or who which breakfast at an early hour, are put to no end of inconvenience and trouble. And this is not all, when the water is on, it is often as thick as puddle and not the same consistency. This state of things cannot possibly last much longer.

Our local Witenagemote have their hands more than full just now. They are completely beat with the ashpit cleaning, and seem best able to apply a policy of *laissez faire*, than anything else. This ashpit cleaning is—and has been let to a contractor, the present contractor is a hard working man, but his price is too low. He is not free from blame in this connexion, but the Sanitary Authority, having had years of experience in the matter should not have let him the contract at his figure, because they should have known from past experience that it was utterly impossible for the work to be done as it should be, for the money. It is sometimes necessary to protect a man against himself. Now the wiseacres propose to divide the town into two parts, and be two separate contracts. Little faith can be placed in such tinkering methods.

Then again the lessee of the Sewage Farm—our beautiful and savoury dwelling White Elephant—who has the fifteen acres of that land for next to nothing has given up, and the Whitenagemote is advised that it should take over the management of the concern—because, say the advisers, that would be a much more satisfactory way of dealing with the matter! Nothing said about the cost, mark you.

The same people who are thus bungling the affair made a most atrocious blunder a few weeks ago anent the County Council grant in support of technical education. They recommended the County Council to apply the money to the reduction of local rates! Was there ever such a meddling and muddling body? I am glad to see from the *Guardian* reports that the Consett Local Board have taken a sensible view of the question, and that the members of the County Council from that district are in favour of the money being devoted to the purpose for which it is intended; and that their hands are strengthened by the voice of the local authority. Bravo Consett! I cannot say the same of Chester-le-Street.

The idea that there is only one way out of this chaotic condition is gradually forcing itself upon the minds of the people here. It is felt that Chester-le-Street should—as far as possible—be self-governing. And that can only be done by forming a Local Board, and I am very much mistaken if that step is not taken in the near future. Such bickering and truckling, such meddling and muddling as we have been accustomed to lately cannot, and will not, be tolerated much longer. We clamour for reforms all round; our sanitary arrangements, our comfort, the aspect of our city, the well-being of the inhabitants, the building of new houses, the laying out of new streets, and in fact the whole of our public affairs are, to say the least, in a most unsatisfactory state, and must be either "ended or mended." The only real solution of the difficulty is for us to do now what we ought to have done twenty or five-and-twenty years ago—establish a Local Board. It will be costly now; but the longer it is delayed the more costly it will become.

I understand that the oil lamp-lighting at Birtley is giving general satisfaction. Any way, if not what it should be, as public lighting it is a distinct advance upon the darkness which used to prevail in that village. It will no doubt lead to better things and greater improvements. Birtley is a go-ahead place.

Our Shrovetide carnival is approaching—the day of the year. Mr Joseph Murray, who together with his fore-elders have provided the ball for the annual match for over fifty years, has again made all the preliminary arrangements for carrying out the custom of himself, father, and grandfather. The match between the "Upstreeters" and "Downstreeters" has now a far wider reputation than it formerly had, and visitors pour into Chester-le-Street by road and rail in as great numbers almost as they would flow to see an English Cup-tie between two crack teams. Last year, Mr Murray was highly displeased, and thousands of people disappointed, by some mean fellows surreptitiously taking the ball from the Front Street—where the game should be played—and hiding it for a greater part of the afternoon. It is hoped that such disgraceful and detestable practices will not be countenanced this year. Let us have the real old-fashioned contest, and may the best side win. If such conduct as I have described is the only appreciation of Mr Murray's kindly feeling towards the place of his birth and his fellow-citizens, the sooner the time-honoured game is discontinued the better. But I hope for better things this year.

We have been having the weather in samples recently—alternate severe frosts and thaws. On Saturday night we had an intensely keen frost, the thermometer at the Deanery gardens (the residence of Mr J. W. Luccock) recording thirty-one degrees of frost—or one degree above zero—the hardest frost by far during the present winter, and also for the last dozen years. On Monday, the ice on the Wear was, for the third time this winter, strong enough for skating; but at noon on Monday a change set in, and we had another thaw, followed by rain on Tuesday. The thaws, however, have not been of sufficient duration to admit of out-door work being resumed, consequently many people are feeling the pinch of this severe and protracted winter. Stock farmers are being put to straits also, fodder for stock running out fast. Potatoes are also becoming every day dearer, owing to the continued frost.

The members of the Yearly Fund, and the members of the Spen Excelsior Reed Band, had their annual supper on Saturday night, at the house of Mr R. D. Browell Mason's Arms. Upwards of 30 persons sat down to a splendid repast. After the cloth was removed, Mr John Parkin was moved to the chair, and after a short but well delivered address, the meeting was enlivened with songs, from the following amateurs.—Messrs G. Hewitson, W. Laing, G. Summerside, C. Summerside, W. Fellow, and R. Rodhave. A vote o thanks was then given to the chairman, amid loud applause, and also to the host and hostess, for the splendid repast prepared, when the company sang "For he is a jolly good fellow," and likewise "God save the Queen," and then dispersed.

The most wholesome and nutritious of confection is far less consumed than it would be were it not for the greatly adulterated articles sold under the name of chocolate. Every cake of chocolate bearing the name of Cadbury is guaranteed to consist solely of pure Cocoa and white sugar, and may therefore be given to children with perfect safety. Chocolate makers by special appointment to the Queen.

Epps's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured-beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets, by Grocers, labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Afternoon Chocolate Essence.

[Now First Published.]

SLAVES OF FATE.

BY J. MONK FOSTER.

Author of "For Love of a Lancashire Lass, or, Queen of the Factory,' "A Miner's Million," "A Pit Brow Lassie," "Passion's Aftermath," &c.

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PART III.—The New Generation.

CHAPTER I.—A Chance Meeting.

It was Saturday afternoon, the month was September, and the fierce rays of an autumn sun were blazing down upon the earth. In the crowded cities the pavements were warm to the touch, and the jaded people who passed hither and thither were perspiring freely although they were on the shady side of the street.

In the country lanes the dust lay white and thick, in the fields on each side them the yellow corn stood in great hillocks, and upon the wide leaves of the sycamores there lay big patches of glistening sap exhuded by the heat.

Along Hoscar Lane, the highroad which lies to the east of Cressingham village, a couple of gentlemen were walking toward each other, but as yet they could not see one another for the bend in the lane. So they walked on, neither of them thinking that an old friend was at hand, and both of them listening to the sweet strains of a band which was playing over there among the trees in Cressingham Wood.

Beside the stile which leads into the wood, and which stands at the bend in the lane, the pedestrians met; they glanced casually at each other, the light of recognition came into their eyes, exclamations of pleasure sprang to their lips, and a pair of right hands met in a long hearty grip.

"George Chester, by Jove!" the shorter and fairer skinned of the two men cried.

"Grantley, old fellow, is it indeed you?" the darker and taller man rejoined, his voice betraying as great a pleasure at the chance meeting as that of his friend.

"No doubt about it, Chester. But who would have dreamt of dropping across you in this corner of England?"

"I may say the same, Grantley, for you are the very last man I expected to meet in such an out of the world place as Cressingham village. I suppose you are staying with some friends who live hereabouts?"

"Exactly, you've plumped it the first time. I am staying with my cousin, Harry Joule—you'll remember Harry, of course?"

"Certainly. Wasn't he at Cambridge in my first year? and didn't he take his degree the same year as yourself?"

"Yes. Well, he's married now and lives at Mansell Place, over there. Mrs. Joule was a fashionable beauty you'll remember—at least you will if you knew her, and I daresay you did."

"I hadn't that pleasure, Grantley," Chester said with a smile.

"Well, anyhow he's married, and he not only won a beautiful wife, but a rich one also."

"Joule was always lucky, Grantley."

"That's a fact. Well, he asked me to come over and help him to thin his birds, and I've come for a week or so. I only arrived this morning, and feeling in a humour for a stroll I wandered down here attracted by a very tolerable air some band was playing. It's a pic-nic in the wood there, I suppose."

"Yes," Chester replied with a smile; "and you came to the conclusion that there would be a rustic Venus or Hebe somewhere near the band, and you strolled this way fully determined to storm the heart and conquer the affections of some fair factory girl, eh?"

"How perfectly you understand me, Chester," the other rejoined in the same light vein. "You are a philosopher, my boy. And now that I have told you all about myself, follow my example—although I assure you it is quite unnecessary."

"How do you make that out, Grantley? You have heard why I am here."

"Not a solitary word, on my honour."

"You think you can guess my business here then?" Chester asked a trifle more gravely than he had hitherto spoken.

"Of course. By the aid of my philosophic vision—a good phrase that, eh?—I am enabled to perceive that our cases are identical. Like myself you are patronising some friend who has birds to be shot; you came out for a walk, heard the music, and thinking—with your usual good taste—that a few turns with a sweet, an unsophisticated maiden would be rather pleasant you came this way. Confess now, Chester, that I am right."

"Your philosophic vision is at fault this time, Grantley. I am not staying with anybody for the shooting. I am living hereabouts now."

"Indeed; and are your people here too?"

"No," George replied lowly, and the change in his voice made his friend regard him with lifted eyebrows.

"Something wrong, Chester, old fellow?"

"Have you heard nothing about me and mine?"

"Not a word."

"Well, the worst has happened," George said somewhat huskily. "My father invested the whole of his fortune in a copper mine, and lost every penny of it. The loss must have driven him mad, for he shot himself, and his violent act killed my mother. Last February a telegram reached me at the University calling me home. I went at once and found my father dying, as it was thought then, and my poor mother dead. My father recovered, but he is now in a lunatic asylum hopelessly mad, so the doctors say. The bullet with which he meant to end all only destroyed his reason, and broke my mother's heart."

"Good heaven, Chester!" Grantley murmured, "what a terrible thing!"

"It was terrible! It seems strange now that the awful business did not drive me mad, too. You will understand that, as everything was lost I had to give up the University and all my other dreams of a legal career also. I am a clerk now at the iron foundry in the village there."

"A clerk!" Grantley cried. "Surely your friends could have found you something better than that, Chester."

"I had no friends—at least none to whom I cared to go for favours. It was no easy matter to get work I'll assure you. But I managed it at last, and I'm here now earning sufficient to keep me decently."

"I need not say, Chester, how deeply I feel all this. It must be an awful thing to go to Cambridge, have notions of a great career, be well-to-do, and then all at once fall so far in the social scale as to have to work for one's living as a clerk."

Marcus Grantley could not have spoken in a more commiserative tone if George had been condemned to penal servitude for life. To be reduced to poverty must have seemed awful enough to the young fellow whose annual income ran into the thousands.

They were still standing beside the stile, and George remarked in a voice of assumed gaiety:—

"You seem to have a very poor opinion, Grantley, of the dignity of labour."

"The dignity of labour be hanged, Chester!" the other cried. "That sort of talk is all bosh, and you know it. Who the deuce works if he can help it? Nobody. A lot of people work to live, but only a few fools live to work!"

"Philosophising again," cried George, recovering some of his cheerfulness.

"Well, look here, Chester," and Marcus Grantley's face grew serious as he said this, "what can I do for you, old fellow?"

"What can you do?" Chester exclaimed, banteringly.

"A good deal, if you will only let me. I've lots of money, heaps of friends, and I——"

"But, my dear Grantley, I can't take your money or humiliate myself before your friends—can I?"

"What the devil's the use of having friends, Chester, if one is not to make some use of them? What an infernal thing this pride is! Here we are, two old chums, one of us rich the other abominably poor. I've about seven or eight thousand a year, you——"

"Just seventy-eight pounds a year—exactly thirty shillings a week."

