COAL & STONE MACHINES.

OSTON'S COAL BORING MACHINES, all Steel, from 25s. to 30s.

BOSTON'S RATCHET STONE BORING MACHINES, with 3 Drills complete, 35s.

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

T. BOSTON received the highest award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1862. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 5ib

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,589 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, January 30th, 1891. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

ROBERT JACKSON

CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,

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

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

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

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

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

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

21st January, 1891. 816d

TO CONTRACTORS.

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

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

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

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

21st January, 1891. 815d

Wanted.

WANTED, a LAD, able to Plough.—Apply, G. DRUMMOND, Wharnley Burn, Castleside.

WANTED, at once, a GENERAL SERVANT. —Apply, at Black Bull Inn, Lanchester.

WANTED, a Respectable Sharp GIRL, not under 17, accustomed to children.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 834d

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

WANTED, a Good GENERAL SERVANT, not under 18, with references from the last place.—Apply to MRS JUSTARE, 1, Durham Road, Leadgate. 835d

WANTED, an Experienced GENERAL SERVANT, able to wash and bake; a good wage given; references required.—Apply to the *Guardian* Office. 836d

TO MILLINERS. — WANTED, for the first week in March, an Experienced YOUNG LADY as Milliner and Saleswoman.—Apply, stating salary, experience, &c., to Box C., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 862d

WANTED, a Steady, Sober, Respectable, Middle Aged, Single Man as COACHMAN, and to make himself generally useful.—Apply to MR HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, near Consett, stating age, wage, and character from last place. 851d

HEALEYFIELD & ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD.—WANTED, immediately, ASSISTANT-MISTRESS; disciplinarian; Tonic Sol-fa; Drawing a recommendation. Salary £40.—JOSEPH PEGG, Clerk, Castleside, by Blackhill.

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

INDEPENDENT UNITED ORDER OF MECHANICS, DIPTON.

THE COMMITTEE of the above Lodge are prepared to receive OFFERS of a PIECH OF LAND (50 Square Yards) in Dipton, either to buy, lease, or rent, suitable to build a Coach-house on.

Also, Offers from any other Person who may have or wishes to provide a House, suitable to hold a Hearse, the said house only to be used by the Lodge.

All offers to be made in writing to me on or before February, 13th, 1891.

THOMAS BOWES, Secretary, 1, Pontop Houses, Annfield Plain, Lintz Green, R.S.O.

968d

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE.—WANTED, SERVANTS able to Milk, Bake, Wash, and do General Work.—Apply at SERVANTS' REGISTRY, 54, Front Street, Consett. 80d

SCOTT'S REGISTRY 122, Northumberland Street. — Managers, Matrons, Housekeepers, Companions, Governesses, Ladies' Maids, Sewing-maids, Cooks, Housemaids, Kitchenmaid. Parlourmaids, Chambermaid, Barmaids, Dairymaids, Laundrymaids, Butlers, Footmen, Grooms, Gardeners, Coachmen, General Servants, WANTED and DISENGAGED. Stamp for replies. 282s

Under Distinguished Patronage.

MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 256w

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

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

To Let.

TO LET, at February Term, HOUSE and SHOP, Front Street Dipton, occupied by Mr J. Colman.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 823d

TO LET, a CLOG-UP SHOP, situate in Front Street, Leadgate. Possession may be had at February Term.—Apply to Mrs. Shaw, Villa Real, Leadgate. 877d

LANCHESTER.—TO LET, in Ford Lane, the GRASS LAND at present occupied by Joseph Hansell; possession, May 13th next.—Apply, Mr Wm. Hall, Agent, Blackhill. 871d

TO LET, the EATAGE of about 5 ACRES of TURNIPS; a good Crop, on dry land. Also, the GRASS adjoining, situate at Square House Farm, near Lanchester. 874d

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

TO LET, at May Term, WHARNLEYBURN FARM, near Castleside, Durham, containing about 146 Acres, with House, Farm Buildings, &c. Offers received up to 7th February.—Apply to Messrs DAVIES and BALKWILL, Solicitors, St. John Street, Newcastle. 867d

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

For Sale.

FOR SALE, Cheap, a few WELSH BIBLES and TESTAMENTS, at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 845d

FOR SALE, a WHITECHAPEL, no worse than new.—Apply to Black Bull Inn, Lanchester.

FOR SALE, a Good COW, due to calve on the 8th February.—Apply to Black Bull Inn, Lanchester.

GREAT BARGAIN.—WALNUT PIANO, by Avill and Smart; Iron Frame, Full Trichord, Check Repeater Action; Guaranteed 10 Years; £18.—W. H. ARMSTRONG, 5, Fleet Street, Durham.

For Sale.

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

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

FOR SALE, Cheap, a Splendid Military BICYCLE; Ball Bearings throughout; all parts, and in good condition; original cost last summer, £17 17s.—Apply to R. J. BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

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

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

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

PROPERTY in CONSETT FOR SALE.—Apply to JOS. MURRAY. House in Edith Street. Price, £265; House in Sherburn Terrace. Price, £260. Plot of Building Ground in West Parade, containing 450 Yards, at 2s 6d Per Yard. 812d

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

Business Announcements.

TOWER TEA

Highest Award, Paris, 1889.

1s 2d, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 4d, 2s 6d, and 2s 8d per lb. Ceylon Tea—Lead Packets, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 4d, and 2s 8d per lb. Every packet bears the Registered Trade Mark, a Tower, and is signed, "Tower Tea." Local agents:—Consett—M. Fawell, Grocer, Blackhill—J. Fallises, Grocer. Annfield Plain—C. F. Cooke, Grocer. 628d

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

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

PRIVATE TUITION.

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

ADDRESS: EDITH STREET, CONSETT.

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

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

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 1, EAST PARADE, CONSETT.

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

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

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.

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

MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.

PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

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SAFETIES, ORDINARY BICYCLES, TANDEMS, AND TRICYCLES,

FOR SALE.

SPECIAL CLEARANCE SALE OF NEW AND SECOND-HAND CYCLES.

To make room for consignment of

100 CUSHION TYRE SAFETIES.

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

SEND FOR SALE LIST,

RUDGE, ST. JOHN'S STREET, NEWCASTLE.

234 T. D. OLIVER, MANAGER.

OVERCOATINGS AND WINTER SUITINGS.

COMPLETE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK.

J. BRODIE,

FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

DOBSON GRADON,

WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,

JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN.

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

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

WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE.

165o WHOLESALE AND RETAIL

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

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33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SOUTHWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 5, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES (OVER 60 SIZES TO SELECT FROM).

STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,

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

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

1891.

GREAT SALE OF SURPLUS AND WINTER STOCK AT

GEORGE RICHARDSON'S,

SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

WILL commence on SATURDAY, JANUARY 31st, and continue for Three Weeks, ending February 21st. The Stock has been carefully gone through and marked at prices which will effect a speedy clearance. Great Bargains in Black and Coloured Dress Goods, in the most Fashionable Materials. Black Ballantines and Black Cord Dresses, at Half-price to clear. Fancy Snow Flakes, 6½d. per yard. Sale Price, 3½d. Heavy Tweed Dresses, 6s. 6d. for 12 yards. Sale Price, 3s. 6d. Our Stock of Flannels being very large we shall offer at special prices during the Sale—White Flannel, 10d. Sale Price, 8½d. Scarlet Flannel, 1s. Sale Price, 10d. Shetland Flannels, 11d. Sale Price, 8d. Blankets, Sheets, and Bed Rugs. 54-Inch Cream Damask Table Linen, 1s. 4d. Sale Price, 8½d. 40-Inch Pillow Linen, 10d. Sale Price, 8d. White Damask Cloths, 4qr., 5qr., 6qr., 7qr., 8qr., in Fern, Snow Drop, and Fancy Scrolls. Our Stock of Prints will be offered from 2d. per yard upwards. Remnants, in all Departments, at Half-price. All parcels bought must be paid for at time of purchase. On no account will goods be sent out on approbation. All regular goods will be sold at Wholesale Prices during the Sale. 870d

MONEY SAVED IS MONEY EARNED.

ROBERT WILLEY

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

5/- IN THE POUND

Can be saved by Purchasing Goods at this Establishment.

NOTED FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS.

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

MILD and BITTER ALES ON DRAUGHT.

R. WILLEY,

CONSETT TEA HOUSE,

MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.

Give the BEST VALUE in

GROCERIES,

PROVISIONS,

FLOUR, AND FEEDING STUFFS,

WHISKEYS,

BRANDIES,

AND OLD PORTS.

200 PAIRS OF BOOTS TO BE CLEARED OUT CHEAP FOR STOCK-TAKING.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,

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

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

AT HALF THE PRICE USUALLY CHARGED.

THE NORTH OF ENGLAND DENTAL CO.

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

CONSULTATIONS FREE,

13, FRONT STREET,

OVER J. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER),

CONSETT.

ALL OUR CELEBRATED TEAS REDUCED 2d. PER LB.

TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.

ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.

JOHN HUME & SON,

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

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

"PURE" CEYLON TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.

PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.

GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d.

TOBACCO.

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

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

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

ESTABLISHED 1817

GEORGE HOBSON,

HARPERLEY & CATCHGATE STEAM & WATER CORN & SAW MILLS.

MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, AND SEEDSMAN,

NOTED

FOR THE BEST AND CLEANEST HORSE FEED.

WHOLE OATS, CRUSHED OATS, SPLIT BEANS, PEAS, AND MAIZE.

MIXED WITH OATS AS REQUIRED, OR SOLD SEPARATE. ALL THOROUGHLY CLEANED BY NEW & IMPROVED MACHINERY.

G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR.

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

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

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

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

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

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

MILL ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,

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

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

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

PIANOFORTES. HARMONIUMS.

AMERICAN ORGANS.

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

	FROM		FROM
PIANOS	£18 18 0	HARMONIUMS	£1 4
AMERICAN ORGANS	6 6 0	CONCERTINAS (LACHENALS)	2 12
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EVERY INSTRUMENT NEW AND GUARANTEED FOR TEN YEARS.

LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

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AND BRANCHES THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN AND THE COLONIES.

TAKE NOTICE.—EVERY SATURDAY

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

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

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

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

BRADY & MARTIN, Scientific Instrument Makers SPECTACLES.—Best Glass, from 3s. 6d.; Pebbles from 8s. 6d.

OPERA GLASSES, MICROSCOPES.

Price Lists on application.

27, 29, and 31, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE ON-TYNE. 161d

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.

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

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, AND CO., Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BROWN, Ironmonger, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SUGATE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Quarry Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Chester-le-Street; ANDREW F. FENTON, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 97r

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

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

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

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

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

EVERY INSTRUMENT WARRANTED.

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

WADDINGTON and SONS have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDAL and other Awards at EXHIBITIONS for the EX-CELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS.

THE OPINION OF "SIR CHARLES HALLE.

December 16th, 1885.

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

"CHAS. HALLE."

Messrs WADDINGTON and SONS.

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

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

PIANOS TUNED BY PROFESSIONAL TUNERS, FROM 3s. 6d.

Contract Tuning (once per quarter) 12s. a-year.

WADDINGTONS' PIANO WAREHOUSE 8, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. MR. JAS. FEARSON, Manager.

MUSIC.

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

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

MANCHESTER CORPORATION CONCENTRATED MANURE.

MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT.

BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c.

ANALYSING ABOUT

33-66 per Cent. of	ORGANIC MATTER	containing
3·60 ,,	of AMMONIA,	
6·08 ,,	of ALKALINE SALTS	containing
2·90 ,,	of POTASH,	
8·57 ,,	of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE,	
2·80 ,,	of SULPHATE OF LIME.	

Delivered in Dipton Station Siding within 50 miles of Manchester is not less than Two Ton Lots, and within 150 miles is not less than Four Ton Lots.—Special quotation beyond 150 miles.

£3 PER TON.

Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made HY WHILEY, SUPERINTENDENT, Cleansing Department, Town Hall, Manchester. 680d

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

HEALTHGIVING.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

STIMULATES DIGESTION.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

A GENTLE APERIENT.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

IS INVIGORATING.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

INVALUABLE TO TOURISTS.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.

A BOON TO SAILORS.

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Correspondence.

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

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

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

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

THE "SUPPRESSED" LETTER.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

DEAR SIR,—In your paper of January 16th, you give a report of the meeting of the Benfieldside School Board, held the previous week, in which my name appears as correspondent of the Consett National Schools. From what occurred at the meeting referred to, I imagined that the letter addressed to the chairman would have been published last week; but this not being the case, in justice to myself, and in order that the public may judge of its contents, I inclose a copy of the letter, which I shall be obliged by your appending to this note. I will only add that it is a great mistake (and one which I have made) to enter into "friendly arrangements" with any public bodies, especially when it is remembered what mixed elements enter into the composition of "School Boards."—I remain, yours faithfully,

FRED. STEGGALL,
Correspondent of Consett National Schools.

(*Copy.*)
Consett Vicarage.
January 5th, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—In appointing Miss Helen Potts, now residing in Consett, and lately a pupil teacher in the Benfieldside Board Schools, to a similar situation in the Consett National Schools, I think it right to mention certain facts with which, judging from the conduct of the Benfieldside school towards Helen Potts, and indirectly towards myself, they must be unacquainted. In June, 1890, I mentioned to your Clerk that Mrs Potts had opened a shop in Consett, and intended to come and live altogether here, when she vacated another shop and residence in Blackhill in November. I further informed your Clerk, that we should like to engage her daughter Helen as a pupil teacher in the Consett National Schools, pointing out the distance between Benfieldside Board Schools and Consett, and the exposed road from Consett to Benfieldside during the winter season, a consideration fully justified by the severe weather of the last two months. By the payment of £4 to your Board we could have secured the services of Helen Potts from the 1st of July last year, but your Clerk represented the great inconvenience which would accrue to your schools if she left before the inspection in the October following, and assured me more than once, as well as Mrs Potts, whose letter to the Board was read at their August meeting, that immediately after the inspection a "friendly arrangement" would be made, by which we were induced to believe that Helen Potts would be released, at the latest, by the end of the year 1890. Judging from the resolution of the Benfieldside School Board last meeting, the "friendly arrangement" seems to have been forgotten by your Clerk, or altogether ignored by the Benfieldside School Board. I have therefore felt it my duty to engage Helen Potts as a pupil teacher in her third year, without further communication with your Clerk, or yourselves. If under these circumstances you deem it fair, or honourable, to demand the fine from Mrs Potts, which you have the power to enforce, of course it will be paid.—I remain, yours very faithfully,

FRED. STEGGALL,
Correspondent of Consett National School.
The Chairman, Benfieldside School Board.

THE UNJUST ATTACK ON THE BISHOPS BY MR ATHERLEY-JONES, M.P.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—The letter of your anonymous correspondent "Historicus" scarcely needs a reply, but perhaps you will allow me to call attention to the crushing refutation of his assertions by Mr Gladstone.

The Right Honourable W. E. Gladstone writes: "I can find no trace of that opinion which is now common in the mouths of unthinking persons, that the Roman Catholic Church was abolished in England at the period of the Reformation, and that a Protestant Church was put in its place: nor does there appear to have been so much as a doubt in the mind of any one of them (the Reformers) whether this Church legally established in England after the Reformation, was the same institution with the Church legally established in England before the Reformation." Your correspondent "Historicus" is thus styled (by anticipation) by his great leader an "unthinking person."

Within the last three years Mr Gladstone has contributed a series of most able articles to the "Nineteenth Century Magazine," in which he shows how the reformation of the Church of England was carried out in strict accordance with the ancient constitution of the Church, without any breach of continuity. The very word "Reformation" implies "continuity," as you cannot reform anything which had no previous existence.

Mr Gladstone is supported by the ablest living English historians one of them Professor Freeman, a layman and a member of the Liberal party writes "The whole argument must assume—because the facts of history compel us to assume—the absolute identity of the Church of England after the Reformation, with the Church of England before the Reformation." (E. A. Freeman, D.C.L., disestablishment.)

One of the ablest Nonconformist ministers in England, Dr Beard, candidly admits in the Hibbert Lectures for 1883. "There is no point at which it can be said, here the old Church ends, here the new begins . . . . It is an obvious historical fact, that Parker (in Elizabeth's time) was the successor of Augustine as clearly as Lanfranc and Becket."

The Church of England reformed but not new created, professing the same creed, and having the same succession of bishops, can therefore claim to have been the means of founding the Kingdom of England, and of giving the English people Magna Charta, before a parliament of Lords and Commons was in existence.

2. *Tithes.* "Historicus" seems to know very little about the matter, as he thinks dissenters are unjustly treated in being asked to pay tithes, for even the Liberation Society's programme would allow tithes to be paid, which had been given to parishes during the last sixty-nine years, and a considerable amount of tithes have been bestowed during the present century. No tithes are paid to me as vicar of Benfieldside, but as it happens I have to pay tithes to two laymen, either of whom could endow a Nonconformist chapel with the tithes, and the law would compel me to pay them all the same. Six years ago, tithes worth five hundred a year were given by a private person to a Church in the South of England. These tithes might have been added to some dissenting endowment, and as I said before the law would enforce the payment of them all the same. It would be no use to plead that Churchmen could not conscientiously support dissent. A Wesleyan landowner has created a tithe rent charge for the Wesleyan Society, and in so doing is only following the example of Churchmen during the last twelve centuries. The Church is always being endowed, and if tithes were all abolished to-day, they might be created again to-morrow. They do not belong to the tithe payer, who bought his property so much cheaper because of this liability.

3. *Royal Supremacy.* The title "Head of the Church" claimed by Henry the Eighth, Edward, and at first by Queen Mary was rejected by Queen Elizabeth, and has never since belonged to any English Sovereign.

The following remarks of a learned Roman Catholic priest, Dr O'Conor, are most important (historical address, part 2, pp 276-7)—"Queen Elizabeth herself declared, by solemn injunctions to all her subjects, that she pretended to no authority over the Church, but what was of *ancient times*, due to the Imperial Crown of England, and she allowed every one to take oath (of supremacy) subject to *this explanation*. The same sense was put upon it be all the clergy of England assembled in Convocation, in the thirty-seventh Article of Religion agreed to by them in fifteen sixty-two." It is a testimony to the strength of our position that some of the ablest statements in defence of the historical position of the Church of England have been made by intelligent people who were not members of our church, who have risen above the mist of party prejudice.—I remain, sir, yours truly,

Benfieldside Vicarage, G. H. R. L.
January 24th, 1891.

REV G. H. ROSS-LEWIN AND THE STATE CHURCH.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—With your permission, I desire to make a few observations on the controversy now waging in your valuable paper on the Anglican State Church. Your correspondent "Historicus" is surprised at the silence of Nonconformists in relation to the vehement zeal of certain Tories to unseat Mr Jones, and to exalt the State Church at the derogation of Nonconformity. Well, the Liberals and Nonconformists are so satisfied with the soundness of their cause that they have hitherto seen no need to distress themselves on account of the feeble attacks of the Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin. Thanks are due to "Historicus" for his able and convincing letter. Mr Ross-Lewin asserts that he belongs to no political party, but such an assertion on his part is foolish and absurd. He is either sadly deceived himself, or else he is vainly striving to deceive the public, in order to induce some weak-kneed Liberal to come over to his side. He says he belongs to no political party, yet he is opposed to Mr Gladstone, opposed to Mr Jones, opposed to Home Rule, and opposed to religious equality. He is a rank Conservative-Unionist, and he will certainly vote against Mr Atherley-Jones at the next election. I don't wonder that "Historicus" describes Mr Ross-Lewin's letter as almost full of sophistries. The hand appears to be Esau's, but the voice—the voice of deceit—is Jacob's. Mr Ross-Lewin says that Home Rule is a failure. Is it? It has not been tried yet. Home Rule is not dead yet. All great measures, as the repeal of the Corn Laws, the Disestablishment of the Irish Church, the Abolition of Church Rates, and the public use of the graveyards of the nation have been opposed strenuously, but in vain, by Mr Ross-Lewin's party; and we may reasonably hope that their heated opposition to justice to Ireland will also be in vain. The moral defection of a prominent Home Ruler no more proves that Home Rule is dead than that the moral failure of some of the clergy proves that Mr Ross-Lewin and the rest of the clergy are all bad and that the gospel is a failure. Mr Ross-Lewin says that the Church figuratively consists of "tares and wheat," which must grow together, and of "good and bad fish," which must remain together till the final separation. This may be true of the gospel dispensation, but it is scarcely true of the Christian Church; for "Christ loved the Church, and gave Himself for it that He might cleanse it with the washing of water by the Word, and present it unto Himself a glorious Church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing;" but it is true of the Church of England, as Mr Ross-Lewin admits, for the Church of England and the nation of England are the same. The Church is the State and the State is the Church. The people of England, good, bad, and indifferent, and including Catholics and Protestants, and Conformists and Nonconformists, are the Church of England. The cathedrals, churches, endowments, colleges, tithes, incomes, and clergy of the English Church all belong to the nation, the people, the State. The ratepayers elect the sidesmen and churchwardens, and in some few cases even the clergymen, and they, in cases of dispute, determine what alteration shall be made to the edifices. The tithes are paid, not by Churchmen or Nonconformists as such, but by those who are holders or tenants of the land, whether they belong Church, or chapel, or the world. Parliament, which represent the people, determines the religion and doctrines, and the form of the services of the State Church, and accordingly the State Church has been Roman Catholic, Protestant, Independent, Presbyterian, and Anglican in turn, and it may be altered at any time by Act of Parliament; because the State Church is the Church of the Parliament. Nonconformists have no objection to the Church as a spiritual institution; they wish it every success in this particular, and are willing to help it, and do help it; but they object to the Church as a creature and dependent of the State. The Church is manacled, chained, and weighted with abuses that it cannot remove, and which impede its progress and stimulate the growth of sectarianism and bigotry. Free the Church from State patronage and control, and then the Church would be freed to a large extent of its tares and bad fish, and would be able to appoint its own ministers, to determine the nature of its services, and to manage its own business without the interference of the Parliament or the ratepayers, many of whom have no sympathy with the Church of which they legally form a part. As the Church of England up to the time of Henry VIII. was a branch of the Church of Rome, teaching Romish doctrines, and acknowledging the Pope as its head, it is untrue to say that the present Anglican Church has continued for 1,200 years. It is not 1,200 years, but 300 years old, and was instituted by Acts of Parliament, and became the Church established by law. The nation made the Church—not the Church the nation. England as a State existed as a province of the Roman Empire before Christianity was introduced at all. England was governed by the idolatrous Saxons before Augustine re-introduced Christianity. Though there may have been Christians in England during the Heptarchy, yet they did not form the governments of the country, and though the Church might do something to further the union of the English kingdoms into one kingdom with Egbert as king in 827, yet the Church did not found the kingdom. True Christianity strives to promote better laws, to make the kingdom better to-day, and it was the same centuries ago both in England and in other countries, but unfortunately the Church of England by its bishops and clergy have usually opposed the march of political and religious liberty and equality. The sooner the Church is disestablished the better, both for the Church itself, and for the Nonconformists and the general welfare of the nation and of religion.—Yours, &c.,

R. GILLENDER.

January 26th, 1891.

CONSETT SEWERAGE SCHEME AND WHY A THOUSAND POUNDS?

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I think this question is of sufficient importance to the district to warrant me in thinking you will allow your readers to be troubled with it. It is reported that, at a special meeting of our Local Board, the engineer, acting upon instructions, submitted estimates of the approximate cost which was less than £1,000. Very well. Now, sir, if any man was found putting a very small erection up within the Local Board district, say to cost £20, before he had submitted plans, or a plan of it to the said authority, would it be deemed sufficient for the builder to tell the Inspector when he asked him how it came that he was putting that there, simply to tell him that he was acting on the owner's instructions? Anyone can fancy how the almightiness of our Board would come down like a thousand of bricks upon the poor owner, and the cry would be why did you not submit a plan? But, what have they done? At a special meeting, with a subject before them which will involve the expenditure of hundreds of pounds over work that not one of them could have the slightest knowledge of without a plan, and yet there is not a word said about such a thing, but I may be told that the Board's engineer got the information from a mining engineer; yes, but if the Board's engineer can produce a mining engineer who can tell us how much walling will be needed, to say two hundred yards of completing the work, or if he can tell in money to three hundred pounds what the work will cost, let him do so, for surely that is margin enough, and more than enough; and yet it strikes me that the Board's engineer has such a man to find yet, and if so then we have a right to ask him why he says less than a thousand? So the more the thing is looked at the more need we see there is for a plan of the work contemplated. But, sir, our members have utterly failed to grasp the situation in its initial state, and the collapse is so complete that not one of them rose on the occasion; because in all fairness when the representative of the Consett Iron Company asked to have the work done at the expense of the ratepayers, they, as the representatives of the ratepayers, had an equal right to know, as far as it could possibly be made known, what the work needed was, both in its nature and its extent, before they committed themselves to any scheme. They should demand a plan, and a plan drawn to a scale that will not only show the distances from one coal wall to another coal wall, but the height of each place from the floor to roof, and the distance from the holes to be filled to where the stones are to be had to fill them with, then, and not till them, should they have said go on with the work, and having got the needed quantities and the measurements and all ready for a start. But at once we stand confronted with nothing but mystery as far as being able to tell what the cost of procuring the stones for the wall should be. What do we know of the difficulties in the way of the men who have them to obtain? How are they lying? Where are they to be blasted, or can they be gathered as if they had been put where they are on purpose for our members to gather up? Won't some of our members take a trip in and penetrate the mystery, see through all the obstacles, and make the whole thing clear to us; but if they won't do so, and cannot get anyone else that can do it for them, then where is their authority for saying less than "a thousand?" And if they have not already done this, and are not ready with an answer to the questions, then any other man has as much reason on his side if he says the work will cost £2,000, for both statements are equally without proof. Is it not plain, then, to anyone who has given the subject their attention that the procuring of the stone for the wall is the all-important thing in the whole scheme; for here lies at once the kernel and the mystery of the whole matter, and if our Board is content with the arrangement, and intend going through with it, then they must also put up with the mystery; but in the meantime they had better not say anything about cost, for fear that at the finish they cannot say less than "two thousand." But is there any reason, sir, that the district should be bound to this uncertainty and suspense? I think not. And as our members have so utterly broken down at the very threshold of the subject, I beg to give them a helping hand out of the darkness. Now, then, look at your plan, measure the area of each of those holes, and see how many yards of stones you want; but be sure you get the height from floor to roof in each case. Having done so, let us have a look down the lane to the holes, and don't you see as much slag lying not far off as would fill the whole of the pit workings, if needed, and you can get to know what it will cost to bring as much of it up here as you need in a very short time. What to do, though, with the slag up here? Look, just get a hole broken through the bottom of this place you have got cut for the pipes to be in somewhere where it is suited for the men inside to get the slag from the bottom of the hole you make to the place to be walled up. You see your cartman can bring his cart alongside the hole, pour the slag into the workings any size you like, then all you have to do is to see what you can get your wall put in for per yard, and for leading the slag. Perhaps you chairman could get it put over for you at the bottom of the cottages yonder. Do you think it feasible? Yes, I think there is little mystery in that, and when it is done we will still be able to say less than a thousand. Then please do it for the benefit and credit of all concerned in it.—Yours, &c., O. G. F.

