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The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 1,116 {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} LE FRIDAY EVENING, January 6th, 1882. PRICE ONE PENNY.

NEW POSTAL ORDERS.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Advertisers are particularly requested to USE THE NEW POSTAL ORDERS INSTEAD OF STAMPS when remitting for Advertisements. The following are the amounts and rates for which they are issued:—

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1	0	[illegible]	10	6	[illegible]
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2	6	1	15	0	2
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LANCHESTER UNION.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR of the Lanchester Union require the services of a FEMALE NURSE for the Infirmary of the Lanchester Workhouse. Salary, £25 per annum with rations and residence.

Applications in own handwriting, stating age, experience, &c., with testimonials, to be sent to me on or before Wednesday, the 18th instant.—By order,

WM. HENRY RITSON, Clerk to Guardi[illegible]

Lanchester, January 5th, 1882.

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TO LET, on moderate terms, the ASSEMBLY ROOMS, Consett. These Rooms have lately undergone extensive Alterations and Improvements, and are suitable for Public Meetings, Tea Parties, Entertainments, &c.—Terms may be had on application to Mr. JOHN JENKINS, Trafalgar Street, Consett. 783p

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WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
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Business Announcements.

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PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
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No better guarantee of QUALITY and VALUE can be given than the fact that about every eighteenth bottle of Wine, and every fortieth bottle of Spirits, consumed in the United Kingdom are supplied from W & A Gilbey's Stock. This statement is based upon the Government Returns.

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SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A Sparkling dry Champagne ..	Bottles Half-Botts.	2/1 1/3	25/ 14/6
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HOLLANDS Castle 1 Distilled in Holland from Rye 24 per cent. under proof	2/4	28/
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All Bottles (except for Sparkling Wines) are charged 1d. each, which is allowed when returned.

Business Announcements.

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69 and 71, CLAYTON STREET, NEWCASTLE,
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THE LATEST AND MOST ADVANCED NOVELTIES,
ALSO, USEFUL EVERY DAY GOODS IN ALL DEPATMENTS,
The Excellent Value Offered cannot be Surpassed by any House.

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FANCY GOODS FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS & GENERAL DRAPERY.

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Tho' small in size, of great renown,
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At C. F. COOKE'S.
He'll sell you Sugars, Tea, and Spice,
And lots of other things that's nice,
Which can be served you in a trice—
At C. F. COOKE'S.
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I'll tell you what you'd better do—
Go to C. F. COOKE'S.
In his shop there is no sham,
For he has got such splendid Ham,
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At C. F. COOKE'S.
But now I'll not say more,
About the things that's in his Store,
Go right at once, I'm very sure
You will be pleased at C. F. COOKE'S.
Of Powder too he has a large stock,
Compressed—also for Band and Rock,
So one by one, or in a flock,
Explosives buy from C. F. COOKE'S.

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Where they will find a large and well-assorted Stock of FURNITURE, HARDWARE, PERAMBULATORS, LOOKING GLASSES, CLOCKS, WATCHES, and JEWELLERY, Wholesale and Retail.

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NEW
FAMILY
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MANUFACTURING
SEWING
MACHINES,

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LIGHT MACHINES FOR FAMILIES, Dressmakers, Needle-women and Manufacturers.
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PRODUCE THE MOST PERFECT WORK; are simple in action, regular and elastic in stitch, carefully constructed and wonderfully durable.
THEY are easy to learn and keep in order, and are lighter to run than any other lock-stitch machine.
THEIR speed is unequalled, and they work quietly and smoothly.
THEY have all the latest improvements, but avoid useless complications.
THEY have no reciprocating shuttle to cause difficulty in working, no heavy gearing to weary the operator, and no cog-wheels to clog, wear away, and break.

PRICES from £5 5s. OR £5 CASH.

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To all, whether purchasers or not.

MACHINES may be purchased on the HIRE SYSTEM by
SMALL PERIODICAL PAYMENTS

WHEELER AND WILSON'S
NEEDLES REDUCED IN PRICE TO 1s. PER DOZEN.

All Genuine Needles are marked on the shanks W. and W. M'F'G. CO. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

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71, WEST GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE;
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE;
108, NEWGATE STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND
55, NEWPORT ROAD, MIDDLESBRO', &c.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 1882.

THE EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENT.

EGYPT seems not unlikely to attract to herself considerable attention at the opening of the New Year. She has just called together a Parliament of Notables, at the inauguration of which there was something analagous to a speech from the Throne. Tewfie Pasha appears to be awakening to the necessity of consulting the wishes of the people, ostensibly for general affairs, but really for ascertaining the opinions of the popular party as to what should be the future policy of the country. It is no use blinking the fact that a certain degree of uneasiness prevails and that the "situation" (as it is termed) is in danger. The *emeute* which took place a few months since betokened this, and there is abundant evidence that if no show of independence is made the KHEDIVE'S authority will decline. The whole position, indeed, is anomalous. Having to acknowledge a Power which can scarcely assert its prerogative without the permission of other nations, the KHEDIVE can do very little in the way of displaying authority. The enquiry naturally arises, How can a Parliament help him? Where is the wisdom to which he can look for guidance? and if a solution satisfactory to himself and the Notables shodld be arrived at, what chance is there of the higher powers being brought to sanction it? It would be inconsistent for England to discountenance or deride any attempt at popular government; at the same time, there is so much that is crude and imperfect in all constitutional efforts in Egypt that it would be the height of folly to expect any practical result. The imposing ceremony of opening Parliament will be deemed a wonderful event: the mere fact of the KHEDIVE consenting to meet the deputies of the country will be regarded as an immense stride in the direction of popular power. But when the first flush of novelty is over and the representatives have ventilated their views things will subside into the old groove, and the old question again be asked,—How is self-government to be established? The fact is Egypt had better recognise at once her dependence and make the best of it. This is not a moment for asserting extraordinary pretensions when Bismarck is coquetting with Turkey with the view to the future administration of the country, and England and France are more resolved than ever to maintain their long existing control. That the policy of our present Government has been wise is proved at every diplomatic move. Earl GRANVILLE was at first censured for not pursuing an exclusively British policy; but it is now being admitted that his policy was really an English one, though not of the kind suggested by the advisers we allude to. He acted on the only practicable principle; namely, agreement with France. So long as the Anglo-French alliance continues Egypt will be preserved not only from undue control on the part of Turkey, but from the intriques of all other Powers. While this is positively certain, it is not so evident that had we at the time of the late insurrection taken matters into our own hands the rest of the nations, France included, would not have combined to check our scheme. England does not need Egypt as a possession; at the same time, she must take care that no other Power acquires supreme influence there; and this negative requirement may be regarded as assured so long as we have France on our side, especially as the latter country, like ourselves, has that strongest of all reasons, self-interest, as a basis for her policy.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The new year is dawning upon us. It is the vogue to be sentimental for a few minutes, or pretend to be, about 1881, and to feel ridiculously hopeful, or simulate doing so, about 1882. 'Tis a form, 'tis true, to wish you comprehensively a "happy new year," but it is a form of which that might be truly said which was maliciously reported to have been said by the young Disraeli after receiving the rite of baptism, viz., "It can't possibly do any harm, and may perhaps do good." The old year closes in comparative quietude all over the world except in Ireland. The year 1782 saw a colony in successful revolt. Will 1882 see a kingdom in open rebellion? Will the restless workings of Continental intrigues bear fruit in 1882 in war, or will the peace without friendship between European nations which has been so characteristic of the past year continue longer? Will 1882 bring us rich harvests and revive the sinking spirits of the agricultural classes? Will the slow but steady improvement of trade ripen into acknowledged prosperity in the mercantile world? These are the questions which amongst others we are asking ourselves, unless, we are too busily engaged in calculating the arrival of the millennium, or in counting out the residue of our own waning years, or in gloomy speculations upon our own financial or domestic future. So far we have something to be thankful for. The winter has hitherto been exceptionally mild compared with recent years. The poor have not been suffering from cold. Work-people have not been known out of employment by frost. A little colder weather, if it should come, would not be hailed with entire dissatisfaction. We do not wish to see a premature spring. A little frost would do good to the soil as well as affording some vent to the exuberant spirits of the "conjugating and declining" schoolboys, whose holidays are apt in weather like the present to be felt to be a little too lengthy. Speaking of the mildness of the season, our Christmas decorations have sensibly benefited by the geniality of this winter's skies. All evergreens have been abundant and peculiarly beautiful. Our mistletoe, which of late years it has been necessary to import in large quantities from France, has been obtained largely this year from the Southern parts of our own country. It probably never grew to any great extent in the North. The Druids of Iona must have had the sacred sprig sent to them from a distance if it was essential for the performance of the rights of their picturesque but rather bloodthirsty religion.

