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The Consett Guardian

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AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

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RECENT TESTIMONY
IN FAVOUR OF
LAMONT'S MAGNETIC BELTS.

RECENT LOCAL TESTIMONIAL.

Blackhill, near Consett, December 27th, 1886.

Mr. LAMONT.—Dear Sir,—Two years ago, or thereabouts, I got one of your Magnetic Invigorators for my wife; who was for a long time a constant sufferer with bad stomach and pain in the back. She has got valuable good from the Invigorator, as the stomach now bothers her little, and the pain in the back is completely gone. Its effect has been really astonishing, and she would not want it for the world. She recommends the Invigorator most heartily to all sufferers.—Yours, &c., THOMAS WILLIAMS.

BEST REMEDY FOR A BAD BACK.
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CONSETT AGENT:—
MR. MILNER, CHEMIST. 302x

THE WEEK.

THE war scare in the *Daily News* is the more startling because of the source from which it comes. If the *Pall Mall* had told us that the German Ambassador had left Paris, we might have received the announcement with a little more interest than the revelation of the "coming doom," or of the end of the world. But it is probable that we should have dined as comfortably and slept as soundly as usual for the intelligence. However, when the sober, not too enterprising, organ of middle-class Liberalism invites us to consider the prospect of an immediate out break of hostilities between the authors of the Franco-German war, we are, perhaps, a trifle shaken out of our insular stolidity. But, after all, we have only the word of the *Daily News*, and the facts are happily all the other way. France may be anxious for her *revanche*, but it is notorious that she is not anxious to claim it now. Germany has made up her mind to keep the provinces, but she knows that France is a much stronger Power than in 1870, and she is certainly not about to try and break through the solid wall of fortresses which line the French frontier unless she has made up her mind that General Boulanger is meditating an immediate blow. This is an incredible supposition, and we altogether decline to entertain it. Why, then, the *Daily News* scare? There are several possible theories. It may have its origin in Prince Bismarck's anxiety to pass his Army Bill intact through the new Reichstag and to finally crush his Parliamentary foes. It may come from Russia, which, for some reason or another, has taken alarm at the state of affairs in Western Europe. Or, finally, it may simply be the reflection of the opinion of the military set who imagine that war is inevitable whenever a new shell or a new rifle comes from the French or German factories. It is likely enough that we are approaching another Franco-German conflict. But an immediate war is only conceivable on the theory that a guilty spirit of reckless adventure, or of still more unworthy fear, has taken complete hold of the leading statesman of Europe.

MR. STANLEY has started on his expedition to rescue Dr. Emin Bey, and the good wishes of Englishmen and Americans, and, indeed, of the civilised world, go with him. There is not much doubt that he will choose the western or Congo route. The river is obviously the best means of passage for a convoy consisting largely of women and children. Mr. Stanley, moreover, knows the route well, and most of the chiefs who are likely to oppose his passage, and his name is more powerful on the Congo than probably in any other part of Africa. The journey up the Congo or its tributaries is longer, and probably not less fatiguing, than the Zanzibar route, but it has the advantage that it will be through explored country, and that there is not the moral certainty of resistance from a powerful native king like Mwanga. Mr. Stanley in taking the Congo route, will have to rely both on his firmness as a military leader and his knowledge and caution as an African diplomatist, but these are calculations which enter into all expeditions of the kind, and which Mr. Stanley may be relied upon to make in safety. Other wide discretions, beside the choice of route, are left in his hands. He has to decide whether he will take Emin Bey and all his force back with him, or whether he will leave the governor of the Equatorial province, or a lieutenant, in possession of the ground which he and Gordon won so hardly from barbarism and the slave trade. All this will be a matter for consultation with Emin Bey himself. Meanwhile, Mr. Stanley carries the fortunes of his expedition in his hands. He shares responsibility with no one. He is the autocrat, and rightly the autocrat, of the venture. He has unrivalled experience of the more dangerous forms of African exploration to which the present attempt belongs. His unbending will, his command over the native temper, his military talents, his iron frame, make him an ideal leader of such enterprises as the Emin Bey Relief Expedition.

MR. GILBERT and Sir Arthur Sullivan can scarcely be congratulated on the title they have given to their new opera. It has cost them much thought and anxiety, and more trouble has probably been taken over the title than over a considerable portion of the libretto. But surely something better might have been found than "Ruddygore, or the Witch's Curse." Of course the design of the author is to burlesque the old-fashioned melodrama; but this is not a very original idea, though Mr. Gilbert treats the theme with a peculiar humour that has a flavour of its own. But why "Ruddygore"? What is the felicity of a name like that? Did Mr. Gilbert wish to call the opera "Bloodygore," and was he restrained by some conventional dread that the polished patrons of the Savoy Theatre would be shocked by such a title? As a compromise "Ruddygore" has all the weakness of tautology, without the freedom of the name of which it seems to be a decorous modification. We should have thought that Mr. Gilbert ran greater risk of offending the proprieties by calling his work "a supernatural opera." No writer of burlesque in which the supernatural plays a part has hitherto ventured to claim this spiritual quality in the play-bill. There are a great many people who are sensitive to the use of anything suggestive of the religious element on the stage. They are more or less shocked by Margaret's prayers, and by the appearance of Mephistopheles in the cathedral. They cannot rid themselves of the idea that religion ought to be reverently set apart from all purely human affairs, and that to use it in a dramatic representation borders on mockery; though why it should be excluded from the stage and introduced into novels is a problem they have not yet taken in hand. The miracle plays were invented by men whose religion was the strongest force in their natures, and yet the representation of the Passion as a histrionic performance would not be tolerated by the English public. But the sentiment is part of the system which would limit the stage to the mere function of amusement, and which regards the use of drama for the discussion of the serious problems of life as something like a profanation. There is a quality in the English mind which makes it regard all stage representations as mummery, and excites its resentment against the association of mummery with solemn subjects. The conscientious churchgoer at the play finds himself reflecting, "Why should I be interested in this performance? That man is acting cleverly enough, but it is only acting, and when he leaves the stage on which he has been depicting this struggle between good and evil, he will go out to supper with worldly-minded companions and crack jokes till two in the morning." Whether this churchgoer will have misgivings when he sees "Ruddygore" we do not know, but "a supernatural opera" will probably suggest to him a tampering with sacred things.

IT is high time that some decision was come to in the matter of the Imperial Institute. At this moment everything is going wrong. Professor Huxley has sounded a timely note of alarm, but nobody knows whether it has taken effect. At present the Prince of Wales and his advisers, without apparently having come to any positive decision, are leaning to a scheme which has obvious advantages for certain individuals and interests, and as obvious disadvantages from the point of view of those who desire to see the Imperial Institute on a sound and sensible basis. It is idle nonsense to talk as if the question involved in the establishment of the Institute were one of Imperial Federation. That may come in time; but we submit that an institution which begins with so extremely lofty an air is likely to miss much more practical and attainable objects. Imperial Federation to be brought about by a South Kensington bazaar and tea-garden! Could any folly of political sentimentalism be more egregious? Unless the promoters of the Institute can make up their minds to go for some more definite end than this, they had better confine their efforts to platitudinarian speeches at the Guildhall and elsewhere. We do not in the least degree mean to imply that we have no uses for an Imperial Institute. Professor Huxley has laid down the true service it can render to this country and to the colonies in terms as eloquent as they are precise, and which might well be printed in letters of gold over the portico of the new Institute. "I pictured the Imperial Institute to myself as a house of call for all those who are concerned in the advancement of industry; as a place in which the home-keeping industrial could find out all he wants to know about colonial industry and the colonist about home industry; as a sort of neutral ground in which the capitalist and the artisan would be equally welcome; as a centre of intercommunication in which they might enter into friendly discussion of the problems at issue between them, and, perchance, arrive at a friendly solution of them. I imagined it a place in which the fullest stores of industrial knowledge would be made accessible to the public; in which the higher questions of commerce and industry would be systematically studied and elucidated; and where, as in an industrial University, the whole technical education of the country might find its centre and crown." Now, this is obviously the right note. The aim of the Institute should be industrial, its place should be in the City—the centre of industry — its work should be educational, it should become a great centre of the technical instruction in which we, as compared with our rivals on the Continent and in America, are so deplorably deficient. It should, in a word, be a kind of Imperial Exchange, in the broadest sense, linked by mutually useful ties to the commercial administration of this country and of the colonies. The folly of those who hark back to the late Exhibition as a model consists in imagining that a show simply designed to awaken the interests which should find substantial embodiment elsewhere, offers a proper model for a permanent institution. If the flabby sentimentalists get the upper hand, it is safe to say that the scheme for an Institute is ruined. If the men of moderate ideas, but with practical minds, have their way, the result may be adequate without being showy, and gratifying to sensible men without tickling the eyes and ears of the groundlings.

THE unemployed question is not understood by the public. There has not yet been in England lack of work for strong men able to do a good day's work at employment of a kind which exists in many trades. It has happened through changes in certain industries and through over-production in others, that men who could work well, but only work at a particular class of job, have been thrown out of work without any fault of their own. But there has never ceased to be for labourers of good character and of powerful arm more work than such labourers could be found to do. On the other hand, there are always swarms of unemployed, but these unemployed are generally men who are not fit to compete with others in the contest for work of a severely fatiguing kind. Taking the country through there cannot be said to be an increase in pauperism. Taking London through there is no increase in pauperism, and there are certain other tests which seem to shew that the East End distress is not exceptional. The East End unions are those of Whitechapel, St. George's-in-the-East, Stepney, Mile End Old Town, Poplar, Shoreditch, and Bethnal Green, the East End parts of which are stationary or decreasing in population. Whitechapel, St. George's-in-the-East and Shoreditch, are decreasing steadily, and the large increase in Poplar is an increase in its suburban districts. Now within the circumscribed district known as the East End, if we take the death-rate, duration of life, deposits in banks, statistics of crime, or statistics of pauperism, we shall find that the death-rate has diminished, the duration of life has increased, the deposits in savings-banks has greatly risen, crime has decreased, and pauperism has decreased. It is very difficult indeed, in face of these facts, which certainly cannot be upset, to believe that they are right who say that there has been a great increase of distress. Outdoor relief has virtually been put down in the East End of London, and pauperism through the East End is only a little over two per cent., and far under the average of the whole country. The reports from Mr. Vallance, of Shoreditch, and from the excellent workhouse officials of Mile End Old Town, go to shew that not only can pauperism be kept very low in the East End, but that the pauper children can be got out into the world without fail in cases where proper steps are taken to train them in almost any class of simple work. Mile End Old Town get out their boys as bootmakers, and even contrive to get out without fail the untrained boys as hairdressers. Some of the unions send their boys to sea, but there is practically no difficulty found in placing them out in the world. A few facts like these are worth tons of theory, and we greatly fear that the philanthropists of whom we spoke the other day are in too many cases only playing into the hands of agitators by their exaggerated statements of evils which have always existed, but of which they have themselves only recently become aware.

UNEARTHING AN ANCIENT COFFIN.

While some workmen were excavating in a field for the foundations for some new houses proposed to be built in King's-highway, Plumstead, they came upon a leaden coffin which, on being opened, was found to contain a skeleton. Dr. Maxwell, the divisional surgeon, was called by the police, and, on examining the skeleton, expressed an opinion that it was that of a young woman. All the bones were intact and in their proper place, the whole of the teeth being perfect. The place where the coffin was discovered was within 30 yards of the main road leading from Plumstead to Bexley-heath. It was found at a depth of 2ft. 8in. from the surface of the earth. It had not contained an inner wooden shell, and there was no signs of handles or any inscription. It is believed to date back to the Roman period; but, under any circumstances, it is of very ancient construction. Leaden coffins were very expensive in ancient times, and it is surmised that the skeleton is that of some person of wealth or distinction.

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.)

EARLY CLOSING MOVEMENT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Let me say through the medium of your valuable paper how very much I, as one of the tradesmen in this district, appreciate the remarks of "Incedo," in last week's issue, on the question of closing earlier, especially on the Saturday nights, and I trust practical results will accrue from his suggestions. Truly "the sin lies at the door of the shopkeeper," for as soon as the public know the hour fixed for closing *all round*, customers would make their purchases accordingly. I am afraid, sir, the tradesmen generally would not all at once comply with "Incedo's" suggestion to close at six or seven o'clock on the Saturday nights (though, as one, I am willing if all will do it), but until we are all educated to the great benefits all round that would accrue from closing at the time suggested, may I kindly appeal to my fellow tradesmen to close at nine o'clock (as the Stores do) on the Saturday nights, every Wednesday afternoon, and seven every other night. Waiting a general acceptance of these suggestions.—I am, dear sir, yours truly,

J. PALLISER.

Foundry Row, Blackhill.

Trade Notes.

Resumption of ore washing operations took place on Friday, in Weardale, and will be carried on night and day to make up for the long suspension through the weather.

CONSETT IRON COMPANY (LIMITED). — The directors of the Consett Iron Company (Limited), have resolved to pay an interim dividend of 5s per share on the old shares and of 9½d per share on the new shares. on the 15th day of February next, to the members registered in the company's books on the 5th day of February, 1887. An interim dividend of 4s per share will in like manner be paid to the members of the Consett Spanish Ore Company, Limited.

DURHAM COAL TRADE.

MINERS RESOLVE TO THROW PITS IDLE.

A mass meeting of the workmen of the Wardley, Usworth, and Felling Collieries was held on Sunday on Boldon Fell. There was a large attendance. The position of the workmen at the three collieries was explained at length by the representatives. A resolution was unanimously carried to appoint a deputation to meet Mr Palmer with a view of discussing the matters complained of at the various collieries, and failing a satisfactory explanation, the pits to stand at once. The deputation and Mr Palmer did not meet on Monday.

At a full meeting of the men employed at Usworth Colliery on Monday night, a resolution was made and put to the meeting, and carried unanimously — "That the pits stand until Mr Palmer, head manager, receives a deputation from the Federation Board comprising the three collieries named." The pits were all idle on Tuesday in consequence.

Meetings of miners were held on Tuesday night at Wardley, Usworth, and Felling collieries to hear the report of the deputation from the Federation Board, which met Mr Palmer and Mr W. Crawford, M.P., at Newcastle, on Tuesday. A satisfactory settlement was come to, and the collieries were therefore in full swing on Wednesday.

LOCAL VOLUNTEER INTELLIGENCE.

PRESENTATION OF PRIZES AT WINLATON.

The Drill Hall of the I and K Companies of the 5th Durham Volunteers, Winlaton, was crowded to overflowing on Friday night by the friends of the members, the occasion being the annual distribution of prizes by Col. Cowen. The various articles, although of a most miscellaneous character, were arranged on a raised dais in the centre of the platform, and presented a very interesting sight, numbering upwards of 50 in all, and showing that the inhabitants of this antiquated portion of Durham had a warm heart for their detachment of our citizen army, and were determined to foster as much as possible the shooting capabilities of its members. The hall had been tastefully decorated for the occasion by flags and bayonet stars on the walls, and presented a most pleasing appearance. Amongst those assembled were Col. Cowen (who presided over the proceedings), Capts. Ivison, Shotton, Ogilvie, Lisle, Campbell, Lieuts. T. Bagnall, J. Bagnall, Bennet, Dr. Robbins, Mr J. W. Grey, Sherburn Towers; Mrs Cowen, Mrs Ivison, Mrs Campbell, Mrs Bagnall, Miss Grey, &c. Col. Cowen having handed the prizes to their winners, and spoken a few words of kindness and encouragement to each, Capt. Ivison moved a vote of thanks to the donors of the prizes, and to Colonel Cowen for his presence that evening, which was cordially endorsed by Capt. Shotton and the company present.—Col. Cowen, in replying, referred to the fact that he had been enabled to distribute the whole of the prizes to the members of the various detachments of the regiment. The 5th Durham, in company with other regiments, possessed a fair share of marksmen, but he would like to see more of them, and he hoped the members would devote a little more of their time on the range, and thus become good shots. A great drawback to this, however, was the want of suitable ranges, and he hoped before long power would be given the various regiments of acquiring land for this purpose, the same as was granted to railway companies. They had been told that it was in contemplation to increase the capitation grant for all efficient volunteers, and he hoped the time was not far distant when it would be an accomplished fact, as they could do very well with an increase. Refreshments were served in the orderly room, and subsequently a most successful ball was held, the music being supplied by the band of the corps.

THE RAILWAY FATALITY AT LANCHESTER.

At noon on Friday last Mr J. Graham, coroner, held an inquest at the Board Room of the Lanchester Union relative to the death of George William Wheatley (66), who met with his death on the railway, on the north-west side of Lanchester Station, as reported in last week's issue.—The evidence of Wm. Taylor, signalman, was that he saw the figure of a man on the line near the signal-post, about 7·30 on the morning of the 19th inst. He rapidly moved the signal lever to attract the person's attention, as the passenger train from Consett was just about due. The train at that moment came up and the deceased was knocked down and run over.—Wm. Brown, platelayer, deposed to being on the platform at Lanchester Station when the Consett train arrived. The driver told witness he'd run over a man. Accordingly he accompanied the driver back a distance of 250 yards from the station, and found a body lying on the footway. The skull was crushed in; a leg and an arm were almost severed from the body, and the deceased was badly injured in other places. The man breathed for a few minutes after the accident; and as soon as life was extinct he was conveyed to the mortuary.—The jury returned a verdict that Wheatly was accidentally killed whilst trespassing on the railway.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, a kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

WESLEYAN METHODISM AND THE UNIVERSITIES. —A movement is now on foot amongst the Wesleyans with a view to founding a connexional college in connection with one of the national universities. It is believed that it would be an immense advantage to the Wesleyan Church if many of its best men could have a university course before they take their theological course; and, on the other hand, that a presentation by a Methodist theological college at the University of Cambridge or Oxford would be of advantage to the Methodist graduates.

"HOW TO BEHAVE," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, Bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

CANON BODY AT CONSETT.

On Sunday, the Rev. George Body, D.D., Canon Missioner of the Diocese of Durham, paid his first visit to Consett, and preached two eloquent and impressive sermons in Christ Church, in aid of the Renovation Fund. The chancel has recently been restored and improved, the organ has been repainted and made equal to new, while the interior of the fabric is in process of repainting and redecorating at the hands of Mr Siddle, Newmarket Street, Consett. About £40 is still required to complete the work. At the morning service, the sacred edifice was completely filled, people flocking from all parts of the district to listen to the eloquent preacher. The Canon took for his text—St. Matthew ix, 35—"Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people." In the course of an able and interesting discourse, the rev. gentleman pointed out that at this Epiphany season, the Church bade them look upon certain manifestations and revelations which Jesus Christ made to his people. He claimed that although Christ was the Son of God, he became human whilst sojourning here on earth. The life our Saviour lived below was an example for them, and he besought each to follow in His footprints. Christ did not live as a recluse, but was in constant intercourse with the people. He also enjoyed the pleasures of society; and the charge brought against him by the Pharisees was that he did not live in strict accordance with their teachings. Although God's people were spread all over the world, they must not separate or isolate themselves from the rest of their fellows; but let the actions and conduct of the Christian mark him from amongst the many. The Canon, having adverted to marvellous incidents related in the life of Christ, proceeded to dwell at length upon the fact that Jesus created the society of the Christian Church, Christ having told His people that He is the link which knits this society to Himself. Christ is in sympathy with His Church on earth, and feels compassion for the sinners. The preacher adverted to the civilising and beneficial influences of Christianity, and the manifold blessings it had conferred upon all peoples and kingdoms. No other religion, he maintained, would have founded hospitals for the sick, institutions for the blind and the deaf, homes for the friendless and orphans, workhouses for the poor—no other society would have sent out Godly men and women to give solace and comfort to the aged and infirm, to help the poor and needy, or to administer to the wants and requirements of the afflicted. The Almighty could have crushed out the devil and all his works, and made this world exactly as it was when Adam and Eve were in the Garden of Eden—that is, without sin; but He sent His only son to establish institutions to neuteralise, as far as possible, the designs of Satan. The Canon believed, if the newspapers were correct, that there was a good deal of distress in Consett at the present moment; and he hoped they would do their utmost to alleviate the misery and suffering now prevailing. He claimed that Christianity had been instrumental in evangelising and civilising the world, by its numerous agencies and organisations, and its bands of ministers and Sisters of Mercy, had been the means of conferring untold blessings and benefits upon the human race. It had also fostered a bond of sympathy and affection amongst the brotherhood and sisterhood throughout Christendom.—The powerful discourse was listened to with wrapt attention.—At night, the Church was densely packed half-an-hour before the regular time for commencing the service, and many hundreds of people were turned away, being unable to gain admission, although benches were placed in the aisles. The Canon preached from the text: "Ho! everyone that thirsteth," &c. (Isaiah lv, 1). Amongst the congregations present on both occasions were a numerous sprinkling of prominent Nonconformists. The offertories throughout the day amounted to nearly £12.

THE DISTRESS AT CONSETT.

On Thursday se'nnight, another meeting of the unemployed ironworkers was held on the Blue Mountains, at Consett, under the presidency of Mr Michael McNally, to receive the report of a deputation, appointed the previous evening, to wait upon Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., Broadwood Park (chairman of the Lanchester Board of Guardians), to urge upon him the advisability of opening a stone-yard at Consett instead of at Lanchester. Mr Taylor Smith promised to arrange for a deputation to meet the Consett Guardians' Relief Committee at Consett last Tuesday; but Mr McNally subsequently received a letter from that gentleman intimating that as Tuesday was an inconvenient day, the deputation should proceed to Lanchester at 11 a.m. yesterday (Thursday), and interview the full Board.—The proceedings concluded with the usual vote of thanks to Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith for his generosity, and to the chairman for presiding.

The distress in the neighbourhood appears to be so keenly felt that one of our correspondents breaks forth into verse, which we publish, although the rythmn is not up to the usual standard :—

(*Air*: "The Shannan Side.")

If you'll give me your attention, I'll sing to you a song,
It's about the ironworkers,—I will not keep you long,
Three-fourths of the men you see, are thrown out of work,
Through the bad trade that's prevailing all over the north.

The Consett ironworkers, they're now so very distressed;
What can be done to relieve them? I do not know what's best.
It is cold, distressing weather, they have nothing for to eat,
Because three mills are laid idle, and so for many a week.

They had two mills standing to undergo repair;
The men then from the other works thought they'd get a share,
When, lo! another mill broke down, as if the men to cheat;
The men, their wives and families now do nothing else but weep.

Whatever is the men to do, if they don't get on to work?
They cannot get employment, they're not the men to shirk.
The iron trade is going down, of that we're well aware;
And that's the cause of all the trouble, you know, the men have now to bear.

They have started a soup kitchen, the children to sustain;
I hope they'll get subscriptions the kitchen to maintain.
The committee of management are always very glad
To cheer the Consett ironworkers—they go about so sad.

If you've got any donations, the committee will receive,
Because they try all they can the workers to relieve;
Anything that's eatable, I'm sure they won't decline,
Bye and bye the men will work again—It'll be a happy time!

P. STOKOE.

Blackfine, January, 1887.

"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 an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

"HOW TO WRITE," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

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

Physical exercise in some systematic manner is a duty we owe not merely to our bodies, but to our whole nature.

A man's desires always disappoint him; though he meets with something that satisfies, yet it never thoroughly answers his expectations.

[illegible] absent man instances, to the contrary, an absent man is generally either a very weak or a very affected man; he is, at all events, a disagreeable man in company.

Football.

FIXTURES.

Jan. 29.—Consett 2nd v. Gateshead Institute 2nd, at Consett.
,, 29.—Tantobie 2nd v. Elswick Leather Works 2nd, at Tantobie.
,, 29.—Medomsley v. Crookgate, at Medomsley.
,, 29.—Burnopfield C.E.T. Rangers v. Grove Juniors, at Newcastle.

ESH STAGS v. BELMONT CHURCH ROVERS (A).—Played on the ground of the latter and resulted in a win for the Stags by 2 goals to 1.

CORNSAY ROVERS 2ND v. QUEBEC HARRIERS 1ST (A).—Played at Quebec, and resulted in a victory for Cornsay by 2 goals to 1.

RYTON v. NORTHERN (R). — Played on the Jesmond ground. Score:—Northern, one goal and two tries; Ryton, nil.

BIRTLEY JUNIORS v. OUSTON JUNIORS (A).—Played at Birtley, and resulted in a victory for Birtley by five goals to none.

BEARPARK ROVERS v. BRANDON (A).—Played on the ground of the former on Saturday, and a stubbornly-contested game resulted in a win for the home team by one goal to none.

BIRTLEY 2ND v. EPPLETON 1ST—DURHAM ASSOCIATION MEDAL TIE (A).—This tie was played on Saturday, on the ground of the latter, at Hetton, and resulted in a win for the visiting team by five goals and two disputed to nil.

SWALWELL v. GATESHEAD ST. MARY'S B. (A).—This fixture should have been decided at Swalwell on Saturday. After the Swalwell men had waited until 4·30 p.m., the visitors failed to turn up, and the match did not come off.

The Medomsley A.F.C have commenced a second B team, and would like to arrange matches with any 2nd team of the district.—Address, James Cant, Medomsley.

CHESTER-LE-STREET v. GATESHEAD (A).—Played at Chester-le-Street on Wednesday afternoon in two thirties. Gateshead won the toss, and elected to play down the field; and during the early portion of the game had a slight wind in their favour. Chester-le-Street won by six goals to nil.

DURHAM CHALLENGE CUP (SECOND ROUND)—EXCELSIOR, CHESTER-LE-STREET v. WHITBURN (A).—The cup tie between Whitburn and Chester-le-Street Excelsior, played at Chester-le-Street, resulted in an easy win for Whitburn, who completely outrivalled their opponents at all points, and won easily by ten goals to one.

CROOK v. BRANKIN MOOR (A).—This match was played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the latter by three goals to one. The first half of the game was evenly contested, but after the first goal, which was disputed, the want of practice on the part of the Crook team began to show itself, and the visitors had the decided advantage to the close.

CROOKGATE ROVERS ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB.—At a meeting held on Saturday night of the members of this club, Mr W. H. Dawson was elected secretary in the place of Mr J. Pryde, who has left the club. Their first team have the following vacant dates—February, 5th, 19th, Mar. 5th, 19th, and April 16th at home, and February 12th, April 8th, and 23rd away. A junior team has also been formed, and would like to play any junior team under an average of 17 years. Their vacant dates are the same as the first. Secretary's address, W. H. Dawson, Crookgate, Burnopfield.

BURNOPFIELD CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE RANGERS v. GATESHEAD NORTH-EASTERN (A).—Played at Burnopfield on Saturday. In the first half the Rangers pressed their opponents, and scored three goals. Brown and Hogarth made some very neat shots. There was some good play in the second period, but the home team completely over-matched their opponents in all points of the game, and the Rangers won by seven goals to none. The visitors were afterwards entertained to tea by the home team, and a pleasant evening was spent.

TANTOBIE BLACK REDS v. BURNOPFIELD ROVERS (A).—Played on Saturday, on the ground of the former, in pleasant weather. A good company of spectators turned up to witness the match, which was played in two thirties. The home team seemed to have all their own way in the match, as in the first half, with the wind in their favour, they scored two goals, which were kicked by John Richardson—a very promising player, with any amount of resolution, and who has done good service for the club in the past. On changing play with the wind against them, with some very good passing and a good run on the part of John Elliott, number three goal was scored. Although on the small side as regards heavy playing, Elliott promises to represent Tantobie in some future county match, as his playing was greatly admired by the spectators. For the visitors, Wailes played best, and tried hard to avert defeat. At the call of time the game stood: Tantobie, three goals and one off-side; Burnopfield none. Mr Weddle Cook Hindmarsh acted as umpire for both teams, and, as usual, gave every satisfaction.