"And you manage to live on that? Well, as I was going to say before, here we are. I am rich, you are poor. Why on earth shouldn't you confer a kindness upon me by permitting me, for the first time in my life, to do something good and useful with my wealth?"

"Rather a singular way of putting the matter. Now I know, Marcus Grantley, that you are one of the best fellows alive, but for all that I am not going to become a pensioner on your bounteous nature. Not I. Besides I am not so badly off as you may imagine. You may smile, but I assure you that a man can live on thirty shillings a week—many a family lives on less than that. Further, Grantley, I believe it it is well for a man to work and live as I am doing. It makes him know himself and the world, and he is then able to appraise himself and the world at their proper value."

"Rubbish, Chester, rubbish! You only talk like this to make me believe that you are satisfied with your fall, and in order to reject my offer of assistance!"

"I mean it. Mine is an adaptable nature, Grantley, and it is already shaping itself to its present environment, as an evolutionist would put it."

"Evolution be ——!" Grantley exclaimed angrily.

"You are excitable this afternoon," George laughingly retorted. "You seem to have lost the smoothness of temper which was once your distinguishing characteristic. What can the disturbing influence be? Is it the warm weather? Or—ah, I have it now! Here I am, Grantley, boring you with the recital of my woes within hearing of a band which is playing some excellent dance music, and almost within arm's reach of numberless pretty girls all eager for partners. That's it, eh?"

Marcus Grantley only frowned and pulled peevishly at his fair moustache.

"Well, I'll bore you no longer, old fellow," Chester went on. "Come along, the picnicers are close by, and the band is beginning to play a waltz. Be quick Grantley, or all the best looking girls will be gone."

George bounded lightly over the stile and stood on the other side waiting for his friend.

"One more word, Chester," said the other as he slowly crossed the stile.

"A hundred if you like!"

"Well, do you refuse to let me do something for you?"

"Give your *something* a definite name and then I will tell you."

"Well, suppose I lend you a few thousands to be paid back whenever convenient."

"I've no need for the money, I tell you," Chester said, deeply touched by the other's great good nature.

"A clever fellow like you would soon create the need. You could start something on your own hook like those fellows who make their fortunes, you know, and you would succeed I am certain."

"Not a bad idea, Grantley. Well, I'll think about it, and if I do resolve upon anything I'll ask you to give me a draft upon your banker. There, will that satisfy you?"

"I suppose I shall have to be setisfied with it. Well, you'll have your own way, of course. But I expected, Chester, you would take a more practical view of the matter. You used to talk about being a great lawyer, didn't you? A nice one you'd have made, wouldn't you? If you had been a born lawyer you would have swallowed everything I offered you and schemed for more."

"As it is, Grantley, I'd rather have your friendship than your money."

"Well, come along and introduce me to the prettiest girl you know."

Marcus thrust his arm through Chester's and they strolled towards the wood.

"That will be a difficult matter, for I know very few people here, Grantley. I have only been here a short time."

"And who are the picnicers, Chester?"

"The scholars of one of the Sunday Schools in the village and their friends," George answered.

"I'm afraid you will be rather disappointed by the gathering, Grantley. It will hardly compare, you know, with some of the aristocratic garden parties you are in the habit of attending."

"But there are certain to be some pretty girls there, Chester—simple, unsophisticated specimens of Eve's daughters. To tell you the truth I'm rather sick of the fine ladies one meets in society. They are all veneer and affectation, and about as natural as clipt poodles."

"Rather more bitter against the fair ones than I remember you being, eh? I expect someone has not been using you well?" George said mischievously, as they strolled along the woodland path.

"Not at all, Chester. What made you think so? Here, try a cigar—it's the same weed you used to admire so much."

CHAPTER II.—Chance or Fate?

The spot selected for the picnic was a deep glade in the centre of Cressingham Wood known as Auburn's Dell. It was ringed in by giant elms, oaks, and chesnuts, and a clear stream ran noisily through the heart of the clearing.

The sides of the dell were literally covered with great clumps of fern, and a few late flowers still blossomed lower down among the green docks and luxuriant blackberry brambles. Amid the tall waving fronds curly-headed youngsters were playing, while hither and thither others were busy picking the blackberries and posies.

Under an old oak which cast a grateful shade far over the long grass, the band was playing, and the village maids and youths were tripping in pairs over the soft green sward, while their elders sate on the grass and watched the fun.

There was a refreshment tent close by where the picnicers could slake their thirst with various mild beverages common to Sunday School outings, and appease their hunger with biscuits and buns. There was a stall beside the tent upon which was displayed heaps of apples, pears, cocoanuts, &c., and the stallkeeper appeared to be doing a fine business with the children.

This was the scene that met the eyes of our two friends as they came to the edge of the dell. There they paused, and still smoking their cigars, regarded it critically for some moments.

"Rather a pretty spot," said George, as his eyes wandered appreciatively over the deep dell, the ring of big trees, the brook, green turf, and the simple people who were enjoying their half holiday so heartily and innocently.

"By Jove, it is!" Grantley rejoined. "I've seen many worse bits of scenery on the walls of the Academy. One can imagine how such a picture as this would please the historian, J. A. Froude. You know how bitterly he speaks of the debasing effects of city life on the nation's morals, and how warmly he upholds the simple honest life of our villages."

"Froude would be a greater favourite with me," Chester said, as he blew forth a white cloud, "if he would not permit his personal animosities to show so plainly in his works. The man's hatred of Gladstone is simply abominable, and he never misses an opportunity of holding up the Premier to opprobrium."

"By Jove, Chester, there's somebody here I know," Grantley cried all at once. "That's Diana Fell I'll swear, but who is that lovely little brunette with her I wonder?"

Following his friend's gaze Chester saw a couple of young ladies standing near the tent, out of which they had just come, and a thrill of pleasure and surprise ran through him as he recognised in them the fair bathers he had saved from the shark that morning in Cardigan Bay.

"Which of them is Diana Fell?" George asked almost breathlessly.

"The taller and the fairer of the two. You don't know them, then?"

"I have seen them before; that is all. Is this Diana Fell the daughter of Roger Cumberland Fell who lives at Cressingham Park?"

"Certainly," was Grantley's instant rejoinder. "The Fells were in London last year, and I met them frequently then. I had forgotten that their place is near here. See, they are going toward the other end of the dell. Come along and I'll introduce you."

They left the shadow of the trees, went down the sloping path to the bottom of the dell, crossed the brook, and as they leisurely crossed the glade Chester recounted the story of his adventure with the shark; not forgetting to state that Miss Fell and her companion were the bathers he had aided, and that the present occasion was the first time he had set eyes on them since.

Grantley expressed his amaze, delight, and approval by sundry exclamations, and quickening their steps they overtook the girls at the top end of the dell, just out of sight of the main body of the picnicers and where the brook formed a little waterfall.

Diana and Nellie Graham were settling themselves among the thick fern with a view to having a pleasant chat and read, when a cheery voice behind them cried:—

"Good afternoon, Miss Fell. I hope you have not forgotten me. My excuse for intruding upon you and your friend is the wish to introduce a very old friend of mine to you. Miss Fell—Mr. Chester."

When the eyes of Diana and Nellie met those of George Chester a glad light filled them, and they advanced toward him with extended hands. Their recollection of the adventure in the bay was as lively as his own, and they were extremely pleased to drop across him so unexpectedly.

Hastily presenting her companion to the gentlemen Diana turned to Chester, saying in her charming way:—

"Did Nellie and I frighten you so much that morning, Mr. Chester, that you ran away from Wales to avoid meeting us again?"

"Hardly that, Miss Fell," George responded, his eyes again drinking in all the girl's wondrous beauty.

"Well, it was certainly very cruel of you to hide yourself as you did, and never give Nellie and me a chance of thanking you for saving us from that awful monster."

"But I assure you both that I neither ran away nor hid myself!" Chester protested. "I remained within a couple of miles of the spot for two months afterwards. I was living then just beyond the village of Brynlhidoch at Tudor House."

"Indeed!" Nellie Graham cried, a sudden light leaping into her dark eyes. "And Diana and I always thought you were a tourist who had come to the neighbourhood for a day or two only. It is certainly very remarkable that we never met you again. It wasn't our fault, anyhow, that we did not meet you. Was it, Diana?"

"Not by any means," Miss Fell responded with a laugh, "for we annoyed everybody with our endless inquiries without avail, and at last, like the negro minstrel we saw the other night, Nellie, we had to give it up."

"We were evidently destined not to meet before to-day," George rejoined.

"And now that we are all here together," Marcus Grantley broke in, "I expect, Chester, that the ladies will mark their appreciation of our presence by closing their books for the remainder of the afternoon and bestowing their company upon us."

There was a general laugh at this sally of Grantley, and it appeared from the girl's faces that they had no objection to the proposal just made. So George suggested a stroll past the waterfall, the others murmured their acquiescence, and they all moved toward the brook.

For a time they all walked together, and thus conversation was lively enough if the topics upon which they spoke were commonplace. They talked about the beauty of the day, the picturesqueness of Auburn's Dell, the picnic and the simple picnicers, and of their own presence there.

Then they crossed the brook above the miniature cataract and retraced their way along the opposite side of the valley. Here the path was narrow and devious as it wound up and down the dell side among the blackberry bushes, ferns, and docks, and offering his arm to Nellie Graham Grantley took the lead and George and Diana followed their friends.

The second meeting of Diana Fell and George Chester was a mutual pleasure, and each of them was sufficiently frank to let the other see this. Since that bright summer's morning when the brave heart and stout arms of the one had snatched the other from imminent peril each of them had wondered much anent the other.

It had seemed so strange to them both that they had not met again, and as the months had drifted by they had begun to think they would meet no more; and now, quite unexpectedly, they were thrown together again. Was it chance or Fate that they should meet thus?

Grantley and Nellie Graham were apparently making themselves at home with each other, for their chatter was incessant, and now and again their laughter rang out clear and joyous as that of the happy youngsters who were playing amid the tall bracken.

Diana and George were much less demonstrative, although their enjoyment was even greater than that of their friends. This chance meeting meant much more to them than to the other two, and if they talked but little and of the most trivial things their brains were busy with a matter of deep import.

George was thinking that, but for the terrible disaster which at one blow had maddened his father, killed his mother, and made of himself a pauper, he might have had a chance of winning the glorious creature now walking at his side.

To see such a superb maiden was to love her, and he knew now that he had loved Diana Fell ever since he first set eyes on her face near the falls of Arthog.

And when George thought of that adventure in the bay, when for the briefest space his arms had encircled the girl's lovely form, he told himself that for the pleasure of once more clasping her to him he would willingly brave a much greater peril.

And then his bright thoughts suddenly changed to gloomy ones, as the indescribable splendour of a sunset may fade into darkest and deepest night. Now he saw things as they were—not as they might have been. He was poor and obscure, she beautiful beyond compare, and the heiress of a man of great wealth and good position.

His heart sank, and his face clouded with despair, and his soul rose in passionate revolt against the cruel fate which had thus handicapped him so unfairly.

And of what was Diana thinking? Her first impulse made her compare Sir Godfrey Sherstone with the man at her side, and the comparison was all in George Chester's favour. Women instinctively admire strong men and brave ones. That her companion was courageous Diana already had proof, and that he was strong and handsome her eyes could attest.

Was it a wonder then that she felt deeply interested in the man whose frank dark eyes had disclosed their owner's admiration of herself?

Just then Marcus Grantley's pleasant voice rang out, sending their thoughts and dreams to the winds.