In about eighteen months' time the composition of the Judicial Bench has strangely altered. In so short a period so great havoc has perhaps never before been made amongst the wearers of the ermine. Two Chiefs of Divisions—Chief Justice Cockburn and Chief Baron Kelly—have died, so have three Lords Justices—Lord Justice Thesiger, Lord Justice James, and Lord Justice Lush. Besides these losses by death Lord Justice Bramwell has retired; so has Vice-Chancellor Malins and Sir Montagu Smith. The death of Lord Justice Lush is a real loss to the profession and the public, and a real sorrow to very many outside the immediate circle of his private family and friends. A more painstaking Judge or a sounder lawyer has seldom been seated on the Bench. He was in the common parlance a "strong judge." One whose judgments were convincing and not merely decisive. As a man he was respected in a measure and in a manner not common in the case of occupants of the Bench. He was a good man in every sense of the word. He never meddled in politics, and although a dissenter in religion, he took no part in politico-religious disputes, but confined himself to works of practical usefulness in connection with his own sect. He has never been well since the death of his wife a few months back. I saw him sitting in the Appeal Court a few days before he was seized with his fatal illness, and remarked then to a friend that I had never seen death so plainly stamped on any man's face. His name is not destined to perish in the profession of the Law. He leaves a son and a nephew at the Bar. The nephew is a son of Dr Lush, M.P.

Poor Emma [illegible] has been well revenged upon her betrayer. The British mob, which is usually apathetic enough in questions of morality, has been seized with one of those extraordinary fits of virtue which Lord Macaulay so well describes in his review of Moore's Life of Byron. A few evenings ago a gentleman who somewhat resembled Lieutenant Ponsonby was seen outside the Criterion Theatre and got sevreley handled by a crowd which quickly assembled on account of his likeness to the "villain" of the tragedy in real life. On leaving the inquest on Thursday, Ponsonby was as nearly as possible lynched. The crowd waiting outside were baffled by the presence of policemen, but the cab in which Ponsonby drove away was followed and had its windows smashed, and the lieutenant had again a narrow escape of falling into the hands of the crowd. The position is not a dignified one for a distinguished naval officer who has won all sorts of medals and earned a sword of honour.

The new Dean of Westminster has admitted the bones of the great dead architect within the Abbey of which he is the custodian. There is considerable surprise expressed at his having done so. There is nothing which cultivated people are so much impressed by as magnificent buildings. But even cultivated people are singularly indifferent to the personality of the men whose mind conceived the poems of brick and mortar which are so stately and so enduring, unless, indeed, the architect happens also to have been also a great painter, as in the case of Michael Angelo. It is not too much to say that the names of the architects of the major part of the great buildings in Europe is unknown. We know the designer of scarcely a single English Cathedral besides St. Paul's. Where is there any monument erected to Wren? Where is there so much as a portrait of Ingo Jones? It is strange that in this art—differing from every other art and profession—the work acquires a kind of personality of its own which obscures or absorbs that of the workman. Who has not admired and wandered at the Houses of Parliament? And who even so much as craned his neck to see Barry or Pugin? and when did the photograph of either one or the other appear in a shop-window? The funeral of Street, attended as it was by eminent men in all departments of life, formed a just recognition of an art which has never been sufficiently appreciated.

The sphinxes at the foot of the Cleopatra Needle are much criticized—not so much as to shape or as to features—these as belonging to Egyptian art are vaguely understood to depend pretty much upon the artist's fancy. But everyone thinks he has a right to an opinion upon the position in which they are placed, which is with their tails to the public and their eyes apparently absorbed in contemplation of the Needle, compared with the genuine antiquity of which they look abjectly conscious of being modern imitations. When Horace Smith poetically addressed the mummy who walked about

> "In Thebes's streets three thousand years ago,
> When the Memnonium was in all its glory,
> And time had not begun to overthrow
> Those temples, palaces, and piles stupendous
> Of which the very ruins are tremendous,"

one of the questions he addressed to it was, "To whom should we assign the Sphinx's fame?" We are asking similar questions about our own sphinxes. If it is essential to Egyptian conceptions of art that they should retain their present position, let them stay by all means, but they look very ridiculous.

The dream of the great Boulevard to extend itself in a circuit of 25 miles in the shape of a circle of 4 miles radius, the centre being taken from St. Paul's, is actually now engaging the attention of the Metropolitan Board of Works. They are not the initiators of the scheme. There is a company as yet somewhat nebulous called the Pilot Company which purposes to accomplish this great feat of Metropolitan improvement provided it can obtain the necessary sanction. It is a part of the programme to run a tramway round the Boulevard orbit, and the sum of three millions is all that is required in the way of capital to float this magnificent undertaking.

LEADGATE WESLEYAN DAY SCHOOL.

The anniversary of this school was celebrated on Sunday and Monday last, in the Wesleyan Chapel Leadgate. The magnificent building was adorned with evergreens, &c., which gave a harmonising effect to the season. On Sunday sermons were preached in the morning and evening by the Rev. W. Goudie, of Didsbury College. On both occasions large and attentive audiences were present, to hear the rev. gentleman, who is a native of Consett, and is about to go to Madras as a missionary.

On Monday the usual public meeting and fruit banquet was held in the chapel. There was a large attendance. The chair being occupied by the superintendent of the circuit (Rev. J. Shearman). Appropriate and interesting addresses were delivered on the work of day-schools by Messrs. A. Jackson and J. Bell, who pointed out that the secret of the success of the Wesleyan day-schools was that the Word of Christ was expounded to the scholars. The chief feature of the evening was the performance of the anthems, &c., by the choir. "Exulting angels," was the first anthem rendered, the verse parts being sung by Misses Johnson and M. Bell, and Messrs. Wilkinson and Muse. Misses Bainbridge and M. Bell, and Messrs. Wilkinson and Muse contributed in excellent style, the quartette—"O holy Jesus"; another quartette—"There is a green hill," was rendered by Misses E. Bell and M. Bell, and Messrs. M. Bell and P. Hedley, for which they received the hearty plaudits of the audience. Mason's celebrated anthem—"The earth is the Lord's," was also rendered by the choir, in excellent style. The conductor (Mr J. Davison) and the organist (Mr J. W. Hedley), deserve great praise for the manner in which they got the pieces up, and also for the taste in choosing their selections.

Fruit was distributed at intervals. The whole of the proceeds are to be devoted to the Wesleyan Day-school fund.

POLYTECHNIC EXHIBITION AT CONSETT.

