The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 685. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} SATURDAY, January 31st, 1874. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

BIRD'S EYE RETURNS.

DICKINSON,
TOBACCO MANUFACTURER,
22 AND 24, BIGG MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 23b

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

Valuations effected for Probate, &c. 227c

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

BRIAR ROOT AND MEERSCHAUM PIPES.

HORN SNUFF BOXES.

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

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

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

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

JUST FORFEITED.—First-class Gold and Silver Watches, by the best makers, Gold and Silver Alberts, Guards, Wedding and Fancy Rings, at about half the original cost.—J. Taylor, Pawnbroker, 10, Broad Chare, Newcastle. 749c

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WHITELAW'S CELEBRATED INDIA PALE ALES, and MILD EDINBURGH ALES. Offices and Stores: 23, Waterloo Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. WILLIAM MIDDLEMASS, Sole Agent.

McEWAN'S CELEBRATED EDINBURGH ALES AND INDIA PALE ALE,

Are daily rising in public estimation.
Newcastle Stores and Offices—
Fountain House, Charlotte Square.
843 JAMES C. McINTOSH, Agent.

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

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

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

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

Terms—Cash. 679a

FUNERAL ECONOMY.

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

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

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TO PARTIES FURNISHING.

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

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

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

All Orders punctually attended to. 172d

WILLIAM WILKINSON,
FURNITURE BROKER & HARDWAREMAN,
CATCHGATE,

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

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

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

OBSERVE THE ADDRESS—
OPPOSITE THE TOWN HALL, CATCHGATE.

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

☞ Buyers of the above, within a radius of twelve miles are allowed third-class railway fare 795a

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Business Announcements.

ITALIAN WAREHOUSE,
AND GENERAL GROCERY AND PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT.

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

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

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

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

☞ *ORDERS FROM THE COUNTRY PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.*

NOTE THE ADDRESS—

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

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

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

Books of Prices of upwards of 200 varieties of Wines & Spirits forwarded on application

WINES

	Per Bott.	Per Doz.
Castle VP *Pale* MARSALA SHERRY *from Sicily, 3 years old*	1/4	16/
Castle 1A *Pale* SHERRY *from Spain, 3 years old*	1/6	18/
Castle 1 SPANISH PORT *from Spain, 2 years old*	1/3	15/
Castle 1A PORT *from Portugal, 4 years old*	1/9	21/
Castle A CLARET *from Bordeaux, 4 years old*	1/	12/
Castle 1 CHAMPAGNE (Sparkling) *from the Champagne District* Quarts	2/5	29/
Pints	1/5	16/6

SPIRITS

	Per Bott.	Per Doz.
Castle UP UNSWEETENED GIN 33 *under proof*	2/	24/
Castle UP IRISH WHISKEY 33 *under proof*	2/3	27/
Castle UP SCOTCH WHISKEY 33 *under proof*	2/3	27/
Castle UP *Pale* BRANDY 33 *under proof*	2/3	27/
Castle D *Pale* COGNAC BRANDY 33 *under proof*	3/	36/
Castle UP JAMAICA RUM 33 *under proof*	2/3	27/

W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT & LEADGATE

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

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

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

Business Announcements.

INDIAN TEA.

(From the "Weekly Chronicle.

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

Mr. Stewart, while pointing out the superior strength of Indian Tea, surmises that the Chinese plantations are becoming exhausted, to account for the weakness of their teas; but this is hardly the reason. The Assam indigenous plant is in appearance, in luxuriance of yield, and in the strength of its produce, vastly superior to the China tree. We have plenty of both in our plantations—the former being a fine large shrub with broad light green leaves, and the young shoots of quite a silky softness (the China plant is much smaller in size and in leaf); the latter being hard and dark coloured, and it yields not more than two-thirds of the indigenous out-turn. Now, here, tea made from the China plant sells at from 4d. to 6d. per pound lower than that made from the Assam plant on account of its weakness, although the conditions of manufacture are identical; and I think Mr. Stewart and your other readers will see that it is not hard to touch the real reason, i.e., natural inferiority of plant.

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

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

Yours truly,
J. F. W. W.

Annfield, Debrah Doon, January 9th, 1872. 589b

CONSETT STEAM PRINTING WORKS.

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

EVERY description of LETTERPRESS PRINTING executed in the first style of typography, with accuracy and despatch, on the most reasonable terms.

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

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

B. MOODY
WATCH-MAKER, EBCHESTER. 708t

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

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

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

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

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

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

IMPROVED CONCRETE FLOORING.

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

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

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

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE, 35, CLOSE.

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

NORTHERN FIRE & LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.
Established 1836.

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

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

HOBSON & LEDDELL,
[illegible] (opposite the Central Station Hotel),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 715

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

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

PROPERTIES of every description disposed of at reasonable terms.

Houses wanted in town and country to rent and purchase.

Estates managed and collected wherever situated.

Loans on property effected. 684c

THOMAS LONGSTAFF,
WINE, SPIRIT, AND ALE MERCHANT,
"Masons' Arms,"
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,

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

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

---

JOSHUA LAX,
FURNISHING IRONMONGER,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,

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

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

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

LEVER AND GENEVA WATCHES at All Prices.

GOLD AND PLATED JEWELLERY in great Variety.

GOLD AND SILVER ALBERT CHAINS of the latest Style.

WEDDING RINGS.

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

Jewellery neatly repaired, and done on most reasonable terms.

Country Orders Attended to

Poetry: Original and Select.

A DREAM OF THE FUTURE.

With prophet eyes the future dim, I scan, there roll away
The mists of error in the glorious dawn of reason's day:
The sun of peace arises, never more its light to wane,
A golden halo shedding over every land and main;
No more the direful war cry wildly rings beneath the skies,
The bloody sword is sheathed, in strife no more it shall arise;
The holy balm of love, like perfume from a trampled flower,
From human hearts arises, making earth an Eden bower.
The slave's deep wail is hush'd now, like the ransomed ones above,
Their chains are bands of universal brotherhood, and love,
The world's great heart is melted by that truth, whose light sublime
Alone the grain can golden for that happy harvest time,
When peace, and love, o'er all the earth immortally shall bloom,
And Paradise is opened up on either side the tomb.
LABOURER.
Jarrow Paper Mill.

SEANCE FOR CICERO.

Arise, O Marcus Tullius, from Elysian shades below,
Or else descend from the higher spheres where all good niggers go.
We cite thee from the Spirit World with not an idle aim;
Instruct us how to speak in full, as thou wast wont, thy name.
Our scholars are agreed that we should talk the Latin tongue
By no means as we used to in the days when we were young.
But, since in what particulars they somewhat disagree,
Come thou, and teach us how to say the native A B C.
Not all alike their vowels Latin races do intone;
And variance makes their consonants no models for our own.
French can't, nor can Italians, talk exactly as did you—
They differ from us Britons; from each other differ, too.
We "pater" rhyme with "mater"; both with "tater:" did you that.
Or in "mater," *a* as *ah* sound, and in, "pater" as in "Pat"?
We make *i* the same in "ira" as we do in "swipes" or "smite:"
E in "ejus" as in "Eton"—are we wrong or are we right?
As *u* in "Tuesday" we pronounce in "tu" did ye profess,
To *t* in the penultimate gave you e'er the sound of *s*?
With modern priests of the Roman Church for that's the usual way,
Was it as *g* soft as *y* you spoke the letter *j*?
Materialise thyself and speak thy lesson or expound
By raps on the mahogany which we are sitting round,
Was your *c* hard, or was it soft, above all, please to show,
And tell, O tell us, if we ought to call thee Kikero.

—*Punch.*

Varieties.

Extracts from PUNCH.

The Ship which the Duke of Edinburgh has now given up.—The Court-Ship.

The great Church for Funeral Ceremonies in the Metropolis ought evidently to be Saint Pall's.

A LIBEL ON THE PARTY.—No one, not even their opponents, can say that the Conservatives are cowards. What, then, is the meaning of a Company started to publish a "Craven Conservative Newspaper?"

NOT IN SHAKSPEARE, BUT HISTORICAL.—When Birnam Wood was reported as coming to Dunsinane, *Macbeth* inquired, sarcastically, if "Every tree was bringing its own trunk?" The first instance on record of a Scotch joke.

A TRUE WOMAN.—Mrs Malaprop reads every word that is written about the Royal and Imperious Marriage. Like most of her sex, she is particularly interested in the descriptions of the ladies' dresses and twilights. Having often heard of "Siberian crabs," she sent to her fishmonger on the day of the wedding for a nice one, but he could not oblige her.

DIES MIRABILIS!
Friday, January 23, 1874.

A Union.—Prince Alfred married to the Russian Grand Duchess Marie.
A Dissolution.—Mr Gladstone appeals to the country, and goes to Greenwich. Mr Disraeli foresees a Diz-solution of the difficulties.
Leicester Square presented to the public, as a *Gift*, by A. Grant.
Mr Whalley, M.P., committed to prison for Contempt of Court. Takes a dose of Holloway.
All this in one day! No wonder that this is a most unusual sort of winter.

Extracts from JUDY.

SO MUCH CONSIDERATION, TOO!—*Mrs Goodsoul* (to lodger, who is very fond of borrowing different things). I am going out to-day, Mrs. Nixon, so if there's anything you think you will want I will give it you now.—*Mrs Nixon*: Oh, pray don't trouble yourself the least bit about me. I know where your pantry is, so I can help myself to anything I may require.

Extracts from FUN.

One Who is often Under a Cloud.—The Photographer.

HARD TIMES.—How can anyone be happy in hollow seventy-four.

[illegible] in the Eye.—The real *Tapis Vert*. Spirit-rapping.

To Dispense with a Retriever.—See that your gun carries well.

ANNUS MIRABILIS.—It may generally known that all additions to our ironclad fleet launched during the current year will be '74-gun-ships.

NOT WANTED.—The ex-King of Naples has taken up his quarters in Paris in the suburb of Saint Mande. He is not likely to be *demanded*.

JAM SATIS.—We are told that the author of "Dame Europa's School" is about to publish "The House that Baby built." Autobiographies are very rarely interesting!

A SUGGESTION FOR POLITICAL RECONCILIATION.—If Mr Gladstone were to go up in a balloon, would he not probably become Dizzy? If Mr Disraeli were to go up and stay up, might he not act in accordance with "the People's Will"?

THE SECRET OF POLAND'S MISFORTUNES.—Why cannot the Poles get on? [illegible] Because they ought to be distributed North and South.

CURIOSITY IN [illegible].—It is probable that an attempt will shortly be made to badger the Chancellor of the Exchequer into the repeal of the Malt [illegible].

Why should a Cotton Lord be successful on the turf?—Because [illegible] beaten in a spin.

THEATRICAL NOTE.—*Nett* profits are generally the result of a good "*cast.*"

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

London was startled from its propriety on Saturday morning, as the provinces will have been, by the sudden and unexpected announcement of a dissolution of Parliament, just as public attention was, between the royal marriage and the Tichborne case (or cases?), entirely diverted from political matters; notwithstanding the near approach of Parliamentary Session. I can vouch for it that in the very best-informed quarters nothing was known of the intention of the Ministry until Friday evening, and that it came as a complete surprise upon journals devoted to Mr Gladstone's Government. The reasons assigned by the Premier, in his address to his Greenwich constituents, for the step thus precipitately taken, are the weakening of the Government by the vote March last upon the Irish University Bill, and the further deterioration of their position "during the recess, especially the latter part of the recess." But people will maliciously say that the principal object the Ministry have in view is to escape a decision on the Taunton election petition, while Mr Gladstone is also anxious to avoid a full discussion of his position in reference to his seat at Greenwich. The delay of the dissolution until the present time, within a little more than a week of the time appointed for the commencement of the Session, gives colour to the allegation with regard to Taunton; but your readers must form their own judgment; I only tell them what people say here. It will surprise a great many people, almost as much as the sudden dissolution has done, that in putting forward his future policy Mr Gladstone only mentions the Education Act and Household Suffrage in counties, to deprecate proximate legislation on these matters, though his own personal opinion on the latter question was sufficiently well-known after his reply to a deputation upon the subject the other day. As for the new programme of the Ministry (not necessarily of the Liberal party), the country is offered legislation for reforming judicial establishments in Ireland and Scotland and admitting them to the advantages of the new Court of Appeal; for the local government of London; for the application of University property and income; for regulating the transfer, descent, and occupation of land; for settling the relations between employers and employed; and for readjusting local rating and Government. But it is especially upon financial matters that Mr Gladstone claims confidence, on account of his own personal career, and the policy of Government.

One of the leading topics of the day is of course *the* marriage; but what can I add to the long-winded, descriptive, graphic reports of what did or did not take place before, during, or after the marriage ceremony in St. Petersburg? Our own rejoicings here in London were not specially remarkable, the only specially interesting feature about the occasion being the patriotic liberality of Mr Henry Neville in opening free to the public pit, ampitheatre, and gallery of the Olympic Theatre of which he is the enterprising lessee. The wretched weather (and the weather seems to have been worse at St. Petersburg) and the mud marred the enjoyment to be found in that pastime. We are perhaps reserving ourselves for the return of the happy couple, as I sincerely hope they are and will be.

The Tichborne case is in itself probably the most marvellous trial that ever took place in the world's history. Whatever may be the immediate result of the trial, I venture to assert, without fear of contradiction, that it will be unsatisfactory to a large proportion of the community. Whether he be declared guilty or not guilty, there will be many, many thousands who have read the voluminous evidence who will believe the contrary. But this great trial is not only marvellous in itself, but for what arises out of it. The subsidiary trial of Jean Luie is full of strange episodes, even so far as the preliminary proceedings have gone. And then the riotous proceedings about Palace Yard, culminating in the arrest of four persons—two of whom are now undergoing imprisonment in default of bail—form a curious addendum to this *cause celebre*, a hackneyed term which was never more applicable than now. Above all, the extraordinary tenacity and pertinacity of Mr Whalley, M.P., and his laying himself open on more than one occasion to a charge of contempt of court, are remarkable. For the last few days Mr Whalley has been of more public interest than the Claimant himself. This was especially shown on Friday, when there was an unusually large crowd of people in the precincts of the Court of Queen's Bench, and when the court itself was crammed as soon as it was open, many people who had tickets of admission having to go away ungratified; when people were once in, they kept in. All eyes were directed to Mr Whalley when he entered the court, and the gentleman who excited only less interest was Mr Hollingsworth, the proprietor of the *Peterborough Times*. The arguments, however, were very dreary and too technical and legal for sustained interest; but when the Lord Chief Justice, after the judges had laid their heads together for some minutes, in an ominous style, commenced his judgment on this trial within a trial, everybody listened with breathless interest. When his lordship terminated by imposing a fine of £250 to the Queen, and to be imprisoned till the fine be paid, there were audible murmurs of disapprobation in several parts of the court, though luckily for himself, no unhappy wight shaped his dissatisfaction into words. On the reception of this news by the public, I must not comment. We may say what we like verbally, but writing is another matter. Mr Whalley himself is a moral and a caution to us all.

Mr Albert Grant has done a public-spirited act in purchasing the interests of the owners of the enclosure of Leicester Square, and offering the ground to the Metropolitan Board of Works for the benefit of the public. This open space has long been a grievous eye-sore in a central and important district of London, and many of us had come to despair of its fate, even though the Court of Chancery had ordered the removal of the hideous hoarding round the enclosure used for advertising purposes. Of course, the reference of Mr Albert Grant's letter to the Works Committee of the Board will be followed by grateful acceptance of his munificent offer.

The [illegible] ladies are persistent in advocating their claims [illegible] suffrage assure us that their movement is progressing favourably. *C'est possible*, but, for my own part, I have never had the good fortune or the ill fortune, whichever it may be, to meet with a lady who wanted a vote. If the National Society for Women's Suffrage means to succeed, it has a hard and an up-hill road to travel. The *vis inertia* on the part of women is tremendously powerful. Women as a rule do not care for politics, and men do not care for women who do. If a woman takes to politics, she becomes disagreeable, fault-finding, and captious, and this is not what we men folk like lovely women to be. It appears to me that the ladies do not require all that the suffrage would suggest, if not lead to. If they took part in an election, they must lay aside their bewitching smiles and wiles and guiles, it will be hard for them to refrain from bribery, and it would be unpleasant for them to undergo cross-examination as to the influences they may have brought to bear on other voters. But if women are to have votes, why should they not take upon themselves the other duties of citizens? Why should they not be compelled to serve on coroner's juries, common juries, and special juries? Women are becoming doctors. Why not barristers and clergymen? And if women may vote for members of Parliament, why should they not become members of Parliament? And if members of Parliament, why not members of the Government? You see there is a good deal involved in claiming the possession of the suffrage.

Once more a city magistrate has set a good example of judicious severity, in sentencing a Suffolk cattle dealer to two months' imprisonment, without option of fine, for sending a quantity of diseased meat to the London market. It is really astonishing, considering the risk of detection arising from our strict system of inspection, that "respectable" men will thus hazard their liberty for the prospect of a paltry and illicit pecuniary gain. The very consignees to whom diseased meat is thus sent find it to their best interest to expose the offence committed, rather than to become accomplices in it. But this, of course, we owe to rigid inspection and condign punishment of offenders. Without these safeguards, I should be sorry, for one, to put more trust in London salesmen than in country consignors of meat.

Quietly and unostentatiously the work of revising the authorised version of the English Bible is going on, and has already been carried further than most people imagine. Few newspaper readers take much notice of the short and formal paragraphs which appear now and then recording progress made, and from which it might be learnt that the work of revising the New Testament is far advanced, while a recent announcement tells us that the Old Testament Company on Friday completed their first revision of the Book of Psalms, which as everybody knows, carries them into the latter half of their work. But when the revision is completed, there will be some difficulty in giving the same authority to the revised as to the old version, though doubtless their difficulty will somehow be surmounted.

THE WAR IN ASHANTEE.