"What do you two say to a dance?" he cried as he and Nellie came to a standstill. "Miss Graham has consented. Persuade Miss Fell to do so, Chester. See, the band is just getting ready to play."

George asked Diana to oblige him with a dance, she assented most readily, and picking their way across the brook they went towards the great oak neath which the the bandsmen were gathering. Under the trees the sward was mossy and level as a lawn, and one could dance there without fear of sunstroke or getting tripped up by the grass.

Presently the sweet familiar strains of a then popular waltz rose on the air, and George and Diana, Grantley and Nellie, were noiselessly, rapturously floating in great circles under the big elms and oaks and over the green carpet-like turf.

Vanished now were all George Chester's gloomy thoughts. With Diana Fell in his arms, with her soft hand clasped in his own, her azure eyes looking so joyously into his dark ones, they glided on and on, their thoughts filled with the present, and happy as only they can be who are just entering love's magic realm.

(*To be continued.*)

Hymns for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rates by Robert Jackson, Consett.

"How to Behave," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

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Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, removing dandruff, rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female, young and old Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. 875

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

"How to Debate."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of fourpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson' bookseller, 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett.

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

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

GREAT DECREASE OF DEATHS FROM CONSUMPTION.

The Government returns show a great decrease in this fatal malady since Handyside's Consumption Cure has been discovered, and anyone attending the meeting of Handyside's patients will not be surprised at the result. If Dr Koch surpasses this medicine it will be discontinued, but from appearances it will be as much wanted as ever to build up the constitution. Everyone should write for extracts from ten thousand testimonials.

Price 3s 10d per 2 bottles.

25, Tweed Street, Newcastle.

Mr G. Handyside,

I am glad to say my wife is now restored to health. She has been a sufferer from Rheumatism and Consumption for eight years. I have tried six doctors. She was ordered to the Convalescent Home, and went for three weeks, but it did her no good. Previous to taking your medicine she had been confined to child-bed for three weeks, and could not turn over in bed. The doctor attending to her confinement was very anxious about the state of her health, but could do nothing for her; but after taking your Consumption Cure for two days she was able to get out of bed and walk about, and in about eight days she felt herself well. I recommended it to my wife's sister, and it did her a great deal of good. I think it my duty to communicate to you, so that it may be widely known, as they are completely restored.

JOHN McQUINN.

[I was asked to see this lady, it was a serious case. She was labouring under nearly all diseases that flesh is heir to, and, in addition had recently been confined. I asked her husband to feel her pulse, and he was scarcely able. Her heart was nearly motionless. She had been a martyr to Sciatica, the worst form of Rheumatics, for years, and at the time I saw the lady she could not turn over in bed. She told me she had been treated for Consumption for eight years. The lady appears to be delighted at the change, and I am sure if anyone calls she will be glad for the sake of other sufferers, to relate to them the wonderful change.]

25, Tamworth Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
August 8th.

I hereby certify that I have been ill for a year-and-a-half, and have been under four doctors; but I gradually got worse and worse, and the last doctor told me he could do nothing further except order me change of air. I went to the country for three weeks, and came home worse than when I left. I took a vomiting of blood, and lost about three gills. Hearing of your medicine I got two bottles, which in six days did me a great deal of good; and in sixteen days I was quite well.

JANE SNOWDON.

No one believed consumption was curable, and in order to show it was I gave about 200 of my patients a trip from Newcastle to Hexham, so that people could see for themselves. This produced great excitement and two large trains accompanied them. All expected to see a lot of pale-faced consumptives, but were astonished to see them all blooming in health. I gave prizes for dancing and the above lady strongly competed for the second prize. The lady came home to Newcastle in a carriage that was occupied by the reporters, and she looked as blooming and healthy as anyone.

Middle Bridge, near Durham,
July 6th. 1890

Dear Sir,

We send you the following lines to inform you of a wonderful cure your medicine has done to our son. He took very ill and was given up by our doctor, as being in a deep consumption over his whole body, and there was no hope of his life being spared to us. But thanks be to God and your medicine he is getting better every day. We see it is through your medicine that God has given you the knowledge to bring forward for suffering humanity, and we will praise God for you ever before the public. We have had ten bottles of your medicine and our son is now going about and we trust in our heavenly Father that he will be right in a week or two. He has recovered to the astonishment of all around us. May God grant you long life and happiness to make use of your medicine, and we trust in our Lord for all the blessings we have received from His hand. We lost a son 9 years ago, on the 13th November, and we have another son, that received a misfortune in the pit five years ago. He is 22 years of age and they deprived him of his benefit, and we have nothing coming in to keep him. Our kind and loving neighbours have been very good to us, else we could not have got your medicine. But God is good to His own. We think one or two more of your bottles will restore him to his usual health, for the cough and spitting has gone altogether. He has a good appetite for the food such as we can get him. We know that he that giveth to the poor will be rewarded in Heaven, bless His holy name, and may God ever bless you for being the means of saving our son. So no more at present from your loving but humble servants,

WM. and MARGARET TOWART.

The Editor of the *Durham Chronicle* investigated the case, and found that he was now working. The doctor says he will fall away again as a great portion of his lungs are gone; if this is the case, the consumption cure must be more than a miracle to bring a man out of bed with his lungs far gone, and sustain him to work regularly.

23, Tweed Street, Bentinck.
December 19th, 1888.

G. Handyside.

Dear Sir,—I was unfortunate to be crushed between two waggons at Sir William Armstrong's works. I went under medical treatment for about ten months. I was reduced in weight one stone ten pounds: I was fading away. I had neither life nor spirits, and saw no hope of recovery. When I went to the water-closet the pain was dreadful, and I could get no passage without taking heavily of opening medicine, and the pain of passing anything was most severe. I was induced to try your "Blood Purifier," and the effect is most wonderful. I have taken it for six weeks; my bowels are pretty regular, the pain is nearly gone, and I have gained seven-and-a-half pounds in six weeks. I feel now cheerful and happy; the doctors said I would never be able to work any more.

JAMES McNAMARA.

December 11th, 1888.

Knowing Mr McNamara very well, and having attended him during his illness, I have great pleasure in testifying to the immense benefit that he has received from the new medicine that he has been using, and which was supplied by Mr Handyside of Bentick. It is a pity that this medicine has not obtained greater notoriety; it would be quite a boon to the public.

REV. FATHER DUNN,
St. Michael's Newcastle.

[After the testimony of the Rev. Father Dunn, I need say little; but it may arouse the curiosity of some to see how well a blood purifier could mend a great crush. It is simply the invigorating of the body by the purification of the blood. If a youth happens an accident, the vigour of his youthful blood brings him round; but if he is old, and his blood is poor he dies. Therefore, anything that will improve the blood, and thereby impart strength to the body, will assist greatly in the recovery as may be seen from the above. All delicate constitutions should take this medicine, it will invigorate the system.

146, Madeline Terrace, Newcastle,
December 10th 1888.

Mr G. Handyside.

Dear Sir,—I have been for several months suffering from serious affection of the glands of the neck, and weakness of the eyes, for which I was under medical treatment, and also in the Infirmary, but without getting much relief. I at length tried Mr Handyside's medicines, and have found them of the greatest benefit. My eyesight is quite restored, the glandular swellings are much reduced in size, and have almost entirely ceased to give out discharges. I attribute the improvement in both cases to the medicines I got from Mr Handyside.

G. FAIRBAIRN.

54, Chaucer Street, Gateshead,
December 15th, 1888.

Mr G. Handyside,

Dear Sir,—Having been ailing for some time from weakness of the chest, I was induced by a friend to try your Blood Purifier. I am glad I did, for after taking the first two bottles I felt great benefit, and would advise all those who are suffering from the same o try it.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,
R. H. WARDLE.

1, Gladstone Terrace, Gateshead,
December 13th, 1888.

I have pleasure in certifying that the case of G. Fairbairn and R. H. Wardle referred to above, are well-known to me, and I can confirm both their statements as to the benefit received from Mr Handyside's medicines.

REV ROBERT STEWART,
Presbyterian Church, Gateshead.

[The above testimonials show what a wonderful blood purifier Handyside's Blood Purifier is. After the impure blood irritated the glands of the neck, the blood purifier put it into a proper state, and took away the irritating acidity that irritated them. They fell to their natural size and the discharge ceased, for the blood became so purified that there were no humours to pass away.] By purifying the blood it cures bronchitis, asthma, indigestion, costiveness, sleeplessness, general debility, a weak heart, fits, faintings, change of life, fevers, measles, smallpox, and all things arising from poor and impure blood. Price: 2s 6d per two bottles.

Handyside's Rheumatic Cures needs no testimonials, hundreds have presented themselves in treatment before large public audiences with only one failure. Poor people unable to work for their families, and who had tried all other remedies, I will be glad to pay a portion of their railway fare to Newcastle or London, and cure them free. The rubbing bottles at 1s will cure simple cases, but long standing cases require Handyside's Blood Purifier, price 2s 6d per two bottles.

Those who prefer to take Pills should take Handyside's No. 3 Pills which contain a great amount of Handyside's Blood Purifier. They do not purge the bowels and ruin the constitution like common pills. Anyone who has taken large quantities of purging and Mercurial Pills find to their sorrow that their constitution is gone and they will be compelled to take them as long as they live. They make people better for a short time, as all Mercurial Medicines do, then make them worse than ever. The victims then take more again, they find a temporary relief until their constitution is so much reduced they have to take them so long as they live. When we look at the construction of the stomach it cannot be otherwise. There are millions of small tubes in the stomach no larger than a fine hair to convey gastric juice amongst the food. Therefore, when the stomach is irritated by purging Mercurial Pills it has a tendency to close up these small tubes and prevent the natural flow of gastric juice into the stomach, which is the chief agent of digestion. Is it then surprising that those who have been great takers of purging pills should be troubled with broken constitutions? Handyside's No. 3 Pills will not purge or irritate the stomach, they increase the digestion, invigorate the system, and make people more happy and healthy. Those who take Handyside's No. 3 Pills will soon find out which pills are worth a guinea a box. If No. 3 Pills do not gently open the bowels once in three days, one of No. 1 Pills amongst No. 3 Pills should be taken, but should be discontinued as soon as No. 3 will do their work. They will give health even to those whose health has been ruined by taking purging pills.

Old people are often costive in the bowels. Three thousand boxes will be given away to them. Those who are able to purchase them should not write for them, as they are by so doing depriving old people out of a medicine that is much needed for reviving their strength. This is a grand female pill, and the best pill for clearing away all obstructions; price 1s per box. Handyside above twelve months ago deposited £1,000, and challenged Sequah and all the doctors in the world combined, and the challenge is still open.

Beware of imitations; none are genuine that has not "Handyside, Bentinck," on the Government stamp. Many lives have been lost by unprincipled chemists recommending their own preparations for the sake of extra profit. Those who have not faith that they are getting the genuine article should write to G. Handyside, Newcastle. It will be supplied at the regular price, carriage paid, with the following guarantee sent with each lot.

GUARANTEE.

So certain am I of the marvellous effect of "Handyside's Consumption Cure," and also his "Blood Purifier," and "Rheumatic Cure," that I hereby certify that if this medicine does not do them more good than any other medicine I agree to return the money. The money, if claimed, will be paid not later than nine days after the goods are sent. Ask any chemist to give you the same guarantee, and this will put a stop to imposition.

679d GEO. HANDYSIDE.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FOOT HARRIERS.