On Monday evening, a polytechnic exhibition was opened in the Primitive Methodist Schools, Consett, by W. Jenkins, Esq., J.P., of Consett Hall, the proceeds of which are in aid of the building fund of the New Schools. The exhibition is of an extensive and varied character, and embraces models of stationary and locomotive engines, and full-rigged ships of all descriptions; splendid specimens of wood carving, books of great antiquity, implements of war, a large and valuable collection of oil paintings, engravings, and prints; powerful microscopes and mechanical appliances; numerous cases of stuffed birds and animals, and several curosities in natural history, &c. The articles were artistically arranged along the sides and down the centre of the schoolroom, which, when illuminated, presented a scene of unusual splendour and magnificence. The exhibition amply repaid every person who made a visit to it, as the extensive nature of articles and appliances on view afforded an intellectual and educational treat which is rarely met with in this district, and the collection of the same must have entailed a great amount of labour and expense on the promoters of the scheme. A small but select company was present at the inaugural proceedings, which commenced with a hymn and prayer, after which

MR JENKINS, in opening the exhibition, observed that it gave him very great pleasure to be there that day to help the Primitive Methodist cause in this district. In this neighbourhood they had different modes and schemes for raising funds for their various charitable and philantropic institutions, but he knew of no better way of getting a reasonable amount of subscriptions than the means which they had employed that day (hear, hear). They were all working men, and it was by dint of hard labour that they earned their daily bread, and consequently they were either too tired or had not the inclination to employ their leisure moments in those recreative and intellectual amusements, but still he thought that they should do more than they did in the way of fine arts and in cultivating and educating their minds. In districts like this there were no places of amusement, and they had no public resort where they could meet on neutral ground as towns-people; but in the large places they could wend their steps to the Town Hall where they would find sculpture and art galleries, picture exhibitions, and invigorating, healthful pursuits for the working classes. If the tastes of the working men could be raised to a higher level they would then put forth their talents to show their superiors there was a taste for something better. He was happy to say that after all this period of prosperity—for prosperity was not in some respects really beneficial to some of the working classes—there was not so much of that brutal and immoral conduct amongst the people of this district as existed formerly. He believed that a great improvement had been wrought amongst the working classes during the past thirty years. As regards the Primitive Methodist cause in this district, it was no discredit to them that their origin and services were both of a primitive nature, and better adapted to suit the tastes of such a population as this. He, as a Churchman, regretted that the services of the Church did not come down to meet the wants of the working classes; or that the latter did not reach the standard required by the Church. He congratulated them on having acquired such an excellent and instructive exhibition, which would tend to elevate the condition of the working men. He had never seen such a good collection of articles as had been gathered together that afternoon, which conclusively proved that they must have had help from other sects besides the Primitive Methodists. The Primitives were looked down upon and designated by the name of "Ranters" when he was a boy, but he should say they had done more than any other religion to lift up the working classes to a higher, social, and moral condition. There existed no power so capable of doing good as the power of the working men to lift themselves up by their own efforts (hear, hear). He wished them very possible success in their undertaking, and although there was but a small company present they should not be discouraged; but he hoped nevertheless they would be able to show something tangable at the week's end. Having expressed a hope that the Rev. W. Baitey would have a prosperous career in this circuit, Mr Jenkins declared the exhibition open.

The Rev. W. BAITEY (superintendent, minister) then gave a short address. He said that the working classes could help themselves more than they did, and believed that if an industrial exhibition similar to the one at Shildon were held annually in some central part of the district it would be highly beneficial to the inhabitants at large. The Primitive Methodist body was essentially the religion of the working classes, and he knew of a population of 600 workmen, none of them earning more than 25s per week, who by their efforts maintained two ministers and a chapel and school. They were always glad when they got commercial men amongst them, and they had a few members of the aristocracy connected with their church, but their labours were chiefly directed amongst the working classes, and were crowned with success by the Almighty. The cultivation of artistic work was certainly in harmony with religion; and he believed that in their exhibition they would find all kinds of articles and appliances to suit the tastes of everybody. He would just repeat how grateful they were to Mr Jenkins for his presence, and for the very encouraging words he had addressed to them as to their character as a religious people; and he trusted they would ever prove themselves worthy of his confidence as well as of the other employers of labour in this district. There was a fine moral tone throughout the whole of the working population which was to be attributed to the irreproachable character which Mr Jenkins bore. (Applause.) He could assure them that he was held in high esteem by the residents, and he trusted he would long be spared amongst them, and they could never forget the services he had rendered to them that day. (Cheers.)

Mr HUNTER proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Jenkins for his kindness in performing the opening ceremony.

The proposal was seconded by the Rev. C. LONGSTAFF, and unanimously adopted.

It is unnecessary to enumerate the innumerable articles exhibited, but we have subjoined a few of the principal items, viz.:—A ladies' dressing case, 400 years old, sent from Jerusalem, belonging to Mrs John Walton, of Lanchester; a model of a man-of-war, with 32 men and 22 guns, and also of screw and other steamers, all fully rigged; three large cases of stuffed animals and birds, from Mr Michael Atthey, Happy Land, and others from Mr Wm. Armstrong and Mr Wm. Arnott, of Consett; large eagle, shot by Dr. William Renton; a flint-lock, belonging to Mr James Johnson, used at the Battle of Waterloo; the jacket worn by that officer in the Battle of Waterloo and Falcette; an Indian club with the hair of the last man scalped by it fixed thereon; Kaffir shield and dagger, belonging to Mr J. Daglish, Consett; picture of the Derwent Iron Works, illustrating Consett, Leadgate, and Crookhall as they were 26 years ago; a large photograph of the Consett blast furnaces; and a smaller ditto of the No. 1 blast furnace, which has made a large quantity of iron than any other in England; model of the Consett Parish Church; horizontal engine made by Mr Jas. Johnson, of Corbridge-on-Tyne; together with several other locomotive and stationary engines; numberless specimens of artistic wood carving; a stuffed lamb, with one head, two bodies, and seven legs; a large quantity of old China and wedgwood ware, lent by several ladies in the district; Holy Bible, dated 1613, formerly chained to Muggleswick Church, belonging to Mr W. Aynsley, of Consett; numerous oil paintings, prints, and engravings, chiefly contributed by Mr. Jenkins; powerful microscope, belonging to the Rev. F. Steggall; a silver medal of Pope Pius IX., presented by the Pope to Dr. Steggall, father of the Vicar of Consett; all kinds of musical boxes and instruments, &c.

In one of the class-rooms was held a novel and interesting burlesque fine art gallery, under the superintendence of Mr [illegible], wherein might be seen for a small fee about seventy specimens of "works of art," many of which were "invaluable" and "not to be touched." These will be looked upon with admiration and wonder by the visitors, and give ample food for reflection for those who may be humorously disposed. Several dresses, some 300 and 400 years old, belonging to the Countess of Derwentwater, were also shown in this room.

The polytechnic, which continued open during the week, has been exceedingly successful, the total proceeds up to last (Thursday) night being about £50. As will be seen in another column the exhibition remains open until Monday next.

To-night (Friday) the Rev. F. Steggall will make some interesting experiments with his valuable microscope.

BLACKHILL LEAGUE OF THE CROSS.

On Monday evening, January 2nd, the members of the above League and some friends sat down to a substantial tea in the Central Hall, Benfieldside, which presented a very attractive appearance. About 200 were present, and a lusty cheer was given when Fathers Smith and Piper entered the Hall. During the tea selections of music were given on the piano by Miss and Master E. J. Sloane. Full justice having been done to the "cup that cheers, but not inebriates," and the tables having been cleared, the evening's programme was opened by Father Smith, who was supported on the platform by Father Piper, Messrs Savage (of Newcastle), Sheridan, Sloane, and Harker.

Father SMITH, on rising, was received with immense applause. He spoke strongly in favour of temperance, and said that Christmas time was one of great temptation and trial, and he exhorted those who were already enrolled as members to continue firm and steadfast in the good cause. He said the longer they abstained the more firm they would become.

Father PIPER spoke at some length, and eulogised the Catholic Teetotal Band for the rapid progress they had made, and said they deserved all the support they could get. After proving the benefit of temperance by an historical illustration, he concluded an interesting speech amidst great applause.

Mr SAVAGE (of Newcastle), then made some forcible remarks. He said that all classes—the rich and the poor—the educated and the uneducated—were all subject to the temptation of drink, and he besought all who desired health, happiness, and comfort, to join the League. His speech was attentively listened to throughout, and the plaudits of the audience proved how well they appreciated his remarks.

Mr SHERIDAN then made some observations, and said he hoped the time was not far distant when the drunkard would be not a living, offensive reality, but a sad relic of the degenerate past.

At intervals between the speeches, the audience were entertained with singing. Mr Sheridan sang "Awfully clever," in his usual able style, and had to respond to an *encore* with "A dreadful affair," which was most enthusiastically received. Mr and Mrs Harker gave a comic duet "Very suspicious," in capital style. Mr Hagon sang the "Harp and the shamrock" very creditably, infusing a deal of energy into his style. Mrs Harker next sang a solo the "Dumb wife," and Mr Harker sang "Kathleen Aroon," both of which met with deserved applause. Mr Sheridan, who was the "lion" of the evening, convulsed the audience with "It makes a man look such a fool," and responded to the deafening *encore* with "Fat, fair, and forty," with which he kept the audience in roars.