In a special telegram from Comprashu, January 8, the *Daily News* special correspondent states that the first blood has been shed in Ashanteeland, and the first Ashantee weapons captured. On the 6th Lord Gifford, who now commands the scouts, was pushing on as far as the village of Essiaman, twelve miles beyond the Prah. He saw smoke in the village in front of him, let his men load, and advanced hoping to surprise those within; but the men he had sent round to intercept the retreat of the few holding the village were fired on, and he was obliged to return the fire. Only eight Ashantee scouts occupied the village. One was killed, the rest escaped, leaving two women prisoners. One of our scouts was wounded, five slugs being put into or through him. The women say there are no Ashantees nearer than Quisah. The scouts had, according to their evidence, been down to the Prah on the 2nd of January. They had in fact, accompanied the envoys, who on that day came to Sir Garnet Wolseley, with letters from the King of Ashantee. These letters are said only to show that the King had been kept in entire ignorance of all that has passed. All the captives were well. The letters were addressed to Colonel Harling. The envoys were kept till the 6th, on which day the bridge over the Prah was completed. On the 4th they were allowed to see the practice with the Gatling guns. That night one of the Ashantee escort shot himself. It was said at first that he had done so because he thought we should kill him, and the other envoys declared that they had tried in vain to persuade him that white men did not do so. Afterwards it appeared that he had been so frightened by the Gatling shot that he had said if white men had these weapons resistance was useless. The other envoys said they would report him to the King of Ashantee, and the fear of death by torture made him kill himself. He was buried on the further side of the river, to the great delight of the envoys who were most anxious to have him buried in his own land. Each man threw dust on the body, as in Jewish funeral. On the 6th, at early dawn, the Naval Brigade, which has been here since the 23rd ult., and which marched from Cape Coast Castle without one man falling out was sent some miles on the Coomassie road. Major Russell's regiment, which was at Abrakrompa, had on the previous day moved to Obiasi, eight miles beyond the Prah. These arrangements being made, the envoys were allowed to cross the Prah by the bridge, which had not been begun when they arrived. They overtook the sailors on the march, and, believing that the invasion of Ashantee by white troops was beginning, were unmistakably alarmed. They were most anxious to delay the movement by any possible pretext, promising that the white captives should be returned if the operations were suspended for a week. As far as the first river beyond the Prah (three miles) the road is marshy and bad. Along the road not a few skeletons lay still unburied. A quarter of a mile or so off the road were villages where the Ashantees often in some numbers, had laid themselves down to die, apparently of starvation. In many cases beside the corpse rested the stick which had supported the traveller to the last. The village at Atobiasi had to be abandoned because of the intolerable stench of the dead, and a separate site selected a quarter of a mile off. Great difficulties have been caused by the immense desertions of the native carriers. These Fantees are too lazy to work as well as too cowardly to fight, and would rather be slaves to the Ashantees for ever than carry our loads with good pay for six weeks. But vigorous steps have been taken, the authority of the chiefs has been employed, and the men who have deserted have been turned out of their villages. The two West India Regiments and Wood's Regiment are for the time employed, with extra pay, as carriers, and are doing the work well and cheerfully. We have had only one day's rain since we left Cape Coast.

Mr. Justice Grove gave judgment on Monday on the petition against the return of the Attorney-General for Taunton. He decided that Sir Henery James was duly elected, and ordered the petitioners to pay the costs.

ELECTION NEWS.

NEWCASTLE.

Notwithstanding his recent defeat, Mr Hamond has decided to contest the borough of Newcastle. The election must be a very hurried one, as the Sheriff has fixed the polling day for Tuesday, 3rd February, the nomination day being on Saturday next. Messrs. Cowen and Headlam are prosecuting their canvass.

NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

The writ directing the election of members to represent the northern division of Northumberland was received on Tuesday, and the nomination has been fixed to take place between eleven and one o'clock on Tuesday, February 3, at the Court House, Alnwick, and if there should be a contest the polling will take place on Monday, February 9th.

GATESHEAD.

Mr George Charlton, Mayor, as the returning officer for the borough of Gateshead, has issued a notice fixing Friday as the day on which nominations of candidates will be received. He has fixed Tuesday as the polling day. The candidates in the field are Mr Walter James, (L), son of Sir Walter James, Mr Arbuthnot (L), and Mr R. Forster (C).

TYNEMOUTH.

The Conservatives of this borough were in a state of great excitement on Tuesday at the non-arrival of their chosen candidate, Mr Trotter, from Nice; and towards evening an announcement was made by placard that a meeting that should have been held that night, in the Oddfellows' Hall, and be addressed by Mr Trotter, was postponed. Some canvassing had been done in Mr Trotter's behalf during the day, but the non-appearance of the candidate took the heart out of the party. The various districts of the Parliamentary borough have been canvassed by Mr Smith's committee with very great success. Mr Trotter has retired from the field.

THE HARTLEPOOLS.

On Tuesday afternoon, the address of Mr. Thos. Richardson, the Liberal candidate, was issued to the constituency, Mr. Ralph Ward-Jackson, is the Conservative candidate.

SUNDERLAND.

On Tuesday morning, the writ for the borough of Sunderland was received by the Mayor (A. G. McKenzie. Esq.), as returning officer, and in the evening the official notice was issued fixing the nomination day for Saturday first, and the poll for Tuesday next. The Tory party received their candidate about mid-day with a great parade of red ribbons, and after addressing a meeting held in a sale-room, Mr. Baily commenced his canvass in High Street. Mr. Gourley and Sir Henery Havelock, the Liberal candidates, were approved by a crammed meeting of enthusiastic people in the Victoria Hall that night, and they commenced their personal canvass next morning.

DEATH OF DR LIVINGSTONE.

The chairman of the Eastern Telegraph Company forwards to the papers the following message, received on Monday morning from the company's agent at Aden:—

"Livingstone died of dysentery, while travelling from Lake Bemhe to Unyanyembe. Body embalmed and preserved in salt by his Nassick boys, who are conveying it to Zanzibar, *en route* for England."

The following telegram has been received through Reuter's Agency:—

Aden, Monday:—Dr. Livingstone died in June of dysentery at Lake Bembe, after wading through water for four days. His body has been preserved in salt by his native servants, and is proceeding to Zanzibar.

Dr. Livingstone was born at Blantyre, near Glasgow, about 1817. In his youth he was employed as a factory worker, but having resolved to devote himself to missionary life, he applied himself to the study of medicine and theology, and in 1838 was addmitted a licentiate of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons. He then offered himself to the London Missionary Society for missionary work in South Africa, and, having been accepted, he was ordained to the pastoral office in 1840, and went to Port Natal, where he became acquainted with the Rev. Mr. Moffat, whose daughter he afterwards got married. Between 1840 and 1856 Livingstone made several expeditions into the interior of Africa, the results of which have been described in his "Travels and Researches in South Africa," published in 1857. In 1855 he received the Victoria or Patron's Gold Medal of the Royal Geographical Society. Having in 1856 visited England, he returned to Africa in 1858, and made further explorations. He came to England in 1864, and in April, 1865, again went to Africa, where he continued his explorations until the day of his death. The false rumour of his murder by the natives, and the various expeditions dispatched to search for him and relieve him, are matters which are fresh in the public recollection. Mrs. Livingstone, who accompanied her husband in many of his perilous journeys, died of fever at Shupanga in April, 1862.

The Carlist Band under the Cure of Prades in Catalonia has been dispersed. Railway and telegraph communication between Tarragona and Barcelona has been re-established.

On Tuesday morning, the 6.35 London express from Edingburh to Glasgow ran into a mineral train which was shunting at Manuel Junction, on the North British line, killing 13 passengers, the driver and another railway servant, and wounding the stoker.

THE IRISH "NATIONAL" PRESS ON MR COWEN AND HOME RULE.—The *Irishman* holds that at Newcastle-upon-Tyne "the thin edge of the Home Rule wedge has been inserted into the British representation, and it has "great confidence that the staunch Irishmen of England and Scotland will drive it home with trusty blows well directed." The *Nation* admits that only the extreme Radicals ventured to uphold Home Rule, and that in things concerning the Roman Catholic religion, such men are not satisfactory; but still it cannot but look on Mr. Cowen's election as a matter for "legitimate congratulation," and proceeds to show that—"in dozens of the English manufacturing towns the Irish vote is likely to assert its influence triumphantly on the first opportunity." So confident, indeed, is the writer on the subject that he gives it as his deliberate opinion that the number of Home Rulers elected in Ireland will be "nearly approached, if not equalled by," those elected in England and Scotland.

ENGLISH SYMPATHY WITH GERMANY.—A large and influential meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon in St. James's Hall, London, for the purpose of expressing sympathy with Germany in her struggle against Ultramontane policy. Sir John Murray, of Philiphaugh, took the chair. The Dean of Canterbury was present, and letters of apology, expressing sympathy, were read from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Duke of Richmond, and 337 Members of Parliament. Earl Russell has instructed the chairman to say that he entirely agreed with the object of the meeting. The chairman pointed out that men of all political views and religious denominations were met together for the common purpose of expressing sympathy with Germany, and of rousing this country from her lethargic slumbers. A letter was read from Dean Stanley stating that the policy of the German Government was founded upon principles which had his entire sympathy. The Dean of Canterbury, Mr. Newdegate, Dr. Whittle, an Old Catholic, and Sir Robert Peel moved and seconded resolutions, which were carried unanimously. An evening meeting was afterwards held.

AN APPROPRIATOR OF OTHERS' BOOKS.—Dr. Duncan Forbes had a way of collecting books. He simply stole those he wanted, or, as Mr. Thomas Constable daintily puts it, "he regarded the appropriation of books . . . as a justifiable spoiling of the Philistines." On one occasion he complained to Archibald Constable that his library had been plundered during his absence from home. "Ah, Doctor!" was the rejoinder, "if we all had our own your library would be still smaller!" Dr. Duncan Forbes was not the only visitor at Constable's whose conscience was debauched by the sight of a coveted book. An anonymous individual is noticed, of whom Thomas Constable says, "that whenever he appeared my father received this warning, 'The gentleman with the brown great-coat is in the gallery.'" Other men who were connected with Constable figure unpleasantly among honester colleagues. One of these was John Pinkerton, that "Ishmael among archæologists," whose moral standard was pitched at the lowest level. He not only suppressed but misquoted authorities, had as much audacity as mendacity, passed off a modern ballad for a genuine antique, and, in his preface to his "Dissertation on the Scythians or Goths," had the cool impudence to remark that "In Germany or Scandinavia, if an author were to quote falsely he would go near to bear the character of a scoundrel or a liar."—*Athenæum's Review of Constable's Memorial.*

A WET MORNING IN AN OMNIBUS.—Railway travelling on a wet day is paradise compared with the miseries of travelling by omnibus. How soon they become filled inside, and, how long the time seems while waiting at the corner of the street for one after another as they pass! You may hold out your umbrella and cry "Hi!" till you are wearied. On they rattle, without any notice of your gesticulations, save an ironical thumb pointing to the knifeboard. When at last you are fortunate enough to obtain a seat, what squeezing and pushing before you are settled. When the man in the corner has squared his legs a bit, and the old lady with a large parcel has, with a frown like a thunderstorm, placed it on her lap, and the young lady has finally determined on which side of her you may sit, somehow you get wedged in. But you feel guilty—as though everybody in the 'bus thought you an intruder—and it takes you a few minutes before you can calmly look them in the face. But perhaps it is even worse when there are five on each side, and you desire but one seat. Did you ever know any one to make room for you with a smile, as though they were pleased to do you a trifling courtesy? You may wait, up-standing, holding on by the straps, eyeing one side and then the other, yet no one attempts to move. You can read it in their countenances—"Why should we move? Let the other side get closer together." At last you make a grand effort, and, offending or not, you take your rightful seat. An extra sullenness at once pervades your fellow-seat-holders, which is enlivened only by an occasional grunt until the next passenger comes, and then of course the other side *must* make room; and if it be a stout old gentleman or a woman with a bundle, there is actually a thrill of savage pleasure felt on "our side." Depend upon it, if you are in a 'bus with five on each side on a wet day, and a passenger of small dimensions seeks a seat, it is policy to make room at once, for ten to one but the next comer will be a "whopper." The atmosphere of a crowded 'bus on a wet morning is not stimulating. Damp umbrellas do not emit a refreshing odour, nor soaked leather a perfume to be coveted. Each by itself might be tolerated, but the amalgamation seems against nature, it is so repugnant. In tramway cars, where there is more space, there is much more comfort. I suppose it is nothing but right that conductors should ask the simple question, "*Will* any gentleman oblige a lady?" It seems so rude to refuse, especially if you happen to be singled out as the recipient of the beseeching look of the lady; and perhaps there is no more pitiable sight than a wet old lady with a dripping umbrella wanting a seat in an omnibus. There are three ways of meeting the difficulty: You may harden yourself and be stoical, and pretend to look another way; or you can avail yourself of the box seat, wet cushions as well, and enjoy the drippings from the driver's waterproof cape, and so bring on rheumatism or other dire complaint; or you can jump out with alacrity, pay your fare, receive a thankful look, and—*hire a cab.*—*The City Press.*

ANECDOTES OF BEAUMARCHAIS.—His affair with Clavijo, in 1764, has become famous, as well by his own melodramatic recital, as by being made the subject of a drama by Goethe. Two of his sisters were settled in Madrid—one married to an architect, and one unmarried, but betrothed to a Spanish man of letters, named Clavijo. They were to be married as soon as the gentleman should obtain an employment which he was soliciting, but when this preliminary was fulfilled, and the bans published, he suddenly broke off the engagement in a manner calculated not merely to affect the happiness of the lady, but her fair fame. On being apprised of what had taken place, Beaumarchais hurried to Madrid, and by a combination of energy, coolness and tact, compelled the recreant lover to clear her honour at the expense of his own; nay, frightened or persuaded him into an overture for a reconciliation; and there seemed a fair chance of the marriage coming off after all, when Beaumarchais discovered that the treacherous Spaniard had been intriguing against him, and, by accusing him of a criminal plot had obtained a government order for his arrest and expulsion from Madrid. He had an interview with the minister, managed even to get access to the king, procured the dismissal and disgrace of his enemy, and ended by marrying his sister, with her reputation repaired, and her heart, it is to be hoped, not irremediably damaged, to a fellow-countryman. The importance of the episode, which was over in a month, lay not so much in the circumstances of the direct result as in its bringing him to Madrid, where he stayed a year, engaged in a succession of speculations or projects, commercial or political, and accumulating the materials for the character, manners, and machinery of his plays. He wrote to his father in January, 1765:—"If you have heard of me from any inhabitant of Madrid, you would be told, Your son is amusing himself like a king. He passes all his evenings at the Russian ambassador's or at Lady Rochford's; he dines four times a week with the commandant of engineers, and drives about Madrid in a carriage drawn by six mules. He dines every day with the French ambassador, so that his journeys are charming, and cost him very little. It is in good company, for which I am born, that I find my resources (*moyens*), and when you see the products of my pen you will agree that it is not walking, but running to one object." Among other products of his pen were memoirs on commercial concessions, with plans for supplying all the Spanish colonies with negroes, and all the cities with white bread; for colonising the Sierra Morena, and provisioning the Spanish armies in every quarter of the world. These schemes sound so wild that it is difficult to conceive how they could have been seriously entertained; yet it is clear from the diplomatic correspondence of the period that he was living the life he describes, in constant communication with the ministers, and a favoured guest at the Russian, French, and English embassies. It was no idle boast that he was born for good company, for, whenever it fell in his way, he was received into it, and took to it as easily and naturally as if he had never known any other. With so many irons in the fire, it is no wonder that he sometimes burnt his fingers; "but he returned richer than he himself was aware, [illegible] the lineaments of those so strongly marked and original figures of Figaro, of Rosine, of Almaviva, of Bartholo, of Basile, which, some day or other were to make the glory of his name."—*The New Quarterly.*

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

The news that Parliament was to be dissolved immediately, fell upon the whole country on Saturday morning like the proverbial thunder bolt from a cloudless sky. Alike in London and throughout the provinces the unexpected tidings seem to have occasioned astonishment everywhere, as well as something like dismay among those gentlemen who have been so busy for weeks and months past in premature preparations for a campaign in which they were to be the aggressors. How many telegrams were despatched, and how many members and would be members of Parliament travelled to the towns which they represent during the course of the day, will be among the curiosities of the Post Office and Railway services. As in every town and county constituency in the three kingdoms, the voter will not merely be called upon to give his support to the local candidate who meets his views most nearly, but to decide whether he will have Mr Gladstone, or Mr Disraeli as the future Prime Minister of England, we give the addresses of both those leaders, so that our readers may know what is the distinctive line of each.

MR GLADSTONE'S ADDRESS.

Mr Gladstone's address to the electors of Greenwich is as follows:—

"Gentlemen,—Her Majesty has been advised by her Ministers, and has graciously accepted the advice, to dissolve the present Parliament and immediately to summon a new one for the transaction of the regular business of the year.

"In that new Parliament I respectfully solicit the honour of representing you.

"I am too well aware that in the choice of a person charged, as I am, with official duty, you forego for the public good many special claims which you would otherwise justly make on the time and attention of your representative. This sacrifice, so freely and honourable incurred five years ago, I once again presume to ask at your hands under the circumstances, and for the special purposes which I shall now proceed to describe.

"Of the House of Commons now about to be dissolved, no one will deny the remarkable amount of its labours and of those legislative results which but for untoward and chiefly recent circumstances would have been greater still. I take upon me to affirm that those great labours have likewise been great services, and that they will give to the Paliament of 1868 a distinguished place in the annals of our country.

"It is not to be wondered at, if after five years of anxious and varied effort, the strength both of the House of Commons and of the Administration for the concurrent discharge of their arduous duties has been impaired.

"The welfare of the country can never be effectually promoted by a Government which is not invested with adequate authority. That authority which was in 1868 amply confided by the nation to the Liberal party and its leaders, if it has now sunk below the point necessary for the due defence and prosecution of the public interests, can in no way be so legitimately and effectually restored as by an appeal to the people, who by their reply to such an appeal may place beyond all challenge two great questions—the first what they think of the manner in which the commission granted in 1868 has been executed; the second, what further commission they now think fit to give to their representatives, and to what hands its fulfilment and the administration of the Government are to be intrusted. I will not attempt to set out in full the causes which have convinced the Government that the time has now come for thus appealing to the country; but I will refer to such of them as embrace matters of fact rather than of opinion.