It has been a very difficult mattter to snatch a day's hunting any time during the last five weeks, and when Mr Falconer did think that sport was just practicable some ten days ago, he found that frost had so interfered with scent, and that the ice was so dangerous to the feet of his hounds, that he was perforce obliged to "look and long" without hunting, when there was really little or no apparent reason why a "foot" pack should not be at their usual employment.

The "fresh" of last Sunday week, however, gave prospect of totally different weather, and although the roads were still icebound, there was plenty of encouragement on Monday to determine upon a trial for the following day. As there was no time to send out cards, notices to the effect that the hounds would meet at Edmondbyers on Tuesday morning were hastily sent to the Newcastle papers, and appeared in time at least to bring out a couple of sportsmen from the "canny town" by the 9·40 train in the morning. In the meantime the writer and the masters had a somewhat slippery ride over the hills to the trysting place, but as the morning was gloriously fine and the "fresh" still in strongest evidence everything seemed to portend a successful day. Arrived at the little fellside village an eagerly expectant crowd of farmers and gamekeepers were awaiting the hounds, and when Mr Lewis Priestman (the first whipper-in) had arrived, a move was made towards Hunter House Fell, Charlton the keeper thereon having been most valuable in his demands that we should go first to his ground. After leaving Edmondbyers by the Blanchland road the open heather is soon reached, and Mr Falconar had hardly waved the signal of liberation to the expectant pack, ere Driver, staunch and true, was seen to be feathering in most unmistakable manner. A pause of anxious expectation, and the old hound opens with deep resounding voice proclaiming that the early morning drag had not been entirely obliterated. For the next few minutes we were treated to a beautiful piece of hound work as the pack drew up to pussy on her form, and although it seemed for a moment as if a coop was inevitable, our quarry cleared herself with wonderful celerity, and soon placed a gap between herself and her pursuers. The deep heather brought hounds to their noses as they reached the steep ascent of the fell, and to cut a long story short, for forty minutes the little beauties were going best pace without the semblance of a check. The run was really pretty, and by the time the obsequies were completed, the field was increased by the addition of the two gentlemen from Newcastle mentioned aforesaid, and Mr Hugh Walton-Wilson. The kill took place on the west side of Roughside village, and the coverts round the hall quickly afford a second specimen of the moor edge hares. Our luck, however, was hardly so much in the ascendant this time, for pussy hung so much to the coverts that after half-an-hour Mr Falconar left her, determining to go back to the open. The Ridding Farm in the widest part of the valley soon afforded a third hare, which, coming away with great dash, ran the prettiest circle imaginable, all in view from the shoulder of the hill where we stood. The pace for this circuit was simply marvellous, and so good was the scent that it looked as if the hounds would surely burst their game up in a quarter-of-an-hour. The hare, however, was an exceptionally stout one, and when she began her second ascent of the fell, she again drew away from the clamourous pack. Right up to the sky line they went, over the highest part of the hill, and glued to the scent without check or hindrance. Hounds worked her round a larger circle, and pressed her once more to the valley. Before the Edmondbyers and Blanchland road was reached she began to run short, and eventually her death-knell was sounded near the gates of Hunter House. The hare was given to Mr Teesdale, who farms the Ridding, and the writer, who has had considerable experience in hare-hunting in this and other countries, has no hesitation in saying that the animal in question was the stoutest performer he ever saw. The duration of the run was fifty-five minutes, and when it is borne in mind that scent was first-rate throughout, and that the pace was in consequence always good, it must be admitted that the performance was quite out of the common. In conclusion, the thirteen couples of hounds were turned out in capital condition despite the long frost, and to the end of the day they maintained their fire and ardour, every individual hound doing his fair share of the day's work.

"King Cob."

Man's Noblest Work.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

Catarrh of the Bladder.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

Sporting Items.

Rabbit Coursing at Witton Gilbert. — Mr W Walton gave £2 to a sweep of 7s per lot for small dogs at rabbits. Some capital sport was witnessed by a large company. J. Carr was judge, J. Myers scorekeeper, and J. Jones, pistol firer. Result : Charlton's Queen Death, 1 ; Carnsell's St. Gatien, 2 ; Taylor's Spring, 3.

Pigeon Flying Handicap at Quebec.—The 1½ miles pigeon main from Biggen Farm to the respective dove-cots, at Quebec, which was promoted by Mr J. Cockerill, Hamsteels New Inn, was brought off on Saturday afternoon, amidst a fair number of spectators, for 5 with 3s entrance on each bird added to the sweep. There were 18 entries. Result :—J. Pigg's Swift, 1 ; Pioneer, 2 ; E. Wilson's Raggy Lad, 3. Won by one second. Mr T. Slater was stake-holder and referee.

Shooting Handicap at Chester-le-Street. — A handicap sweepstakes, promoted by Mr Harry Lamb, King's Head Inn, was brought off on Monday. There was a capital attendance, and the handicap closed with 50 entries. After a spirited competition, a division was agreed upon by Raine, Newbottle ; Forster, Newcastle ; James, Dipton ; and Patterson, each having 12 down.

Pigeon Shooting at Winlaton.—The match between John Atkinson, Queen's Head, and William Atkinson, Winlaton, was brought off on Saturday, at 11 pigeons each, for £10 a-side. Betting ruled at 7 to 4 on the last-named. Scores :—J. Atkinson—9 ; W. Atkinson—7. G. Thornton trapped for the winner, and Batey, Swalwell, for the loser. B. Lockey acted as referee.

Shooting at Newfield, near Chester-le-Street.—A match at 11 pigeons each, took place at the Jubilee Grounds, between William Smith, of West Pelton, and "Mr Greener," Pelton Fell, for £15 a-side. There was a large attendance, and a shade of odds was laid on Smith, after which the Pelton Fell man had been supported at evens. The match turned out a very hollow affair, "Mr Greener" killing only two birds. Smith grassed eight.

Consett Bicycle and Athletic Club.—A special general meeting of the members of this club was held on Monday night. Mr Wm. Eales presided. It was resolved to instruct the secretary to procure plans and specifications of the cost of a wood erection, which will be adapted to fit up as a gynasium for the club. It is intended also to ask the Consett Iron Co. for assistance in carrying out the project. Mr F. W. Brodie was appointed secretary to the proposed scheme.

Billiard Match at Consett.—Great interest was centred in a billiard match for £2 at Mr Wm. Whittaker's, Wheat Sheaf Inn, Consett, on Tuesday night, between Jos. Brown and Jas. Parker, both of Consett, each competitor starting off scratch, 200 points game. Brown maintained the lead, but at one time Parker was within 10 points of his opponent. The former eventually won by 54 points. Mr R. Dowson acted as referee. There was a very large attendance of spectators.

Shooting at Blackhall Mill.—A pigeon shooting handicap promoted by Mr Wm. Cussons, Mill Inn, was decided in a field adjacent to that hostelry. Despite the threatening stormy weather, there was a fair attendance of spectators. Scores—High Burn, 20 yards, 0 ; 2nd lot, 1 1 1 1 ; Jackall, 20, 1 1 1 1 ; S. Burrell, 19, 0 ; J. Hornsby, 19, 1 0 0 ; R. Wood, 21, 1 0 ; Care Nought, 20, 0 ; T. Covertree, 19, 1 0 ; 2nd lot, 0 ; Spen 21, 0 ; 2nd lot, 1 9 ; 3rd lot, 1 1 0 ; Derwent, 19, 1 1 0 ; J. Green, 18, 1 1 0 ; W. Cussons, 19, 1 0 ; Robt. Charlton, 20, 1 0 ; Tostig, 20, 0 ; Young Chips, 21, 0 ; Smith, 22, 1 1 1 1 ; Jackson, 20, 1 1 1 1 ; 2nd lot, 1 1 1 0 ; G. Ward, 19, 0 ; H. Bragg, 18, 1 1 1 0 ; J. Nichol, 20, 1 1 1 1 ; Broomhill, 17 1 1 1 0 ; Park Row, 21, 1 1 0 ; Queen's Head, 20 ; 1 1 0 ; H. Burn, 20, 1 1 0. Stake divided. Thomas Pigg, Hamsterley Colliery, was handicapper and referee, while John Cawthor, of the same place, was score-keeper.

Pigeon Shooting at Iveston.—A pigeon shooting handicap, which was promoted by Thos. Hunter, of Iveston, was commenced on Saturday afternoon, in a field belonging to Mr L. Stoker, and situate near the house of Mr F. Stoker, New Inn, Iveston. The handicap will be shot off on Saturday. Score :—Leadgate Park, 19, 1 1 1 ; Elm Park, 18, 1 1 1. Referee, Mr E. Thompson, Iveston ; handicapper and score-keeper, Mr Thos. Laveside, Iveston. There are plenty of good birds left on hand.

Wolsingham Harriers.—This club resumed work on Saturday, and despite the frost, had a capital run. Stoddart was hare with five minutes' start on his pursuers, but did not proceed far until he retired lame. Metcalf (captain) then took up the running, and seven miles was done within a few minutes over the hour. The route was from Fiddler's Bridge along Leazes Lane, and across the fields to Willow Green, then on to Broadwood Bridge, where the Wear was crossed, and past Landed to the Wear Bridge. The hounds were now close up, and a good finish along the Causeway, and down the front street was witnessed, Metcalf reaching the Black Bull about twenty yards in front of Miles Stankley, Rennison being next, and the remainder close.

East Stanley and Beamish Collieries Reading Room.—A billiard handicap, promoted by the members of the above, was brought to a close on Friday night. 250 game. The victors of the first, second, and third rounds then competed with the following results :—G. Bloag beat J. Coates by 7 ; J. Bulmer beat T. Windward by 40 ; J. Bulmer beat G. Bloag by 65, and won. First prize, new hat, G. Bloag ; second, silk hankerchief ; T. Windward beat J. Coates for third prize by 47, a meerchaum pipe.

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

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"About Midsummer of last year an alarming swelling set up in my nose, causing me great pain and anxiety. In a few weeks a small pimple appeared on the left side of it, which soon developed into an unsightly cancerous-looking wound. The local faculty having failed to do me any good, by the aid of a few sympathetic friends I was sent to the Bristol and Newport Hospitals, from both of which institutions, however, I returned uncured. The medical staff of both institutions, as well as the local practitioners, all differed in opinion as to the nature of my complaint. I tried several kinds of much-vaunted patent medicines, but all to no purpose. I was fast losing all hope of ever being cured ; friends and physicians had done their best, but failed to do me any good, and I resolved to impoverish my family no longer by spending money on stuff which did me not the slightest good. But a friend prevailed on me to try your world-famed Clarke's Blood Mixture, and I am happy to say that before the second bottle was exhausted I saw unmistakeable evidence of improvement in my case. When the contents of the fifth bottle was done I was perfectly cured, and my face, as well as my pen, bear testimony to the efficacy of your priceless medicine. I feel in duty bound to give you this unsolicited testimonial. You are at perfect liberty to publish this.

"Believe me to remain, yours very sincerely,
"Cary Turberville.
"To Messrs. The Lincoln Drug Company."

Sold in Bottles 2s 9d, and 11s each. By ALL CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world, or sent for 33 or 132 Stamps by THE LINCOLN and MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY Lincoln. TRADE MARK. "BLOOD MIXTURE."

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For Cleanliness, Economy, Simplicity, and Absolute Safety, use no other Lamps but those constructed with

Postlethwaite's Patent Excelsior Single or Double Wick Burners

They neither boil the oil nor bake the wicks as many other burners do, hence the number of accidents.

They keep the oil perfectly cool and are therefore absolutely safe and free from danger, they give nearly double the light from the same amount of oil, or as much light as any ordinary burner with about half the consumption of oil.