A very enjoyable evening was spent, and the dancing that followed gave those who indulged in the "light fantastic" an opportunity of prolonging the enjoyable evening into an enjoyable night.

Too much praise cannot be accorded to Mr Sloane and the committee for the efficient manner in which they performed their arduous duties. Everything went off without a hitch, and all enjoyed themselves thoroughly.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

WEDNESDAY, January 4th.—Before E. J. MEYNELL, Esq., Judge.

TAIT *v.* STEWART.—In this case John Tait, a middle-class schoolmaster, Consett, sued James Stewart, also of Consett, for the sum of 7s 6d, one quarter's school fees due.—Plaintiff said that on the 15th January, 1880, the defendant's son, John Robert Stewart, was brought to school by his mother and enrolled on the school register. The lad, however, only attended his school one day, and plaintiff, thinking that he was ill, saw the defendant about the matter, and he told plaintiff that the lad was afraid to go back to school.—Defendant said his son complained that Mr Tait had used him somewhat roughly. He also informed Mr Tait he wished his son to go to the National School and not to his school.—The lad, on being sworn, said he was afraid of Mr Tait, because he "pushed him on to a seat."—His Honour gave judgment for plaintiff for full amount in 28 days.

A BETTING TRANSACTION.—MACDONALD *v.* RAWES.—This action was brought by Thomas Macdonald, against Thomas Rawes, both of Consett, for the sum of £2, the amount of a bet won on the Portland Plate and money deposited on the same.—Plaintiff said some time ago he backed three horses to win the Portland Plate, run at Doncaster—viz: 7 to 1 against Angeline; 10 to 1 against Experiment; and 8 to 1 against Mowerina, the odds being laid by defendant. Mowerina won the plate, and he was now suing defendant for the money won on the bet, and also to recover the sum of £1 19s. which he deposited with defendant at the time the bet was made.—His Honour said that the law regarded betting as an illegal practice, and therefore judgment would be given for defendant.—Plaintiff: But I can obtain the £1 19s. deposited with the defendant?—His Honour: No, you cannot; I have already given judgment in the case.

POTTS *v.* PARKER.—A REGULAR BLACKGUARD.—John T. Potts, clothier, Middle Street, Consett, sought to obtain a judgment summons against Ed. Parker, of Delves Lane, Consett, for not obeying a previous order of the Court.—Whilst the case was being heard, the defendant began to swear and use disgraceful language toward His Honour, who ordered P.C. Minto to arrest him, and confine him to the lock-up until the conclusion of the sitting.—On being released the defendant apologised for his brutal conduct, and His Honour informed him that he had narrowly escaped being sent to a term of imprisonment for contempt of Court.—As the plaintiff was not forthcoming at the rising of the Court, the case was adjourned for a month for want of evidence.

FATAL ACCIDENT NEAR WHITE-LE-HEAD.—Last Friday afternoon, Mr Coroner Graham held an inquest at White-le-Head on the body of Wm. Hutchinson, aged 13 years, a letter carrier employed at the White-le-Head and Tanfield Collieries, who met with his death accidentally on the Tuesday previous. It appears that the deceased was riding on a set of three waggons running between the above-named collieries when he was fearfully crushed against a full truck standing on the middle line of rails, and expired within twenty-four hours after the occurrence.—The jury returned a verdict of "accidental death from injuries received internally."

MEDOMSLEY SONS OF TEMPERANCE ANNIVERSARY.

The annual festival of the "Beacon on the Hill" Division (No. [illegible]) of the Independent Order of the Sons of Temperance took place in the Templars' Hall, Medomsley, on New Year's Eve. A public meeting and concert was held, when the building was thronged in every part. J. Priestman, Esq., J.P., of Shotley Bridge, occupied the chair, and was supported on the platform by Messrs. J. Johnson and J. Beckwith, of Newcastle (representatives of the North of England Temperance League).

After opening the meeting with praise and prayer,

The CHAIRMAN, in his prefaratory remarks, said he should like to examine briefly a few of the reasons given by those men who asserted that the people now were worse off than their ancestors were. A great many facts might be given to show that mankind in general could enjoy more luxuries at the present time than they could a thousand years or so back. He did not mean to say that the population were poorer now than formerly—that was not so easily tested; but some people held that poverty was increased civilization. The chairman then quoted extracts from the works of the venerable Bede and Edmund St. Abbot which described the condition of the country at these early periods, the chief non-intoxicating beverage then in existence being milk. Some time ago, the chairman proceeded, there were some fields at Glastonbury, in Somersetshire, called "The Vineyard," so named because here the monks used to cultivate the grape and manufacture their own wine; but, still, he could not help thinking that the grapes grown there must have been very poor indeed. Then there were no steamboats, or railways, or good roads, and it would therefore be almost impossible at that time to obtain good wine without going to a great expense. About 300 years ago Sir Walter Raleigh first introduced tobacco into England; and when the servant saw his master smoking, he, supposing he was on fire, threw a glass of ale at him to put it out. That reminded him that tobacco was a luxury which very few could now afford to do without. Macaulay, in his History of England, gives an account of the use and progress of the coffee-house movement in this country. Perhaps coffee might have been used before his time; but it was certainly not at all common. In Addison's *Spectator*, about 170 years ago, there is an account of the manner of life practised by a farmer, who at breakfast "read *Dyer's Letter* and drank Coffee. *Dyer's Letter* was one of those written periodicals issued monthly, or oftener; and that put him in mind that there were no daily or weekly newspapers in existence then. He could not exactly say when tea was first introduced into this country; but in the days of Queen Anne that beverage was in vogue. He (the chairman) made these remarks in order to show that it would have been a much harder thing for the Abbot he mentioned to have been a teetotaler than for any of those persons present. Some people might, however, think it was very hard for them to give up some of the beverages which their ancestors used, but it was not such a great matter when they considered the number of substitutes they had for such beverages. (Applause.)

Mr BECKWITH (of the North of England Temperance League) next gave a humorous address. He held that it was impossible to substitute one article for another, as he believed that everything had been ordained by God for its own particular purpose. Whenever those things were put to the right use they were really strengthening and beneficial; but when the same things were used in an extravagant or gluttonous manner they became a curse instead of a blessing; and they need not have any further evidence than that a great deal of misery and poverty existed in this country through imbibing strong drink. Everybody could do without intoxicating liquor, even if they had not coffee, or other beverages. Drunkenness was a condition which God had decreed man should suffer if he took intoxicating liquor. The whole doctrine of the bible warns them not to do evil; but the publicans encouraged everything imaginable that tends to demoralise and degrade humanity. They ought not to be poor people since there was £1,250 worth of wealth in England for every person if each had his share; but he believed if they had it in a lump sum many of them would not be alive a fortnight. (Laughter.) They as Englishmen always bought and sold to advantage: they got about £1,500 for every £1,000 pounds worth they sold to the foreigner, and yet the Fair Traders were agitating for abolishing this profitable system. In the first ten years from 1860 to 1870 they saved £550,000 a day; and from 1870 to 1880 with double the profits and twice the amount of trade, it was £150 a day less. This was accounted for that drunkenness was on the increase when trade prospered and money more plentiful. The English were not a lazy lot of people, as they produced and manufactured more goods than any other nation in the world, and if they only took care of their money there would be no want and starvation. The working men of this country would be comfortable indeed if they would have nothing to do with the public house. It was perfectly scandalous that a publican in Liverpool should be allowed to advertise that he had the handsomest barmaid in the world, who had obtained the first prize of £500 at the barmaid show; and another in Birmingham, as an inducement to drink, offered a gold watch for the best inside customer, and a silver watch for the best outside customer. To all young men he would say that if they wanted to succeed in the world they must be on the sober side of the line; and there was not time to spare for them to destroy their intellect with the cursed drink—a question which was becoming a serious affair in this country. Their very best farmers were emigrating to America because they were so heavily taxed. If they would live as they ought to do poverty would be unknown in this world of ours. He concluded his remarks by asking those who were non-abstainers to sign the pledge and become Sons of Temperance. (Applause.)