NORMAN STARS, BLACKHILL v. ST. CUTHBERTS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE (A).—These two junior teams met on the ground of the latter on Saturday. Although the ground was in bad condition, some good play was shown by the Blackhill team, their opponents likewise doing their utmost to avert defeat. For the "Stars," Scott, Sayers, and Brown played a good game, while all the rest rendered good service; Glendinning also playing a game worthy of mention for the Shotley team. The scores were: Blackhill: 1 goal, 5 tries, 7 touches down, and 1 dead ball, against Shotley: 2 tries, 1 touch down. The goal for Blackhill was kicked by Scott; the tries were scored by Sayers, 2; Hewitson, 1; Wilson, 1; Brown, 1. The tries for Shotley were gained by Oley, 1; Glendinning, 1. The game was played in a period of two half-hours. Teams:—Norman Stars: Full back, Byers; three-quarter-backs, Wilson, Kempster, and Watchorn; half-backs, Sayers, and Dodds; forwards, Brown, Hewitson, McCourt, Cant, Scott, Robson, McElrue, Hobday, and Taylor. St. Cuthbert's: Full back, Robson; three-quarter-backs, Ormerod, Stoker, and Wardhaugh; half-backs, J. Surtees, and Glendinning; forwards, Johnson, Barass, Oley, Moss, Lishman, F. Richardson, H. Surtees, Lavender, and W. Richardson.

NORTHUMBERLAND CHALLENGE CUP—PRUDHOE ROVERS v. MILKWELL BURN (A).—Played at Prudhoe on Saturday, the ground being in a very soft condition, which rendered good play very difficult. Milkwell Burn kicked off uphill against the wind, but play was soon taken into the visitors' quarters, when Stephenson shot a goal for the home team. Shortly after this, Kerr and Surtees made two capital shots at goal, each of which struck the posts. Soon after this, forward Dixon shot a goal for the Rovers. At the call of half-time the score stood—Prudhoe Rovers, two goals, Milkwell Burn, nil. In the second period the Rovers secured other two goals, Lewis and Stephenson making the score. The result was a victory for the home team by four goals to nil. The play of the home team was much superior to that of their opponents, the victory being an easy one. Umpires, Messrs G. Middleton and P. McKernan; referee, Mr G. Ferguson. Teams:—Prudhoe Rovers—J. Dixon, goal; E. Robson and R. Johnson, backs; J. Lowdon, G. Charlton (captain), and J. Leonard, half backs; R. Kerr and D. Lewins, right wing; T. Surtees and H. Stephenson, left wing; and J. Dixon, centre. Milkwell Burn—J. Hunter, goal; G. Beedlin and C. Brodie, backs; H. Stewart, J. Dinning, and A. Humes, half backs; W. Stewart and H. Richardson, left wing; W. Tomlinson, centre; R. Wilkinson and L. Bell, right wing.

Sporting Items.

SHOOTING HANDICAP AT GREENSIDE.—A sparrow shooting handicap took place at Greenside on Saturday afternoon. Messrs T. Bell, Care Nothing, and Very Pretty having killed six birds each divided.

WRESTLING AT PRUDHOE.—The competition for Mr Tulip's silver cup for all weights was resumed at Halfway House, on Saturday. Final falls—Charlton threw Atkinson twice in succession and won.

BLAYDON CYCLING CLUB.—This energetic club recently held their first Cinderella at the headquarters, Douglas Hotel, and scored a complete success in every respect. The floor was in splendid condition, and the music, in the hands of the brothers Biggins, was well rendered. The M.C.'s—Mr J. Atkinson (captain) and Mr T. Douglas—together with the stewards, deserve great credit for their successful management.

PIGEON SHOOTING HANDICAP AT QUEBEC.—The All-England Handicap of £3, added to a sweep of 5s each, commenced by Mr John Marley, Hamsteels New Inn, on Saturday, was brought to a successful issue on Monday. The weather was most favourable, and their was a large attendance. The shooting was very good, and the birds were of the very best quality, and tested the shooters' abilities to the utmost. Raggy Lad, Red Star, Taylor, W. Lumley, Miss Carr, and Gill divided. A. Dodds officiated as referee, Jos. Fairless as trapper, assisted by J. Jones, and G. Robson was scorekeeper.

CORBRIDGE ROWING CLUB.—The annual general meeting was held on Friday evening last, at Mrs Gardner's—Mr J. Barker presiding. The report showed a balance in hand of £3 8s 4d, which was considered highly satisfactory, and passed unanimously. The following were elected officers for the ensuing year:—Secretary and treasurer, Mr J. W. Armstrong; captain, Mr John Barker; vice-captain, Mr Robert Thompson; committee, Messrs H. Robson, J. Walker, G. Robson, and R. Heslop. A vote of thanks to Mr J. Hall, retiring secretary, for his past services was carried by acclamation.

WRESTLING IN WEARDALE.—The fourth alternate competition for the silver cup for all-weights took place on Saturday night at the Athletic Club, Wearhead, in the presence of a packed gathering of spectators, many having been unable to gain admittance, so much on the increase in the popular estimation is the contest growing. Excellent order, despite the stifling state of the room, was maintained. Mr W. Pattinson was a painstaking secretary, and the results, umpired by Messrs Wearmouth and Brown, were as follows:—First round—J. Wearmouth threw J. Peart, T. Whitefield threw J. Walton, W. Bell threw W. Wilkinson, N. Peart threw T. Walton, T. Whitefield threw T. Rutherford, O. Featherstone threw J. Elliott, W. Thompson threw T. Hodgson, E. Rowell threw E. Dawson, J. Coulthard threw G. Graham, J. Peart threw H. Bell. Second round—N. Peart threw O. Featherstone, T. Whitefield threw W. Thompson, J. Peart threw J. Wearmouth, W. Bell threw T. Whitefield, J. Coulthard threw E. Rowell. Third round—J. Peart threw T. Whitefield, W. Bell threw N. Peart, John Coulthard odd man. Fourth round—J. Peart threw J. Coulthard, W. Bell odd man. Final—J. Peart threw W. Bell twice in succession.

SPLENDID RUN WITH THE NORTH-DURHAM FOX-HOUNDS.—On Saturday, being the first day after six weeks forced idleness, the above hounds had a meet at the Kennels, Viewley Grange. Found at Red House Gill, and ran along the River Wear side towards Chesters, then turned to the west across the railway, past the Kennels on to Ridge Farm, through the whins on to the Newcastle and Durham turnpike, and on to Low Wood, where he ran to ground. Time, 20 minutes A move was made for Barras Hill, where several foxes were soon on foot, and one faced the open, ran a circle by the Gill and Half-way House, then on towards Sacriston, where he found shelter in a friendly drain. Time, 37 mins. Several of the field had by this time had enough of it, as the going was very heavy, and wended their footsteps homeward. but those who stayed were amply repaid by splendid run which was to follow. A hollo from the open convinced Freeman, the huntsman, that another fox was on foot, and the hounds were laid on and took up the line and ran by Potter House Whinn, round by the Gill on to Sacriston Wood, and then to Snapely, on again to Barras Hill, and his heart failed him here, knowing no doubt that the earth was stopped, and he made a half circle and ran once more north-west, making as if for a drain this time, which fortunately was full of water, and then he went over a most beautiful grass country with not a piece of plough, but here o slight check for a few seconds occurred owing to some sheep, but Freeman came to the rescue and hit off the line, and the hounds, led by "Sportsman," simply flew over the grass and on to Waldridge Fell, making as if for Stanley Way, but somehow he turned once more eastward, and then the gallant pack viewed their game, and they ran like wild-fire—no horse could possibly live with them—and to save himself made as if for the shelter of the earths at Mr Lindsay Wood's residence, when the hounds ran into and killed in the open one of the most gallant foxes that ever faced the open country. Time, one hour and twenty minutes. This ended one of the most delightful days of the North Durham Hunt.

CORNSAY COURSING MEETING.

Stewards.—Messrs W. T. Brownless, Thos. Suddes, Joseph Atkinson, Joseph Suddes, and W. Nicholson. Fly Steward—Mr Thos. Suddes, secretary—Mr John Storey. Judge—Mr Charles Richardson, slipper—Mr W. Thornton.

The second meeting for the present season, promoted by the tenants on the Cornsay Estate, was brought off on Wednesday. The morning was beautifully fine, but a strong wind blew during the day. At 9 a.m. a start was made for the hostelry of Mr Suddes, the Black Horse Inn, Old Cornsay. Fur was found in abundance, but the wind made hares difficult to approach. After the first two heats were decided, there were several no-courses in succession. Careless Girl experienced a severe test, as she had run a course and killed the hare, when another one sprung up just as she was about to be picked up. The dog pursued puss, who took her to Cornsay House Wood, and she ultimately killed; but the judge gave it as a no-go. After this, courses were rapidly disposed of, Transit being generally regarded as the favourite, and when she was soundly beaten by Paris Plaster in the second round the applause of the spectators rent the air. The three courses in the second round were all good ones, Paris Plaster running in splendid form. Careless Girl kept two lengths ahead of Miss Allison, but barely won. In the last course Careless Girl, however, easily beat Paris Plaster, the latter dog scarcely making a point at all. Lord Byron II., who divided the stakes with Careless Girl, also ran fairly well. The result came as a surprise to all; but we may remark that Careless Girl possesses some points of merit, and she is a sister of Kangaroo, who won the Gold Cup at Gosforth in March last. The judging of Mr Richardson gave evident satisfaction, whilst the slipping of Mr Thornton was faultless. Results:—

The CORNSAY TENANTS' STAKES, for 11 all-aged greyhounds, at £2 13s each; winner, £12; second, £3; third, £3.

I.

Mr Jonathan Hall's bd w b Miss Allison, by Birtley—Heather Bloom, beat Mr Ed. Dixon's bk w b Lady Armstrong II., by Paris—Countess (1).
Mr T. Wilkinson's bk w b Careless Girl, by Bothal Park—Bundle and Go, beat Messrs Heppell and Irvine's f d Fell Cripple, by Birtley—Heather Bloom (2).
Mr John White's bk w p Miners' Friend, by Miner—Ethel, beat Mr John Lowes's bk w b La Plata, by Birtley—Little Wonder (1).
Mr R. Barker's bd w d Lord Byron II, by Birtley—Little Wonder, beat Mr S. W. Gould's bd b Glide, by Durham Ox—Cottage Girl.
Messrs Robinson and Gill's bk w d Transit, by Dick—Stargazing II., beat Mr W. C. Lishman's f w d Negro Boy, by game Boy—Flash.
Mr E. Dixon's b d Paris Plaster, by Paris—Countess, a bye.

II.

Paris Plaster bt Transit. Lord Byron bt Miner's Friend.
Careless Girl bt Miss Allison.

III.

Careless Girl bt Paris Plaster. Lord Byron II. a bye.

Careless Girl and Lord Byron divided the stakes on account of darkness setting in.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Sleeplessness, flatulency, acidity, nausea, and all dyspeptic indications may be speedily relieved by these famous Pills, of which large quantities are shipped to all parts of the world. The constantly increasing demand for Holloway's medicine proves its power over disease, and its estimation by the public. In weakness of the stomach, in diseases of the liver, and in disorders of the system caused by cold or a sluggish circulation, no medicine is so efficacious, no remedy so rapid, as these Pills, which are altogether incapable of doing mischief. By quickening digestion, they give refreshing sleep, sharpen the appetite, impart tone to the digestive organs, purify and enrich the blood, regulate the secretions, and strengthen the whole physical frame.

Local Police Courts.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 20th.—Before Rev J. P. De Pledge (in the chair), Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq., Major R. Leadbitter Smith, and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.

DRUNK.

Robert Atkinson pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Hadwin, of having been drunk and wanting to fight at South Moor, on the 24th ult.—Fined 5s and costs.

SMIPING ON A STEPMOTHER—"A FAMILY QUARREL."

James Maddison, miner, Langley Park, was brought up on a warrant charged with assaulting his stepmother, Barbara, on Christmas Day.—Prisoner was summoned at the last court, but complainant did not wish to press the charge.—The Bench, however, hearing the circumstances, declined to allow so serious a case to be compromised.—Mr W. H. Oliver (Durham) suggested that their Worships should ask the prosecutrix if she desired to press the case or not, but the Bench declined to do so.—The magistrates' clerk (Mr A. W. Granger) said the justices had to deal with the facts of the case.—Prosecutrix again stated that she wished to withdraw the charge. Being pressed to state the facts, she deposed that her stepson came home late on Christmas night, and used her most shamefully. He struck at several times with his fist, and also dealt her three heavy blows with a poker. He then dragged her about by the hair of the head, and finally jumped upon her stomach till the blood oozed out of her nostrils and mouth. He also smashed in the kitchen window. He had often treated her in a brutal fashion.—Ada Maddison, complainant's daughter, adduced similar testimony.—Mr Oliver submitted that this was a family quarrel which ought to have been settled in a back kitchen instead of in the police court. Complainant aggravated the prisoner to do what he had done.—The Bench severely commented upon the brutal conduct of the prisoner, and committed him to prison for one month's hard labour, and sentenced him to undergo an additional 14 days' in case the costs are not paid.

ANOTHER ASSAULT UPON A STEPMOTHER.

Ellis Wainwright, also a pitman, belonging to Langley Park, pleaded guilty to assaulting his stepmother, under great provocation.—He was bound over to keep the peace, and pay 15s costs.—Defendant had so badly ill-treated the complainant that she declared that she dared not live with him again. He would again attack her when she got home.—The Chairman: If he touches you again, he will be arrested and brought here.—Complainant: But we cannot get him out of the house. He refuses to work, and we have to keep him.—Mr Granger: You are not bound to support him.

GAME TRESPASS.

Thomas Armstrong and *William Brown*, of Tow Law, were fined 5s and costs each for trespassing in pursuit of rabbits on land near the Hedleyhope Colliery, on the 31st ult.—P.C. Telford stated the facts, alleging that on the date named, he saw the defendants ranging the field, and he picked up a rabbit, which had its neck twisted, but was not quite dead. Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith had the shooting over this land.—Defendants protested their innocence, asserting that they were merely walking through the field.

AN IRONWORKER'S DOMESTIC TROUBLES: A STRANGE STORY.

A somewhat singular case was investigated by the Court. *Thomas Armstrong*, an ironworker, formerly of Consett, but now employed at South Bank, near Middlesbrough, was brought up charged with deserting his four children, Mr John Moon (Relieving Officer) certifying that three of them were inmates of the Lanchester Workhouse, and the fourth was in the Leadgate Infectious Hospital, the whole being chargeable to the common fund of the Union.—Prisoner, who has a military bearing, having served in the army, asserted that the children were not his. He had not been living with his wife for over fifteen years, and considered it very hard that he should be compelled to support illegitimate children. He was obliged to leave his wife on account of her faithless conduct, and she promised to work for the family.—Mr Moon stated that, although the prisoner had been working at South Bank, he had been travelling backwards and forwards to Consett to see his wife.—Prisoner said he could prove that he had not seen his wife for fifteen years. She had seven children, and the oldest one only belonged to him. A man called Cassidy, since gone off to America, was the father of two.—Mr Moon informed the Bench that when the prisoner was apprehended at South Bank he was living with his wife.—The Bench advised Armstrong to come to some agreement with his wife regarding the maintenance of the children. A letter (added the Chairman) had been received from the prisoner's wife, stating that she would look after the children.—Prisoner: But she is not here, and I cannot take them to South Bank.—The Bench informed Armstrong that unless he consented to take the children away he would have to go to prison for a month.—Subsequently the prisoner expressed his willingness to take the children to South Bank, and the Magistrates subscribed sufficient money to pay the railway fares of prisoner and his children to Middlesbrough.

HOUSEBREAKING BY BOYS.

Thomas Coulson, *David Humphreys*, and *Robert Blenkiron*, boys, of 12 and 13 years of age, were again brought up, and pleaded guilty to entering the house of Joshua Thomas, at Quebec, on Sunday night, the 9th inst., and stealing a watch, value £2, and a number of keys; and also pleaded guilty to breaking into the house of Richard Goss, and stealing a purse containing 3s 7½d. — The facts relating to the robberies have already appeared in our columns.—The Magistrates commented in strong language upon the negligent conduct of their parents in allowing the boys to be brought up in this fashion, and considered the fathers very much to blame in not taking them to a place of worship.—For the first offence a fine of £1 would be imposed; and for the second, Coulson and Humphreys were ordered to receive twelve strokes, and Blenkiron six strokes from the birch rod. (Sensation in Court.)

LARCENY.

Bridget Lavell, a married woman, living at Greencroft, was found guilty of stealing a purse, value £2, the property of Thomas Appleby, of East Kyo, on the 11th inst.—The boy Michael was sent to the Annfield Plain Store to draw the dividend, and on returning home he lost the purse, which was picked up by the prisoner, who made off with it.—This case has also been fully reported.—Mr W. H. Oliver defended, and contended that there was no felonious intent on the part of the prisoner when she picked up the purse.—She was committed for trial at the Assizes, but released on bail.

APPLICATION FOR AN EJECTMENT WARRANT.

Mr Henry Hornsby (manager), on behalf of the owners of Hamsteels Colliery, applied for a warrant for the ejectment of James Atkinson, a miner, from one of the houses belonging the colliery.—Atkinson said he was out of work, and could not go away. He had a child lying ill, and his wife was confined to bed.—The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr Granger): That is no reason why you should live in other people's houses.—Warrant issued. — Atkinson enquired if illness in the family would prevent his ejectment; but Mr Granger pointed out that the warrant would not be enforced until the lapse of 28 days.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, January 24th. — Before Jonathan Priestman, Esq. (chairman), and J. W. Walton-Wilson, Esq.

REFRESHMENTS AT A PUBLIC BALL: AN INNKEEPER FINED.

Alexander Parker, landlord of the Beehive Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, was summoned for selling drink without having a license. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) defended; while Mr T. J. Forster (Keenleyside and Forster, Newcastle) watched the proceedings on behalf of the owner of the defendant's licensed premises.—Sergeant Best deposed that on New Year's Eve, a ball promoted by Parker was held in the New Town Hall, Consett. At two o'clock, he perceived a man called Egglestone come out of the ante-room, where refreshments were supplied, with a pot of whiskey. At 4·30, witness went into the refreshment room, along with Egglestone, who asked for a glass of whiskey, but Mrs Parker said that she had not a drop left. He enquired if Mr. Parker had obtained a license to sell drink, and he also observed a case, containing two dozen of bottled ale and stout, the bottles apparently being empty. He drew defendant's attention to the circumstance, and charged him with unlawfully selling liquor. Mrs Parker said, "It's a queer thing we cannot sell as well as other people. I have only sold six gills."—By the Bench: The beer bottles had labels thereon.—By Mr Welford: There would be five or six musicians present. Would not swear there were two dozen bottles of beer, and could not say that they were all empty.—P.C. Turnbull [illegible] refreshment room [illegible] company of Egglestone, who [illegible] whiskey, which [illegible] Mrs Parker. After that [illegible] obtained two halves of whiskey, which was also supplied by Mrs Parker, and paid for.—Cross-examined: He saw money pass. Lumsden was the man who paid 3d; did not know the other person.—John Egglestone also gave evidence as to calling for the whiskey and paying for the same. The drink was given to him in a small lemonade bottle, and on emerging from the refreshment room, Sergeant Best (who was standing at the stairhead) asked him what he had got there?—Cross-questioned: It was Mrs Parker who handed him the whiskey. John Sutherland was with him at the time, and they got some lemonade before they procured the whiskey. They purchased a gill of whiskey about closing time in the Long Bar. Witness handed the bottle over to Sutherland, but the latter returned it to him after midnight. Mr James, the hall-keeper was standing in the doorway. Witness did not think he was standing close to his shoulder when he purchased the liquour. P.C. Turnbull had a taste out of the lemonade bottle.—Mr Welford said he would call witnesses who would entirely disprove Egglestone's statements.—Mrs Parker, defendant's wife, said she had charge of the refreshment bar, her husband being playing with the musicians. She took two bottles of whiskey and two dozen bottles of ale down to the Hall for the use of the musicians, doorkeepers, &c. Not a single drop of drink was sold at the stall. She gave Egglestone a drink of whiskey on two occasions. She ran out of lemonade about three o'clock, therefore there could be no small lemonade bottles on the premises after that time.—By the police: Would swear that she never said that she had only sold six gills of whiskey. Egglestone was a perfect stranger to her, but she gave the whiskey to him and Sutherland because he was along with the latter. After calling for the lemonade, Sutherland asked if she could not give them "something hard," therefore she presented them each with a glass of whiskey as their New Year's gift. She only sold "pop" and lemonade with the refreshments.—John Sutherland corroborated the last witness. He said that on the first occasion, he called for glasses of lemonade and paid for them—Egglestone not paying for any refreshments; but they subsequently went into the refreshment room. Mrs Parker gave them each a glass of whiskey—witness, Egglestone, and Turnbull.—Mrs Fenwick and her son, Joseph, who also attended to the refreshment bar, both testified that, as far as their knowledge went, not a single drop of whiskey or bottled ale was sold.—Similar evidence was proffered by Patrick McLoon, who acted as M.C.—Defendant, sworn, said the ball was patronised by 136 couples. The spirits brought down were for the benefit of the musicians, doorkeepers, and females in charge of the place—the number being over a dozen. The ball commenced about nine p.m., and dancing did not conclude till nearly six o'clock on New Year's morning. He gave instructions that not a single drop of drink was to be sold; and when the police charged him, he heard his wife aver that she had not sold any.—The Magistrates, having consulted together, were of opinion that drink was sold at the ball, although they did think that Parker had any intention of selling it. Therefore they would merely impose the reduced penalty of £2 and costs.

SHOCKING CRUELTY TO A PIT PONY

Matthew Rowell, a putter youth, employed in the Medomsley High Pit, owned by the Consett Iron Company, was charged with brutally torturing a pit pony by striking it with an instrument called a "deputy's punch," on the 12th inst. Mr Geo. Maw (Bishop Auckland) defended, and acting upon his advice, Rowell pleaded not guilty.—Mr John H. Morris, certificated manager of the colliery, narrated the facts of the case, adding that he found it necessary to suspend defendant till the matter was fully investigated. It was usual for putters to bring their ponies into the stable at nights, but on the evening of the committal of the offence defendant failed to do so. Walton, a driver, who witnessed the affair, said that Rowell injured the pony by beating it with the deputies punch. Rowell then alleged that Walton struck the pony twice and he hit it once. Defendant desired to compromise the case, but he (Mr Morris) was instructed to take these proceedings. The overman's puncher was produced in Court, and the Bench described it as a terrible weapon.—The horse-keeper deposed that when the animal was sent out in the morning it was all right; but defendant neglected to bring it back to the stable at night, and after it had been sought for, it was ascertained that the animal had sustained two wounds.—Thos. Walton, a driver lad, stated that some tubs got off the way, and although defendant "sissed" it for 10 minutes, the animal refused to stir. They looked around for something to beat it with, and witness picked up the punch produced, and hit it twice with the blunt end. Defendant took the weapon from him, and struck the animal with the sharp end several times, the point entering its flesh, and causing the pony to run into the side of the mine. This happened about 2 or 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and the animal was kept on working till 5 p.m.—Cross-examined by Mr Maw, witness admitted that he never said anything about his having first attacked the pony till he had told the overman about what Rowell had done. Defendant said, "Yes, you struck it twice, and I hit it once." His uncle was overman at the colliery.—By Mr Morris: Rowell said that he was not to inform Mr Morris that he struck the sharp end into the pony.—Mr Thomas Foreman, vetenary surgeon, Leadgate, examined the animal on the 13th inst., and found two punctured wounds on the hind quarter—one being four inches and the other two inches deep.—Mr Maw remarked that his client would plead guilty to the assault after he had elicited from the boy Walton the statement that he first hit the pony with the weapon. Walton was the agressor, and although both parties might have lost their tempers, after bothering with the pony for about ten minutes, still it was necessary that for cruelty of this kind the offenders ought to be punished. He urged upon their Worships not to commit the boy to prison, but thought the exigencies of the case might be met with a fine.—The Magistrates reminded defendant that he had rendered himself liable to imprisonment for the space of three months with hard labour. They must prevent if possible gross cruelty to animals; and they would fine him £2, including costs. They also expressed an opinion that the boy Walton was also to blame, although his case was not before them.

A BATCH OF SLIDERS.

Michael Grant (15), *Christopher Oley* (20), *Frank Johnson* (17), *John Lister* (15), *William Ridley* (23), *Thomas Dyson* (20), *Henry Bell* (17), *Charles Hardy* (15), *Edward Joyce* (15) and *George Shepherd* (18), were summoned under the Local Acts for sliding in the public streets.—P.C. Vickers gave evidence to the effect that between 5·30 and 6 o'clock on Sunday night, 9th inst., he noticed the defendants sliding down the middle of the thoroughfare in Green Street, Shotley Bridge. People proceeding to the Primitive Methodist Chapel found it impossible to go down the bank, as the surface of the street was as slippery as glass, and some grown-up persons complained to him that the nuisance ought to be stopped.—In answer to Mr J. McCartan (Consett), who represented the defendants, the officer denied that the street was rendered slippery by the rain and a frost. He said some people fell down—in fact, he stumbled himself. (Laughter.) The youths were sliding from top to bottom; and several persons complained of the nuisance being allowed on a Sunday night, and also because the noise disturbed the worshippers in the chapel. He had previously cautioned some of the defendants that night.—P.C. Lawson adduced similar testimony.—Mr McCartan contended that his clients had not committed any offence against the bye-laws. This was not a frequented thoroughfare, therefore they could not say that traffic was obstructed; and they would see from the report in the newspapers of the last meeting of the Benfieldside Local Board that they wished to encourage tobogganing and sledging on roads not frequented by traffic.—Witnesses were called who asserted that Grant, Joyce, and Hardy were in the gas-house; and Ridley, Lister, and Shepherd were inside the Primitive Methodist Chapel, between the times specified by the officer.—Defendants were fined 5s each, inclusive of costs.

THE POACHING PREVENTION ACT.

Edward Lamb, mason's labourer, of Consett, was summoned for an offence under the Poaching Prevention Act.—On Sunday morning, 16th inst., P.C. Stankley saw defendant, and two other men, leave Consett about 10·30, and return about 9·30 the same night. He encountered them in Medomsley Road, close to the British Schools, and suspecting them of having game in their possession, he searched Lamb, and found the three nets and two rabbits produced. The other two men ran away in the meantime; but their pockets seemed to contain something bulky.—Defendant admitted having the articles mentioned in his possession. He caught the rabbits in the dyke back, without going off the road, and he also found the nets lying in the snow. (Laughter.)—Fined £1 and costs.

Cash Daglish and *John Thompson* were charged with aiding and abetting the last-named defendant.—Lamb asserted that the men were not in his company, and the Magistrates discharged them.

ALLEGED SHOPBREAKING AT CONSETT.

Four boys, named *Patrick* and *James Matthews*, *Thomas McGuire*, and *Michael McDonald*, were placed in the dock to answer a charge of unlawfully breaking into the clothing establishment of John Robert Brodie, in Church Street, Consett, between Saturday night and Monday morning, the 14th and 16th insts., and purloining therefrom a large quantity of clothing, wearing apparel, &c., valued at about £15.—Mr Welford prosecuted, while Mr McCartan appeared for the prisoners.—Brodie said his shop was a lock-up one. On Saturday night, 15th inst., he left the place all right and properly secured at 11·20. On the following Monday morning, about 8·45, he found that the premises had been broken into, the place was in a disordered state, and a quantity of goods had been stolen. He identified the articles produced by P.C. Vickers as his property—viz., two men's coats; two pairs of trousers; vest; six pairs of pants; three body shirts; nine woollen shirts; seven pairs of stockings; six pairs of braces; eleven pairs of gloves; knitted suit of boy's serge; jacket; 15 silk handkerchiefs; clothes brush; three purses; and a bag. He valued the goods taken away at about £15; the articles produced were worth £13.—By Mr McCartan: The door was standing partly open on the Monday morning. A passer-by might perceive that the door was ajar.—P.C. Vickers, Shotley Bridge, said he went to Michael Matthews' house and found that, underneath the beds, two floor boards had been removed. Lifting these up, he discovered a large bag containing the goods produced. He apprehended Patrick Matthews, who said he knew nothing about the robbery. The following day he proceeded to Newcastle and apprehended James Matthews, and he said, "I'm guilty."—Cross-examined: Matthews kept a common lodging-house. The place in which the clothing was concealed was a common lodging room. When he first visited the house, Patrick was along with Michael, but he immediately absconded. Witness also charged McDonald, who declared that he knew nothing about the robbery. That morning, however, he made a confession—(Mr McCartan objected, and the statement was not finished).—Inspector Bensies said that McGuire was brought to the Police Station, and ordered to strip himself. He divested himself of several articles, which were identified by Mr Brodie as his property.—Mr Welford applied at this stage for a remand, in order to complete the case.—The application was granted; but the Magistrates declined to allow the prisoners bail.