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THESE TEAS ARE DELICIOUS.		
	TRAVANCORE (Pure Indian)	2/- a pound.
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	FIRST RATE CONGOU ...	1/8 "
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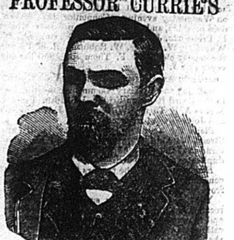
Advice to Mothers !—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth ! Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d per bottle.

Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road London.

Printing of every Description at the lowest possible prices by Robert Jackson "Guardian" Office, Consett. Estimates furnished.

Business Announcements.

PROFESSOR CURRIE'S



SOUTH AMERICAN MIXTURES and PILLS ARE THE GREATEST REMEDIES of the NINETEENTH CENTURY.

WHEN ALL OTHER MEDICINES FAIL THEY ARE SURE TO CURE.

THEY

Are made from the choicest gums, herbs, and balsams that South America can produce. These Mixtures were known to the South American Indians hundreds of years before the white man placed his foot upon their shores. These are the remedies which Professor CURRIE offers to you for the cure of disease—and when properly used, they never fail. He tells you through the Press, by his bills, and from the platform in public lecture halls throughout the country, that these testimonials are genuine.

And he stands alone to-day in this Country as being the only manufacturer of medicine who

OFFERS £100 REWARD

TO ANYONE FINDING HIS TESTIMONIALS NOT GENUINE.

Do not be fooled and deceived with accounts of sympathetic yarns, and overdrawn tall talk, but read the Testimonials of honest men living in your district, many of whom have been suffering for years, and judge for yourselves.

TESTIMONIALS.

Rev. Father Toner, D.D., Hebburn-on-Tyne, September 20th, 1890, says :—I know of no medicines which have performed such miraculous cures as your famous South American Mixtures and Pills.

A MINISTER'S TESTIMONY.

The Manse, Wallsend, May 28th.

Dear Sir, — I am able to testify that James Kennedy was suffering from long-continued Rheumatic Pains, and that through your South American Embrocation, as he informs me, he is now feeling better, and is able to attend to his ordinary duties.

Yours faithfully,
William Stuart.

Minister of the Presbyterian Church of England Wallsend-on-Tyne.

Rev Father Rafferty, Felling-on-Tyne, September 27th, 1890, says—It is astounding the wonderful amount of good done in my parish through the medium of your South American Mixtures and Pills. You are rightly termed the public benefactor.

DYSPEPSIA.

Mr Patrick Carling, Secretary Miners' Association, Blaydon, June 17th, 1890, writing, says :—Kindly allow me to add a word or two more in praise of your wonderful South American Mixtures and Pills. I have recommended them to a great number of people since last writing to you, and with the very best result. They ought to be in every house throughout the country. They are worth their weight in gold.

DYSPEPSIA.

Mr Lancelot Slowther, Royal William Hotel, Cox Green, County Durham, August 6th, 1890, says :—After being unable to follow my employment for three years, during which time I suffered most severely from Dyspepsia, Pain, and Weakness at the Stomach and Heart, Nervousness, and Sleeplessness. I tried doctors in Newcastle and Sunderland, and various other remedies, but all to no purpose ; I seemed to get worse every day. At last, my mother, who had been bedfast for about 3 years with Chronic Rheumatism, and whom your South American Embrocation cured in four months, advised me to try your Medicine. I obtained a bottle and a box of your South American Cuyuni Mixture and Pills from Chester-le-Street Store, and felt relief from it. I continued taking it for sometime, and I now feel a new man. I am well-known here, having lived all my life in this neighbourhood, and the people marvel at the change which they see in me. You can make what use you wish of my name, and I shall be glad to answer enquiries, for I firmly believe that I would have been dead long ago, had it not been for your wonderful South American Cuyuni Mixture and Pills.

SCIATICA PAINS.

Mr. William Millar, No. 9, Hedley Hill, near Tow Law, June 16th, 1890, says :—I was off work for five weeks from Sciatica Pains and could obtain no relief from any medicine until I received a bottle of your South American Embrocation. I only used it three days, when I was able to go to work. All the pains have entirely left, but I shall never be without a bottle of it in the house. It is the best remedy in the world.

LUMBAGO AND SCIATICA.

16, Low Westwood, by Ebchester,
County of Durham.

Dear Sir,—I have suffered (more or less) for 20 years from Lumbago and Sciatica Pains. Many remedies I have tried in that time, and some have remedied the pains, but my legs were always quite dead and numb. But after using one of your 4s bottles of South American Embrocation and Pills the pains and deadness were quite removed. I have praised your Pills and Embrocation to others, and I will ever praise them.—From your well-wisher,

William Twentyman.

Professor Currie.
P.S.—You can make use of my name as you like.

ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.

82, Argyle Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne,
February 23rd, 1889.

Dear Sir,—Having being a life long suffer from Asthma and Bronchitis, I can testify to the fact, that your South American Mixture and Pills is the best remedy I have ever used, and I shall never be without them. I know many others who have derived the same amount of benefit from their use.—Yours gratefully,

Wm. Harpin.

CONSULTATIONS only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays, from 9-30 a.m. till 8 p.m.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN CUYUNI MIXTURE AND PILLS

Are a specific remedy for all impurities of the blood, all manner of fluxes, all irregularities of the system, general debility, dyspepsia, sleeplessness, nervousness, pain and sourness of the stomach, liver complaint, etc., etc.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN MIXTURE AND PILLS

Are a specific remedy for all diseases of the chest and lungs, bronchitis, asthma, consumption, tightness of the chest, difficult breathing, wheezing, etc., etc.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN EMBROCATION

Is a specific remedy for all manner of pains and aches, rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, tic-doloreux, sprains, bruises, stiff and swollen joints, also for sore throats, toothache, etc., etc.

Prepared only by Prof. CURRIE, 22 and 24, Gosforth Street, Felling-on-Tyne.

Bottles, 2s and 4s. Pills, 1s and 2s per box. Ointment, 1s and 2s per box. By post three stamps extra.

Delay is dangerous. All suffering from Nervous Disorders, from whatever cause arising, should consult Prof Currie at once.

May be obtained from the Wholesale Co-operative Society, Newcastle ; also from Blaydon, Prudhoe, Tantobie, Burnopfield, West Pelton, Dirtley and Chester-le-Street, Consett, Tow Law, Westwood and Stanhope Co-operative Societies ; Mr Hall, Drug Store, Annfield Plain ; Mr G. Murray, Drug Store, Dipton ; Mr James Daly, Merchant, Consett, Blackhill, and Leadgate ; Mr Milner, Chemist, Consett ; and from all Co-operative Stores, Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the Country.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Town Hall Buildings, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday evening. Councillor Jas. Annandale presided, and there were also present: Messrs F. Priestman, J.P., J. Lax, Jos. Eltringham, W. Wheatley, W. Wilson, W. Robinson, A. E. Turner, the deputy clerk (Mr F. Thompson), and the surveyor (Mr J. Dixon).

BUILDING AND SANITARY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Building and Sanitary Committee meeting held in the Board Room on Friday, Jan. 16th. Present: Messrs A. E Turner, W. Robinson, J. Eltringham, and John Dixon (surveyor).

Plans for additions to property in Derwent Street, Blackhill, were examined, and we recommend that the same be passed and stamped when duplicates are deposited.

Blackfine drain—The tenders for this drain were considered; also the schedule of prices received from Mr W. Robson.

Your committee being small in numbers, we recommend the Board to deal with this question and the report of the surveyor, as the prices and estimate prepared by him are considerably lower than the tenders received.

JOS. ELTRINGHAM, convener.

The report was adopted.

DRAINING BLACKFINE.

After a short discussion, Mr PRIESTMAN proposed that the Surveyor be empowered to see Mr W. D. Robson, contractor, with regard to his tender for draining at Blackfine, and report to the next meeting.

This was seconded by Mr LAX, and agreed to.

THE LATE MRS SIDDELL.

A letter was read from Mr Thomas Siddell, thanking the members of the Board for their vote of condolence on the great loss that he had sustained by the death of his wife.

PLANS.

It was agreed that the plans submitted by the Consett Co operative Society, for alterations to property in Derwent Street, Blackhill, be stamped.

HIGHWAY, FINANCE, AND LIGHTING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Meeting held in the Board Room, on Monday evening, Jan. 19th.

The following accounts were examined and recommended to be passed:—

	£	s	d
Surveyor's monthly account ...	69	1	2
Consett Water Company	0	11	1
Mr Ormerod	41	7	4
Mr Pearson	41	17	6
Consett Iron Company	1	14	0
Contributions to hospital	6	8	2
Mr Ramsay (registrar)	0	9	0
Total	£161	8	3

The report was adopted.

CHEQUES.

Mr PRIESTMAN moved that cheques be signed for the several amounts recommended by the Finance Committee.

Mr WILSON seconded the proposition, which was carried.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district—cleaning channels, ashing footpaths and roads.

Materials—During the month I have received from Messrs Ord and Maddison 100 tons of limestone; also 100 tons of broken whinstone from Mr W. Pearson. This material will be laid on your roads as soon as the frost is out of the ground.

Stone-breakers—Your stonebreakers are preparing materials for the present season.

Church Bank—The Church Bank wall has been completed during the month.

New kerb, &c—The kerb and channel at Blackhill has been completed during the month.

Collecting—I have collected and paid to the treasurer during the month the following sum:—General district rate, £40.

Lamps—A number of your lamps have been out during the month on account of the pipes being frozen.

Sledging—I have been requested by several ratepayers of the district, and also by the police, to bring before this Board the sledging that goes on, in time of frost, on your main roads, asking the Board to do away with it.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN DIXON.

THE WIDENING OF CHURCH BANK.

A number of letters were read which had passed between Mr J. W. Walton-Walton and the Clerk of the Board, with regard to appropriating a piece of ground belonging to the former gentleman in connection with the widening of the Church Bank.

The matter was considered to be of a private character.

SLIDING AND SLEDGING IN THE DISTRICT.

With regard to the complaint in the Surveyor's report respecting sledging on the main roads, Mr ROBINSON considered it to be a most ridiculous matter.

Mr ELTRINGHAM thought they ought to take steps to prevent children from sliding on the footpaths.

The Surveyor remarked that their Clerk once told them they could not stop this tobogganing. They could stop the sliding.

Mr ROBINSON: I have not seen any ashes laid upon the footpaths of late.

The Surveyor: Oh, yes; I have laid ashes on the footpaths this last eight or nine days.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: It was not legal for children to slide on the footpath. The children have got an impression that they have a perfect right to indulge in this practice on the footpath.

The CHAIRMAN: There is something in the byelaws about the matter. He was of the opinion that they should have some posters printed warning the children not to indulge in this practice.

Mr ROBINSON contended that if anyone had a right to complain about the matter, it was Mr Turner and himself. They had sledging in front of their houses till two o'clock in the morning.

The CHAIRMAN said this question came up for discussion in the winter of 1887, and a motion was then passed to the effect that the Surveyor be instructed to prevent all tobogganing on thoroughfares where it became an obstruction.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: It is really necessary that this step should be taken where it became an obstruction.

The CHAIRMAN said the Surveyor had been very good both to carriage-drivers and to those who indulged in the pastime of sledging. He saw that Church Bank had been ashed on one side, and there was left a small space for tobogganing. It was one of the best exercises that children could indulge in if it could be carried out without any danger.

Mr LAX moved that the Surveyor be instructed to get bills printed and posted throughout the district, warning persons against sliding and sledging on the footpaths.

Mr WILSON seconded.