January 28th, 1891.

"SERIOUS OUTLOOK! MONEY DISAPPEARING!! DUMBFOUNDED MEMBERS!!!"

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—As ratepayers, we were naturally very much startled by the above extraordinary headings which appeared last week in your reports of the latest meetings of our Local Board.

It is undoubtedly a "serious outlook" for ratepayers, who must "pay the piper," to find that 1,400 yards (may be more) of a substantial bed for the main sewer, must be provided at an additional cost of about £1,000.

The seriousness of the outlook is not lessened by the knowledge that, although £16,000 has now been received out of a total estimated cost of £17,000, the portion of the work being proceeded with has as yet barely reached the outskirts of the town, and even that portion is not yet in working order.

If the cost of past, present, and future "extras," claims for compensation, legal proceedings, counsel's opinions, engineer's visits, valuation fees (*straw* for covering gas-pipes!), and the unpaid percentage (due to contractor and retained by the Board) be taken into consideration, it will be readily seen that several thousands more may disappear before the scheme is actually completed. Of course, the flooding of mines would still further increase the expenditure.

Now, we might fairly assume that the existence of the "drift" must have been known to the members of the Board and their engineer, and that, therefore, the difficulty which has now arisen ought to have been foreseen, provided for, and included in the original contract.

As to the incidence of the expense, seeing that 1d in the £ on the rateable value of the township produces £120, it is apparent that, to repay loan and interest on so large a sum as £17,000 to £20,000, the imposition of a considerable rate for a lengthened period will be unavoidable.

It is undoubtedly the duty of our Local Board to safeguard the public health, but is it not also equally their duty by forethought, strict supervision, and judicious action, to ensure the greatest economy, consistent with efficiency, in the expenditure of public money?—Yours, &c.,

"DUMBFOUNDED" RATEPAYER.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In your issue of Friday week last in the full report of the meeting of the Consett Local Board, you made public the discussion of a very important matter as affecting the ratepayers. As far as I can call to mind no previous reference had been made by the Board to the fact that the Contractors to the Sewerage works had "holed" in the course of their operations into certain old workings belonging to the Consett Iron Company, and it may therefore be assumed that the discussion alluded to was the first that had been held on the subject, and the blunder—for blunder it was, on the part of somebody or other of "holing" in these old workings was committed quite recently.

Since the report appeared you have twice commented upon the matter urging upon the ratepayers to watch closely any future discussions on the subject. But according to your last issue the whole affair has been already "despatched," and almost it would seem at the same moment that the fact became public property and the ratepayers learnt with more or less gratification that a further cost of £1,000 had been incurred by the little mistake, the engineer to proceed with the additional works "without any delay." There will thus be no likelihood of any future discussion on the subject and no opportunity afforded the ratepayers of getting to the bottom of the matter and discovering on whom the blame rests, unless by a united action they force it to an issue.

What guarantee is there that later on some further "holing" of a similar character may not occur? In such an event I'll warrant the ratepayers would see need for an enquiry. If so why not *now*? A searching investigation *now* might prevent a repetition, whereas an undue apathy would indicate an unconcern which is certainly not felt by the great body of ratepayers. As a body they *are* concerned, very much concerned, and they would do well to let the Board understand this by insisting upon that body laying bare the whole facts of the case as it is its duty to do. I enclose my card.—Yours truly

"SPERO."

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting was held at Lanchester on Thursday se'nnight—Mr Wm. Logan (chairman) presiding, there being present:—Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., Revs P. C. Fortin and C. F. D. Hodge, Messrs J. Collinson, Wm. Gray, T. Nichol, W. Aynsley, T. J. Muse, R. Robson, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

Week ending Jan. 13th	161
Corresponding week last year	161
Week ending Jan. 20th	164
Corresponding week last year	165
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	22
Corresponding period last year	13

There was no business of importance.

LANCHESTER JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held at Lanchester on Thursday se'nnight, under the chairmanship of Mr Wm. Logan.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The Medical Officer (Dr Geo. Renton) submitted the following report:—

"During the last month, two patients have been admitted to the Leadgate fever hospital, and two discharged. The two former were both cases of scarlet fever—one from Consett and the other from Shotley Bridge. In neither case was the disease of a severe type. Those discharged were the enteric fever case sent in from Old Cornsay, and the scarlet fever case from Consett. There now remains only the case from Shotley Bridge, which is progressing in a satisfactory manner. May I be allowed once more, and for the last time, to express my appreciation of the care and attention given to the various patients by Mrs Bell?"

The subjoined letter was also read:—

Viewlands, Blackhill,
January 21st, 1891.

MY DEAR SIR,—My attention has been drawn to a report in the *Consett Guardian* of the last monthly meeting of the Joint Hospital Board, in which Mrs Bell, the nurse of the fever hospital, is reported to have said that I only visited the hospital once in two months. As such a statement, allowed to go unrefuted, is calculated to prejudice me in the opinion of the Board and the public generally, may I be allowed to state that during the year 1890 I paid 45 visits to the hospital, my assistant (Dr Allen, of Leadgate), giving such other attendance as was necessary.—Yours, &c.,

GEO. RENTON, M.D.

Mr AYNSLEY stated that Dr Allen had paid no less than 300 visits to the hospital.

Mr MUSE: The woman certainly said to us that Dr Renton had only visited the hospital either once or twice in nine weeks.

The CHAIRMAN hoped the reporters would give publicity to the foregoing refutation.

THE NEW OFFICERS.

The Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) stated that the new caretaker and nurse (John Stephenson and wife) had entered upon their duties.

It was agreed to give a character to Mrs Bell, who is applying for another situation.

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.

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

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

Football.

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

ASSOCIATION.

Bearpark Albion beat Brandon Rovers by three goals to one.

Mickley beat the Pelicans (Newcastle), at Mickley, in the Northumberland Junior Cup competition, by four goals to nil.

SPEN HEROES v MEDOMSLEY JUNIORS.—Played at Medomsley, and resulted in a win for the Heroes by one goal to nil.

MARLEY HILL ST. CUTHBERT'S JUNIORS v HIGH ROW STRANGERS.—Played on the former's ground, and resulted in a victory for the home team by nine goals to nil.

DIPTON WANDERERS v CONSETT WEDNESDAY.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a pleasant game resulted in a victory for the Wanderers by four goals to nil.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES HEROES 2ND v BURNHOPE 2ND.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a good game ended in a victory for Burnhope by five goals to one.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES HEROES v BURNHOPE.—Played at Burnhope. The game was well contested, the Heroes coming off victorious by one goal to nothing.

DERWENT COTTAGES RAMBLERS v LEADGATE EXILES B.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a very exciting game the Ramblers were victorious by two goals to one disputed goal.

CASTLESIDE ROVERS v CASTLESIDE YOUNG MEN.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a fast and exciting game resulted in a win for the Rovers by seven goals to one.

HELM PARK WANDERERS v TOW LAW JUNIORS.—These teams met on neutral ground in the final tie for a ball. After a good game the Wanderers came off victorious by two goals to one.

CONSETT FELL RANGERS v CASTLESIDE ROVERS.—Played on the former's ground, and resulted in a win for the home team by four goals and one disputed goal to nil.

WILLINGTON ALBION v BRANDON ALBION.—Played on the ground of the latter. After a good game the final result was:—Willington, three goals; Brandon, two goals.

BLAYDON ALBION v GATESHEAD WHITE ROSE.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in win for the home team. Score:—Albion, four goals; White Rose, one goal.

WATERHOUSES PARKWOOD WANDERERS v. ESH ALBION.—Played on the Waterhouses ground in unfavourable weather, the visitors winning by five goals to nil.

WHICKHAM v NEWCASTLE ALBION 2ND.—Played on the ground of the former, a fast game resulting in a win for the Albion by two goals to one—a result in a great measure due to the excellent play of the Albion goalkeeper.

CONSETT SHAMROCKS v CONSETT RED CROSS.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a pleasant game resulted in a win for the Shamrocks by four goals and one disputed goal to two goals. For the losers R. Batey played a good game, as did M. Hagan and B. Rafferty for the winners.

FOOTBALL AT CASTLESIDE.—An Association football match took place at Castleside between the non-players and players of the district. About 100 spectators witnessed an amusing game, which resulted in the players defeating the non-players by four goals to one.

CONSETT WHITE STARS v BLACKHILL PARK.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the Park by three goals to two. The following represented the winners:—Goal, D. Aitken; backs, F. Kempster and N. Newbould; half-backs, J. Kay, W. Askew, and G. Hetherington; forwards, H. Tindle and E. Tindle, right wing; W. Leybourne and J. Butler, left wing; Brown, centre.

DIPTON WANDERERS JUNIORS v DIPTON STRANGERS.—Played on the ground of the latter. The Wanderers had the best of the game throughout, and ultimately won by three goals to nil. The following represented the Wanderers:—Goal, A. Rouse; backs, D. Bell and R. Spinks; half-backs, M. Cain, P. Rafferty, and J. Spinks; forwards, C. Thornton and H. Walker, left wing; M. Brown, centre; S. Evans and W. Teasdale, right wing.

TANFIELD LEA CÆSARS v FLINT HILL ALBION.—Played on the ground of the former, when a fast and pleasant game ended in a victory for the home eleven by four goals to two. The winners a splendid game, R. Brown being especially conspicuous. The Cæsars were represented by:—Goal, M. Ridley; backs, J. Milburn and J. G. Brown; half-backs, W. Sanders, T. Armstrong, and J. Armstrong; forwards, F. Sanders and J. Ridley, right wing; G. Pringle, centre; R. Brown and W. Carr, left wing.

DIPTON STRANGERS v BYER MOOR.—Played on the ground of the former. Byer Moor had not their best team, but they thought they had a good chance to win upon the form Dipton showed in the first match, but they found the Strangers a greatly improved team. In the first half, Byer Moor scored after a bit of good play. About a minute off half-time Dipton equalised. The visitors had hard lines in the second period, as they sent in shot after shot, but could not score, and the game ended in a draw—one goal each. Rev R. Tuson (Dipton Vicarage) kindly acted as referee, and the game was of a pleasant character throughout.

DIPTON WANDERERS v MEDOMSLEY.—These teams played their return match at Medomsley, when the home team were victorious by four goals to two. The Wanderers' secretary requests us to state that his team were minus of five of their best players, viz.:—Tuson, Buck, Turner, Crozier, and Smith, whose places had to be filled up with 2nd team men. They had also to travel to Medomsley on foot, and were properly tired out, owing to the heavy condition of the roads. Taking the above facts into consideration, he thinks they did remarkably well against such a formidable team as Medomsley.

CORNSAY ROVERS v SACRISTON HEROES.—Played on the ground of the latter, in two thirties, when a fast and exciting game took place. James Austin kicked off for the visitors, and it was not long before the same player scored the first goal. Simpson and Sargent exhibited some good passing, and with mere practice will make two splendid players. The whole of the Cornsay men played up well, and when time was called the result was—Cornsay Rovers, two goals; Sacriston Heroes, nil. The Rovers were represented by the following team—Goal, J. McDermott; backs, J. Austin and R. Spours; half-backs, J. Raw, P. Dunn, and M. Raw; forwards, G. Simpson and T. Kidd (capt.), left wing; Jas. Austin, centre; J. McGowan and J. Sargent, right wing. Umpire, Mr H. McGowan.

TANFIELD LEA v LANGLEY PARK ROVERS.—This return fixture was brought off at Langley Park. The game was played in two thirties. The visitors won the toss, and elected to play down the hill. The home team kicked off, and the visitors made for the Rovers' goal, but play was transferred to midfield for a time. Tanfield again attacked the home goal, and gained a corner, which proved abortive. From the goal-kick the visitors got possession and scored. Tanfield had still the best of the game, and piled on goal after goal. The home team got up the hill and scored somewhat easily. When the whistle sounded for half-time the score stood—

Tanfield	Five goals
Langley Park	One goal

On re-starting, the home team, with the hill in their favour, made the most of their advantage, and very frequently visited their opponents' goal. In fact, they had just as much the best of the game in this half as the visitors had in the first. The Rovers beat the Tanfield goalkeeper on four occasions, while the visitors failed to add to their score, and the game ended as under—

Tanfield	Five goals
Langley Park	Five goals

NORTHUMBERLAND MINOR CUP.

MICKLEY v GODFREY.—Played on the ground of the latter at Heaton, before a good gathering of spectators. The visitors kicked off with the wind in their favour, but the home forwards getting possession took near their opponents' goal, but sent behind. They quickly returned, and an exciting scrimmage ensued in the visitors' goal mouth, but the backs saved splendidly, and sent down. The Mickley forwards now began to play up and made several attacks on the home goal, but were unable to score. From this point until the end of the first half play was confined to midfield, and when the whistle blew neither team had scored. On re-starting, Godfrey at once began to bombard the visitors' goal, but the splendid defence of their backs and goalkeeper kept them from scoring. After twenty minutes' play the home team were rewarded with their first goal from a corner, a second following directly after. Still keeping up the attack the home team put through other three times, the final score reading—

Godfrey	Five goals
Mickley	Nil

DURHAM CHALLENGE CUP.

1ST ROUND (COMPETITION PROPER).

LEADGATE PARK v SUNDERLAND OLYMPIC.—This important match was played on the former's ground, in the presence of about 700 spectators. The home team won the toss and played up the hill. Shortly after commencing the visitors attacked, but were driven back. However, the forwards displayed some grand passing, and after Beadling had saved repeatedly, a fast shot hit the under side of the cross-bar and went through. Robson now and again sprinted away, and Wattsford was prominent, but they were badly supported, and seldom got within shooting distance. After the Olympic had taken a fruitless corner, their left wing put in a splendid run, and a second goal resulted. Robson came near scoring soon after, and the teams changed ends with the score standing—

Olympic	Two goals
Park	Nil

Burnhope re-started, but the visitors again pressed, and from a combined run of the forwards a third goal was scored. After Robson and Foreman had put in a nice run, the Olympic right wing got away, and centreing finely, the Leadgate goal was again captured. Urged on by the loud cries of "Play up, Park," the home team pulled themselves together, and for the remainder of the game had none the worst of the exchanges. Wattsford contributed a capital run, winding up by shooting a good goal for the Park. The same player shortly afterwards again eluded the Olympic backs, and passing across to Robson, the latter still further reduced the visitors' lead. Each goal had narrow escapes before the whistle sounded, the final result being—

Olympic	Four goals
Park	Two goals

The following team represented the Park:—Goal, G. Beadling; backs, T. Cairns and T. Hewitt; half-backs, C. Burnhope, R. Boustead, and Geo. Walton; forwards, J. Robson and C. Foreman, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; J. Hunter (capt.) and H. Wattsford, left wing. Umpire, Mr Wm. Johns. Referee, Mr Lowthian (Shildon).

RUGBY.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

SECOND ROUND.

BLAYDON v HENDERSON'S CREELERS.—Played at Blaydon. During the first half the visitors had the best of the game, and at half-time the score stood:—Creelers, one goal and four minors; Blaydon, nil. In the second half the visiting team again showed their superiority over the home fifteen, and put on a try and two minors. Blaydon worked most pluckily to secure a major point, but the defence was too good, and the game ended with the following result:—Creelers, one goal, one try, and six minors; Blaydon, two minors.

HAMSTEELS v RYTON.—These teams met on the ground of the former, on the recreation ground adjacent to Mr Geo. French's, Stag's Head Hotel, Waterhouses, to play off their cup-tie. Hamsteels defeated Hetton Lyons the previous week, whilst the Seaham team scratched to Ryton in the 1st round. The kick-off was made at three o'clock prompt, Ryton kicking from the lower end of the ground. Hamsteels rushed the ball into the Ryton twenty-five, and keeping the leather in the vicinity of the goal posts, scored three minors in the first half of the game to nil. On the resumption of the contest, play was altogether confined to Ryton territory, the home team never allowing the visitors to cross the centre line. The game resulted in a win for Hamsteels by one goal, one try, and eight minor points to nil. Referee, Mr J. Bruce, Durham. The following represented the winners:—Back, J. Collinson; three-quarter backs, A. Dodds, J. Johnson, and Glennin; half-backs, T. Collinson and J. Lockey; forwards, E. Rutter (capt.), R. Rutter, J. Heightley, T. Brown, T. Hunter, W. Mounsey, R. McDonald, R. Canavan, and A. Ellis. Touch judge, Mr J. Cook.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[BY "OFF-SIDE."]

THE CUP-TIE AT LEADGATE.

The visit of Sunderland Olympic to Leadgate on Saturday, when they opposed the Park in the first round of the Durham Cup competition proper, excited the liveliest interest in the district, and notwithstanding the bitterly cold and unfavourable weather that prevailed, a large concourse of sightseers turned out to witness the match. The ground was scarcely in a condition for a good exhibition of the game, being very soft and slippery, and the players at times had great difficulty in maintaining their equilibrium. Nevertheless, a capital contest ensued, and visitors were fully repaid for braving the wintry elements by seeing one of the best games that has ever taken place on the Park ground.

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During the first half the visitors showed greatly superior form to the Leadgate men, and had considerably the best of the game. Beadling was kept busy most of the time, and it says much for his custodianship that he was only beaten on two occasions. The Park were not often dangerous, and what shots they sent in were easily dealt with. The second "45" was much more equally contested, although the Olympic pressed at the beginning, and added two more points to their score. Then the Park, to the delight of their supporters, showed up in something approaching their true form, and beat the Sunderland custodian twice. This was all the scoring, and the visitors consequently enter the second round, their majority being four goals to two.

—o—

I think every impartial spectator will agree with me when I say that the better team won. In the first part of the game the Park showed palpable signs of their want of practice, whereas the Sunderland men had evidently been in hard training. Beadling kept his charge splendidly, and could not be blamed for a single shot that scored. In fact, it would have been no disgrace to him if the score had been larger. On one occasion he saved especially well, falling his full length on the ground and putting a swift shot past the post. Cairns was by far the best of the backs, and as usual played a hard game all through; but I have seen him in better form. Hewitt was completely out of it, and never do I remember seeing him display such moderate form before; his tackling and kicking were alike weak, and he was no match for the agile forwards opposed to him. Walton played a real good game at half, especially in the second "45," and C. Burnhope and Boustead were useful. The two extreme men (Wattsford and Robson) were the pick of the forwards, both goals scored by the Park being due to the efforts of the left-winger. Foreman and Burnhope did fairly, but the home captain (Hunter) was quite "off colour."

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Coming to the Olympic, I have nothing but praise for them. They arrived with a great reputation, which it must be admitted they fully upheld. Their goalkeeper is not a Roberts or Angus in stature by any means, but he knows how to keep out all sorts of shots. Both backs played a safe and cool game, and the halves, without being showy, got through some very hard and effective work. But it is in the forwards where the chief strength of the visitors lies. A better balanced five, or a lot who play with more judgment, I have not seen outside professional teams. All of them were good, but the left wing pleased me most. In the initial portion of the game the passing runs of this couple were irresistible, and roused the enthusiasm of the spectators to a high pitch. The right wing was also excellent, and the centre filled his difficult position with the greatest credit.

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The game was most agreeably contested, and the referee's decisions gave general satisfaction, although I must confess that the fourth goal scored by the Olympic looked suspiciously like an off-side one. I understand that the Park have protested against two of their opponents being eligible, but whether they have a strong case or not I am unable to say. In the event of the protest falling through, the Olympic will fall against Gateshead N.E.R., and with the Sunderland men in their best form, I fancy the railway team's cup career will be ended in the next round.

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MR F. MCCURLEY'S COMPETITION.

Mr McCurley informs me that he has completed arrangements to re-play the final tie of the above competition on February 14th, when the medals will appropriately provide the winners with handsome valentines. No doubt another keen and exciting tussle will result.

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LEADGATE EXILES B V DERWENT COTTAGES RAMBLERS.

"A spectator" writes:—"Dear sir,—Allow me a small space in your valuable paper. I, as a lover of football, witnessed a match between the above teams. In the first half the Ramblers scored two goals to nil. This seemed to enrage the Exiles, as they began to play shamefully, especially one man—a noted second team player. He began to kick one of the Ramblers when he fell down, and when he got up he went for him with both hands and feet, because he took the ball from him. I think this should not be allowed in football. I have witnessed scores of matches, and this is the first time I have seen such an occurrence. I thought the Ramblers had a very quiet team, quite opposite to what the Exiles were."

MEDOMSLEY CHURCH CHOIR.

A new secretary has been appointed for the above club. All further communications should be addressed to—William Hunter, Medomsley Edge, via Lintz Green, R.S.O. The Choir have still a few vacant dates.

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A RISING RUGBY TEAM.

It is not often that the doings of the Rugbyites take up much space in my column; but the capital form displayed by the Hamsteels fifteen demands a few lines from me. They have experienced a most successful season so far, and are now in the thick of the Durham Junior Cup ties. After beating Hetton Lyons in the first round, they on Saturday last served Ryton in the same manner. A friend of mine informs me that the Hamsteels men played a splendid game on Saturday, particularly in the second half, and completely outplayed Ryton, who are by no means a weak team. E. Rutter, R. Rutter, Heightley, and Lockey were always prominent for the winners. The Hamsteels men should have a fair chance to become holders of the cup this season, Henderson's Creelers and Sherburn House being apparently their most formidable opponents. They have fallen against South Shields Holy Trinity Church Institute in the third round, and although the latter have shown very good form in the competition, I think Hamsteels are fully capable of administering to them the noble order of the knock.

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A COMPLAINT AGAINST THE EXILES.

The Hedley Harriers' secretary writes as follows:—"Leadgate Exiles journeyed to Stanley on Saturday to bring off their return match with the Harriers, when there was an enormous number of spectators awaiting their arrival. The Harriers were dressed and on the field, hoping to rub off their defeat by the Leadgate men. I don't know what to think about the latter. Some of them changed, and two of their men got on the ground ready for a start. The others put their clothes on and went away, leaving the home team on the field. I can see no reason for their behaviour. We went to Leadgate on Xmas Day, when it was not fit for play, and suffered defeat by four goals to nil. I think the Exiles had no call to behave like this, as the match at Leadgate was played without having a wrong word. The Exiles should learn to "do unto others as they would like to be done unto." [I must confess that my correspondent's letter somewhat puzzles me. The fact that the Exiles made the journey to Stanley proves that they intended to carry out their engagement with the Harriers, and why they did not do so I am unable to gather from the above communication. Perhaps Mr Costello will explain next week?]

—o—

TO SECRETARIES OF CLUBS.

Notwithstanding the notice which weekly appears at the head of our football columns, and the fact that I have also called attention to the matter previously, we frequently receive reports on Thursday of matches played on the previous Saturday. As we have such a mass of local news to deal with on Thursdays, reports of matches which reach us on that day are invariably condensed or omitted altogether. We do our best to oblige secretaries by inserting anything of interest in connection with their clubs, and we think they might strain a point and assist us by sending their communications not later than *Wednesday* morning—sooner, if possible. As I have stated before, we cannot guarantee the insertion of matches which reach our office later than Wednesday.

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BEAMISH HARRIERS.

I have been asked to request all clubs having fixtures with the Harriers to communicate, for the future, with F. Kay, 18, Eden Place, Beamish, instead of J. Allen.

—o—

MATCHES WANTED.

Burnhope (A) have the following vacant dates, and would like them filled up as soon as possible:—Home—Feb. 7th and 21st, March 21st, and April 4th; away—April 11th and 25th. Address—J. Johnston, Burnhope Colliery, near Lanchester.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

The ladies' sewing meeting tea at the bank room, Stanhope, on Saturday evening, in aid of the High Street Mission, was a bumper. £7 10s 0d is not a despisable sum for a big church to raise, but for some ten or twelve members it is handsome. It speaks well for the sympathy of the public with the object, also for the character and reputation of Tommy Rutherford who gave the tea, and also to Mr C. Stelling, of Blackhill, who was the chief performer of the evening at the entertainment. Evidently as a vocalist and a musican he is a great favourite at Stanhope. Miss Temperley's high class performances on the piano are always appreciated.

An evil crops up at most sewing meeting teas. It is this. A lot of half-waxed youths sit down to a splendid tea made at a great cost by the generous donor, and then slip a penny on the plate as it is handed around. At one sewing meeting tea three youths sat down and ate as much as six men would have done, and one of them paid for the lot by putting a threepenny piece on the plate. On Saturday night a man did even worse than this; he put on a worthless old coin coloured like a half-sovereign. That man would pasture a goat on the grave of his own mother.

A well-known Bollihope athlete happened to be in the gas works, at Stanhope, the other evening, Being slightly under the influence of a stronger stimulent than tea, he asked the man in charge if they made gas of old horses?

Few clergymen in Weardale give their choirs such treats as Rev F. C. Jaggs, of Fresterley. They are eyer and anon having some special treat or other. By this means he keeps an excellent choir. They feel he takes an interest in them, and the feeling evoked is mutual and reciprocal.

The revival at Wearhead has robbed the dale of a few of its crack wrestlers and footballers. The work there has been a splendid one. Over fifty converts have been "brought in" under Miss Bulmer, leader of the High Street Mission, at Stanhope. The success of its leader among the Wearhead Privitives speaks much for its usefulness, without mentioning the brands "plucked from the burning" who are now members of the same mission, some of whom were drunkards, poachers, and well acquainted with gaol life and the delightful pastime afforded by the tread-mill.

A son of Vulcan intended surprising a wedding party at Stanhope, on Saturday, by blocking the road with some old ploughs, etcetra, and making them pay their footing by standing treat. He put himself to much trouble, when lo and behold they went the other way and disappointed him after all. In trying to avoid a number of children, it is said they slipped up the Cemetery Road to try to get to the Wesleyan Chapel, but the gate was locked; they couldn't scale the fence, and so had after all to face the noisy seranading youths. Some thought they had been reading "Harvey's meditations among the tombs."

A little boy in one of the Weardale villages was saying his prayers the other evening, thus: "God bless father and mother, uncles and aunts, brothers and sisters." Here he stopped short for a time, and then said, "But not the whipper-in."

Two officials of a dissenting place of worship in Weardale, waited upon a popular lady evangelist the other day with a view of prevailing upon her to pay them a visit. They pleaded long and hard, and urged their plea with right good will, and even prayed over it on the spot. On resuming their seats one of them happened to lean back in the chair rather too far. He lost his equilibrum and both him and the chair went back over. The position was ludicrous in the extreme. He was tightly wedged in between the press and the chair, lying on his back, feet upwards. The other old sage, in wonderment at his mate's somersaulting proclivities, exclaimed, "Joshua, Joshua, what ivvor dista mean." The lady evangelist and the inmates of the house were convulsed with laughter. They had not often witnessed both tragedy and comedy all at once.

A lady, in Upper Weardale, was retiring to rest the other evening. In the room where she slept was a cupboard in which was some hay, it being a farm house. She imagined she heard a noise in the cupboard as if some one was hidden inside. A strange tramp having been about the same day confirmed her fears. However, she was brave in it. She thought she would meet her fate heroically and deliberately opened the door, when out sprang a great Tom cat. Which was the most frightened was difficult to say.