"In the month of March last the Government were defeated in their effort to settle upon just and enlarged principles the long disputed question of the higher education in Ireland, if not by a combined yet by a concurrent effort of the leader of the Opposition, and of the Roman Catholic Prelacy of Ireland. Upon suffering this defeat the Government, according to the practice of our Constitution, placed their resignations in the hands of the Sovereign. Her Majesty, in the just and wise exercise of her high office, applied to the leader of the Opposition. He, however, declaring that he was not prepared with a policy, and could not govern in the existing Parliament, declined to fill the void which he had made. Under these circumstances we thought ourselves bound by loyalty to the Queen not to decline the resumption of our offices. But this step we took with an avowed reluctance. We felt that in consequence of what had happened both the Crown and country were placed at a disadvantage, as it was established that during the existence of the present Parliament one Party only could govern, and must therefore govern without appeal. We also felt that a precedent had been set which both diminished our strength and weakened the general guarantees for the responsibility and integrity of Parliamentary opposition.

"Of this diminution of strength we were painfully and sensibly reminded during the session by the summary and rapid dismissal in the House of Lords of measures which had cost much time and labour to the House of Commons.

"But we remembered that in the years 1868 and 1870, when the mind of the country was unambiguously expressed, the House of Lords had, much to its honour deferred to that expression upon matters of great moment, and I cannot doubt that it would have continued in this course had the isolated and less certain but still frequent and fresh indications of public opinion at single elections continued to be in harmony with the powerful and authentic, but now more remote judgment of 1868.

"This state of things, which was not satisfactory at the close of the last session, and which has not admitted of remedy by the method of resignation and a change of Government, has not improved during the recess, especially the latter part of the recess, and the time has now arrived when the Administration, able to anticipate and survey the principal parts and the general character of the work which awaits it, has been called on to consider whether it could reasonably undertake such work, without a fresh access of strength, and to frame its advice to Her Majesty accordingly. The question whether Ministers ought to retain or to abandon office should be decided by a general election, with the opportunity which it affords for broad declarations of policy and issues truly national, and cannot be satisfactorily solved by isolated contests, of which the issue is in a greater degree dependant on close discipline and finished and concentrated organisation. From a state of things thus fitful and casual, we desire to pass to one in which the nation will have had full opportunity of expressing its will and choice as between the political parties. The Government of the day, whatever it be, will be armed with its just means of authority both within and without the Legislature. The Opposition will enjoy the power, and, doubtless, will not shrink from the duty of taking office. The House of Commons will be reinstated in its full position of constitutional authority, and when it shall see cause to withdraw its confidence from an Administration it will not leave the Sovereign without resource. Such will be the general objects, then, with which a new Parliament will be summoned. I proceed to speak of the work which it will have to do.

"I need not dwell on the elementary and ever-abiding duties of the Ministry, such as the maintenance of the country's honour, of the general peace, of the rights of all classes, and of our insular security; but I will state that we desire to found the credit and influence of our foreign policy upon a resolution to ask from foreign Powers nothing but what in like circumstances we should give ourselves, and steadily to respect their rights as we would tenaciously uphold our own.

"With regard to the unhappy war on the Gold Coast, our object has been to prosecute it with vigour subject to a due regard to the exigencies of climate and the value of human life, and only within the limits which justice and future security prescribe. We shall aim at the establishment not only of peace but of friendship with the Ashantees, and we shall, I hope, seek to draw from what has happened a lesson on the duty of avoiding in future the first entrance into equivocal and entangling engagements. Meantime we repose the utmost confidence in the British General, officers, and soldiers; and we cherish the hope that we are about to emerge at an early date and on good terms from the conflict.

"When I turn to the general subjects of internal legislation, I have to speak rather as a member of a party than as a member of a Cabinet; for it is not the duty of a Cabinet to bind itself, or to mature its collective views on all subjects of public interest, but only upon such as are to form the early subjects of practical treatment.

"I fear that the time has not yet come when you can anticipate a diminution in the calls for legislative labour. Permanent and solid as is the union of the three kingdoms, they present varieties of circumstances of organisation, and even of law. These varieties, combined with the vast development of imperial interests add seriously to the duties of Parliament, which indeed have reached a point where they seem for the present to defy all efforts to overtake them. I think we ought not only to admit but to welcome every improvement in the organisation of local and subordinate authority, which, under the unquestioned control of Parliament, would tend to lighten its labours and to expedite the public business. As regards the important Act of 1870 for the promotion of education, I am one of those who had no preference for the latter over the earlier adjustments of the bill. But they were adjustments adapted to the state of public opinion at the time, and it appears to me that no main provision of the measure can advantageously be reconsidered without the aid of an experience such as we have not yet acquired. With regard to one or two points calculated to create an amount of uneasiness out of proportion to their real importance or difficulty, I do not doubt that the wisdom of the renovated Legislature will discover the means of their accommodation.

"Both in Scotland and in Ireland there are many questions requiring the attention of Parliament. Among such, however, as are peculiar to them I will only now mention the completion of the weighty legislation of last year by the reconstruction of their judicial establishments and by admitting them to the advantages not yet measured by experience of the now Court of Appeal.

"It is more appropriate to the nature of an address such as this that I should touch upon subjects which are, in the main, of a common interest to all the three countries. I will, however, say, with special relation to England, that it seems almost a reproch to our Parliaments that down to the present time we should have been unable to deal effectively with the local government and institutions of this great metropolis, and I must also express my hope that the inquiries of the Commission appointed to examine into the property and income of the Universities and colleges of Oxford and Cambridge may lead to a great further extension of the benefits conferred by those great and powerful bodies.

"The laws respecting the transfer, the descent, and the occupation of land, the laws respecting game the laws respecting the sale of spirituous liquors, the laws affecting the relations between employer and employed, the laws of rating and of local government, are among the subjects likely to come in turn under the notice of the new Parliament. In some of these matters there is in my judgment room for extensive improvement, and they all, I trust, will be dealt with in a spirit of impartial justice. Of all the changes marking the present day there is none which I view with more heartfelt satisfaction than the progressive rise of wages in the agricultural districts. I view this rise as the natural and proper, though long-delayed, result of economic laws, as the removal of something like a national discredit, as carrying with it a great addition to the stock, never too abundant, of human happiness, and as a new guarantee for the stability of the throne and institutions of the country. I have never concealed my opinion that those institutions will be further strengthened by granting to the counties generally that extended franchise which has been conceded with general satisfaction to the towns, and to the populations of a number of rural districts with a central village which may, perhaps, be called peasant boroughs. I earnestly desire to witness the formation of a mature public opinion on a subject which has hardly yet obtained all the attention which it deserves. I for one will say nothing upon it that could tend to arouse the jealousies of class or of party, and I cherish the hope that at no distant day our loyal, patient, and, as I hold, intelligent, peasantry may, together with the other important classes now unenfranchised for no other reason than that they reside beyond the bounderies of boroughs, receive this boon at the hands of the Legislature, without conflict, without intrigue, and by general consent.

"I come now to questions of expenditure and finance.

"It may be stated with truth that next to the great Irish questions of Church and land, now happily disposed of, the elections of 1868 turned in no small degree upon expenditure. I do not deny that we charged our predecessors with improvidence in the stewardship of the public funds. It has been shown by my friend Mr Childers, in his place in Parliament, conclusively and without reply, that we have not forgotten the declarations of 1868, nor receded from them. In the estimates of our first two years for the defensive services of army and navy, we were able to propose reductions amounting, in round numbers, to £4,000,000 in the charge of our peace establishments. It is true that we are not able at this moment to place such a sum to our credit in comparing our estimates with those of the last Government. I am far from saying that we have perfect reason to be satisfied with our own efforts or with the results of them. Still let it be considered first by what special and necessary acts of policy they have been hindered; secondly, what the results actually are. We cannot escape the effect of such calls as that for the abolition of purchase, which was, I think, well described as the redemption of the army, or for the augmentation of the Education vote to the great and unquestioned benefit of the country. But notwithstanding these demands, notwithstanding the calls arising at the period of the great war of 1870, notwithstanding the serious burden of the rise of prices, something not wholly insignificant has been achieved. Setting aside the Debt, and founding the comparison on the basis of what may be called the optional expenditure derived from taxes, and forming the proper test of the disposition of a Government, it was shown that a saving had been effected at the close of the very last financial year, amounting to £2,350,000, and this, as we contend, with no diminution, but with a great increase of our defensive force, both naval and military.

"Upon a review of the finance of the last five years we are enabled to state that, notwithstanding the purchase of the telegraphs for a sum exceeding £9,000,000, the aggregate amount of the National Debt has been reduced by more than £20,000,000; that taxes have been lowered or abolished (over and above any amount imposed) to the extent of £12,500,000; that during the present year the Alabama indemnity has been paid, and the charge of the Ashantee war will be met out of revenue, and that in estimating, as we can now venture to do, the income of the coming year (and for the moment assuming the general scale of charge to continue as it was fixed during the last session), we do not fear to anticipate as the probable balance a surplus exceeding rather than falling short of £5,000,000.

"The existence of such a surplus will offer, in our judgment, a great opportunity of affording relief to the community, and an opportunity which ought to be turned to the very best account.

"I have accepted with much reluctance the charge of the finances of the country in addition to my other duties. But as this is now the tenth occasion on which I am called as the Minister immediately responsible to consider the financial arrangements of the coming year, you may be willing to believe that I am not speaking lightly when I proceed to indicate an outline of the boons which, in the absence of some gravely unfavourable and unforeseen incidents, it will be in the power of the new Parliament at once to confer. In the first place there is a very general desire that some new assistance should be afforded to the ratepayers of the country from funds at present under the command of the State. The Government have been unable to meet the views of those who appeared to have thought that, provided only a large amount of public money could be had in any form to relieve the rates, no great heed need be paid to anything else; but they have never felt themselves compelled to deny the wish of such as think that a further portion of the charges hitherto borne by real and immoveable property should, with judicious accompanying arrangements, be placed upon property generally. Their endeavour has been, and their resolution is, to have a thorough and comprehensive, not a partial, handling of the question; and in our future proceedings we shall, I trust, exert ourselves to keep in view all that it involves; to strengthen the invaluable traditions, and to improve the organs of local Government, to keep central control within the limits of sound policy; to maintain, and, if possible, to enhance, the guarantees for provident administration; to avoid the repetition of unseemly contests, and the danger which would arise if Parliament were gradually to lay upon labour a portion of the burdens hitherto borne by property. In a word, to reform as well as enlarge the aid granted by the State to local expenditure. The first item, then, which I have to set down in the financial arrangements proper for the year is relief, but relief coupled with reform of Local Taxation.

"What I have said refers properly to England, but it would be impossible to exclude from view the case of Scotland, which is very closely analogous, or that of Ireland, which presents larger variations."

"I now turn to a subject of a less complex character but of even greater importance. I mean the Income Tax. According to the older financial tradition the Income Tax was a war tax. For such a purpose it is invaluable. Men are willing to sacrifice much, not only of their means, but of their privacy, time, and comfort, at the call of patriotism. In 1842 the income-tax was employed by Sir Robt. Peel, partly to cover a serious deficit in the revenue, but principally to allow of important advances in the direction of free trade. I need not dwell on the great work of liberation which has been accomplished by its aid. Mainly, perhaps, on this account it has been borne with an exemplary patience, but no Government has ever been able to make it perpetual, like our taxes in general, or even to obtain its renewal for any very long term of years. Since 1860 it has been granted by an annual Act. During a long time, for reasons on which it is not necessary for me here to dwell, the country cherished, together with the desire, the expectation or hope of its extinction; but the sum annually drawn from it formed so heavy an item in the accounts from year to year that it appeared to have grown unmanageable. It has, however, been the happy fortune of Mr Lowe to bring it down first from 6d to 4d, and then from 4d to 3d in the pound. The proceeds of the income-tax for the present year are expected to be between £5,000,000 and £6,000,000, and at a sacrifice for the financial year of something less than £5,500,000 the country may enjoy the advantage and relief of its total repeal. I do not hesitate to affirm that an effort should now be made to attain this advantage, or to declare that, according to my judgment, it is in present circumstances practicable. And yet, while making this recommendation and avowal, I have more to add. It will have been observed that the proposals I have mentioned contemplate principally the relief of rateable and other property, although there are many among the payers of income-tax the association of whom with that term seems almost to mock them, but it is manifest that we ought not to aid the rates and remove the income-tax without giving to the general consumer, and giving him simultaneously, some marked relief in the class of articles of popular consumption.

"It may be observed that the changes I have indicated would dispose of more, indeed considerably more, than the surplus I have named, and that I am not entitled to anticipate any larger balance of available revenue during the coming financial year on the present sources as they are fixed by law. But I have said nothing to preclude the Government from asking Parliament to consider, in conjunction with those great remissions, what moderate assisance could be had from judicious adjustments of existing taxes, and it is scarcely necessary for me to add that, admitting, as I do admit, the declarations of 1868, I for one could not belong to a Government which did not on every occasion seek to enlarge its resources by a wise economy. But these I admit are general declarations. Their whole value depends upon their future and practical development.

"On this subject, I will frankly allow that the question is for the moment one of confidence. The policy of the Government for the last five years in particular, the character and opinions of my colleagues, and the financial and commercial legislation with which I may say that since 1842 I have been associated, are before you. I can only add that I have not spoken lightly, but deliberately, and with full persuasion.

"I have now, Gentlemen, endeavoured to supply to you the means of estimating generally, but with, I hope, sufficient accuracy, the view and intentions of the Government with respect to policy and immediate legislation, but more especially with reference to the financial work which they now offer themselves to undertake and to perform. Undertaken and performed I trust it will be, whether by us or by others. It is for you to say by whom.

"As for all that lies beyond, in the region of the many and arduous questions, to some of which I have referred, I can give no unlimited pledge of personal aid or service in the forty-second year of a laborious public life, and with the desire which I feel both entitled and bound to cherish for repose, but for the present issue I am at your service, and so I trust are the colleagues who have performed the work and made the character of the present Government, and to whom I hold a lively and unending gratitude.

"It is sometimes said, gentlemen, that we of the Liberal Government and party have endangered the institutions and worried all the interests of the country. As to the interests I am aware of no one of them that we have injured. If we have unhappily offended any it has been neither our intention nor our wish, but the consequence of our anxiety to consult the highest interest of all, in which all others are involved—the interest of the nation. As to the institutions of the country, gentlemen, the charge is the very same that you have been accustomed to hear urged against Liberal Governments in general for the last forty years. It is time to test by a general survey of the past this trite and vague allegation. Now there has elapsed a period of 40, or, more exactly, 43 years since the Liberal party acquired the main direction of public affairs. This followed another period of about forty years, beginning with the outbreak of the revolutionary war, during which there had been an almost unbroken rule of their opponents, who claimed, and were reputed to be the great preservers of the institutions of the country. But I ask you to judge the men by the general results. I fear we must admit that the term of forty years of Tory rule which closed in 1830, and to which you are invited to return—left the institutions of the country weaker, aye, even in strength and order less secure, than at the commencement of the period it had found them.

"I am confident that if now the present Government be dismissed from the service of their gracious mistress and of the country, the Liberal party which they represent may at least challenge contradiction when they say that their term of forty years leaves the throne, the laws, and the institutions of the country, not weaker, but stronger, than it found them.

"Such, gentlemen, is the issue placed before you and before the nation for your decision. If the trust of this Administration be by the effect of the present elections virtually renewed, I, for one, will serve you for what remains of my time faithfully. If the confidence of the country be taken from us, and handed over to others whom you may judge more worthy, I for one shall accept cheerfully my dismissal.

"I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
"Your most obliged and most faithful servant,
"W. E. GLADSTONE,
"11, Carlton House Terrace, Jan. 23, 1874."

MR. DISRAELI'S ADDRESS.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS.

"Gentlemen,—Mr Gladstone has informed the electors of Greenwich that Her Majesty has been advised by Her Minister to dissolve the present Parliament.

"Whether this step has been taken as a means of avoiding the humbling confession by the Prime Minister that he has, in a fresh violation of Constitutional law, persisted in retaining for several months a seat to which he was no longer entitled, or has been resorted to by his Government in order to postpone, or to evade the day of reckoning for a war carried on without communication with Parliament, and the expenditure for which Parliament has not sanctioned, it is unnecessary at present to consider. It is sufficient to point out that if, under any circumstances, the course altogether unprecedented of calling together Parliament by special summons for the despath of business, and then dissolving it before its meeting, could be justified, there is in the present case no reason whatever suggested why this was not done six weeks ago, and why the period of the year usually devoted to business before Easter, which must now be wasted, should not thus have been saved.

"Gentlemen,—I appeal to you again for the continuance of that confidence which you have extended to me, on different occasions, running over a period longer than a generation of men.

"The Prime Minister has addressed to his constituents a prolix narrative, in which he mentions many of the questions that have occupied, or may occupy, public attention, but in which I find nothing definite as to the policy he would pursue, except this, that having the prospect of a large surplus, he will if retained in power, devote that surplus to the remission of taxation, which would be the course of any party or any Ministry. But what is remarkable in his proposals is that on the one hand they are accompanied by the disquieting information that the surplus, in order to make it adequate, must be enlarged by an "adjustment," which must mean an increase of existing taxes, and that on the other hand, his principal measures of relief will be the diminution of local taxation and the abolition of the income tax, measures which the Conservative party have always favoured, and which the Prime Minister and his friends have always opposed.

"Gentlemen,—I have endeavoured, and if returned to Parliament I shall, whether in or out of office, continue and endeavour to propose or support all measures calculated to improve the condition of the people of the kingdom. But I don't think this great end is advanced by incessant and harassing legislation. The English people are governed by their customs as much as by their laws, and there is nothing they more dislike than unnecessary restraint and meddling interference in their affairs. Generally speaking, I should say of the Administration of the last five years, that it would have been better for us all if there had been a little more energy in our foreign policy, and a little less in our domestic legislation. By an act of folly, or of ignorance, rarely equalled, the present Ministry relinquished a Treaty which secured us the freedom of the Straits of Malacca for our trade with China and Japan, and they at the same time entering, on the West Coast of Africa, into one of those equivocal and entangling engagements which the Prime Minister now deprecates, involved us in the Ashantee war. The honour of the country now requires that we should prosecute that war with the vigour necessary to insure success; but when that honour is vindicated, it will be the duty of Parliament to inquire by what means we were led into a costly and destructive contest, which neither Parliament nor the country have ever sanctioned, and of the necessity or justice of which in its origin they have not been made aware.