Carried.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Dixon) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month, I have inspected your district, and found it, on the whole, in a fair condition. The ashpits are well cleaned out, and the drains are in good order.

Mr Gallagher's plans have been stamped, duplicates having been supplied. The Consett Co-operative Society's plans that were before your Board at the last meeting have been withdrawn, and new plans submitted.

Your Building and Sanitary Committee have held a meeting during the month, and went into the matter regarding tenders for sewerage at Blackfine. I submitted prices to them, which are much lower than the tenders. The Committee will report on this matter.

On the 9th January, Mr Harker, stationmaster at Blackhill and Consett Station, sent me a letter asking me to call at the station. On arriving there he let me see a number of geese. I inspected them, and came to the conclusion that they were not fit for human food. I at once brought the medical officer (Dr George Renton), who examined them, and condemned them as not fit for food. The medical officer gave me a certificate to that effect. I took one of the geese to a magistrate, who gave me an order to destroy the same. This was shortly afterwards accomplished.—Yours, &c.,

JOHN DIXON.

January 21st, 1891.

The report was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN asked the Surveyor where he had buried the geese?

The Surveyor: In the old gas tank four feet down. (Laughter.) He believed they were sent away from the Shetland Isles in Christmas week, and they did not arrive at the Consett Station until the 8th January. He thought the delay would be caused by the strike. The railway men could not stand the smell when the boxes were opened. There were 25 in number.

KERBING AND CHANNELLING.

Mr LAX moved that the request of the Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company and Mr Wardhaugh respecting the continuing of the kerbing and channelling to be done on Derwent Road past the Gas Company's offices be granted, and the Clerk be instructed to inform them of this resolution.

This was seconded by Mr ROBINSON.

Carried.

THE APPROACHING CENSUS.

A communication having been read from the Registrar-General with regard to the approaching census, Mr ELTRINGHAM moved that the Clerk and Surveyor be asked to afford every facility to the local registrar (Mr Wm. Ramsay) in the matter, and that the maps belonging to the Board be placed at his disposal. Also, that the Surveyor be instructed to see that all unnumbered houses in the district were numbered at once.

This was seconded by Mr ROBINSON.

This was all the business of importance, and the Board adjourned.

SEWING MEETING TEA AT STANHOPE.

A very successful ladies' sewing meeting tea was held in High Street Chapel, Stanhope, on Saturday evening last, in aid of the High Street mission. Tea was given and prepared by Mrs Sanderson, of the New Bank, in an admirable manner, and was served by her and a few young ladies as waiters. A large company was present on the occasion, and the little chapel was packed, numbers being unable to gain admission. The financial results were very gratifying; the handsome sum of £5 10s being realised. The leader of the mission (Miss Bulmer), having ministered to the spiritual wants of the worshippers at the little church in High Street for about three years, has done it without any stipulated salary, and the series of sewing meeting teas have been arranged with a view to raise funds to carry on the mission and pay Miss Bulmer a salary, and also to cover other incidental expenses. The public have responded heartily to the call. The two teas already held have been given by outsiders, and have been patronised by all classes, having realised together about £11 16s. An excellent entertainment is held during the progress of the tea each evening, and on Saturday night, Miss Smith, of Crawleyside, presided at the piano. Songs and solos were contributed by Miss M. J. Elliott, Miss Raine, and Mr J. Elliott; recitations by Master Thompson; and instrumental music by Messrs Woodhall and W. Rippon, jun. The tea was patronised by people from Westgate, Frosterley, Rookhope, Eastgate, Willington, and other places. Towards the close a few harmless, innocent, but very enjoyable games were indulged in both by young and old, and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

LOCAL NOTES.

A SERIOUS OUTLOOK.

The latest difficulty in connection with the Consett sewerage scheme has been characterised very properly as a serious outlook. It is indeed nothing less than a serious outlook in the strict sense of the term, and one the development of which it would be well for ratepayers to watch very closely. Without at the moment giving, or having any right to give, an opinion on the strictly "legal" aspects of the case, it is at least within my province to point out that there are two views of the question at issue on the matter of responsibility. Let this fact be borne well in mind by all who are affected in the sense of having to share, or otherwise, in the extra expense of the works in consequence of the unfortunate "holing" into the old workings of the Consett Company in Brickflats Lane. The additional expense, owing to this mishap, is set down at £1,000, and is therefore of serious consequence to the ratepayers. They would do well to watch the Board meetings, and weigh the arguments of members thereat for some little time to come whenever the subject comes on for discussion.

—o—

THE PROPOSED BRIDGE AT BLACKHALL MILL.

The suggestion of Mr Nicholson, of Leadgate, whose letter appeared in the columns of the *Guardian* last week, will have occurred to many readers as a thoroughly sound and genuine one. The question of the Blackhall Mill bridge is at the moment, and very rightly so, all-absorbing, and whatever tends to excite the authorities into action is to be strongly supported. They of Blackhall Mill have been long, far too long and patient, sufferers; but at the present moment, late though it be, there are indications of impatience amongst them, and a feeling that toleration has just about got the length of its tether. This is a happy sign, and gives hope for the near future. It must be said, however, that an interest in the matter of the bridge has been worked up less by those immediately concerned than by those outside the district. And for these they should feel a proper amount of appreciation, and doubtless they do. The suggestion of Mr Nicholson should readily meet their views. Coming from such a source, it comes with very considerable weight.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

On Wednesday evening next, the choir got together by Mr Charles Stephenson will, with the assistance of an efficient orchestra and selected principals give a rendering of Handel's "Messiah" in the New Town Hall, Consett. Everybody knows how the idea of giving Handel's masterpiece originated with the enthusiastic conductor. It was in vain to try to create an interest amongst the members of the old Choral Society as a whole. Some there were who felt anxious enough, in a way, to have the Society once again placed on its old footing. But the interest was by no means general. So it was that it came about that Mr Stephenson decided upon organising what I may be forgiven for characterising in professional parlance as a "scratch" society, by which is meant a society of singers brought together from more or less distant quarters, for the rehearsal and single performance of the oratorio. The artistes engaged for Wednesday are all thoroughly well-known and require no introduction. There is nothing that seems to suit Mr T. L. Campion better than oratoria, and there is scarcely anything in which he has sung of late in which he has appeared to more advantage than the "Messiah." Mrs Bell is too well-known to need a word. The same may be said of Mr T. H. Armstrong, the merits of whose voice are fully recognised at Consett; Miss Tomlinson is a lady of whom I have heard a lot, and although I cannot speak from personal knowledge, I believe she will prove thoroughly equal to her task. The band is to be led by Mr J. H. Beers, Mr Stephenson of course conducting. I shall make a strong effort to be present on Wednesday and hope to see a big house.

—o—

Mr Brandon Ellis has been very successful during the week at the Theatre Royal, Consett, where he has produced *The First False Step, A World of Pride*, and *The Thugs of Paris*, respectively. It is not very long ago since the company under his management paid a visit to the town and with a very good reception. I notice Mr Brodie is at work on some new scenery for his bright little theatre and I hope to see some of it very shortly. In the meantime I am desired to remind you that next week *Black Diamonds*, a drama of sensational interest will be staged.

PUBLIC LIGHTING DIFFICULTIES IN INCLEMENT WEATHER.

It is not often that the public have to be advised to take precautions against possible troubles owing to the want of gaslight in the streets, seeing that, under ordinary circumstances, this illuminant is generally available. We presume, however, that the excessively severe weather we have lately had may justly be regarded as extraordinary; and therefore it was perhaps judicious on the part of the Uxbridge District Local Board to publicly notify to the townspeople that, in consequence of the severe weather, several of the lamps within their district could not be lighted, and recommending persons having occasion to be about the streets and roads after dark to carry lanterns or other means of enabling them to obtain light, and thus avoid accidents. During the recent severe weather, Maidstone suffered greatly from the freezing of the gas-pipes; and one morning, when the lamplighters went round to extinguish the lights, 258 were found already out—the pipes being thickly frozen over. At the meeting of the Gravesend Town Council last Wednesday, the Town Clerk reported that he had been in communication with the Gas Company with the respect to the large number of lamps which had been unlighted as a result of the frost. The Chairman of the Company (Mr Troughton) said that, while they did not admit anything like legal responsibility in the matter, they were prepared to deal in equitable spirit in the question of making a reduction. It was decided to engage an expert to inquire into the cause of the inconvenience, in the event of a recurrence of the trouble.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

Three Stanhope men have died during the last week—one at Sunderland, Robert Dixon, well-known among the Primitives at Stanhope; John Hall, at Newcastle, well-known in Primitive circles both at Stanhope and Nenthead. At the latter place he was also agent or overman for the London Lead Company. For many years he also worked at Stanhope lead smelting mill, where he was well-known and deservedly respected. The third was Joseph Stephenson, also a well-known character both in the Stanhope and Consett districts. For a number of years he was a plumber and tinsmith at Stanhope, after which he went to Consett, where misfortune followed him. He next removed to Middlesbrough, where on Sunday he breathed his last. He did not long survive old Mitchison, one of his workmen while at Stanhope, who a few weeks ago breathed his last in Stanhope Workhouse.

The meeting of the Weardale Iron Company's manager, Mr Hollis, and the deputation of the workmen, at Stanhope, on Monday, did not accomplish much in the way of redressing the grievances of the ironstone workers. The manager held out no hope of the steady and permanent working of the mines in the future. The fitful and spasmodical method in which the mines have been worked in the past is thoroughly unsatisfactory and disastrous to the workmen, and the sooner it is ended the better. Now that public sympathy is thoroughly aroused on their behalf, they should not rest until something is done to bring about a better state of things in the dale. The Company have a 40 years' lease of the iron ore, and if they cannot see their way to work it, let them clear out like men, and not monopolise and impoverish the whole dale by acting the part of the dog in the manger. Other companies would be glad to work it, and would bring peace and prosperity to the dale. The rich malleable properties of the Weardale ironstone are well and widely known. If it were not so, why do the Company hold so tenaciously to it, even while they say they cannot see their way to work it? Public opinion is a crucial test, and if the Weardale people will only agitate and bring the matter before the public, something will be done. Why should English workmen starve at the expense of Spanish workmen? The mineral wealth of the Weardale hills was never intended by the Great Creator to be monopolised in such a manner; it was put there to be worked. Pressure should be brought to bear both on the Commissioners and the Company, and the present wretched state of things ended at once and forever.

Two young ladies from Jarrow, who had been visiting the metropolis of Weardale, returned home the other day bearing with them some small *souvenirs* or momentoes of their visit in the shape of spar and petrified moss. They left the train at Gateshead station, and while descending a flight of stairs there, one of them wished to show her dexterity at the flying trapeze, and took a flying leap, which ended in disaster, spar, petrified moss, parcels, and portmanteaus all rolling down the stairs together, much to the merriment of her companion and the porters. It is probable next season's pantomimes will reproduce the scene, which will be sure to score a big run of success.

These exploitering young ladies had some wonderful escapades in Weardale. Wishing to catch the nine o'clock coach from Stanhope, they slept the caller, and, without their breakfasts, had to hastily throw on their clothes, and, with boots unbuttoned, run for it, as Jemmie was blowing his horn and about to leave for Upper Weardale. They managed to catch the coach, and it being too full, they could not even then finish their toilet, but had to step out at Wearhead with dishevelled hair, unbuttoned boots, half arranged dresses, and very hungry, much to the merriment of their host, who was waiting to receive them. Their escapades in Weardale were many and various, and in days to come they will narrate with gusto down the Tyne their doings in merry Weardale.