Original Poetry.

WHAT THE MOON DOES.

Mild Luna sheds a hallow'd light
Upon my lady's forehead white,
And charms her cheeks of pallid hue,
And kisses tenderly the dew
That on her lips delicious lie,
And gives a glory to her eye.

She lendeth to my lady's face
Bright purity, and placid grace,
And doth assuredly enhance
The sweetness of her loving glance;
These all in silence she bestows,
For which my lady gladness shows.

Thanks, Luna, for the beauty rare
Thou givest to my lady fair.
When thou appearest in the sky
She glows with love, and from her eye
Flows sympathy in streams benign;
On her then ever brightly shine.

T. W. LITTLE.

DRUIDS' DINNER AT MEDOMSLEY.

A MEDICAL MAN ON INFANTILE INSURANCE.

The annual dinner of the "Ivy Leaf" Lodge (Medomsley) of the United Ancient Order of Druids' Friendly Society was celebrated on Saturday evening, at the Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley. An excellent spread was provided by the worthy host and hostess (Mr and Mrs S. Mace), which was fully appreciated by the company present, who included the following:—Dr Charles (medical officer to the lodge); Bros. G. Gibbons (chairman of the lodge), A. Shearer (vice-chairman), T. Mason (the worthy secretary), G. Scott (treasurer), W. Turnbull, T. Hanlon, G. Craig, Jos. Stubbs, W. Purvis, J. Taylor, Bewick, T. Wigham, E. Dickinson, T. Bramley, J. Armstrong, J. Burdis, J. Winter, T. Moore, J. Burt, R. Dawson, W. Shearer, H. Carr, C. Whitfield, J. Salsbury, T. Harbottle, F. Knox, Jos. Leach; Messrs R. Moffitt, R. Hutchinson, J. Wishart, Lyal Bell, Jas. McKinley, and J. Ross, jun.

After the cloths had been removed, Dr Charles was voted to the chair, and Bro. Gibbons to the vice-chair.

The CHAIRMAN said his first duty was to propose the time-honoured toast of "The Queen and Royal Family." No doubt there would be representatives of all shades of politics amongst them that evening—Unionists, Home Rulers, and Conservatives—but he thought there were none among them who were disloyal—(hear, hear)—or who would not agree with him when he stated that her present Majesty was

THE BEST SOVEREIGN

we had ever had. (Applause). He (the chairman) thought it would be a long time before they would get such another. Therefore, he asked them to heartily drink the toast he had proposed. (Applause).

The toast was warmly pledged.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN said he had great pleasure in rising to give them the toast of the evening—"Success to the Ivy Leaf Lodge." (Applause). This was the third year they had met together to spend a social evening, and he was sorry to see so few present. He believed that their secretary would be able to lay a

MOST SATISFACTORY REPORT

before them, both financially and otherwise. (Applause). He would not detain them longer, but give them the toast associated with his name, which was very warmly drank.

The SECRETARY (Bro. Thos. Mason) then presented his annual report, which showed that during the past year 26 members and one hon. member had been initiated, 27 of whom were under 30 years of age. In 1889, 50 members and one hon. member were enrolled, of which number 31 were under the age of 30 years. The lodge was in a most satisfactory condition, and the members had reason to congratulate themselves on the results achieved. (Hear, hear). When the lodge first removed to the house of Mr Mace (between two and three years ago) they had only 22 members on the books. At the present time

THEY HAD 102 MEMBERS.

(Loud applause). Out of all the lodges in the Newcastle district, the "Ivy Leaf" showed the greatest advance. (Applause). He thought they could look forward to the future with the utmost confidence. (Cheers).

The CHAIRMAN said he was sure the report they had just heard must be highly satisfactory to all. He was positive that such a society as this must be a great boon to working men. They would sometimes see a man laid on a bed of sickness, and not provided for and he had found in his experience that

CHARITY WAS A POOR THING

to depend upon. (Hear). Every English working man should be above charity, and lodges like this gave them the opportunity. These societies—he might term them mutual insurances societies—provided not only for the medical attendance of the man, but also for his wife and family. (Applause). The

SYSTEM OF INSURANCE

was one of the great features of the 19th century. A man cannot now buy a newspaper without being insured for £100. (Laughter). He might almost say that a child was insured in its swaddling clothes. He had known cases where midwives, immediately they were aware of a birth, go at once and inform the insurance agent, and tell him he had

BETTER LOOK OUT FOR IT.

(Laughter). A woman usually insures a man for what he is worth; but, on the contrary, a man, the less he thinks of his wife the more he insures her for. (Laughter). Every man should do his best to make his society prosperous, and the best in the country. He had little doubt from his own experience that men insured got better quicker than others. Their minds were at rest, as they had the society at their backs, and could look forward to the future with tranquility. He concluded by moving "Long life and success to the officers." (Applause).

The toast was duly honoured, and responded to.

The CHAIRMAN next gave "The host and hostess." He was sure they were all satisfied with the excellent repast laid before them. (Applause).

Bros. GIBBONS, SHEARER, and HANLON supported the Chairman's remarks, expressing great regret at the approaching departure of Mr Mace from the Royal Oak Hotel, where they had always been treated with the greatest kindness and civility. (Applause). Their host had on all occasions done his utmost to assist them in any way. (Applause).

Mr MACE, in responding, expressed his great thanks for the manner in which they had received the toast of his health. He was very much obliged to them for the kind way in which they had spoken of him. He felt that in doing his best to make them comfortable he had been

ONLY DOING HIS DUTY,

and he was confident that his successor would do his utmost to oblige them. (Applause).

The SECRETARY remarked that he had great pleasure in proposing the health of a gentleman who had been at each annual dinner they had held. He alluded to Mr Robt. Moffitt—(applause)—who was always willing to assist working men in undertakings of this description. He might mention that the only thing that prevented Mr Moffitt from becoming a member of their lodge was that he was over the age standard.

Mr MOFFITT thanked the members for their good wishes. If there was anything he could do to help working men he was always pleased to do it. (Applause). The object of their society was a good one—to

PREVENT WORKING MEN FROM BEING PAUPERS.

(Applause). There was not the slightest need now for an Englishman to become a pauper, as societies such as these were open to all to join. He wished the society great success. (Applause).

The remaining toasts were "The Chairman" and "Vice-chairman," and the company broke up soon after eleven o'clock (having been granted an hour's extension) after spending a thoroughly enjoyable evening. The proceedings throughout were characterised by the greatest harmony. Among those who contributed to the harmony of the evening were Messrs J. McKinley, J. Taylor, G. Gibbons, J. Burt, J. Burdis, and S. Mace, jun., to whom, on the motion of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was passed.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

On Wednesday week, the members of this choral society gave their second annual concert in the Greencroft Board Schools, Catchgate. There was a large and appreciative audience, but the numbers were not up to the expectations of the executive of the society. This was due, not to any lack of

APPRECIATION BY THE MUSICAL COMMUNITY

of the neighbourhood, but we fear owing to the great musical event — the rendering of the "Messiah"—which took place on Wednesday at Consett, and the public in consequence held back for the occasion. We feel sure that the bulk of the people missed a treat in not going to hear this society give a rendition of one of Mendelssohn's best works, "Lauda Sion" ("Praise Jehovah"), and we would counsel the members of this society to repeat the work at no distant date. This society seems to hold well together, and is

EFFICIENTLY OFFICERED,

having Mr W. Rutherford, colliery manager, as president, and his son, Mr R. Rutherford, as secretary. We congratulate the committee upon the step they took in holding the concert in the present building. For the short time the society has been in existence it was deemed advisable to confine the programme to the members of the society. Though the efforts of

THE LOCAL ARTISTES

can hardly be compared with those of professionals, yet the public interest did not diminish on that account, the repeated re-calls being sufficient to prove that the endeavours of all of them were thoroughly appreciated. Great interest was, of course, evinced in the different pieces by the choir, the rendering of which showed that great attention had been paid to the

TRAINING OF THE CHOIR

by the conductor (Mr Charles Stephenson). This gentleman's exertions to promote choral singing in the district will, doubtless, now receive a well-merited impetus. Coming to the programme itself, we may say that the sacred cantata,

"LAUDA SION,"

opened with a bold chorus, "Praise Jehovah," which was well rendered by the choir. This was followed by the soprano solo and chorus, "Sing of judgment," by Miss Martin and choir. The solo was sung in a very clear voice, and both solo and chorus was prettily intermixed. The quartette, "Ye who from His ways," was taken by Misses Rutherford, Cooke, Dr Duncan, and Mr Rutherford. This was perhaps one of the

MOST DIFFICULT PIECES

of the evening, nevertheless the different artistes did full justice to the task allotted them. The chorus, "They that in much tribulation," is somewhat peculiarly written, but is a very effective number, and was well sung by the choir. The soprano solo, "Lord at all times," was taken by Miss Cooke. This solo was of conspicuous length, and demanded

CONSIDERABLE ABILITY

in its performance. It was a beautiful solo, and in parts was exceedingly sympathetic. All credit is due to Miss Cooke for the careful way in which she contributed the piece. The chorus, "Save the people," was of an emphatic character, and was very well brought out by the choir. The quartette and chorus, "When they thirsted," by Misses Humble, Cooke, Messrs Geo. Lumley, Tindale, and choir, was well rendered, and received a fair share of approbation. Another quartette and chorus, "Thou did'st free them," was brilliently sung by Misses Polly Tindale, Cooke, Messrs Robson, Rutherford, and choir, which brought the cantata to a successful conclusion. Part II. was devoted to a

MISCELLANEOUS SELECTION,

and was introduced by Mr Stephenson with the song, "The village blacksmith." We cannot recall Mr Stephenson being in such excellent voice, and the manner in which he sang this old song was simply superb. It was so well sung that there was no resisting the tremendous *encore*, and he favoured by giving in response a repetition of the song, and he even excelled himself in this attempt. Miss Nellie Potts (Consett) made her *debut* in the song, "When the children are asleep," which she sang very tastefully, and was much applauded. The humorous part-song, "The house that Jack built," was rendered by Misses Rutherford, Cooke, Messrs Telford and R. Rutherford. This was

A GOOD THING,

and so ably sung that it had to be repeated. We were pleased with the splendid voice that Dr Duncan was in, and for the manner in which he gave "The tar's farewell," he receiving a well-merited *encore*. In acknowledgment he gave "The admiral's boom." The choir next rendered "In this hour" very sweetly. Miss Potts again executed very nicely and sweetly "Song of visions," so much so that her

EFFORTS WERE RE-DEMANDED,

which she acknowledged by giving "Wild flowers" in a very happy manner. Mr Stephenson once again honoured the assemblage with "The white squall," which is another old song, and one which Mr Stephenson always does full justice to whenever he sings it. In complying with an *encore*, Mr Stephenson had to repeat the song again. The glee, "From Oberon in Fairyland," by the choir, was

ONE OF THE OLD TYPE,

and one that is always well taken with whenever rendered. On this occasion the choir entered fully into the spirit of the piece, and did it every justice. The singing of the "National anthem" concluded one of the best concerts ever given in the district. Mr C. Stephenson conducted, while Mr Geo. Stephenson acted as accompanist, and played in a careful and tasteful manner.

NOTES FROM TOW LAW.

[BY "TOW LAWITE."]

I think that the piece of ground left to the inhabitants by the late Councillor Ridley might be made of very great service. If a tidy hall was built on the place, it would be very useful for the Friendly Societies, the Good Templars, and other kindred societies to hold their meetings in. The Local Board offices might be at the same place. The rents paid by the several parties mentioned would in a few years repay the cost of the building. I think it is in good hands.

A free supper, given by a publican to his customers, is something new. Well might the people laugh when they saw it in the *Guardian*. Can anybody in this enlightened age think for one moment that a company of men can attend a public-house for twelve months, and, at the expiration of that time, because the landlord gives them a supper, they have not paid for it several times over? Surely the chairman of that meeting is sharper than that. I think he was in for fun when he said so, and wished the host and hostess long life in the business. His friends don't wish him such a wish as his customers wish him.

The cleverest people sometimes make mistakes; some profit by it, while others go on and are punished. A few days ago, a certain lady was passing along the streets here on her way home. She was very anxious to take something tasty with her for supper, when her eye caught some splendid-looking sausage hanging in a shop window) so in she went and priced it. Judge her surprise when she found out she could get as low as a pennyworth, so she purchased that amount. On arriving at home, she showed her husband the bargain, and very soon had the frying pan out, and a piece of bacon to fry with the sausage. It did not cook very well; she turned it, still it was no better; strange thoughts ran through her mind about these cheap goods. She did her best, but failed.

"No doubt she is a splendid cook,
And can do her work quite handy;
But I have never seen in any book
How to fry sausage made of candy."

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions 6½d. and 1s. bottles.

A RAILWAY JOURNEY TO LANCHESTER.

AN AMUSING INCIDENT.

One day last week, a couple of gentlemen—one belonging to Blackhill, and the other travelling as far as Ebchester—entered the 2·30 p.m. train from Durham, and soon after they had comfortably comported themselves into a seat, a powerful man, apparently from the country, bounced into the compartment just as the train was on the point of starting for Consett. As soon as they were on the move, the late-comer made a desperate attempt to close the carriage door window, but all his efforts were futile, till one of his companions advised him to jerk the window up by the strap. The countryman seized hold of the strip of leather, gave one tug at the strap, and shot the window up to the top, but, of course, as he released his grip, it rapidly glided down again. He then caught hold of the strap a second time, and exerting himself to his utmost, gave a tremendous pull, almost jerking the framework of the window through the roof of the carriage. Still he did not thrust the window upon the proper ledge, and down she slid again. One of his *confreres* thereupon closed the window, and showed the rural stranger how the trick was done. Nothing further transpired till the portly personage reached Lanchester, when he was observed to stoop down, and tug with all his might and main at something which seemed to be lying beneath the seat. His fellow-travellers thought that he was dragging out a huge travelling bag or some other large parcel, but as he was unable to move the encumbrance, his fellow-men noticed, upon closer scrutiny, that he was trying his strength in pulling at the leather hinge fixed inside the carriage door to prevent it swinging too far back. The pair consequently burst out into a fit of hilarious laughter, which only angered the countryman and provoked him to tussle all the harder with the leather hinge. At length, however, being unable to stand the farce any longer, on pain of splitting their sides with convulsions, his companions directed their unfortunate friend to let down the carriage window, and twist the handle outside the door. The window was accordingly lowered, and having touched the handle, our rustic clodhopper began to pull the door inwards with all the strength at his command. Of course, it would not budge a hairsbreadth, and the other two occupants of the compartment again burst into a loud roar of laughter, which only tended to further incense the man from the country. He was eventually requested to push the carriage door from him. He did so with all his might and main, with an unexpected *coup d'elat*, for he was pitched headforemost on to the platform, and was lying on his broadside just as the train was moving off. Fortunately he was possessed of rather a thick skull, otherwise he might have sustained some serious injury. The railway officials at Consett and Ebchester were rather astonished to see passengers alight from the carriage with laughter in their countenances—in fact, they may be smiling yet, for aught we know, at their novel adventure with a countryman, who was apparently not accustomed to travelling by rail.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

"JACK AND THE BEANSTALK."

The pantomine with which Mr Harris's name is likely to be associated for a long time to come is the one, the title of which appears above. The present production is the fourth for which this princely caterer is responsible at the Tyne and is, if anything, superior to its three predecessors in many respects. From a purely spectacular standpoint it is far away in advance of previous productions at this, what I may with some truth term, Home of Spectacle. The dresses too are rich and captivating in their origifiality, the chorus unusally powerful, the singing excellent, the music, as was only to be expected of Mr Rodgers, bright, tuneful, and altogether well-arranged, the ballets delightful, the songs for the most part of the "catchy" order, and, what is perhaps quite as important as anything else, a more than capable company to carry the thing through.

There is no more perfect or refined burlesque actress on the stage than Miss Fanny Leslie who essays the part of "Jack." This lady has all the needful "go" and vivacity to win hearts without the least that is in any sense offensive or vulgar in her pourtrayal. As a vocalist she has long been recognised and very justly so, for there are indeed few ladies in her particular line of business who can lay claim to vocal abilities of the same high order. But if she is successful vocally Miss Leslie is certainly no less so histrionically. She acts throughout with a most winning and refined grace, dances in a style equally charming, and is the happy possessor of a figure upon which it is a delight constantly to gaze. Miss Leslie is responsible for much of the success of the pantomine. She sings several dainty little things all of which go splendidly and notably, "The song that reached my heart" which never escapes a treble recall.

Miss Pattie Heywood, who will be remembered as last year's "principal girl," occupies once more that position in the personality of "The Princess Diamond Ducky," a pretty enough name with, however, very little responsibility attached to it. Miss Heywood is a very great favourite at the Tyne, and it is a thousand pities she has practically so little to do. Miss Lily Marten as "Puck" is very successful and dances prettily. Miss Alice Carleton as "Titania" is altogether sweet, and there surely could scarcely be a better "Oberon" than Miss Lillie Richardson, who, physically, is cut out for the part.

The fun of the pantomine rests with Messrs Victor Stevens (King Harry the Bounder), Harry Fischer (Queen Fanny the Flirt), and Harry Kilburn (Mrs Simpson), and thoroughly successful they are. The first-named gentleman, who is responsible, I understand, for the whole production is constant in evidence and works really hard throughout. He has several songs, and takes part in one or two duets of the usual order. The one which seems to hit the fancy of the audience most is "Public and private"—probably less from a musical standpoint than because it has a slap at certain social problems. A duet, "In the year '92," written by Mr Stevens, also goes well.

But, in conclusion, if there is one thing that deserves especial mention, and that places "Jack and the Beanstalk" a long way in front of previous productions at the Tyne it is undoubtedly the spectacular element. The company is a strong one, and the libretto elevated and high in tone, but the one great thing that will impress itself upon the minds of the majority is the spectacular effect. Rarely if ever has such chaste and beautiful scenery been put on at this theatre, good as its record has been for the past five years. To name the scenes of special merit would count for little at this time. To those of my readers who have not already seen them there still remains an opportunity, and of this they should avail themselves. This I will say, that nothing finer has ever been seen in Newcastle in this direction, and and it would be impossible to imagine anything more artistically effective in the way of transformation scenes, than the one which is to be seen at this theatre in "The seasons of the year."

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

Trade Notes.

CONSETT BLASTFURNACEMEN AND THE STRIKE IN SCOTLAND.

We are officially informed that the blastfurnacemen employed at the Consett Iron Works—No. 4 Lodge of the National Association of Blastfurnacemen—are contributing about £16 per week towards the assistance of the Scotch furnacemen out on strike. It is a noteworthy fact that the point at issue—viz., payment at the rate of time-and-a-half for Sunday work—is what the Consett employees have enjoyed for the past twenty years. This struggle has already cost the National Association of Blastfurnacemen £10,000, and seems as far off settlement as ever.

CLARA VALE COLLIERY, RYTON.

The sinkers at the Clara Vale colliery came upon the Townely seam a few days ago, 187 feet from the surface. This seam which is of splendid quality, is four feet two inches in thickness, and is well-known in the district as an excellent house coal. We are told that the sinking of this pit is progressing very well, when the fact is taken into consideration that 500 gallons per minute have to be pumped. The bottom of the pit is lighted by electricity, and Mr Archbold tells us that this is a great improvement on the old system of lighting by candles, &c. On Saturday night, the workmen employed at the colliery were entertained to dinner by their employer, Mr J. B. Simpson, J.P., of Hedgefield.

WEARDALE AND SHILDON WATER-WORKS COMPANY.

The 38th annual report of the directors of the Weardale and Shildon Waterworks Company to be presented at a general meeting on the 9th prox. is as follows:—

"Your directors submit herewith statements of accounts made up to December 31st, 1890, examined and certified by the auditors. The net revenue account amounts to £25,962 0s 1d. including £2,987 0s 10d brought forward from December 31st, 1889. Deducting the interim dividend paid August 1st, 1890, amounting to £10,204 8s, and income tax £503 3s 11d, there remains an undivided profit of £15,254 8s 2d. Your directors recommend the payment on the 11th of next month (February), to the proprietors registered in the company's books on the 27th instant, of the following dividends clear of income tax, viz.:—A dividend of 10s 9½d per share on 3,511 shares £25 paid, and of 11s 3d per share on 17,600 fully-paid shares, making an average dividend for the year of £4 5s per cent. per annum. This will absorb £11,795 18s 9d, and leave to be carried forward an undivided profit of £3,458 9s 5d. During the year the company's mains have been extended to the villages of Merrington, Coundon, Westerton, and Ferryhill, the Rural Sanitary Auhorities of Auckland and Sedgefield having agreed to contribute towards the cost of these extensions. The village of Hunwick has also been supplied with water. A duplicate line of pipes has been laid to the Dearness Valley, and thus the growing demands of the city of Durham and the adjoining districts can be met for many years to come. The Resident Engineer reports that the works of the company have during the past twelve months been maintained in efficient order, and that a supply of excellent water has been distributed throughout the company's district. The director's retiring this year are Messrs W. Boyd, J. Rogerson, and H. Kitching, who are recommended for re-election. The retiring auditor is Mr Charles Rutter Fry, who is eligible for re-election.

DAVID DALE, Chairman.

January 19th, 1891."

MINERS' MEETING AT DUNSTON.

On Saturday night, a meeting of miners was held in the Lord Collingwood Inn, Dunston, to discuss matters in relation to their conditions of labour. Mr J. Goffe presided, and there was a fair attendance, including representatives from the following collieries:—Redheugh, Emmaville, Addison, Blaydon Burn, Blaydon Main, Norwood, Dunston, Stargate, Rowland's Gill, The Spen, &c. Mr William Palmer and Mr John Longman attended as a deputation from Silksworth, and explained the position of affairs at that colliery, after which

Mr HENRY SMITH (Redheugh Colliery) moved:—"That this meeting urges upon each and every lodge to support the Silksworth men to the utmost."

Mr J. DAVISON (Blaydon) seconded the resolution, which was enthusiastically carried.

Mr WM. SAVAGE (Stargate) moved:—"That we seek for a ten days per fortnight, and we also urge upon the executive to try some means of shortening the hours of our boys." He said their wages were better now than they were two years ago. If the supply exceeded the demand the coal became cheaper, and as a natural consequence their wages were reduced. They should try and keep their wages not only as they were at present, but to raise them as much as they possibly could. (Hear, hear.) The way to do that was by stopping the market from being overstocked with coal. They ought to profit by past experience, when they had men running about from one colliery to another asking for work, and were told that they could not get it. That time might come again, although he hoped not; but if it should come, then the old men and the weak would be thrown to the wall. They did not only want to make things better for themselves working in mines, but they wanted to make the conditions better for those who were to follow. The air they breathed down their mines was mixed with gases, and was very trying to men, let alone boys. They thought that a ten days per fortnight was quite long enough to work in such an atmosphere and suffer the ill effects from it. (Applause.) They ought also to have the hours of their boys reduced. (Hear.)

Mr J. DAVISON (Blaydon Main) seconded the resolution, and said the ten days a fortnight would lessen the amount of coal hewed, so that their market would not be so much overstocked, and that fact would give those miners who were out of work better opportunity of getting employment.

Mr R. YOUNG (Rowland's Gill), in supporting the resolution, said they could only get redress by their thoroughly uniting themselves as one man. He thought the hours of the boys could easily be shortened without those of the men being lengthened, but that could only be effected by unity. (Loud applause.)

The resoltion was unanimously carried.

Mr JOHN YOUNG, Blaydon Main, proposed "That we seek for all men working in and about mines free house and coals, and also for young men lodging money and better sanitary arrangements." The mover said they ought to press the question of free house and coals to an issue at once. They were miners, paying ten shillings per fortnight rent, and they were only receiving four shillings from their employers, so that the miner had to give six shillings out of his own pocket in order to pay the rent. This was not just, and should be stopped at once. But it would never be accomplished by the men just paying their sevenpence subscription into the union and doing nothing else. They must take a firm stand. The young men had as much right for their lodging money as the married men for free house and coals. Speaking of the sanitary condition of their surroundings, the speaker said they were disgraceful in various parts of the county of Durham. But they need not go far from home to find this state of affairs. They had at a colliery not many miles from Blaydon a little village made up of 15 cottages, and for the inhabitants of these cottages there was no convenience of any kind. ("Shame.") There was not even a proper ashpit for the convenience of these 15 tenants, who had families of eight and ten children. ("Shame.") There was what was called an ashpit, but which in reality was only a heap. And where did they think that heap was situated? It was only seven yards from the doorsteps of the houses of those 15 tenants and a few feet from the main road leading from Winlaton to Blaydon.

Mr T. DOBINSON, Rowland's Gill, said there was an Act which came into force on the 1st January this year which stated that four residents could sign a requisition to the medical officer ordering a place to be examined, and if it was in any way detrimental to health or obnoxious to the residents an order could be got for the closing or removal of that place. He thought that was a glorious reform. (Hear, hear). The remedy lay with themselves. Therefore, when they knew that that law existed, they, as straightforward principled men, ought to at once take advantage of that law. If they did that there would be this certainty, that wherever these places existed which were unfit for human habitation, they would be soon swept away, and cottages built in their places fit for people to dwell in. He heartily seconded the resolution. (Applause).

Mr ROBERT MOODY, Addison, supported. To his mind, he said, the most important clause of the resolution was that which referred to the sanitary condition of their dwellings. He had had some experience lately in going from one pit place to another about the county, and he must say that a very large percentage of the cottages were in such a dilapidated state that he had no hesitation in saying that if the sanitary inspectors did their duty they would condemn them and have them closed. (Hear, hear). If the Local Boards and County Councils would not take the matter up, they as workmen ought to let the authorities know that they were determined at whatever cost it might entail, never to cease expressing their agitation till a better condition of things is brought about. (Applause).

This resolution was also carried unanimously, as was also one urging on the men the necessity for better organisation, moved by Mr W. ARMSTRONG, Blaydon Burn, seconded by Mr JOSEPH ROBSON, Spen, and supported by Mr HENRY SMITH, Redheugh.

The meeting then terminated.

THE IRONSTONE CRISIS IN WEARDALE

The public anxiety in the collapse of the above industry was somewhat relieved by the offer given to the *employes* by the Weardale Iron and Coal Company to continue the working of their ironstone mines if the output was reduced to one-half and the men to be dismissed at a day's notice. Meetings of the men, whose notices expired on Saturday, were held, and it was agreed to accept for the present the limited employment, but not their optional discharge at a day's notice. This reply was given to Mr Turner, who has communicated it to the manager. Meanwhile the men continue at work pending Mr Hollis's reply. A letter was sent to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners explaining the above and the hint thrown out by the Company that it was only meant to give the cartmen an opportunity of disposing of their yokes and the probable ultimate abandonment of the industry. Their lordships, who have courteously acknowledged the receipt of the public petition, have been fully informed of the gloomy outlook from other influential quarters, and their prompt attention to the plea of the dalesfolks meets with much appreciation.

REPLY TO THE PUBLIC PETITION.