"The question of a further reform of the House of Commons is again suggested by the Minister, I think unwisely. I think the argument for extending to the counties the household franchise of the towns on the ground of the existing system being anomalous in fallacious. There has always been a difference between the franchise of the two divisions of the country, and no one has argued more strongly than the Prime Minister against the contemplated identity of suffrage. The Conservative party view this question without prejudice. They have proved that they are not afraid of popular rights. But the late Reform Act was a large measure, which, in conjunction with the Ballot, has scarcely been tested by experience, and they will hesitate before they sanction further legislation, which will inevitably involve, among other considerable changes, the disfranchisement of at least all boroughs in the kingdom comprising less than 40,000 inhabitants.

"Gentlemen, the impending general election is one of no mean importance for the future character of the kingdom. There is reason to hope from the address of the Prime Minister, putting aside some ominous suggestions it contains as to the expediency of a local and subordinate legislature, that he is not certainly at present opposed to our national institutions, or to the maintenance of the integrity of the Empire. But unfortunately amongst his adherents some assail the monarchy, others impugn the independence of the House of Lords, while there are those who would relieve Parliament altogether from any share in the government of one portion of the United Kingdom. Others again urge him to pursue his peculiar policy by disestablishing the Anglican, as he had despoiled the Irish, Church; while trusted colleagues in his Cabinet openly concur with them in their desire altogether to thrust religion from the place which it ought to occupy in national education.

"These, gentlemen, are solemn issues, and the impending general election must decide them.

"Their solution must be arrived at when Europe is more deeply stirred than at any period since the Reformation, and when the cause of civil liberty and religious freedom mainly depends upon the strength and stability of England. I ask you to return me to the House of Commons to resist any proposal which may impair that strength, and to support by every means her Imperial sway.

"B. DISRAELI.

"Hughenden Manor, January 24th."

MR. FORSTER AT BRADFORD.

Mr. W. E. Forster, speaking to his constituents at Bradford, on Monday night, said the sole reason for dissolving Parliament had been as Mr. Gladstone had stated. There was no quarrel in the Cabinet, nor was there any unforeseen or extraordinary cause for the dissolution. It was not in consequence of bad news from the Gold Coast, because the news from thence had been as good as could have been expected. They had had bad news from Stroud, and many other places, and the news from Newcastle was hardly good. Mr. Cowen had been returned, but by a much smaller majority than they liked. This was the whole secret of the dissolution, and the Cabinet unanimously desired to appeal to the country because they were tired of their repeated defeats. Mr. Forster saw no reason for opposing the extension of household sufferage to the counties, but such a measure must be accompanied or closely followed by a redistribution of the seats. The right hon. gentleman defended his action with regard to the Education Act, and this action he would abide by. He was not prepared in future legislation to abolish or repeal the Cowper-Temple clause. He was in favour of compulsion, and, with respect to the 25th clause, he maintained the right of the parent to choose the school to which he should send his child. That principle he could not and would not give up, even if it cost him his seat.

LETTER FROM MR. JOHN BRIGHT.

The following letter from the Right Hon. John Bright was read to a meeting of the Liberal Association at Birmingham last night:—

"10, Downing Street, Whitehall, Jan. 23, 1874.

"DEAR MR. WRIGHT,—The Parliament is about to be dissolved. The announcement will meet your eyes to-morrow morning, and will doubtless surprise you greatly. Mr. Gladstone's address to his constituents will give the reasons for this measure to the public, and the public will judge of its wisdom and its necessity. You will be at once brought into the discussions and excitement of an election. If my friends in Birmingham desire that I should again represent them, I shall place myself in their hands.

"During the last month my health has been much better, but for which I should have doubted the wisdom, or even the possibility, of again undertaking the duties of Parliamentary representation. I am sorry I have of late not been able to give my constituents all the services they expected from me. I must send you an address.—Always yours sincerely,
"JOHN BRIGHT."

THE QUEEN'S PROCLAMATION DISSOLVING PARLIAMENT.

A supplement to the *London Gazette* contains the Queen's proclamation dissolving the present Parliament, and declaring the calling of another. The writs were issued last night, and are returnable on Thursday, the 5th of March. The supplement also contains a second proclamatson commanding the Peers of Scotland to meet in Edinburgh on the 18th February, to elect the sixteen peers to sit in the House of Lords in the ensuing Parliament.

NORTH DURHAM.

A preliminary meeting of the Conservatives in the Shields district of the Northern Division of the county of Durham was held on Monday night, at the Golden Lion Hotel, South Shields. The meeting resolved to form itself into a committee, with power to add to its number, for the purpose of insuring the return of Mr. George Elliot, the sitting member. It was also resolved to appoint a subcommittee to arrange for canvassing the district. It was arranged to hold a public meeting of Mr. Elliot's supporters on Thursday evening in the Free Library Building. A committee room will be opened and an active canvass immediately commenced. The meeting was large and influential, and the proceedings throughout were conducted with the utmost enthusiasm.—On Monday night, a large and influential meeting of the Conservatives of Jarrow was held in Mr. Forster's New Inn, Ormonde Street, for the purpose of furthering the candidature of Mr. Elliot for North Durham. Mr. Bently occupied the chair. Mr. T. S. Salter, the Conservative agent for the district, stated that, in the event of a contest it would be necessary to make such arrangements that an anergetic canvass might be prosecuted at a moment's notice. It was unanimously agreed, on the motion of Mr. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Morris, that all present form themselves into a committee, with power to add to their number.—The Chairman gave a stirring address on the necessity of promptitude, energy, and unity in carrying out the constitutional object for which the meeting was convened. The present was an important epoch in our history, and he called upon every right thinking man to rally round the banner of constitutionalism. Each gentleman present pledged himself to do his utmost for Mr. Elliot's interest.—Mr. Dickinson thought there was no doubt whatever that Mr. Elliot would be triumphantly returned, as he had proved himself worthy of the trust reposed in him at last election. After agreeing to meet and report progress nightly, the meeting separated. Great enthusiasm prevailed.

On Tuesday morning, the writ for the election of two knights of the shire for the Northern Division of the County of Durham was received at the offices of the Deputy-Sheriff (E. G. Marshall, Esq.) in the North Bailey, and although no official announcement was made at night, it was stated that the nomination of candidates will take place on Monday next, in the Grand Jury Room of the County Courts at Durham, between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock, and the polling (if any) on the following Monday, the 9th inst. Sir Hedworth Williamson visited Durham on Tuesday, and received on all sides the promises of his old supporters in the event of a contest taking place.

A COMPACT BETWEEN SIR H. WILLIAMSON, AND MR. G. ELLIOT.

It is announced that it was the intention of the Liberals to run a candidate with Sir H. Williamson for the representation of the Northern Division of the county of Durham, and Mr. C. M. Palmer was prepared to contest the seat with Mr. G. Elliot, but that Sir H. Williamson had entered into a compact with Mr. Elliot that the representation of North Durham is not to be disturbed! Sir Hedworth Williamson offered to resign in favour of Mr. Palmer, but this offer was, of course, declined by Mr. Palmer, who desired to win another seat for the Liberals. "Indignation meetings" were held at Jarrow and Blaydon on Wednesday night, at which the "unholy compact" was condemned.

SOUTH DURHAM.

The Conservatives have decided to run two candidades for the seats in the southern division of the county, and Colonel Surtees and Mr. W. Dale Trotter, both of whom have consented to stand, may now be said to be fairly in the field. The supporters of the Liberal candidates, Mr. J. W. Pease and Major Beaumont, at Bishop Auckland, have commenced operations, a strong committee having been formed at a meeting of the party in that town and various measures adopted to secure their return.

SOUTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

Mr H. G. Liddell has issued his address. It was rumoured that Mr W. B. Beaumont would retire, and that Mr Somerset Beaumont would be brought forward in his place, this gentleman running along with another Liberal, probably Sir Arthur Monck. The writ ordering the election of two members for the southern division of Northumberland was received on Tuesday, and the nominations will be received at the Moot Hall, Hexham, on Thursday, Feb. 5, and if there should be a contest, the polling will take place on Wednesday, February 11th.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

On Tuesday night, Mr J. C. Stevenson addressed a meeting of the electors in the large hall of the Free Library Buildings, South Shields. The hall was densely packed. Mr. Alderman Williamson presided. The same night, a numerously attended meeting of the South Shields Working Men's Conservative Association was held at the Central Hall. Mr Heath, barrister, of Westoe, who, it was stated, was willing to come forward as a Liberal-Conservative, in opposition to Mr James C. Stevenson, was unanimously accepted by the Conservative party. A committee was at once formed to promote Mr Heath's candidature.

To Lend.

TO LEND, £150, £200, and £500 upon approved security.—Apply to JOSEPH HOWARD, Sharebroker, Consett. 609d

Found.

FOUND, near Allandale Cottages, a Silver WATCH. The owner can have it on giving full description and payment of expenses at the office of this paper. If not claimed within seven days it will be sold to defray expenses. 618d

Lost.

ONE POUND REWARD.

STOLEN, from Number One Quoit Ground, on Saturday, Jan. 24th, 1874, a Set of QUOITS.—The above reward will be paid on the conviction of the offender.

629d J. BARRON.

LOST, from Oxen Law, near Waskerley Park, Ten Horned EWES, marked—"W H" on the near Horn; Holed on the Horn End; "H" on the near Side; "P" on the Buttock; and "C" above the Tail.—Whoever will give information regarding the same to W. HEPPLE will be rewarded. 613d

Wanted.

TO JOINERS.—WANTED, One or Two Good HANDS. Good wages given.—Apply to GEORGE NOBLE, Joiner, Leadgate. 595d

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

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

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

For Sale.

FOR SALE, first-class Swede TURNIPS.—Apply to J. CALVERT, Consett. 605d

FOR SALE, Two, Four, Six, or Eight COTTAGES.—For particulars, apply to JOSEPH HOWARD, Sharebroker, Consett. 608d

FOR SALE, by Private Contract, a large MANGLE (nearly new).—Apply to WILLIAM HALL, 2, Dyke Row, Leadgate. 588d

FOR SALE, in Cemetery Road, a SITE suitable for a House and Garden, containing in all 336 square yards.—For further particulars, apply to ISAAC MURRAY, Front Street, Consett. 594d

FOR SALE, by Private Contract (owing to the death of the late purchaser), the LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—Apply to Mr. GEORGE HAWDON, Leadgate. 552d

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

TO FLORISTS.

TO BE SOLD, cheap, a quantity of GLADIOLI BULBS, in good condition.—Apply to WM. WILSON, Culters' Hall, *via* Blackhill. 611d

FOR SALE, Harness, of all kinds; Cart Wheels; Springs and Axles; Sack and Hand Barrows; Gig and other Lamps; Metal Pots, Stoves, and Ovens; Shop Counters and Fittings; Weights, Scales, and Beams; Coffee Mills; Workmen's Tools, beyond number; Turning Lathes and Latheheads; small Steam Engines; Model do.; Steam Cylinders; a Wrench and Nos. 2, and 3, Sheave Blocks; Brass and other Pumps; Fly, Cog, Pinion, and other Wheels; and a thousand other Articles to numerous to mention. Cheap at

L. LEE'S,
169, PILGRIM STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE 607d

Contracts.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are invited for the several works required in the ERECTION of Two COTTAGES, at Iveston.—Plans, Specifications, and Conditions may be seen at my house, Iveston, from MONDAY, February 2nd, to MONDAY, February 16th, on which day Tenders are to be delivered to me, endorsed "Tender for Cottages."—The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

JAMES SHEARER.
Iveston, January 30th, 1874. 610d

TO BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, AND OTHERS.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY, LIMITED, are prepared to receive TENDERS for the ERECTION of a VIEWER'S RESIDENCE at their Langley Park Colliery, near Witton Gilbert Railway Station, and about four miles from Durham.

Plans and Specification can be seen and all particulars obtained on application at their Offices, CONSETT IRON WORKS, on and after WEDNESDAY, 4th Feb., 1874.

Tenders to be sent, addressed to the CONSETT IRON COMPANY, LIMITED, Consett Iron Works, Consett, County of Durham, not later than Noon, on MONDAY, 23rd February, 1874.

All Stone will be supplied and delivered on the Site free.

The Company do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender. 616d

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1858.

DISTRICT OF LEADGATE.

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT.

TO CONTRACTORS AND OTHERS.

TO BE LET, the KERBING and CHANNELLING of about 250 yards of Road, at Leadgate; also, the REDUCING of a Hill, at Leadgate. —Specifications and other particulars of the above works, may be seen on application to the undersigned on and after the 26th inst., at his Office, situated at WESTWOOD HOUSE, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., by whom Tenders in writing for the same marked, "Tender," will be received up to TUESDAY, the 3rd day of February next, at Twelve o'clock Noon.

By Order,
M. COUPLAND, Clerk.
Westwood House, Shotley Bridge,
22nd January, 1874. 603d

Business Announcements.

CHEESE! CHEESE!! CHEESE!!!

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

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

DERBY (Excellent) 12 to 25 lbs., 9½d per lb.

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

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

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

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

IMMENSE SUCCESS
OF THE
GREAT DRAPERY SALE.

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

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

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

SHAW & ATKINSON

584d 22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

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

"EUROPA." "EUROPA."

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

THE PERFECTION OF SEWING MACHINERY.

PRICES CASH.

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

FREE DELIVERY. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED. INSTRUCTION GRATIS.

PATENTEES:—
SMITH, STARLEY, & CO., COVENTRY.
AGENT:—
G. D. POWELL,
13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

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

FIRST-CLASS HAM
AS A
NEW YEAR'S GIFT

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

APPLY AND INSPECT AT
G. D. POWELL'S,
13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT. 509d

Business Announcements.

HANDYSIDE,
THE WORLD-RENOWNED CHAMPION BOOT AND SHOEMAKER.

HANDYSIDE'S BOOTS AND SHOES.

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

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

They've long and nobly stood the test,
And quite victorious beat the rest,
And proved themselves the very best
And cheapest sold in Consett.

Repairs are well and cheaply done,
By workmen, all pronounced A1,
The championship's been fairly won
By HANDYSIDE at Consett.

612d ROBSON LAMB, Manager.

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

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

JOHN BORTHWICK, AGENT.

NOTICE.

WILLIAM BIGGINS,
SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER,

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

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

Collieries contracted for if desired. 88d

GOOD NEWS FOR NEW YEAR, 1874.

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

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

ESTABLISHED 1844.

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

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

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

SUPERIOR WATCHES, SHIP CHRONOMETERS, ENGLISH AND FRENCH CLOCKS.

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

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

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

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

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

"MARK LANE SHERRY,"
at 32s per dozen, and
"MANSION HOUSE PORT,"
at 36s per dozen, bottles included.

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

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

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

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

These Bins are admirably adapted for presents.

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

THE CONTINENTAL WINE AGENCY,
72, GRACECHURCH STREET, LONDON, E.C.
Post-office Orders payable S OSMOND. 479d

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

A PRACTICAL WORKMAN ON THE PREMISES.

EDWARD ROBSON,
INNKEEPER, KYO,

RETURNS his sincere thanks to his numerous Friends for their patronage during the time he has been in business, and hopes by keeping nothing but the best Wines, Spirits, Burton and Edinburgh Ales, to continue to deserve their Patronage. 9-Gallon Casks, Burton and Edinburgh, of the finest quality, from 12s. to 15s. each. 602d

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

29, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE,
C. ROUGIER, PROPRIETOR.
Wholesale Warehouse, York. 449d

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VALUATIONS MADE FOR PROBATE AND LEGACY DUTIES.

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

☞ All Orders attended to with care and punctuality

EMIGRATION AGENT. 27

CASTILE OR OLIVE OIL SOAP.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Apply to the Manufacturers,
THE WALKER OIL SEEDS CRUSHING CO.,
26, GRAINGER STREET WEST,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Or to TAYLOR GIBSON, and Co., 30, Bigg Market, Newcastle-upon-Tyne; J. HOPE, Jun., Hexham; and all respectable Grocers and Druggists. 569d

Business Announcements.

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

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER
LEADGATE AND CONSETT.

Pic-Nics and Tea Parties Supplied or Contracted for. 685d

SOILED NOTE PAPER, in Packets of one pound each, for Sixpence, are now on Sale at the *Guardian* Office, Consett.

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

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

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

A LARGE STOCK OF SEALSKIN CAPS.

N.B.—*HATS MADE TO ORDER.* 495d

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

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

REPAIRING DONE ON THE PREMISES. 342d

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

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

For the convenience of Customers Orders may be left with Mr. W. Heads, Confectioner, Durham Road, and Mr. Reed, Grocer, Derwent Street, Blackhill.

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

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

JOHN SIMPSON,
CABINETMAKER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

BEGS most respectfully to inform the inhabitants of Annfield Plain and the surrounding neighbourhood, that he has on hand a large stock of well-seasoned
HOME-MADE FURNITURE,
Which he intends clearing out AT A REDUCTION OF 10 PER CENT. below present prices, previous to enlarging his place of business.
FURNITURE DELIVERED FREE.
OBSERVE THE ADDRESS—
THE CORNER SHOP, (Next to Mr. Doidge's Clothing Establishment),
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 598d

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

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

Suits........................	from 6s. 11d.
Top Coats....................	8s. 11d.

HATS, CAPS, SCARFS, COLLARS, &c.
Moleskin Trousers, home-made ......9s. 6d.
ALL KINDS OF CLOTHING.
THE LITTLE BOYS' CLOTHING DEPOT.

NEWCASTLE TEA WAREHOUSE.

EVERY PERSON THAT TASTES
OUR JUSTLY
CELEBRATED INDIAN TEA
AT FOUR SHILLING PER POUND,
ARE DELIGHTED WITH ITS
PURITY AND FRAGRANCE.
COME AND GIVE IT A TRIAL!
THE ADDRESS—
NEWCASTLE TEA WAREHOUSE,
14, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
JAMES LAKE, PROPRIETOR. 374d

To Let.

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

TO LET,
And Entered on the February Term,
A BEERHOUSE, situate at Highgate.—Apply to R. Murray, Benfieldside. 606d

TO LET,
And may be Entered on February,
A FREE BEERHOUSE, with Eight Rooms, and a good Cellar, situated at Iveston.—Apply to Thomas Severs, Bantling Castle, near Leadgate.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Henry Brown.