A well-known doctor, not 100 miles out of Weardale, was of a waggish turn. In his cellar he kept some capital wine. One of his men was a regular wet 'un, yet his thropple was always dry. He was, somehow, made of thirsty clay. One day two or three bottles of wine were standing on the table in the surgery. The doctor was called out, and John, while doing some household work, came across the wine, and naturally enough had a good drink. The doctor came back, and, suspecting John, in his presence called the servant. Said he, "Do you know who has touched these bottles; they contain poison, and I fear someone has been at them in my absence; if so, the case may be very serious." John turned ghastly pale, commenced to tremble, and seemed terribly agitated. The doctor turned to him, and said, "What's the matter, John; you seem ill?" "I took the poison, doctor, in your absence, thinking it was wine; whatever shall I do?" "The case is a bad one, John; I doubt you'll be a dead man in a little time, but I'll make you a drink which you must swallow at once, and make off home and get to bed as soon as you can, and I will follow." So the waggish doctor prepared John a drink of soap suds or soapy water, made him drink it, and then set him off for home. On his way he became very sick, vomited, and was ill sure enough. The neighbours came running out, and so did his wife, at seeing John so ill, and all was excitement until they saw the doctor coming. They asked John what was the matter with him, when he said he had in a mistake taken poison, and would likely die unless the doctor could save him. The doctor prescribed more soap suds, which John, in his desperation and with a wry face, swallowed, and then ordered him off to bed, telling him to keep himself warm. But what with the suds and the fear of death, John was ill indeed, and sent for "ranter" Tommy to pray with him. He vomited frequently, and prayed incessantly, and was anxious about soul matters. The doctor enjoyed the joke immensely, and told one or two of the neighbours before be left, and the thing got out. The inconvenience John felt while drinking the nasty soap suds, and vomiting, and praying, was nothing compared to the ordeal through which he went afterwards with the old wives and his neighbours. He would have braved the Balaclava Charge rather than the taunts of his tormentors afterwards, but it cured John evermore for prigging a cheap drink, especially in the doctor's surgery.

SAD DEATH OF A LOCAL MAN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

We regret to announce the death of Mr William McAslin, late of Westwood, from drowning which occurred recently in the Buffalo River, East London, South Africa. It appears that about 5-30 on Sunday morning, December 13th, the deceased, accompanied by his son, John E. McAslin, and Mr Ellwood, his son-in-law, were bathing, and neither Mr McAslin nor Mr Ellwood could swim. Mr W. McAslin had gone into deep water, and the current being very strong was drawing him towards the end of the sea wall. Mr Ellwood at once tried to render assistance; but found himself helpless directly he got beyond his depth. He was also being taken out by the current, and after some time had elapsed, Mr McAslin told his son to go to the assistance of Mr Ellwood, but young McAslin was getting exhausted and had to go to the shore for assistance. By the time assistance reached Mr McAslin, however, it was too late, and although the body was brought ashore very shortly after Mr Ellwood, and prompt measures were taken to restore animation. When Dr Paley arrived, who reached the spot very promptly, he pronounced life extinct. Great sympathy is felt for the bereaved widow and the large family, who have thus been suddenly deprived of a good husband and father. The funeral, which was largely attended, took place on Monday, the 14th ult. The inquest was held on the 16th ult., when a verdict of "Accidentally drowned" was returned.

BRAES OF DERWENT FOXHOUNDS.

Owing to the continuance of frost and snow for so many weeks past, foxhunters have been in anything but a happy frame of mind, and perhaps the following account of a good day with these hounds may interest your sporting readers. The meet was at Newlands, but in consequence of the severe frost and snow overnight there was but a meagre attendance of horsemen, and only one footman brave enough to face the weather. Foxes are reported to be very plentiful here, so with every confidence they trotted off to Newlands Old Wood, which was thoroughly tried and found blank. On they went to Lower Mere Burn, where a fox was soon found, the hounds taking him slowly over the pastures nearly to Shotley Hall Lodge, where he turned eastward and kept on the north side of the Derwent almost to Ebchester Bridge, then northward to the village of Newlands, where he was seen dodging about the cottager's gardens, out of which he was soon driven by the hounds over the fields in view of the horsemen to Murray Field Farm, where, passing through a flock of sheep, he caused a temporary check. A judicious cast forward, however, soon brought them into the high end of Mere Burn, through which they ran at a rattling pace to the Woodman's Cottage, where he was unfortunately headed back into the heathery plantation. Here he was seen several times, but owing to the roughness of the cover it was some time before he was forced out. Taking then a straight line past Camperdown Poultry Farm, and over the wide pastures nearly to Caterway Heads, the hounds running splendidly, he turned sharp up the burn past Unthank where they encountered a heavy shower of snow, but sticking gamely to their fox forced him through the plantations to the north, and so to the old ruin at Grey Mare Hill. Turning sharp to the right he soon found refuge in the well-known holes at Grey Mare Hill, out of which there is no chance of getting a fox. As the bitter blast on this high hill was becoming very severe, and everyone being quite satisfied with the good day's sport, the order for home was given, with all hounds present except one. There was plenty of jumping and good galloping throughout the whole run, which lasted 1 hour 35 minutes. The following gentlemen pluckily stuck to the hounds all through:—O. C Wallis, Bradley Hall; —. Fenwick, jun., Bywell Hall; Messrs Sec. Charlton, J. Hopper, and J. Lowden, Blaydon-on-Tyne; T. Bell and Son, Whorlton House; Mr George, Newcastle; Mr Wilkinson, Gateshead; Mr Murray, Benfieldside House; and the Master. I might add that the other day these hounds had a sharp 35 minutes' run from the Spen, and killed at Duke's Hagg. They have also had a day on foot in the snow, and in half-an-hour holed their first fox, but soon found another, which they eventually lost near Winlaton Mill.

FINDER.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

TO-MORROW'S FIXTURES (SATURDAY, JAN. 24TH).

Leadgate Exiles v Hedley Harriers, at South Moor.

Leadgate Exiles Reserve v Hedley Harriers 2nd, at Leadgate.

Leadgate Park v Sunderland Olympic, at Leadgate (Durham Cup-tie).

Consett Albion A v Consett Royal Oaks, at Consett.

Dipton Wanderers v Medomsley, at Medomsley.

Dipton Wanderers Reserve v Tantobie 2nd, at Tantobie.

Tanfield Lea v Langley Park Rovers, at Langley Park.

Tanfield Lea 2nd v Langley Park Rovers 2nd, at Langley Park.

Allendale Cottages Heroes v Burnhope, at Burnhope.

Allendale Cottages Heroes 2nd v Burnhope 2nd, at Burnhope.

Blackhill Park v Consett White Stars, at Consett.

Medomsley Juniors v Spen Heroes, at Medomsley.

Pelton Fell Harriers 2nd v North-Eastern Rangers, at Pelton Fell.

Blaydon v Shotley Bridge St. Cuthbert's, at Blaydon.

Blaydon 2nd v Rockcliff 3rd, at Whitley.

Quebec St. Michael's Juniors v Consett White Stars, at Esh Laude.

Oakey's Lilywhites v Hedley Harriers 2nd, on the Lilywhites' ground.

Mickley 2nd v Hexham Excelsior, at Hexham.

DIPTON WANDERERS V MEDOMSLEY.—These teams will play their return match to-morrow (Saturday), at Medomsley, when a good game should be witnessed. The following team will represent the Wanderers:—Goal, R. Freek; backs, J. Walker and R. Bruce; half-backs, R. Press, J. Leadbitter, and W. Bowes; forwards, W. Turner and I. Gilliard, right wing; W. Smith, centre; D. Crozier and T. Walker, left wing.

DIPTON WANDERERS RESERVE V TANTOBIE 2ND.—The above teams will meet at Tantobie to-morrow (Saturday). The following team will represent the Wanderers:—Goal, H. McDine; backs, J. Bell and W. Richardson; half-backs, W. Temple, J. Adcock, and T. Mann; forwards, J. Jardine and J. Knotts, right wing; M. Temple, centre; J. Brown and H. Maude, left wing.

CONSETT ALBION A V CONSETT ROYAL OAKS.—This match will be played at Consett to-morrow (Saturday), when the following will do duty for the Albion:—Goal, J. Carruthers; backs, W. Bell and R. Harkness; half-backs, C. Ternent, T. Skelton (capt.), and T. Dunn; forwards, J. Brady and W. Atkinson, left wing; E. Carlill, centre; T. Watson and W. Wake, right wing.

DURHAM CHALLENGE CUP.

1ST ROUND (COMPETITION PROPER).

LEADGATE PARK V SUNDERLAND OLYMPIC.—This important match will be played at Leadgate to-morrow (Saturday). Both clubs will be represented by their strongest elevens, and as the Olympic are one of the most prominent amateur teams in Sunderland, the home club will doubtless have to work hard if they intend to emerge successful from the contest. The following team will represent the Park:—Goal, G. Beadling; backs, T. Cairns and T. Hewitt; half-backs, C. Burnhope, R. Boustead, and Geo. Walton; forwards, J. Robson and C. Foreman, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; J. Hunter (capt.) and H. Wattsford, left wing. Umpire, Mr Wm. Johns. Kick-off at 2-30 prompt.

TANFIELD LEA V WEST STANLEY WEDNESDAY.—Played at Tanfield Lea on Wednesday, and ended in a victory for the home team by five goals to two.

The annual dinner of the Tanfield Association for the Prosecution of Felons was held on Wednesday night, at the Peacock Inn.

INSTITUTE. — The tenth annual meeting of Hedley Hill Colliery Literary and Social Institute was held, the manager (Mr J. J. C. Allison) vice-president, in the chair. Mr T. W. Hughes, (secretary), reported income £79 14s 4½d, and expenditure, &c., £74 6s 4d. The following officers were elected. President, Mr J. R. Crowe; vice-presidents, Messrs J. J. C. Allison, Esq., and John Hughes; secretary, Mr T. W. Hughes; treasurer, Mr J. Blackett; librarians, Messrs T. Tomlinson and R. Hayson; and a committee.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

The last meeting of the above Society held on the 12th inst., was an exceptionally good one. After the usual opening the programme began with a pleasing duet on the violin and piano by Miss F. Robinson and Mr Witty Little. Miss M. A. Benfold then made a strong appeal to the audience to join the society in a recitation, "I've got a man to sign the Pledge." The part song "The dear old Home," by Misses Smith and A. Simpson, and Messrs Grundy and Ramshaw, is a very pretty and suggestive one. The Rev. T. Bridges, of Tanfield, next kindly contributed a recitation "The beggar and his dog," in which his extraordinary elocutionary powers were heard to advantage. An *encore* was of course vigorously called for, when Mr Bridges gave with telling effect, "The showman."

SHOTLEY BRIDGE CRICKET CLUB.

On Wednesday evening, a social gathering of the members and friends was held in the Assembly Rooms. Upwards of 100 partook of a knife-and-fork supper, provided by Mr W. Urwin. Amongst those present were Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, vicar of Benfieldside; Messrs J. Lax, Shotley Bridge; J. Eltringham and Wm. Robinson, Blackhill; M. Richley, Benfieldside; J. Collinson, Shotley Grove School; J. Dixon, Benfieldside; Alex. Barrass, Blackhill; R. Hall and J. Osborne, Shotley Bridge; J. W. Forster (secretary); J. Jewers, Shotley Bridge, &c.

After the cloths had been removed, Mr Joshua Lax occupied the chair (in the absence of the president, Mr John Booth, through indisposition), and Mr J. Eltringham took the vice-chair.

The CHAIRMAN submitted the toast of "The Queen," which was enthusiastically drunk.