The tension consequent on the ironstone *employes'* refusal to accept dismissal at the hands of the Weardale Iron Company at 12 hours' notice was relieved by the arrival simultaneously to the Vicar of St. John's and Mr Thos. Hodgson (secretary *pro. tem.* for the former) of the communication from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, given below. Hence additional interest was focussed in the meeting of the workmen in the Town Hall on Saturday, from which the public were excluded. An

EXTENSION TO SEVEN DAYS' NOTICE

was received, and with considerable dissent accepted, from the Company by the ironstone working section; while the limestone quarry men at Height refused to affix their names to the sheet, failing to see the necessity for so doing under the terms of engagement. The Vicar (Rev R. Shepherd), who throughout has worked with commendable zeal to avert the collapse, had in the meantime submitted the Commissioners' letter to Dr Hewitson, Mr Dawson, Mr Pentland, and the other gentlemen who have aided the movement, and a considerable amount of public discussion resulted. To many the precautionary clause put forward by the Whitehall authorities, stipulating for the

PAYMENT OF A CONSIDERABLE MINIMUM OF RENT

to continue the workings, even under adverse conditions of trade, are in conflict with the deputation's report of the Weardale Iron Company's manager's assertion that the Company paid £1,200, less sundry returns, whether they worked them or not; while the buoyant tone of the iron market gives a distinct negative to the necessitous alternative taken by the Company. We learn that the Vicar (Rev R. Shepherd) and the above-named gentlemen acting in concert with him, have invited the co-operation of Sir J. W. Pease, Bishop Pulleine, and other influential friends to

AID THEM IN SECURING A RAILWAY,

which at present is the premier meteor in the gloomy horizon of the valley's future, as will be gathered from the following report of the public meeting held on Monday night in the Town Hall, St. John's Chapel, over which the Vicar presided, and explained that the object of the meeting was to hear and consider the reply of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners—(cheers)—to the public petition. (Applause.) The contents of the letter

AFFORDED SCOPE FOR CONJECTURE,

controversy perhaps, their thanks for present help and hope for a more permanent remedy to the desolation which threatened them. (Cheers). He still adhered to his own conviction that the lessees had and were breaking the spirit of the lease, if not the wording. (Hear). He earnestly hoped that the

PRESENT KIND AND SYMPATHETIC AID

offered by the Commissioners was but a precursor of their ultimate substantial assistance to the final solution and development of the enormous mineral wealth of the dale—a railroad. (Prolonged cheers). Sundry important details had come to his knowledge which guided him to the conclusion that the chances of the

IRON COMPANY GIVING UP THE LEASE

were remote, because only by its retention could they claim to supply the best iron—(cheers)—but also the enormous profits that accrued to them from the present monopoly at exorbitant prices of their coal depôt at Westgate—(cheers)—and their large revenue from their carriage of plant and ore for the Weardale Lead Company. (Applause). In fact, the last two reasons, with any interest they probably possessed in

THE SPANISH ORE MINES,

with the minimum rent allowed by the Commissioners, might make it profitable to let Weardale suffer. ("Shame" and cheers). He then called upon Mr T. Hodgson to read the following letter:—

Ecclesiastical Commission, 10, Whitehall-place, London, S.W., 23rd January, 1891.

Weardale Ironstone Company.

SIR,—The Ecclesiastical Commissioners have carefully considered the memorial which you forwarded to me from the workmen and householders in Weardale on the subject of the closing of the ironstone mines.

They deeply regret that their lessees should have felt it necessary to suspend the working of the mines, and they are fully aware that this step must cause a serious amount of loss and distress among many families in the district. But while deploring the unfortunate circumstances which have led to this result they wish it to be known that in arranging for the last renewal of the lease to the mining company they carefully kept in view the importance of doing what was possible towards ensuring a continuous working of the mines, and it was with this intention that they stipulated for the payment of a considerable minimum rent, an arrangement which necessarily made it the interest of the lessees to continue the workings as long as possible even under adverse conditions of trade.

The tenants and workpeople who have signed the memorial will doubtless be aware that the Commissioners cannot interfere with the action of the mining lessees so long as the conditions of the letting are observed, and it was not in their power to avert the stoppage of the mines.

The Commissioners, however, have felt that at the present juncture any expenditure which could be properly made upon the estate would be of special advantage as tending to mitigate the consequences of the suspension of the mining works, and with this view they have authorised their agents to expend a considerable sum on the repair of stone walls and fences throughout their property in Weardale.—I am, sir, your very obedient servant.

A. DE BOCK PORTER.

Mr Thomas Hodgson, Wearhead, Weardale.

(Loud applause.)

Mr T. WILSON, miner, then moved, and Mr T. HODGSON seconded, the following resolution:—"That we hereby tender our

SINCERE AND HEARTFELT THANKS

to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for their kind sympathy and attention to the prayer of the public petition on the crisis, and earnestly hope for a continuation of the same towards our further efforts to resuscitate the industry and future welfare of Weardale; also to the Press, for their opportune assistance," which was carried by acclamation.

The CHAIRMAN said they must now push forward towards the haven of their hopes—(cheers)—and he had written to Sir J. W. Pease, their member—(cheers)—and Mr Lyall on purpose to ascertain the possibility of

ASSISTING THE RAILWAY OUT OF THE RATES

on the principle going forward in Ireland—(cheers)—and to its ultimate control in the event of it proving profitable, and he had received the following replies:—

Hutton Hall, Guisbro', Yorkshire,
24th January, 1891.

MY DEAR SIR,—I have your letter. I will look into the present condition of the law. My first feeling is one of doubt whether under the English law the ratepayers could guarantee a railway; but I will look into the whole circumstances and write you again.—Yours faithfully,

J. W. PEASE.

Rev R. Shepherd.

Darlington, 24th Jan., 1891.

DEAR SIR,—I have your letter of the 23rd inst. I have written my friends in Ireland for information to date as to the powers under which the light railways in that country are now being constructed, and when this information is to hand, I will write you fully on the subject. I shall be very willing to help you all I can in providing railway accommodation for the Wear Valley above Stanhope. I never saw a country through which a railway could be made at less cost, with the exception of having to bridge the river occasionally. Nature has already to a large extent formed the ground for the reception of the permanent way. There can be no doubt that a railway from Stanhope to Wearhead would develop and steady the industries of the valley.—Yours faithfully,

E. W. LYALL.

Rev R. Shepherd, vicar of St. John's.

After the letters had been read and the project heartily supported by Dr Hewitson, the deputation hoped that the lessees would raise the output and the Commissioners assist. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN suggested forming a

WEARDALE LABOUR ASSOCIATION PROTECTION SOCIETY.

(Applause.)

Mr PEADON addressed the meeting, and votes to the Chairman, Dr Hewitson, Mr Pentland, and Mr Peadon closed an enthusiastic meeting. The last-named commented strongly on the necessity of further petitioning the Company and Commissioners, and said how much more likely of development the mines would be if the

CONSETT IRON COMPANY GOT THEM,

and the railway as well, as the lessees did not want a railway. (Loud cheers.)

THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSIONERS' ACTION.

On Tuesday, the land agent of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners (Mr W. Minter, Darlington), and Mr W. H. Featherstone were actively engaged surveying the walls, &c., in the valley on which the grant of the Whitehall Authorities is to be expended. Immediate work will be given in opening out the quarries preparatory to active operations on the wayside walls between St. John's Chapel and Cowshill, which Mr Minter considerately thinks will meet, so far as permits, the rigours of the season. The last-named gentlemen called on the vicar of St. John's and his *confreres* to fully discuss the situation, and throwing considerable light on the communication in answer to the petition we publish above from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Mr Minter is very popular with all classes in the dale.

CONSETT MECHANICS' ASSOCIATION.

On Monday evening, the members of the Consett Iron and Steel Company's Mechanics' Association held their quarterly meeting and entertainment in the Consett Co-operative Hall. The chair was occupied by Mr. Geo. Lowes (president), and there was a capital gathering.

The CHAIRMAN said it was a nice thing to meet together in the present manner, and transact the business of the Association, and at the same time enjoy themselves. The year 1890 had been a

VERY EVENTFUL ONE,

and he had to congratulate them upon the position, as an association, they occupied. They stood second to none in connection with the Iron and Steel industries. (Applause). Trade had been in favour of the Mechanics' Association, and he trusted they would still find themselves at the close of the present year even

IN A BETTER POSITION THAN

they were occupying at the present time. (Hear).

The secretary (Mr W. McIver) read the minutes of the last meeting and the minutes of the committee, and the same were confirmed. There was no business of any importance, and the

MUSICAL PROGRAMME

was at once commenced with. The artistes were as follows:—Misses L. Jones and S. Joel, Blackhill; and M. A. Stoker, Iveston; Messrs F. Stokoe, C. Allison, E. Hobday, W. Lowrie, W. P. Robson, Consett; J. Stewart and G. Hedley, Leadgate; J. Lamb and T. Wright, Blackhill; T. Harrington and J. Thorpe. The programme commenced with a pianoforte solo from Mr F. Stokoe, which he executed in an able manner. The trio, "O, who will o'er the downs?" by Messrs Hobday, C. Allison and W. Lowrie, was rendered in capital style. Mr Stewart favoured with the song "Sweet chiming bells," and his efforts were well applauded. The selection of Scottish airs on the violin by Mr W. P. Robson, were executed in a style that won for himself an enrapturous *encore*. Miss Jones sang very sweetly "One heart two steps," and received the approbation of all present. The comic song by Mr Harrington pleased the audience immensely, and he was redemanded. The cornet solo, "Pretty Jane," by Mr J. Lamb, showed his perfect acquaintance with the piece. The song, "The vacant chair," was given in faultless style by Miss Stoker, and provoked a good deal of applause. Mr Wright rendered a selection of Tyrolese airs on the violin to everyone's satisfaction. The duet, "Lovely peace," was excellently given by Messrs Stewart and Hedley. Miss Joel rendered with good taste "The lost chord," which evoked a considerable amount of appreciation. Mr Wright again favoured with the "Blue bells of Scotland" on the violin, and was followed by Mr G. Hedley in the rendition of "The sexton" in splendid style. Mr J. Thorpe received an *encore* for the rendering of "Footsteps in the snow." The song, "Soldier's daughter," was next given by Mr T. Harrington and was cheered. Mr Stokoe brought the programme to a conclusion by another piano solo, which was greatly admired.

Votes of thanks concluded the enjoyable proceedings

During the evening, Mr Stokoe acted as accompanist in an efficient manner.

Volunteer Intelligence.

WINLATON SHOOTING CLUB.—The annual dinner of this club was held on Wednesday se'nnight at Private F. Richardson's, Turf Hotel, Winlaton. Captain Shotton, president of the club, presided, the vice-chair being occupied by Colour-Sergeant J. Parkin. After the removal of the cloth, the prizes won by members of the club were presented by the president to the following:—Corporal Dixon, Corpl. G. Hall, Sergeant V. Shotton, Lance-Corporal R. Bennett, Corporal J. Grundy, Private R. Shotton, H. Gilhespie, Captain Shotton, Colour-Sergeant T. Parkin. After the distribution, the usual toasts were given, and the remainder of the evening was pleasantly spent.

Cricket.

Beamish Cricket Club are in want of matches for the ensuing season. Address H. J. Richards, sec., Beamish, Chester-le-Street.

The East Stanley Nobblers Cricket Club would like to arrange matches for the ensuing season with moderate first or good second teams. G. Summerbell, secretary, East Stanley R.S.O.

OXHILL C.C. would like to arrange matches for the ensuing season with moderate first or good second teams. Secretaries will greatly oblige by sending their dates to R. Palmer, Oxhill, Kyo Lane, West Stanley R.S.O.

BLAYDON C.C.—At the annual concert of this club, in the Lecture Hall, Blaydon, Professor Aydon's concert company, which included Miss Tina Royal, Rowley Harrison, the Tyneside comedian, and other artistes took part. The hall was well filled, several persons being unable to gain admission. After paying all expenses in connection with the concert, there will be a good balance to go to the funds of the club.

CONSETT FELL CRICKET CLUB.

The second annual meeting and supper in connection with the above club was held on Saturday night, in Rowe's Cocoa Rooms, when the following officers for the ensuing year were elected:—President, Mr Charles Routledge; vice-presidents, Messrs T. Williams, John Pearson, John Windsmith, William Maund, Wilson Clayton, A. D. Wood, H. P. Thompson, and George Spark; captain of first team, Mr Thomas Charlton; vice-captain, Mr John Lowes; treasurer, Mr George Charlton; auditor, Mr Wilson Clayton; committee, Messrs Longworth, Bullock, Smith, Unsworth, Harrison, and Eustace; captain of second team, Mr Thomas Skelton; vice-captain, Mr George Turnbull; secretary, Mr J. M. Williams, 36, Cort Street, Blackhill. The bat given by the president for the highest batting average was won by R. Lowes, with an average of 11·6 runs. The secretary's report showed that the club was in a good condition, having played 14 matches during the last season, out of which they won eight and lost six. The secretary would like to arrange matches with moderate first and good second teams for the first team, and with junior teams for the second eleven.

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By Order

D. ORMEROD, Chairman.

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SATURDAY, AUGUST 29TH, 1891.

A GENERAL MEETING of the above will be held on Monday First, February 2nd, at 7 o'clock.

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Snows Green, Farm Stock and Implements. Early in May.

Consett Grove Farm, Farm Stock. Early in May. Others indefinite.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND, 1891.

12 Prime Fat Cattle.

60 Fat Sheep.

Bacon, Pork, and Store Pigs.

A number of Calving Cows and Heifers.

Useful Second-hand Dog Cart, in tip-top condition.

Poultry, Harness, Patent Blocks, Onions, &c.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

887d J. S. MURRAY.

Change of Date.

Green Tree Inn, Moorsley,—Tuesday, February 3rd, 1891.

MR. J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer, favoured with instructions from Mr S. Mace, who is retiring from Business, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Tuesday, February 3rd, 1891, the whole of his Surplus STOCK OF FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, PONY, TRAP, HARNESS, HAY, &c. Chest of Drawers; Centre Table; Chefforiere; Iron Bedstead, and Mattress; Desk Bedstead; Bed; Iron Bash; Longsettle; Fenders and Fire Irons; 2 Chandeliers; 12 Mattresses; Kitchen Table; Sewing Machine, good as New; Set of Meat Covers; Copper Kettle; 4 Dozen Knives and Forks; 4 Carving Knives and Forks; 2 Tidies; 2 Cruet Stands; 2 Teapots; Set of China; Breakfast Cups and Saucers; 1½ Dozen Plates and Dishes; 3 Clocks; Kettles and Pans; Bed-warmer; a quantity of Brass Candle sticks; 2 Cheese Dishes; Coal Scuttles; Dripping Pans; Table Spoons; Trays; 2 Splendid Breech-loading Guns; a quantity of Old Harness; Old Iron, &c.

Pony, 13-2 h.h., good in all yokes; Set of Harness; Trap; Riding Saddle; Bridle, &c.; Stack of Wall-won Old-land Hay, about 6 Tons.

Sale at Half-past One.

Royal Auction Mart, Benfieldside. 883d

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,

AUCTIONEER,

AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT

Appointed by His Honour JUDGE METHELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

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

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

Sales by Auction.

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

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

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, February 2nd, 1891, the whole of the Superior Houshold FURNITURE and Effects.
Sale at Half-past One o'clock exact time.

TO BE SOLD BY TENDER, as a going concern the AERATED WATER MANUFACTURING BUSINESS at present carried on by Mr JOHN LOTHIAN, at Chester-le-Street, with all the first-class and nearly New Machinery, recently fitted up with all the latest improvements, Stock of Bottles, Boxes, Flat Cart, 2 Sets Harness, and other Equipments, The Premises are extensive, and are held at moderate rental, and the whole will be shown by Mr Lothian, West Lane, Chester-le-Street. Inventories of the Machinery, &c., Forms of Tender, and conditions of Sale may be had from Mr ADAM BRODIE, Public Accountant, Town Hall, Consett, by whom tenders will be received up to Tuesday, February 3rd, 1891, at 12 o'clock at noon. The highest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

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

ACCIDENT ASSURANCE. — Assurance against Accidents of every kind in the following Offices, noted for prompt settlement of claims—Scottish Accident Assurance Company, Imperial Union Accident Assurance Company.

By Mr. William Raw.

Fines Cottages, Medomsley.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having received instructions, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. MACE's, Royal Oak Hotel. Medomsley, on Wednesday, February 11th, 1891, all those TWO DWELLING-HOUSES, pleasantly situate on the Main Road, called Fines Cottages, Medomsley. One House contains 4 Rooms, Cellar, Small Byre, and Conveniences, now in the occupation of Mr. William Thompson, as Tenant thereof; and the other contains 2 Rooms and Conveniences, now occupied by Mr. George Robson, as Tenant thereof.
The Property will be Sold in one Lot.
Sale to commence at 6 30 p.m. prompt.
For further particulars apply to the AUCTIONEER, or to JOHN BOOTH, Esq., Solicitor, Shotley Bridge.
Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill. 830d

7, Constance Street, Consett.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, instructed by Mrs. JANE BROWN, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above address, on Monday, February 2nd, 1891, the whole of her Household FURNITURE, comprising—Splendid Oak Press; Oak Drawers; Kitchen Press; Mahogany Turnover Table; 12 Polished Birch Chairs; Mahogany Couch Bed, in Leather; Chest and Drawers; Four-poled Bedstead and Mattress; Singer Sewing Machine, in good order; Rabbit Down Bed and Pillows; Kidderminster Carpet; Hearthrugs; Fenders and Fireirons; 10 Pictures; 2 Good Oil Lamps; Ladies' Dress Skirt Stand; American Eight-days' Clock; Eight-days' Clock, in High Mahogany Case; 2 Kitchen Tables; 6 Brass Candlesticks; Poss-tub and Staff; Looking Glass; Quilting Frames; Clothes Basket; Dinner Ware; Kettle, Pans, Ware, Glasses, and numerous other Articles.
Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.
Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 877d

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, FEB. 2ND, 1891.—50 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 6 Fat Cattle; 70 Fat Sheep and Hoggs (including a consignment of prime Hoggs from Mr Stephenson, Shadforth); 10 Store Cattle; 7 Finger Calves; Half-bred Black Mare, 10 y.o., quiet and good worker; Draught Colt, 2 y.o.
Entries to day of Sale.
Sale at 10-30 a.m.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mr. John Crawford's Sale-Rooms, 6, 13, and 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to remove to the above Rooms, 100 lots of Valuable Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE, to be SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday first, February 2nd, 1891.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Anyone disposing of their Furniture can have it sold on reasonable terms at any time.
Sale Office, Victoria Street, Consett. 881d

Black Bull Hotel, Leadgate.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by Mrs HESLOP, who is declining business, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION the Valuable Household FURNITURE and BAR UTENSILS, at an early date. 882d

Farm Stock Sale

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr THOMAS CARTER, Elm Park, near Shotley Bridge Station, who is declining Farming, to SELL BY AUCTION, the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS, HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, DAIRY UTENSILS, POULTRY, and FURNITURE.
Sale will be at an early date, and full particulars.
Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. People that are leaving the District can have their Furniture turned into Cash at once by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 905a

JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER
10, WOOD STREET SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

JOHN LOWES,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.C.
Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.
VALUATION EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC.

Business Announcements

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

Business Announcements

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

The ANNUAL MEETING will be held in the Smaller Hall of the New Town Hall, on Monday, February 2nd, at 8 o'clock p.m.

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

STRENGTHENING AND ENERGIZING
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE.
This valuable preparation is composed of Old Port Wine, Kepler's Extract of Malt, and the Liebig Company's Extract of Beef.
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is strengthening, flesh-forming, and nourishing.
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE, in small quantities, is especially valuable for sick children
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE being easily digested and readily assimilated, is "a tissue former," and "a force producer" of the utmost importance to those who require strength.
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is recommended by hundreds of medical men and hospital nurses to their patients, and the Proprietor holds a large number of testimonials in its favour.
PRICES: 3s 9d PER BOTTLE; 45s DOZ. BOTTLES 2s PER HALF-BOTTLE, 23s 6d DOZ. HALF-BOTTLES.
Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
SOLE AGENTS:—
RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. BENFIELDSIDE.
MESSRS T. D. DRYDEN & Co., WINE MERCHANTS, &c., FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST, &c., SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.
ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT DIPTON.
WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL, STANLEY.
WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL, ANNFIELD PLAIN.
RICHARD BROWELL, MINERS' ARMS, THE SPEN,
AND
WILLIAM STONES, BURTON HOUSE, BURNOPFIELD. 463c

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

THE APPROACHING CENSUS.

Another decade of years have come and gone, and preparations are already being made for the numbering of the people. It appears that at the last sitting of the Benfieldside Local Board a communication was read from the Registrar-General bearing on the matter, and with a promptitude worthy of the occasion, the clerk and surveyor were both instructed to afford Mr Ramsay, the local registrar, all the assistance that lies in their power. The unnumbered doors are to be numbered without delay in order that all shall be taken and none shall be left. Mr Ramsay knows the locality well, and it may therefore be assumed that he will find an entrance into every nook and cranny. The 6th day of April is, I believe, the date fixed for old and young, male and female, to enter full particulars of themselves, setting forth where and when born and other items of interest to the nation. There are men and women who deceive themselves by imagining that they are but cyphers in a community, but the care taken every decade to obtain accurate returns of the population goes to show that all are, as Alexander Pope puts it, parts of one stupendous whole.

OLD MAIDENS.

Many ungenerous things are said about old maidens, and especially at the time when the periodical census are taken. It is current, for example, that unmarried ladies rarely grow older than five-and-twenty. It is true that, unlike the sage of old, they cannot command the sun, nor the moon for that matter, to stand still; but they are regarded as being quite as clever in their way possessing the remarkable faculty of standing still themselves. There is no overlooking the fact that there is more or less truth in the saying. In fact, I once overheard an unmarried lady declare that she would not grow another month older until she got married, and there was at that time no prospect of stepping off the carpet. I remember when sojourning in the North Highlands, of having kindled the wrath of an old lady by incidently observing that a good lady of her years must have lost all hope of ever getting a husband. A look of unutterable wrath flashed from her eyes, and laying her hand on a heather besom she shied it at me with a precision and vigour wonderful for her years. I spoke innocently, not knowing the temperament of the sex, for the lady was at least 70 years old. But if the census bring to light the ages of the unmarried ladies I can assure them that they will lose nothing by such revelations. A man does not look at a woman's mouth for her merits as a dealer does to ascertain the age of a horse, a few years being neither here nor there when love makes its influence seen and felt. It is a most singular circumstance that the best and the prettiest women are frequently not sought after, while their less favoured sisters are "wooed and married an' a'." It is very peculiar; but it has been often and truly said that there was no accounting for tastes.

FANNING THE FLAME.

Never was there a greater truth told to the world than that "man cannot live by bread alone." Bread is essential; but there is a still small voice deep down in the depth of human nature which has made its influence felt in all generations. A poet referred to above says,

"—the poor Indian! whose untutored mind
Sees God in clouds, or hears him in the winds"

And in our favoured land the time was when its inhabitants were laid in their rude coffins with the weapons of warfare and the chase at their side to be of service in the happy hunting grounds beyond. Happily in our day loftier aspirations have been awakened and grander truths revealed. But human nature is frail at best, and to the greatest gifts must be added energy and zeal for the unburnished metal will not sparkle and delight the eye. So is it with the impressions which, believed and treasured, conduce to mould the life. The flame must be fanned or the fire will burn low. Teachers of men understand this phase of character, and set themselves to counteract its influences. Men and families have quite as much need of spiritual education as they have of the matter-of-fact teaching of the schools; and hence arrangements are made periodically for what has in modern times been denominated evangelistic services. There is not, I think, a religious denomination in Christendom that does not now recognise the value of these periodical waterings of the various flocks. The leaves are shaken by fresh winds, and the vibration is felt at the roots and stem. There is not a district in the North of England in which the plains are more frequently watered than in the neighbourhood of Consett. The flame is continually being fanned by the visit of the representatives first of one denomination and then of another, the Blackhill Presbyterians being the latest in the field.

ROBERT BURNS.

Consett is usually to the front in contributing its quota to the passing events of the day and hour, but no effort has yet been made to do homage to the immortal memory of Robert Burns. It is true there are not very many native Scots in the Consett district, but Burns is not admired by his countrymen only, but by the world. It would be quite easy to get up an annual banquet in honour and in memory of the bard, for Englishmen of culture in the North of England unite in doing homage to the name and fame of a man who succeeded in leaving such indelible footprints on the sands of time.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

The report of the Consett Wesleyan Band of Hope, held last (Thursday) evening, is held over.

We learn that Mr T. W. Welford has been appointed solicitor to the newly-formed Consett Co-operative Building Society.

On Friday night, the members of Consett Church choir, along with a few friends, were entertained to their annual supper, in the National School. Afterwards, games and amusements were arranged.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Sunday, a student from Headingley College preached two excellent sermons at Consett, to large congregations. Collections were for the trust funds.

MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON.—We see from the official list of the above college, that Mr Fred. Stokoe, pupil of Mr Geo. Dryden, Consett, has been awarded the silver medal for pianoforte playing. This is the second silver medal that has come to Consett, his tutor having been awarded it in 1888, which is very complimentary proving Mr Dryden's ability, both as a performer and a teacher, having successfully passed 20 pupils in pianoforte playing in all grades, including Senior First Class Honours, International and Junior Second and Third Class Honours.

Y. M. C. A. DEBATING SOCIETY.—A meeting in connection with the above society was held in the Y. M. C. A. rooms, Consett, on Friday evening. The chair was occupied by Rev C. S. Wilson. The subject for discussion was "Are Strikes beneficial." Mr Carrick was the proposer, and Mr Ritson moved the amendment, after which a good and free discussion took place in which Mr Tophan was conspicuous with a good speech. At the close when the division was made, the majority rested in favour of the "Strikers."

EXAMINATIONS PASSED BY PUPILS FROM MRS CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL, WEAR TERRACE, BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Trinity College of Music, London, held last December:—Lucy H. Clark, pass; Emma Maughan, pass; Teresa Clark, pass; Charlotte M. Mascall, pass; Ada M. Laverick, pass and honours; Lilian S. Bainbridge, pass and honours; Lillie Rogers, Honours. College of Preceptors, held last December:—Edith Kellet, third class, first division; Bertha Lee, second class, second division; with special certificate for music. Kensington School of Art, held last May:—Lucy Clark, freehand drawing; Bertha Lee, freehand drawing.

FOREIGN MISSIONS. — Simultaneous meetings have been held during the week in connection with the Foreign Missions of the Church of England. On Tuesday evening, meetings of the Consett Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Associations were held, the last-named being addressed by Miss Turnbull, travelling secretary to the Y.W.C.A.—On Wednesday night, a special sermon was preached in Christ Church, Consett, by Rev G. B. Copeland, rector of Rainton, a collection being taken on behalf of the above missions. There was a fair congregation.

CONSETT PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.—We note from our advertising columns that the annual meeting of this society is to be held in the smaller hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, on Monday first, the 2nd February, at eight o'clock p.m. We have received a copy of the report and balance-sheet for the past year, and see that the society is in a very flourishing condition; and as the directors are well-known for their business capacity and integrity, we have no doubt that the progress made will be still more marked in the future than in the past. We can cordially recommend our readers to become members at this, the commencement of another year's operations. We understand that the society is prepared at all times to advance money on freehold or copyhold property.