SECOND COURT.

Before Jas. Annandale, Esq. (in the chair) and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Reed was summoned by P.C. Stubbs for being drunk at Leadgate, on January 8th.—Fined 5s and costs.

Ellen Rafferty, charged by Sergt. Norman with drunkenness at Leadgate, on January 7th, was also fined 2s 6d and costs.

Sarah Pearson appeared to answer a charge, preferred against her by Sergt. Davidson, of being drunk and disorderly at Consett, on Saturday night, and was let off on payment of 2s 6d fine and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Simon Doolan and *Robinson Brown*, miners, were summoned by Sergt. Thornton for being quarrelsome and refusing to quit the licensed premises of John Gallagher, at Dipton, on January 12th.—They were each fined 5s and costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Samuel Greenwood, *William Strachan*, and *Hugh Hall*, residing at Blackhill, were proceeded against by Mr Alex. McKeau, on behalf of the Benfieldside School Board, for not causing their respective children to attend school.—In the cases of Greenwood and Hall, the Magistrates granted attendance orders for the Benfieldside Board Schools, while an order was issued for Strachan's child to go to Miss Tait's School at Consett.

ASSAULT COMPROMISED.

William Moffit was summoned for having assaulted Ann Guy and Margaret Jane Guy, at Burnopfield, on the 14th inst.—It was reported that the case had been settled out of Court.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY.

Mary Brown was charged with having caused damage, to the extent of 2s 6d, by breaking a window in the dwelling-house occupied by Catherine Morland, at Leadgate, on the 5th inst.—Defendant was fined 1s, besides ordered to pay 2s 6d damage and costs.

A case of assault preferred by Morland against *Brown*, committed on the same date, was dismissed.

A FIERY CHIMNEY.

Michael Starkey, of Queen Street, Consett, was brought up by P.C. Lindsay, for having contravened the Local Acts, by allowing the chimney of his house to be on fire, on January 6th.—He was let off on paying a fine of 1s and expenses.

DAMAGING A TREE.

Thomas Surtees was charged by Wesley Whitfield with destroying a tree, on the estate of Mr Pumphrey, Elm Park, Shotley Bridge, on the 16th inst., the damage being assessed at 1d.—A fine of 6d was imposed, with the damage and costs.

LOCAL CO-OPERATIVE STATISTICS

The accompanying figures relative to the numerical strength and annual turnover of the Industrial Co-operative Societies in this district, are from the appendix to the report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, issued in London on Monday. They are for the year 1885:—

Name of Society.	Total No. of Members.	Sales of Goods.
Annfield Plain	2,040	£71,470
Birtley	1,475	52,207
Blaydon	4,153	157,850
Chester-le-Street	3,303	129,244
Consett	1,438	43,164
Crook	3,595	148,065
Dipton, Lintz Green	37	
Durham	[illegible]	22,411
Esh	708	23,773
Gateshead	7,727	268,720
Leadgate	405	15,085
Pelton Fell	103	4,693
West Pelton	1,193	53,873
Shotley Bridge	483	18,159
Derwent Flour Mill, Shotley Bridge	7	70,501
Stanhope	319	6,810
West Stanley	960	40,643
Swalwell	278	8,932
Tanfield	392	14,773
Thornley	40	1,520
Tow Law	234	8,251

WEST PELTON CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY. — The report of the West Pelton Co-operative Society for the quarter ending December 11th shows a continued increase. The turnover amounts to £15,962 17s 3d, being an increase of £245 2s 3d when compared with the corresponding quarter of last year. It is proposed to add considerable accommodation to the store buildings for boot and shoe departments, millinery, tailoring, butchering, dry goods store, furniture, and hardware store, with show rooms on the basement, and a hall for meetings on the first floor. The designs are being prepared by Mr W. Lister Newcombe, F.R.I.B.A.

"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.

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

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

"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 Robert Jackson's bookseller, 9, Newmarket Consett.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional, Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, BARCLAY AND SONS, London and all the Wholesale Houses.

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.

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, [illegible] "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 [illegible] 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."

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice and at the cheapest rate, by ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

The lodging "shops" of the Weardale miners at the Smelt Mills at Rookhope, have been without fuel, owing to the line of the Weardale Iron and Coal Co. having been blocked by snow for six weeks.

There is this week a vast improvement in the state of the weather in Weardale, and the sheep which were removed during the recent storms from the dales to warmer quarters in the country, are now being conveyed back again.

The commital of Mr W. Goundry, rate collector, Durham, has caused many expressions of regret in Weardale, where he was known and esteemed as lessee of the Harthope Moors. A general hope prevails that things may not turn out so black as they look at present.

The men who have been convicted of poaching, and are in the employ of the Lead Company, have been dismissed by order of the London Board of Directors. This summary punishment was an observed rule of the late lessee (Mr W. B. Beaumont) of Killhope and Wellhope Moors.

The recent fickleness of the weather brings up a story of a good farmer in the dale who asked a neighbour to lend him a book to read. The neighbour, who was somewhat of a wag, handed him the dictionary, with which he posted off. Returning it about a week after, he was asked, "Weel, hoo dud ye like 't?" "Wey, nowt ower weel, cause it stans 't nowt," was the reply.

Additional postal facilities have been obtained at Wolsingham. On the application of Mr R. G. Wooler, solicitor, the Postmaster-General has orderd that on and after Monday, 24th inst., there will be mail despatched by the 12·59 p.m. train, and after the in-mail arriving at Wolsingham at 6 p.m., there will be a general delivery of letters.

The lease of Mr John Rogerson, Croxdale Hall, of the Harthope Moors, is about to expire, and others aspire to supplant him. That they may not succeed is the sincere wish of the dalesfolk, who have substantial reasons for regarding the respected host of Weardale House as a genial friend and benefactor. His annual sojourn in the dale is welcomed by all, and his severance would be regarded as little short of a calamity.

Mr Stephenson, farmer, Ambling Gate, near Stanhope, had £14 offered recently for a bullock. He refused this, and afterwards killed the beast himself, and sold it out a 5½d and 6d per lb. It weighed 65½ stones. At this unusually low price in Weardale for beef he realised over £20. In Weardale fresh meat is high, and yet farmers complain loudly of the small figures they receive when selling stock. A correspondent adds:—It may well be asked who gets the profit?

How the farmers in the Wear Valley are to weather the late storm is beyond comprehension. The relations between Mr W. Minter, of Darlington, and the Ecclesiastical Commissioners' tenants are of the proper kind—mutual confidence—so that, if it be possible, some understanding will be arrived at with respect to them. It is noticed that Mr Kirton sojourned in the upper reaches of the valley in the autumn, so that, with the assistance of the local agent (Mr Featherstone), there is every probability that the true state of affairs are known at headquarters, which will be backed by the truthful and commendably fearless opinions of Mr Minter.

The anti-muscular section of the locality are going to try to stop the Athletic and Wrestling Club at Wearhead. It is hoped for the sake of the transcendent love of social and even religious liberty this is not the case. Such an attempt, which would assuredly fail, would only estrange the members of the club, and probably arouse degenerate feelings which, while human, are better in the abstract. It is time these good friends were abreast of the period when cricket, football, and recreation clubs are attached to our denominational and Young Men's Christian Associations in almost every town and village.

Butchers and the mining farmers of Upper Weardale wage rivalry with good results to the consumers of flesh, as the latter, being unable to dispose of their fat stock, are now killing them and hawking the carcasses at a much lower rate than that charged by the "knights of the cleaver," viz., from 5d to 7d per pound. These new meat vendors bitterly complain of the butchers refusing to buy their stock, and going elsewhere, thus only leaving the above alternative.

Intelligence reached the parents of Robert Pearson, at New House, Weardale, that the young man had been killed in the shaft of Elswick Colliery, Newcastle. It appears the poor young fellow, who was a joiner, descended the shaft to repair some machinery, and was caught therein and killed instantaneously, his mangled remains being recovered after the engine was stopped. Deceased was well known, and the receipt of the sad news caused a sensation in the dale.

The following story is going the round of Weardale, which, being in touch with the candour of the residents, is generally credited. A respected Wesleyan farmer's wife was to be interred in the cemetery, the funeral service being in the chapel of which the deceased was a member. The minister was not present when the *cortege* arrived, and after an awkward and solemn silence, a neighbouring farmer had to officiate. As the mourners were leaving the sanctuary, the minister arrived, and when tendering apologies for being late, some one said he was too busy looking after the police and getting poor women to the workhouse to mind his duties.

Relieving officers sometimes are placed in peculiar circumstances on account of their official position. Last week, the Stanhope relieving officer had a chase up among the arctic regions of Killhope after an old demented woman and her boy. They had been receiving parochial relief, and the boy spent the money in toys, sweets, &c., consequently they had to resort to begging. The Guardians being apprised of it, gave orders for her to be brought to the Workhouse, and the old woman had got knowledge of it, and had packed up and gone off with the boy to some relatives up in the ice-bound regions of Killhope. The Relieving Officer, on finding her house shut up, naturally enquired of the neighbours of her whereabouts, and was told that she had gone up into the Weardale Alps to be out of reach of the Guardian's official. When he left Cowshill, the roads were almost impassible, but on he went until he arrived within hailing distance of her hiding place. The lad happened to be out sliding, and caught a glimpse of the officer and ran screaming in. He instinctively knew his roaming days were over, and he dreaded life in the Workhouse, as there would be an end of his bullets and spice, as well as his liberty, and he and his mother would have to work. In a little time the officer had them in the trap, and was on his way back from this local Siberia. His road would have been blocked had not the snow-cutters been at work since he went up, opening the road. At last he arrived at Cowshill, where he turned out, and got them some warm tea, after which he obtained a close conveyance, and Johnny and his mother set off in charge of the officer *en route* for the "big house."—Cor.

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

"HOW TO BE BUSINESS," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, Bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

[illegible] PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s 1½d, and 2s 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere for 15 or 34 Stamps by the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln. — BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

A SATURDAY NIGHT IN WEARHEAD

The labouring classes in towns have their clubs to go to to spend their Saturday night, should they not care to be allured to the many places of amusement whose proprietors cater for their patronage, free libraries, &c. The isolated dalesman has nothing of this sort, and accordingly must spend his by

His wee bit ingle, blinking bonnily,
His clean hearthstane, his thrifty wifie's smile,
The lisping infant on his knee
Does a' his weary cares beguile,
An' makes him quite forget his labour and his toil.

Those of sedentary calling must cast about to some of the neighbouring villages, where, perhance, some lecture or concert is to be held. Hence, the other Saturday, I took my way to Wearhead, where something of this kind was announced, as the clock chimed six, well muffled up to shield me from the weather. The pale moonlight reflects the contours of the ragged hills around

And naething is seen but the widespreading snaw;
The trees are a' bare, and the birds mute and dour,

as I choose my path by the side of the infant Wear, as

Whiles round a rocky scar it strays,
Whiles in a wiel it dimpl'd,
Whiles glittered to the nightly rays,
Wi' bickering, dancing dazzle;
Whiles cookit underneath the braes,
Below the spreading hazel,

keeping time, as it were, to the sweet strains of the string band wafted on the evening air from the village. The villagers are making their annual calls, in proof of which bright lights stream from the windows of the residence of Mr James Sparke, sen., where there is always

Hearty good cheer, for peasant or peer,
In a jolly old English style.

Reaching the village, large numbers are filing across to the right, in the direction of the Wrestling Club, where the cup is to be competed for. I found the place crowded, and the youth and sinew of the district stripped for the fray. The contests were proceeded with in the best of humour, not a wry face being visible amongst those who have had to bite the dust. Leaving those muscular Christians in the heyday of life to their favourite pastime, I issued forth once more in quest of change from the frigid to the torrid zone. A lecture on "Queensland" is going on further west, in a sanctuary which blends badly with the above "tropical" subject, as the side aisle in which I seated myself feels rather frosty. A glance at the owner of the voice, which falls upon the sense of hearing with a strange nasal semi-twang, reveals the features of a former acquaintance now adorned with the indispensable colonial long beard. The lecturer evidently knows it is Christmas time as he descants upon the excellent qualities of the oranges he has eaten in Queensland, and extols the gastronomic savour of banana puddings and wine made from colonial grapes, and further treats his hearers to a minute account of sugar making—and treacle—in which he sticks for some time, until a still sweeter subject, marriage, comes to his rescue. Now, said the young lecturer, they don't go and get married there, as you do here, in the morning. Oh dear, no. They wait till night before they commence business. Here the gentler ones held down their heads, while the sterner sex exchanged ambiguous glances, culminating in a roar of laughter; and one old lady adjusted her spectacles and elevated her chin, as she gazed upon the speaker, as much as to say, "Is thoo in earnest, lad?" Meanwhile, my own thoughts reverted to the stanza of the "Rowan Tree,"

The stars o' the gloamin' are shining above,
Think how oft ye have blighted the tryst of our love;
Deem that star an angel which heaven has set
To watch and to warn ye—dinna forget.

A sleep on a form was narrated at the end of of a two hours' lecture, when the lecturer said he dreamt that he was going to see the Queen, and landed with his nose on the floor. Not so with your humble servant, who reached the Queen's Head in safety, though half starved to death.

Rev John Peart, Presbyterian minister, lately returned from Queensland, sojourns in this country until August next, when he will again return to that colony. During his stay in this country he intends repeating this lecture—alluded to briefly in the above sketch. We are told that the lecturer's introductory brief description of the position of Queensland and its relations to the Australian Colonies, his review of the history of the famous colony, and descriptions of its size, natural appearance, and climate, are lucid and informing. To farmers, his detailed account of the acquisition and farming of land are particularly acceptable. Methods of travelling by rail and coach were described, and the lecturer's anecdotes respecting coach-drivers and others have tickled the risibilities of Weardalians, to whom as yet the stage coach is a familiar feature. Mining and mineral came in for a large share of attention, and forms an interesting feature of this lecture, to those practically acquainted with mining. Floods and droughts, with all their disastrous consequences, formed a dark background to the otherwise bright picture. Reference is made to the productions of the colony—timber, flowers, fruits, sugar, and wine. The population of the colony, with its various nationalities and social aspects, are discussed. Aboriginals in their native glory are trotted out for inspection, and specimens are given of the aboriginal language. A glance at religious denominations and mission work closed what at Wearhead was termed an excellent and useful lecture. Mr Peart has been requested to deliver the lecture in other parts of the dale, and may consent to do so when the weather is less frigid.

PRUDHOE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner of the Mickley and Prudhoe Conservative Association was held on Saturday night in Low Prudhoe National School. Mr M. Liddell, Sandhoe High House, occupied the chair, and Mr T. Bates, Prudhoe Grange, the vice-chair; and amongst those present were the hon. secretary (Mr T. M. Falconer), the hon. treasurer (Mr J. Davison), Messrs R. J. Milburne, Newcastle; I. Baty, jun., Hexham; L. C. Lochart, (hon. sec. of Hexham Division Conservative Association); and a large general company, chiefly composed of the working men of the district. The school-room was tastefully decorated with appropriate mottoes. The usual loyal toasts having been duly honoured, and messages of apology from Mr N. G. Clayton and other gentlemen for inability to be present having been read,

Mr MILBURNE proposed "The Army and Navy." He took the occasion to observe that it was the Army and Navy Estimates which were blamed for the retirement of Lord R. Churchill from the Cabinet. He did not know the real reasons for Lord Randolph's retirement, and he (Mr Milburne) supposed all would patiently wait until his lordship himself said what they were.

Mr LOCHART responded.

Mr BATY proposed "Success to the Conservative Cause." He said, no doubt at the present time the cause was passing under a cloud. One of the reasons for that had been referred to by Mr Milburne. Another cause was the unfortunate death of a worthy and respected leader in Lord Iddesleigh. He (Mr Baty) believed, however, that the hearty feeling with which the whole Conservative party had rallied round Lord Salisbury would dispel the cloud, and meet the bright sun at Liverpool. (Applause.) Turning the local prospects of the cause, he said that by prejudice and other causes Conservatism had not obtained the position in the hearts of the pitmen in that district which it would in the course of a year or two. (Applause.) When he first came to that district in 1878 they had a very small band of followers, and some difficulty in getting a man to announce himself a Conservative, but now they came forward boldly, each man bringing another with him. (Applause.) He had great pleasure in proposing "Success to the Conservative Cause," and in coupling the toast with the names of their Chairman and their excellent officials, Mr Falconer and Mr Davison. (Cheers.)

The toast was responded to; and other toasts followed. Several songs were contributed, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

During the evening, Mr Liddell announced that it had been decided by some gentlemen to build a reading-room or club at Prudhoe, to which members could resort and there find the benefits which arose from such social intercourse.

A LOCAL "QUACK" IN TROUBLE

In the Durham County Court last week—before His Honour Judge Meynell—the action of the Pharmaceutical Society *v.* Hudspith was investigated. The Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, by Mr Bremridge, registrar of the said society, and with the authority of the said council, sued Thos. Hudspith, of No 7, High Street, Langley Moor (formerly carrying on the business of a botanical druggist in Foundry Row, Blackhill), for the amount of the penalty incurred by the defendant on the 16th Dec., 1886, in selling or keeping open a shop for the retailing or dispensing or compounding of poison—to wit, laudanum, contrary to the provisions of the Pharmacy Act of 1868 (31 and 32 Vict., cap. 121), £5; also for the amount of penalty incurred by the defendant on the 16th day of December, 1886, by taking, using, or exhibiting the name or title of chemist or druggist, contrary to the provisions of the said statute, £5.—Mr T. C. Granger, barrister, represented plaintiffs. Defendant conducted his own defence.

In opening, Mr Granger said this action was to recover two penalties under the Pharmacy Act of 1868, for keeping open a shop, and also for exhibiting the name of druggist contrary to the 15th section. The Act made the register evidence, and he would prove that defendant's name was not on the register. Defendant carried on the business of what he called a botanical druggist at High Street, Langley Moor, and he would show his Honour that there was rather an attempt to evade the law in conjunction with a person who was a registered chemist in Durham. He did not think that there would be any serious attempt to set up that defence, because all that it proved was that this person, Lambert, has allowed his name to be put on defendant's labels as managing dispensing chemist, but that was clearly not within the Act. This was not a branch establishment of Lambert's, and defendant absolutely sold the poison.

Mr Stroud, managing clerk to the solicitors to the Pharmaceutical Society (Messrs Flux and Son), said he knew Mr Bremridge, the registrar of the society, and produced an authority from him, under the seal of the society, to sue defendant.

Richard Addison said he lived in Saddler Street, Durham, and on the 16th Dec., he went to defendant's shop, at Langley Moor, where he made some purchases. He bought some herbs for making herb beer, some magnesia, rhubarb, spirits of camphar, laudanum, and some oil of aniseeds. He produced the bottles containing the oil of aniseed and laudanum which he purchased. He sealed each bottle until he handed them to the analyst. The herb beer package bore a label on which were the words, "botanic druggist."

His Honour: I suppose you have not tried the herbs, Mr Granger? (Laughter).

Mr Granger: I have not, your Honour.

Witness also produced a handbill, in which the bottle containing the spirits of camphor was wrapped in. At the bottom was the following label:—"Sold by J. Lambert, managing dispensing chemist, at T. Hudspith's, medical botanist."

Mr William Fowler, analytical chemist, Sunderland, said that last month the witness Addison handed him the bottle produced, which was sealed. He had analysed the contents of the bottle, and found it to be tincture of opium, commonly called laudanum.

Mr Granger said that under one of the schedules laudanum was poison.

Mr Geo. W. Salkeld, rate collector for the Brandon and Byshottles Local Board, said he knew the shop occupied by defendant. Hudspith was entered on the rate-book as occupier of the shop, and his name was over the shop door.

His Honour said he had some doubts as to whether a "botanist druggist" came within the terms druggist or chemist.

Mr Granger submitted that any use of the words druggist or chemist came within the meaning of the Act. The object of the Act was to prevent people, and especially illiterate people, from being deceived by a person holding himself up as a druggist or chemist, and it did not matter what conjunctional terms defendant used, they did not take him beyond the Act.

His Honour said he had some doubts about it.

Mr Granger said defendant kept the shop, and he evaded his own by using another person's labels.

Defendant said he was not registered, but had a claim to be a chemist or druggist through an arrangement come to with John Lambert, Durham, on the 22nd January, who agreed to act as his dispensing chemist at his shop in High Street, Langley Moor. Mr Lambert gave him instructions to purchase the poison book produced, and enter all sales.

His Honour: Do you mean to say it was Mr Lambert's shop?—Defendant: No, it was mine, but it was done under Mr Lambert's instructions.

What had Mr Lambert to do with it if it was your shop?—He said it was under the Pharmacy Act, and freed me from all responsibility. Relative to the words "botanic druggist," I never wished to misrepresent anything, or say anything contrary to what was right. My only idea was to draw a distinction between the ordinary drug business, and to show that the business I was in was connected with herbs.

It was your shop and your business, and you made use of Lambert's name?—Yes, with Mr Lambert's sanction.

John Lambert, chemist and druggist, Durham, was then called, and in answer to His Honour said that it was Hudspith's shop, and all that he had to do with defendant was that he was an ordinary customer of his, and on one occasion defendant said to him that it would be useful for him to sell laudanum, and asked him for permission to use his (witness's) name. Witness said he did not like his name used except in conformity with the Act, and told defendant that he would undertake to go out there one afternoon in the week——

His Honour: For what purpose?—Witness: To sell for him on his premises.

Then he was only to sell when you were there?—I was to sell. The drugs were to be put in a case and locked up, and defendant had to have the key.

Was he to sell any in your absence?—He might sell in my absence if he would take the responsibility on himself.

His Honour (to Mr Lambert): All I can say is the sooner you give up this sort of system the better. It is out and out a breach of the Act, to which you are making yourself a party.

Defendant here produced a sign-board, which he said Mr Lambert had furnished him with.

Mr Granger said he need scarcely point out to His Honour that no registered chemist had any business to do anything of this sort.

His Honour: Certainly not; he is making himself a party to a breach of the Pharmacy Act. Unless he takes great care he will find himself in a very awkward position. (To Mr Lambert): You had no right to lend yourself to a concern like this.

Judgment was then given for plaintiffs for £10 and costs on the higher scale, His Honour remarking that this was a very important matter, and it was very desirable that these sort of cases should be taken up. Leave was given to defendant to pay the amount in monthly instalments of £2 each.

DR BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For radicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to effect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.—Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather Wholesale Druggist, Manchester

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can obectully 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 1½d and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 o 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester

Business Announcements.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST,

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

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 3 p.m., at Miss WILLIAMS', 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.

MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1830. 721w

THE COVENTRY CYCLE CO., LIMITED,

WHITEFRIARS LANE, COVENTRY.

SOLE MAKERS OF THE COVENTRY IMPERIAL BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, SAFETIES, and TANDEMS.

ALL GUARANTEED MACHINES BEAR THE REGISTERED TRADE MARK OF THE COMPANY.

PRICE LISTS, 3 STAMPS. 876v

☞ LOOK HERE! ☜

WHERE SHALL IT BE PLACED! WHAT!

THE TEN THOUSAND (10,000) PIECES OF

WALL PAPER

THAT ARRIVED AT

J. W. DAVISON'S,

6, 8, AND 67, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

ON THE 7th DAY OF DECEMBER, 1886.

SPLENDID CHOICE OF PATTERNS. PRICES FROM 2d. AND UPWARDS.

After this tremendous arrival no walls need look bare or shabby. 141x

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WATCHES! WATCHES!! WATCHES!!!

MARSHALL & SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

CONSETT AND BLACKHILL,

BEG to announce that they have opened a BRANCH SHOP in the NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, where they are now showing a fine assortment of CLOCKS, WATCHES, & JEWELLERY Splendid Silver Patent Lever Watches from 70s. and upwards. Ladies and Gentlemen's Silver Geneva Watches from 20s. and upwards. Timepieces from 5s. All kinds of Repairs will be executed at Moderate Charges, combined with Good Workmanship.

KINDLY NOTE ADDRESS:—

MARSHALL AND SONS,

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,

NEW TOWN HALL, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, & HIGHGATE, BLACKHILL. 311x

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ATTENDANCE AT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY FROM 12 TILL 3.

DENTISTRY.

MONS. VAN GELDEREN AND SON,

SURGEON DENTISTS,

OF 17, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

MAY BE CONSULTED AT CONSETT EVERY MONDAY from 12 till 3, at No. 10, MOUNT PLEASANT.

SUPERIOR DENTISTRY and REASONABLE CHARGES.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH from 3s, 5s, and 7s; on GOLD, 10s per TOOTH. Complete Upper or Lower Sets, 30s, 50s, 70s; on GOLD, £5.

All Work Guaranteed and Maintained FREE OF CHARGE FOR FIVE YEARS.

ADDRESS: 10, MOUNT PLEASANT CONSETT. 829w

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, 1887.

GEORGE RICHARDSON,

Begs to announce that his

ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE WILL COMMENCE ON SATURDAY, JAN. 22ND

(FOR FOURTEEN DAYS),

ENDING SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, 1887.

As it has been our custom of having Annual Sales to clear out Surplus and Winter Stock. The whole of the Goods Offered are all New and Perfect, and of the latest Fashion.

This is a good opportunity for the Public securing Bargains.

600 Yards 40-inch Pillow Linen, 7½d., worth 1s.
300 Yards Cretonne, assorted designs, 3¾d., worth 7½d.
150 Yards Crimson Damask, 9¾d.
240 Yards Bective Wool Dress Serge, assorted Shades, 6¾d., was 1s. 0½d.
300 Yards Melton Tweeds, assorted Shades, 3¾d., worth 7d.
280 Yards the Duchesse Stripe Velvet, in Navy, Tabac, Myrtle, Midd and Dark Brown, Black, Cardinal, and Ruby, 1s. 3d., worth 2s.
150 Yards the Jubilee Velveteen, Brown, Black, Ruby, Tabac, and Navy, 1s. 4d., worth 2s.
Black Cashmeres, 6-4 width, 1s. 3d., 1s. 6d., 1s. 9d., 2s. 0d., 2s. 6d., 3s. 0d., 3s. 6d., 3s. 9d., and 4s. 0d., greatly reduced to clear.
200 Yards All Wool Shirting, assorted Patterns, 8¾d., worth 1s. 0d.
700 pairs Ladies' Kid Gloves, including a lot of Ladies' 4-Button Tan, 11½d. per pair.

A QUANTITY OF STRAW HATS WILL BE CLEARED AT 1D.

REMNANTS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS AT ABOUT HALF PRICE, AND OTHER GOODS THAT CANNOT BE CATALOGUED HERE,

TERMS:—Cash for all goods bought during Sale, and goods cannot be sent out on approbation.

N.B.—The Shop will remain Open all day on Wednesday, February 2nd.

CONSETT MUSIC WAREHOUSE.

JESSE DEXTER'S,

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT.

PIANOS,

HARMONIUMS,

AMERICAN ORGANS,

AND

OTHER MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, STRINGS, FITTINGS, &c.