NOTICE OF SALE OF HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE on the premises at the Railway Inn, Consett, on an early date, in consequence of removing to the Alexandra Hotel. Particulars next week.
615d HENRY BROWN, Auctioneer.

By Mr. Adam Brodie.

LAST TWO DAYS OF SALE.

LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT

MR. A. BRODIE is instructed by Messrs. Shaw and Atkinson, to state that the LAST TWO DAYS of the SALE BY AUCTION of the STOCK of LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERY, on the Premises, Middle Street, Consett, are fixed for Saturday and Monday, January 31st, and February 2nd, when some important Lots will be offered for Public Competition.

Sale each Evening at Six o'clock. 617d

By Mr. J. Murray.

TO BREWERS, SPIRIT MERCHANTS, CAPITALISTS, AND OTHERS.

FREEHOLD LICENSED PREMISES FOR SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, situate at Foundry Road, Blackhill, adjoining the Railway Station.

MR. JOHN MURRAY is instructed by Mr. Richard Murray to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Queen's Head, Consett, on Wednesday, February 4th, 1874, all the above-named PREMISES, to which there are Wholesale and Retail Licenses attached to sell wine, spirits, and ale off the premises.

In the Basement there are Two Cellars. On the Ground Floor there is a Shop, Office, Entrance Hall, Parlour, Kitchen, Pantry, Water Closet, Coal House, Yard, Stable, Coach House, and Spirit Store. On the First Floor there is a Sitting-room, Four Good Bed-rooms, and a large Room, 35ft. by 16ft., which will make a good Billiard or Club-room.

The above offers a rare opportunity for an enterprising party. It is situated in the best position in Blackhill, is surrounded by good houses, which are increasing rapidly, and adjoins the New Road to Consett, which promises to be the mostly frequented thoroughfare in the district; and has an immense business attached to it. For further particulars, apply to the owner, on the premises; or, the Auctioneer, Medomsley Road, Consett.

Sale at Seven o'clock in the Evening. 597d

By Mr. P. Osborne.

TO INNKEEPERS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS.

MR. P. OSBORNE has been honoured with instructions from Mr. Robert Bell, King's Head Inn, Shotley Bridge, who is declining business, to SELL BY AUCTION, on Tuesday, the 3rd of February, 1874, at One p.m. promptly, part of his HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, BAR UTENSILS, excellent WHITECHAPEL and HARNESS, and OTHER EFFECTS, viz., High Chest of Painted Drawers; 24-Hour Clock, in Wainscot Case; Desk Bed; Mahogany Dining Table; 2 large Square Tables, with Turned Legs; 3 Tap-room Tables; Long Table, with Turned Legs; Counter; 6 Windsor Smoking Chairs; 2 Arm Chairs; 6 Birch Chairs; Child's Crib; an excellent Press; Painted Cupboard; Dresser and Shelves; 20 Pictures; 3 Framed Window Screens; Swing Dressing Glass; Parlour Oilcloth and a quantity of Cocoa Nut Matting; 4 Fenders and Fireirons; Candlesticks; Spittoons; Trays, &c.; Poss Tub and Staff; Pans and Steamers; large Water Cask; a quantity of Spirit Jars and Casks; 12 Trestles; 2 Long Tables and 20 Forms, varying in length, for hiring purposes; Bar Utensils, consisting of Ale and Spirit Measures; 20 dozen of Ale and Spirit Tumbler Glasses; a quantity of Wine and Champagne Glasses; a lot of Quart and Pint Ale Jugs; Water Jugs and Bottles; Port and Sherry Jars, with Taps; 2 gross of Spirit Flasks, Pints and Half-pints; Boiler Fountain, with Tap, Pails, Tubs, &c.; a set of Blacksmith's Stocks and Dies, with Plate and Taps; a quantity of Old Iron; about 16 yards of Hoist Chain; also an excellent Whitechapel and set of Brass-Mounted Harness, nearly new. Also, on the same day, to commence at 12 o'clock at noon promptly, behind the Commercial Inn, 8 Heifers and 4 Steers, rising 2 years old; 1 In-Calver, near Calving; 1 Geld Cow, forward in condition; and 20 Lambs; 20 Black-faced Wether Lambs; 2 In-calving Heifers, near calving; 1 new calved Cow.

The Auctioneer respectfully solicits an early attendance, as the lots are numerous and the days short. 593d

Public Notice.

CHEAP COALS.

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

LOCAL BOARD FOR THE DISTRICT OF CONSETT.

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

Given this 16th day of January, 1874.
JOHN ELLIOTT,
Clerk to the Local Board for the District of Consett. 582d

Public Notices.

MR. SANKEY'S PORTRAITS

CAN only be obtained in this district from E. Hexton, Cross Street, Blackhill, who has been appointed Sole Agent. 614d

REDUCTION OF PRICE IN COKE.

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

EDUCATION.

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

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

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

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

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

By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1870. 24

MUSIC HALL, CONSETT.
Lessee....Mr. Edward Fielding.

Pianist..............................	Mr. Burnett.
Stage Manager........................	Mr. Brooks.

For the week commencing Monday, February 2th,
THE ELNIOTT TROUPE
of Male and Female Acrobats (Six in number).
MONS. CARDON,
French Conjuror.
MR. P. WATSON,
Irish Comedian.
MISS P. SIMPKINS,
Serio-Comic.
MR. F. C. GRAY,
Mimic.

On Friday, February 6th, a Pair of Handsome VASES will be GIVEN AWAY. 619d

NORTH DURHAM ELECTION.

Mr. CRAWFORD, with his Friends, will address meetings as follows:—
Tuesday—Dipton, at 6 p.m.
Annfield Plain, at 8 p.m.
Friday—Consett, at 6 p.m.
Shotley Bridge, at 8 p.m.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Gentlemen,—The retirement of Sir Hedworth Williamson, one of your representatives, induces me at once to declare myself as a Candidate for your suffrages.

My former contest, in conjunction with Sir Hedworth Williamson, I have no doubt is still fresh in your remembrance. The pledges I then gave, to maintain in every way a Liberal policy, as an earnest supporter of Mr. Gladstone's Government, I now repeat.

I accept in its entirety the Programme of that distinguished Statesman, and should I obtain at your hands the honour to which I aspire, I shall be ready at all times to give him my distinct and emphatic assistance.

Mr. Gladstone has, in his appeal to the county, raised several clear issues, the most important of which are the Remission of Taxation based upon Economy, and the Extension of the Franchise in Counties. The experience of past years proves that he has the ability to carry into effect the great measures which he proposes. The question for you is, whether you will return those who will aid him, or those who will thwart his endeavours, and initiate an inactive or retrograde policy.

Yours respectfully,
I. LOWTHIAN BELL.
The Hall, Washington, January 29, 1874.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Gentlemen,—The unexpected dissolution of Parliament has thrown upon you the necessity of two members to represent your division of the county in the House of Commons.

Some time ago I was asked by a large and influential body of electors to contest the division in the Liberal interest. To these gentlemen I could not at the time give any promise. However, a dissolution having come much earlier than was anticipated, I am again asked to become a candidate for your suffrages. This I now do, and the more readily so after seeing the unholy compact entered into by your late representatives. It would appear to have been quietly arranged by these gentlemen and their friends that no contest shall take place in the division. That, unasked, they will continue to represent you. Your rights as electors is sought to be denied you in a most unwarrantable manner. That you will not permit such a usurpation of power I feel quite certain. Your vote is your own, to be used in any way you think proper.

My political opinions are pretty well known throughout the division; but for the information of those who may not know what these views are, I will here repeat them as concisely as possible on some of the leading questions of the day.

I am in favour of an extension of the franchise in both counties and boroughs, and will, therefore, give Mr. Trevelyan or the Government my most hearty support in seeking the assimilation of the county to the borough franchise.

I believe in free and unsectarian education.

I will vote for the unconditional repeal of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act." A piece of more iniquitous legislation never disgraced our statute book. Its operation is to press upon workmen in a most one-sided and despotic manner, and to attack them in their legitimate action as trade unionists.

I will also seek an amendment in the Master and Servant's Act, in order that breaches of contract may be rendered a civil and not a penal offence.

Being a believer in, and for many years an advocate of, the Permissive Bill, I would give my hearty vote to Sir Wilfrid Lawson in seeking its adoption.

I would seek an alteration in the Land Laws, and a better understood mode of local taxation, in addition to other measures of a peaceful and progressive kind.

I believe in Mr. Gladstone's liberal policy, and, if elected, would give to his Government the most constant and hearty support. During the time he has been in office we have enjoyed a condition of unparalled prosperity, from which has accrued the highest good to every class in the community. I believe that by an adherence to that progressive policy which has marked the doings of Mr. Gladstone's Government we will have a continuation of this desirable state of things, and he should, therefore, have my firm and untiring support.

Between now and the election I will address meetings in the various districts of the division, when you will have an opportunity of hearing my views more fully expressed, and asking such questions as you may deem necessary.

In conclusion, permit me to say that if elected it shall be my duty, as well as my pleasure to support measures of a generally beneficial character, and to carefully watch those matters affecting your constituency in particular.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
WILLIAM CRAWFORD.
Durham, January 29, 1874.

Public Notice.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Gentlemen,—Her Majesty's Ministers having determined to dissolve the present Parliament, I beg to solicit a continuance of the trust you so generously reposed in me five years ago.

Acting on the understanding so universally prevalent that there would be no dissolution of Parliament before the ensuing spring at the earliest, I a few weeks since came here, and now regret much that this will cause some little delay in my appearing personally amongst you; I, however, leave on my return journey on Monday, and shall hope to be with you early in the ensuing week. In the meantime, I trust my numerous friends and supporters will excuse my absence.

On my return, I shall be prepared to lay before you in detail my opinions on the most prominent questions of the day. For the present, I content myself with saying that, should you honour me by re-election, my principles in the future will be the same as those of the past, and which commended themselves to your favourable consideration at the last election.

Heartily thanking you for your past kindness, and soliciting your individual earnest support,

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your obenient, faithful servant,
GEORGE ELLIOT.
Cairo, Egypt, January 24th, 1874.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION OF THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Gentlemen,—Sir Hedworth Williamson having announced his intention to retire from the representation of your Division in Parliament, I offer myself as a Candidate for your Suffrages.

I have been for many years intimately associated with the principal industries of your County, and the experience I have acquired as a Coalowner, Shipbuilder, Ironmaster, and Manufacturer, will, I think, be of service to you in Parliament.

My views on Political Questions are in harmony with those of the Liberal Party. If returned to Parliament I shall give a cordial support to Mr. Gladstone's Government.

Experience as a landowner has convinced me that the laws regulating the sale and transfer of land require considerable amendment, and I shall support any sound measure which will simplify transactions in landed property.

I am in favour of the extension of household suffrage to counties. Qualification to vote should be uniform throughout the country. But no movement in this direction will be complete unless accompanied by a redistribution of seats, so as to remove some of the present inequalities of representation.

Mr. Gladstone is prepared to abolish the Income Tax, and to assist local expenditure out of imperial taxation. In attaining both these objects he will, I am sure, receive the hearty support of Liberal politicians throughout the country.

On the subject of education, the Licensing Laws, Masters' and Servants' Acts, Game Laws, &c., &c., I shall have opportunities of explaining my views to you face to face.

Brother Electors: In the present Election you are called upon to decide between a policy of Progress and a policy of Re-action. I call upon you to support the cause of Progress. I ask you to uphold the Policy and the Party under whose wise governance this Country, and the County of Durham in particular, have grown prosperous. I urge you to send to Parliament men who will strengthen the hands of Mr. Gladstone—one of the wisest, most liberal, courageous, and conscientious Ministers that has presided over the destinies of this Country.

The County of Durham has been distinguished in many Parliaments for fidelity to Liberal Principles. From both its Divisions, and from its populous Boroughs, it has sent men to the House of Commons who have helped forward the wise and progressive Legislation of the past forty years. I do not believe that in a great Crisis like the present it will prove unfaithful to its Traditions.

Yours obediently,
CHARLES M. PALMER.
Jarrow, January 29, 1874.

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31st, 1874.

MR. GLADSTONE'S APPEAL.

In its sudden and unexpected character, perhaps, the dissolution of the Parliament of 1868 has been unparalleled in the modern times since constitutional Government has become fully developed. We were within a few days of the commencement of the ordinary Session, and preparations had gone so far that a number of members of Parliament had commenced their sojourn in town for the Session, the leader of the Conservatives had issued a circular requesting the attendance of all his followers on the fifth, press agencies had advertised to supply early telegraphic copies of the Queen's Speech, and almost every journal in the country had made some special arrangement to meet the requirements of the Session. But suddenly all was changed. Instead of the Queen's Speech, we had Mr. Gladstone's manifesto, actually printed and published in the London morning papers before the intended dissolution was known beyond a very narrow and select circle. The Premier indeed took time by the forelock in this instance, and obtained twenty-four hour's start of his colleagues and his antagonists in appealing to his constituents and to the country. This may be considered sharp practice, but it is idle to talk of it as a *coup d'etat*, as Mr. Gladstone has kept strictly within the limits of the constitution in this matter, if he did not do so in retaining his seat for Greenwich, after taking the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer. But, in regard to the latter point, Mr. Disraeli, in his answering address, surely commits a blunder in insinuating that the course of dissolution has been adopted "as a means of avoiding the humbling confession by the Prime Minister that he has in fresh violation of constitutional law, persisted in retaining for several months a seat to which he was no longer entitled." If this charge were true, it was the Speaker of the House of Commons, a thoroughly independent authority, and not Mr. Gladstone, who had to answer for the failure to issue a new writ for Greenwich. Thus the only notice suggested by the leader of the opposition for the precipitate dissolution is removed from consideration, and we must perforce fall back upon Mr. Gladstone's own reasons for the unexpected step taken. The right hon. gentleman complains of a weakening of the hands of the Ministry through various circumstances, although that Ministry has still a nominal majority of between fifty and sixty in the House of Commons. He reverts to the Government defeat of last March on the Irish University Question, and attributes to that event a loss of prestige on the part of the Ministry; while events during the recess, especially in the latter part of it, have helped to impair the confidence of the Liberal party and the authority of the Government. In short, the commission of the present Parliament has run out; it has accomplished the work it was elected to do, and it cannot be depended upon to carry the measures which the Government now propose, while in respect to these measures the influence of public opinion cannot be brought to bear upon the House of Lords. There is a great deal in these representations; and if it be objected that, circumstances having scarcely changed, they might as well have been made, and the dissolution effected, a month ago, we must acknowledge that Ministers could not so accurately appreciate their position until they came to consider their complete programme of legislation for the Session. There was then, perhaps, an almost even balance of opinion among Mr. Gladstone's colleagues respecting the necessity of dissolution; but if so, it is evident that the right hon. gentleman himself turned the scales. He appeals to the country with a strictly moderate programme which raises no great party questions, and leaves the repeal of the 25th clause of the Education Act and the establishment of household suffrage in counties for future consideration. Such is the character of the programme that Mr. Disraeli is prepared to accept and carry out the greater part of it, and claims the right to do so with various measures which his party have always advocated. But the great feature in Mr. Gladstone's manifesto are his promises with regard to finance. He has not resumed his old post of Chancellor of the Exchequer for nothing. He will have this year a surplus of some £5,000,000, and by the aid of this and some re-adjustments of existing taxation (which perhaps means the increase of direct taxes upon realised property and the increase of taxes upon intoxicating liquors and other luxuries), he proposes to abolish the income-tax, to give a "free breakfast table," and to make puperial contributions in aid of local rates. This is a magnificent prospect held out to us, in addition to much useful but scarcely party legislation; and if it were not Mr. Gladstone, the greatest financier of the age, that puts forward the prospect, we should be inclined to regard it with incredulity.

SERIOUS CHARGE OF ASSAULT AT WEST STANLEY.