THE MANUFACTURED IRON TRADE.—At the annual meeting of the Board of Arbitration and Conciliation for the North of England Iron and Steel Trade, held at Middlesbrough, on Tuesday, Mr Thackeray, of Monkwearmouth, presided, and Mr Thos. Williams, of Consett, occupied the vice-chair. Mr T. Siddell represented the Consett Iron Company, while Messrs J. Wildsmith and Hy. Lodge attended on behalf of the Consett operatives.—After the adoption of the annual report and balance-sheet, which was of a favourable and hopeful character, the Board re-elected Mr Dale as referee; Mr W. Whitwell, president; Mr Williams, vice president; Mr Winpenny, employers' secretary; Mr Trow, operatives' secretary; Mr Jeremiah Head and Mr R. H. Peacock, treasurers; and Mr B. A. Abbott and Mr T. Williams, auditors. The Standing Committee was also appointed, and votes of thanks were also accorded.

WESLEYAN BIBLE AND MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT CLASS.—A meeting in connection with the above was held in the Nelson Street School-room, Consett, on Wednesday night, Mr Dunn a vice-president, in the chair. There was a good attendance of members and also of outsiders. The subject was "A continued discussion on the merits of General Booth's scheme for Social Reform." All who took part in the debate expressed their sympathy with the General in his noble work though at the same time they thought its many failings would render it to some extent of no use. The "autogracy of the general" the policy that "prevention is better than cure" as exemplified in restoring men instead of stopping that which caused their fall, *i.e.* the drink trade; the unsound and insufficient financial basis; the disturbing of the balance of trade; were the principal points advanced by a vigorous denunciation of the drink traffic by Mr Grainger, who deserves the thanks of the association for the able way in which he reviewed the book. After a very exciting and amusing debate of two hours the meeting was brought to a close.

BLACKHILL.

A MUSICIAN'S PROGRESS.—We are pleased to be enabled to announce that Mr Edward J. Sloane (Licentiate of Music), of Blackhill, National Gold Medallist of Trinity College, has won the silver medal of the London College of Music, awarded by the Board of Examiners for organ playing, organ mechanism, and analysis, at the examination held at the Cathedral, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on July 15th, 1890. We feel sure that all our numerous readers will congratulate Mr Sloane upon his continued success in the musical world.

THE LONDON COLLEGE OF MUSIC.—The following pupils of Mr Edward J. Sloane, L. Mus., L.C.M., Blackhill, have successfully passed in theoretical knowledge at the examination held in the Music School, Blackhill, on December 17th, 1890:—Miss Florence Lydia Stelling, Blackhill, gained 95 marks out of a possible 100; Mr Henry Walker Swinsco, Blackhill, 94 marks; and Miss Mildred Annie Compton Balleny, St. Ebba's, Ebchester, 92 marks. Mr G. Augustus Holmes, L. Mus., L.C.M., was examiner.

REJOICINGS AT BENFIELDSIDE.—On Saturday, Miss Janet McKean, second daughter of Mr Alex. McKean, attendance officer, was married to Mr James White, Leadgate. The happy couple drove to Lanchester amid good wishes and showers of rice. As soon as the nuptial knot was tied, they returned to Benfieldside, where a princely dinner was ready for them. In the evening, upwards of 50 friends and relations sat down to a splendid tea. Afterwards, the party enjoyed themselves with music and games. The whole company spent a most pleasant evening. As the bride and bridegroom were well-known, they received many elegant presents.

BAPTIST CHURCH BLACKHILL.—A service of song entitled "Coals of Fire," was given in the above place of worship on Monday evening last, to a fairly large and delighted audience. Mr Joshua Lax, with his accustomed congeniality and ability, filled the chair. The reader was Mr William Robson, a young member of the Church, who, in a maiden effort, read in a thoughtful and impressive style. Mr John English Thompson accompained on the organ admirably. Mr Robert Jones conducted in a splendid manner. The solos were exceedingly well rendered. At the close the chairman complimented the singers, reader and organist, for the efficient way in which they had done their work, and then proposed a vote of thanks to them, which vote was seconded by Mr Michael Hall. The Rev E. W. Jenkins then proposed a worthy vote of thanks to Mr Lax for presiding. This was accorded by Mr W. A. Siddle and carried with exclamation. The doxology and benediction brought to a close a very enjoyable service.

HIGHGATE BAPTIST BAND OF HOPE.—The usual monthly meeting was held at Blackhill, on Friday night, in the school-room. Mr M. Hall presided, and submitted to the large company present a varied and interesting programme, which was creditably rendered by both the juvenile and adult members who took part therein. The selections upon the violin by Masters J. E. Watson and Walker received marked appreciation, which was undoubtedly well-merited. The committee have arranged to form a good string band through the merits of the above performance. A temperance piece sung by Misses Lizzie Ellen Davidson and Edith Mary Wilson was also given with good effect. Recitations by Mr H. Peacock, Miss Dorothy Ann Chapman, and Mary Hannah Hall were also contributed in a capable manner. A telling address was delivered by Mr Edwards, Consett, and at the close six pledges were taken against both drink and tobacco. Hymn 37 was then sung, the benediction bringing an enjoyable meeting to a close.

THE PROVIDENT ASSOCIATION OF LONDON, LIMITED.—The balance sheet of the business of this Company has just been issued, from which it appears that in 1889 the funds of the Association amounted to £214,160 11s 10d; whilst for the year just closed, the funds amounted to £308,353 8s 2d, shewing an increase for the year, of £94,192 16s 4d. The excess of funds over liability to creditors amounts to £50,258 2s 9d. The directors state that this is the largest increase ever made by the Association during any corresponding period, and believe this progress to be unparalleled in the history of any kindred Institution. We need say nothing more of the remarkable success of this association, as our readers may easily procure a copy of the balance sheet, which speaks for itself, from the local agent at Blackhill.

LEADGATE.

WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE.—The usual meeting of the above was held on Saturday night, in the New Sunday school, Leadgate, when a special programme was rendered by the Castleside Primitive Methodist Band of Hope Choir. Mr W. Pattinson occupied the chair, and gave a short address. The following programme was given:—Piece by the choir, "Come away"; recitation by Mr J. Bewick, entitled "Compensation"; song by the choir, "Turn away"; recitation by Miss M. Pattinson, entitled "Little Flo"; duet, by Miss Collins and Master W. Jewitt; recitation by Mr F. Raine, "Men of England"; anthem by the choir, "Offer unto God thanksgiving"; dialogue by Masters W. and R. Jewitt, entitled "The drink-seller and his victim" solo by Miss Collings, "Sighing for thee," for which she received an *encore*; recitation by Mr J. Proud entitled "How the church of St. Michael's was saved"; song by the choir, "Sweet Sabbath Bells." A collection was taken in aid of the school fund. A vote of thanks to the chairman and those who took part brought the meeting to a close.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

DEBATING SOCIETY.—On Saturday evening, a meeting of the Mutual Improvement class took place in the spacious vestry of the New Connection Chapel, Cornsay Colliery. Mr Wm. Dodds occupied the chair. There was a good attendance. Various subjects were debated, including "Temperance," "Religion," &c.

SWALWELL.

BAND OF HOPE.—The usual meeting of this Band of Hope was held at Swalwell on Monday night, when there were 204 junior members and 73 senior, making a total of 277 present. The programme was of a very interesting character. Mr Robert Jobling (chairman), gave a very practical address. Miss Jobling sang "Showers of blessing," and Miss H. Foster recited "Nina's Dream," and Mr Brown, of Whickham, delivered a very forcible address, urging the boys to be true men, to train their mental, moral, and spiritual natures, and beware of the little things. It is attention to the little things, that the true, noble, and godly character. A dialogue entitled "Secret drinking" was ably rendered by eight senior members, for which they were loudly applauded. Miss E. Moor gave a recitation "Our Sailor Boy," Mrs Wilson sang "Mary of Argyle;" Miss H. Askew recited "The Washing day;" Mr Bradley sang "I look to Jesus." Mr W. R. Lumley presided at the piano. Mr Chattertie sang the concluding hymn "The Christian's good night." At the close pledges were taken.

QUEBEC.

A LARGE FUNERAL.—On Wednesday afternoon, the interment took place at the village Church, Lanchester, of the wife of Mr R. Wall, Hamsteels. As the family of deceased have resided a considerable period in the district, and are well-known and respected; a large concourse of people followed the *cortege* to the out-skirts of the village.

SUDDEN DEATH AT HAMSTEELS COLLIERY.—On Saturday evening, the wife of Mr Stoker, of Chapel Row, Quebec, fell down and suddenly expired. It is supposed that deceased, who is 75 years old, had been taken in a fit. There is a grown-up family.

FROSTERLEY.

STEAM NAVVY FOR FROSTERLEY QUARRIES.—A steam navvy arrived last week at Frosterley for the Bresdwood quarry bearing of Messrs Pease and Partners.

ENTERTAINMENT AND SUPPER. — An evening entertainment and supper was held in the Old Church, Frosterley, on Saturday evening, in aid of church expenses fund. Mr Wm. Waller presided. A good company was present, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The proceedings terminated with the chorus by the choir and company, "On, on we go." A capital tea and supper was provided, the gift of the male members of the choir, and the proceeds realized were upwards of £7. The following ladies presided at the tables:—Misses Liddle, Pickering, Dowson, Beveridge, Bird, Airy, and Misses A. and E. Pickering. The set-out was of a princely character, and a thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent. It is intended to continue them fortnightly during the winter and spring months, and if the others be equal to that of Saturday night they will undoubtedly be largely patronised, as they will afford the youthful part of the public a very enjoyable evening's entertainment without the temptations incident to public-houses.

PELTON FELL.

ENTERTAINMENT. — On Saturday evening, the usual fortnightly temperance entertainment was given in the lecture-room of the Mechanics' Hall, Pelton Fell, when an excellent programme was submitted and rendered in good style, consisting of vocal and instrumental music, readings and recitations were giving by the following friends:—Mr and Mrs R. H. Lonsdale, Mr and Mrs Gellender, Miss Jackson, Miss Taylor, of Cornforth, Mr Harrison, Mr Wheatley, and Mr Bell, of Chester-le-Street. The chair was taken by Mitchell Masterton. A very pleasant evening was spent, and also a good company was present. These entertaiments are given by the members of the Church of England Temperance Society and the Primitive Methodist Band of Hope. A similar entertainment was given the same evening in the Wesleyan chapel. The chair was taken by Mr Wm. Davison, Grange Ironworks, who also greatly helped the entertainment by his singing and speaking. The children of the Wesleyan Band of Hope sang several temperance pieces, and Mr J. O'Connor, together with Mr Johnson, of Washington, contributed their help. — On Sunday morning, Mr Davison gave one of his excellent sermons. Mr Sutton, one of the circuit ministers, preached in the evening. On Sunday, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Miss Taylor, of Cornforth, who has for several weeks been conducting special mission services, in the evening preached to a crowded chapel, subject, "The pleasantness of religion."

BURNOPFIELD.

DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT.—"Spectator" writes describing the brutal conduct frequently witnessed at Burnopfield on Sunday afternoons at the time of closing the public-houses, while the language of the inhabitants is of the vilest description.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On Saturday night, a grand sacred concert was given in the above chapel, at Burnopfield, by the Tantobie Wesleyan Choir under the leadership of Mr J. Gedling and Mr N. Smailes presided at the harmonium. The chair was occupied by Mr James Batey, of Gateshead. The proceeds were in aid of Tantobie Chapel building fund, and Burnopfield Wesleyan Sunday-school funds. A good lengthy programme was rendered to a large audience.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Mr John Orr, of Annfield Plain, has been re-elected president of the Durham Colliery Mechanics' Association, for another 12 months.

SUPPER.—On Wednesday evening, a supper was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain, in connection with the sewing meetings. The provisions were provided by Mr and Mrs Jobe, Annfield Plain.

SOCIAL GATHERING.—On Saturday, at the house of Mr Wm. Taylor, Railway Hotel, Annfield Plain, upwards of 40 persons sat down to a substantial and excellent spread prepared by Mrs Taylor. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been honoured, the following gentlemen contributed to the evening's enjoyment:—Messrs Thomas Robinson, John Dey, Freeker, Wright, Hatchford, Jackson, and others. A very pleasant evening was brought to a close with three hearty good cheers for the host and hostess.

ESH COLLIERY.

Pease & Partners are about to build schools at Esh Colliery.

GREENCROFT.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday evening, a public meeting was held in this chapel at Greencroft Cottages. Mr P. Reay, of Annfield Plain, presided. Addresses were given by Revs J. W. Allison, District Sunday-school Secretary, Blyth; Rev J. Young, District Chapel Secretary, Hexham; Rev Wm. Bowe, District Secretary, Durham; and Rev J. Magee, Stanley. At the close, a ham supper was provided, and was well patronised.—On Sunday, sermons were preached—morning and evening—by Rev W. Bowe, and in the afternoon by Mr P. Reay. The congregations were large on each occasion, and the collections were in aid of the trust fund.

TOW LAW.

MEMORIAL SERVICES.—On Monday evening, a special service was held in SS. Philip's and James's Church, Tow Law, when the reredos, erected in remembrance of the late Rev M. H. Simpson, a former vicar of the parish, was dedicated, in the presence of a large congregation. Rev T. H. E. Espin, vicar, read the prayers, while Rev Dr Pulleine, Rector of Stanhope and Bishop of Richmond, preached a most appropriate sermon.

NEW MAGISTRATE FOR DURHAM COUNTY.—We learn that the Vicar of Tow Law—Rev T. H. E. Espin, M.A.—has been appointed a Justice of the Peace in the place of the late Rev G. P. Wilkinson, J.P., C.C., of Harperley Park, Tow Law. The rev gentleman is a son of the Rev Chancellor Espin, J.P., Rector of Wolsingham, and will take his seat on the Wolsingham Bench at an early date.

On Saturday night, the last of a series of Temperance Free and Easys was held in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law, Mr Joseph Bell presiding. Prizes were given for spelling, open only to children under 14 years, and the following are the successful competitors:—Robert Glenton, 1st.; William Herbert, 2nd.; J. J. Christison, 3rd. In addition, a capital sketch, entitled "The Nigger Parliament" was given in good style by 13 performers. There was a good attendance.

SPECIAL SERVICE.—On Monday night, a special service was held in the Parish Church, Tow Law, the occasion being the opening of a handsome Oak reredos, in memory of the late Rev M. A. Simpson, first vicar of Tow Law, and erected by Mr R. Rawes, Tow Law. The service was fully choral and was given in good style by an efficient choir. An excellent sermon was preached by the Bishop of Richmond. The proceeds were in aid of the reredos fund.

SLALEY.

EARLY LAMBING.—Mrs Hetherington, of Slaley, has a ewe which dropped a fine lamb on the 19th inst.

WEARDALE.

Miss Nattrass, Wearhead, has commenced a revival season at the U.M.F.C., Shildon.

Mr Cawood has been conducting special services at High House, Weardale, for the Wesleyans, with fair success.

Miss Smedley, of Teesdale, has completed a two weeks' mission for the Primitive Methodists at St. Johns' Chapel, with very fair results.

WINTER.—The weather in Weardale so far this winter, although very cold and wintry, has been short of some recent winters in point of quantity of snow. The roads have not been much blocked nor many sheep over-blown on the moors as yet.

STANHOPE.

EVANGELISTIC.—Miss Bulmer, of the Stanhope Evangelistic Mission, has been conducting special revival services for the last three weeks, for the Wearhead Primitive Methodists with good results. Upwards of 50 have been converted, principally young men, and among them two or three of Weardale's crack wrestlers.

SUCCESSFUL SEWING MEETING TEA.—A successful ladies' sewing meeting tea, in aid of High Street Mission, Stanhope, was held in the Bank room, on Saturday evening. Tea was provided by Mr Thomas Rutherford, jun., and was well patronised. The room was thronged during the evening. Mr C. Stelling, of Blackhill, and Miss Temperley, of Stanhope, gave excellent duets on the piccolo, occarino, and piano. Upwards of £7 7s. was realised.

LOCAL BOARD.—At the monthly meeting of the Stanhope Local Board held on Monday evening, Mr J. W. Roddam presiding, it was decided to borrow between £400 and £500 at a cheap rate spread over a number of years, to carry out certain improvements in Stanhope Local Board district, such as the putting in of hydrants all over the town, and ashphalting footpaths, &c. It was also decided to improve Back Martin Street, at a cost of about £27.

STANHOPE FLOWER SHOW.—The yearly spring meeting of the above society was held in the bank-room on Tuesday evening for the revision of the schedule, and for making the necessary arrangements for this next season's show to be held on the second Saturday in August. The prize list was altered, the third prizes in both classes being struck off with the exception of the stove and greenhouse collections.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—A series of revival services were brought to a conclusion on Wednesday so'nnight, in the above chapel at Allendale Cottages, when Mr Robert Turnbull, Consett, delivered his popular and instructive lecture, entitled "The Galilean Fisherman." The chair was occupied by Mr Wm. Brand, Consett, who, in a short but interesting address, introduced the lecturer. The lecture, which is composed chiefly of scripture, was delivered by Mr Turnbull in a creditable manner. After the lecture was finished, several questions were asked by Mr Wm. Borrow, Consett, which were promptly answered by the lecturer. Votes of thanks, having been accorded to the lecturer and chairman, the company adjournd to the school-room where a fish supper was served up, the fish being gratuitously given by Mr Wm. Brand, fishmonger, Consett. The following ladies kindly presided at the tables:—Mesdames J. Holland, J. Charlton, J. Armstrong, and R. Robson. There was a fair company, and the proceeds were to defray the lighting and heating expenses. The revival services have been conducted—free of charge—by Messrs R. Turnbull, W. Brand, and W. Borrow, Consett, assisted by Miss Waggot, Leadgate; Mr John Tophan, Consett, and the circuit ministers.

WESTWOOD.

MAGIC-LANTERN ENTERTAINMENT.—On Monday evening, a magic-lantern entertainment was given by Mr George Wheeler, before a good muster of children, in his own house, at Railway Cottages, Westwood.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT FARMERS' CLUB.—At a meeting of the Chester-le-Street Farmers' Club, held on Monday night at the Lambton Arms Inn, Chester-le-Street—Mr James Bradford in the chair—it was unanimously decided to make a representation to the Council in favour of holding the Durham County Show at Chester-le-Street. The meeting also decided to hold the annual general meeting and dinner at the Lambton Arms on the 17th Feb.—Some discussion took place as to the advisability of holding the annual Entire Cart Horse Show. It was shown that Mr Kirkcaldy's Thistle Yet, the society's horse last year, had done so exceedingly well that the society would be justified in not holding the show this year, but to re-engage last year's horse.

BRADLEY COTTAGES.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The members of the above place of worship, at Bradley Cottages, have been holding prayer meetings during the past week, previous to a course of revival services, which will commence shortly.

MEDOMSLEY.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—On Monday evening, a special meeting, to set forth the claims of the Foreign Mission field upon the Church at home, was held in the Medomsley National Schools, under the presidency of the Vicar (Rev W. Cockin, M.A.) Addresses were delivered by Rev R. E. Taylor, M.A., Vicar of Cresswell, and other gentlemen. There was a good audience.

ROWLEY.

BAPTIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday night, a miscellaneous entertainment was given in the above place of worship at Rowley. Mr John Oliver, Burnhill, presided, and in the course of his opening remarks said that he found himself in rather a unique position—a position which he had not occupied previously at any rate. The peculiar manner in which his services were sought rendered his position pleasingly unique. He had the pleasure one day of receiving a beautifully written and well audited epistle from a young lady, asking him to take the position of chairman at this meeting, and really you know there is something so very fascinating about a lady's appeal that you cannot very well say no to it; hence his position there this evening. The entertainment consisted of solos by Misses Riddle and Fairley, Craghead, and Miss Raine, Stanhope. These ladies sang exceedingly sweetly, and received well merited *encores* for each of the pieces sung. Recitations by Mr William Thompson, Castleside, were exceedingly well rendered. Readings by Messrs J. W. Golightly, Castleside, and J. W. Bryant were given in very good style, and received a very hearty reception. The choir also contributed their part to the evening's entertainment. The chairman introduced here and there some very humorous anecdotes. At the close of the entertainment, a tea and coffee-supper was provided in the school-room, given on this occasion by the Misses Angus, Horsleyhope. Tables were presided over by Misses Amur, Tamar, Marian, Jenny, and Lilly Angus, assisted by Messrs Ingram, Bowey, and Byers, whilst Miss Errington, Mrs Angus, and Mrs Ingram undertook the duties of getting forward the provisions in the vestry. A large number partook of supper, the amount realised being £4 13s 6d, which will be devoted to the building and renovation fund. The Misses Angus desire to convey their very hearty thanks to all those who patronised them, thus enabling them to considerably augment the treasurer's funds.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

NARROW ESCAPES.—A few days ago, a little fellow was tobogganing down a steep bank at Victoria Garesfield, when he lost control of the "sled," and was shot straight over a quay wall about eight feet high, and injured his arm. Shortly afterwards, a waggon with furniture, which also contained six children, and drawn by two horses, got upon a slippery part. The horses slid, and the children and waggon were most miraculously saved from going over the same quay by the determined efforts of the drovers. The place requires fencing off, or some accident will occur.

WEST STANLEY.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST METHODIST HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.—The annual sermons on behalf of the above missions were preached on Sunday in the following chapels of the Stanley Circuit. At Annfield Plain, Rev J. W. Allison, Blyth, preached in the morning, while Rev J. Young occupied the rostrum in the afternoon and evening. At Oxhill, in the morning, by Rev J. Young, and in the afternoon and evening by Rev J. W. Allison, and the pulpits at Tanfield Lea and Greencroft were filled by well-known preachers. Missionary meetings were as follows:—Annfield Plain, on Monday night; Tanfield Lea, Tuesday night; Oxhill, Wednesday night; Greencroft, last (Thursday) night. The proceeds were in aid of the mission funds.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BURNOPFIELD BRANCH.

The usual monthly entertainment in connection with the above society took place in the Temperance Hall on Monday night, before a large company. The chair was occupied by Mr James Gilchrist, of Marley Hill. The first piece on the programme was a pianoforte solo by Rev E. E. Harrison, who was warmly applauded, and was called upon to sing "The happy fatherland," and was given an *encore*. Mr Ross, of Catchgate, next recited "Ask mamma" so well that he too had to appear a second time. Miss Burnip then sang "The gipsy's warning" in a style that pleased the audience so well that she also had to return to the platform, when she sang "Far away." A duet, "Bonnie Prince Charlie," by the Misses Bisland, was also appreciated very much. Mr Abbott next sang "A tar of the Queen," which demanded an *encore*. "The Queen's hussar" being given, Miss M. Dickinson next sang and accompanied herself upon the guitar, to which she had to appear again by singing "Whist the bogie man." Mr T. Dixon next sang "My complaints," which so amused the audience that he sang another entitled "Green leaves." Mr Ross next appeared on the platform to recite "The bottom of our raw," to which he responded to an *encore* with a piece entitled "An awful tragedy." Miss Dickinson then sang "My queen," and as an *encore* gave "Fiddle and I." A song by Mr Abbott, "Nil desperandum," was followed by a duet by the Misses Dickinson upon the mandolin and guitar, which was *encored*. Mr Harrison then sang "The boatswain's story," and having to appear again, he sang "Giles on politics." The company then dispersed, having spent a very enjoyable evening.

MARLEY HILL BRANCH.

On Tuesday evening, the usual monthly meeting was held in the school-room. Mr Jas. Gilchrist occupied the chair, and a large audience was present. The programme was one of the best for some time past. Two glees, "Carnivale" and "Sweet and low," were nicely sung by the choir, who had been carefully trained by the Rev E. E. Harrison, B.A. A dialogue, entitled "Silence under difficulties," created great amusement. Songs were given by Miss F. Bowman and Messrs Saunders and Palmerley, and Rev E. E. Harrison. Messrs Harrison and Saunders were *encored*, as were the brothers Messrs J. and W. Potts for an instrumental duet on the organ and fiddle. Rev J. Madill, of Burnopfield, was well received in his Irish reading. Rev J. A. Bridges, curate of Tanfield, kept the audience in entranced with his humorous and pathetic recitations. His powers of facial expressions, eloquence, and imitation were certainly a treat, and the double *encore* he received is sure to be repeated on his next visit, which, we hope, will be soon. A hearty vote of thanks to the Revs J. Madill and J. A. Bridges brought to a close another successful entertainment.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

The attendance at the fortnightly meetings of this society continue steadily to improve. That of Monday evening was amongst the best for some years. One of the most noticeable and pleasing features of these meetings is the excellent order that is maintained throughout; this is decidedly conducive to the comfort and enjoyment of every right-minded assemblage. Another thing deserving remark is the great improvement in the contributions to the programme made possible by the possession of a good piano, and made actual by the valuable services of Miss Fanny Robinson, who, in the graceful manner in which she accompanies the songs, &c., exhibits a degree of musical taste and appreciation considerably beyond her years. The following was the programme provided for the evening by the indefatigable and invaluable choir-master, Mr J. Robinson, and received by the large audience with evident pleasure:—"March," on the violin, Mr Witty; reading, "Charlie and Co.," Miss Lily Bell; song, "Beside the sweet Shannon," Miss Williamson; part-song, "In the might of the Lord," Misses E. Ramshaw and Ada Simpson, and Messrs J. Grundy and J. Ramshaw; song, "The golden shore," Miss H. Chaytor; duet, "Polly Hopkins," by Mr J. Robinson and Miss H. F. Storey, which was enthusiastically re-called; recitation, "The frightened toper," Mr Alf. Simpson; part-song, "Let the hills resound," Messrs Grundy and Ramshaw, and Misses Smith, Storey, Ramshaw, and A. Simpson; violin duet, Messrs Witty and Surtees; song, "Thy voice is near," Miss M. A. Turner; and a humorous song, "Dobbs in Paris," by Mr Robinson. Mr Graham accompanied on the harmonium in the opening and closing hymns.

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN AT TOW LAW.

Mrs Moses, who lived in Bridge Street, Tow Law, for many years, died on Sunday at the age, it is stated, of 103. This extraordinary longevity is surpassed by a venerable Crook matron, who is reported to be 107 or 108 years old.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A PELTON FARMER.

On Monday, Coroner Graham held an inquest on Monday at Pelton East House, touching the death of William Robert Rotherford, aged 35, who died there on Saturday morning.—The evidence of Mrs Rotherford showed that she found her husband dead in bed on Saturday morning.—Dr Taylor, Chester-le-Street, said he had previously attended deceased for heart disease, and a few months ago he had a very severe illness.—The jury returned a verdict of "Found dead in bed."—Mr Rotherford was well-known in Chester-le-Street district as a skilled farmer, and a member of Chester-le-Street Farmers' Club. He came of an old Northumbrian stock, but, together with his father, had been on the Pelton East Farm for over twenty years.