Mr JOHNSON, of Newcastle, in an interesting speech, quoted numerous facts and figures to show that the order of Sons of Temperance was the best and most profitable benefit society in existence, since all its members were teetotallers, with a very small percentage of sickness amongst them, and he advised all young persons who were not then members of any friendly society to join the Sons of Temperance if they wished to enlist themselves in a thoroughly beneficial and reliable undertaking.

The proceedings were considerably enhanced by a number of popular songs and duetts sung by Miss Kate Wilson, of Westwood; Miss S. Bewick, of Milkwell Burn; Mr R. Bartle, of Leadgate; and Mr Alexandar Barras, of Blackhall Mill. Mr J. Egglestone, of Medomsley Edge, accompanied on the harmonium.

Before dispersing, Bro. WEDDELL proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman, the speakers, to the singers, and to all others who had contributed towards the evening's entertainment.

The resolution was seconded by Bro TEASDALE, and carried by acclamation.

A public coffee supper was subsequently provided in the hall, which was well patronised; and at the conclusion of the repast the enthusiastic proceedings were brought to a termination.

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

EVICTION OF MINERS AT USHAW MOOR COLLIERY.

The strike at Ushaw Moor Colliery, near Durham, on Friday, culminated in the eviction of the miners from their houses. The cause of these unhappy proceedings originated about three weeks or a month ago. It seems that Mr Henry Chaytor, of Witton Castle, is the owner of the Colliery, which employs about 250 hands. Mr Chaytor is not a member of the Durham Coal-owners' Association, but the majority of the miners are members of the Durham Miners' Association. Three weeks ago, the agents of the owner thought fit to discharge Thomas Westoe, the miners' check-weighman, from his work, on the grounds that he had acted wrongly. The miners disputed this, and, as no arrangement could be come to, they sent in a fortnight's notice, which expired on Friday last. As there seemed no possibility of an arrangement, the owners on Friday began the extreme measure of evicting the miners from their homes. About nine o'clock on Friday morning, a body of police, under Inspectors Hutchinson and Webster, marched to Ushaw Colliery to protect the "candymen," who widely differed from the usual class of men who come under that term. Those who carried the belongings of the miners to the door were the principal officials of the colliery, including the manager, the cashier, the master, the weighman and shifter, and a nephew of the owner. The work of eviction was carried on very quietly until darkness put a stop to the proceedings. During the day about twelve families were evicted, their furniture and everything belonging to them being piled up in a motley mass in the colliery rows. While the evictions were taking place a meeting of the men was held. They were addressed by Mr W. H. Patterson, of the Durham Miners' Association, and Mr Trotter, secretary of the Durham Mechanics' Association, who urged the men on no account to remove from the colliery, and by all means to be law-abiding, and ultimately they would prevail in enforcing what they considered was their right.

The unpleasant work of evicting the miners from their homes at Ushaw Moor Colliery, near Durham, was not resumed on Saturday morning, the manager having directed that no further evictions should take place until the following Tuesday morning. During Saturday most of the belongings piled up between the rows of houses were put under canvas and sheltered as much as possible from the damp weather. These precautions were not taken too soon, as rain came down almost without intermission during Saturday and Sunday. The condition of the evicted families, and the furniture in the streets, was most distressing. The women and children found shelter during the night in the houses of those who have not been evicted. Most of the men remained outside, some sleeping under the canvas, while others sat up all night and cheered others as best they could under the circumstances. Many of them have experienced eviction before. During New Year's Eve and New Year's Day, the weary hours were beguilded by devotional meetings, and in singing up and down the rows. The advice of Mr Patterson, the miner's agent, not to abandon the strike by leaving the colliery, to which the men pledged themselves at the meeting held on Friday, has not been followed. One of the leaders of the men left the place on Saturday, and it is believed that others are preparing to go. The men have conducted themselves in an orderly and law-abiding manner.

STATEMENT BY MR. CHAYTOR.

Mr Chaytor, Witton Castle, sends the following statement as to the dispute at this colliery:—Thomas Westoe absented himself from work for ten days in one pay, and also persisted in filling "hitch" coal, in spite of remonstrance. Therefore, he was "noticed," but not evicted for nine days, though his house was wanted. Hence the strike. The Union will not accord the right to discharge men without they approve, though men leave when they like, without being asked the reason. This arrangement is too one-sided to work. Repeated remonstrance has been made to the Union at Durham about irregular working, without result. The men have made as far as 6s 8d a shift or 50 per cent. above the average.

MORE EVICTIONS.

Acting upon the instructions of Mr Chaytor, the owner of Ushaw Moor Colliery, the eviction from their homes of the miners on strike was resumed on Tuesday morning. During the day seventeen more families were evicted. Mr Crawford, the miners' secretary, and Mr Patterson, the financial secretary of the Union, were present during the greater portion of the day, and before leaving addressed a few words of advice to the men, urging them not to leave the colliery; for by doing so they practically abandoned the strike, and gave up that principle of right for which they were contending. Notwithstanding this advice, John Small, one of the leaders, and Hope and Moore on Tuesday left the colliery. A miner named Kagle also left as early as Friday, and we understand their conduct has been censured by the majority of the men on strike. Three of those evicted are reported to have resumed work. Mr Chaytor has agreed to allow the women and children to take up temporary lodgings in the school. Every effort was put forth by the men on Tuesday to secure tents and canvas to protect their furniture. They are receiving considerable aid from local collieries.

The following statement has been received from Mr Crawford, the Secretary of the Durham Miners' Association:—"Mr Chaytor's statement as to the original cause of the strike at this colliery, is absolutely untrue. Thomas Westoe was not dismissed for absenting himself from work. In company with Mr Patterson I attended Ushaw Moor Colliery, to ascertain the reason why Westoe had been dismissed. We met the manager in the colliery office, but he never even hinted at Westoe losing work. This is an after-thought to bolster up a bad case. Westoe was off work, but the manager knew the reason why. Westoe did not fill hitch coal beyond what he was ordered to do by both manager and overman. He even then took every precaution to prevent any injury arising to the owner from mixing such hitch coal with the good coal. On this matter the manager made the most unreliable and groundless allegations. No one accustomed to hear and sift evidence could accept as correct one word uttered by the agents on this matter of hitch coal. The allegation that the men had worked more irregularly than other men is unfounded. The statement that the men have made 6s 8d per day is not true. Take from that amount 2s per day, and you have the full amount. The strike has been caused by the untoward conduct of the manager, and not by any action on the part of the workman. Leave the workmen to fight their own battle against a pettifogging despotism."

Another stoppage in the work of evicting the miners at the Ushaw Moor Colliery occurred on Wednesday. The manager, Mr Robinson, however, made no secret of the fact that operations would be resumed this (Friday) morning. During the morning the men held a meeting, their president, Mr Lee, presiding.

Mr Thos. Robinson, manager of the Ushaw Moor Colliery, writes to the dailies as follows:—"I am surprised at Mr Crawford making such a false statement in Wednesday morning's papers. Mr Chaytor's letter is perfectly true. Westoe was off work ten days during the last fortnight he worked at the colliery. This was mentioned to Messrs Crawford and Patterson when out at the colliery upon Westoe's case, who was discharged for filling hitch or bad coal contrary to orders. To prove there is no vindictiveness on my part, as some allege, I was called on to the pit heap to see the three tubs that had just come to the bank. As soon as I examined them, I said, in the presence of Mr Hill and the two weighman, that I would discharge the man, whoever he was, so soon as it was ascertained the number of token and the name of the man. Thus it will be seen that the notice might have fallen on any other man in the colliery. In regard to the 6s 8d per shift, I should like to recall Mr Crawford's memory [illegible] that last one of the leading men at the colliery, named John Lee, admitted before the Federation Board that the men were making 6s 8d per shift; some men I have known within the last three months to make 7s 6d per shift of six hours. Thomas Westoe's average for the last five pays is 19s 11d per fortnight. Mr Crawford, in his letter, says, "the allegation that the men have worked more irregularly than other men is unfounded." The following figures as to this statement prove it to be incorrect, viz., that the average number of men off work per fortnight during the past six months has been 22·18 per cent. In regard to Mr Crawford's personal remarks towards myself, I pass them over and treat them for what they are worth."