The CHAIRMAN also gave "The Prince and Princess of Wales," and the company did honour to the same.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN then asked those assembled to drink "The health of the bishop and clergy of the diocese, and ministers of all other denominations." This was a very important toast, and they would agree with him when he said that the diocese of Durham had for a long time been blessed with excellent bishops. Their late bishop was a good man—(hear)—and he did his best for all who were under him. The present bishop would do his best to fulfil the position he now occupied. The clergy were a useful body of men. They had a gentleman amongst them that evening who not only gained the respect of his parishioners, but of all who lived in the district. (Applause.) He did not deem it necessary to say anything about the ministers, because they always tried to do their work well. (Applause.)

Rev G. H. ROSS-LEWIN returned thanks. He was glad to be present amongst them. There was not a more manly sport than cricket. It was quite necessary for a man to have a sound body in order that he might have a sound mind. Cricket was one of the main things that checked immorality and kept young men out of evil. Their Church was well-known for extending all kinds of sport. He thought it was very creditable to Shotley Bridge to have such a good gathering of young men. It was also pleasing to observe that the present gathering was not held in a public-house. It was far better for them to meet under such auspices as the present. The rev. gentleman gave some good advice to the members of the club, and wished the organisation every prosperity. (Applause.)

Mr McIvor (Shotley Grove) now favoured with a song.

Mr ROBINSON proposed "The Army, Navy, and Volunteers." He believed that the army constituted some of the greatest and noblest men that ever lived. (Hear.) They had a navy that was second to none in the world. The volunteers were ready to protect their country when called upon.

The toast having been heartily drunk, the CHAIRMAN stated that the army and navy had been well tested and tried. The volunteers were made of the same material as they were at the battle of Waterloo. They were British men, and they had not fallen any with regard to the courage and fire of their ancestors. (Applause.)

The VICE-CHAIRMAN afterwards gave "The Shotley Bridge Cricket Club." He said the club had been a success in more ways than one. The members had been very successful with their funds in the past, in keeping themselves together, and increasing their numbers. They had every encouragement, and he hoped they would adhere to the advice given them by their worthy vicar. If they carried out what they had been told, he had no doubt but what they would make for themselves a name worthy of the district during the ensuing season. Outside sport was one thing that made Englishmen what they were at the present. Cricket stirred up courage which could not be forgotten. He wished the club every success. (Applause.)

The toast was duly honoured.

Mr MIDDLETON (captain) responded, and said the club had every reason to congratulate itself upon their doings in the field during last season. They were on the best of terms with all their opponents. The first team had played 13 matches; won 4, lost 6, and drawn 3. The highest scorer for the season was Mr T. Bell, whose average was 13·8. The best bowling average was secured by Mr W. Wilson, which was 1·2. The second team had played 13 matches; won 6, and lost 7. The highest scorer was Mr E. Bell, who had an average of 17·7, while Mr J. Seed had the best bowling average of 2·5. The most important club they had played during the season was West Stanley. Through the performance of Mr Wilson in securing eight wickets for 13 runs, they had the good fortune to send this club home defeated. Several of the members of the club had improved very much in their play, and he hoped they would continue to go on. The committee had been thinking of joining the County Association in order to encourage their players. (Applause.)

Mr W. WILSON made the presentation of his cricket bat to the best batsman throughout the season. The recipient of the gift was Mr Thomas Bell.

The CHAIRMAN presented the bat which he had promised to the best bowler, and Mr WILSON acknowledged the gift.

On behalf of the club, Mr MIDDLETON presented a bat to Mr E. Bell for his batting average; while Mr L. URWIN made a similar present to Mr J. Seed.

The remainder of the toasts included "The trade of the district," "The visitors," "The health of the chairman and vice-chairman," and "The Press." Songs were given by Messrs J. Dixon, Ridley Heymer, J. Middleton, and other gentlemen.

Several gentlemen present promised to give bats, &c., for the highest batting and bowling averages during the ensuing season.

The jovial proceedings terminated with "Auld Lang Syne."

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY. — The 82nd quarterly meeting of this society at Annfield Plain, has just been held in the Co-operative Hall. The chair was occupied by Mr P. Reay, in the absence of Mr J. W. Taylor, (president). The report and balance sheet showed that during the quarter 239 members had been enrolled, and 120 withdrawn and struck off, leaving an increase of 129. The number of members on the books was 3,505. The amount of dividend on member's purchases was declared at 4s in the £, and on butchering purchases, at 3s 4d. in the £:—Mr J. W. Taylor was re-elected president; Mr Wm. Clish re-elected treasurer Mr Geo. Sterling, re-elected auditor. The following committee-men were chosen, Messrs John son and Egglestone for Langley Park branch; Mr D. Mole for Dipton branch; Messrs J. Clark and W. Thompson for Medomsley branch. — It was resolved that better accommodation be promoted for the members at Medomsley, by the erection of a manager's house, grocery and drapery shops, and convert the existing buildings into a butcher's shop.—A notice of motion by Mr Jas. Cooper.—"Seeing that it has been several times passed in our quarterly meetings to purchase land, when it was to be had, for the purpose of building cottages for our *employes*, the committee have power to go forward"—was not entertained. — Other business affecting the internal management of the Stores was dealt with.

"THE MESSIAH" IN CONSETT NEW TOWN HALL.

We are anxiously looking forward to Wednesday evening next for the performance of, we may say, Handel's greatest oratorio, "The Messiah." From what we can glean, there is an immense treat in store for the public in this district, for we suppose the rehearsals are exceedingly satisfactory. The singers seem to delight in their respective parts, and to revel in gloriously worked *fugue*. We can hardly determine which is the grandest chorus, for there are several that seem to claim this high mark. For instance, "Worthy is the Lamb," "All we, like sheep," "He trusted in God," "For unto us," "Hallelujah," &c., are all magnificent choruses, and although we need not here mention the other choruses, they are all the same—wonderful pieces of composition, and very thrilling to hear.

We can get a good idea now as to what the chorus will be, when left to the efforts of such a good choir as Mr Charles Stephenson has managed to get together—the very best in the district we should think. A large contingent appear to come regularly from Annfield Plain and Catchgate, and many from Cronlwell, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Consett, &c.

Then as to the soloists, we are assured that their parts will be well and faithfully rendered. Miss Henrietta Tomlinson, of Leeds, we remember, for Mr Stephenson has had her engaged on other great occasions a few years ago. Besides, we have heard her to great satisfaction in the Newcastle Town Hall—when under an engagement to the Wesleyan Service of Song. She has a fine voice, and is a most correct singer. Madame Marie Bellas has won high honours in the musical art, and is a most capable artiste. We long to hear her in oratorio. Mr Armstrong is a well-known gentleman in the North of England, and has a remarkably fine and clear voice. Then as to Mr Campion, there is no fear again as to the heavy bass solos being left to him. He is from the Durham Cathedral, and this fact is a great diploma for him. He has been here before in "The Bohemian Girl" and "Maritana." We especially wish to hear him in the solos—"Why do the nations?" and "The trumpet shall sound," with trumpet obligato by the famous Mr S. Monkhouse.

One of the principal airs for soprano is, "I know that my Redeemer liveth"; for contralto, "He was dispised" and "But Thou didst not leave"; and for tenor voice, recit., "Comfort ye," and airs, "Ev'ry valley" and "Thou shalt break them."

The instrumentalists are not a whit behind either soloists or choir as to ability, for when we mention that Mr J. H. Beers will lead, and that R. Smith, Monkhouse, Magall, Sneath, Bell, &c., are to be present, we are thoroughly assured as to what the orchestra will be like. If, as we are told, that there are to be five first violins, four second violins, two violos, two cellos, two clarionets, two contra basses, two flutes, two bassoons, oboe, cornets, and side drums, we are sanguine that Wednesday's concert will prove one of the greatest musical performances that we have ever had here. The next matter we might urge is that as Mr Stephenson must have gone to an enormous expense to secure all this talent, we trust all those of our residents who make the slightest claim for an appreciation of music, will not fail to show their readiness to support him in his efforts, for we believe Mr Stephenson's great aim is to bring into use all the best vocal talent we have in the district, and to produce by a grand effort a performance of a great work like "The Messiah," which, of course, is utterly impossible for a limited or ordinary choir to do.

We might say that we have seen a plan of the hall, and we note that a great number of reserved seats are already gone, and this nearly a week before the concert. Let all those who have not already secured seats do so at once. The prices have been lowered, we believe, so that no one can have the slightest possible excuse.

BALL.—The members of the Lanchester Private Assembly held their annual ball in the Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester, on Tuesday evening. There was a good muster of ladies and gentlemen and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Much praise is due to Mrs Wall for the admirable manner in which she catered for the company. The proceedings were kept up to an early hour in the morning.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CONSETT—Palmerston Street, 17th inst., the wife of E. Whittaker, of a son.

LEADGATE—289, Watling Street, 16th inst., the wife of Wm. Hall, of a son.

CATCHGATE—19th inst., the wife of J. F. Elliott, of a son.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD—15th inst., the wife of Geo. J. Franks, jun., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GREENSIDE—Parish Church, 15th inst., Thomas, eldest son of John Wheatley, Greenside, to Elizabeth, second daughter of the late David Moffitt, North Seaton.

NEWCASTLE—St. John's Church, 13th inst., John McLean to Jane Ann, second daughter of Samuel Stewart, secretary West Pelton Co-operative Store.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—50, Sherburn Terrace, 17th inst., aged 75, Ruth, relict of the late John Whitfield.
Front Street, 17th inst., aged 11 years, Mary Adeline (Ada), daughter of James and Margaret Kay.

LEADGATE—11, West Street, 21st inst., aged 42, Sarah, wife of William Spedding, and eldest daughter of Samuel Burrell, Broomhill Farm. To be interred on Saturday, 24th inst. Friends, please accept this intimation. 844d

IVESTON—21st inst., aged 72, Mary Jackson. To be interred on Sunday, 25th inst., at St. Ives Churchyard. Lift at 2·30. Friends, please accept this intimation. 834d

DIPTON—21st inst., aged 20, Hannah, wife of John Ledger.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES—19th inst., aged 38, Jonathan Urwin.

ANNFIELD PLAIN—Tyne House, 18th inst., infant son of Thomas and the late Jane Latham.

HAMSTEELS—Colliery Inn, aged 51, Jane, wife of Richard Wall.

ESH NEW WINNING—11th inst., aged 44, Thomas Morton.

WATERHOUSES—14th inst., Jonathan, infant son of Thomas Thomason.

CHESTER-LE-STREET—Albert Terrace, 11th inst., aged 19, Jane, daughter of the late Robert Moffit.
Dun Cow Inn, 18th inst., aged 10 years, Thomas, son of Thomas Pearson.

SWALWELL—16th inst., Edward Archbold, youngest son of James Douglas.
Railway Cottages, 15th inst., aged 2 years and 2 months, Thomas, Leonard, youngest child of Thomas Smith.
19th inst., aged 23, Isabella, eldest daughter of William Smiles.

WINLATON—14th inst., aged 78, Ann Hurst.
Old Well House, 19th inst., aged 58, Rebecca, wife of James Douglas.
20th inst., aged 80, Robert Walker.

BIRTLEY—19th inst., in her 86th year, Ann, widow of the late John Urwin.

WINLATON MILL—16th inst., in his 68th year, Laidler Shield.

STARGATE—21st inst., aged 61, Mary Ann, wife of Thomas Dunn.

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Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON at the Atmospheric Printing Works 59 Front Street Consett—Friday, Jan. 23rd, 1891