WEARDALE BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The ordinary meeting was held in the Board Room at Stanhope on Friday, Dr Livingstone (chairman) presiding—when the Clerk (Mr Lee) presented his half-yearly return of pauper statistics for the Union. The number of indoor paupers was 45, and the number of outdoor paupers 378, showing a decrease in both sections as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The fortnightly meeting of the above Authority was afterwards held. The Inspector (Mr W. M. Egglestone) referred to certain complaints about an inadequate water supply at Bridge End, Frosterley. He thought the supply should be vested in the Authority, and recommended that a cistern should be put up in a field adjacent thereto, so as to store the water, and thus always ensure a supply.—The Inspector was instructed to survey the whole water-course again, and see if something could not be done to allay the public feeling said to exist on the matter. There was also a complaint respecting the Crawleyside supply; but the Inspector had got it remedied.

REV A. R. STEGGALL IN EASTERN AFRICA.

The subjoined letter from Rev Albert R. Steggall, missionary in Eastern Equtorial Africa, has recently been received at the Vicarage, Consett:—

Kilimanjaro, Mochi,
October 22, 1890.

Dear ——, I have not much to tell you by this mail. I am extremely busy, and have been so for some time. Just now I am chiefly occupied in taking lymph from sundry patients, and vaccinating others; for there are two cases of small-pox in Mochi, and any number of people come up to the mission station to be vaccinated. I am alone at present, Dr Baxter having been sent for to Taveta to attend a European there who had gone out of his mind. I have received a note from him, saying that he cannot get back until the doctor from Mombasa arrives, as he has to watch his patient day and night. I am sorry to have to tell you that Mandara has been making another raid upon his neighbours, and no one will be sorry that he has been defeated this time. His warriors started on Tuesday to a neighbouring state, in order to begin the attack at sunrise on Wednesday; but to their surprise they found chiefs and warriors from other states had assembled to meet them, with a body of sixty Masai, a host in themselves, considering the terror in which their name is held. To-day, Mandara's warriors have been going to their homes thoroughly worsted. Of the loss it is quite impossible to get correct information. We know of three colonels, or captains, having been killed. I have been dressing spear wounds to-day, as well as bullet wounds, &c. There was a man sitting outside the verandah to-day with a shield made from an elephant's ear. I knew an English gentleman, whom I had seen at Taveta, very much wanted to buy a shield of this kind, so I asked the man if he wished to sell it, and the answer I got was a strange one. The word for "sell" is the same as that for "throw away," and the man, mistaking my question, replied that he threw away only his spear. Then I ascertained that the flight of the Wamochi and their allies was so precipitous that dozens of spears, guns, and rifles were thrown away, and fell into the hands of the victorious Wakiboso. I hope that this reverse will be a lesson both to King Mandara and his warriors, by making them see that they are not able to subdue the whole world, even if they can slaughter, as they did last January, fugitive women and children without difficulty.

Monday, November 3rd.—I am grieved for the sake of the wounded, that Dr Baxter is away; besides minor cases, I have three very bad ones on hand. A man with his hand split down to the wrist between the first and second fingers by a sword cut, another with his nose cut and right eye destroyed (I am much afraid that he will lose the sight of his other eye). Another poor fellow had a very narrow escape, being left for dead, and crawling off the field several hours afterwards, with eleven spear and sword wounds, five of them on his head; his right arm was nearly severed from his body. He did not reach his home till three days after the wounds were inflicted. I fear that he will not recover. With all these bad cases, besides my ordinary medical work, I am rather hindered in the teaching department. You will, I know, be pleased to hear that forty-five boys attended school during October, they made 305 attendances, which is more than 100 higher than any other month. I have kept on as much as possible with the work of translation, and, long before this letter reaches you, I hope I shall have finished a translation of the Gospel by St. John into Kitaveta. I find Neni so good a help to me in this work that I shall not hesitate to print the sheets when the press arrives, as I get time.

November 6th.—I have heard that the printing press has reached Frere Town; but there may be some delay in getting it up here, because there is scarcely any water on the road, and caravans can hardly start before there has been some heavy rain. I have not yet received the alphabet sheets. I have been longing for them for three mails. I shall be glad of some jackets for my boys, for they wear out, and the boys grow bigger. Let them, please, be made of washing material. The boys would like the colour to be dark blue this time. It really does not matter about the colour, only let them be all alike, that no jealousy may be excited. I am sending home my concertina to be repaired. Please let Lachenal and Co. have it, as they are the concertina makers. A Happy New Year to you all.—I am, yours &c.,

Albert R. Steggall.

Holloway's Pills.—In the complaints peculiar to females these Pills are unrivalled. Their use by the fair sex has become so constant for the removal of their ailments that rare is the household that is without them. Amongst all classes, from the domestic servant to the peeress, universal favour is accorded to these renovating Pills; their invigorating and purifying properties render them safe and invaluable in all cases; they may be taken by females of all ages for any disorganization or irregularity of the system, speedily removing the cause and restoring the sufferer to robust health. As a family medicine they are unapproachable for subduing the maladies of young and old.

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

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

"Rough on Rats."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, fleas bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 6½d and 1s. boxes.

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

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

GREAT DECREASE OF DEATHS FROM CONSUMPTION.

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

Price 3s 10d per 2 bottles.

25, Tweed Street, Newcastle.

Mr G. Handyside,

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

JOHN McQUINN.

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

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

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

JANE SNOWDON.

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

Middle Bridge, near Durham,
July 6th. 1890

Dear Sir,

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

WM. and MARGARET TOWART.

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

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

G. Handyside.

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

JAMES McNAMARA.

December 11th, 1888.

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

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

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

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

Mr G. Handyside.

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

G. FAIRBAIRN.

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

Mr G. Handyside,

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

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

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

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

REV ROBERT STEWART.
Presbyterian Church, Gateshead.

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

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

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

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

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

GUARANTEE.

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

679d GEO. HANDYSIDE.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Benfieldside.—At this mart on Monday, the numbers and prices were as follows:—6 fat cattle, to £18; 90 fat sheep, to 48s; 30 keeping hoggs, to 28s 6d; 4 cows, to £16; calf, 80s. 34 pigs: bacon pigs, to £4 5s; pork pigs, to 53s; small pigs, 6s 6d to 31s. A quantity of poultry, harness, hay, &c., was also disposed of. There was a good company present, and a fair, good trade according to recent markets.

Tow Law.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday, 48 dairy cows and heifers, 5 fat cattle, 15 store cattle, 8 calves, 43 fat sheep and hoggs. Calved cows made up to £21; cows to calve to £22 10s; fat cattle to £17; store cattle to £12; calves to 41s; fat sheep to 52s—top, Mr H. Brownless, Wolsingham; fat hoggs to 43s—top, Mr Stobbs, Harelaw; fat black-faced wethers to 38s—top, Mr J. Emerson, Willow Green.

Chester-le-Street.—Mr James Turnbull had forward on Monday, 40 fat cattle, 10 grazing cattle, 2 milk cows, 4 calves, 120 fat sheep and hoggs, 4 pork and bacon pigs, 10 young pigs, horse sheet, rugs, poultry, &c. There was a large attendance of buyers present, and trade for cattle was exceptionally brisk. Sheep were a slow trade. The following are the prices:—Fat cattle: Bullocks to £26—top, Mr J. Bradford, Vigo; fat heifers, to £22 7s 6d—top, Birtley Iron Co.; fat cows, to £20 15s—top, Mr Parmella, Burnhope; grazing cattle, to £15 15s. Fat sheep: Shearlings, to 50s—top, Birtley Iron Co.; mule shearlings, to 49s—top, Mr J. Stothard; hoggs, to 48s—top, Birtley Iron Co.; fat ewes, to 48s 6d—top, the Earl of Durham; calves, to 55s; young pigs, to 25s; bacon pigs, to 95s; pork pigs, to 33s.

LOCAL FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Durham and Lanchester Order of Oddfellows.—The members of the above branch held their annual supper at Mr George French's Station Hotel, Esh Winning. Fifty-four sat down to the supper, after which the evening was spent with toasts, songs, &c. Bro. W. Henery (in the absence of Bro. Hardy) took the chair.—The prosperity of the lodge was proposed by the Chairman, who remarked that an increase of 23 members was very satisfactory. The total number was 96 members, whose average age was 31; a very young average indeed.—After a few songs from different brothers, Bro. Barron presented the secretaries (Bros. Henery and Winter) with a beautiful case of birds each in recognition of their services in bringing members to the lodge.—Bros. Henery and Winter suitably responded, and the meeting, after a thoroughly enjoyable evening, terminated.

Oddfellows' Supper at Witton Gilbert.—The members of the "Queen Bee" Lodge, M.U., held their annual dinner, at Mr W. Hunter's Three Tons Inn, Witton Gilbert. Fifty sat down to supper, which reflected great credit upon the worthy hostess. After dinner, Mr J. Wilson, secretary of the lodge, and G.M. of Durham district, was called to the chair, and Mr J. Dobinson, Sacriston, the vice-chair.—Mr John Dawson proposed the "Success to the Queen Bee Lodge." He stated that their numbers were increasing, being more than in any previous year, and this being the jubilee year of the lodge they were anxious to muster as many as possible in July, when they proposed to celebrate their jubilee by a church parade and a public dinner. In the meantine it was suggested to hold a church parade at Sacriston of all the friendly societies in the neighbourhood, the proceeds to be applied to the North-Eastern Friendly Societies' Convalescent Home at Grange-over-Sands.—Afterwards Mr W. Hunter proposed "The Coal Trade," and paid a high compliment to the "hewers of black diamonds" for their bravery and heroism in times of accidents in their hazardous employment.—Mr Dobinson responded, and said that, judging from appearances of the activity and building operations in the mining district around them, there was every symptom of a very prosperous year before them.—This toast was succeeded by "The farmers," which was acknowledged by Mr D. Turnbull.—Capital songs were sung by Messrs John Hunter, James Dawson. Wm. Turner, J. Graham, R. D. Allan, C. Bates, T. Smith and R. Green.

Man's Noblest Work.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pill will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

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

[Now First Published.]

SLAVES OF FATE,

BY J. MONK FOSTER.

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

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PART III.—The New Generation.

CHAPTER III.—After the Picnic.

Diana Fell and her friend Nellie Graham were seated in the bedroom of the latter on the evening after the picnic in Cressingham Wood. Nellie was playing the maid to her companion, being engaged in brushing Diana's long golden locks, and the girls were talking about the events of that afternoon.

After that waltz beneath the trees our friends had adjourned to the refreshment tent, where they partook of stewed tea and buns together, but each member of the little party was too happy to notice either the condition of the beverage or the dryness of the cakes they were consuming.

Had the repast been sumptuous as those Lucullus was wont to provide for his friends in the Hall of Apollo the fair maidens and their cavaliers could not have been more joyous over it, and an inordinate number of cups of tea and buns were disposed of.

And on leaving the tent the band was playing a polka, and once more George and Diana, Grantley and Nellie went whirling and hopping over the thick mossy sward.

Then to cool themselves they had taken a long delightful stroll through the quiet wood, and by this time it appeared quite natural to them all that Chester and Miss Fell should gravitate towards each other, and that Miss Graham and Marcus Grantley should do likewise.

How swiftly that afternoon had seemed to fly! It was gone almost before they realised it. When they returned from their walk the west was ablaze with the fire of the falling sun, the band was playing its last air, and the general body of the picnicers were preparing to march homeward.

They parted with pressure of hands, fervent looks, and whispered hopes of another meeting. The girls returned with the band and the crowd, having come with them, and George and Marcus went back across the brook, through the wood, towards the stile in Hoscar Lane.

"By Jove! Chester, she's a splendid girl!" Grantley cried suddenly, as he and George strolled under the duskening trees.

"Who? Miss Fell?"

"Ho! ho! So you are thinking of her, are you? I ought to have known who *you* were thinking about. Well, they're both splendid, old fellow! Never met a more charming pair of girls in all my life—one especially."

"Hit, and badly, eh?" George responded, giving the other a sly dig in the ribs.

"Yes; and what about yourself?"

"It might have been possible once," Chester replied in an altered tone. "Now, Miss Fell is as far beyond my reach as yonder star." He pointed to the east where the first of heaven's lamps was faintly flickering.

"Not at all, Chester. I could see that she was immensely taken up with you. That adventure with the shark did it, you may swear. I only wish I had snatched a certain fair one from some monster of the deep. And then, you know, love conquers all things."

"Save poverty!" George cried sententiously, and somewhat bitterly.

They were now beside the stile where they had met some hours before. Here they stood chattering awhile and smoking. Grantley asked Chester for his address, and with evident reluctance he gave it. Then they said good night and went their different ways.

"Diana," said Nellie, as she ran her fingers over and through her companions hair, "would you tell me something about Mr. Grantley?"

"Are you so curious about him already, Nellie?"

"Of course—there, I admit it. I daresay you are just as curious about Mr. Chester."

"What do you want to know?" Diana asked, wilfully ignoring her friend's last sentence.

"Who is he? What is he? Who are his people? Where did you meet him? Tell me all you know about him, and I'll tell you all I have learned about Mr. Chester."

"You have learned something about him then? How did you manage it?"

"I led Mr. Grantley to talk about his friend as I thought you would like to know, dear."

"Who told you I wanted to know?"

"You didn't tell me, but I knew all the same. Well, I learned lots, and I'll tell you—on the conditions named."

"All I know of Mr. Grantley can be told in a few words, Nellie. He is the head of an old Devonshire family; is very rich; not over foolish—except when you are near, dear—seems to own a fair reputation; and is in love with a friend of mine."

"A friend of yours?" Nellie asked, a note of alarm in her voice.

"Yourself, you goose!" Diana cried. "And now it is your turn."

"Well, I am sorry to say, Diana, that Mr. Chester is poor—awfully poor—so poor, indeed, that he has been compelled to obtain work as a clerk. He and Mr. Grantley were at Cambridge together, it seems, but his father lost the whole of his fortune through some unfortunate speculations. The loss drove the elder Mr. Chester insane—he is in an asylum now—and it killed his wife. Wasn't it awful to lose father, mother and fortune at one blow?"

"Fearful—fearful!" Diana exclaimed in tones of the deepest commisseration. "When did all this take place?"

"Several months after our bathing adventure. Mr. Chester was then at home for the summer vacation. His parents lived at Tudor House, just beside the village of Brynlhidoch, and it's singular we didn't meet him again before to-day. I suppose his father's ruin compelled him to leave Cambridge at once, and become a clerk. Mr. Grantley had only learned all this an hour or two before he told me. He and Mr. Chester met quite accidentally half-an-hour before we saw them at the picnic."

Diana was silent. What Nellie had told her in reference to George Chester's misfortunes had intensified the interest she felt in him, and her heart was stirred with sweetest pity.

She knew now why she had thought of him so often while in Wales, and why she had desired to see him once more. It was because she loved him. Yes, loved him! The passion that had been planted in her heart that morning when George saved her from the shark had blossomed into sudden life to-day.

"I love him! I love him!" were the words that formed themselves in her mind, and presently she began to wonder what her father would think of the man she loved.

Diana only asked one more question of Nellie.

"I suppose you do not know, Nellie, where Mr. Chester lives?"

"In Cressingham village I believe. Anyhow, he is employed in the office of the iron foundry there. So there is something to be thankful for, after all, Diana."

"Indeed! What?"

"As Mr. Chester lives in the neighbourhood you will see him frequently; but I am not so lucky. If Mr. Grantley lives in Devonshire I may never see him again."

CHAPTER IV.—The Old Tale.

"Mansell Place,
"September 20th, 1875.

"My Dear Chester,

"I want you to come here to dinner on Friday night. I know what your first thought will be on receiving such an invitation; but you must throw the first thought to the dogs and come. Harry remembers you quite well and is anxious to meet you again. I have told him you are staying in the neighbourhood, but that is all I have told him yet.

"I may add that Mrs. Cumberland Fell, Miss Diana Fell, and another maiden yclept Nellie are expected to dine here on Friday. Perhaps you do not wish to meet the fair heiress again?

"But jesting apart, old fellow, come! I don't see that you need be afraid or ashamed of meeting anyone. I shall expect you even if you write and say you won't come.

"I enclose you Mrs. Joule's invitation, and remain, yours faithfully,

"Marcus Grantley."

Between the sheets of Grantley's missive there was a slip of perfumed note-paper upon which a few words were traced in a lady's handwriting. Glancing over it George saw that Mrs. Harry Joule presented her compliments to him and hoped to have the honour of his company to dinner on Friday evening.

It was two or three days after the picnic in Cressingham Wood when George Chester received the foregoing communications. His landlady placed them on the table with his tea one evening when he came home from work.

As Grantley had surmised his first thought was that he could not possibly go to Mansell Place. What business had he there now? The old story of the Earthenware Pot and the Brazen Vessels crossed his reflections, and he felt that the narrative had a direct application to himself under existing circumstances. Certainly he must decline their kind invitations.

Then he read that Diana Fell was to be at Mansell Place on Friday evening, and somehow that discovery put a slightly different complexion upon things.

To renew his friendship with Harry Joule, to be introduced to the charming Mrs. Joule, to join Marcus Grantley at his cousin's table he was unwilling to put himself in the place of the Earthenware Pot in the old story.

But to meet Diana Fell once more he was willing to risk something. After all why should he not go? The people he would meet at Mansell Place would, in all probability, know nothing of him and his misfortunes. There would be a crowd, very likely, in which he might hope to pass unnoticed by all save Diana.

He would go, he ultimately decided, and on Friday evening he went.

George Chester's reception by the Joules could not have been more pleasant had he been the latest success in fictional literature, a newly fledged songster or player, or as rich and famous as he was poor and unknown.

Arriving half an hour before dinner time George found Grantley and several others in the drawing-room, and his face flushed a little as he saw that Diana was present.

"So glad you've come, old fellow!" Grantley whispered as he pressed Chester's hand. "The party from Cressingham Park are here. Come and let me introduce you to Mrs. Cumberland Fell."

As they crossed the long room towards the spot where Diana, her mother, and Nellie Graham were sitting George murmured:—

"Is Mr. Cumberland Fell here?"

"Oh, no. He and Sir Godfrey Sherstone and a lot of politicians are shooting blackcock and stalking deer with the Duke of Blairgossie in Scotland."

George had not yet set eyes on Diana's father, but that fact had not prevented him from forming an ill opinion of Mr. Cumberland Fell, erstwhile Roger Cumberland, and he was pleased to hear that the Master of Cressingham Park was not at the Place that evening.

He still remembered what his mother had told him regarding Roger's doings at Hansford before he was born, and some portion of his mother's distrust towards her cousin had sunk into his mind. If his father had only paid heed to his wife's expressed fears he might have been sane now, comparatively well to do still, and his mother would still have been alive.

And Diana Fell was the daughter of his father's old rival. How much he wished that she had been any other man's child. Even had he been Diana's equal in every respect her father might have thrown obstacles in their way.

That Roger's professions of friendship for his father were insincere George was certain. He had seen the letter in which Cumberland stated that he had sold out of the Lhadyllan mining affair, and he had heard his father say that Roger had told him to sell not a single share.

And after considering all things George had concluded that Roger had never forgiven his father for winning Agnes Ellis, that he had advised him to keep the shares that he might be ruined, and that under the mask of friendship he had worked out his old hatred.

Something of all this passed through Chester's mind as he crossed the room with Grantley and was presented to Mrs. Cumberland Fell. For Diana's mother George almost instantly conceived a liking. She was so much like her daughter; she seemed so unaffected and honest-hearted, and she thanked him so heartily for that little business in Cardigan Bay.

Matters assumed such a pleasant aspect that George forgot, for a time at least, all about his poverty and Mr. Cumberland Fell. He took Diana in to dinner, and as he was fortunate enough to be seated between Miss Fell and Miss Graham the meal proved a feast of pleasure.

After dinner was disposed of there was a general move to the drawing-room, where there was to be dancing and singing, and presently a sweet and clear young voice was filling the spacious apartment with its sweetness.

The singer was Nellie Graham, her song one of Burns's simple ditties. It ran:—

"When o'er the hill the eastern star,
Tells brightin time is near, my Jo;
And owsen frae the furrow'd field,
Return so dowf and weary O!

"Down by the burn where scented birks
Wi' dew are hanging clear, my Jo,
I'll meet thee on the lea-rig,
My ain kind dearie O!"

A murmur of approval went round the well filled room as Nellie finished, and Marcus Grantley's face was flushed with pleasure as he led the fair singer from the piano. She had sung to oblige him, and the song she had chosen seemed to have a meaning that only himself and Miss Graham understood.

"Do you not sing also, Miss Fell?" George asked as their friends rejoined them.

"Never after Nellie," Diana replied with a smile. "She sings so much better than I do, Mr. Chester, you know, that I never like to think of the comparison one is forced to make between us."

"Nonsense, Diana," Nellie cried, her dark handsome face aglow at Grantley's softly whispered praises. "You must not believe her, Mr. Chester. She is a prima donna compared to me, and you must persuade her to sing 'When other lips and other hearts.'"

"You will sing it?" George pleaded.

"If you wish it," Diana replied, her heart throbbing quickly, and her voice sinking to a whisper. There was something in George Chester's words and eyes she had neither heard nor seen before in any man's, and over her white sculptured throat and fair cheeks there stole a wave of deep rose colour.

"They are getting up a quadrille, Chester," Marcus said just then. "Are you going to dance?"

"If Miss Fell will oblige me?"

Diana murmured her acquiescence, and they moved toward the other end of the room where there was a clear space for dancing. Several quadrilles were formed, and soon our friends were gliding through the graceful and intricate evolutions of "The Lancers."

A little later Diana fulfilled her promise and sang the song Nellie had mentioned. Her voice was a pure contralto of great purity and compass; her articulation was perfect, and every word fell from her tongue sweet and clear as the chiming of a silver bell.

Deep into George's heart and mind that song sunk, and years afterwards, when he was thousands of miles from Mansell Place and Diana Fell those sweet words and their singer often recurred to him.

Mrs. Cumberland Fell had no idea that her daughter and Nellie Graham were already entangled in the rosy meshes of the net which Love casts abroad, and she had left them to follow their own devices. Had she known this she would not have enjoyed so much her hand at whist with her hostess and their partners.

"How hot it is, Diana," Nellie remarked, fanning herself vigorously.

"It is cooler in the conservatory or on the lawn," Grantley broke in with a laugh and a look of deep meaning directed at Miss Graham. "Dare you venture so far?"

"What do you say, Diana?" said Nellie, trying to appear unconcerned and oblivious of the pregnant glance Marcus had shot upon her.

"I don't mind," Miss Fell answered; "it is certainly rather warm here."

They all rose together. George offered his arm to Diana, Grantley took Miss Graham's arm within his own and they went toward the conservatories which adjoined the southern end of the drawing-room.

Chester walked by Diana's side through the dimly-lit avenues of exotics, and neither of them spoke for some moments. He was thinking that he had been very foolish indeed to permit himself this glimpse of Paradise, which would make his return to poverty and work on the morrow all the more bitter by contrast.

And he was wondering also if Diana Fell would continue to be so gracious unto him when she learned that he was a virtual pauper in comparison to herself and all who were at Mansell Place that night. It never crossed his mind then that the gloriously beautiful girl on his arm was already acquainted with his sad misfortune.

They came upon a seat amid the plants and there they paused. Hither and thither among the green depths of the foliage a little coloured lamp flickered; the odour-laden air was tempered by a faint stir of wind, and through the crystal roof above them a full moon like a silver shield floated through the clear autumn sky.

"A penny for your thoughts, Mr. Chester," Diana cried leaning back over the couch until her head nestled amid the broad green fronds of a palm.

"You appraise them highly," he said, starting from his reverie, "if that is all you will pay for them, Miss Fell."

"Set your own price upon them," she rejoined pleasantly, "if mine is not enough. Anyhow, let me know what they are."

"You would hardly care to hear them, I fear," he returned a trifle sadly.

"Your reluctance only excites my curiosity and I must know. Do tell me, Mr. Chester. It is so seldom I have any thoughts of my own that I am all the more eager to listen to other people's."

"I will tell you, then," he said, fixing his eyes on her face for a moment. "I was comparing myself to Adam after the Fall."

"What a singular idea, Mr. Chester," she cried with a ripple of laughter. "What made you conceive such a notion?"

"It is not singular at all, Miss Fell, but quite natural. If you knew anything of the last year of my history——"

"I do know something of it," she interrupted.

"You know?" he was looking keenly at her now.

"Yes!"

"Who told you?"

"Nellie Graham. Mr. Grantley told her; and you told Mr. Grantley, I suppose."

"Then you will understand why I compared myself to Adam. His sins resulted in expulsion from Paradise, my misfortunes have banished me from Eden."

"Eden?" she murmured in an interrogative tone.

"Society such as I have enjoyed to-night," he exclaimed. "I had no right to come here this evening. I shall never come again. The Earthenware Pot can only expect to get broken by coming in contact with the Brass Vessels. You understand, Miss Fell?"

"I understand, but I do not at all agree with you," she returned. "According to what you say there ought to be little friendship and certainly no intimacy between those who are poor and those who are wealthy. Because a man is unfortunate should all his friends ignore him; and because a man falls ought he to forget all those whom he knew in more prosperous days."

George was looking straight before him through the glass roof of the conservatory into the moonlight. Diana had half relinquished her reclining posture and was regarding him with her soft eyes.

"But you must admit, Miss Fell," he replied, "that a night like this has its dangers for a poor fellow. Take my own case as an example. Here I am now disporting myself as if I were possessed of a fortune like Grantley; where shall I be to-morrow? In the office at the foundry. Will the work be easier to-morrow on account of to-night's pleasure? No! It will be all the more difficult and irksome. I was a fool to come! A fool! I was growing contented with my poverty! Now, I shall be more discontented than ever."

He spoke in a sad despairing sort of way that went straight to the girl's heart. She understood his feelings, and in a vague manner she realised that she herself was connected with his despair. He regarded his poverty as an insuperable gulf between them.

"I cannot tell you, Mr. Chester, how deeply your misfortunes have pained me. But there may be better times in store for you. I feel sure there are. A man like you can conquer circumstances and win a fortune of your own. Why shouldn't you? I know you will!"

There was a world of tenderness and hope in the girl's softly uttered words, and for a moment he regarded her intently. Then she lowered her face suddenly, and he spoke.

"To conquer circumstances, Miss Fell, may not be so easy as you imagine, and the better fortune, which you are good enough to predict for me, will come, if come it ever does, too late! Too late!"

"Too late?" she asked in a soft whisper.

"Yes. Too late, unless it comes to-morrow."

"Too late for what?" she asked again. She knew well enough of what he was thinking, but for her life she could not have avoided the question.

"Do not tempt me to speak more plainly, Miss Fell!" he cried. "If you do not divine my meaning already it is better I should say no more. I should perhaps only pain you by speaking."

Again she spoke, but it seemed to her that her heart and not her tongue framed the words.

"Speak. You cannot pain me. Tell me what you mean."

Her voice died away in a sweet whisper, and George Chester's heart seemed to leap in his throat. She had bade him speak! Could she know what was surging through his heart and brain at that moment?

Her faint words and the tone of them was ringing in his ears; he seemed to see Diana through a mist; his head whirled, and the passion within him rising to fever heat melted all further self control.