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, Jan. 2nd—Before A. TOWN, Esq. (chairman), J. PRIESTMAN, Esq., JAS. ANNANDALE, jun., Esq., and F. PRIESTMAN, jun., Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Daniel Jordan, of Bottle Bank, summoned by P.C. Shaw for being drunk and disorderly in Durham Road, Blackhill, on Friday night, 24th ult., was fined 5s and costs.

Geo. Riley having been found by P.C. Hadwin, in a state of drunkenness in Durham Road, Blackhill, on the afternoon of the 23rd December, was similarly fined.—Defendant said he had never taken drink for five years, but feeling unwell on the afternoon in question he drunk two halves of brandy which completely upset him.

Thos. Harrison, John Toner, and *John Ward*, charged by P.C. Turner with being drunk in Leadgate, on the 16th, 17th, and 24th December respectively, were fined 5s each and costs.

Jane Hinds having been found by P.C. McClymont in Middle Street, Consett, on the preceding Saturday night, in a state of intoxication, was fined 2s. 6d. and costs.

ALLEGED ASSAULT.

John Finlay was summoned by John McIver for an alleged assault committed on the latter in Armstrong's Number One public-house, Medomsley Road, Consett, on Saturday night, 20th November.—Dr. Carr, barrister, appeared for the defence.—On mounting the witness box complainant said he had been misinformed as to who the person was that assaulted him, as Finlay was not the man. He should, however, recognise the perpetrator of the deed if he saw him again.—The case was dismissed, complainant to pay costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

William Thomas was summoned for committing a breach of the peace at Blackhill, on the 27th Dec.—As defendant did not put in an appearance the case was adjourned for a fortnight.

YOUTHFUL DELINQUENTS.

A batch of eight youths, named *Joseph Maddison, Thomas Rogers, James Urwin, Michael Murray, Albert Taylor, Robert Taylor, William Wilson*, and *George Nelson* (whose ages varied from eight to thirteen years), were placed in the dock on a charge of damaging to the amount of 6d each certain trees belonging to Mr Robert Taylor.—P.C. Simpson deposed that at half-past three o'clock on the afternoon of the 24th December he saw the whole of the defendants come out of Mr Taylor's wood near to Allansford, each carrying a bag full of holly.—Mr Taylor said he had suffered a great deal of late from damage done by trespassers.—The Chairman remarked that the boys knew perfectly well they had no right to go there, but as it was their first offence they would only inflict a small fine of 2s 6d. including the 6d damage.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Owen Connor, a youth, was charged with unlawfully and cruelly ill-treating a pit pony belonging to the Consett Iron Company on the 13th December last, by beating it severely about the head and body with the Iron end of an old pickshaft, thereby injuring the animal's eye, and causing a number of scars on various parts of its body.—The case having been proved by P.C. Simpson and a lad named Birch, the Bench imposed a fine of 18s and costs, in all £1 14s. 6d., or in default, one month's imprisonment.

AN EXPENSIVE "SPREE."

Jonathan Wood was summoned for being drunk and disorderly at Medomsley on the preceding Saturday night, and was further charged with assaulting P.C. Cummins whilst in the discharge of his duty, and doing damage to his uniform to the amount of 10s.—Defendant pleaded guilty to the charge of drunkenness only.—P.C. Cummins deposed that on the evening in question he was sent for to turn the defendant out of Mr Lovatt's public-house, which he effected with some assistance, but defendant refused to go away. There was a struggle, some blows being exchanged in the doorway, and the defendant afterwards commenced to fight with a man named Jones. When outside witness asked the defendant to give his name, upon which the defendant struck him a violent blow and said "That is my name." At the same time he closed upon the officer and tried to throw him over his head. He kicked right and left, exclaiming "I am the Lancashire man." When handcuffed the defendant would not walk, and a conveyance had to be sent for to bring him to Consett. With some assistance witness got defendant into a coup cart, and whilst it was in motion the latter began to strike and kick in all directions, and in the struggle they both fell overhead on to the road. The defendant was placed in the cart a second time with the same result, both being pitched out of the conveyance, and witness thought it was a miracle that neither were seriously injured. The defendant was at last tied down in the cart and brought to Consett, for which the owner of the conveyance charged 5s. Defendant kicked witness until he was black and blue all over his legs; and aimed a blow at his head, which, had it not been for the helmet, would have caught him between the eyes. The damage to his coat was estimated at 10s.—Defendant urged that it being New Year's time, he got very drunk and did not know what he was doing.—The Chairman said that it was a serious condition for any person to be in and not know what he was doing. Defendant would however be fined 40s and costs for the assault on the officer, and pay the 10s damage, and 5s for cost of conveyance; in all £4 2s 8d. The charge of drunkenness was dismissed, though the magistrates observed that there was no doubt that defendant was in a state of intoxication.

WILFUL DAMAGE AND ASSAULT.

James Smith, charged with being drunk and assaulting David Logan, of the Railway Tavern, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, and breaking several panes of glass in the public-house, was fined 5s and costs, and ordered to pay 18s damage.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, January 5th—Before Geo. G. Taylor Smith, Esq.

THE CHARGE OF UNLAWFULLY WOUNDING THE POLICE.

The five men—*Thos. Forster, Robt. Fewster, C. Mole, Thos. Hodgson*, and *Wm. Grey*—charged with unlawfully wounding P.C. Fraser, at Stanley, on the 22nd ult., surrendered to their bail. Inspector Hutchinson produced another certificate from Dr Mantle, of Stanley, which stated that the officer was still unable to appear.—The defendants were remanded till Thursday next, their bail being renewed.

Thos. Forster, Chas. Mole, and *Robt. Fewster*, were further remanded on a charge of having assaulted the police-constable the same night.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

TUESDAY, January 3rd—Before Rev Canon GREY (chairman), and C. BACKHOUSE, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

A. Walton pleaded guilty to the above offence and was fined 7s 6d and costs.—*Thos. Moses*, fined 13s 6d. P.C. Wood proved the offence.—*R. Dixon* was fined 7s 6d and 5s costs.—P.C. Higginson proved the offence.—*Edward Rogerson* 9s 6d costs.—*J. Higgins*, guilty, fined 7s 6d pleaded guilty; second offence, fined 10s and costs.—*P. Caveler* pleaded guilty to the first offense, fined 13s 6d.—*A. Martin* was also fined 13s 6d.

KEEPING A FEROCIOUS DOG.

Hugh Grey, butter dealer, was charged by P.C. Ferguson, with keeping a ferocious dog not under proper control. P.C. Wood corroborated, adding that the dog was vicious when he (witness) was stationed at Stanhope.—The defendant was ordered to pay 9s 6d costs, and to keep the dog under proper control.

TRESPASSING IN PURSUIT OF GAME.

John Anderson was charged with trespassing on Woodlands estate, and having on his possession one rabbit and nets for unlawful purposes.—Dr Carr appeared on behalf of the defendant.—P.C.'s Glendinning and Jones proved to their searching the defendant and finding the above in his possession. There having been two previous convictions against defendant, he was fined £2 including costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

William Carraway, school board officer, Tow Law, had the following persons before the Bench for neglecting to send their children regularly to school.—*Robert Mercer, P. Gilbroy, Michael Heanen, John Beadle, Geo. Thompson, G. Hindmarsh, John Wilkinson, Francis Lyton*, and *George Bushby*. The plea of sickness being the excuse in most cases, but owing to the doctor's certificates not being of recent dates, they were fined from 5s to 10s each.

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

UNDER THE TERROR.

BY

MARY C. ROWSELL.

Author of "Love Loyal," "St. Nicholas' Eve" &c., &c.

CHAPTER VIII.

"THE END OF IT."