NO EXTRA CHARGE FOR PURCHASING BY INSTALMENTS.

Instalment Arrangements to suit Customers' Convenience,

CONSEQUENTLY,

NO ONE NEED BE WITHOUT A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT.

WEEKLY, MONTHLY, OR QUARTERLY PAYMENTS.

PIANOS TUNED, REPAIRED, OR TAKEN IN EXCHANGE.

PIANOS FOR HIRE.

JESSE DEXTER,

TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT.

THOMAS HENRY KIRKUP,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

Respectfully announces that he supplies, on the shortest notice, and at the lowest prices, BRICKS, SANITARY PIPES, CHIMNEY TOPS, LATHS, HAIR, CEMENT, PARIS PLASTER, &c. 31x

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ROWATT'S	Highest Award, Interna-	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	tional Exhibition, Edin-	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	burgh, 1886.	LAMPS
ROWATT'S		LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Rowatt's Patent Lamps, the	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Split-Wick Anucapnic and	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	the Lorne, give the best and	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	most economical Light yet	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	obtained from Paraffin or	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Petroleum Oil. No Chimney	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	required, and no Smoke or	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Smell. For the best Lamp	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	in the market, buy "Rowatt's"	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	make. None Genuine unless	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	stamped Rowatt's Patent.	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Rowatt's "Gordon"	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Hurricane Lamp — Best	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	and Strongest Outdoor	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Lantern.	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Rowatt's Fire-proof Large	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Bulge Cylinder Chimney—	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	unbreakable. Insist on	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	having Rowatt's.	LAMPS
ROWATT'S		LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Retail from Lampdealers.	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Wholesale — ROWATT AND	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	Sons, London, Edinburgh,	LAMPS
ROWATT'S	and Dublin.	LAMPS
ROWATT'S		

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.

☞ PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.

Evening School, from 6d. to 1s. per week. Commence on Monday, 18th October. 854w

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☞ SOMETHING FOR HARD TIMES.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE

IS NOW GOING ON.

SWEEPING REDUCTIONS IN THE PRICES OF

DRAPERY GOODS,

READY-MADE CLOTHING, &c.

SEE OUR SPECIAL

MEN'S BLACK WORSTED SUITS, AT 16s. 11d.

BOYS FROM 2s. 6d.

SOME RARE BARGAINS TO BE OBTAINED

AT

C. F. COOKE'S,

CHEAP DRAPERY WAREHOUSE

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Business Announcements.

THE

GREATEST SUCCESS

OF

MODERN TIMES.

BLUE BANNER TEA

EVER

STEADILY INCREASING

IN

POPULARITY.

Consumers are particularly requested to note the Registered Trade Mark on each Packet. Imitators of the Label will incur prosecution.

BLUE BANNER PRIZE PUZZLE COMPETITION,

JANUARY, 1887.

PRIZES.

FIRST PRIZE	10s.
FOUR PRIZES	5s.
TWELVE PRIZES	2s. 6d.

The above Prizes will be awarded, according to merit, to the 17 competitors giving the greatest number of correct answers to the Puzzles forming the subject of this competition.

In the event of there being more than 17 competitors answering correctly the same number of puzzles, the total value of the Prizes will be divided equally.

The answers and names of successful Competitors will be published in the "Blue Banner Railway Guide" for March.

CONDITIONS.

The answers published to be deemed correct and beyond appeal. For obvious reasons no correspondence, with reference to the same, can be entertained.

Answers, with the Competitor's full name and address, to be forwarded prepaid not later than February 5th, addressed to

"Blue Banner Tea Depot,
Newgate Street,
Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Each competitor must enclose with the answers the outside wrappers of four packets of BLUE BANNER TEA.

CONUNDRUMS.

1. My first was an ancient King,
Who hated Israel's band;
My second pours down from the mountain top
With stones and fiery brand;
My whole was a bloody battle,
Where English soldiers brave
Conquered the Cossack and the Russ,
And made them mercy crave.

WORD SQUARES.

2. A Latin verb.
A Latin town.
A Latin verb.
A Latin noun.
3. An ancient Grecian general.
A god.
A town in Italy.
A Latin adverb.

WORD TRANSPOSITIONS.

4. Need I lift a bag.
5. He shot puny E.
6. Pnaasimodi.
7. Ride on a bus.
8. I cut crabs! Not I.
9. Send their meat.
10. Fifty and five hundred more.
Fifty still and one before.
Altogether may be found.
Growing on the garden ground.
11. To every one who goes a distance,
I'm found of very great assistance;
Out of my head, you'll find no doubt,
We're friends to those who walk about;
Once more behead, and, if you wish,
I can be served in shape of fish;
Transpose, 'twill be an easy task
To find me in a good wine cask.
12. A person has two horses and a saddle worth £10; if the saddle be put on the first horse, his value becomes double that of the second; but if the saddle be put on the second horse, his value will not amount to that of the first horse by £13. What is the value of each horse?
13. My first is found in a pigsty.
My second is a shallow part of a river.
My whole is a town in Scotland.
14. My first is a kind of Barrel; my second is a French conjunction; and my whole a kind of box.
15. Why is a stoker a good judge of punctuation?

NAMES OF TOWNS IN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND TRANSPOSED.

16. Neel Thomas Heyn.
17. Tis her swan.
11. Fun siled men.
19. O we'll sit.
20. Divide the number 90 into four such parts that the first increased by 2, the second diminished by 2, the third multiplied by 2, and the fourth divided by 2, may all be equal to the same quantity?

TRANSPOSITIONS.

Names of English Towns and the Counties in which they are situate.

21. Drove yon taun.
22. Clop lean wren Z. N.
23. Why is a tear like an amphibious animal?
24. My first is to keep busy; my second is an important part of the human frame; and my whole is a town in England.
25. And if you wish to listen well,
What you must be transposed, will tell.
26. Transpose what helps to make your coat,
A famine to your view is brought.
27. My first is the plague of nations; my second is used in a lamp; and my whole is a town in England.
28. Why is a new-born baby like a donkey's tail?
29. Why is a pig like the letter N?
30. My first is seen both large and small,
Sharp as a knife, round as a ball;
It has been given to all mankind,
And few without it you will find.
To be my second's very nice,
Although it often leads to vice.
If I were you I would beware,
Lest I should fall into the snare.
My whole, I'm sure, you'll like to see,
Looking as fair as fair can be;
The ladies love me, too, I ween,
As in their hands I'm often seen.

7½D. SOLD BY ALL GROCERS 7½D
PER PACKET. IN LB. PACKETS ONLY. PER PACKET.

The trade supplied from

NEW WHOLESALE DEPOT,

WEIRSCOURT,

NEWGATE ST., NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Business Announcements.

G. AND W. PAIRMAN,

113 & 115, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

MANUFACTURERS OF SCALES, WEIGHING MACHINES, and all kinds of GROCERS' and BUTCHERS' FITTINGS.

☞ REPAIRS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION DONE ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

COFFEE MILLS RE-CUT EQUAL TO NEW

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, Contractors' Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

H. GUTTERIDGE,

SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER,

BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.

REPAIRS DONE ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

NOTE ADDRESS:—33, WESTGATE ROAD (near Central Railway Station), NEWCASTLE. 450v

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TEETH!

MR. SUTCLIFFE, DENTAL SURGEON, 4, Nun Street, Newcastle. Dental Surgery in all its branches, Teeth Scaled, Dressed, Stopped, and Extracted, Painful Teeth Treated, Children's Teeth Regulated, &c. ARTIFICIAL TEETH at all prices, made so as to attain the natural functions in all cases, at 2s 6d, 5s, 7s 6d, and 10s per Tooth. Nitrous Oxide Gas for painless operations.

Note the Address: } 4. NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

MAPPING BOOK.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

EXTRA LARGE SIZE

AS RECOMMENDED BY

SCHOOL TEACHERS.

TO BE HAD ONLY OF

ROBERT JACKSON,

GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET,

AND

9 and 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

SPECIAL INFORMATION!!

YOU GET BEST POSSIBLE VALUE IN BOOTS AND SHOES, &c., BY BUYING FROM

JOHN GIBSON,

PRACTICAL BOOTMAKER,

CORNER OF

FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET, BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station),

All kinds made to Measure.

Special and Personal Attention to Fitting all kinds of feet.

REPAIRING:—

Only Leather of most durable Quality used.

Gentlemen's Boots Soled and Heeled, from	2s 9d.
Ladies	1s 9d.

Best Elastics put in—Gents., 1s 3d; Ladies, 1s 2d.

GIFTS!

GIFTS!!

GIFTS!!!

ROBERT JACKSON, Bookseller and Stationer, 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett, has just received a Choice Selection of Goods suitable for Gifts. Among these will be found the following—

ALBUMS,
PHOTO FRAMES,
PURSES,
POCKET KNIVES
STATIONERY CASES,
MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHURCH PRAYER BOOKS,
HYMN BOOKS,
BIBLES, &c., &c.,
A LARGE STOCK OF GOODALL'S
PLAYING CARDS.

The Largest Stock in Consett to choose from.

Those contemplating making Presents should visit he Establishment of

ROBERT JACKSON,

BOOKSELLER & STATIONER,

AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET,

CONSETT. 21x

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

SPECIAL NOTICE AS TO PRICES.

Mr. G. RICHARDSON, SURGEON DENTIST, Inserts his well-known "Superior Quality" of ARTIFICIAL TEETH (by a New Painless Process) at less prices than usually charged for common quality and inferior workmanship. For comfort, durability, and natural appearance they are unsurpassed. Every Tooth Guaranteed.

☞ Please Note the only Address—

6, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE,

Third door from Northumberland Street.

NOTE.—Rail Fare allowed to Country Patients.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES MANIFESTED.

J. HEPWORTH AND SON

Are meeting the desire of the public (to avoid the Profits of the Middleman, and obtain the utmost value of money) by Selling the PRODUCE OF THEIR FACTORY at 25, WELLINGTON ST., LEEDS,

DIRECT TO THE CONSUMER,

At their various Branches.

Branches in nearly all important Towns.

OVERCOATS FOR THE EAST WINDS.

CLOTHING TO KEEP THE BLOOD WARM.

6/8 SAVED IN EVERY £1 SPENT.

LARGEST STOCKS IN THE KINGDOM.

HEPWORTHS, for 20 years SUPPLIED the PRINCIPAL SHOPKEEPERS in your TOWN,

NOW SELL ONLY AT THEIR BRANCH,

12, SHAKESPEARE STREET,

CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

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

MUSIC LESSONS given—Pianos, Harmoniums, and American Organs Tuned and Repaired. Dealer in Harmoniums, &c.—T. JONES, 4, Gibson Street, near Co-operative Store, Consett 927w

---

16th THOUSAND. 6d., BY POST 7 STAMPS.

DR. ELLIS'S POPULAR LECTURE, "THE EAR AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE THROAT."

"It gives a thorough and succinct account of the causes of noises in the head and deafness, with suggestions of means as to their avoidance, as well as for the preservation of good hearing in those who are fortunate enough to possess it."—*Newcastle Daily Chronicle.*

London: WALTER SCOTT, Paternoster Row; Newcastle: W. E. FRANKLIN, 42, Mosley Street; or from the AUTHOR, 100, Rye Hill, Newcastle. 709v

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CONSETT MAGIC SOAP DEPOT.

PRESENTS! PRESENTS!! PRESENTS!!!

Just arrived a Large Supply of Beautiful Toilet Sets, which are the most useful Present for the Present Season—6d. and 1s. each.

HARRISON'S

MAGIC ARIZONIC SOAP,

AND

FURNIVAL'S MAGIC WASHING FLUID

Still stand unrivalled as the Magic Cleansers.

All the BEST TOILET SOAPS in Stock.

J. W. BERRY,

NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT. 194x

Public Notices.

MUSIC.—Mr. H. WILKINS, Pelton Vicarage, takes PUPILS in PIANOFORTE, ORGAN and HARMONIUM.—Terms on application. 340x

---

TOWN HALL, CONSETT, FEB. 1st, 1887.

ONE WEEK ONLY.—THE Marvellous PERFORMING FLEAS, the greatest Novelty in the World. 333x

---

WEST STANLEY RACES and NORTHERN GAMES will be held on Whit-Monday, May 30th, 1887. Football players please note that a Splendid Silver Cup, with Money Prizes, will be competed for. 347x

---

E. J. SLOANE,

PRACTICAL PIANOFORTE TUNER,

POST OFFICE, BLACKHILL, Co. DURHAM.

ALL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

SCARLET FEVER.

PERSONS wishing to have their children protected against this contagious and fatal epidemic, should call on RITSON and GLOVER, 30, Blackett Street, Newcastle, or their Agent—

Mr. WILLIAM DODDS,

16, PASTURE DRIFT ROAD, CONSETT.

And secure their Preventative, which has never yet failed. 306x

---

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH CHOIR, BLACKHILL.

SECOND ANNUAL

CONCERT,

AGRICULTURAL HALL,

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1887.

MESMERISM AND PHRENOLOGY.

MR. MORGAN

Will conclude his demonstrations on Saturday Night at Consett. They will be far more amusing than any PANTOMIME or other DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE.

SPECIALLY NOTE that Mr MORGAN will appear in the TEMPERANCE HALL, MEDOMSLEY, on Monday and Tuesday Nights next, January 31st and February 1st. 342x

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Truth is mighty, but prevails not,
With many calling
Sweep at your door!

SWEEP! SWEEP!! SWEEP!!!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—As usual, with God's help, and my Medical Gentlemen, your Orders will be thankfully received, and punctually attended to, by your long-standing Servant, who has long been ill.

But thanks again I'm getting strong,
To attend you night or day;
Let your flues be crooked—or long,
I'll clear your enemy's way.
To a faithful servant ever trust,
Mind not what people say;
Why defraud him of a crust,
Or his cuddy of his hay.
Is it for speaking truth,
Truth may be blamed,
But cannot be shamed,
In Gentile nor yet Jew.

Why then blame poor Joe the sweep who ever speaks what's true.—I am, Ladies and Gentlemen, faithfully yours,

HARRISON, Sweep, Shotley Bridge.

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS. 312x

CONSETT RELIEF FUND.

THE SOUP KITCHEN is now in active operation on the Premises in Front Street, and Contributions in Money or Goods will be thankfully received.

WILLIAM JENKINS, J.P., Chairman.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Vice-Chairman.
ADAM BRODIE, Secretary.

Town Hall, Consett, January 28th, 1887.

Third Contribution List—

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. The Consett Iron Company, Limited 1st Weekly Contribution	13	5	0
Thos. Spencer, Esq., Ryton-on-Tyne	10	0	0
E. M. Baidbridge, Esq., Eshott Hall	5	0	0
John Fleming, Esq., Newcastle-upon-Tyne	5	0	0
James Annandale, Esq., J.P., Shotley Bridge	5	0	0
J. Priestman, Esq., J.P., Derwent Lodge	5	0	0
David Dale, Esq., J.P., Darlington	5	0	0
A. W. Granger, Esq., Solicitor, Durham	2	2	0
Geo. Pelle, Esq., Greenwood	2	0	0
Michael Cassidy, Esq., Walker-on-Tyne and Consett	2	0	0
Thomas Siddell, Esq., Viewfield	1	0	0
Mr. James Scott, East Parade, Consett	0	11	0
„ N. Elsden, Delves Lane, Consett	0	10	6
„ F. Priestman, Derwent Hill	0	10	0
„ John Routledge, Builder, Consett	0	10	0
„ Robert Brown, Delves Lane, Consett	0	10	0
„ William Thompson, Travellers' Rest, Delves Lane, Consett	0	10	0
„ T. D. Dryden, Front Street, do. Goods	0	10	0
„ Geo. Wade do. do. do.	0	10	0
„ J. Conway do. do.	0	10	0
Mrs. Almond do. do. Goods	0	10	0
Messrs. T. Hughes & Co., do. per Mr. D. Smith	0	10	0
Mr. R. Park, Mount Pleasant, Consett	0	10	0
„ J. Postle, Newmarket Street, do. goods	0	10	0
„ W. Elliott, Mount Pleasant, do.	0	6	0
„ John Batey, do. do.	0	5	0
„ James Hardy, Templetown, do.	0	5	0
„ Geo. Dryden, Front Street, do. Goods	0	5	0
„ Thomas Stainsby, do. do. do.	0	5	0
„ C. Haughan do. do. do.	0	5	0
„ M. Fawell, do. do. do.	0	5	0
Messrs. Foster Bros. do.	0	5	0
„ Coyle & Rogers, Victoria Street,	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Dunne, do. do.	0	5	0
„ John McCartan, Solicitor do.	0	5	0
„ G. T. Hyden, East Parade, do.	0	5	0
„ S. Brodie, do. do.	0	5	0
„ G. Hawdon, Sherburn Terrace, do.	0	5	0
„ C. Lumley, do. do.	0	5	0
„ M. McGurk, Medomsley Road, do.	0	5	0
„ T. McCourty, Newmarket St., do.	0	5	0
„ George Dawson, Rose Mount, do.	0	5	0
„ B. McAleer, Medomsley Road, do.	0	5	0
„ J. Pattison, do. do. Goods	0	5	0
Mrs. Mary Elliott			
Sums under 5s.	4	12	3
Consett Iron Co.'s Workmen—Blast Furnace Department	4	8	6

Mr. J. Charlton, Benfieldside Road, Two Bags of Vegetables.
„ R. Willey, Mount Pleasant, 1 Stone Peas and 2 Stones Potatoes.
„ G. D. Powell, Rose Mount, 2 Shoulders Bacon.
„ C. Docherty, John Street, quantity Carrots and Turnips.
„ F. Swainston, Consett, 20 lbs. Beef.
W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., J.P., Woodlands, 1 Load Potatoes and 2 of Turnips. 343x

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Public Notices.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

THE 38th ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the above Society will be held on Saturday, August 20th, 1887.

Schedules ready shortly.—Apply,

W. RAMSAY, Secretary.

6, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside. 335x

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC.

MR. BULLERWELL, of Shotley Bridge, begs to intimate that he is still pursuing the Business of CARRIER, having during his prolonged illness engaged a young man to go with his Waggon. Mr. Bullerwell begs to thank the Public generally for past favours, and hopes that they will continue to patronise him. x

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NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EVENING EXCURSION TO NEWCASTLE.

ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave Consett and Blackhill for Newcastle at 5·30 p.m.

Fare, There and Back, Third Class, 1s.

The Return Train will leave Newcastle at 11·0 p.m. the same day. 250x

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NOTICE.

THE Members of the First Shotley Bridge and District 370th STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY will hold their 40th APPROPRIATION, by Ballot, in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on Monday, the 14th February, 1887, at 7·15 p.m. Members see your Books clear on or before the 9th February, 1887.—

By order,

337x M. NOBLE, Chairman.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Monday, January 31st, 1887.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Sale of useful Household Furniture, including 2 Chests of Drawers; Brass Bedstead; Brass-Mounted and Iron Bedsteads: Mattresses; Down Bed; 6 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; 6 Kitchen Chairs; Easy Chair; 2 Washstands and Dressing Tables; Beautiful Mahogany Couch, in Hair; Kitchen Table; Tea Table; 2 Round Tables; Carpet and Hearthrugs; Fenders and Fire Irons; a quantity of Best Cocoa Matting, nearly new; together with the Miscellaneous Effects and Sundries.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, January 31st, 1887, the whole of the Household FURNITURE and Effects, belonging to a person about to Emigrate.

Sale to commence at One o'clock p.m. prompt.

NORTH WEST DURHAM EMIGRATION AGENCY.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, is the Sole and only Agent in Consett for the following First-class American Lines of Steamers—The Cunard, White Star, Inman, Guion, Beaver, Allan, Dominion, and American Lines of Steamers to New York, Quebec, and Philadelphia; and the Orient and Queensland Royal Mail Steamers for Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and other Australian Ports. He is also the only Authorised Agent for the Queensland Government in North-West Durham, and is specially appointed to Book Assisted Passages at £7, including Ship's Kit, for the rising Colony of Western Australia. The public are informed that as the rates in all cases are fixed by the various Companies themselves, and not by any Agent or Sub-Agent, no person can, consistently with the conditions of his appointment, book passengers for less than the advertised rates. Full particulars and every information relating to the different fields of emigration may be had on application.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT. 577w

SPECIAL EMIGRATION NOTICE.

ALL STEERAGE FARES by the Conference Lines of First-Class American Steamers are reduced to £2 16s. 0d. and £3 0s. 0d. to New York and Philadelphia.—Apply to Adam Brodie, Town Hall, Consett. 189x

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By Mr Joseph Oley.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, by Order of the Executor, at 50, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge, the Household FURNITURE, DOWN BED, BEDDING, and WEARING APPAREL, belonging to the late MRS. MARY McCULLAGH, deceased.

Sale to commence at Two p.m.

304x JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer.

Strother's Farm, near Spen Colliery.

THE SALE OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and DAIRY UTENSILS, &c., belonging to Mr. THOMAS BARNFATHER, who is about to Emigrate, will be SOLD by Mr. J. OLEY, Auctioneer, on Monday, 31st day of January, 1887.

Sale at One o'clock prompt. 303x

☞ JOSEPH OLEY,

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,

10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

55, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Saturday, February 5th, 1887.

MR. A. PHILIPSON, respected with instructions from Mr. A. DOWSON, who is Emigrating, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place and date, all his Valuable Household FURNITURE, BUTCHER'S SHOP UTENSILS, HARMONIUM, IN WALNUT, &c. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 338x

REDUCED FARES TO AMERICA.

AMERICAN, and other Lines, £2 15s. 0d. Luggage and Passengers taken Free to Railway Station.—Write or call upon A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 173x

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TO PARTIES EMIGRATING.

ASSISTED PASSAGES TO WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

CHEAP FARES TO AMERICA & CANADA.

AND lowest possible fares to QUEENSLAND, NEW SOUTH WALES, MELBOURNE, VICTORIA, NEW ZEALAND, CAPE TOWN, NATAL, or any other part of the world.

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. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer and Emigration Agent, Dipton. 494w

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By Mr. John Crawford.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will hold a Large Sale of FURNITURE, &c., on Monday, Feb. 7th, 1887, at 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

JOHN CRAWFORD,

AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,

25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

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GEORGE R. HOBSON,

AUCTIONEER & VALUER.

OFFICES:—

CATCHGATE, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN. 220v

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,

AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

HOW TO GET STRONG AGAIN!

BY USING

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT

☞ 26s. per Dozen; 2s. per Bottle. Carriage Paid on 6 Bottles and upwards.

W. GLENDENNING,

IMPORTER OF PURE WINES,

8, GRAINGER STREET (between Nun Street and Newgate Street), NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1887
14 Fat Cattle.
75 Fat Sheep.
A quantity of Dairy Cows, Calved and to Calve.
3 Veal Calves.
Pork and Store Pigs, Poultry, &c.
30 Bolls Oats.
20 Bags Potatoes, prime quality.
8 Horse Sheets, to clear out.
1 Prize Springer Dog, 1½ years old, good rabbit Dog, been used to the gun, very handsome, and a good watch.
Entries up to time of Sale.
Sale at 12 o'clock.
255x NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

Blackhill.—Wednesday, February 2nd, 1887.—Important Sale of Household Furniture, Bar Furnishings, Cottage Property, and Building Sites.

MR. JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Railway Inn, Blackhill, on Wednesday, February 2nd, 1887, Part of the Household FURNITURE, BAR FITTINGS, and House FURNISHINGS, &c., belonging to Mr Wm. Richardson, who is leaving the neighbourhood, comprising — Large Dining Table, with Mahogany Top; 2 Kitchen Tables; Eight-days' Clock; American Clock; Case Clock; Dresser and Delf Rack; 2 Washing and Wringing Machines; Case of Stuffed Ducks; Case of Pheasants; several Bucks' and other Heads; Writing Desk; Filter; Spirit Jar; Ornamental Paraffin Stove; Bird Cage; Ladder; Garden Spade; Rake; Hoes; Wheelbarrow; Watering Pan and a quantity of Manure; 2 Pig Troughs; Pig Tub; Flour Tub; Boxes, &c.; 2 Sets of Quoits and Pins; Sieve; Pigeon Cote; quantity of Firewood; Weather Glass; Pictures, Ornaments, and other Articles too numerous to particularise.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock prompt.

AT the same House, on same day, at Seven for Eight o'clock p.m., WILL BE OFFERED the following Valuable Household PROPERTY and BUILDING SITES, viz:—

Lot 1.—All that BLOCK OF COTTAGE PROPERTY, situate at, and being Nos. 20 to 24, Baxton Burn, in the occupation of Mr. Teasdale, Mrs. Chisholm, and others.

Lot 2.—Six Valuable and Conveniently-situated BUILDING SITES, adjoining the Wesleyan Chapel, Blackhill, containing about 470 Yards more or less. Plans have been passed by the Benfieldside Local Board for the Building of Six Cottages on these Sites, which could be available for the Pur haser if desired.

Lot 3.—TWELVE COTTAGES, situate and being Nos. 24 to 35, Benfieldside Edge Road, and in the occupation of Peter Pearson and others. These will be sold in Two Lots.

The whole of the Property will be Sold subject to Conditions which will be read at the time of Sale.

Sale to commence at Seven for Eight p.m.
344x JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

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 repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.
428u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

TEETH AT ALL PRICES.
MR. D. POWELL,
SURGEON DENTIST,
NUN STREET (Corner of Clayton Street),
NEWCASTLE,
May be personally Consulted every Week Day, from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m.
CONSULTATION FREE.

IMPORTANT ADVICE.—Before seeking the aid of the Dental Profession, ask the people where to go, and have the recommendation of the many, they are the best judge. Don't go by one or two persons, or paid agents; have the advice and experience of at least a dozen individuals, then you may consider you have got to the right man.

OBSERVE LARGE BLUE LAMP AND SEE THAT YOU GET INTO THE RIGHT DOOR.
Over 20 Years at the same Address. 186

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &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.

HIGH CLASS DENTISTRY.
MR T. C. CAMPBELL
SURGEON DENTIST,
9, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE.
ARTIFICIAL TEETH AT REASONABLE PRICES
COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET
From 30s. to £4 10s.
PARTIAL SETS OR SINGLE TEETH
From 3s. to 10s. per Tooth.

Every Set is adapted to the mouth on the most improved principles, without extraction of Stumps or other painful operation, guaranteed to fit perfectly and warranted.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas.

Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed, and all charges strictly moderate.

Country Patients visiting Mr. CAMPBELL'S Establishment in Newcastle will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, and whenever possible, will be allowed their railway fare

NEW REMEDIES
FOR
COUGHS,
COLDS,
BRONCHITIS,
ASTHMA,
AND ALL
CHEST AFFECTIONS.
ROBERTS, CHEMIST, NEWCASTLE.

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE MONEY!—If so you must have clear brain, steady nerve, and robust health. This can be obtained and upheld by using Hop Bitters. Hop Bitters expel every taint of impurity from the blood, speedily uproots and dislodges all forms of disease from the system. Hop Bitters give good digestion, active liver, good circulation, and bouyant spirits. It will be entirely your own fault if you miss chances of success by being sick and out of health and form, when you can be otherwise by using Hop Bitters. Only try them and prove it. Beware of and avoid all preparations either in packages or fluids said to contain the virtues of Hop Bitters. They are frauds and you may put down the shopkeeper who imposes on you by saying bogus stuff is as good as nothing short of an impostor. [illegible] The genuine Hop Bitters has Green Hop Cluster on label. Examine and insist on the genuine. The Hop Bitters Company, Limited, 41, Farringdon Road, London, E.C.

TO ADVERTISERS.

ALL Orders for Advertisements for insertion in the *Consett Guardian* must be WRITTEN, and sent in not later then NINE o'clock on Friday mornings to ensure publication.

WE use great care to secure the correct printing of advertisements; but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies nor from any consequences arising therefrom.