On Thursday, at the Lanchester Petty Sessions, before J. Fawcett, Esq., Henry Smith, Esq., and the Rev. W. Greenwell, George Winship, grocer and farmer, Shield Row, was charged with assaulting Dorothy Blakey, at Stanley, on the 19th inst. Mr. Storey, solicitor, of Newcastle, appeared for the complainant; Mr. John Patrick, of Durham, represented defendant.—Mr. Storey, in opening the case, said the defendant was a provision merchant, and, with his mother, carried on business at West Stanley. The summons charged defendant with an assault on the 19th inst., but he might say that on the 21st, two days following——Mr. Patrick (interposing): We are charged with having committed an assault on the 19th January, and Mr. Storey must confine himself to what happened that day.—Mr. Fawcett: It would be more consistent with practice, and save time, if Mr. Storey confines himself to the facts he will be able to bring out in evidence.—Mr. Storey (resuming) said on the day in question, defendant, who was a married man with a family of five children, went into the kitchen, shut the door behind him, and, without saying a word to her, threw the complainant upon a longsettle, and acted indecently towards her. He also made an indecent proposal to her, and asked the young woman to meet him the same evening.—Dorothy Blakey, the complainant, was then called, and in answer to Mr. Storey, said about half-past one o'clock on the day in question she was in the kitchen, when the defendant entered the room. He got hold of her, and threw her upon a longsettle, where he acted in an indecent manner towards her. Whilst she was on the longsettle she struggled, and defendant twisted her arm. The defendant got up and sat down by the kitchen fire, and when complainant went to the fire again he got hold of her in an improper manner. Witness shouted, and defendant loosened his hold of her. He made a disgusting proposal to her about meeting him in the backyard the same night, but she told him that he had a wife and family and that he ought to be ashamed of himself.—Mr. Patrick: How far does the defendant live from his mother's shop?—Complainant: Mrs. Winship lives at West Stanley, and the defendant resides at Shield Row.—Mr. Patrick: What you have just described to us, took place in his mother's house?—Complainant: Yes.—Mr. Patrick: What time did defendant go to his mother's house on the Monday in question?—Complainant: Between eight and nine o'clock.—Mr. Patrick: What other parties are there about the place besides the defendant?—Complainant: There is his sister and a young woman named Pickering.—Mr. Patrick: What is there between the kitchen and the shop?—Complainant: A long passage.—Mr. Patrick: When defendant got hold of you did you shout?—Complainant: Yes; I shouted loud enough to be heard.—When you went into the kitchen where did you leave your mistress and Pickering?—Complainant: In the shop.—Mr. Patrick: How long might he be in the kitchen with you?—Complainant: A good while; it might be an hour-and-a-half.—Mr. Patrick: Are we to understand that you were struggling with him all that time?—Complainant: No; after he left loose of me he sat down by the fire.—Mr. Patrick: Notwithstanding that, as you say, the defendant had assaulted you, did you not continue to go about your work in the same room?—Complainant: Yes.—Mr. Patrick: Did you tell your mistress of what had happened when defendant went away?—Complainant: No; I sent for my mother the same night, but she could not come up, as she was busy.—Mr. Patrick: When did your mother come?—Complainant: On the Wednesday morning.—Mr. Fawcett: Where does your mother live?—Complainant: A short distance from Mrs. Winship's shop. I sent for my mother on the Monday evening.—Mr. Patrick: Did you tell your sister what had happened?—Complainant: Yes.—Mr. Patrick: Did you tell your mother, in defendant's presence, what he had done to you?—Complainant: Yes. On the 21st I went to the shop to get some meal and the defendant again got hold of me and acted rudely.—Mr. Patrick: Did you leave that day?—Complainant: Yes.—Mr. Patrick: Did you go back again?—Complainant: No.—Mr. Patrick: Did you go back again and ask Mrs. Winship to pay you half-a-year's wages?—Complainant: Yes; she said she could not.—Mr. Fawcett: If you called out in the kitchen, would the occupants of the shop be able to hear you?—Complainant: Yes.—Mr. Storey: You were present when the defendant came to your father's house?—Complainant: Yes.—Mr. Storey: He said if you would consent to go back he would never again interfere with you?—Complainant: Yes.—Isabella Blakey, mother of the complainant, stated that on the 21st inst., in consequence of a communication made to her, she went to defendant's mother's house, where she found the defendant, whom she accused of having assaulted her daughter. Defendant replied that he would tell the truth, and admitted having taken hold of complainant. He then went with witness to her house, where in the presence of her husband and complainant, he said if she would return he would not again interfere with her. He had a sup drink, and when a man was in that condition he occasionally went too far.—John Blakey, husband of last witness, gave corroborative evidence.—Mr. Patrick, for the defence, dwelt on the fact of the complainant having remained in Mrs. Winship's service without complaining to the inmates of the house.—He called John Pickering, assistant in Mrs. Winship's shop. In answer to Mr. Patrick this witness said the kitchen was separated from the shop by a passage about a dozen feet in length. He recollected the 19th inst. He did not hear an outcry that day.—In cross-examination by Mr. Storey, witness said he generally dined between twelve and one o'clock. He did not dine in Mrs. Winship's house.—David Shanks, an old man, was next called, and in answer to Mr. Patrick, said on the day in question, between one and two o'clock, he was in his own house asleep.—Mr. Storey did not ask this witness any questions.—Miss Winship, sister to the defendant, said they usually dined between twelve and one. On the day in question they had their dinner in the kitchen. She never heard complainant cry out, nor did the latter ever complain about having been assaulted.—Complainant, re-called, stated, in answer to the bench, that she told her father and mother what defendant had done to her.—Mr. Fawcett, after consulting with his colleagues, said: The magistrates have no doubt that an assault has been proved, as charged in the summons. Beyond that, we need not make any observations. We think that, under that circumstance, the justice of the case will be met by imposing a fine of £2 and the expenses.—Mr. Storey: I have now to apply, under the Master and Servants Act, for a summons against Mrs. Winship for non-payment of wages.—Mr. Patrick: Mrs. Winship is quite ready to pay the girl's wages up to the time she left.—Mr. Storey: Very well.

United Evangelistic Services.—During the last three weeks, united evangelistic services have been held in Consett—first week, in the Baptist Chapel; second, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel; and this week in the Wesleyan Chapel. On Monday night (this week), the Rev. F. Steggall, Vicar of Consett, preached; on Tuesday, the Rev. John Brooks, Baptist, Highgate; on Wednesday, the Rev. A. Edman, Wesleyan, Shotley Bridge; and on Thursday, the Rev. M. Morris, Consett. Other ministers have also assisted at the services; and mid-day prayer meetings have been held, which have been well attended. The good which has been done by these meetings is gratifying, and has had a two-fold effect—first, the members of the churches have been revived; and second, sinners have been converted. The light of divine truth has shone into the hearts of many who were in darkness as to the necessity of true religion. Almost nightly there has been enquiries after salvation, and there is every probability that should the work go on the churches will be able to report an increase instead of a decrease as was the case the last two years.—*Correspondent.*

THE BRIDEGROOM MISSING.

The wedding day had arrived. Eunice May was in a dream as she walked up the Church aisle, and did not notice something unusual in the faces about her. She stood waiting and at last began to guess at the truth. The hour for the wedding had gone by and the bridegroom had not come.

There was some whispering among the guests, and a little cabinet council on the back porch.

"It is very strange," said Mrs. May.

"Not so strange," said Mr. May, "in a doctor, as in any one else. Some severe case has detained him, doubtless."

"But he should have sent word," said Mrs. May.

"And probably has. The messenger may be playing marbles in the street. A boy has no conscience," said Mr. May.

"But something unpleasant may have happened," said Tom Rodman; "or Lynn may have lost his memory over some big book or other. I'll run over and see what has happened."

So Tom, who had quite forgotten his fancy for Eunice, and was now engaged to a very pretty girl with a little fortune of her own, hurried away with his gala-day costume hidden as well as might be under a fall overcoat, to the house on which the sign bearing the name and title, "Arthur Lynn, M.D." glittered in the sunshine.

As he approached, he noticed that the house wore an unwonted aspect. The shutters were all closed, the gate of the door-yard fastened, and there was no sign of any human presence to be seen.

"Missed him, I suppose," said Tom. "He can't have gone off anywhere."

But as he spoke, an upper shutter opened softly, and Dr. Lynn appeared at a window, in his ordinary every-day attire.

"You, Rodman?" he said gravely, and said no more.

"Overslept yourself on your wedding-day, eh?" cried Rodman, a little contemptuously.

"No," said the doctor, with a sigh. "I have been expecting some of you. Will you take a message to Eunice? Give her, if you please, my tenderest love. Tell her how bitterly grieved I am that this should have occurred. But that circumstances, which I cannot yet explain, have forced me to postpone our marriage. I cannot write to her. I must not come to her. No one must come here. I will admit no one even to that court-yard. Beg her to have faith in me, and to wait."

"By Jove!" cried Rodman. "You take my breath away. You must write Eunice a letter at least. This is too mysterious."

"I will not write," said the doctor. "Tell her what I have said, and I know she will forgive me, and trust me, and wait until I can come. Do you think any little thing would drive me to this?"

Then Dr. Lynn retreated into the upper room, and the shutters were closed. And Rodman hurried back to the bride's father and mother. He forgot the message that had been given him on the way—that is, he forgot the words. He rendered it in the spirit in which he had taken it. Thus:

"I don't know what to say, uncle. I found Lynn's house shut up, and he talked to me from an upper window. Said he wouldn't write; said he couldn't come; said he wouldn't let any one in. Isn't ill or hurt; never better in his life. Said he couldn't be married to-day, and he knew Eunice would excuse him. Call some time and explain. Couldn't get anything else out of him. Cool as a cucumber. By Jove, I never heard anything like it."

"Nor I, Tom," said Mr. May. "My dear, you must break it to Eunice, while I dismiss the guests. I am almost glad my son Ralph did not get down, after all. He could not take this as coolly as he should. Lynn is a rascal. He is not not worth notice—yet he makes my old blood boil. Ralph would shoot him."

The guests had gone home, and in her upper chamber the bride, who should have been, lay sobbing on her bed, while the mother and the bride's-maid gathered up vest and wreath and scattered pearls, and laid them quietly away.

Eunice lived through it. She did not even fall into a brain fever, and rave of her lover's inconstancy. But she was very miserable.

Tom had not wilfully lied, but instead of the sad and serious, though mysterious message given to him, he had brought a course and flippant one. He had not begged Eunice to have faith in her lover, and await an explanation. He had not given her Arthur Lynn's "tenderest love."

The impression was that he had slipped out of his engagement in a most brutal and ungentlemanly manner, and every one believed that he had left the place, for not a token of his presence could any one discover. The house was shut up. No one could even reach the door to ring the bell. It was a mystery.

Eunice made a packet of his letters, the lock of his hair, her engagement ring, a few simple presents that he had given her, directed them in a hand not as steady as she had tried to make it, and wrote a little note:—

"Since we have dissolved an engagement which we were wiser in breaking than in making, I desire to return you your gifts. I wish to have nothing by me which can remind me of one so utterly unworthy of my regard. Had you had courage to explain your feelings, you would have found that I was quite as happy to be rid of you, as you could be to be rid of me."

"I have fibbed horribly," said Eunice, "but I've saved my pride a little."

"I am so glad," said Eunice to her mother that evening, "that Ralph did not come to my wedding. We need not tell him, for ever so long, but that it was broken off at my wish."

And then Eunice dropped her head on her mother's bosom, and wept.

They were aroused by a voice which called them by name: "Mother—Eunice!"

"It's Ralph," cried the mother. "Oh, my boy, when did you come?"

Ralph came forward and kissed them both.

"I entered the house three minutes ago," he said. "Every one well? Eunice, I have something to say to you. Didn't you miss me at your wedding?"

"There was no wedding," said Eunice calmly. "I shall never marry Dr. Lynn."

"Then you'll miss the finest fellow living," cried Ralph.

"I know you always liked him, Ralph," said the mother; "but things have happened here that—that—"

"I know just what has happened," cried Ralph. "Dr. Lynn was missing at his own wedding. He begged you to have faith in him and wait. You doubted him, and to-day sent him back his letters and love gifts, and wrote him a petty, horrible, contemptible note; told him you were glad to break with him. I don't believe you. A splendid fellow like that."

"I don't know how you know all this," said Eunice. "About my note, I mean. All the place knows about the wedding, but I should think that you would look upon his conduct—that is—I don't understand—I—I—"

"Eunice," said Ralph, "I am furious; but it is with you. You have wronged one of Heaven's best men. I did come down to your wedding, my dear. I had been ill for several days, but I did not think myself very bad. I took the train with a bad headache, and all sorts of unpleasant symptoms; but before I reached Four Corners I knew I was worse than I thought. I was nearly blind, when I staggered upon the platform and saw Dr. Lynn standing there. Perhaps I should not have seen him, if he had not have rushed forward and grasped my hand. I said something about being ill, and his being the first man I wanted to see. I remember he cried out, 'My God!' He took me straight to his house, and told me I was in for a splendid case of small-pox. I was. An hour after, I heard him send a message that might have kept any woman true to him, by that puppy Tom, and I don't know much more. He barricaded the house, and nursed me through it. He had provisions brought in by the old man-servant after dark, and he kept the secret from every one. You know the town laws about small-pox, and a trip to the hospital; and the hospital nursing would have been my death, he says. He knew that father was opposed to vaccination, and that none of us had ever had small-pox, and he would neither see nor write you. Poor fellow, he thought you loved him too well to doubt him, and here I am, thanks to him, alive and well. No danger from me now, though I think my beauty is spoiled a little. And after all, his reward was that note you sent him to-day."

"Oh, Ralph," cried the mother, bursting into tears, "you in such danger, and I not with you?"

But Eunice only said:

"Where is he, Ralph?"

"Packing his trunk to leave Four Corners for ever," replied her brother.

But he didn't.

FACETIÆ.

The bump of destructiveness—A railway collision.

Wanted to Know.—Is a baker's son not bred to the business?

Query.—May a girl be said to have a ringing laugh when she is a belle?

"The great American obituary provoker" is the latest designation for kerosene.

"Wanted," says a country paper, "young ladies who can and will play at croquet without cheating."

Some one remarked to an Aberdonian, "It's a fine day." "Fa's findin' faut wi' the day?" was the Scot's reply, "Ye wud pick a quarrel wi' a steen wa'."

A Californian paper tells of a boy who climbed a tomato vine to get away from a mad dog. Tomato vines attain an enormous size in California, and so do "stories."

There is said to be a man who is so fond of money that when he pays a bill he always walks home with the man to whom he pays it, so as to be near the money as long as possible.

A conscientious little boy, upon whom his mother was inflicting personal chastisement, exclaimed: "Give me two or three more licks, mamma. I don't believe I can behave well yet."

"Knowing" People.—I find plenty ov people who are willing tew tell you all they kno, if you tell them all you kno, but the mizary ov the trade iz, they don't kno much.—*Josh Billings.*

An Indian paper says: "A precocious boy in this village attempted to amputate a cat's tail yesterday. The operation was highly unsuccessful, and the boy will, hereafter, do his seeing with one eye."

To see how eagerly a human being will catch at a straw it is not necessary to witness a drowning. Just put one end of a straw in a cobbler or a julep, and you will find enough who will eagerly grasp at the other end with their lips.

The Loan of a Rope.—Jones and Jackson are neighbours, but are far from being on friendly terms. A friend of Jones said to him, "I am glad you have made it up with Jackson." "Made it up with Jackson!" exclaimed Jones; "not I. What put that into your head?" "Why," replied his friend, "I saw him hanging up a pig to-day, and he said he had borrowed the rope of you." "A pig!" sighed Jones. "Yes." "Well," said Jones, "he came to me to borrow a good strong rope, and I—I lent it to him. How should I know what use he intended to put it to?" And Jones sighed again.

Uncle Solomon says he has noticed, all through his life, how ready people are, when they have made a mistake to correct it—by abusing somebody else for it. In a night school the teacher was trying to make his class understand the meaning of subtraction, and to illustrate the subject, said, "Supposing a farmer had four hundred sheep, and he sold fifty of them, by what process would he understand how many he had left? What would he do?" A raw-boned lad of fourteen, with beaming face and outstretched arm, replied, as soon as he caught the teacher's eye, "Ask the shuppard, sir!"

The Retort Courteous.—Dean Swift, having preached an assize sermon in Ireland, was invited to dine with the judges, and having in his sermon considered the uses and abuses of the law, he then pressed a little hard on those counsellors who plead causes which they know in their conscience to be wrong. When dinner was over and the glasses began to go round, a young barrister retorted upon the dean, and after several altercations, the counsellor asked him, "If Satan were to die, whether a parson might not be found who, for money, would preach his funeral sermon?" "Yes," said Swift, "I would gladly be the man, and I would then give him his due, as I have this day done his children."

Dunder-headed People.—Few amusements in the world are funnier than the play of different ideas under similar sounds, and it would be hard to find a thing more universally understood and caught at than a pun; but there really are individuals so made that a word can mean but one thing to them, and even metaphors must go on all fours. Lord Morpeth used to tell of a Scotch friend of his who, to the remark that some people could not feel a jest unless it was fired at them with a cannon, replied, "Weel, but hoo can ye fire a jest out of a cannon, mon?" A lady once put a conundrum to her rheumatic old nurse, asking her, "Why are you like a church window, Sally?" and gave the answer, "Because you are full of panes." Whereupon the old woman pityingly replied, "Oh, dear! somebody's been a foolin' of ye, honey. Them's anuder sort o' panes. They've been foolin' ye, child."

Stories about Beadles.—A church in "the north country," which needed a pastor, had a beadle who took an active interest in all proceedings taken to fill up the vacancy. One of the candidates, after the afternoon service was over, put off the cloak in the vestry and stepped into the church, in which our worthy was just putting things to rights. "I was just taking a look at the church," said the minister. "Aye, tak' a guid look at it," said the beadle, "for it's no likely ye'll ever see it again." At a country church, a young minister from London came to do duty one Sabbath. Entering the vestry, he doffed his coat and vest previous to donning the cassock and cloak, and looked round for the looking-glass, which generally forms part of the vestry furniture. He searched, however, in vain. At last, losing patience, he cried out, "Church offisaw! church offisaw!" After calling for some time the heed of a grey-haired man peered in at the door, saying, "What's yer wull?" "Where's the mirraw?" demanded the minister. "Sir?" said the other. "The mirraw—the looking-glass," said the minister, impatiently. "Oh, the looking-glass. Ye see, oor minister's sic a bunsum man naturally that he doesna need a looking-glass; but I'll bring ye a pail o' water if ye like."

The late Hiram Powers, the famous sculptor, has left a widow, three daughters, and three sons, of whom the youngest, Mr. Preston Powers—who gives every promise of having inherited his father's genius, as well as his honoured name—has alone devoted himself to his father's art.

Railway Time Tables.

Newcastle to Jarrow and South Shields.

Leaves Newcastle (Week days)—5·10, 7·0, 7·45 (*), 8·0 9·0, 9·55, 10·55, 11·35 (*), 12·30, 2·10, 3·0, 3·35 (*) 4·0, 5·5, 6·0, 7·0, 8·0, 9·35, 10·50.

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

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

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

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

Felling: First, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 3d.

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

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

Jarrow, Tyne Dock, High Shields, or South Shields: First, 1s.; second, 9d.; third, 6d. Return, 1s. 8d., 1s. 3d., 10d.

South Shields to Jarrow and Newcastle.

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

Leaves South Shields (Sundays).—6·15, 8·0, 9·55, 2·5 5·0. 7·20, 8·20, 9·35.

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

On Saturdays

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

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

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

Jarrow; First, 8d; second, 6d.; third, 3½d.

Pelaw, Felling, Gateshead, or Newcastle: First, 1s.; second, 9d.; third, 6d.

Sunderland to South Shields and Jarrow.

Leaves Sunderland (Week days).—5·0, 6·50, 7·50, 8·50 9·50, 11·0 12·20, 1·50, 2·55, 3·50, 4·50, 6·5, 7·5, 8·5, 9·5, 10·30.

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

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

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

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

Jarrow to South Shields and Sunderland.

Leaves Jarrow (Week days).—5·33 7·21, 8.21, 9·21, 10·16, 11·16, 11·53, 12·51, 2·31, 3·21, 4·21, 5·36, 6·21 7·21, 8·21, 9.55, 11·11.

Leaves Jarrow (Sundays)—6·31, 8·21, 9·51, 2·21, 5·21, 7·36, 8·36, 9·51.

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

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

Newcastle to Tynemouth.