He placed it to her lips, and she drank greedily. "Well now, listen, my father. 'And so you,' the marquise said, 'were my husband's'—'Hush! hush!' I cried out at her, 'if he had not lied—lied, I should have been his lawful wife.' 'Oh, I make you my obeisance, madame la marquise—*that should have been*,' she sneered—no one ever saw the woman laugh or smile—and then she curtseyed to our mud floor with her brocade skirts. 'He loved the ground I trode on,' I said, 'and I—will be satisfied, madame, be content with the mischief you have made. Be content that you are madame la marquise, and I the cast-off wife of an honest man. Good-bye, Gervais,' I said, holding out my hand to him. 'It is all right. I hideously deceived you. Will you shake hands before I go?'

"For a bit he was silent. Then he said at last, taking my hand that I still kept stretched out to him, and holding it fast, 'See now, Margot. Bring the boy home, I will be his father—on one condition; do you hear? Do you hear, madame la marquise? That he be my son indeed. That never bit or sup bought with monsieur, your husband's, money shall pass his lips. Henceforth the child is mine. Shall it be so, Margot?' 'You are to be felicitated on your bargain,' said the marquise to Gervais, as she gathered up her skirts, and went out. But he did not so much as look at her. 'Shall it be so, you poor woman?' he asked of me, where I lay sobbing at his feet. And so it was."

"Certainly your respectable Gervais was too good for this world," simpered the confessor.

"Heaven thought so too, and took him home two little years after. He died of consumption, the doctors of the Hotel Dieu there called it. Ravignac, as you may suppose, grew to be no place for us; and we came to Paris, we three. But what were poor peasant folks to do in Paris? A job of gardening once and again, a little bit of my lace when I could sell it, and a strapping boy of three to feed. And so Gervais died. Ah! if only it had been the child! Oh, my father, it is true that good can come from no evil sowing. He has been my curse, this Gervais——"

"You mean Armand."

"He does not know that that is his name. It was part of my husband's bargain that he should be called after him, and his dying wish that he should believe himself his son."

"And you have been faithful to that?"

"Through all these years. And yet to-night—to-night—I said something—Ah heaven! was my mind wandering? Or was it that something he said in his aggravating way——"

"I fear you don't appreciate him, this clever fellow, Mother Bouchard."

"Clever! I know only that he is wicked; with all his father's reckless ways, all his mother's wilfulness and deceit. Oh yes, if that is to be clever, then Gervais is clever, very clever, the ungrateful monster. Ah! how I have starved through all these years, till that brought the disease that's been killing me through these last terrible months, and not one kind word—not one ounce of food has he ever given me, though he earns more than enough to keep himself at his work over yonder at St. Antoine. No, he spends all at his precious club, as he calls it. He is one of the new friends of the people, he says. Heaven help the poor souls if all their friends are like him!"

"You are going from the point," said her visitor, rising from the chair on which he had seated himself, "and my time is valuable. Have you anything more of importance to tell me?"

"It is but the beginning," she answered, sighing heavily, "Only the beginning of a life full of lyings and thievings——"

"Ah, ah! Exactly, but——"

"And tricks to keep this miserable soul and body together. And now—this is the end of it."

"Yes," cheerfully acquiesced the confessor, "we will take all those into consideration another time. At present I must not permit you to talk any more."

"I shall never talk again. That drink you gave me helped me to a little life; but its going—fast—"

"Ah, try some more," and, emptying the remaining contents of the cup, he drained the flask into it, and moistened her lips with the fiery liquid, guiltless now of water. "Tell me, my good creature. Have you ever received assistance in money from this Marquis De Ravignac—since your husband's death I mean?"

"No," she said fiercely, "sooner than have been false to my promise to Gervais, I would have starved. And besides, has not monsieur been dead these ten years, and madame almost as long?"

"But his son—this dragoon colonel."

"He is a brave, charitable gentleman, and makes good use of his gold, they say."

"Who say?"

"People."

"Ah, bah! If he was any friend of mine, I would not care to see neither him, nor his castle in your people's clutches," he muttered.

"And heaven forbid," she went on, "a liard of his should be wasted on a good-for-nothing like Gervais. Mon Dieu! To think they're——"

"Brothers."

"It is so kind of you to call them so."

"Ah, my good mother," benevolently returned her visitor, "are they not brothers? Now, there is one thing very remarkable to me in your interesting story, very remarkable; and that is, that Monsieur Gervais, with all his intelligence, has never, as yet discovered his origin."

"Ah, no. That is not surprising. You see, we left Ravignac in disgrace. Madame la marquise did her best to blacken our good name there. It was not so difficult, because the women were all envious of me for my beauty, the poor silly fools; and of course they get their men to follow suit, and so we have never had any communication with the old home. Still I have often trembled for fear lest Gervais should find it out."

"But why—trembled?"

"I tell you you do not know Gervais. He would sell his soul for gold. He would make it a pretext for extorting money from the marquis."

"But how? On what plea?"

"Of their being—" She stopped, the word she strove to articulate died on her lips.

"Brothers. Ah, ah. I perceive. Yes, a clever idea. Exactly—yes. He might do that certainly. But tell me——"

"Ah, heaven!—no—I can—tell you no more."

"When you left Ravignac——"

"Ravignac," she murmured, letting her eyes wander vacantly round the bare walls. "Who talked about Ravignac? Ay, do you hear those bells?" she went on. "Those bells. They are ringing for his birthday. His. Hark! To-day he is twenty-one, and to-night there is to be a ball, and all the grand ladies—he will dance with them. Yes—oh yes, and she is to be there with her green eyes—ha, ha, she is to be there. But when the lamps are out, and the music—Ah, listen. They make our music, those waves among the rocks; and there is our light, see, where the moon streams bright like diamonds. Do you hear? That is his signal—'Margot,' he is calling. 'Come, my beautiful Margot! Quick! before the moon fades. To-morrow there will be a storm, but now it is all quiet, so quiet.' Hush! do you hear?" and she clutched the silken skirts of her companion's cassock. "Do you hear?"

"Ah! bah! Nonsense, my good woman," he answered impatiently, and looking hurriedly round. "It is only the river soaking up round your hovel of a house here. One of these fine days you'll be drowned."

"Drowned! Ah!" she shrieked. "Yes, quick, Armand, quick! For blessed Mary's sake, row to land. See, see how the water whirls and rushes! It will carry us away—away. Armand—save me—your Margot—Armand!"

And with all the concentrated strength of her dying arms, she clasped the left hand of the man at her side, while he contemplated the cognac flask in his right hand with a profoundly speculative air. "No, no," he said at last, restoring it carefully to his pocket. "One must not be wasteful in these times. You've had enough, mother. Quite as much as is good for you. I don't suppose you would tell me any more if I had the luck of this little friend of mine being full to the neck. So come, heaven be with you, my daughter." And he tried to disengage himself.

"Save—save me," she wailed feebly, clutching at him with the tenacity of despairing death, and raising her eyes in piteous entreaty to his face.

"Oh ho, I see. It's absolution you want, is it?" he said, still struggling. "Well, I don't know. That has to be thought about. You see I'm not sure that I'm justified in it." And a sardonic grin distorted the well-shaped, but thin lips. "We'll leave that till to-morrow, because then—Gervais do you say? Ah, you want Gervais. Of course you do. I'll go and find him for you, shall I? Yes—yes. Ah! Leave hold, you she-cat! Leave hold, can't you?" he snarled, struggling in vain to wrench himself free of her frantic clutch. "Do you want to throttle me? What are you staring at? Do you suppose I'm——"

"Gervais!!!" she hissed frenziedly, clawing at the tonsured long white locks.

He strove to evade her hand, but it was too late. She had torn the wig from his head. "Gervais!!!" and with her eyes fixed in a stony stare of horror on the flushed, fierce, baffled face of Bouchard; she fell heavily back.

"Dead, are you?" he said, when after a brief, keen scrutiny of the still face, he laid his hand on her heart. "Ay, all quiet. Quiet at last. And yet you spoke briskly enough five minutes ago. And you had your senses about you too, as you always did have. Gervais! Gervais! Does that mean that you recognised your son, my dear mother, and the joy was too much for you?—Perhaps—well—your time was about come, and a little half-hour sooner or later isn't of much consequence to you, I suppose; while to me—" and Bouchard glanced towards the first faint streak of the cold spring dawn creeping on to the dead face, "to me, it makes all the difference. Providence certainly is very considerate. There may even be time to give Father Mathieu back his cassock, and this precious scarecrow of a tell-tale here," and he disengaged the wig from the dead fingers. "I mustn't forget that, if it can be done without any inconvenience to myself, I may as well do it. I always like to be honest if I can."