PARTIES making inquiries by letter respecting advertisements must enclose an addressed stamped envelope.

IT is contrary to Post-office Regulations for letters to be addressed to initials or fictitious names at any Post-office. Advertisers are desired to bear this in mind.

APPLICANTS for situations and others who reply to advertisements are recommended to forward copies of their testimonials, and not the original documents.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 1887.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

THE SNOW ON THE FELLS.

Seen from the warm glow of the firelight, the "beautiful snow" is beautiful indeed, but out on the lone moor, the sport of the tempest and the butt of the storm, there is little that is desirable in the reign of the storm king. The report in last week's *Guardian* of the discomfits to which the farmers in the Blanchland district are at present subject, through the long continuance of the storm, awoke some half-forgotten recollections of that secluded quarter. Years, eventful chequered years, have elapsed since I last trod on the tangled heath of the Stanhope and Blanchland Fells; but I have crossed both many times in summer's heat and winter's snow. They were clad in snow when I first beheld them, and Edmondbyers I thought the queerest village it had ever been my lot to come across. It reminded me of Tom Intoul, an old-world place in the Highlands, not far from Glenlevit, famous for its whiskey. The farms in the neighbourhood of the Derwent Fells are not of the highest order, if the weight of the crops furnish a reliable criterion. The land in these outlying districts is naturally cold, and in bad seasons the disparity between the crops raised on the richer soil of the farms in more congenial localities is strikingly apparent. Then the farmers of the small holdings—for there are no large farms in the Blanchland district—are not in a position to send their flocks and herds to a distance, after the manner of the large sheep farmers on the Borders and in the Highlands of Scotland. To see sheep and shepherd wending their way along a quiet secluded country road is a pastoral scene, pleasing in its simplicity. Long journeys are undertaken in this primeval way, to the end that the flocks may pass the winter on the lowland farms. The cost to the owner used to be something like three-half-pence per head for a week's keep on old grass—not a big figure, certainly, for board and lodgings for a sheep. The length of the journeys undertaken to procure winter quarters for the flocks would greatly astonish those unacquainted with the routine of rural affairs. They leave their native haunts in the autumn, and retrace their steps in the opening spring, sometimes journeying to the distance of 100 miles or more. This is one way, not of fleeing from the wrath to come, but of providing for the exigencies of the present.

"THE DEVIL" IN THE PARK.

I am of opinion that the members of the Benfieldside Local Board acted very judiciously in prohibiting the sale of refreshments in the Park. There is really no excuse for introducing that sort of thing. I have always understood that the Park was provided in order that those who cared for it might spend an hour or two in comparative seclusion, a happy change from the heat and dust of forge and rolling mill. The Park would be a treat indeed if rendered hideous by cries of "hokey pokey, penny a lump," mingled with the kindred shouts of other vendors of the same school. Better to a man stay in his back-yard; but this nuisance has happily been obviated for the present. In saying this it need not be inferred that I am at one with the member who seemed to think that the sale of liquor would be the devil's passport to the Park. It may be that his sooty majesty will see fit to take an occasional airing within the precincts of the Park, were it for nothing else than to look after the welfare of his bairns, but I have not heretofore heard that whiskey had a special attraction for him—at least, if all tales be true, he is capable of doing quite enough mischief without it.

THE CRY FROM THE COUNTER.

I have read and pondered on the sensible letter on this subject in last week's issue, but unfortunately for the success of the desideratum, I hold much the same opinion as before. Reform must come from within, for those who put their trust in an unorganised public lean on a broken reed. The "Thief of time," as Dr Young very properly characterises procrastination, holds dominant sway in the human mind, and nothing short of the trump of an angel would dispel this inborn failing. The proof of this ruling spirit is observable at every turn. I am well acquainted with a Co-operative Association whose members number between two and three thousand, and as the establishment closes at nine o'clock on Saturday evenings, it has been found, that the only way by which this rule can be carried out is by deputing a man-servant to guard the doors, and thus prevent the members from entering after half-past eight o'clock. I have witnessed this brake applied weekly, until my faith in the public has vanished like the mist. Every member knows the hour of closing, but still they come till held in check by main strength. If, however, the tradespeople in a community resolved to carry out this early closing business, I am positive that they are equal to the task. They are not slow to band themselves together when it suits them to do so, and if their hearts were in unison with the desired change, the machinery to bring it about would not long be wanting. If they desire to wait until there is no Judas in the camp, it will be a long time before they put their shoulders to the wheel. It is no doubt tantalising to think that any one tradesman should be found unwilling to throw in his lot with his fellow merchants, but society is composed of some strange compounds. The presence of this ill-favoured element is to be deplored; but perfect unanimity is not to be looked for in no section of the community. Could the leading tradesmen of the town and district be induced to acquiesce in the wished for reform, the less generous spirits might peradventure be shamed into doing likewise—more so in fact than in a great centre where not one-tenth of the people are known to the other. There is, I believe, a deal of truth in the couplet:—

"The fear o' hell's a hangman's whip
To keep the wretch in order."

STEEL.

This material is still holding its own, and the area of its production is widening rapidly. The step taken by the Scotch steel makers last week in Glasgow, to raise the price of the material 5s. per ton is of the utmost importance to those employed in that industry. It would be very convenient indeed if manufacturers had nothing more to do than to meet in council, as they did at Glasgow, and raise the price of a given product. If this plan can be chronicled as a success, then may we bid a long farewell to bad times and all the ills of trade depression. But the compact is not likely to be of long duration, unless the same lines are followed by the steel-plate and angle makers on the north-east coast of England, and there is at present little likelihood of that. The price fixed by the Scotch steel-makers is, if I remember rightly, £7 per ton for plates, and £6 for angles. This is a good deal more than our friends nearer home can command, indeed the difference is so great as to preclude Scotch steel from the English market. The shipbuilders on the Tyne, the Wear, and the Tees have hitherto used Scotch steel in large quantities, for the simple reason that they bought where they could buy cheapest, and partly, too, because our northern friends were a long way ahead of their southern neighbours in laying down the plant for the new industry. They were first in the field, and for two or three years they maintained the lead. I have seen two vessels side by side on the berths, the one built of Scotch steel, the other of local manufacture, but the most remarkable feature in the business was that the Clyde-made steel was sometimes as much as 5s per ton cheaper than the material made at a distance of not more than twenty miles. This state of things has now ceased to exist, nor are they likely to occur again. The local steel-makers are now masters of the situation. Their prices are a long way under the figure at which the Scotchmen have agreed to sell their plates and angles. I know the rates per ton of the contracts made recently with the best known steel-makers on the north and north-east coasts, and that knowledge sets forth the resolution passed at Glasgow in a clearer light.

BURNS.

Does nobody in the region round about Consett know how to cook a Scotch haggis—"Great chieftain o' the puddin' race?" It does not seem as if there were, or if they know the art they do not care to practice it. I have heard no mention made of any social gathering held this week in honour of "rantin' roving Robin." I regard this as remarkable, seeing that there are a large number of intelligent Scots in the immediate neighbourhood. There are few natives of "the land of the mountain and flood" who are not proud of the national bard. It has been said that:—

"Where'ere beneath a foreign sky
His steps a Scotchman turns,
Twa books aye in his wallet lye,
His Bible and his Burns."

I am sensible of one thing, that the man who reads and studies the poetry of Robert Burns will be the better for it. I never rise from perusing his soul-inspiring pages without feeling that the innermost chords of the soul have been thrilled as if by martial music. It is to be regretted that this anniversary season of the famous bard has been allowed to pass without a passing tribute being accorded to his memory by the resident Scots of North-Western Durham. They might have done something, as in other districts, by way of twining the laurel round his brow, the thistle round his bonnet.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Miss Agnes Russell, of Templetown, has successfully passed the College of Preceptors Examinations recently held at Yarm; also the Trinity College Theoretical Examination held at Stockton. She was prepared by the Misses Wright, Norton.

CONSETT RELIEF FUND.—We understand that in addition to their subscription to this fund, the Consett Iron Company have given the Committee upwards of 100 loads of coals, which have been distributed amongst persons in distressed circumstances, but who are not in their employment.

PRESENTATION.—On Monday, the teachers and scholars attending the Consett Iron Company's British Schools, made a presentation—through the headmaster (Mr G. T. Hyden)—of a handsome travelling bag to Miss Browell, infants' mistress, on the occasion of her leaving Consett for Darlington Training College.

READING AND RECREATION ROOMS.—The annual meeting of the above institution was held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday evening, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mr W. Jenkins, J.P.; vice-president, Rev F. Steggall; treasurer, Mr T. L. Gledstone; auditors, Messrs S. Brodie and C. Stephenson; secretary, Mr A. Brodie, Town Hall, Consett; and a committee of twelve. The operations of this institution have hitherto been fairly successful, but taking into consideration the spacious and comfortable reading-room well supplied with the various daily papers, magazines, &c., and the excellent supply of books by the best authors, which has been recently augmented, as also the very commodious recreation room, where the games of billiards, chess, draughts, &c., can be freely and pleasantly indulged in, we think it is entitled to even yet better patronage.

MR MORGAN AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.—As we anticipated in our last issue, Mr Morgan's audiences have been thrilled with pleasure and have been vociferous in their manifestations. His introductory remarks, too, have been very attentively listened to and highly appreciated, as well they might be, for they contain a great amount of scientific information which is made so plain as to be easily comprehended even by juveniles. We have merely to reiterate what we have aforetime said with respect to his skill as a delineator of character. He actually reads character as though it were printed in type as a book on human skulls. He will conclude this series of entertainments on Saturday night; and will appear in the Temperance Hall, Medomsley, on Monday and Tuesday nights. Though Mr Morgan appears in vigorous health, the end of his professional career must necessarily be near at hand, hence those who wish to see his entertainments ought to embrace the present opportunity.

EAST CASTLE COLLIERY.

ERRATUM.—In the report of the fatality at East Castle Colliery we stated that John Johnson was killed left a wife and four children to mourn his loss. This should have been a wife and five children.

PELTON FELL.

ICE ACCIDENT.—At Pelton Fell Colliery, last week, as a cartman named McLane was engaged in leading sand, he slipped and fell upon the ice in front of the cart, which passed over him, inflicting such injuries that but faint hopes are entertained of his recovery.

GREENCROFT.

FOOTBALL.—On Saturday, Greencroft Black Watch played at Greencroft with the Sykes club, and won by six goals to one.

BLACKHILL.

We beg to remind our readers that the concert in connection with St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, will take place in the Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside, on Monday evening next. A talented array of first-class artistes are announced to appear; and the programme is a varied and comprehensive one, and is arranged to suit the tastes of all classes.

A LOCAL MUSICIAN'S HONOURS.—At a recent examination at the Musical International Training College, London—Junior Division—Edward Jos. Sloane, of the Post Office, Blackhill, has been awarded a certificate with first class honours, and also obtained an additional "Special mention" certificate. The examiner was Mr Edwin M. Lott, Mus. Doc.

ROYAL AUCTION MART.—On Monday, Messrs Nicholson and Murray had their weekly sale, when they had forward 23 fat cattle, which made from £7 to £16 10s; 9 calved cows, from £9 2s 6d to £18; 7 calves, 4s 6d to 30s; 70 fat sheep, 19s 6d to 56s; 23 pigs, from 7s 6d to £4 10s. Potatoes, 4½d and 5d per stone. Oats, 5s per boll. Poultry, &c., at usual prices. Beef, a slow dull trade; top price 6s 6d per stone. Sheep 8d per lb. Pork pigs, 6s per stone.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

MR BULLERWELL is, we are glad to say, continuing the carrying business, which he has for so long a period conducted with satisfaction to the public.

FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.—The 38th annual general meeting of the above society was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday evening—Mr A. Trotter presiding.—The annual reports were first considered, and unanimously adopted, the members present expressing themselves highly satisfied with the results of the last exhibition, and it is satisfactory to find that the Industrial Department (as an exhibition) has proved highly successful.—The election of officers for the ensuing season was next proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—President, Mr J. Booth (re-elected); vice-presidents, all re-elected, to whom were added, Messrs John Thirlwell and A. Houliston; treasurer, Mr J. Lax (re-elected); secretary, Mr W. Ramsay (re-elected); auditors, Messrs J. Collinson and W. Wilson (re-elected), together with the retiring members of the committee: Messrs A. Trotter, W. Anderson, M. Richley, W. B. Thirlwell, J. Dixon, J. G. Cooke, T. Barron, and J. G. Marshall, to whom were added Messrs T. Bewick, and G. Ridley.—It was unanimously agreed that the next annual show be on Saturday, August 20th, 1887, and in order to celebrate the jubilee year it was agreed that, if possible, special prizes be raised, to be offered as special jubilee prizes.—The usual vote of thanks to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

ENTERTAINMENT.—The members of Dipton Primitive Methodist Band of Hope gave an excellent entertainment in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, on Wednesday night week. The chair was ably occupied by Mr W. Rutherford, Catchgate. In his introductory remarks, he intimated that Bands of Hope deserved their sympathy and support, because the principles they advocated were in strict harmony with Bible teaching, as it in no manner countenances or tolerates intemperance. They also ought to have their help, because their object and tendency is to promote the social and moral interests of men.—Afterwards, the following progamme was gone through:—Selection of music, by the band; solo, "Who will care for mother now?" Mr Batey; recitation, "Paddy Haggerty's leather breeches," Mr G. W. Batey; music, by the band; duet, "Our wedding day," Miss Watson and Mr Batey; selection, by the band; dialogue, "Fast life," in five scenes by ten characters; music, by the band; solo, "Come, birdie, come," Miss Watson; recitation, "Drunk and sober," Mr Yeaman; selection by the band; duet, "Domestic squabbles," Miss Watson and Mr Batey; music, the band. In announcing this entertainment special attention was requested to its musical character, and was proved to be no attempt to deceive, for the sweet mellow strains that proceeded from the several instruments indicated wonderful adaptability, grand discipline, and superior musical ability, contributing largely to the pleasure of those who heard him, and was a prominent feature of the evening's entertainment. The singing of Miss Watson and Mr Batey was highly appreciated. The reciters (Mr G. W. Batey and Mr Yeaman) deserve commendation for the manner in which they rendered their pieces, while the performers of the dialogue did their respective parts in such a way as to preserve unimpeached the reputation they have gained as dramatists. The harmonium accompaniments were performed by Mr Alderson in his usual grand style. Votes of thanks being given, the meeting concluded with every evidence of satisfaction.

LANCHESTER.

At the meeting of the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board yesterday (Thursday)—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith in the chair—the only business brought up was the receipt of the balance owing to Mr Newcombe, architect, in connection with the erection of the new hospital, which was referred to a committee for consideration.

THE LATE MR WHEATLEY.—The remains of Mr Geo. W. Wheatley, who met with a shocking death on the railway near Lanchester Station, were interred in the Parish Churchyard, last Friday afternoon, and the deceased being widely known and respected throughout the district, the funeral was an exceedingly large one. The deceased, though a member of the Wesleyan body was a frequent attendant at the Parish Church, and a regular communicant there, and the vicar (Rev F. W. Glyn) feelingly alluded to him in his sermon on Sunday night. Taking as his text the words—"He being dead, yet speaketh," the preacher set before his hearers some of the lessons to be learnt from the quiet, unassuming Christian life of him whom they had all known so well, and respected so much, laying special stress upon first of the childlike but earnest active faith in his Saviour, which was his great characteristic, and made him always to be striving to help others to Christ; and secondly, upon his kindly genial spirit, which was ever courteous and gentle, and made him not only respected, but also loved by all who were closely acquainted with him.

PELTON.

A supper has been given in the infants' school to the lay readers, choirmen, and church officers, by the vicar (Rev J. Wilkins). After supper, songs and music followed. A vote of thanks to vicar for his kindness brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

WATERHOUSES.

INQUEST.—Mr Coroner Dean has held an inquest at the Institute, Waterhouses, on the body of Robert Cavine. Deceased, who died on the 11th inst., had been employed as a coal-hewer at Ivesley Pit. Whilst working on the 22nd Nov., he was struck on the head by a fall of stone. After lying ill for two days, he resumed work. However, in consequence of his injuries, he was compelled to cease work on the 28th Dec. Dr McKay (Esh) then attended him, and death took place as stated.—The jury returned a verdict that death was the result of injuries received by accident.

WEARDALE.

WESLEYANISM.—An excellent concert of vocal and instrumental music was given in the chapel, Westgate, on Saturday night, by the Wearhead Choral Society and String Band, under Mr Wm. English, in aid of the new chapel building fund, to a large audience.

SUDDEN DEATH AT DADDRYSHIELD.—Mrs Mary Bird, grocer, &c., Daddryshield, near St. John's Chapel, was suddenly taken ill on Monday evening whilst attending to shop duties, and immediately after being removed to her room she fell into a slumber and quietly expired within four hours in her 70th year. A fit of apoplexy has caused her death.

CO-OPERATION.—An interesting entertainment was given in the Board School, Frosterley, under the auspices of the New Branch Co-operative Store of that village, recently opened. Mr G. Moses (Stanhope) presided. Mr Atkinson (Newcastle) gave a very interesting speech on "Co-operation." The Bollihope string band was in attendance, and considerably enlivened the proceedings. Songs, readings, and recitations were given at intervals, and a very profitable and enjoyable evening was spent. The singing of Miss Stephenson, Bollihope, was highly appreciated. The place was crowded.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

CLUB AND INSTITUTE.—The annual meeting of the above club and institute was held in the reading-room, Allendale Cottages, for the election and re-election of officers for the ensuing year. The following are the officers elected:—President, Mr W. H. Hedley; vice-presidents, Rev W. Cockin, Mr Morris, Mr Scott, Mr Mace, and Mr Davidson; secretary, Mr T. Dickinson; treasurer, Mr Robt. Robson; librarian, Mr Wm. Ellison; committee, Messrs J. Steel, P. Quigley, J. Halliday, Wm. Edgar, J. Spry, T. Mason, and H. Hovvels.—After a fairly successful sale of papers, the other business of the meeting was gone through. It was unanimously carried by the members of the institute that their hearty thanks be publicly accorded to the managers of the Consett Iron Company for the unscrupulous way they have carried out the alterations which have been made; also fro re-papering all the rooms, which have greatly added to their appearance, and likewise tended to the benefit and comfort of the members.—The financial position of the institute is standing fairly well. After all being settled for the past year, there still remains a balance in favour in the hands of the treasurer.

TOW LAW.

On Saturday week, an old Tow Law standard—Mr Joseph Bond (83)—was interred in the new cemetery, the service being conducted by the Rev. T. C. Hughes.

A lecture on "John Bunyan," illustrated by magic lantern pictures, was delivered in the Presbyterian Chapel, Tow Law, by the Rev H. Slade, on Tuesday night.

A lecture on the "Life and times of John Wesley," was delivered by Mr John Issot, Sheffield, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Sunniside, on Friday night. The lecturer exhibited several views by means of a magic lantern, and the pictures were greatly enjoyed.

On Saturday night Rev. W. H. Simpson, vicar, entertained at the vicarage the choir boys of St. Philip and St. James, Tow Law, to supper. The feast of good things was followed by numerous games, &c., which were heartily indulged in.

On Saturday afternoon, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Tow Law, a convention of Christian believers for promoting the divine life was held, and addresses on "Sin in relation to believers" were given. Both meetings were addressed by Revs W. Baitey, J. Forster, J. Wilkinson, and others, and the gatherings were well-attended.

ICE ACCIDENT.—The wife of a mason named Waugh, residing in High Street, Tow Law, whilst stepping out of the house into the street, fell on the ice and broke her leg on Thursday se'nnight.

A crowded meeting of the Tow Law Church Band of Hope was held on Saturday, in the Mission Room, and two excellent addresses were given to the children by Messrs Leonard and Thos. Arton, Crook.

AUCTION MART.—On Monday, at Mr J. Vickers's auction mart, at Tow Law, there were forward: 19 cows, up to £19; 12 store cattle, up to £8; 30 fat cattle, up to £16 17s 6d; 63 fat sheep, 22s 6d to 66s 6d. Large company present. Beef made 6s 6d to 7s 6d per stone; mutton, 7½d to 8½d per lb.

ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROSECUTION OF FELONS.—The annual meeting of the Tow Law Association for the Prosecution of Felons was held on Monday night, at the Tow Law Hotel, when upwards of 40 members sat down to a most excellent dinner, provided by the hostess (Mrs Randall). After the removal of the cloth, the usual toasts were given by the Chairman, Mr W. Ridley, Mr Graham, and others, Messrs Hall, Richardson, Wherley, McCullagh, and Emmerson entertained the company during the evening with songs &c.

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES.—Miss Wilson, the popular lady evangelist, is still conducting a successful mission in the Wesleyan Chapel, Tow Law. The Blackhill Mission Band attended on the Saturday and Sunday, and rendered excellent service. A united meeting was held on Sunday afternoon in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, which was crowded, and an overflow meeting took place in the Wesleyan Chapel. The spiritual life in the various churches has been much quickened by the revival.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

SANITARY AUTHORITY.—Dr David Duncan, medical officer of health for the Chester-le-Street Union, on Friday, presented his annual report upon the Haraton division of the Union, to the Chester-le-Street Sanitary Authority. Dr Duncan reported that during the past year there had been 830 births, giving a rate of 37·7 per 1,000; the number of deaths during the same period had been 418, or a rate of 19·0 per 1,000 per annum; zymotic death rate, 1·83. The infantile mortality had been exceptionally high during the year, over half the deaths registered being under five years of age, and over one-third of infants under one year.—Mr Barras, Sanitary Inspector to the Union, also presented his annual report. The number of births registered throughout the Union was 1,921, showing a birth-rate of 40·02 per 1,000 per annum; as against 1,895 births, and a rate of 41·19 per 1,000 for the year 1885. The number of deaths registered from all causes—including the Workhouse—was 939, showing a death-rate of 19·56 per 1,000 per annum; as against a rate of 22·0 for the year 1885.

BLAYDON.

A PORK BUTCHER'S GRIEVANCE.—The case of Falck v. Gray was heard in the Newcastle County Court on Friday. It was an action to recover 19 guineas for illegal ejectment, brought by George Falck, Blaydon, for whom Mr Parsons appeared, against Wm. Gray, innkeeper, Blaydon, for whom Mr D. Macdonald appeared. Falck became tenant of a shop situated in Blaydon, belonging to defendant, in June last. In October Falck, who carried on the business of a pork butcher, sold the business to Mr Stephenson, and then Stephenson sold it to Miss Wilson, who afterwards became the wife of Falck. The rent was 5s per week, and it was paid punctually down to the 22nd Nov. On 19th Nov. the defendant saw plaintiff, and told him he must clear out of the place, and subsequently the defendant removed the roof, and carried out plaintiff's stock-in-trade and utensils into the yard. No notice to quit was given. The damage done was estimated at £9 or £10, and the meat lost was valued at £2 or £3. Plaintiff did not succeed in getting another place for some time. The profit of the business was about £3 per week. The defendant, it appeared, was a sub-tenant himself, and it was contended that something tantamount to a notice was given to the plaintiff.—A verdict was entered for plaintiff, with £2 2s damages.

CATCHGATE.

TREAT TO THE AGED POOR.—The annual treat, for the fifth successive occasion, provided for the aged and infirm people resident in Annfield Plain and surrounding district, took place in the Greencroft Board Schools at Catchgate last Saturday evening. Like its predecessors, the gathering was a pleasant and congenial one. The number of old folks who partook of the sumptuous repast served up was slightly less than last year, death having called away some of the well-known standards in the locality. Most of the provisions, &c., were the gifts of the tradespeople; and the committee were not put to any great expense for the purchase of eatables. The tea was followed by a public meeting and entertainment—presided over by the Vicar (Rev. J. Gornall)—and at the close each party present was the recipient of the customary gifts of tea, sugar, &c.

LANGLEY PARK.

CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Wednesday night the fifth annual distribution of prizes to the scholars for conduct and attendance at the Langley Park School took place. The vicar of the parish presided.

CORNSAY.

"A DOWNRIGHT FRAUD."—At the Durham County Court—before Judge Meynell—Bernard Jacobi, jeweller and general dealer, Sunderland, sued *William Grayson*, miner, Cornsay, for £3 7s., the value of a watch supplied to him.—Plaintiff produced a promissory note which the defendant had signed, and in which he promised to pay the sum named on demand.—As soon as his Honour had looked at it he turned to the plaintiff and said it was a downright fraud. Such people as the plaintiff went among the ignorant pitmen, who did not understand such matters, and after selling them a watch on the understanding that they paid for it by instalments, got them to sign a promissory note [illegible] on demand.—Plaintiff would be non-[illegible]

MARLEY HILL.

ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH.—On Sunday morning, the Bishop of Durham preached to an attentive and overflowing congregation at St Cuthbert's Church, Marley Hill. In lucid, picturesque, and felicitous language the Bishop delineated the constraining power of the love of Jesus Christ exampled in St Paul, and with loving earnestness pressed home on each hearer the duty and blessedness of making full personal trial of that power. The offertory, which was for the Church Improvement Fund, amounted to £6 6s 1d.

TANFIELD.

PARISH CHURCH.—On Sunday evening, the Bishop of Durham preached in Tanfield Church in aid of the Diocesan Church Building Fund. His Lordship, taking his text from 1 Corinthians iii., 16, preached with great vigour and earnestness a most eloquent and impressive sermon, and he was most attentively listened to by the very large congregation (numbering over 900) gathered together to hear him. The service was full choral, and was sung with a very bright and pleasing effect by the choir. Especially noticeable was the rendering of Goss's beautiful unison service (Cantate and Deus) in C. The anthem was "Lift up your heads" (Hopkins). The prayers were intoned by Rev C. H. Newman, and the lessons read by Mr Jas. Gilchrist, the vicar (Rev T. Hewan Archdall) taking the prayers from the 3rd Collect. The offertory amounted to £7 6s 4d.

WITTON GILBERT.

SUICIDE IN THE OUSEBURN.—On Monday night, Mr Theodore Hoyle, coroner, held an inquest at the Addison Hotel, Addison Road, Heaton, on the body of Thomas Scott (61), of the Three Horse Shoes Hotel, Witton Gilbert, who was found drowned in the Ouseburn on Sunday morning.—Robert Branton, blacksmith, residing at 15, Rothbury Terrace, Heaton, said deceased, who was his father-in-law, came to stay with him on Saturday night. He had been in a despondent state of mind for some time, and had been under the care of two medical gentlemen, who expressed their opinion that he was in a state of mind bordering upon insanity. On Saturday night, about half-past eight o'clock, deceased left the house by a back door. He did not return, and witness went out to seek him, but could find no tidings of him. On Sunday morning, witness heard that the body of a man had been found in the Ouseburn, and he identified the body as that of his father-in-law. His clothing was orderly, and his money was found upon him. Witness had no reason to suspect foul play.—The jury returned a verdict of "Suicide whilst in a despondent state of mind."

STANHOPE.

ICE ACCIDENTS.—Last week, Mrs Golightly, wife of Mr Thomas Golightly, Front Street, Stanhope, fell and broke her arm on the ice.—Mrs Brown, wife of Mr Francis Brown, farmer, Greenhead Farm, near Stanhope, also fell on the ice and broke her arm.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On the 15th inst., a lecture on "Manliness" was delivered in the Wesleyan Chapel, Stanhope, by Mr A. Phillipson, of Dipton. Mr T. C. Brown, headmaster of the Day School, presided.—Mr Phillipson dwelt very exhaustively upon the shams and pretences of manliness. He pressed home very forcibly that a man's length of life was not measured by the number of years he lived, but by the number of manly deeds and actions he took part in, and by these only would he live in the memory of his fellow-men.—Two sermons, on behalf of the Sunday-school, were preached by Mr Phillipson, on Sunday.