Leaves Newcastle—Central Station—(Week days)—5·10 (*a*), 7·0, 8·5, 9·0 (*), 9·15, 9·45, (*c*), 10·15, 11·0, 12·0, 1·0, 1·45 (†), 2·0, 2·30 (†), 3·5, 4·10, 4·45 (†), 5·15, 5·50 (†), 6·10, 6·45 (†), 7·10, 8·10, 9·0, 10·0, 11·30 (*c*).

Leaves Newcastle—Central Station—(Sundays).—6·10 (*a*), 8·30, 9.30, 10·5, 1·0 (†), 1·15, 2·0 (†), 2·15, 3·0 (†), 3·15 4·0, 5·0, 6·0, 6·35 (†), 7·0, 7·35 (†), 8·0, 8·45, 9·15.

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

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

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

a.—This train stops at intermediate stations when required, to set down passengers arriving from the south by either the 4.38 or 5·58 a.m trains.

b.—The 6·45 p.m. train from Newcastle will stop at all Stations on Saturdays and reach Tynemouth at 7·20 p.m.

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

3d.; third, 2d.; Walker, first, 6d; second, 4d.; third,

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

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

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

Howdon: First, 10d., second, 8d., third, 5d. Return, first, 1s. 6d., second, 1s. 2d., third, 9d.

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

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

Tynemouth to Newcastle.

Leaves Tynemouth (Week days)—5·20, 6·40 (*a*), 7·45, 8·30 (*), 9·0, 9·30 (*), 10·0, 10·30 (*), 11·0, 12·0, 12·45, 1·45 (*), 2·15, 3·0, 3·30 (*), 4·0, 5·0, 5·30 (*), 6·0, 6·30 (*), 7·0, 7·30 (*), 8·0, 9·0, 10·0, 10·50 (*b*).

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

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—North Shields 3, Percy Main 9, Howdon 11, Wallsend 16, Walker 19, Heaton 23, and Manors 30 minutes after afore times, arriving at Central Station, Newcastle about 35 minutes after leaving Tynemouth.

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

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

b.—The 10·50 p.m. train stops at Stations up to and including Walker on Saturdays, and does not reach the Central Station until 11·20 p.m.

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

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY

GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

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

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Saltburn	dep.	5·45	11·25	1·50
Middlesbro'	„	6·22	12·2	2·25
Stockton	„	6·34	12·12	2·35
Darlington	„	7·15	1·5	4·40
Bishop Auckland	„	7·48	1·35	5·10
Crook	arr.	8·10	1·57	5·32
	dep.	8·15	2·20	5·35
Tow Law	„	8·27	2·32	5·45
Burnhill Junction	„	8·42	2·45	6·0
Rowley	„	8·52	2·55	6·10
Benfieldside	arr.	9·5	[illegible]	6·20
Newcastle	arr.	10·0	4·15	9·35

CONSETT BRANCH.

UP TRAINS.—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.		1,2,G.	1,2,G.	1,2,G	1,2,G.	,2,G
		A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·55	10·0	12·40	2·30	5·35
Scotswood	„	6·2	10·7	12·47	2·37	5·42
Swalwell	„	6·9	10·14	12·53	2·44	5·49
Rowland's Gill	„	6·19	10·24	1·1	2·54	5·59
Lintz Green	„	6·25	10·30	1·9	3·0	6·6
Ebchester	„	6·38	10·43	1·19	3·13	6·18
Shotley Bridge	„	6·44	10·49	1·24	3·19	6·24
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.			1·30	3·25	
	dep	6·50	10·55		4·20	6·30
Knitsley	„	7·4	11·9		4·34	·44
Lanchester	„	7·13	11·18		4·43	6·53
Witton Gilbert	„	7·20	11·27		4·50	[illegible]
Durham	arr.	7·35	11·40		5·5	7·15

DOWN TRAINS—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS		1,2,G.	1,2 G.	1,2,G.	1,2,G	1,2,G
		A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Durham	dep.	7·40		12·15	3·20	7·55
Witton Gilbert	„	7·55		12·29	3·33	8·9
Lanchester	„	8·6		12·40	3·44	8·20
Knitsley	„	8·17		12·50	3·55	8·31
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.				4·5	
	dep	8·32	9·15	1·5	3·35	8·43
Shotley Bridge	„	8·37	9·20	1·10	3·42	8·48
Ebchester	„	8·40	9·23	1·14	3·44	8·52
Lintz Green	„	8·50	9·33	1·24	3·54	9·3
Rowland's Gill	„	8·55	9·38	1·29	3·59	9·8
Swalwell	„	9·4	9·47	1·38	4·5	9·17
Scotswood	„	9·10	9·53	1·44	4·16	9·24
Newcastle	arr.	9·20	10·5	1·55	4·30	9·35

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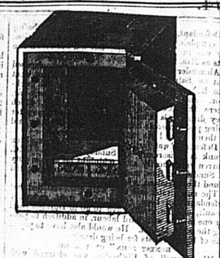

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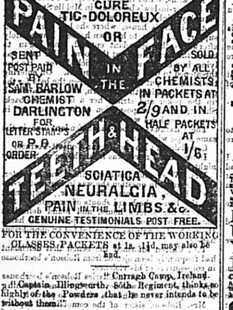

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Local and District News.

Concert at Medomsley.—The Leadgate Wesleyan Choir gave a most excellent concert of sacred music, in the Wesleyan Chapel at Medomsley, on Monday evening last.

The members of the Derwent Lodge of the Miners Union have kindly presented £5 towards the Good Templars Hall and Public Reading-room now being erected at Medomsley.

Police Promotion.—Police-constable Parkinson, late of Quebec, and now of Consett, has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and Sergeant Potter, late of Consett, has been appointed Inspector and transferred to Chester-le-Street.

Consett Iron Company, Limited.—At a meeting of directors, held at 19, Grey Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, it was resolved that an interim dividend of £2 per share, clear of income tax, be paid on Monday, the 16th day of February, to the members registered in the company's books on the 10th day of February, 1874.

Catholic Order of Oddfellows.—A new lodge of the above Order has been opened at Consett. The ceremony took place in St. Patrick's School-room, and there were initiated on the occasion twenty-eight members. The name of the Society is the St. Mary's Lodge, No. 12. We understand that other lodges are to be formed in the neighbourhood.

Resignation of the Clerk to the Hexham Board of Guardians.—On Tuesday, at the fortnightly meeting of the Hexham Board of Guardians, Mr. John Stokoe resigned the office of clerk to the Board, an appointment which he has held for the lengthened period of thirty-five years. After accepting the resignation, the guardians passed a cordial vote of thanks to that gentleman for his past services.

The Hexham School Board Election.—The election of a School Board for Hexham has been fixed for the 6th of February, and eleven persons have been nominated for the seven seats on the Board, viz., Rev. Canon Barker, Mr. Wm. Robb, Mr. J. S. Moffatt, Rev. J. M. Wilson, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. J. Hope, junior, Mr. M. Smith, Mr. G. Robinson, Mr. J. Lisle, Mr. W. Taylor, and Mr. Dobson (schoolmaster). It is not known whether the last named gentleman has any intention of going to the poll.

Death of a Consett Man in America.—Information has reached Consett of the death of Mr. James H. White, formerly of Consett, which took place at Leechburg, Armstrong County, Pennsylvania, on the 19th December. Deceased was buried in the cemetery of the above place, on Sunday, the 21st December, his remains being followed to their last resting place by the members of the Independent Order of Oddfellows and True Templars, of which Orders deceased was a member at the time of his death. Deceased, who was the son of the late Mr. Thomas White, of Consett, was twenty-six years of age.

THE DIPTON ELOPEMENT CASE.

At Lanchester Petty Sessions, on Thursday, before Mr. J. Fawcett, Mr. Henry Smith, and the Rev. W. Greenwell, John Hoskin was brought up on remand charged with stealing a quantity of furniture, bedding, wearing apparel, &c., the property of John Maddison, miner, Dipton, on the 26th December. Dr. Carr, of Wolsingham, prosecuted.

John Maddison, miner, Dipton, deposed that the prisoner lodged with him up to the time of the robbery. On the morning of the 26th December, about three o'clock, he went to work, leaving his wife and children and the prisoner in bed in seperate rooms. On returning home at four o'clock in the afternoon he found the door locked, and his wife and children missing. He also discovered that his house had been stripped of several articles of furniture, as well as the whole of his wife's and children's wearing apparel. From information he subsequently received, he proceeded to Newcastle, and, in a house in Thornton Street, he found the prisoner and his wife and children and the missing property. The prisoner was given into custody on a charge of larceny.

William Amble deposed that he was a greengrocer, residing at Dipton. About seven o'clock in the evening of the 25th December, the prisoner went to his house, said he was going to leave his lodgings, and asked witness to take his goods to Newcastle. The following morning, about eight o'clock, witness went to Maddison's house, where he found three sacks, a trunk, and three picks on the floor. The sacks, picks, and trunk, which were not labelled, were then put into the cart by the prisoner. Witness left the articles at the White Swan the same day.

Ellen Sisterson, Thornton Street, Newcastle, deposed that prisoner went to her house and took a room for the use of himself and Mrs. Maddison, whom he represented as his wife.

Evidence was also given to prove that prisoner himself removed the goods from the White Swan to the house in Thornton Street.—Prisoner was committed for trial.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary monthly meeting of the members of this Board was held at Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday afternoon, sen., Mr. Charles Wilson (chairman) presiding. Mr. Henry Carss, Mr. Joseph Eltringham, Mr. E. O. Tregelles, Mr. John Annandale, Mr. James Annandale, jun., and Mr. William Wilson were also present. The minutes of the last meeting were read, confirmed, and signed by the chairman.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr. Smith) reported that the contractor for the roads had got the greater part of the material laid on, but he (Mr. Smith) found that they would do with about 100 tons more of limestone on the Durham Road, between Benfieldside Railway Station and the end of Shotley Grove Road. The culvert at Elm Park Lane End, and the fence at the Quarry had been completed. Notice had been served on the Consett Iron Company to form and complete part of Dixon Street, adjoining their property at Blackfine. The works at Cemetery Road and Manse Street were progressing, as were also those at Oak Street, Shotley Bridge. The drain in connection with Mr. Stephenson's property at Blackfine is in progress.

LIMESTONE.

Mr. James Annandale moved, and Mr. Joseph Eltringham seconded, that leave be given to the Surveyor to procure an additional 100 tons of limestone for Durham Road.—Agreed to.

THE PINFOLD AT BLACKHILL.

The Surveyor reported that the pinfold at Blackhill was nearly down. He thought it would be better to take it down and remove it to Backstone Burn Quarry.

Mr. William Wilson proposed that the pinfold should be pulled down and the material sold; and that the present manure depot at Backstone Burn be used in future as such pinfold.

The proposition was seconded by Mr. James Annandale, and unanimously agreed to.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Osborne (the Inspector) reported that the district generally was in a satisfactory state. The ashpit system was self-supporting.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY COMMITTEE.

Mr. Tregelles, on behalf of the Sanitary Committee, reported that the subject of Alexander Frazer's accounts had been brought before them by the Surveyor. The only question was respecting an extra charge of £21, in consequence of 60 yards having to be cut through rock instead of what was assumed to be ordinary soil. The depth of the cutting averaged about 9in. more than the measurement given to Mr. Frazer, and of this Mr. Frazer had said nothing. The committee understood it was usual for contractors to have some consideration for such a circumstance as encountering rock unexpectedly. They, therefore, recommended the Board to allow the claim in whole or in part, according to the opinion of Mr. Smith, of what was reasonable in the case.

After some discussion, it was proposed by Mr. John Annandale, and seconded by Mr. Joseph Eltringham, that Mr. Frazer be paid the sum of 5s. per yard over and above his contract for cutting the rock unexpectedly met with in the drain laid down in West Row, Blackhill.—Carried unanimously.

WEST ROW AND ST. MARY'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

Mr. William Wilson moved, and Mr. James Annandale, seconded that the proprietors in West Row and St. Mary's Street, Blackhill, be served with notices to form these roads, and lay down drains in the cross streets, and connect them with the main drain in West Row, Blackhill, in accordance with plans to be furnished by the Surveyor.—Carried unanimously.

HOUSES IN CEMETERY ROAD.

Mr. William Wilson proposed, and Mr. John Annandale seconded, that Mr. Routledge's plan of two new houses in Cemetery Road be passed, subject to the approval of the Building Committee, and that Mr. Routledge be requested to pay his proportionate share in forming the road in front of his property.—The motion was unanimously agreed to.

INSPECTION OF HOUSES.

On the motion of Mr. Henry Carss, seconded by Mr. William Wilson, it was resolved that the Medical and Sanitary Officers should be requested to inspect the houses between West Row and Derwent Street, Blackhill, and notify to the Board, at their next meeting, what houses are unfit for human habitation.

THE SEWAGE DIFFICULTY.

A letter was read from Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Shotley Hall, in which that gentleman expressed his conviction that the effect of diverting the sewage into the mill-dam, at the pond indicated by the Board, would be to increase, rather than mitigate, the nuisance of which he had so much cause to complain, and he therefore declined to give his consent to the scheme. It was, he thought, much to be regretted that the Board did not, at once, grapple with the whole question of sewage in the township, for no scheme could be complete or satisfactory which did not deal with the pollution of the river and the atmosphere by the works at the Paper Mills.

Mr. Tregelles moved, and Mr. Eltringham seconded, "that a reply be addressed to Mr. Wilson, stating that the Board are earnestly desirous of carrying out the improvement works as soon as the best mode for doing so can be ascertained."—Carried unanimously.

BAD ROAD AND FOOTPATH.

On the motion of Mr. Tregelles, seconded by Mr. William Wilson, the Clerk was requested to call the attention of the trustees of the Shotley Bridge and Newcastle Turnpike Road to the defective state of the carriage road and footpath leading from Shotley Bridge to Ebchester.

The Board then adjourned.

Local Police Courts.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE POLICE COURT.

SATURDAY, January 24th.—Before A. Town, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Patrick McGuire, ironworker, Consett, who had been apprehended the previous evening, was charged with drunkenness. Sergt. Parkinson proved the offence, and defendant was fined 10s and costs.

MONDAY, January 26th.—Before H. C. Silvertop, A. Town (chairman), and R. Wallis, Esqs.

CHARGE OF DRUNKENNESS AGAINST A MILLER.

Edward Dixon, miller, Ebchester, was summoned for having been drunk on licensed premises during prohibited hours, on the 26th December.

Police-constable Cumming, stationed at Ebchester, deposed that at five minutes past eleven o'clock on the night of the 26th ult., he went to Miss Anderson's house, where he saw the defendant, who was drunk and staggering about one of the rooms with his coat off. At half-past eleven o'clock he again visited the house, in company with Sergt. Nattress, and on proceeding to an upstairs room he found Mr. Dixon lying on a couch.

The Chairman: What was Mr. Dixon doing with his coat off the first time you went to the house?

P.C. Cumming: I cannot say. When I saw Mr. Dixon with his coat off, I was getting the men downstairs in order to clear the house.

Defendant: What time did you first come into the room?

P.C. Cumming: At five minutes past eleven.

Defendant: Had I my coat off then?

P.C. Cumming: Yes.

Defendant: What was I doing with my coat off?

P.C. Cumming: You were standing with the coat in your hand.

Defendant: I think I would be sitting at the time.

P.C. Cumming: No; you were standing.

Defendant: What time did you say you came back to the house?

P.C. Cumming: At half-past eleven.

Defendant: Had I still my coat off?

P.C. Cumming: No.

Defendant: You positively swear that I was drunk?

P.C. Cumming: Yes, positively.

Defendant: You have no hesitation in saying that I was drunk?

P.C. Cumming: Not the slightest; I am sure you were drunk.

Defendant: Do you consider that a man is necessarily drunk because he has his coat off?

P.C. Cumming: You were staggering about the room. I can bring witnesses to prove that you were not sober at five o'clock.

Defendant (to the bench): I have not brought any witnesses myself, but I can bring a number of respectable gentlemen to speak to my condition.

The Chairman: When did you receive the summons?

Defendant: A week to-night.

The Chairman: You have had sufficient time to bring witnesses. We must take the evidence before us.

Defendant: The officer knew at the time that I was not tipsy. On the day in question we had had a pigeon shooting match amongst ourselves, and at the dinner which followed one of the gentlemen present, out of a little innocent——

The Chairman (interrupting): Before you make your defence we had better hear the other witness.

Defendant, (to the bench): The officer has stated that I was drunk at the five o'clock. I wish——

Mr. Wallis (to the policeman): You do not give that in evidence?

P.C. Cumming: No.

Sergeant Nattress, of Blackhill, was then sworn. He stated that on the night in question he went to Miss Anderson's public-house with the last witness, and in one of the rooms upstairs he saw Mr. Dixon lying on his back on the sofa. As soon as defendant observed witness he said "Now, P.C." Witness did not make any reply, nor did he take much notice of Mr. Dixon. At that time there were several drunken men in the house

Mr. Town: It was closing time?

Sergeant Nattress: The men ought to have been out of the house half-an-hour before that.

Defendant: Was I not sitting on a sofa in a reclining position?

Sergeant Nattress: You were lying on your back.

Mr. Wallis to (Sergeant Nattress): You cannot speak to his being drunk?

Sergeant Nattress: I cannot swear that he was drunk. I did not take a great deal of notice of Mr. Dixon.

Mr. Dixon, in defence, said he left the house at ten minutes past eleven and not at half-past as stated by the officer. He denied the drunkenness, and accounted for the fact of having his coat off by remarking that he and another gentleman in the company, in order to cause a little amusement, exchanged coats. The other gentleman happened to be a man of much less dimensions than himself, and in putting on the coat it slit across the back, and he was holding it in his hand when the officer entered the room.

The magistrates, after consulting, said, taking all the circumstances into consideration, they had agreed to dismiss the case. At the same time, however, they considered that the officer had done his duty in bringing the case before them.

A STRONG-VOICED PUDDLER.