"Miss Fell—Diana! Do you know what you ask me to do?"

He had arisen and was standing before her, his face pale as her white arm, although his mind and soul were ablaze. She was lying back over the couch, one gloved hand pressed to her bosom, the other covering her eyes. But she said no word in response to his low, impassioned question.

"I will speak, then!" he said bending a little toward her. "Fortune, come when it may to me, will come too late if you are then another man's wife. You know now what I mean! There is something I will not say. I am poor. That closes my lips."

Diana's hand dropped from her brow and the moonlight flooded her perfect face. Their eyes met, and then the girl's love was revealed to him!

"Diana! Diana! Can it be possible that you love me?"

In answer she flung her arms around his neck and began to cry a little on his breast. George's strong arms closed round her, and with a low cry of joy he drew her to him. Then they kissed each other again and yet again with the fervour of newly declared lovers.

For some moments neither George nor Diana spoke. Their joy was yet too sacred to break in upon it with words. How often in after years of sorrow did each of them remember that night in the conservatory at Mansell Place.

"What will your parents think of your love, Diana?" George said at length. "Of course, I do not expect them to sanction our engagement!"

"Mamma may when I tell her all; but I'm afraid papa will not."

"Would it not be well for me to mention it to Mrs. Fell to-night?"

"Oh, no! Leave me to tell her to-morrow; and then I will write to you and say how she takes it. That will be best——"

"Here are Grantley and Miss Graham."

There was a sound of approaching feet, and a moment later their friends came up arm in arm and very joyous, having been doing a little love making on their own account.

"I thought we should find you here," said Nellie; "but Mr. Grantley would persist in looking about the lawn and shrubberies for you. It is so beautiful outside, Diana."

"It was pleasant enough here, dear," Diana rejoined, with a loving glance at George.

Then they all returned to the drawing-room.

(To be continued.)

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Sporting Items

PIGEON FLYING AT CORNSAY.—On Saturday, afternoon, a pigeon match from Whitehouse to the Dove Cotes, Cornsay, for £5 was successfully brought off—distance 1½ miles. Result:—Gally's Gorst, 2¼ min, 1; Clark's Scotch Lad 2 min. 22 sec. 2. W. Minto was stakeholder and referee.

ANGLING IN WEARDALE. — The Weardale and Shildon Water Co. have had a hatchery fit up at the Tunstall Reservoir, and on Thursday week they got their first lot of Lock Leven trout-ova. The eggs are hatching first-rate, and if mild weather continues, the whole lot will be out. If the Wear Angling Association carry out their project and get some real salmon for the Wear, there ought to be some fine fun soon.

BILLIARD HANDICAP AT USHAW MOOR. — A billiard handicap at the Reading Room, Ushaw Moor, has just been concluded. The conditions were 100 up, the highest start given being 60 points. About thirty competitors entered. The following was the result:—T. Proctor, scratch, 1; J. W. Russell, 20 start, 2; R. Dixon, 25, 3.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT SWALWELL.—The pigeon shooting handicap promoted by Mr Charles Massey, commenced on Saturday, in a field adjoining the Clavering Arms, Swalwell. There was a numerous attendance. Scores:—Rover, 21 yards, 1 1 1; Nutbush, 20, 1 1 0; Dam Bridge, 19, 1 1 0; Nimrod, 21, 1 1 1; Byker, 21, 1 1 0; W. G., 20, 1 1 1; Ben, 20, 0; Little Mat, 20, 1 1 1; Spider, 22, 1 1 1; Stankley, 22, 1 1 1; Ralph Taylor, 20, 1 1 1; Forge Hammer, 20, 1 1 1; Jos. Black, 21, 1 1 1; Byker, 2nd lot, 1 1 0; Minnie, 21, 1 0; Nutbush, 2nd lot, 0. The handicap will be resumed. Ed. Massey, score-keeper; M. Massey and R. Brown, trapped; C. Massey, handicapper and referee.

SPARROW SHOOTING AT SPEN.—On Saturday afternoon there was a large attendance of spectators in a field near to Mr Errington's, Bute Arms, Spen, for the purpose of witnessing a sparrow shooting match between John Hall and John Robinson, both of the Spen. The conditions were 18 yards rise, 50 fall, 1oz. shot, each competitor being allowed 15 yards, for £10 a-side. Scores:—Robinson, 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1—8; Hall, 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 0 0—5. William Lawson trapped for Hall, and James Bell acted in the same capacity for Robinson. Mr Cawthorne officiated as referee and stakeholder.

ALL-ENGLAND PIGEON SHOOTING AT QUEBEC.—The great All-England pigeon shooting, to which Mr W. Brown added £5 to a 5s sweepstake, was decided in a field near the well-known hostelry of Mr John Cockerill, Hamsteels New Inn, Quebec, on Wednesday last week. There was a very big company present, and some first-rate shooting was witnessed. The competitors were handicapped at from 18 to 25 yards rise, with 60 yards fall, single guns 1¼oz., and double guns 1½oz. shot, and Gun Club rules in force. The birds supplied were of A 1 quality. George Parker was score-keeper, Thomas Jones and J. Robinson, trappers, and W. Hunter, referee. Score: Stanley, 22, 1 1 1 0; T. Heads, 20, 1 0; Seaton, 21, 1 1 0; Hill Top, 21, 1 0; Kelloe Putter, 19, 0; Sunderland, 23, 1 1 1 0; Gun Up, 19, 0; V. Pointer, 19, 1 1 0; Harrogate, 23, 1 1 1 0; Miss Carr, 20, 1 0; Do-It-Well, 19, 1 1 1 1; Turner, 22, 1 0; New Inn, 21, 1 0; Gilpin, 20, 1 1 1 1; Surtees Hotel, 20, 1 1 1 1; Pin Fire, 19, 1 1 1 1; Little Tom, 20, 0; Murton, 21, 1 0; Clifford, 20, 1 1 0; Esh, 21, 0; Far Hand, 19, 0; Seaton Hotel, 19, 1 0; Quarry House, 19, 1 0; Annie, 22, 0; Sawdust, 23, 1 1 1 1; Our Home, 20, 1 0; Spider, 22, 1 1 1 1: Seaton, 21, 1 1 1 0; Gilpin (2nd lot), 20, 0; Haswell, 23, 0; Bren Stone, 18, 0; Puss Puss, 19, 0; Sawdust (2nd lot), 23, 1 1 1 1; Watson, 23, 1 0; Tichburn; 19, 0. Seven of the 35 entrants divided.—Subsequently two other sweepstakes were shot off, each of them being divided amongst three competitors.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT IVESTON.—The great All-England pigeon shooting handicap, promoted by Mr T. Hunter, who added £3 to a 4s entrance at the house of Mr L. Stoker, New Inn, Iveston, was shot off on Saturday, when a very good company was present to witness some first-rate shooting. There was 33 entries, and eight competitors with six birds down divided the states. Scores:—Leadgate Park, 19, 1 1 1 0; Elm Park, 18, 1 1 1 0; Do-It-Well, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 0; Bill Wilson, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1; Marley Hill, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1; Hill Top, 21, 1 1 1 0; Jake, 19, 0; R. Pace, 23, 1 0; Iveston, 20, 1 1 1 0; Kidney, 23, 0; Ghost, 20, 1 1 1 1 1 0; Fat Hand, 12, 1 1 1 1 1 1; Clifton, 19, 0; Bill Wilson (2nd lot), 1 1 1 0; Pin Fire, 19, 1 1 0; Change Shifts, 19, 1 1 1 1 0; Butter Man, 20, 0; Grape Shot, 21, 1 0; Gester, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1; Black Horse, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1; X.X., 19, 1 1 1 1 1 Burnhill, 23, 1 0; Weekly Scraps, 18 0; Kelso, 23, 1 0; Paul Jones, 19, 0; Burnhill (2nd lot), 1 1 1 0; Our Louie, 19, 0; Rapp, 20, 1 1 0; J. Maddis, 20, 1 1 1 1 1 0; Hats Off, 19, 1 1 1 1 1 1; Tip the Button, 19, 0; Burnhill (3rd lot), 1 1 1 1 0; Butter Man (2nd lot), 1 1 1 1 1 1. Thos. Laverick was score-keeper, Thos. Reed trapped the birds, and W. Hunter was referee.

WOLSINGHAM HARRIERS.—There was a only a poor muster on Saturday, and the heavy state of the country roads soon told on the staying powers of those who took part in the run. N. Hadown and T. Hume were hares, and with eight minutes start got clear away, and were never within hail of the hounds. The hounds lost the trail, and thus what would have been a quick run occupied an unusual amount of time. J. Haydon and Taylor were first in. The distance was about four miles.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FOOT HARRIERS.—The meet was at Mosswood on Saturday, there being a good gathering of followers. Having tried the Carr's plantation, a hare was got up at the corner of a pasture field, and ran up the Greenhill Bank to the Mountain Wood. On returning to Greenfield Bottoms a check was put on the hounds in the wood. Running down towards the river Derwent a foil was once more gained, and pussy was brought to bay close to Greenfield, a splendid run having lasted some three-quarters of an hour.

SHOOTING MATCH AT CASTLESIDE.—A pigeon shooting match took place on the Castle Hills, Castleside, between Adam Toward, Thos. Lester, and John Robinson, all of Castleside, each at eight birds. There was a fair company of spectators. Robinson killed five pigeons out of eight and won. Lester shot three, while Toward missed all his birds. R. Woodward acted as referee, while M. Esh was trapper.

PRUDHOE AMATEUR GUN CLUB.—The second shoot of the season in connection with the above club took place in a field near to Broomhouse, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr John Bell. Mr Huntingdon ably discharged the duties as referee, and the trapping was executed in a like manner by Mr Setterthwaite. Scores, first miss out:—John Lee, 20 yards, 0; John Robson, sen., 17, 1 1 1 0; John Robson, jun., 17, 1 1 0; Wm. Brown, 21, 1 0; Thomas Dodd, 20, 1 1 1 0; T. Wright, 20, 1 1 1 1 0; Ed. Shotton, 24, 1 1 1 1 1; Jos. Cook, 21, 0; A. Hedley, 0. Shotton, although at scratch, shot in grand form, killed all his birds, and secured first prize. Wright, whose last bird fell dead a few yards out of bounds, was second; and Robson, sen., and Dodd divided third money. The club promises to become very popular in the neighbourhood, several new members having been enrolled during the week.

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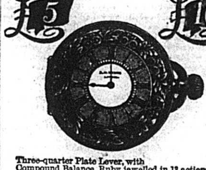
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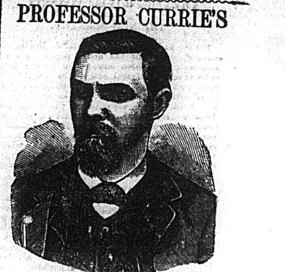
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TESTIMONIALS.

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

A MINISTER'S TESTIMONY.
The Manse, Wallsend, May 28th.
DEAR SIR, — I am able to testify that James Kennedy was suffering from long-continued Rheumatic Pains, and that through your South American Embrocation, as he informs me, he is now feeling better, and is able to attend to his ordinary duties.
Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM STUART,
Minister of the Presbyterian Church of England Wallsend-on-Tyne.

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

DYSPEPSIA.

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

DYSPEPSIA.

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

SCIATICA PAINS.

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

LUMBAGO AND SCIATICA.
16, Low Westwood, by Ebchester,
County of Durham.
DEAR SIR,—I have suffered (more or less) for 20 years from Lumbago and Sciatica Pains. Many remedies I have tried in that time, and some have remedied the pains, but my legs were always quite dead and numb. But after using one of your 4s bottles of South American Embrocation and Pills the pains and deadness were quite removed. I have praised your Pills and Embrocation to others, and I will ever praise them.—From your well-wisher,
WILLIAM TWENTYMAN.
Professor Currie.
P.S.—You can make use of my name as you like.

ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.
82, Argyle Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne,
February 23rd, 1889.
DEAR SIR,—Having being a life long suffer from Asthma and Bronchitis, I can testify to the fact, that your South American Mixture and Pills is the best remedy I have ever used, and I shall never be without them. I know many others who have derived the same amount of benefit from their use.—Yours gratefully,
WM. HARPIN.

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

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THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

THE NEW SCENERY.

For the past six weeks, Mr R. J. Brodie, the energetic lessee of the above popular place of amusement, has been engaged in adding to his stock of scenery several new cloths and sets. In order that the work should be done properly and in an artistic manner, the sevices of Mr F. D. Woodford, scenic artist, from the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, have been retained with most satisfactory results. Amongst the additions are the following:—A wood-scene which can be used either separately or as a background to what is technically known as a "cut-wood" with wings to match. These two scenes which together represent a view of

BURNHAM BEECHES IN KENT,

are splendid, the blending of the colours displaying true artistic merit. There is moreover a Japanese drawing-room setting the ground-work off. The walls are in turquoise blue, with doors on either side in black and gold, the moulding being in black relieved with gold panels and interspersed with flower work, whilst Japanese fans and articles of terra cotta are hung around the walls. This is without doubt

THE PRETTIEST SET

that has ever been seen on the Consett stage, and is alike creditable to artist and lessee. Another developes a street scene of the Elizabethan period with its quaint old-fashioned houses and shop fronts, besides a modern street scene. A chamber cloth in crushed strawberry tint—this can be used either as a front cloth or will form a backing for another scene. A cut chamber with Spanish marble columns and gold Corinthian caps, &c. Last, but certainly not least a new act drop depicting a view of

LINLITHGOW CASTLE BY SUNSET.

This is a most beautiful picture and gives evidence of having been done by a master hand. It is surrounded by a gold frame, with blue satin drapery and cords and tassels to match. In addition to all these, wings and borders have been painted to match the various scenes; the proscenium wings and borders especially are works of art. The

NEW ACT DROP

was shown for the first time on Saturday night, and was the admiration of a very large audience. So satisfied is Mr Brodie with the abilities of Mr Woodford that it is his intention to still further increase his stock of scenery, and thereby make our local temple of Thespius worthy of the name of "Theatre Royal."

BLACK DIAMONDS.

A crowded house greeted the production of *Black Diamonds* by Mr Warwick Gray's Company on Monday night at the Theatre Royal, and from the hearty applause accorded the various artistes one may fairly assume that the drama had "caught on." It is

AN EXCELLENT PLAY,

and well deserving the high enconiums already passed upon it. In the third act, a splendid climax is reached when Nelly Leigh suddenly recovers the use of her limbs and speech, and in the fourth act the rescue of the entombed miners rouses the audience to a pitch of enthusiasm rarely met with. The story of *Black Diamonds* briefly told is as follows:—A certain Mark Denholme, a wealthy Bombay merchant, has a stepson, Cyril Staker, who for years has been squandering his stepfather's wealth in vices of every kind. Satisfactory promises of reform not being forthcoming, he is led to understand that he is disowned from that night. Denholme makes up his mind to

LEAVE THE WHOLE OF HIS PROPERTY

to his sister, and with that intention commences to draft a will, but ere it is finished he is interrupted by the entrance of Jack Flynn, a true sailor, who at one time knew Denholme's sister. From him he learns that his sister is dead, but has left two orphans—Hetty and Nelly Leigh, the latter of whom has been paralysed of limb and speech for some years. Denholme therefore writes out a new will leaving

ALL HIS WEALTH TO HIS NIECES.

The finished will he puts into his pocket as he leaves his room. Shortly after Staker enters, and finds the draft of the completed will. While reading it Belle Conquest, a woman of the world, enters, having had an assignation with Staker. Learning from him that he is disowned, they conspire together to

MURDER DENHOLME.

Bell leaves, promising on her return to bring with her a strong Indian poison, after which Staker sets about robbing Denholme's safe. While in the act of breaking open the cash-box, Denholme enters and seizes Staker, but in the dark does not recognise that it is his stepson. He cries for assistance, and in the struggle that ensues Staker stabs Denholme and escapes through the verandah. Denholme's Indian servant, Rangit, now enters, and seeing

HIS MASTER IS MORTALLY WOUNDED,

takes the will from him, and swears an oath according to Brahmin to deliver it safely in England. The second act brings us to England, whither Staker has arrived diguised as a Jew pedlar in search of Rangit, whom he suspects of having a finished will. Rangit enters with Jack Flynn, and from their conversation Stakes learns that Rangit has

SUCH A WILL IN HIS POSSESSION,

which he is to put into the hands of the Rev Philip Dale, rector of Gaythorne. Staker encounters one, Stephen Harris, an overman of Gaythorne Pit, who enters into an agreement with him to get the packet from Rangit before it reaches the rector's hands, Staker on his part agreeing to assist Harris in securing the hand of Hetty Leigh. The second scene in this act introduces us into a village inn on pay-day—viz., "The pitman's welcome"—where Jack Flynn has arrived with Rangit. Jack, sailor-like, stands treat all round with the result that Rangit is very soon completely "gone." Staker, who has been in the room all the time, proposes as a good joke that Rangit should be

TAKEN DOWN THE PIT

while unconscious. Harris backs up the idea, the miners take to it, and shortly afterwards Rangit is carried out. Jack, who had left the room, returns too late to prevent this, and after a row with Staker the curtain descends. The third act opens with an interior scene of the house of Mary Tattersall, a poor seamstress, where Hetty and Nelly Leigh have resided since their mother's death. Mary and Hetty having gone out on business, Staker enters the cottage and

POISONS THE CONTENTS OF THE TEAPOT

unobserved as he thinks, but all the while Nelly Leigh, who is lying in a curtained bed, watches him, but being paralysed is unable to speak. When Hetty Leigh, the rector, and the others return, and are preparing to take tea they observe that some mental struggle is going on within Nelly Leigh, who all of an instant is seen to rise from the bed, stagger forward, dash the tea pot from the table, and screaming "it is poisoned" sinks to the floor. In the fourth act

AN EXPLOSION

is supposed to have taken place in Gaythorne Pit. The rector reports the pit on fire, the rescuing party he was with having been driven back. Staker is there also, and on being told that there is no hope of any one being got alive feels sure that Rangit and the will are gone, and will never come to light again. He sets off for India to enter into the enjoyment of old Denholme's wealth. Shortly after he has left, word is brought that the

ENTOMBED MINERS

have been heard of in the direction of some old neglected workings. Headed by the rector, a rush is made for the old workings, a rescuing party formed with the result that all are rescued, including Rangit, who has the will safe in his possession. The last act takes us back to the late Mark Denholme's residence in Bombay, whither Rangit has returned, and having discovered it was Staker who had

MURDERED HIS MASTER,

Staker dies by the hand of Rangit. Hetty Leigh having already married the rector, she is restored to her rights, and every one is made happy again.

The whole of the company acquitted themselves with great credit and although it would it would be invidious to individualise still in justice we must mention the names of Mr A. D'Esterre Guinees (Ayril Staker), Mr W. F. Lyon (Rev Philip Dale), Mr Alfred Ronsby (Michael Flynn), Mr Kendal Hurson (Jack Flynn), who in the second act sings "Miss Hooligan's Christmas cake" with great effect, Miss Amy Lyon (Belle Conquest), Miss Helen Cresswell (Hetty Leigh), Miss Mary Emery (Peggy), and Miss C. Brannan (Victoria Reginia Flynn), the dancing of this little lady being highly appreciated. Those desirous of a real treat should pay a visit to the Theatre this week.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, January 26th.—Before H. W. WATSON, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Moran (53), and *Alfred White* (39), were found guilty of being helplessly drunk at Consett, on Saturday night, and were fined the sum of 5s each and costs, or go to prison for 7 days.

DESERTING FROM THE SCOTTISH BORDER REGIMENT.

Wm. Largue, a young fellow of 22 years, a native of Maryport, Cumberland, was brought up charged with deserting himself from the Scottish Border Regiment, while stationed at Portsmouth, in October 1888.—P.C. Crabb deposed to recognising prisoner from the description given of him in the *Police Gazette* at the time, and he apprehended Largue while dining in Mr Fewster's Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, on Saturday evening. He engaged a trap, and brought the accused to the Consett Police Station.—Prisoner pleaded guilty, and was remanded to Durham to await a military escort.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 28th.—Before Colonel F. F. SHEPPEE (chairman), and H. W. KERRICH-WALKER, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

The undermentioned persons were fined for being drunk and disorderly:—

Isaac Agar, *Henry Hunter*, and *Emmanuel Pickles*, Chester-le-Street, 5s and costs; *Thomas Dobinson*, Chester-le-Street, and *James Wardle*, Birtley, 7s 6d and costs; *Annie Taylor*, Chester-le-Street, and *John Mason*, Birtley, 10s and costs; *John Grimes*, Birtley, 12s 6d and costs.

PUGILISTS IN TROUBLE.

William Connolly and *Charles Richardson* were charged with fighting at Chester-le-Street, on the 17th inst.—Bound over to keep the peace for three months in the sum of £5 each.

HE WOULD KILL HER.

Luke Reay was charged with threatening to murder Sarah Moxom, at Chester-le-Street, on the 17th inst. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Complainant said that defendant came to her house, and threatened to kill both her and her husband. From his threats, witness was afraid of her life. He challenged her husband to fight.—A daughter of complainant corroborated this statement.—P.C. Cowen said that he was called to Moxom's house, and found some of the furniture broken. He did not see defendant, but knew that Mrs Moxom had been a good neighbour to defendant.—Bound over to keep the peace for four months in his own recognisances of £5.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Joseph Sowerby pleaded guilty to a charge of refusing to quit the licensed premises of Charles Barnes, at Pelton, on the 17th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

DAMAGE.

Patrick Reynolds and *Charles Docherty* pleaded guilty to a charge of damage preferred against them by the Birtley Iron Company.—Fined 1s and costs.

ASSAULT.

Lancelot Taylor was charged with assaulting Martha Allison at Birtley, on the 17th inst. Mr Thos. Lambert (Gateshead) appeared for defendant.—Complainant said that as she was going up the lane from Chester-le-Street to Birtley, defendant spoke to her. She told him to go on. Instead of going away he struck at her.—Cross-examined; She had been at Chester-le-Street, and had had some drink there; but she knew what took place. A man was with her. It was not true that some men saw something take place on the road. Several men were on the road at the time; some of them exchanged blows. The man who was with her was "drunkey," but knew what he was doing. She did not know defendant, and had not previously spoken to him.—Mrs Richardson said she heard a noise on the road, and went out to see what was taking place. She saw complainant in company with a man; complainant did not make any complaint to her that she had been assaulted.—John Hunter and John Elliot gave evidence, and swore that they were with defendant at the time of the alleged offence, but did not see any assault committed upon complainant.—Other witnesses were called in support of the defendant; and after hearing the case, the Chairman said that sort of thing was far too common. Girls could not walk in safety on the roads at night; they did not like to complain, but it was very well that they should. Defendant would be fined 20s and costs.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "CASTLESIDEITE."]

A very pleasant evening was spent in the Primitive Methodist School-room on Saturday night, under the auspices of the Band of Hope. The chair was taken by Mr J. Ripley. The following artistes took part in the entertainment;—Miss Stokoe, Rowley; Messrs G. Mackey and G. Swailes, Shotley Bridge; J. W. Golightly, F. B. Raine, J. Bewick, Miss Collings and Meggie Pattinson, Masters W. Jewitt and R. Jewitt, and Band of Hope choir, under the able leadership of Mr T. Raine.

The friends at Rowley had a very fine entertainment and supper on Saturday night. The musical and vocal parts were rendered by the Misses Fairley, Craghead; and Miss Raine, Stanhope. Readings were given by Mr J. W. Golightly, Castleside, and Master Bryant, Consett Junction. Recitations were given in a very able style by Mr W. Thompson, Castleside. Mr John Oliver, Burnhill, was chairman. The supper, which was well patronised, was given by Mr A. Angus and Miss Angus, Healeyfield, and realised a nice sum.

The Primitive Methodist Band of Hope choir, with a few friends, gave an entertainment in the Wesleyan New Sunday-school, Leadgate, on Saturday night, travelling to and from Leadgate by brake. As the night was intensely cold, it might have been an advantage to have walked.

Mr J. Downs, Dean Howle, celebrated his 50th birthday on Tuesday, by entertaining a number of friends to tea and supper. The evening was spent in games, songs, and chat. Mr Downs received many presents and good wishes as tokens of respect.

A special meeting of the Healeyfield and Rowley School Board was held on Wednesday night in the Board-room, for the purpose of considering the teaching staff and appointment of a teacher, but as no applications had come in from advertisements in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*, *North-Eastern Gazette*, *The Schoolmistress*, and *Consett Guardian*, it was decided to advertise again in the above papers, advancing the offered salary of £35 to £40 per annum for an assistant master or mistress. There seems to be a scarcity of female teachers in the market.

That old customs and practices live long and die hard is the common experience of northern village life. We have often endeavoured to console ourselves with the thought that old-fashioned sports were dead and done with, only to be remembered as pastimes and relics of a past dark age, but our hopes for the present seem to be shattered and blighted, for sparrow and pigeon shooting is becoming quite a craze in the village like a fever germ hid away in some corner or cobweb only waiting an opportunity to develop and spread sorrow and death in our homes, so coarse is this sport that has made its appearance among us again.

On Saturday, the report of musketry was again heard. A stranger passing might have thought that the Noodles were on drill, as some of the pigeons reached the dovecot after as many as five, six, and seven barrels had been emptied at them, and never lost a feather.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

AT "THE MESSIAH."

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

If there is one thing I regret in the above heading it is the omission, one alas, for which I am at any rate not responsible, of the words Consett Choral Society. True it is that in themselves as words only they count for little. As a name they count to me as much, and this in spite of the depreciation placed upon "a name" long years ago by a certain poet of recognised genius, whose personality through his works is known to most of us. This pen has from time to time striven hard for some two years or more for the retention in our midst of this once useful Choral Society. It cannot be said that the present writer has left a stone unturned, or, perhaps more properly speaking, a pencil unsharpened that might be directed towards the accomplishment of the desired end. All my readers are well aware of my efforts in this direction and whatever they may think of the ill-success of our endeavour so far, which to say the least can scarcely be called a selfish one, there may not unlikely be a few who share in my sanguine idea that by-and-bye the resuscitation of the Choral Society and its re-establishment on a firm basis will become an accomplished fact. At any rate I promise you that as far as lies in my power nothing shall be left undone to achieve that end. Mr Charles Stephenson, with praiseworthy energy, having failed to gather up the forces of the old society in sufficient strength, developed the idea of giving a performance of the "Messiah," with the assistance of singers from various quarters in the district from Annfield Plain and Catchgate to Consett, Blackhill, and Shotley Bridge, with most gratifying results. A capital chorus had thus being gathered together, and with the assistance of singers from Newcastle and Gateshead, including some members of Dr Rea's choir, sang the various choruses with much acceptance. The professional vocalists engaged for the occasion were:—Miss Henrietta Tomlinson, of Leeds (soprano); Madam Marie Bellas, of Newcastle (contralto); Mr T. H. Armstrong, of Newcastle (tenor); and Mr T. Lewis Campion, of Durham Cathedral (bass). The orchestra, led by Mr J. Beers, was supplied by Mr J. H. Amers, of Newcastle, for the most part and was a very complete and effective one. It was made up as follows:—First violins: Mr J. B. Beers (leader), Mr E. Fenwicke, Mr G. Stephenson, and Mr C. Ridley; second violins: Mr C. Hornsley, Mr J. Liddell, Mr Reed, and Mr J. Robson; violas: Mr W. Bell and Mr Buckland; cellos: Mr M. Magall; contra basses: Mr F. Hirchman; flutes: Mr J. Parker; oboe: Mr G. Watson; clarionette: Mr R. Smith; bassoons: Mr T. G. Sneath and Mr Swinburn; cornet: Mr J. Monkhouse; tympani: Mr R. K. Vinycomb; organist: Mr G. H. Erskine; and Mr C. Stephenson conducted.