QUARRY ACCIDENTS.—James Littlewood, quarryman, Crawleyside, while following his usual employment in the Ashes Limestone Quarry, Stanhope, was badly hit on the head by a falling stone from the baring at the top of the quarry which the frost and thaw had loosened from its bed.—Two quarrymen at Newlandside limestone quarry—Daniel Horn and Wallace Emerson, both of Frosterley—had a narrow escape for their lives last week by a fall of earth coming down while they were working underneath. One was partly covered up with it, and the other was forced to within a few inches of the quarry edge to escape it. Had he gone over he could not possibly have saved himself, as the quarry face at that place was a considerable height.

WESLEYAN DAY-SCHOOL TREAT.—On Friday last, the children of the Wesleyan Day School at Stanhope had their annual treat. In the afternoon they were regaled with tea, spice loaf, &c., after which they were served with nuts and oranges. In the evening there was a public meeting, presided over by Dr Livingstone, when the place was crowded with parents and friends of the children. Each child received a prize in the shape of books, inkstands, writing-desks, &c., Dr Livingstone presenting 18 of the principal prizes himself. Speeches were delivered by Messrs T. Philipson, J. Wharton, G. Driver, R. Ward, T. Brown (schoolmaster), Mason (Barrington schoolmaster), and the Rev C. Whitfield.

WOLSINGHAM.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL.—On Sunday, Rev R. Calderbank preached two very excellent and effective sermons in the Wesleyan Chapel, Wolsingham.—On Wednesday night, a most enjoyable meeting was held in the chapel, in connection with the Sunday-school "prize-giving" for punctual attendance and good conduct during the year. The meeting was made public this year, and a goodly number of the parents and friends of the scholars were present to witness the distribution. Nearly fifty volumes of excellent letter-press were pleasingly received at the hands of Rev J. Duff, who also gave a very interesting speech. Mr W. Steel also addressed the meeting, whilst Mr Batty and the general secretary (Mr J. J. Morgan) assisted. Messrs J. Parker and E. Stankley as usual rendered good service. The missionary prizes included amongst these already named were gained by 16 juvenile collectors, who during the past year have collected over £15, showing unmistakably the results of "little things," as it has nearly all been gathered in at the rate of ½d a-week per member. A collection was taken at the close on behalf of the funds of the Sunday-school library.—Amongst the works distributed we noticed a few volumes of that very excellent work, "Mother Freeman," which was so eulogistically reviewed in last week's *Guardian*. It is an honour to the author (Rev John Wesley Keyworth), and a work that every one would do well to read. We wish the rev gentleman's work the success it so richly deserves.

WELDON'S PRACTICAL CROSS-STITCH contains many new and useful designs in cross-stitch for all purposes. The variety and elegance of the patterns found in its pages are surprising.

THE LORD BISHOP OF RUPERT'S LAND AT JARROW.—On Monday evening the Lord Bishop of Rupert's Land preached in St. Paul's (Old) Church, Jarrow. There was but a small attendance. At the close of the service a collection was taken in aid of the church work in Rupert's Land.

DRUNKENNESS AT WILLINGTON QUAY.—On Monday at the Tynemouth Petty Sessions the following cases were disposed of:—William Bilson was charged by P.C. Guy with having been drunk and disorderly on the 11th inst. Fined 5s and costs.—George Tonathy was similarly charged by the same officer, and was fined 2s and 6d and costs.—Daniel McKelly, charged by P.C. Wray, was fined 5s and costs or seven days.

MORE WORK FOR TYNE SHIPYARDS.—Messrs Hawthorn, Leslie, and Co., Hebburn, have started to "screive" the lines for a vessel about 400 feet long that they have got an order for from Messrs Milburn, Newcastle. The same firm, we understand, have also secured a contract for a sister vessel to the above. With these orders, and those on hand, the yard will be kept busy during the summer months.—We learn that Messrs Skinner and Co., Bill Quay, have received an order for a steamer about 300 feet long. This order, with that for two small steamers on hand, will keep the yard employed for some time.

[illegible] DEATH OF A CHILD AT HEBBURN.—On Saturday, about nine a.m., Jane Broadbent, a child about four months old, was found lying dead in its cradle at the house of its parents, 9, Prince Consort Road, Hebburn. It appears that the mother on the day in question fed it with [illegible] and put it in its cradle, and when she went to it a short time afterwards she found it was dead.—Dr Norman, who was called in, thought the child had been vomiting, and, being deformed about the mouth—being born without a palate or roof of the mouth—it had been suffocated.

HERE AND THERE.

There has been a good deal of speculation recently as to the course which the Government will take upon Procedure. It seems to me clear that they have not finally decided upon their course upon the essential points, and this for a very simple reason. There is not the slightest ground why they should bring definite proposals of their own before the House of Commons. It has been forgotten that they made their own proposals last year to a Select Committee and that those proposals were very carefully examined by a very large select committee, of which Lord Hartington was chairman. Generally speaking, Lord Hartington's amendments of Sir Michael Beach's resolutions were accepted; but it seems certain that the Government will adopt the ordinary and convenient course of bringing before the House of Commons pretty much the resolutions as amended and reported back by the Select Committee, a course which will enable them to stand very much out of the discussion as a Government and to accept without humiliation any amendments which may be introduced by the House. The responsibility, in short, will be thrown off the shoulders of the Government and upon the shoulders of Lord Hartington. But there is another fact to be borne in mind which is that Mr. Goschen was a member of the committee, and this fact makes it the more certain that the course which I suggest is that which will be taken. Mr. Goschen, with his customary caution, was absent from most of the critical divisions, so that the proceedings of the committee will not throw very much light upon his opinions, but he did vote in some of the divisions about the closure. Mr. Goschen supported Sir Michael Beach's amendments, and voted steadily against Mr. Chamberlain and Sir William Harcourt and against "bare majority."

The *Daily News* is guilty of a piece of sensationalism of a nature which, to judge by its general conduct, it would as a rule repudiate. No doubt the editor fully believes the statement which is made in a first leader and endorsed by the contents-bill, of the "imminence" of an "immediate" war between Germany and France, but practically I take it that the announcement is made upon a foundation not very different from that upon which was based the recent "Bombardment of Constantinople" in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, and is, indeed, supported by even less evidence than that "date of the end of the world" which the *Pall Mall* gave us on Saturday. The leader states that Germany is about to address to France a demand for French disarmament. Germany by doing so would incur the blame of the whole of civilised Europe, and she would arouse a feeling against her which would probably lead to the taking of similar steps for the defence of the neutrality of Belgium to those taken by Mr. Gladstone in 1870. The writer of the detailed information given in the *Daily News*, from the ordinary French and German books of reference, admits that Germany cannot attack France except through Belgium, and, therefore, the attitude of England is of essential importance to Germany, and whenever Germany attacks France it is certain that she will contrive or try to contrive to put France in the wrong in the same way as in 1870. At a moment when everyone who knows France knows that there is not the slightest intention on the French side of breaking the peace, it is in the last degree unlikely that Germany will attack France in the manner described.

The *Spectator* congratulates the world on being so thoroughly alive to the dangers of a European war, as if a catastrophe of this kind were generally unexpected. "It does not often happen just before a great war that everybody is wideawake." Doesn't it? Well, of the five great wars within the last thirty years or so, four were certainly expected some time before they broke out. The Crimean War had been anticipated for years; the Danish war was no surprise to anybody; nor was the struggle between Austria and Prussia that so closely followed it. The American Civil War was heralded in a fashion that kept us all on the tiptoe of expectation. Only the Franco-Prussian War found the world unprepared for so great a convulsion.

I warn my readers against too hastily concluding that General Roberts's "reduction" of the force in Burmah to 17,000 men means a real approach to a settlement of the country. *Pari passu* with his reduction, Sir Frederick Roberts announces that the force of native police must be made up to 16,000 men before the soldiery can be reduced to the promised 17,000. The police are, of course, soldiers under another name, and if the total force is to be kept up to these proportions, there will be a slight increase. General Roberts's announcement is probably meant for English ears, but those who read between the lines will not be inclined to overrate its importance.

There is no question now that the reason why Lord Randolph did not go to Windsor to deliver up the seals was that the Queen positively refused to see him. It was not simply that his resignation and the manner of it had greatly offended her Majesty. There was another cause of a more domestic kind. You will remember that Lord Randolph was at Windsor two days before his resignation was announced. When there he wrote to Lord Salisbury the most uncompromising of all the letters about their relations, and this letter the Premier afterwards shewed to the Queen, who was incensed to find that it was written on the Castle notepaper. That Lord Randolph should write such an epistle under her roof and on her paper without giving her the slightest inkling of what he was meditating was an injury which filled the cup of his iniquities to overflowing. I may add that this story is not mere gossip. I have the best reason to know that it is an authenticated fact.

Turkey appears to have actually made a suggestion towards the solution of the Bulgarian question. Let the Regency be dissolved and the country be administered by a Lieutenant-Governor pending the election of the new Sobranje. The Sultan proposes to appoint the Lieutenant-Governor, who, of course, would do nothing to influence the elections in favour of Russia. The extreme simplicity of this proposal will convince all the diplomatists that the Porte is really as childlike as Ah Sin.

Some years ago Mr. Robert Buchanan wrote a vivacious attack on society journalism in the *Contemporary Review*. He was held up to odium by Mr. Edmund Yates, and since then society journalism has developed, and staid reviews have forgotten all about it. But at last the *Edinburgh Review* has awakened to the subject, and classes society journals with penny dreadfuls in an article on "The Literature of the Street." This literature is for the most part "a canker of poisonous leprosy and has in it the essence of contagion." It also has a Latin quotation which the reviewer uses with much satisfaction. He is quite convinced that society journals draw their information of fashionable life from "mere needy adventurers who, by dint of impudent persistence and the outlay of half-a-crown, wriggle inside the hall-door, penetrate as far as the servants' parlour, and pick up broken scraps of such tittle-tattle as thereto appertains." There is a good deal more of the same kind, but I do not suppose that the withers of Mr. Labouchere will be very severely wrung.

LADIES' COLUMN.

Ladies who have not accustomed themselves to take an intelligent interest in political topics lose rather than gain by the meeting of Parliament. Though houses which have been closed for nearly six months reopen, and London looks more lively with the return to it of all those who are a part of the Government machinery, there is yet something lacking. Half at least of the newspaper columns are filled with long, dry speeches, not half so interesting as the miscellaneous subjects, news from every part of the world, that used to supply subjects of drawing-room conversation. Our gentlemen friends are absorbed in talk when they meet of all that is going on down at St. Stephen's—what the leader of the House said, and what the Opposition answered.

Addresses, amendments, adjournments, debates, motions, budgets, blockings, and a dozen other words which are familiar to the politician, are dreary to the outsider; to the drawing-room they are an infliction, as being absolutely meaningless. Yet when contemporary events pass into history, and are embodied in educational books, girls are expected to make a study of it all, and submit their knowledge to be tested by those grand inquisitors, the Cambridge examiners. It is a pity that the structural arrangements of the House of Commons make so little provision for ladies hearing debates occasionally. If the mothers only had a little more knowledge, it would re-act on the daughters, and we should no longer find the conversation of our political friends dry and uninteresting. To think that with the women of the three kingdoms being counted by hundreds of thousands, there is yet but space for eighteen of these each evening during the sitting of Parliament to hear the speeches, and have a distant peep down at what is going on in the body of the House of Commons. The other seats which are reckoned as available are really of very little use, for they are so far out of sound and sight of the speakers.

By no section of politicians will the late Lord Iddesleigh be more sincerely mourned than by those women householders who desire to have equal acknowledgment with men that they pay rates and taxes, and are entitled to have a Parliamentary vote. As Sir Stafford Northcote, and as Lord Iddesleigh, this statesman was always women's friend. The suggestion that giving women householders votes would add an inconvenient number of new voters to the constituencies had no terrors for the brave old man. He calculated that all the women in the United Kingdom who would be enfranchised would not, even if they used their privileges, equal the newly-enfranchised in Ireland only previous to the last general election. On the women farmers Lord Iddesleigh considered the exclusion pressed unjustly, as their labourers were recognised and they themselves not only ignored but disbarred.

In a recent number of the *Irish Textile Journal*, a periodical which ought to be more widely read than in the commercial circles, the organ of which it is, an interesting account is given of carpet weaving in Dublin. Like all Irish industries, this one has had a hard fight for life. In the beginning of this century there were 13 carpet factories at work. By the middle of the century they were all dead, and only the memory of them survived. In 1855, Mr. J. MacMahon took courage, bought up the old looms still in existence, adapted them to modern improvements, and went to work in the neighbourhood of the poplin mills, on the property of Lord Brabazon, or rather of his father, the Earl of Meath. From the north of Ireland the most improved Jacquard apparatus was introduced, and carpets of every description are now made, including stage carpets, rugs, carriage rugs, and church seat rugs. One of the sights of the factory is the storerooms in which various coloured dyed woollen and other yarns are kept ready for the weavers. Miss MacMahon, the daughter of the founder, has invented a new method of matching the colours which is entirely successful, but is, of course, a secret the exclusive property of the firm. Anyone who has the most rudimentary knowledge of textile weaving will be able to appreciate the value of Miss MacMahon's invention. In a Kidderminster carpet of an apparently simple design there may be three, ten, fifteen, and even twenty-five different shades of yarn used.

The Jubilee commemoration bids fair to expand into a very large subject. The longer it is considered and the more numerous the suggestions that spring up in every direction, the more puzzling it is to decide upon the respective merits of the proposals. Some of the schemes appeal to the sentimental side of our characters; some to the intellectual; others arouse our artistic instincts. All ought to awaken our benevolent feelings if any real good is to be done. The piteous appeal for the hospitals, to rescue them from their load of debt and difficulties, strikes a chord in every human breast. Before taking up this idea everyone ought to read the Sturge prize essay which has just been awarded on "The causes of the financial depression in the London Hospitals, with suggestions for improving their administration and finances." The successful author, Dr. H. Nelson Hardy, has long been identified with the cause of hospital reform, and for more than 13 or 14 years been watching and studying the question from a practical point of view. The essay particularly deals with the London Hospitals, but all large towns are experiencing the same difficulties in making receipts cover expenditure. Even Birmingham, where Hospital Sunday was invented, and which gave the idea to other places, mournfully admits that the result of last year shews a decline of £1,600. *The Philanthropist* (London, 123, Fulham-road), which publishes Dr. Hardy's Sturge essay *in extenso*, tells us that the governors of Guy's Hospital must have £100,000, or some of the wards must be closed. Where is so vast a sum to come from? And yet there are other hospitals equally valuable as Guy's, requiring help if they are to keep open doors.

Few people are aware that Guy's Hospital owes its existence, if not altogether yet in a great measure, to a woman's obstinate and unruly will. Old Thomas Guy, at the close of the seventeenth and the beginning of the eighteenth centuries, kept a bookseller's shop in a house which once formed the angle between Cornhill and Lombard-street, not far from the Mansion House. In those days booksellers were also publishers, and though Guy's chief business was the sale of Bibles, he did a little printing and selling of other books. To this trade he added other ways of money-making, for he used to buy up seamen's prize tickets in Queen Anne's wars, and in 1720, when South Sea Stock enriched some speculators, Thomas Guy was one of them. In his personal expenditure the bookseller was self-denying to a degree. He would dine on his own shop counter on a folded newspaper, eschewing all household extravagances. Once Thomas contemplated matrimony, and his choice fell upon his own servant maid. But before the marriage came off, the lady, thinking, probably, her position secure, disobeyed the master in giving an order for some trifling expenditure which he had forbidden, and thus she forfeited her great prospects, greater probably than either she or her master then realised. Guy provided for all his relations, built almshouses, and gave a free library to Tamworth, his native place; bestowed benefactions on Christ's Hospital and donations to the Stationers' Company; built three wards for old St. Thomas' Hospital; and built and endowed Guy's Hospital at a cost of a quarter of a million of money, a still greater sum in those days than it would be considered now when money has a different value.

Last week the proprietors of the Chancery-lane Safe Deposit invited a select party to inspect its newly-completed premises, including the huge safe, 250ft. long (containing some thousands of smaller safes), sufficiently commodious to hold all the loose jewellery in London. The protection afforded to private people to store their valuables here is unique, the strong-rooms, with ponderous iron and concrete 2-ton doors, being unparalleled for massiveness. Armed sentinels guard the premises night and day, and, while quite impervious to fire, it would require an organised *corps d'armée* of burglars to effect an entrance.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

SIR WORRYFUL.

You see they had been reading—at least their mother had been reading to them—"Tales of King Arthur's Round Table," and the boys talked a great deal of the noble knights and their gallant deeds.

These boys, both Stuart and Harvey, were much like those you know, sometimes good enough to make their mother proud of them, sometimes so cross that her heart ached, and she was sad and discouraged. Stuart was in many ways just such a boy as you would like—but oh! how he did worry and fret sometimes, and how he did twist and screw up his face when anything occurred that he did not like, or when any disagreeable duty was given him.

One day he had been whining because his lessons were not easy. His brother had been teasing him, and the rain had prevented their playing circus in the yard. Their mother had tried to be patient, but it was hard work, and when night came she was quite tired out. "Boys," she said, "finish your lessons; we must have a little talk before you go to bed."

But Stuart was still in a pucker, and, of course, that only made the lesson harder. At last, however, they were learned, and mother's voice sounded very weary when she said, "Place your books on the study table; I have something to say to you."

They drew nearer the fire and she asked, "Boys, if you should be knighted what kind of badges do you suppose would be given you—what names would you like to have placed on your escutcheons?" Their eyes opened very wide, this was such an odd question.

"Why, mamma, I would like to be Sir Launcelot," cried Stuart, eagerly.

"And I would be King Arthur himself!" exclaimed Harvey.

"Well," continued mamma, "to-day I made a badge for one of you."

"Oh, mamma, please let me have it! Please let me have it!" each boy cried.

"Only one can wear it," she said quietly; "and besides it would really not suit both of you." Their eyes danced with anticipation and eagerness; what a funny idea this was of mamma's.

"I feel very sorry about it," she added, "and hope most earnestly that before very long this badge may be changed for another," and she held up a narrow black ribbon, and hanging from it was a curious little mirror, shield-shaped, which they had often seen in her dressing-case. She held it before each boy, and each in turn saw his own face reflected. Then she reversed it, and in clear black letters they read "Sir Worryful!" Stuart's face flushed crimson. "Oh, mamma! mamma!" he cried. "Am I really to wear that?" And she answered very gravely, "Yes, dear, until the name is no longer applicable." His lips trembled a little as she put the ribbon around his neck, and tucked the shield, about the size of a silver dollar, inside his coat. "Oh, mamma, I'll always know its there—and I don't—don't—like it."

"No, I suppose not, but your shield may aid you somewhat as the knights of old were aided—it may really defend you, because being conscious of its presence you may ward off the ugly habit of worrying that is now your greatest fault—it may help you as you gaze into its clear surface and see yourself reflected, to pause and wonder how you seem to the eyes of others, but above all how you appear to the all-searching eye of God; whether you reflect, as we are commanded, love and good-will to all, kindness, gentleness, and unselfishness, or whether you are like a blurred and defaced mirror that gives back every reflection imperfect and ugly. From this day you are my 'Sir Worryful' until you have won a nobler title."

TALKING IN THEIR SLEEP.

Did you ever overhear the trees and plants talking in their winter sleep? A poet in *St. Nicholas* seems to have done so.

"You think I am dead,"
The apple-tree said,
"Because I have never a leaf to shew—
Because I stoop,
And my branches droop,
And the dull grey mosses over me grow;
But I'm all alive in trunk and shoot;
The buds of next May
I fold away—
But I pity the withered grass at my root."

"You think I am dead,"
The quick grass said,
"Because I have parted with stem and blade!
But under the ground
I am safe and sound
With the snow's thick blanket over me laid.
I'm all alive and ready to shoot,
Should the Spring of the Year
Come dancing here—
But I pity the flower without branch or root."

"You think I am dead,"
A soft voice said,
"Because not a branch or root I own!
I have never died,
But close I hide
In a plumy seed that the wind has sown.
Patient I wait through the long winter hours;
You will see me again—
I shall laugh at you, then,
Out of the eyes of a hundred flowers!"

WONDERFULLY APPARELLED.

To a lad who enjoys taking part in acting charades or dramas for juveniles the possession of such a costume as that worn by the Highland boy, of whom we are told below, would doubtless afford the most intense satisfaction. Probably, however, he would feel some scruples as to the advisability of adopting it for everyday wear.

I used (says a writer in *Good Words*) to visit a retired school in the west of Sutherland where the people were unusually poor, and where a wreck used to be nothing less than a Godsend. Some years ago, a Spanish vessel had been wrecked off their stormy coast, and the clothes of the crew had substantially and visibly increased the limited wardrobes of the community, with remarkable and motley results. One boy surpassed all his companions in style; in fact, he was quite a gent in his way. He had on his father's wide trousers. These, being too long, had to be turned up at the feet, and, being also much patched by the thrifty mother, stuck out behind in a projecting peak, which gave him an appearance not unlike a cocked hat set on end. Over them he wore the fine blue coat of the chief officer, with swallow tail, pigeon breast, and superabundant bright brass buttons. His coat was firmly buttoned up to the high stiff neck, which prevented the boy turning his head; while the long narrow tail hung pendant over the peaked trousers behind. The whole presented a unique appearance, of which its owner was evidently proud even to gravity. I employed him all day in doing little offices for me; and the aspect he exhibited in his extraordinary casing, while moving about, over form and table, in the crowded little school, was something quite too absurd, though both he and I kept as grave as church elders.

NUMBER ONE.

"I tell you," said Robbie, eating his peach,
And giving his sister none,
"I believe in the good old saying that each
Should look out for Number One."
"Why, yes," answered Katie, wise little elf,
"But the counting should be begun
With the *other one* instead of yourself—
And *he* should be Number One."
—*St. Nicholas.*

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—Ample supply, and a refuge combined,
A town found in Cheshire will call to your mind.

2.—Ten letters. My 9, 2, 4, is a covering; my 8, 10, 1, 5 is a fastener; my 6, 3, 7, 4 is to disturb; and my *whole* is an old friend.

3.—My *first* is in itself complete,
Second part of first will tell;
My *whole*, a term applied to meat,
Implies condition fresh and sweet,
And suits the palate well.

4.—Word Half-square.—1. A country; 2. To communicate; 3. Pleased; 4. Subsequent; 5. A goddess; 6. Two-thirds of one; 7. A letter.

5.—Diamond Puzzle.—1. A letter; 2. Acquired skill; 3. Corn; 4. A metal; 5. A letter.

6.—Conditions; curtail, a nation; transpose, a means of perception; behead and transpose, found in every parlour; transpose, a point of the compass; withdraw a letter, what children do, particularly boys; transpose, a vegetable; curtail, a preposition.

7.—Ten letters. My 1, 7, 4 is a conveyance; my 2, 7, 8, 5, 6 is custom; my 6, 10, 3, 9 is a bird; and my *whole* is liberal.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Venice, niece, nice, ice. 2. Rafter, after, raft, aft, fat. 3. Tree. 4. Watch, match, hatch, batch, catch, latch, patch. 5. Tusk, rusk, dusk, husk, musk. 6. Dec(k)ember.

A curious old lady wants to know if the "editorial sallies" she hears so much about are the sisters of the "printer's devils."

Some of England's big guns are coming to America it is said. Yes, and many of them are smooth bores.—*American Paper.*

Business Announcements.

TO THE WEARY.

"Throw Physic to the dogs,
I'll none of it."—*Shakespeare*

DO
TRUTH. READ THIS. TRUTH
No Person Need Despair

A SPEEDY RESTORATION TO HEALTH AND STRENGTH,

If he or she will carefully peruse the following, and learn that the great

SELF-RESTORER,

OR

DR. BELL

PATENT VOLTAIC BELT

IS, the safest, grandest, and most certain discovery ever known for the cure of all bodily ailments arising from indiscretion and other causes. To those afflicted with Nervousness, Nervous Debility, Loss of Physical Power, Weakness of Body and Mind, &c., this invention presents a means of cure of so unfailing a character that the greatest sufferers from any of the above distressing complaints may, with confidence, rely upon being quickly restored to a sound state of health and strength. In fact, the many marvellous cures performed by the "Self-Restorer" (UNDENIABLE PROOF OF WHICH CAN BE GIVEN) at once places these extraordinary Instruments far beyond anything of the kind hitherto offered to the public. In order to prove that these Belts are all they claim to be, it would be as well to mention the following circumstance:—

"IN the High Court of Justice (Queen's Bench Division) an injunction was granted on January 24th, 1884, restraining several unprincipled persons from selling any colourable imitations of the 'Self-Restorer' Belt, the Jury giving the proprietor a verdict with costs and damage, for such infringement." The belt was also explained, and its Electrical powers fully tested in open Court, both before Mr. Justice Hawkins and the Jury, upon the same occasion.

CAN *any other Manufacturer of Electric Belt produce evidence of* SO SEVERE A TEST. Surely, after such a proof as this, the most sceptical will believe that it really possesses the great restorative powers ascribed to it.

IT may be as well to mention that the action of the "Self-Restorer" is gentle but exceeding effective. The mild, but beneficial current generated by its use, braces the system, and by its benign influence gradually builds up the frame until the mind begins to get brighter, the natural functions become stronger, the elastic spirit of youth once more apparent, and so the progress towards recovery steadily goes on until the patient ultimately realises the fact that he is *once more young*. In cases of weakness, arising from any of the before-mentioned causes, these Belts are at once the most simple and at the same time the most certain remedy ever invented or discovered. They are entirely self-acting, and NO ACIDS being required, can be worn at any time without any wetting process or inconvenience to the patient, the salt contained in the insensible perspiration being sufficient to keep it in action.

THE Cures performed are not of a fleeting character, but permanent, providing the instructions sent with each instrument are carefully adhered to. It speedily removes the most miserable feeling, "lowness of spirits," so often experienced; and, after being worn a short time, enables a man to look at the future in a more hopeful light, as the certainty of a rapid cure relieve the mind of a great burthen.

HOW many persons who, by living too generously, have become prematurely old, and consequently have these wretched, morbid feelings? They have an idea that nature is decaying, and the pleasures of life have departed. In nine cases out of ten this is far from being the fact. Nature has not decayed: it is simply lying dormant, and needs but a little assistance to once more assert its presence. "The creaking gate requires oil, or it will continue to creak." So it is with the human frame. Assist it where weak, put it in a position to recover itself, and you will find that after all life has its pleasures, and you the restored inclination to partake of them.

THE beneficial action of these truly life-giving Belts upon the human frame has been proved so conclusively, by thousands of unsolicited testimonials, that no shadow of doubt remains as to their extraordinary efficacy. They can be worn by either sex with the greatest ease and comfort, without fear of discovery, and by a delicate arrangement can be adjusted to act directly upon the weakened parts, so that immediately upon contact with the body an electric current is at once produced of a mild, but withal of so efficacious a character, that an almost instantaneous improvement becomes noticeable. The heavy hanging feeling wears off, the eye becomes brighter, the brain clearer, until at last the patient feels in his own mind that he is once more in the possession of the greatest blessing upon earth, viz, HEALTH, STRENGTH, ENERGY, and MANLY VIGOUR.

IN cases of Gout, Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c., there is no cure in the world to be compared to these Belts. Nature requires assistance in all these complaints, and that assistance to be thoroughly effective, must be obtained from Nature herself—thus, by calling into operation Electricity, a natural ally, congenial to all constitutions, is obtained, and the result is, in almost every case, permanent cures are effected. Again in case of Consumption, these belts have been the SOLE MEANS of restoring thousands of both sexes to a healthy and vigorous existence when that fell disease "Consumption" had in the opinion of many eminent medical men, marked them as its victims. These are facts which can be proved to be absolutely true.

TO persons desirous of further information, instructions will be given away, in 130 pp. pamphlet, showing sufferers how they may be restored to Health, Strength, and Manly Vigour, without the *Aid of Medicine*, or will be sent, post free, together with all particulars as to regimen, diet, &c. Address—W. WRIGHT, Esq., Secretary, Volta House, 175, Wardour Street, Oxford Street, London W.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS MAY BE SEEN AT THE ESTABLISHMENT.