John Parkinson, puddler, Consett, was charged by Sergeant Parkinson with having been drunk and disorderly on Saturday night. John and his better half, it appears, are in the habit of going to market on Saturday evenings, and on the night in question, having laid in a good supply of solids for the ensuing week, they bent their steps homeward. On the way, however, they called at several hostelries, where they indulged in sundry "drops" to keep out the cold. The potations seem to have visibly affected John's "better half," who was so overcome that in Front Street her parcel of groceries fell from her hands, and it was with a great deal of manœuvring that she managed to keep her equilibrium. By supporting each other, the pair managed to reach Puddlers' Row, where a stoppage was made by John, who appeared to be quite "pumped" out by the exertions he had made in favour of his spouse. At this juncture, the sergeant, whose attention had been attracted by the boisterous language of the defendant, appeared on the scene and took defendant into custody.—In defence, John said he had a strong voice when he got drunk, and on the night in question he was only talking to his wife when he was marched off to the lock-up.—On paying a fine of 5s. and costs, he was discharged.

THOMAS GOES FOR A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY AND GETS HIS HEAD CUT INSTEAD.

Thomas Glynn, labourer, Consett, was charged with a similar offence. About eleven o'clock Sergt. Parkinson was on duty in Consett, when he discovered the defendant lying on the road, bleeding profusely from a wound behind the ear. On examining the ground, he found a glass bottle, which was broken to pieces. Defendant was conveyed to the Station, and as the wound behind the ear continued to bleed freely, the assistance of a doctor had to be obtained.—Defendant's version of the affair was to the effect that he left his lodgings for the purpose of getting a gill of whiskey, and, on returning home, he was knocked down.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 5s. and costs.

GIVING HIMSELF AN AIRING.

John Williams, ironworker, Consett, in custody, was charged with having been drunk at Consett. On Saturday night, about half-past nine o'clock, two men informed P.C. Stoner that a man was lying drunk on the Number One Road. He at once proceeded to the place indicated, and found defendant in the manner described. The night was frosty, and had defendant been left alone he probably would have succumbed to the cold.—On paying a fine of 5s. and costs for the trouble he had given the police, the defendant was discharged.

HAVING A LITTLE DIVERSION.

George McCluskey and *Edward Sheenan*, puddlers, Consett, were charged by P.C. Farnaby with having been drunk and disorderly at Consett. Defendants were fighting in Middle Street, with a crowd of persons round them. They were drunk, and as they refused to leave the street, Farnaby got the assistance of another officer, in whose custody defendants were taken to the Police Station.—Sheenan, in defence, said he and McCluskey were only "wrestling for a little diversion."—They were discharged on paying a fine of 10s. and costs.

A TROUBLESOME LODGER.

Matthew Carroll, puddler, Consett, was charged with a similar offence. On Sunday morning, shortly after two o'clock, Sergt. Parkinson and P.C. Stoner were on duty in William Street, when they heard a noise apparently proceeding from one of the back streets. They afterwards found defendant, who was bleeding from the nose and mouth, kicking at a door, apparently for the purpose of gaining admittance. As defendant refused to leave the place, he was locked up by P.C. Stoner.—In defence, defendant said he took a drunken comrade home, and the noise heard by the officers was occasioned by knocking up the landlady of the house.—P.C. Stoner intimated that in the early part of the night defendant caused a crowd to collect by fighting.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 10s. and costs.

AN INEBRIATE NAVVY.

James Carpenter, navvy, Consett Waterworks, was charged with having been drunk at Consett on Saturday night. P.C. Farnaby stated that he found defendant at the east end of Middle Street. He was drunk, and witness was on the point of taking him into custody, when a couple of men volunteered to take defendant to a place of safety. On proceeding to the other end of the street, shortly afterwards, he discovered defendant trying to support himself by the wall, his companions having deserted him. Defendant admitted having got a few glasses too much, and, on promising to become a cold water drinker, he was let off on paying a fine of 5s. and costs.

ASSAULT WITH A POKER AT CONSETT.—DEFENDANT COMMITTED TO PRISON FOR A MONTH.

Robert Winter, ironworker, Consett, was charged with assaulting Jane Close, single-woman, at Consett, on Saturday night.

Complainant, who appeared in court with a child in her arms, stated that she occupied a room behind her brother-in-law's beerhouse in Middle Street. On Saturday night, about twelve o'clock, she left her brother-in-law's house, where she had been getting supper, and went to her own house. Immediately afterwards the defendant entered, and began to knock the furniture about the room. Her baby was lying in a cradle, and this he kicked over. He also threatened to take her life that night. On entering the house she put the poker between the bars for the purpose of making the fire burn, and defendant took up the poker and struck her a blow on the back. She struggled for possession of the weapon, and in doing so her hand was burnt.

The Chairman: Does the defendant live in the same house with you?

Complainant: No; he lives in Consett Terrace.

Defendant: I never was in her house on Saturday night.

Mrs. Wood said the complainant was her sister. On the night in question she was in her brother-in-law's house, and some time after complainant left the house she heard shouts of "murder." She went to her sister's house, and found defendant standing over her sister with a poker in his hand. He got hold of witness and called her an opprobrious name.

P.C. Curren informed the bench that defendant had frequently been ejected from Robson's beerhouse in consequence of his violence.

Defendant: I was in Charles Robson's beerhouse that night, but I was never in her house (meaning the complainant). I have a witness to prove it.

Mrs. Robson, sister of the complainant, deposed that on Saturday night defendant went into her house and called for a quart of ale. He took up two quart pots and broke them. He did this every time he entered her house, and she had often been compelled to put him out of the house. After he broke the pots he went through the back door towards her sister's house.

By the Bench: Her sister's house was separated by a back door and a yard.

Charles Robson, beerhousekeeper, husband of the last witness, stated that he heard shouts of murder shortly after his sister-in-law left the house. Thinking the sound proceeded from some one in the back lane, witness and his wife and sister-in-law took no notice of it for a few minutes. The cries continuing, however, and defendant's name being mentioned, his wife and sister went out. Witness also went out, and defendant attempted to strike his (witness's) wife, but the blow caught witness on the eye.

Defendant, in answer to the charge, denied being in complainant's house on the night in question. He was in Robson's house, but did not break two pots as Mrs. Robson asserted. He then called

Alexander Cockburn, a young man, who deposed that on Saturday night he and the defendant went into Robson's beerhouse. They left by the back-door, and went to Mr. Murray's back-bar, where they obtained a bottle of whiskey, which they drank in a house. They were some time after going past Robson's back-door, when somebody said to them, "You have just got away in time."

Defendant was further charged with having been drunk and disorderly on Sunday morning. P.C. Curren said shortly after midnight he was on duty in Sunderland Row, and found a crowd congregated round the defendant, who had been fighting.

The magistrates said they were quite satisfied that defendant had been guilty of a most cowardly assault, and he would have to go to Durham Gaol for one month, with hard labour, in addition to paying the costs, 11s. 6d. He would also have to pay a fine of 10s. and costs for being drunk.

"HONEST JOHN" ONCE MORE.

John Browell, of Ebchester, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly on licensed premises. P.C. Cumming stated that he was on duty at Ebchester when the defendant's father requested him to eject the defendant from the house, as he was afraid of his life. Defendant at that time was drunk, had his coat off, and was using abusive language.—Defendant had nothing to say in defence, beyond that he had got a "little too much."—The Chairman: Can you not refrain from getting drunk? You have been here very often.—Defendant: Well, I admit that I got a sup too much this time.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 20s. and costs.

A BATCH OF DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Bernard McGuire, labourer, Blackhill, was charged by Sergt. Nattress with having been drunk and disorderly at Blackhill. About twelve o'clock on Saturday night the defendant was standing near the Rose and Crown, moralizing on his condition, but, his reverie being interrupted by the officers, he became abusive, and had ultimately to be taken to Consett Lock-up.—He was discharged on payment of 5s. and costs.

James Bell, hawker, Cold Rowley, appears to have visited Newcastle on Saturday. On arriving at Benfieldside Station, on the return journey, he found, to use his own expression, that he had got "a little ower much," which circumstance so interfered with the proper working of the lower limbs that he was unable to walk, and had to be accommodated with lodgings in the police cell. He now expressed his obligation to Sergt. Nattress for the kind attention he had received, and on paying for his board and lodgings, 11s. 6d., he was allowed to go on his way rejoicing.

Henry Hossen, labourer, Blackhill, was summoned for drunkenness on the 10th inst. Sergeant Nattress said defendant was drunk near the Rose and Crown about ten o'clock. He afterwards went to Beckwith's beerhouse further down the street, but the landlord very properly refused to supply him with drink.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 5s. and the expenses.

James Brown, miner, Leadgate, was summoned for a similar offence. P.C. Firn stated that shortly before eleven o'clock at night he went into the Golden Lion public-house, and found the defendant, who appeared to be greatly excited, and complained about something that had passed between himself and P.C. Scott. It being closing time, defendant came outside, where he got into conversation with P.C. Scott, who was outside at the time. He became unruly, and witness advised him to go away. He then took off his coat, and wanted to fight.—The Chairman: Was defendant drunk?—P.C. Firn: He was able to walk properly, but he was greatly excited.—Defendant called a witness named Charles McIntyre, who stated that on the night in question he was in Souter's public-house in company with defendant. Scott, the police-officer, came in at the time, and gave defendant a "bit of a shove." Defendant said he would not be pushed by Scott, who, he said, had once done so before. P.C. Scott then told defendant that if he (defendant) could make any better of it he was to drink off his glass and go outside. Defendant accordingly did so, but on going to the door, Scott had disappeared. They then went to the Golden Lion.—Defendant was fined 10s. and costs.

James McPartland, miner, Leadgate, pleaded guilty to a similar offence at Leadgate on the 10th inst., and was fined 10s. and costs.

John Hunt, Hamsterley Colliery, and *Wm. Cowey*, Milkwell Burn, miners, were summoned for having been drunk and disorderly at Ebchester Railway Station, on the 17th inst.—Hunt was fined 5s. and Cowey 10s. and the expenses.

Thomas Smith, underhand puddler, Blackhill, who appeared to have been imbibing something stronger than water, next appeared to answer a charge of drunkenness.—Mr. Allan (the clerk): Are you guilty or not guilty?—No answer.—The Clerk: Were you drunk?—Defendant (with alacrity): I was. Where's the man (meaning the police-officer). The charge having been proved against defendant by Sergeant Nattress he was ordered to pay a fine of 10s. and costs. Being unable to pay that sum, however, he was locked-up.

William Lamph, puddler, Consett, was also charged with causing a disturbance whilst drunk. On the 17th inst., defendant was ejected from a public-house at Leadgate, and on being requested by P.C. Firn to leave the street he refused, remarking that he did not care for the law, and that going to the Police Court would only be a matter of 16s. or 17s.—He was ordered to pay a fine of 5s. and costs.

USING THREATENING LANGUAGE.

Bridget Cook, widow, Blackhill, was summoned for using threatening language towards Ann Purdy, an old woman, at Blackhill.—After hearing the evidence, the magistrates bound defendant over to keep the peace for six months.

REFUSING TO QUIT AT BLACKHILL.

Hugh McGough, labourer, Blackhill, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr. Jobling, innkeeper, Blackhill. Sergeant Nattress said on Saturday night, the 17th inst., the defendant was in Mr. Jobling's public-house. He was violent, and had to be ejected by force.—Defendant: I met the officer going into the house as I was leaving the house.—P.C. Riddell stated that he was in the company of last witness, and hearing a disturbance they entered Mr. Jobling's house. The landlord had his arms round defendant and was calling for assistance. Defendant had been kicking a man, and was ejected from the house.—Mr. Jobling said the defendant wished to be served with some beer. He declined to do so, however, whereupon defendant said he would have some drink in spite. He then snatched up a glass of beer belonging to an old man, and drank it. Witness requested him to leave the house repeatedly.—The Chairman: What state was he in?—Witness: He did not appear to be very tipsy.—The magistrates said it was quite clear that defendant had refused to leave the house, and he would have to pay a fine of 10s. and costs.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 29th.—Before Henry Smith, Esq., J. Fawcett, Esq., and the Rev. W. Greenwell.

DRUNKENNESS.

Ralph Arkless, miner, was charged by P.C. Raine with drunkenness at Dipton on the 12th inst. Defendant, who did not appear, was fined 10s. and costs.

Patrick Mahoney, miner, charged by P.C. Reay with a similar offence at Kyo, was ordered to pay a fine of 10s. and costs.

Christopher Athey, miner, was fined 10s. and costs for a similar offence at Flint Hill, on the 21st inst.

John Green, miner, was also fined 10s. and costs for drunkenness at Flint Hill.

William Gladders, miner, who did not appear, was charged by Sergt. Morland with drunkenness on the same occasion. He was ordered to pay a fine of 10s. and costs.

Joseph Dixon, labourer, was fined 10s. and costs for drunkenness at Dipton, on the 17th inst.

Christopher Wilson, was summoned by Sergt. Morland for a similar offence at Flint Hill, on the 17th inst. The case was proved, and defendant, who did not appear, was fined 10s. and costs.

Elizabeth Cox, married woman, Esh Colliery, was summoned by P.C. Smith for drunkenness on the 24th inst.—Defendant, who did not appear, was fined 10s. and costs.

Thomas Davey and *John Hetley* were charged by P.C. Little with a similar offence at Cornsay Colliery, on the 17th inst.—Fined 5s. and costs.

James Scollin, who did not appear, charged by P.C. Reay with a similar offence at Annfield Plain on the 16th inst., was ordered to pay a fine of 10s. and costs.

William Hughes, charged by P.C. Watson with a similar offence at Quebec, on the 24th inst., was fined 5s. and costs.

James Cannair, for a similar offence at the same place on the 24th inst., was ordered to pay a fine of 5s. and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

James Hagan and *Thos. Donnochy*, labourers, Quebec, were charged by P.C. Watson with committing a breach of the peace by fighting. Defendants were drunk, and fought near Mr. Haw's public-house, at Quebec.—Bound over in their own recognisance to keep the peace for three months, in addition to paying the costs.

Robert Batey, a respectable looking young man, was charged by P.C. Reay with a similar offence, on the 16th inst.—Bound over to keep the peace for three months.

James Rostern and *Ralph Goulding*, miners, were charged with a similar offence, on the 17th inst. The officer said defendants were fighting in the Co-operative Hall, where there was a concert going forward.—They were bound over to keep the peace for three months and pay costs.

Thomas White, miner, was charged by P.C. Reay with causing a breach of the peace at Oxhill, on the 31st October last. Defendant pleaded guilty and was bound over to keep the peace for three months. In default of paying the expenses, he was locked up.

John Parker, miner, was charged by P.C. Raine with a similar offence on the 1st inst.—Bound over to keep the peace for six months, and ordered to pay expenses.

GAME TRESPASS.

Robert Richardson was charged by John Cumming, agent to the Earl of Durham, with trespassing in pursuit of game on the Kimblesworth Farm, on the 19th inst. George Forster, gamekeeper, proved the offence.—Fined 20s. and costs.

Correspondence.

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

THE NUISANCE QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Mr. Editor,—I find in your last week's issue a letter from Mr. Lambert, replying to what he terms my noble defence of Havelock Street. With that part of the letter which relates to Mr. Dawson and Mr. Lambert, I have nothing to do, and, consequently nothing to say. It is not my business to interfere between these gentlemen. But with Mr. Lambert's statement concerning the nuisance in Havelock Street, I mean to say I have business. Does Mr. Lambert think it is his business to make a false statement, which statement, if believed by the public, means that, in the estimation of the public, the people who live in Havelock Street are a filthy class of people? And does he believe that the people who live in Havelock Street have no business to contradict him? That means that Mr. Lambert may say what he likes, whether it is right or wrong, and other people have no business to speak, no matter how he misrepresents them. But, sir, Mr. Lambert says I admit that there is occasionally a nuisance in this street, while I never admitted anything of the kind. What I said was, that there may (not that there was) be sometimes such things seen in Havelock Street, as are almost unavoidable in the cleanest streets where little children play around the doors. I admit the possibility of such nuisance in this or any other street, but not that there was a nuisance when Mr. Lambert complained to the Local Board. The Inspector says there was no such nuisance at the time, and why should he say there was not if there was? But, sir, to Mr. Lambert's statement that there existed regularly every morning a nuisance before several of the cottages, I gave then and I give now a positive denial. This statement, Sir, is positively untrue. I speak in confidence, because having been in ill-health all last year, I was very much at home in the mornings during the whole of the year, and I speak because I have seen for myself. I often saw Mr. Lambert go down the street when, I am sure, there was no nuisance. I am sorry, Sir, to trouble you again on the subject, but the complaint of Mr. Lambert is so unreasonable and ill-founded that it seems necessary for me to write as I have. There is not now, nor has there been for a long time, any ground for complaint. There is no cleaner street in Consett. I believe I have only done what was my duty and certainly my business in this matter. If Mr. Lambert's business is to find fault *without a reason*, I am sorry he has not a better business.—Yours, &c.,

W. Bell.

[Communications from both parties having now been inserted, the correspondence must cease.—Ed. *C.G.*]

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

BIRTHS.

Consett—At 22, Medomsley Road, on the 29th inst., the wife of Mr. Raisbeck, of a son.

Knitsley—At High House, on the 26th inst., the wife of Mr. Thompson, of a daughter.

Carrabees Farm—On the 30th inst., the wife of Mr. Temperley, of a son.

Tantobie—On the 18th inst., the wife of Mr. George Starford, of a daughter.

Fondley Sett—On the 24th inst., the wife of Mr. J. Robinson, weigh office, Dipton Colliery, of a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

Shotley Bridge—At the Wesleyan Chapel, by the Rev. A. Edman, Mr. George Wilson, of Consett, to Miss Annie Graham, of Healeyfield.

DEATHS.

Consett—At 43, Queen Street, on the 24th inst., aged 3 years, Catherine, daughter of John Carty.

At 25, Consett Terrace, on the 29th inst., aged 22 years, Thomas Scott. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday first. Friends will please accept this intimation.

At 25, Front Street, on the 24th inst., aged 17 years, Mary Ann, daughter of William Davis.

Blackhill—At 52, Bottle Bank, on the 25th inst., aged 13 weeks, James, son of James Carr.

At 10, Silver Street, on the 26th inst., aged 2 years, Michael, son of Patrick Halligan.

Blackfine—At 7, Buckam Street, on the 24th inst., aged 15 years, Edward Smailes, labourer.

Shotley Bridge—On the 25th inst., aged 73 years, Robert Sherritt.

At 5, Messenger Street, on the 28th inst., aged 13 years, James Corder, labourer.

Knitsley—On the 24th inst., aged 27 years, Christina, wife of Joseph Nicholson.

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