Let me first refer to the work of the choir. At the outset I am not disposed, I may say, to be hypercritical, and indeed even if it were otherwise there was so really little to find fault with in regard to the choir's work that my duties would be light if I allowed myself to "pick holes," so to speak. One must have regard for surrounding circumstances, and allowances must be made for the fact that the choir, gathered as its members were from so many and such divided districts, had not the opportunity of many rehearsals in combination. It may be at once granted that this was a pity, and pity it certainly was, but in that all complaint must end. The circumstance was one which Mr Stephenson was not able to avoid, and it is a matter for congratulation that in spite of what he had to face, both the conductor and his choir passed through the ordeal most creditably. Except that the balance of voices might perhaps have been better, and the orchestral accompaniments here and there a trifle modified and toned down, there is little room for adverse comment.

There was a crowded and fashionable audience—and a critical one to boot—the applause from which, often so generous, testified undoubted approval and appreciation of the singing of the choir. The efforts which met with most genial recognition were, of course, the more familiar of the choruses—"And the glory," "O, Thou that tellest," "For unto us," "All we like sheep," and "Hallelujah" coming in all for special recognition.

The orchestra, as was only to be expected, gave a good account of itself right through, the sympathetic treatment of the "Pastoral Symphony" being worthy of a special word of praise. I could not help feeling, however, that it was a thousand pities local musicians were not more generally in evidence on the platform. Why is this?

Miss Henrietta Tomlinson is the possessor of a sweet though light soprano voice, and gave her various numbers with much taste. "Rejoice greatly" was nice in finish, and altogether well rendered, evoking much admiration. "Come unto Him" was equally well done, and narrowly escaped an *encore*. Madame Marie Bellas was in charming voice, and sang with delightful, sympathetic feeling, "He shall feed His flock"; and later, "He was despised," with, if anything, still better finish, securing a hearty re-call. Her efforts throughout the evening, as well as those of Miss Tomlinson, were greatly appreciated. Mr T. H. Armstrong was most successful, and created a very favourable impression with "Comfort ye" and "Ev'ry valley," and was indeed happy in everything he did. Mr T. L. Campion, notwithstanding that he was suffering from a severe cold, which militated greatly against him, sang with much power "Thus saith the Lord" and "But who may abide," and his "Why do the nations?" caused quite an ovation. I ought to mention specially the rendering of that delightfully sweet and favourite solo, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," which was Miss Tomlinson's supreme effort, and so excellently was it given that, but for the lateness of the night, a repitition would have been insisted upon.

Mr Ridley Heymer, as secretary, has been indefatigable in his labours, and the same may be said of Mr Sheffield.

Taking it for all in all, the concert proved quite a success from an artistic point, and if financially matters show equally happy results, there will be room for hearty congratulation right round.

I had hoped to subjoin a brief sketch of the composer, but space forbids, and I must of necessity hold this over for a future occasion.

TANFIELD SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held at Tanfield on Wednesday evening. There were present Messrs H. C. Wood (chairman), M. G. Armstrong, T. W. Asquith, W. Braidford, jun., Wm. Bulmer, T. Colquhoun, J. Green, and the clerk (Mr W. H Ritson).

THE NEW SCHOOLS AT EAST STANLEY.

Mr COLQUHOUN reported that the committee appointed at the last meeting had gone through the specifications for the East Stanley Board School, and with a few trifling items, which the architect could be consulted about, they recommended their adoption.

The points in question having been discussed with Mr Bundle (Messrs Davidson and Bundle, Newcastle), the plans and specifications were approved.

The architects were directed to obtain tenders for the work, to be laid before the next meeting in February.

A NEW SCHOOL FOR TANFIELD LEA.

A letter was read from the Education Department sanctioning the opening of the school-room attached to the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Tanfield Lea for an infants' school temporarily.

I twas decided to open the school at the beginning of April, provided satisfactory arrangements could be made with Messrs Joicey and Co., and the trustees of the Wesleyan Methodist Society.

TRANSFER OF LINTZ COLLIERY SCHOOLS

Further correspondence with Mr John Shiel for the transfer of the Lintz Colliery School to the Board was read, and eventually a committee, consisting of the Chairman, Messrs Braidford Green, and Colquhoun, was appointed to meet Mr Shiel at the schools.

The Committee was also authorised to consult Mr Bernays, H.M. Inspector, as to the suitability of the buildings for Board Schools.

PROPOSED NEW BOARD SCHOOLS FOR BURNOPFIELD.

To meet the deficiency of accommodation in the Burnopfield district, a new Board School at Burnopfield Colliery was suggested, and a committee of the whole Board appointed to meet at Burnopfield Colliery on Wednesday, February 18th, to determine as to the most suitable site.

A SCHOOL SITE AT WEST STANLEY.

A letter was read from Mr N. Clark, saying that the necessary permission had been given by the trustees of the Beamish estate for the sale of land at West Stanley for a school site.

Ordered that Mr Clark be requested to proceed with the conveyance of the land as soon as possible.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT.

The following report was read from the Attendance Offices:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Tanfield School Board.

GENTLEMAN,—Annexed herewith is a table showing the attendance at the schools in your district for the quarter ending Christmas last. The number of children over five years of age on the registers is 2,227, and the average attendance 1,772·2, or 79·62 per cent. The figures, as compared with the preceding quarter, show an increase of 24 on the registers, and a decrease of 26·7 in average attendance. The decrease may to some extent be attributed to the inclement weather we have experienced and to the prevalence of the whooping cough and measles.

On the 7th inst., I made a house to house visitation of the new houses at East Stanley, and found the number of children between five and fourteen years of age to be 86. Of these 29 were attending Stanley National, 18 Stanley St Joseph's, and 20 at Pitt Hill Church Schools respectively. Six are at work and thirteen were not attending any school—viz., six, who it is stated, are unable to attend, and seven who had just shifted there. Five of the houses were then still unoccupied.

Apart from the above, I have made 464 absentee visits during the month, including the visits made respecting 37 children who were not attending any school—viz., 34 who recently moved into the district, and three who have lately attained school age.

Twenty-five bye-law notices respecting 43 children have been served as under—Lintz Colliery 3, East Stanley 10, Shield Row 1, West Stanley 3, Burnopfield 2, Tantobie 1, Upper Lintz 1, Tanfield Lea 3, and Clough Dene 1.

Thirty cases embracing 47 children are entered in the report book for your consideration and direction.

I am gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM WARD.

Iveston, January 28th, 1891.

Attendance at the elementary schools in the district of Tanfield School Board during the quarter ending Christmas, 1890:—

Number on Register.	Average Attendance.	Name of School.	Number on Register.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance.
Children under 5 years of age.			Children over 5 years of age.		
15	3·0	Stanley St. Joseph's.	236	178·0	75·85
15	10·0	" National	648	509·0	78·55
—	—	Causey British	121	105·4	87·11
22	8·0	Burnopfield F Ch.	138	112·0	80·58
26	18·4	" National	227	194·0	85·46
12	7·0	Lintz Colliery	265	209·0	78·88
—	—	Tanfield National	182	145·5	80·00
9	3·0	" Infant	117	89·0	76·06
6	3·7	Flint Hill	292	231·2	79·21
105	53·1	Total	2,227	1,772·2	79·62

Percentage of attendance of children under the age of five years 50·57.

The Board then adjourned.

THE ALD. JENKINS' TESTIMONIAL PORTRAIT.

We learn that the representative committee chosen in July last to promote a testimonial to Ald. W. Jenkins, J.P., of Consett Hall, on the completion of his 21 years' connection with Consett and district, have commissioned Mr Geo. Reid, R.S.A., of Edinbro', to paint a portrait of the worthy manager of the Consett Iron and Steel Works, while Mr Bright Morris, of London, will execute the portrait of Mrs Jenkins. It will be remembered that in October last, Ald. Jenkins was entertained to a banquet and presented with an album of the views of Consett in commemoration of the event.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 29th.—Before Councillor J. ANNANDALE, Esq. (chairman), Col. E. LEADBITTER-SMITH, J. W. WALTON-WILSON, Esq., W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq., and WM. GREEN, Esq.

THE ONLY DRUNK.

Wheatley Bell was charged with being drunk and disorderly at West Stanley, on the 17th inst.—Failing to appear, he was fined 7s 6d and costs, or seven days hard labour.

A BIG BATCH OF GAMBLERS.

Matthew Palmer, *George Humble*, *Geo. Davison*, *Richard Piper*, *Jacob Holiday*, *Thomas Green*, *John McDyne*, *William Regan*, *William Murphy*, *William Henderson*, *Michael Hope*, *James Hope*, *John Holiday*, *Thomas Henderson*, *Robert Wilson*, and *William Rutherford*, miners, were summoned at the instance of P.C. Vickers for playing at pitch and toss on a back public road leading from West Stanley to Craghead, at 3·30, on Sunday afternoon, on the 11th inst. The officer was concealed, and watched the gamblers for nearly a quarter-of-an hour. On disclosing himself, however, the men ran off.—Piper, Green, Murphy, Henderson, and Wilson, who neglected to attend, were fined 7s 6d each and costs, with the option of seven days imprisonment; the rest of the offenders were mulcted in penalties of 5s each and expenses.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

George William Clark was summoned by his wife, Annie Clark, for having assaulted her at West Stanley, on the 10th January.—When the names were called, there was no response by either party.—P.C. Vickers explained that the couple had been quarrelling for a long while. Defendant had broken up his house, sold the furniture, and finally absconded. When Mrs Clark came to his house on the preceding night, and stated that she would not appear, witness told her that she would be bound to do so.—The case was dismissed, complainant having to pay costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE AND GAME TRESPASS.

John Wright and *William Dodds*, of Consett, were summoned for causing wilful damage to a stone wall, to the amount of 2s 6d each, the property of Mr T. R. Dolphin, Dyke Nook Farm, and also with trespassing in pursuit of conies and rabbits on Mr Dolphin's land, on the 12th Jan.—Dodds admitted being guilty of both offences, while Wright pleaded not guilty.—James Usher, a game watcher, said that he saw the defendants ranging fields on the estate of Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., The Woodlands, with a couple of dogs. They raised two rabbits, which escaped. Defendants then pulled some stones off the wall on Mr Dolphin's farm, and on entering one of the fields, raised another rabbit, which they killed.—Dodds declared that the witness never saw Wright touch the wall, or on Mr Dolphin's farm.—Wright asserted that he was only in Mr Sanderson's field at Oliverford. They were just out for a walk. They alleged that witness was on his "hunkers" pulling down the wall, and they were blamed for the damage.—A gamekeeper stated that Wright had frequently ranged these fields with dogs.—The magistrates said it had become a regular practice to pull down these stone walls, and they were determined to put a stop to it. Defendants were fined 5s each, 2s 6d damage and costs for pulling down the wall, and 10s each and expenses for the game trespass—£1 18s in all.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

The following parents were proceeded against by Mr John Gibson, on behalf of the School Attendance Committee for the Lanchester Union, and were dealt with as below:—*James Campion* Hedley Hill (adjourned case), dismissed; *Joseph Storey*, Malton Colliery (certificate produced that the child was being attended by doctor on date of annual inspection — 8th January), dismissed; *John Gillighan*, Burnhope, order made for child to attend St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Schools, West Stanley; *William Mann*, Burnhope, fined 5s; *John Humble*, Burnhope, 5s; *Charles Middleton*, West Stanley, 5s; and *Martin Regan*, Lanchester, 5s.

CONSETT READING AND RECREATION ROOMS.

The annual meeting of the members took place last (Thursday) night, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Aynsley. There was a pretty good attendance.—The election of officers and committee for the ensuing year resulted as under:—President, Ald. W. Jenkins, J.P.; vice-president, Mr Wm. Aynsley; treasurer, Mr T. L. Gledstone; auditors, Messrs Robt. Forster and S. Brodie; committee, Messrs G. Ainsworth, C. P. Douglas, R. Evans, R. Park, J. Scott and G. T. Hyden (chosen on behalf of the Consett Iron Company); Messrs James Oliver, T. W. Welford, J. Petherick, M. Brodie, C. Lumley, Wm. Eales, Jas. Kelly, J. Pescod, T. Milner, C. Routledge, R. C. Foster, and Joseph Askew.—The annual report presented by the secretary (Mr Adam Brodie) for the half-year ending December 31st, was as follows:—

"Your committee, on presenting their report at the end of another half-year, are pleased to state that the Institute still continues to progress, and the receipts for the period under review are fairly satisfactory, although the arrears of subscriptions—a list of which is appended hereto—stands at present at £14 14s 6d, which is rather less than at last half-year. Sixty-five volumes of books have been added to the library during the half-year, for which there has been a great demand, and a still further supply is greatly needed. In conclusion, your committee respectfully urge on the members to forward the progress of the Institution by inducing as many of their friends to join as they possibly can.

(Signed on behalf of the committee)

WM. AYNSLEY.

The financial statement showed a balance of £18 0s 4d in hand.—On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Supt. Oliver, the report and balance sheet were adopted.—Pursuant to notice, Mr Geo. Ainsworth proposed that general rule 17, specifying that a meeting of the committee be held every month be altered, and that the under "That the committee meet once every two months or oftener for the despatch of general business" be substituted.—This was seconded by Supt. Oliver, and after a brief discussion the motion was carried.—Votes of thanks to the chairman for his services during the past year closed the proceedings.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

CONSETT ALBION v BLAYDON ALBION.—This match will be played at Blaydon to-morrow (Saturday), when the following will do duty for the Albion:—Goal, J. Carruthers; backs, W. Bell and R. Harkness; half-backs, C. Ternent, T. Skelton (capt.), and T. Dunn; forwards, J. Brady and W. Atkinson, left wing; E. Carlill, centre; T. Watson and W. Wake, right wing.

CONSETT COGGING MILL ROVERS v BURNHOPE.—These teams will meet on the Consett Rugby Club's ground to-morrow (Saturday). The following are expected to play for the Cogging Rovers:—Goal, Geo. Taylor; backs, A. Kempster and P. McKie; half-backs, J. Lowes, J. Westgarth, and J. Williams; forwards, A. McWilliams and W. Sheldon, right wing; J. Campbell, centre; B. Butler and W. Oliver, left wing.

LANGLEY PARK ROVERS v PELTON FELL HARRIERS.—The above teams will meet at Langley Park to-morrow (Saturday). The following team will represent the Rovers:—Goal, Thos. Newton; backs, G. Foster and R. Rutter; half-backs, J. Pickering, J. Agar, and E. Shorten; forwards, C. Jackson and T. Dixon, right wing; H. Monsey, centre; J. Iveson and J. Gott, left wing. Umpire, Mr T. Rutherford. Kick-off at 2·30.

LANGLEY PARK ROVERS 2ND v PELTON FELL HARRIERS 2ND.—This match will be played at Langley Park to-morrow (Saturday). The home team will be as follows:—Goal, W. Potter; backs, J. R. Moss and J. Vickers; half-backs, H. Ardley, J. C. Elliott, and J. Newton; forwards, G. Jackson and J. Shorten, right wing; J. Plews, centre; G. Dunn and W. Jackson, left wing. Umpire, Mr J. Vickers. Kick-off at 3·45.

BLACKHILL PARK v LEADGATE PARK JUNIORS.—To be played at Blackhill to-morrow (Saturday), when the following will represent Blackhill:—Goal, J. Cooper; backs, F. Kampster and A. Atkinson (capt.); half-backs, N. Newbold, E. Tindle, and J. Walton; forwards, J. Butler, J. Brown, H. Tindle, M. Devaney, and W. Leybourne.

DERWENT COTTAGES RAMBLERS v LINTZ MERRY ROVERS.—To be played at Lintz Green to-morrow (Saturday). The Ramblers will be represented as follows:—Goal, J. Marrs; backs, J. Wilson and W. Walton; half-backs, O. Riley, G. Millhouse, and J. Pattinson; forwards, H. Glasgow, R. Walton, H. Marrs, R. Wilson (capt.), and T. Snowdon.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

FIRST ROUND.

DIPTON WANDERERS v TANFIELD LEA.—These teams will meet in the above competition to-morrow (Saturday), at Tanfield. The game should be a keen and close one, as, judging from their previous match, the teams are on very even terms. The following team will represent the Wanderers:—Goal, R. Freek; backs, J. Walker and A. Tuson; half-backs, R. Press, E. Buck, and W. Bowes; forwards, W. Turner and I. Gilliard, right wing; J, Leadbitter, centre; D. Crozier and T. Walker, left wing. Kick-off at 2·30.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v LEADGATE EXILES RESERVE.—These celebrated Reserves have been drawn together in the first round, and will play off their tie to-morrow (Saturday), at Consett. The Park will be represented by the following team:—Goal, J. Day; backs, E. R. Walker and Wm. Foreman; half-backs, T. Stephenson, G. Brown, and T. Kennedy; forwards, J. Brown and J. Todd, right wing; F. Jackson, centre; J. Snowdon and J. Haggerstone (2), left wing. Umpire, Mr A. Graham.

HEDLEY HARRIERS v ETHERLEY.—These teams will meet at Stanley to-morrow (Saturday) to decide their tie in the Junior Cup. Although the home team have a strong eleven to face in Etherley, they intend to do their best to pull off the match. The following team will represent the Harriers:—Goal, R. Potts; backs, Rowell and Benson; half-backs, Harrison, Forster, and Sewell; forwards, Brydon and Brown (capt.), right wing; Theobald, centre; Jas. Harrison and Dixon, left wing. Reserves, Hennessey and Johnson. Umpire, Mr Turnbull.

LEADGATE EXILES v MEDOMSLEY.—The meeting of these two old opponents in the first round of the Durham Junior Cup will take place to-morrow (Saturday) on the Exiles' ground. All former encounters have been of the keenest and closest description. Great enthusiasm is centred in this match, as the teams have not previously met in a cup-tie. The partisans of both clubs are looking forward to a rattling good game.

MEDOMSLEY v DIPTON WANDERERS.—After our football columns were "made up" and on the machine, we received the following report of the above match, which we have been compelled to condense somewhat, from the Medomsley secretary:—These teams met at Medomsley. The visitors won the toss, and elected to play with the advantages of wind and hill. Notwithstanding these disadvantages, the home team pressed, Taylor and Campbell sending in grand shots, which must have scored against a less able custodian than Freek, who was the salvation of the Dipton team. From a mis-kick by one of the home backs, the visitors gained a corner, which Charlton unfortunately headed through his own goal. Soon after Dipton scored again, Little slipping in trying to save. The home team played up, and Campbell sent in a fast shot which, striking the cross-bar on the under side, re-bounded into play. W. Cant met the ball and sent through. Abbott put in a rasping shot, which Freek cleared splendidly. At half-time the score was—

Dipton ....Two goals
Medomsley.......................One goal

The home team had now the advantages of wind and hill, and were soon swarming around their opponents' goal, and except for three solitary runs by T. Walker and Gilliard, the visitors never left their own goal—the Medomsley goalkeeper never once handling during the second period. Taylor, with the best shot of the match, placed the scores two each. Campbell added a third, and W. Cant a fourth, the final result being—

Medomsley.......................Four goals
Dipton ....Two goals

SHOOTING MATCH.—On Wednesday afternoon, a pigeon shooting match for a supper, was shot off in a field granted by Mr J. Towns, innkeeper, Lanchester, between two teams of six men respectively captained by Mr J. Cockerell, Hamsteels, and Mr W. Hunter, Witton Gilbert. Mr Cockerell's party won quite easily. Afterwards, the company partook of an excellent supper at Mr Rutherford's, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester.

THE ALPINE CHOIR.—Professor Andre's Alpine Choir has been visiting Wolsingham this week, and drawing large companies under the auspices of the Wolsingham Mechanics' Institute.

CONCERT AT HARE LAW BOARD SCHOOLS.

Another concert of a high-class character was brought off on Monday evening, in the Board Schools, Hare Law, in aid of Collierley Church decoration fund. The promoter was Mrs Swallow, of Bushblades, who was assisted by others. The spacious building was filled with the *elite* of the district. The artistes for the occasion were:—Misses Fairley, Craghead; Mitchell, Kyo; Swallow, Bushblades; Rev J. A. Bridges, Tanfield; Drs Roe and Duncan, Catchgate; Messrs Stout, South Shields; G. Arkless, Annfield Plain; J. W. Thompson, South Shields; W. S. Telford, Hare Law; and Marshall, South Shields. The programme commeneed with a trio on the violin, violincello, and piano, by Messrs Thompson, Stout, and Marshall, and was a rich treat. The selection given was one of Hadyn's, and was thoroughly appreciated. The song, "At the fountain," by Miss Fairley was well rendered. Mr Duncan with his rich voice executed in good style the song "The beacon," and received the approbation of all present. The violin solo "Air Varie," by Mr J. W. Thompson was exceptionally well performed, and loudly applauded. Rev J. A. Bridges gave a capital rendition of the song, "True till death," and was awarded an enrapturous re-call. In response he gave a representation of a cornet solo, and performed very successfully the well-known piece, "Love's old sweet song," to the amusement of all present. The ingenious manner in which this gentleman acquitted himself was decidedly novel and fresh, and caused a fund of merriment. The song "Listen to the voice of love" was most splendidly given by Miss Swallow, who proved herself to be an excellent singer. She was the recipient of an enthusiastic *encore*. The quartette, "Pro Phundo Bass," by Messrs Duncan, Roe, Telford, and Arkless, was productive of roars of laughter, and the efforts of these gentlemen secured for themselves a re-call. Rev J. A. Bridges next favoured with the recitation, "The defence of Lucknow," which he gave in a pleasing manner. In response to an *encore*, he recited "The German butcher." Misses Swallow and Mitchell received a similar compliment for the manner in which they rendered the duet, "Wandering in the Maytime." Dr Roe and his banjo were great favourities with the audience, and for his skilful rendition of "Killaloe" received an *encore*. Messrs Stout and Marshall opened the second part with the instrumental trio, "Largo," and was followed by Miss Mitchell with "Love's old sweet song," which she gave in a very creditable manner. This was Miss Mitchell's *debut*, and her singing was received with many manifestations of approval by the audience. Dr Duncan next gave "The ligth-house keeper" very creditably, after which Mr Stout favoured with a solo on the violincello, which he accomplished in an able manner. Miss Fairley came in for a large share of applause for her song, "The old and young Marie." The quartette "The doughtie men" by Messrs Duncan, Roe, Telford, and Arkless was followed by Rev J. A. Bridges with the recitation "The revenge," who displayed his vintriloquial powers to advantage. Miss Swallow, who possesses a voice of excellent quality, next rendered, "Maytime," in a manner that won for her an enrapturous *encore*. The duet, "Money matters" by Miss Fairley and Mr Arkless, was enthusiastically received, and was re-called. Dr Roe concluded the programme with his song "He did and he didn't know why" with banjo accompaniment, which was well taken with. In acknowledging a re-demand, he gave "Amateur yachtman." The singing of the "National Anthem" concluded the enjoyable proceedings. Mr Marshall acted as an efficient accompanist during the evening.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

CONSETT—Buddle Street, 19th inst., the wife of John Cusick, of a daughter.

Palmerston Terrace, 27th inst., the wife of John Harwood, of a daughter.

BLACKHILL—Baxton Burn, 27th inst., the wife of C. W. Nicholson, of a son.

MEDOMSLEY—24th inst., the wife of Matthew Pattison, of a son.

26th inst., the wife of John W. Jamieson, of a daughter.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES—17th inst., the wife of Robt. Webster, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BLACKHILL—St. Aidan's Church, 24th inst., Fred. Moss to Annie Maria Oliver, eldest daughter of Edward Oliver, both of Blackhill.

LANCHESTER—Register Office, 24th inst., James White, Leadgate, to Janet McKean, Shotley Bridge—Same day, Robert Gardner to Elizabeth A. Freek, both of Dipton.

BURNOPFIELD—St. James's Church, 26th inst., by Rev James Madill, John Edward Spoor, third son of Joshua and Ann Spoor, to Mary Isabella Southam, only daughter of Wm. G. and Isabella Southam.

STANHOPE—Wesleyan Chapel, 21st inst., by Rev J. Dickinson, Ralph Craggs to M. J. Ridley, daughter of Mr R. Ridley, farmer, of Stanhope.

CHESTER-LE-STREET—Parish Church, 22nd inst., by Rev H. H. Birley, William Anderson to Mary Ann Musgrove, only daughter of George Musgrove, both of Pelton Fell.

STOCKTON—Parish Church, 15th inst., by Rev H. C. Milward, Francis Lea Milward, curate of Chester-le-Street, to Isabella, daughter of the late T. G. Craggs, Esq., of Sleigh's House, Stockton.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—37, Front Street, 29th inst., aged 37, Ann, the beloved wife of William Leonard. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery on Sunday afternoon, at Two o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation. 875d

WESTWOOD—25th inst., aged 15 years and 4 months, John Edward, son of George and Mary Ann Armstrong.

LANCHESTER—(At the residence of his son-in-law, George Buckham), aged 79, John Telfer, of Hedley Fell, Stocksfield.

LANGLEY MOOR — 20th inst., aged 21, Henry Wetherill.

22nd inst., aged 41, F. Schellenberg, late of Consett.

BURNOPFIELD — Syke Lane, 20th inst., aged 22, Hannah Maria, daughter of James Flood.

WATERHOUSES—28th inst., aged 76, John Gray. Interment at Waterhouses on Saturday next, at Three p.m. Friends, please accept this intimation. 850d

ESH NEW WINNING—17th inst., aged 11 years, Frances, daughter of John Taylor.

HAMILTON ROW—17th inst., aged 45, James High, checkweighman.

STANHOPE—26th inst., aged 26, Titus, son of Mr T. Dalton, yeast merchant.

SWALWELL—26th inst., aged 36, Henry Illey.

PELTON—East House, 24th inst., aged 35, William Robert Rotherford.

ANDREW'S HOUSE—21st inst., aged 37, Mary, wife of John Newton.

PRUDHOE—24th inst., aged 62, William, husband of Mary Ann Stewart.

BLAYDON—21st inst., aged 77, Joseph Waugh, late of Allendale.

RYTON—Oakfield, 28th inst., in his 70th year, Robt. Nicholson.

In loving memory of my dear mother, Dorothy Carr, of Iveston Red House, who died January 30th, 1890.

"Gone from sight, but still to memory dear."

GEORGE AND J. HOPE,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN MARBLE STONE, AND GRANITE,
CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL, AND BURNOPFIELD.
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