The Prices of Dr. BELL'S MEDICO-MAGNETIC or VOLTA BELTS are
£2 2s., £3 3s., AND £5 5s EACH,
According to Power.

The instrument can be sent to any part of the known world, through the Post, securely packed, upon receipt of remittance. P.O.O. made payable to Mr W. Wright, at the Charing Cross Post Office London.

Measurement round the body, just below the hips, must in all cases be sent.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

VOLTA HOUSE,
175, WARDOUR STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Having been asked upon many occasions how it is that our Belts are higher priced than those now being advertised by new firms (with whom we have no connection whatever) we beg to call attention to following:

This Appliance is POSITIVELY WHAT IT PROFESSES TO BE—an "ELECTRIC BELT," which may be proved before purchasing by the Galvanometer, &c. It was explained and fully tested before Mr Justice Hawkins and a Jury in the Court of Queen's Bench, January the 24th, 1884. Moreover, it ENTIRELY DIFFERS from anything of the kind advertised.

A perusal of which will at once show the most dubious that our Belts are without doubt, infinitely superior to anything of a like character extant, and are as beneficial to exhausted nature as represented.

They having stood the test for 30 years is still further guarantee of their genuineness. [illegible]

THE GOOD SAMARITAN.

"Yes," said Mrs. Selvidge, I s'pose it was a dreadful imprudent thing to do. But I didn't seem to realize it at the time. It was a sharp nipping sort of an evening, and I'd jest been out in the garden covering up my geraniums with bits of newspapers, and when I turned round to come in, there he stood like a shadow betwixt daylight and dusk, and he said, "could you give me a little bit of something to eat? I've come a considerable distance, and I haint eat much and I'm sort o' faint."

"Well, if you'll believe me, I never once remembered none of the stories of tramps that I had read in the newspapers and heard the neighbours tell about. I thought of that wedge of squash pie and the piece of cold boiled fowl and pork that I'd put away in the milk-room closet. And I knew John James was just comin' in from milkin' and I 'lowed a drink of new milk was always exceptable to most folks. So says I, "It aint much I've got, but you're kindly welcome to it if you'll walk in."

There was a light in the pantry where Judith had been skimmin' the morning's milk, so I set him down there. And if you'd have seen the way he went through that half cold chicken and the boiled pork, and the bread and butter and squash pie, you would have stared, not to say anything of the three tumblers of new milk that he swallowed down, one right after the other. "You seem to be pretty hungry, old gentleman," said I. "I am, ma'am," said he, "and I thank you kindly for this good meal, that reminds me of my mother's cooking," and then I heard Judith clattering the dishes out in the sink room, like all possessed, and I knew it meant for me to get rid of the poor soul as fast as I could. And while I was sort o' puzzling what to do, he said, "Might I make bold, ma'am, to ask you another very great favour? Haint you got any old shirt you could lend me for a few days? I'm on my way to the East, to get a position as book-keeper in a firm where they used to know me years ago. And the journey has been longer than I expected, and I've got to be pretty shabby. And if I could wear a clean boiled shirt my chances would be better." "Ther's reason in that," said I. "And though Selvidge has been dead this three years, I've some clothes left." So I went upstairs and opened the bureau drawer and took out a real nice shirt, and I wrapt it in a piece of paper and took it downstairs. "I s'pose I couldn't sleep in your barn to-night?" said he kind o' wistful. "At my time o' life a man is likely to get rheumatiz if he aint under a roof when the night dews fall." "No," says I; "John James he's dreadful set against any such thing as that. But here's the key of the little end room back of the smoke house, they don't keep nothing but the harness there, and there's a comfortable bed, where the farm-hands sleep in haying time. Don't say nothing to nobody, but just leave the key on the doorstep to-morrow morning."

I felt sort o' guilty all the time; but he was so respectable, and did look so tired.

"Madam," said he, "I've met many a priest and Levite on the journey, but never a good Samaritan before. Once more I thank you."

Well, John James and Judith they had a deal to say, after the old man was gone, about mother bein so foolish as to let him into the house at all. "My goodness me," thought I, "what would they say if only they knew he was sleepin in the harness chamber close by, with only a thin partition between him and them?" And I won't say but that I was a bit uneasy when Judith told about the tramp that stole Mrs. Deacon Bayberry's watch from under her pillow in March, and the feller that murdered Betsy Burton's second cousin to get the silver dollars that he kept tied up in a stocking between the feather bed and the mattresses; but for all that I didn't believe this old man was a tramp, and what was done was done, so I held my tongue. And I got up early in the morning before Judith was stirring, and got a bowl of milk and a sandwich of bread and butter and cold meat, and set it on the outside window-sill of the harness chamber. Judith was much puzzled afterwards to know how the empty bowl came there, but I jest kept still, until one day, about six months afterwards, there come a little bundle by express:

"It's my worsted from Albany," said Judith.

"No, it aint," said John James, "It's directed to mother as plain as the nose on your face. Mrs. Almira Selvidge, don't you see?"

"But I don't expect nothin' by express," says I, "Nor yet no other ways."

"Well, it's for you, anyhow," said John James. "Open it, and let's see what's in it."

So I opened it, and lo, and behold! there was the shirt all done up as neat as a new pin, with a card on the top, writ on it:

"To the Good Samaritan, with the thanks of him that was ready to perish." Well, arter that there warn't nothin' for it but to tell Judith and John James the whole story.

"Mother," says John James, turning red, "you hadn't ought to perilled our lives in that way."

"Mother is most in her dotage," said Judith; and she looked real hoppin' mad.

"I don't care, children," says I. "The Bible says, Freely ye have received, freely give. And I should do the same thing again."

Judith would speak to no one for a week, and John James was real put out; but somehow it was borne in upon my mind that I had done right, so I put the shirt away and said nothin' more.

Well it was six months more before I thought of the shirt again. There was a lot of poor Italians come to Sledingtown to work on the new railway, and Mrs. Parsons, the minister's wife, found a case of real destitution, where the man had cut his hand and couldn't work, and there was a wife and six little ones with neither food to eat nor clothes to wear. And she came around to our house, as she most always did, the first.

"I'd be glad of any old thing," said she, "that the neighbours could spare, whether it was in the way of food or clothing."

"There!" says John James, says he, "if ever there's any begging to be done folks come straight here. Mother she'd give the shoes off her feet if anyone asked her for 'em." And Judith laughed in her disagreeable way, and says she, "Mother, you'd better get the old shirt that the tramp sent back, and give it to these people."

"It aint a bad idee," says I. So I went to get it. But Judith said she couldn't spare nothing. All her old things she cut up into carpet rags or sold for paper stock, and she didn't believe, neither, in helpin' all them mis'able poor creeturs; it encouraged 'em.

"Encourages them to do what?" said Mrs. Parsons. But I see that Judith hadn't no answer ready, so I just cut in myself with my shirt.

"It ain't much," says I, "but I believe its whole and clean." An' I gave it a shake, and, if you'll believe me, out fell a slip of paper from between the folds.

"What's that?" says John James.

"It's money!" screeched Judith.

"It's a fifty-dollar bill," said Mrs. Parsons.

And sure enough, it was; and "my old tramp," as John James and Judith called him, had sent it to me in this queer sort of way.

It was a long time before Judith would believe but what it was counterfeit; but when she saw that it was a genuine United States bank note she told me I'd ought to write and thank the gentleman.

"How can I," says I, "and I not even knowing his name, much less where he lives. But, all the same, it's a sign that he's in luck, and I am glad and thankful for it!"

But this ain't the end of it. A spell afterwards, when I was in Albany, buying a new story carpet for the best parlour, I see a carriage driv'n by, with that very old gentleman sittin' up in it, as genteel as the President himself. Says I to the storekeeper, "Do you know that gentleman?" for I see he was a-lookin' the same way as I was.

"Do hush, mother," says Judith. "As if people knew every one that goes past in a city like this."

"I don't, in a general way, ma'am," says the storekeeper. "But that gentleman is Mr. Sutherland, as is rather a prominent person just now. He has just come into a fortune, all along of the settling of a thirty years' old lawsuit. He'd lost everything," says the storekeeper, "and he was a porter in a bank, and when all of a sudden there was some old letters or documents discovered, and the evidence was reversed, and he's come into the property."

"Then," says I to Judith, "what do you think of 'my old tramp' now?"

"And the storekeeper he stared as if he thought I was mad! But we didn't say anything, Judith and me. Why should we?"

Business Announcements.

GORDON'S EXTRACT

is as much a Curative for Dyspepsia (Indigestion), Liver Complaint, and Kidney Diseases, as Bread for Hunger, or Water for Thirst.

Cures Coated Tongue, Dizzy Head, Bilious Vomit, Stomach Miseries, Agonies after Food, Accidental Indigestion, Chronic Dyspepsia, and a Hundred other Disagreeable and Painful Symptoms. "Gordon's Extract," Two Shillings, at all Chemists.

"GORDON'S EXTRACT" saved her children from being motherless as well as fatherless.

November 29, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—I write to thank you for the two bottles of "Gordon's Extract" you so kindly gave me, and I am happy to say I am much better. I was suffering from a dreadful form of indigestion. I could not drink a drop of tea or coffee for months, if I did I suffered dreadful with the wind. At times I have been almost choked, continually belching up wind until my throat swelled so much I have had to struggle for my breath. Then I was seized with a dreadful trembling in my inside and all my limbs, with an awful sensation as though I was going out of my mind, and kept bursting into tears. I felt afraid to be left alone. No one but the Lord and myself knows what I have suffered; I also got very irritable. I am happy to say the above symptoms I have described have nearly all disappeared, and I have only taken one bottle and half the second bottle, and I do hope by the time I have finished taking that I shall be quite well, but if I had the means, I should always keep some by me, for this is the second attack I have had, and the second time your valuable medicine, "Gordon's Extract," has saved my life. I can now take a cup of tea and enjoy it without feeling any pain. I have given all your books away, and have and shall continue to recommend it to every one I know. You are quite welcome to make what use you like of this letter, or anyone can come and see me or write to me, and I will tell them that your "Gordon's Extract" has twice saved my life, and my poor children from being left motherless as well as fatherless.

Yours truly grateful,
MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREYS
3, Briggs Row, Lower Richmond Road, Putney.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A SONG.

When the summer sun was shining
In the lovely azure sky,
And the flowers were blooming brightly,
Then they took me home to die.

Thinking ere the flowers were faded,
Or the summer on the wane,
Quiet and for ever silent
I should be released from pain.

Little knowing "Gordon's Extract"
Would renew my life once more,
And the boy they loved and cherished,
Should be merry as of yore.

Thanking God for every mercy,
And the heaven-sent cure renowned,
Which restored [illegible] life fast waning
Making me both strong and sound.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

What a Ladies' Fashion Journal, of large circulation, says:—

"'Gordon's Extract' has been highly commended to me by a friend who appears to have derived great benefit from it, and who, having arrived at the last hour of despair of ever curing a long course of sick headache, took the 'Extract' without any faith in its efficacy at first. This opinion, however, was speedily changed, as a gradual but steady return to health testified to the genuine good done by a regular course of the medicine. At present my friend cannot speak too highly of the excellence of 'Gordon's Extract' in curing sick headache and biliousness. It also appears to be beneficial for many of the complaints to which flesh is heir, but which are not so serious as to need the doctor's aid. The 'Extract' is sold by all chemists at 2s. per bottle, and is by no means disagreeable to the taste."—*Myra's Journal* (*The Silkworm*), August, 1885.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A CASE.

They said that he was dying.
I watched him day and night.
I fancied every moment
The spirit would take flight.
His life was hanging merely
Upon the faintest breath,
Physicians told me sadly
It was the approach of death.
But a dear friend I cherish
A medicine [illegible] did bring;
His life began to flourish,
To bloom as flowers in spring.
'Twas "Gordon's splendid Extract,"
Which I now gladly bless,
Restoring life and health to him,
To me true happiness.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

LUMPS AS LARGE AS A MUSSEL-SHELL.

34, King George Street, Greenwich, S.E.
November 11th, 1885.

DEAR SIR,—May I be allowed to add humble testimony in praise of your valuable "Extract," which by God's blessing did me more good than all the medicine I got from two hospitals and three other doctors. I was suffering from extreme weakness, which brought on skin eruption, and on some parts of my body rose up in lumps as large as a good mussel-shell, that I could not bear myself for itching. After reading [illegible] who had suffered from a similar [illegible] not taken half of one bottle [illegible] Before I had [illegible] rubbing [illegible] two bottles, and am happy to say I am now able to work.—I am, dear sir, Yours respectfully,
CHAS. PARKER.

Business Announcements.

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Book with prices, explaining advantages of this Watch, post free.
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62 & 64, LUDGATE HILL,
25, OLD BOND STREET, LONDON.
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"Oh! bless you, my children!"

WAITING FOR AN ANSWER.

A young lady living in Dallas went back on the young man to whom she was engaged because he drank. A few days after she had told him she would never speak to him again a little negro boy brought a note from the wretched young man, whom we shall call George.

The note read: "Faithless, yet still beloved Fanny,—My sufferings are more than I can bear. I cannot live without your love. I have, therefore, just taken poison, the effects of which I am already beginning to feel. When you read these lines I will already have joined the great silent majority. I will be a corpse. See that I am decently buried, and shed a silent tear over my tomb in remembrance of the happy days gone by.—Your dead George."

When the young lady had finished reading the note, she asked the little negro who brought it what he was waiting for.

"De genman tole me ter wait for an answer."

HOW HE TIED HIM UP.

"Mr. Smartman, that wretched dog of yours digs and scratches in my garden all day, chases my hens till they can't lay, and then howls and barks the live-long night."

"Oh, well, tie him up, then, if he annoys you. I don't hear him. Haven't time to look after him myself; but if he bothers you tie him up."

Three days later. Mr. Smartman has been hunting high and low for his dog the past forty-eight hours. "Slowboy, I can't find my dog anywhere. Has he been about your place?"

"Certain. He's in my barn now. You told me to catch him and tie him up."

Smartman goes into the barn and finds his dog "tied up" to a rafter fourteen feet from the floor by a piece of rope five feet long. Tableau, with red fire and slow curtain.

A simple lay.—An egg.

A land league.—Three miles.

A matter of form—Fitting a lady's dress.

There is a widespread contest over who shall be the champion light-weight grocer.

The American young man, they say, marries for money; the American young woman for alimony.

"A train behind time," remarked Jones, seeing an elderly maiden tricked out in full flowing robes.

From a Stock Exchange correspondent: A financier is a thief who succeeds. A thief is a financier who fails.

Little Jack: "My mamma's fan is hand-painted." Little Dick: "Pooh! who cares? Our whole fence is."

A young lawyer has just had his first case. It was a case of measles, and he had to go home and let his mother nurse him.

"What did the donkey do when he first heard of the doctrine of evolution?" "He brayed till he became a little hoarse."

There is a difference between the lips of a young man and the lips of a young lady—but sometimes it is a mighty small one.

Here the editors ask a fellow to write only on one side of the paper, and then they go and complain of too much one-sidedness!

A: "Do you smoke?" B: "I should think I did, old man! Fact is, I never enjoy my food unless I smoke a cigar *after* every meal."

"Fatty degeneration of conscience" is a new phrase used to express an aggravated form of moral disease. The disease, however, is not new.

You can get a very good idea of "natural selection" in its natural workings by viewing a celery glass after it has been once around the table.

A young lady rejoices that she did not have to buy any furs last winter, because the gentleman who waited on her was both a muff and a boa.

His lost opportunity.—She: "I don't think I shall go rowing with you again." He: "Why not, pray?" She: "Because you only hugged the shore."

An editor, who was impelled to give up his seat to a lady in a street car, described it as being "crowded out to make room for more interesting matter."

A French wife wrote this affectionate and laconic letter to her husband: "I write to you because I have nothing to do; I end my letter because I have nothing to say."

A prominent timber merchant has had his coat-of-arms painted on the panels of his carriage, with the Latin motto "Vidi," which by interpretation is "I saw."

A most excellent lady is much exercised in her mind to know how it is that a little quicksilver in a glass tube can make such awful hot weather by just raising it an inch or two.

Solemn questions with city people about to go to the country: "What shall we do with the bird or cat?" One good way is to let the cat have the bird, and then kill the cat.

Judge: "What was your father?" Prisoner: "Served in the Army." Judge: "What was it he supplied to the Army?" Prisoner: "Six lads. We had [illegible]

[illegible]

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

CONSETT BRANCH.

Last (Thursday) night, another successful entertainment, held under the auspices of the Consett Branch of the above-named society, was given in National Infant School, West Victoria Street. The Vicar (Rev F. Staggall) presided over a large audience, and the programme was well rendered.

PELTON BRANCH.

The usual fortnightly entertainment of the Pelton Branch, C.E.T.S., was given in the boys' school—the vicar in the chair. The programme was rendered by:—Miss Wilkins, Revs J. W. Wilkins and E. H. Greenhow, Messrs Carr, Turnbull, Selkirk, H. Wilkins, Pallister,, There was a large attendance, and the proceeds were given to Mr T. Carr, who has not been able to work through ill health, and who was for twenty years a member of the choir.

NORTH-WEST DIVISION OF DURHAM.

LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION AT ESH WINNING.

On Monday evening, a crowded meeting of Liberals was held in the School-room, Esh Winning, among the speakers being Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P., and Mr S. D. Waddy, Q.C., M.P. Mr J. G. Crofton (Waterhouses) presided.—Mr T. Brett (Esh) moved a resolution expressing unabated confidence in Mr Gladstone as the leader of the Liberal party, and sympathy with the evicted tenants in Ireland.—Mr Ernest Forster (Esh Winning) seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.—Mr Atherley-Jones, member for the Division, who was greeted with loud applause, expressed a hope that Mr Gladstone—(loud cheers)—would be spared to lead the Liberal party to further legislative victories. Afterwards, in the course of an interesting address on the Irish evictions, he said the landlords were taking what they never bought or built. He differed with many friends about the "plan of campaign," for if the landlord could choose an agent between himself and the tenants, so had the latter a right to act through an agent of their own choice. He hoped Ireland would soon have her own Parliament, and make her own laws. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)—Mr Waddy said he was glad to meet with their sturdy and enthusiastic Radicalism. He was glad to testify to the sterling worth of their member, and to find him a worthy son of his old friend, Mr Ernest Jones. (Cheers.) Mr Waddy, in a very humorous speech, reviewed the history of Grattan's Parliament, and the disgraceful state of things since, and expressed a hope soon to see Ireland in possession of her undoubted right.—A vote of thanks to the chairman and speakers closed the proceedings.

STANHOPE EVANGELISTIC MISSION.

Miss J. P. Earl, conductor of the Stanhope evangelistic mission, is still very unwell, but the mission has been ably sustained during her illness. Through the courtesy and kindness of the Primitive Methodists and Wesleyan laymen the services have been ably conducted. Mr W. Elliott took the first Sunday; Mr T. Lonsdale the second, both Primitive Methodists; and Mr Joseph Ward, Wesleyan, the third. It is very gratifying to see the different sects helping each other and working together for one common good.

The *employés* at Stanhope Railway Station have subscribed and presented Miss Earl with a handsome donation during her severe illness as a token of their sympathy and esteem.

Mr R. Walton, Stanhope House, and Mr J. Crawhall, Front Street, Stanhope, have also each subscribed this week a handsome sum towards her Stanhope mission. This is the second donation from each of these gentlemen within a short period, and indicates their sympathy with her mission in Stanhope.

The article which appeared in the *Stanhope Parochial Magazine*—the aim of which was to make Miss Earl out to be an imposter—has had the contrary effect intended. It has increased by double her hosts of friends and sympathisers, while it has alienated the sympathies of the people from the Church, and the gentleman of the cloth who stooped from his ecclesiastical dignity to make such an Christian and un-English attack upon a defenceless woman.

Never in the history of Stanhope Church was it so badly attended as now, nor its ministry in less repute. Evidently the old Church is losing its hold on the people. A congregation of eight for a week-night service and twelve for a Sunday morning, and a minister with a stipend of over £1,600! Disestablishment itself could not be worse than that.

VICTORIA GROUNDS, NEWCASTLE.

At these grounds, on Saturday afternoon, the trial heats of Mr A. J. [illegible]'s 110 yards handicap, for which £7 10s is offered, were decided in the presence of a numerous company. No less than 100 entries were secured, and some interesting heats witnessed. Results:—Heat 1, R. Lewellyn, Gateshead, 17 yards, 1; J. Straughan, Newcastle, 19½, 2; J. Boyd, Byker, 19, 3; T. Young, Blaydon, 19½, 0; A. French, Washington, 19, 0; won by a yard. Heat 2: T. Coulson, Newcastle, 16, 1; R. Webber, Jarrow, 14½, 2; J. Eltringham, Dipton, 14, 3; J. Cuthbertson, Teams, 17, 4; T. Baird, Stockton, 16, 5; won by a foot. Heat 3: G. Revell, Newcastle, 13, 1; D. Mennie, Jarrow, 17, 2; J. J. Allen, Blackhill, 18, 3; S. Owen, Sunderland, 20½, 4; A. Cook, Seaham Harbour, 17, 5; won by a yard. Heat 4: T. Ball, Jarrow, 19½, 1; W. Taylor, Blackhill, 17½, 2; H. Kew, Hebburn, 20, 3; J. Hood, Gateshead, 18, 4; won by a foot. Heat 5: J. Anson, West Hartlepool, 16, 1; J. Fagan, Hebburn, 16, 2; W. Darling, Jarrow, 20, 3; M. Ledger, Newburn, 15½, 4; won by a yard. Heat 6: J. Eddington, Gateshead, 21, 1; W. Doughty, Willington Quay, 16½, 2; won easily. Heat 7: W. Armour, Newcastle, 14, 1; S. Cooper, Marley Hill, 18, 2; S. Greener, Wardley, 14, 3; won by a yard. Heat 8: C. Burnett, Newcastle, 19½, 1; J. Richardson, Gateshead, 18½, 2; J. Nichol, Newcastle, 16, 3; won by half-a-yard. Heat 9: F. Brown, Byker, 19½, 1; W. Willie, Spennymoor, 15, 2; M. Cairns, Newcastle, 12, 3; won by half-a-yard. Heat 10: R. Parker, Gateshead, 19, 1; W. Tate, Newcastle, 16½, 2; won easily. Heat 11: R. Jordan, Newcastle, 18½, 1; J. Thompson, Walker, 18, 2; G. Carruthers, Newcastle, 15, 3; won by a yard. Heat 12: J. H. Maughan, Byker, 18½, 1; W. Halliday, Framwellgate Moor, 14½, 2; J. George, Newcastle, 21, 3; W. Knox, Willington Quay, 19, 4; won by half-a-yard. Heat 13: J. Howe, Gateshead, 12, 1; W. Curtis, North Seaton, 14½, 2; R. Johnson, Silksworth, 16, 3; won easily. Heat 14: T. Temple, Newcastle, 14, 1; W. Taylor, Byker, 16, 2; won easily. Heat 15: G. Gibson, Gateshead, 21, 1; T. Arkless, Teams, 20½, 2; R. Wood, Seaton Burn, 21, 3; R. Stephenson, Byker, 21, 4; won by a foot. Heat 16: H. Jackson, Pittington, 17, 1; H. McLean, Dunston, 17, 2; W. Taylor, Hebburn, 18, 3; won by half-a-yard. Heat 17: R. McFarlane, Sunderland, 18, 1; R. Anson, Nova Scotia, 18½, 2; won easily. Heat 18: J. Goodwin, Newcastle, 19½, 1; D. Carr, Hebburn, 19, 2; J. R. Stephenson, Harton Colliery, 20, 3; won easily. Heat 19: J. Johnson, Sunderland, 21, 1; T. Cuthbertson, Newcastle, 20, 2; won by half-a-yard. Heat 20: Sergt. Beattie, Newcastle, 17½, 1; J. Graham, Jarrow, 20, 2; T. Dixon, Gateshead, 20, 3; won by a yard. The final heats will be run off to-morrow.

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable chemists in this country at 1s 1½d per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Prepared by John I. Brown & Sons, Boston, U.S. European Depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road [illegible]

DISTRESS AMONGST IRONWORKERS AT CONSETT.

DEPUTATION TO THE LANCHESTER GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting of the Lanchester Board of Guardians took place at the Lanchester Union Workhouse yesterday (Thursday), under the presidency of Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. (chairman). Amongst the gentlemen in attendance were Mr W. Knollys (Local Government Board Inspector), Mr Wm. Hedley, J.P., Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Monsignor C. Gillow, Messrs J. Wilkinson, G. Hobson, Wm. Logan, T. Siddell, Hy. Hornsby, J. Buckham, J. A. Curry, Wm. Rutherford, J. Eltringham, J. Nicholson, T. W. Asquith, W. Cumming, R. Robson, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

After the transaction of the routine business, a deputation of six working men, as representing the ironworkers' of Consett, waited upon the Board. The chief spokesman was James Carbery, who stated that they had ascertained there were between 400 and 500 ironworkers—men and boys—out of employment at present. This included all classes of men—puddlers, firemen, labourers, &c. They urged upon the Guardians to take steps for establishing a stoneyard at Consett, and this would, in some measure, tend to alleviate the distress now prevalent.

The CHAIRMAN: Of course you are aware that we have a labour-yard at Lanchester?—The deputation: Yes, sir.

Mr SIDDELL: One of these men was ordered by the Committee of Guardians sitting at Consett on Tuesday to come to the stoneyard here, and he has not done so.—Member of deputation: I did not come, because I was appointed to be here to-day.

Mr WILKINSON: It seems to me that if you had work offered to you, you will not come to it.

The CHAIRMAN: How long have you been out of work?—Carbery: I have only worked four shifts of ten hours each since the 1st January. In consequence of the transition of the iron manufacture into the steel process, two of the mills have been laid idle, whilst No. 4 plate-mill is now undergoing repairs.

Mr SIDDELL: If you worked in No. 4, you must have had considerably more than four shifts this year.—Carbery: I have only worked four shifts.

Mr WILKINSON: When do you expect this mill to be re-started?—Mr SIDDELL: No. 4 will not begin for three months at least.

Other two members of the deputation stated that they had only obtained four shifts since the New Year; and another (James Skelton) had not worked a single shift for the last five weeks.

Mr SIDDELL: Have you not been working this week?—Skelton: No, sir.

Mr SIDDELL explained that the Consett Iron Company had employed an additional 100 hands this week, and within the next week he expected that other 50 men would be set on.—Carbery: They were not Consett men who were employed, but strangers from all parts of the district.

Mr SIDDELL averred that they were mostly Consett people, and stated that if the contractor could progress with the enlargement of the new steel works he might be able to set on additional hands.—Deputation: But he employs only his own navvies, &c.

Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE enquired if the men had gone elsewhere to seek work?—Carbery replied that they had tried at various places in the district.

The CHAIRMAN suggested that they should go to Cumberland.—Deputation: But we see in the papers that trade is depressed everywhere, and it is not very nice for a man to travel about from place to place in the winter time without a shilling in his pocket.

The Inspector enquired how many of the men out of work in Consett were puddlers?—Mr SIDDELL: Not more than 100.

The Inspector: Am I right in saying that by the conversion of iron into steel the occupation of puddlers will, to a great extent, cease?—The CHAIRMAN: There is no doubt it will cease.

After debating the question of the earnings of puddlers, firemen, mill-men, &c., Mr SIDDELL said that some of the workmen he knew of were in receipt of relief from the Ironworkers' Union. He was sorry there were not more men connected with the Union. He also averred that a large number of men had left Consett and had done remarkably well at other places, but others had been less fortunate.

The Inspector: Have you all got wives and families?—Yes.

Mr SIDDELL explained that one of the men told the Consett Guardians' Committee a pitiful story to the effect that his children were on the verge of starvation, but he had since learnt that this individual was receiving eight quarts of soup and a large quantity of bread every day.—This assertion was repudiated, the speaker asserting that he only had six tickets, and could not obtain eight quarts of soup with them.

The Inspector: How much money would this particular man have received had he worked in the stoneyard?—The Master (Mr W. Brotherhood): 2s 9d a day.

The Inspector: Then you had an opportunity of earning 2s 9d for your family, and you refused to do so?—The speaker said he might come to the stoneyard yet, only he was appointed on that deputation.

CARBERY pointed out the great hardships of men being compelled to walk to and from Lanchester, a distance of four miles, over a rough road, to work at the Lanchester stoneyard, and declared that a labour yard could be established just as easily at Consett, and carried on quite as cheaply as at Lanchester.

The CHAIRMAN denied this statement, on the ground that they would have to engage a man to look after the workmen at Consett, and, besides, they had 600 miles of road in the Lanchester Highway district, therefore they had a better chance of selling the stone.—Deputation: But the material would be required by the Local Boards, and, besides, all the population is centred around Consett.

Mr SIDDELL explained that the Board might go to the expense of establishing a stoneyard, and engaging a man to superintend it, and still nobody might come to work therein.—The deputation assured the Guardians that there would be plenty of men willing to come to the stoneyard at Consett.

The Inspector: Have you not enquired if the Consett Local Board would not find you some employment?—Deputation: No, sir.

The Inspector said he saw in the newspapers in the early part of the year that the Consett Local Board contemplated laying-out their park?—Deputation: Nothing has been done to it as yet.

Mr SIDDELL: Are you aware that the Consett and Benfieldside Local Boards have already spent £200 upon the Park?—Deputation: We have seen very little work.

Mr SIDDELL: But they cannot go on spending the ratepayers' money lavishly.

After further remarks, the deputation retired, and the Board discussed the matter in private.

Mr KNOLLYS, in the course of his remarks, read the following circular, addressed by the President of the Local Government Board to the vestries and district boards of the metropolis:—

"Local Government Board, Whitehall,
"11th January, 1887.

"SIR,—The Local Government Board deem it desirable to bring specially under the attention of the vestries and district boards of the metropolis the distressed condition of many persons of the working classes. In the earlier months of the year the number of persons out of work is always much larger than in the summer months, and the want of employment is at present increased by the recent severity of the weather. The Board think it right to suggest to the vestries and district boards that the execution of any works which are required for their districts should, where practicable, be commenced at an early date, so that employment may be given now, when work is more needed, rather than later in the year.

"The Board may also observe that the condition of many of the streets in the metropolis is such that additional labour for their cleansing might be employed with great advantage, quite irrespective of any work connected with the removal of snow; and it would be easy to find more appropriate work for unskilled labour. When employment is given by the vestry or district board it will usually be found convenient that they should act in concert with the Board of Guardians, and that the Guardians should have an opportunity of recommending for employment persons who, from their previous circumstances and condition, it is most desirable should not be placed under the necessity of receiving relief at the

DURHAM WINTER ASSIZES.

The business of the Winter Assizes for the county of Durham was commenced on Monday. The calendar contained the names of 22 prisoners, implicated in 16 cases, of which 13 were felonies and 3 misdemeanours. Mr J. L. Wharton, M.P., was foreman of the Grand Jury.

CROWN COURT.—Before Mr Justice DAY.

THEFT BY A SERVANT.

Elizabeth Stobo (32) was indicted for stealing an overcoat and jacket, value £1 5s, the property of Wm. Smith, at Castleside, between February 20th and February 22nd, 1886. It appeared from the evidence that the prisoner had been servant with the prosecutor's father, and the prosecutor deposed to missing the articles. The prisoner then took the articles to a woman named Clarke, and told her to pawn them, saying that they belonged to a man named Brown.—The prisoner was remanded from the Sessions on account of illness.—Mr Granger prosecuted.—The prisoner, who was undefended, pleaded not guilty, and said the articles had been given her by the prosecutor's father.—The jury found her guilty, with a recommendation to mercy, and she was sent to gaol for four months with hard labour.

FINDING OR STEALING: HE STOOD AMAZED.

Bridget Lavell (on bail) was charged with stealing a purse containing £2 3s 4½d, the moneys of Thomas Appleby, at East Kyo, on January 11th, 1887.—Mr Granger prosecuted, and Mr Marwood defended.—It appeared from the evidence that the son of the prosecutor went to the Annfield Plain Co-operative Store and received £2 5s as dividend, but when he was a few yards from the store he missed the purse.—Mr Granger: What did you do?—Witness: I stood amazed.—Prisoner was seen to pick up something, and the purse and part of the money were found upon the woman when arrested, but she declared that she had found the purse.—His Lordship complimented the witness Mrs Appleby and her little son on the admirable way in which they gave their evidence.—The defence was that the prisoner did not intend to appropriate the purse, which she found.—His Lordship described the theft as a cruel one, but as prisoner had had a previous good character, the sentence upon her was three months imprisonment.

CIVIL COURT.—Before Mr Justice CAVE and a common jury.

ACTION AGAINST A CONSETT INNKEEPER

INJURED BY A HORSE.

This was an action for damages brought by Mrs Wilson against George Brown, in respect of personal injuries inflicted upon the plaintiff by the defendant's horse at Chester-le-Street. Mr Walton was for the plaintiff, and Mr Gainsford Bruce represented the defendant.—Mr Walton, in stating the case, said Mrs Wilson, along with her husband, attended the annual show of the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society which was held at Chester-le-Street in 1885, and while at this show Mrs Wilson received from the defendant's horse such injuries as occasioned her considerable suffering, and in respect of which she sought compensation. It was the practice at this show to have horse-leaping and jumping competitions, and the horse-leaping ground was so arranged that the spectators could watch the proceedings with safety. Among the spectators of this leaping competition were the plaintiff and her husband. It seemed that the defendant's horse, which was entered for this competition, possessed a bad temper; and, although it was a good jumper, it was also at times disinclined to jump and became very obstinate. On this occasion it was set to jump, but instead of "taking" the leap it suddenly wheeled round and bolted over the enclosure amongst the crowd. Mrs Wilson was knocked down, the horse trampling upon her, and she sustained injuries which laid her up for ten weeks, and at the present time she still bore traces of the injuries which she then received. The action sought to make the owner of the horse liable, inasmuch as he would know sufficient about the temper of the animal to have led him not to enter it in such a competition. It seemed that the horse was formerly known as "Dick Turpin" and under that name it had gained the reputation of a good jumper. At Stockton one year it so far gained the mastery of its rider that it not only jumped the railings once or twice, but it proved so ungovernable and dangerous that it was ordered off the ground by the steward. Sometimes the animal behaved very well, but it was liable to these fits of temper. Mr Walton quoted a similar instance which, he said, occurred at the Durham Agricultural Show, and he thought that the owner, knowing that the horse was liable to these fits of temper when he entered it for competition, rendered himself liable.—Mr Bruce, who appeared for the defendant, took objection to certain particulars spoken of in Mr Walton's opening, and said he was not aware of them, nor were they in the pleadings.—On this account the case was ultimately adjourned and put last on the list, in order to give the plaintiff time to amend the pleadings.

THE GATESHEAD TRAGEDY.

Thomas Thompson (39), joiner, was tried for the wilful murder of his son at Gateshead, on the 16th inst. The jury, after an hour and a quarter's absence, found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to death. He received the sentence without any emotion and in a speech admitted killing the child, but denied that it was "wilful murder."

THE DEFALCATIONS BY A RATE COLLECTOR.

William Goundry was charged that he on the 4th of December, at the city of Durham, then being a servant to the Mayor, aldermen, and citizens of the city of Durham and Framwellgate, acting as and being the Urban Sanitary Authority for the district, feloniously and fraudulently did embezzle and steal the sum of £3 13s 9d in money, and, within six calendar months hereafter, to wit, on the 6th Dec., 1886, the further sum of £5 0s 9d, and on the 7th of December, 1886, the further sum of £3 12s, in money, received by him for the said Mayor, aldermen, and citizens, his masters. Mr Granger prosecuted, and Mr J. Strachan defended.—Mr Granger having put the case for the prosecution, Mr Strachan submitted that the books were kept in such a way, and that the system had been so lax, that the prisoner never knew how he stood with the Corporation. The prisoner had no felonious intent.—His Lordship, in summing up, remarked that the Corporation had been too indulgent with Mr Goundry. There should be no indulgence.—The jury found the prisoner guilty, and recommended him to mercy, on the ground of the very lax way in which his employers conducted their financial matters.—Sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

SHIPBUILDING AT WALLSEND.—The prospects in the shipbuilding industry in the Wallsend district are at present of a very encouraging character—more so, in fact, than at any other period during the past three years. Messrs C. S. Swan and Hunter have been very busy of late, many of the hands working night and day on the old work. In addition to the vessels at present on the berths, the firm have orders on the books for three new steamers, to be built of steel. The material for two of these vessels is already on order—one of them being the largest ever built by the firm.

THEFT AT WALLSEND.—On Monday, at the County Petty Sessions, Tynemouth, before Mr L. W. Adamson (in the chair), Mr H. Philipson, and Mr J. Burnett, Mary McDonald, single woman, was charged with having stolen a quantity of wearing apparel, the property of George Hogg, Coach and Horses Inn, Wallsend. Defendant having been in custody four days, the Bench, taking a lenient view of the case, imposed a fine of 1s, without costs.

THE JARROW RAPE CASES.—At the Durham Assizes on Wednesday—before Mr Justice Day—John Walton (32), painter, found guilty of attempting to commit a rape on Mary Pearson, aged 14 years, at Jarrow, on December 1st, was only sent to gaol for twelve months with hard labour.—Thomas McGuiness (19), labourer, found guilty of committing a rape on Isabella Gaffing, at Jarrow, on January 1st, 1887, was sentenced to five years' penal servitude.

MODEL OF JERUSALEM.—There is now being exhibited in Union Street, in a building adjacent to Mr Cook's, draper, an extremely interesting model of Jerusalem as it appeared in the days of our Saviour. The Rev J. King, M.A., authorised lecturer to the Palestine Expedition Fund, saysthat the biblical student would form a more vivid impression, and gain an accurate knowledge of the Holy City and its neighbourhood, by inspecting the model for three hours, than he could do by studying the best authorities for three months.

MOOT HALL POLICE COURT.—There were only five cases at the Moot Hall Police Court on Saturday morning, this being the nearest approach to a clean sheet there has been for a number of years. Robert McGuire, miner, High Walker, was fined 7s 6d and costs for being drunk and disorderly at that place on the 15th inst.—Hannah Errington, Walker, was fined 1s, including costs, for selling fireworks without a licence.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Druggists, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete, permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions. [illegible]

cost of the rates. I shall be obliged by the vestries and district boards giving this communication their early consideration, and shall be glad to be informed of the result.—I am, sir, &c.,

"CHARLES T. RITCHIE."

Mr Knollys suggested that the present afforded a favourable opportunity for the Local Boards of Consett, Benfieldside, and Leadgate to take advantage of in laying-out and beautifying their new parks, and carrying out other necessary improvements in the towns. They would thus get the work done much cheaper, and would also be the means of alleviating the distress at present existing in the neighbourhood.

The CHAIRMAN, speaking upon the question of the disposal of stone, said the following were the quantities and prices of limestone required by the Lanchester Highway Board at the under-mentioned stations for the ensuing year, broken ready for laying upon the roads, as certified by the Surveyor (Mr Dixon):—

East Carrhouse depot	180 tons ...	5s 0d per ton.
High	110 tons ...	5s 0d ,,
Knitsley Station	100 tons ...	5s 6d ,,
Medomsley depot	350 tons ...	5s 6d ,,

In each case 1s 6d per ton is added to the price of rough stone for breaking. They would thus observe that, unless the Local Boards would take a great quantity of the stone broken, the Guardians had a better chance of disposing of the broken material at Lanchester than at Consett.

On the deputation being re-called, the CHAIRMAN informed them that having carefully considered the matter, the Guardians could not see their way clear to establish a stone-yard at Consett. All able-bodied men, however, could make application to the Relieving Officer, and come to the labour-yard at Lanchester. Mr Knollys had expressed a strong hope that the Local Boards would be able to find employment for the men out of work. This was merely a suggestion.

Mr SIDDELL stated that the stoneyard at Lanchester was open at eight a.m., and closed at five p.m. It was a labour test, the men receiving 10d per day, with 5d for their wives, and 3d for each child. It was not too far for them to walk, as they had men in the district who travelled five and six miles every day, in fine or wet weather, to break stones.

The deputation seemed to be disappointed at the decision of the Guardians, but remarked that they had doubtless arrived at their determination on reasonable grounds. Afterwards, they retraced their steps homeward.

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, January 21st.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE, Esq. (in the chair) and Dr ARNISON.

A PUBLICAN FINED FOR DRUNKENNESS.

Joseph Watson Wearmouth, an innkeeper at St. John's Chapel, was charged with being drunk on a certain highway.—Fined 10s and costs.

PEDDLING WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Ann Burke, daughter of a Wolsingham hawker, was charged with hawking without a license at Frosterley.—Fined 10s.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

George Robinson was charged with committing a breach of the peace at Stanhope. He pleaded not guilty.—The case was adjourned for want of witnesses.

CARRYING A GUN WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Thomas Milburn was charged with carrying a gun without a license. Two months ago he was caught, along with another person, poaching on the preserves of Mr J. Rogerson, Weardale House, at Pudding Thorn, Weardale, and was brought up and fined at the last court day. The present action was brought against him by the Inland Revenue Officer (Mr Walton, of Bishop Auckland).—Defendant asked for leniency, as he had lost his work through it, and had a wife and family depending upon him.—He was fined 10s and costs.

THE FROSTERLEY DISPUTE.

The water-rating case of Messrs Brown, Vickers, and Sanderson, of Frosterley, was again adjourned.

NON-MAINTENANCE OF PARENTS.

William Fairless, of Newcastle, was summoned to show cause why he should not contribute towards the support of his parents, now chargeable to the Stanhope Union, he receiving over £1 per week wages.—He was ordered to pay 2s 6d per week.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT DIPTON

DEATH OF THE INJURED MAN.

Yesterday (Thursday) morning, a tramp named John Cooper, aged 66 years, recently lodging at Hill Top, Dipton, succumbed in the Infirmary attached to the Lanchester Workhouse, to injuries received a fortnight ago. It appears that on the 13th inst., Cooper was engaged in gathering coals off the Pontop railway near Flint Hill. Being somewhat deaf, he failed to hear the approach of a mineral train, the result being that he was knocked down, and an engine and several waggons passed over him. His right leg was so frightfully bruised and emaciated that the poor fellow was conveyed that night to the Infirmary, where he gradually became worse. After the lapse of a week, the medical attendant (Dr J. Wilson), having consulted with Dr J. Benson, West Stanley, found it expedient to amputate the injured limb, but the man sank by degrees, and eventually passed away as before mentioned. An inquest will be held upon the body.

THE CONSETT WHEELBARROW MAN.

JOURNEY THROUGH ENGLAND, IRELAND, AND SCOTLAND.

We are informed by James Sparks, ironworker, who recently accomplished the feat of trundling his wheelbarrow from Consett to Wolverhampton and back, a distance of 435 miles, that he intends starting off on a similar tour. The journey, however, is considerably longer, and the task a more arduous one.—On Tuesday next, at nine a.m., he will leave Mrs Medici's, the Alexandra Hotel, Consett, *en route* for Ireland, travelling by way of Tow Law, West Auckland, Barnard Castle, Kirby Stephen, Tebay, Kendal, Ulverston, and thence to Barrow-in-Furness, where he will book for Belfast. His *route* will then be through Antrim, Down, Dublin, Cork, Dunlock, Armagh, to Portadown, and finally Dungannon. Afterwards Sparks will proceed to the Isle of Man, and thence to Whitehaven, and passing the borders of Scotland, his journey will be *via* Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, &c., returning by Alnwick, Morpeth, and Newcastle, back to Consett. Sparks undertakes this journey through England, Ireland, and Scotland because he has not succeeded in obtaining work at Consett. He estimates the distance to be about 1,500 miles, and reckons that he can accomplish the task in a couple of months. He declares that he is the best man on the road, even eclipsing Gordon, the original Dundee wheelbarrowist. Sparks has had a new barrow specially constructed for this journey, and he will perambulate Consett to-morrow (Saturday), and visit Blackhill and Shotley Bridge on Monday next, at noon.

LANCHESTER SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

At the monthly meeting yesterday (Thursday) morning—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith presiding—the subjoined report was received from the School-warden:—

To the Chairman and Members of the School Attendance Committee of Lanchester Union.

GENTLEMEN,—As instructed by you, I have applied to the head teachers for a return of the attendance at the elementary schools in your district for the six months ending Christmas last, but as the particulars relating to three schools have not come to hand I cannot present a complete statement, and will, therefore, withhold it until next meeting.

Since the Christmas vacation the attendance has been bad. The severe weather we have experienced, and the vast amount of poverty existing in several parts of your district no doubt, in a great measure, accounts for it at this time, but I invariably find that for a few weeks, both before and after the holidays there is a falling off in the attendance.

I have visited the homes of 458 children who have been absent or irregular in their attendance. In most of the cases the excuses made are sickness, the severe weather, want of suitable clothing, inability to pay school fees, distance to travel, and in some cases want of food.

Forty-seven notices under your bye-laws have been served. Ten cases, embracing 15 children, are entered in the report book to be laid before you.

In addition to the ordinary list of absentees, I have received one from Consett St. Patrick's School of the children who were absent last Friday afternoon.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WARD.

Iveston, January 26th, 1886.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

The Speech from the Throne was read in the House of Lords yesterday (Thursday), as follows:—

FOREIGN RELATIONS: THE STATE OF EUROPE.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—My relations with all Foreign Powers continue to be friendly. The affairs of South-Eastern Europe are still in an unsettled condition, but I do not apprehend that any disturbance of the European peace will result from the unadjusted controversies which have arisen in that region. While deploring the events which compelled Prince Alexander of Bulgaria to retire from the government of that principality, I have not judged it expedient to interfere in the proceedings for the election of his successor until they arrive at that stage at which my assent is required by the stipulations of the Treaty of Berlin.

EGYPT.

The task which has been undertaken by the Government in Egypt is not yet accomplished, but substantial advance has been made towards the assurance of external and internal tranquillity.

BURMAH.

In Burmah, operations have been conducted by my troops with bravery and skill for the purpose of extirpating the brigandage which has grown up during recent years of misgovernment. The bands of marauders by whom Upper Burmah has been long infested have been dispersed, and many of the leaders have laid down their arms. I entertain a confident hope that the general pacification of the country will be effected during the present session.

COMMERCIAL TREATIES

Commercial treaties have been concluded with the kingdoms of Greece and Roumania. Papers on these subjects will be laid before you.

THE ESTIMATES.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,—The Estimates for the coming year will be submitted to you. They are being framed with a careful regard to economy and to the efficiency of the public service.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

THE CRIMINAL LAW TO BE STRENGTHENED.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,—The condition of Ireland still requires your anxious attention. Grave crimes have happily been rarer during the last few months than during a similar period in the preceding year, but the relations between the owners and occupiers of land, which in the early part of the autumn exhibited signs of improvement, have since been seriously disturbed in some districts by organised attempts to incite the latter class to combine against the fulfilment of their legal obligations.

The efforts of my Government to cope with this evil have been seriously impeded by difficulties incident to the method at present prescribed by statute for dealing with such offences. Your early attention will be called to proposals for reforms in legal procedure, which seem necessary to secure the prompt and efficient administration of the criminal law.

TENURE AND PURCHASE OF LAND.

Since I last addressed you the Commissioners directed to inquire into certain subjects of great importance to the material welfare of Ireland have been actively prosecuting their labours. The report of the Commission on the operation of the recent Acts dealing with the tenure and purchase of land will be shortly laid before you, and will doubtless receive from you the early and careful attention which the serious importance of the subject demands.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

Bills for the improvement of local government in England and Scotland will be laid before you, and should circumstances render it possible, they will be followed by a measure dealing with the same subject in Ireland.

A Bill for improving and cheapening the process of Private Bill Legislation in England, Scotland, and Ireland will be submitted to you.

LAND REFORM.

You will be asked to consider measures having for their object to remove hindrances which exist to the cheap and rapid transfer of land, to facilitate the provision of allotments for small householders, and to provide for the readier sale of glebe lands.

THE TRADE COMMISSION.

The Commission which I issued in 1885 to inquire into the lamentable depression under which trade and agriculture have been suffering for many years, has presented a valuable report, which, together with the important evidence collected by them, will be laid before you.

TITHES.

A Bill for altering the mode of levying tithes in England and Wales will be submitted to you.

SCOTLAND.

In regard to Scotland you will be asked to consider measures for the reform of the Universities; for completing recent legislation as to the powers of the Secretary for Scotland, and for amending the procedure of Criminal Courts.

RAILWAY RATES.

Measures dealing with the regulation of railway rates, and for preventing the fraudulent use of merchandise marks will also be brought under your consideration.

In the performance of these and all your other momentous duties, I earnestly pray that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your labours.

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. 210x

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 7½d. and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

A COMPLIMENT TO THE MINERS OF DURHAM.—A compliment of a somewhat peculiar character was paid to the benevolent disposition of the miners of Durham county, as distinguished from their brethren elsewhere. A member of the unemployed, who has been on tramp in search of work during the past six weeks, called at our office and requested, as a very particular favour, that we would record in our columns that he had found Durham miners a great deal more generous towards him than the miners of Yorkshire or other places.

DR SAMUEL JOHNSON AND HIS TIMES.

On Tuesday evening, the Rev Wm. Hardy Harwood, of Sunderland, lectured in the Congregational Hall, Shelden Street Jarrow, on "Dr Samuel Johnson and his times." There was a fair attendance.

Councillor J. T. O. PENMAN occupied the chair, and in introducing the lecturer, said that he was very pleased to lend any help in his power to any good movement in this town. He was grateful to hear that there was in connection with the Congregational Church a Mutual Improvement Society, which was certainly a great thing indeed. It was highly necessary for every one of them to try to improve their minds as far as they could. He would not say anything against such societies, but he would warn young men not to put too much stress upon them, and neglect the one thing needful. He knew himself, and he was apt to forget more than he would like. He sometimes felt that he bothered himself too much about business, and he felt confident that that applied to every one of them. It was necessary that every one of them should do their very best, for only the other week the death of Lord Iddesleigh showed the uncertainty of life. He then called upon Mr Harwood to deliver his lecture.

The LECTURER said the life of Dr Samuel Johnson was in the greater part one of hardship and misery. His father was a bookseller, and his mother was a woman of understanding, but understanding undeveloped. Through the kindness of a friend, Dr Johnson received his college education at Oxford, in the year 1728. After leaving college, he commenced to write short poems. When poor and assistance was offered him, he refused it, for he would stand upon his own foundation or he would not stand at all. He married one Mrs Porter, a widow, at Derby; after which he opened a school in Staffordshire, but only having two or three pupils, he was obliged to give up the scheme. After leaving Staffordshire, he went to London, where he wrote his first poem, entitled "The young Author." His dictionary was issued in the year 1747, for which he received 15,000 guineas. He also received 10 guineas for one poem and 5 guineas for another. After his dictionary had been published, his name began to be coupled with men of high standing and power. But before he had written any of his poems, or his dictionary, he wrote for a magazine, and reported speeches. He was so poor at that time that he could not support his wife, so she had to live for two years with friends. Samuel Johnson was a strong Liberal, which one of his sayings shows. He said, "The most contemptible men are the Tories. I can compare them to nothing but fleas, for when disturbed they nip." Samuel Johnson was a tall, gaunt man, blind in one eye, and full of melancholy, yet he rolled his way into the society of great men. But how was he received? With nothing but scorn. He being short-sighted, caused him to hold the candle so near his head, that the hair on the front of his head was all burned. He, it is said, did more for Independence in England than any man at that time. When he issued his dictionary Lord Chesterfield wanted it dedicated to him, but Johnson would not grant the request. Ultimately Dr Johnson became the centre of famous men. George III sought his company for an hour, which helped to raise Johnson a step higher. He gathered about him all the great leaders of the day, and inspired them with his speeches. In conclusion the lecturer said the example and not the facts of Dr Samuel Johnson's life ought to be an example to both old and young, for no man in this world set out with less capital than he had.

The CHAIRMAN said that he was sure every one had enjoyed the lecture.

Mr SANDERSON proposed a vote of thanks to the Lecturer, which was seconded by Mr NAIR, and carried unanimously.

Mr HARWOOD said it had given him much pleasure to be with them, and he would be very glad to come back and give them another lecture at any time. (Cheers).

The Rev Mr KENNEDY having offered up the benediction, the meeting was brought to a close.

"THE SEASON" for February is to hand. Its large coloured costume engravings are very pretty, and cannot fail being useful, while its fashion plates and designs for fancy work, &c., are numerous, and we believe the newest.

WELDON'S LADIES' JOURNAL maintains its position as a reliable and trustworthy guide on matters pertaining to dress.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

VIEWFIELD.—23rd inst., the wife of W. Richardson, of a son; both doing well. 253x

DURHAM.—10, Western Hill, 23rd inst., the wife of A. M. Appleton, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

GREENSIDE.—St. John's Church, 24th inst., Rev R. M. Nason, M.A., vicar, T. H. Jackson, butcher, Ryton, to Annie Powell, grand-daughter of Mr Wm. Jobson, Maiden Hill.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—26th inst., Mr J. W. Weatherley to Miss A. Favell, eldest daughter of Mr G. Favell, Colliery Hotel, Pelton Fell.

SUNDERLAND.—St. Mary's, 27th inst., John R. Kinleside, Leadgate, to Eleanor, second daughter of Thomas Robson, Hylton.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Register Office, 22nd inst., R. Thompson to Mrs Margaret Wilson, both of Crook.

DEATHS.

[illegible].—Railway Cottages, 21st inst., aged 54, James Robinson, platelayer.

WESTWOOD.—The Six Houses, 25th inst., aged 22 years and 9 months, William, eldest son of Geo. White. Interment at Medomsley to-morrow (Saturday) at Three o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation. 345x

BYER MOOR.—24th inst., aged 31, Emma, wife of George Cowie.

GREENSIDE.—Rose and Crown Inn, 21st inst., aged 87, Joseph Armstrong, formerly farmer at Low Spen.

WHICKHAM.—Whickham House, 24th inst., aged 70, Agnes, widow of the late J. H. Brown.

SWALWELL.—25th inst., aged 63, Jane, widow of the late E. Spencer.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—25th inst., Polly, daughter of Thomas Telford.

WINLATON.—23rd inst., aged 36, John James, second son of the late Wm. Robins, Newcastle, Winlaton Mill, aged 48, Samuel, husband of Adeline Gowen.

STOCKSFIELD.—Fainshawfield Terrace, 22nd inst., aged 26, Thomas Trueman.

URPETH.—23rd inst., aged 78, Thos. Stokoe, late of Blaydon.

WITTON GILBERT.—25th inst., aged 74, Mr George Kelsey.

DURHAM.—76, Saddler Street, 22nd inst., aged 42, Sarah, wife of John Lambert.

HEBBURN.—Prince Consort Road, 22nd inst., aged 36, Thomas Kay, youngest son of Mr Peter Kay, South Tanfield.

MOURNING GOODS.—HUGH MORTON and CO., 55, Grainger Street, Newcastle, direct attention to their Immense Stock for Men, Youths and Boys, ready for immediate wear, in all the Newest Materials and Latest Styles. Men's Black Worsted Suits, from 21s. to 49s. 6d.; Youths' Suits, from 16s. 11d.; Boys' Suits, from 6s. 11d. Single Garments at proportionate prices. Suits made to order in a few hours. 50w

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