He stopped for an instant more, and gazed at the dead woman. "No," he said, as if he had been debating some question with himself, "when I come come back. The dead tell no tales. When I come back." And he went out, carefully closing the door behind him.

(To be continued.)

NEW YEAR'S TREAT AT WINLATON.—On Monday about 100 of the old people and widows living in this village were treated to tea in the Wesleyan School-room. An entertainment was afterwards given in Zion Chapel under the presidency of Mr Thos. Tweddle, jun. Addresses were delivered by Messrs D. Jeffrey, W. Paxton, S. J. Finney; with songs, glees, and recitations by several local friends. After a vote of thanks to the subscribers, a ½lb of tea was presented to each person, bringing to a close a happy, social gathering.

MESSRS. BRIGHT and CHAMBERLAIN addressed their constituents in the Birmingham Town Hall on Tuesday. Mr. Bright, in replying to a vote of confidence in the Government and the representatives of the town, said that if the Government was in need of defence, it had been made by his colleagues. The Government was charged with being without allies and insolated, but he maintained that no Government had ever been in greater accord with other nations than the present. Mr Bright next referred to the policy of the Government in South Africa and in Afganistan, and contended that it had the approval of all right-thinking statesmen abroad. He then reviewed at length the Irish policy of the Government, which he urged had been pursued, not in a spirit of tyranny, but for the purpose of restoring law and order. The Government had been blamed for adopting coercion, but when they found it stated in the House of Commons that the Government of Ireland was knocked into a cocked hat, and when they found certain parts of the country in a state of terrorism, it was, he urged, the duty of Government to adopt those remedial measures of restraint and measures of relief which were the resources of civilisation. Ireland could not complain of the manner in which she had been treated by the Union as regarded Parliamentary representation, for she had, in regard to her population, a larger number of Members than either England or Scotland. Notwithstanding present troubles, he believed the effect of the great measures passed would be to make Ireland tranquil and loyal as any part of the Queen's dominions. Mr. Chamberlain, who followed, dealt at length with the policy of the Government in referance to Ireland, which he defended as necessary for the maintenance of law and order. The Government had administered their remedy in the Land Act, and they believed it would secure peace to the country. They were not to be driven into the one Tory remedy, namely, the permanent abrogation of all liberty in Ireland; but what had been done would increase the number of Irish landlords by ten thousand—men who would hereafter be a potent force for the maintenance of tranquility and peace. Outrage was at last diminishing, and the future looked hopeful.

Correspondence.

(We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.—Ed. C.G.)

THE SALVATION ARMY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in your valuable paper to publish the following? It may be premised *sans querelle* that tranquility is one consolation to humanity. We have in this district those so-called Salvationists parading the streets and creating the greatest disturbance imaginable, particularly on Sunday nights, puffing and blowing those brass instruments from which emanates neither tune nor harmony, but causes on the contrary the greatest confusion and irritation that can possibly be conceived. If this be their motive in saving souls then their unscrupulous ideas are not altogether commendable, because of their noisy creations on the Lord's day. It is very annoying to the congregations of other churches who have assembled in their different places of worship, and are comfortably seated, having their service duly administered in an effectual manner, to suddenly hear this indomitable band parading the streets, arousing the congregations in other churches in order to make themselves overheard. If such religion as this can be entertained by intelligent people, we may at once coincide with one of their officials in calling ourselves "heathen England"; and if this be the true religion, why not other churches follow their example. But we find in 1 Timothy iv. 12, this:—"Let no man despise thy youth, but be thou an example of the believers in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." Now if the Salvation Army would remedy this error by putting away those out-door instruments on the Sabbath day, and devote more of their time in praising God it would certainly have a more effectual influence over sinners, and would perhaps create more conversions than they have recently made at Consett. But before I conclude I would call your attention to another subject. While visiting the Salvation Hall one Sunday afternoon to hear various testimonies expressed by its members, I was rather surprised to see the captain rise on his feet and order the doors of the hall to be closed and no one to be allowed to go out until the close of the meeting. Now such an order as this is altogether illegal; people do not want to be imprisoned in a place of worship constantly. It would be more appropriate, I think, if the captain would endeavour to reconcile the people by persuasion *plut ot* repression.—Yours truly,

UN OUVRIER.

[We regret to learn that inconvenience has been caused to any congregation by the zeal of the Salvation Army; and we feel convinced that that so soon as this is proved the leaders of the Army will take steps to prevent its recurrence. It would be wrong for us to neglect the present opportunity of stating that we have not been uninterested witnesses of the great good which has been accomplished in many places through the agency of the Salvation Army. In Consett many a man has been transformed from being a pest to society into a useful citizen, an excellent neighbour, and a good Christian. And what we have stated in reference to their converts in Consett is equally true of their converts in every other town where they have a cause. It is, we consider, the duty of every man who has the welfare of his fellow-men at heart, to assist, as far as he has the ability, the cause of the Salvation Army.—*Ed. C. G.*]

LIBERALISM AT HAMSTEELS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I think it is my duty to say a word or two in reply to a letter which appeared in your paper of the 17th ult., signed "A Liberal." It is a painful duty for a man to reply to a coward who is troubled with arrantry, but he is going about spouting behind the scenes, with his sneaking cowardly echoes. In dealing with the Irish Question he is devoid of political honesty. Who is the so-called "Liberal"? I presume he is the man who was Boycotted not long ago, not many miles from Lintz, for not being a Union man, and who had to walk and work by himself. He was not fit to be amongst men of principle, and now he is going about from house to house in this county as a wolf in sheep's clothing. "Liberal" refers to the Hamsteels meeting and Messrs. Bryson and Hill. Let me tell "Liberal" that neither Messrs. Bryson and Hill were at the Hamsteels meeting. I was at the meeting, and what I said there I am prepared to say again; and if the so-called "Liberal" wishes to hear me with all my "party outburst and brawling, and leather lungs." I will meet him at any place in this county to discuss the position of the Irish people and its causes. Then "Liberal" will have a chance to defend the tyrannical and cruel laws of the British Government. We will then have a chance to hear the "Liberal," who has not leather lungs, but is affected with asthma. I hope the audience will not smoke so that he may have a chance to exhaust himself, mark, if he gives his name in full, and his address. The great oratorical that condemns the Irish people, says I am to be found in the Union meetings, and am totally incapable of doing any good. Yes, sir, I am to be found at the Miners' meetings, and in all other meetings which have for their objects the removal of social and political evils which exist, and establishing in its place freedom and justice. The "Liberal" says I am incapable of doing good at Miners' meetings. I will let the good I have done speak for itself. But will "Liberal" point out to me where I have done anything that has injured my fellow-men. I am a Union man, and always was, and intend to be. I have never sold my manhood, and I never intend to be a footstool for any man. I never was a black-leg; I never worked when my brethren came out on strike for right against might. If my presumption against "Liberal" is not correct, let him reply and give his name and address in full; if not, I shall come to the conclusion that I have put the straight jacket on the right man. "Liberal" is proud of the way in which the British Government is using its despotic power, and he lauds the conduct of the brutal soldier who drives the bayonet up to the hilt in the bosom of an innocent girl; he loves bayonets and buckshotting and kidnapping the Irish people to submission. But "Liberal" thinks that the Government ought not to acknowledge that it has made a mistake—that having once entered on a wrong course it must not retract its steps, but proceed to the end. I have a different opinion; I hold that not a moment should be lost in rectifying a mistake. At no period of history since the union between England and Ireland have the Irish people been placed in such an unfortunate position than at the present time, and as long as despotism and tyranny exist in Ireland nothing can be expected but the seeds of future discontent and misery. The question may be asked—What can be done to redress the grievances which the Irish people are suffering under at the present time? Let the British Government take a candid, wise, honest, and prudent consideration of the present condition of Ireland. The Government must remember that Ireland is a part of the United Kingdom, and, therefore, she is fully entitled to the benefits that the English people are enjoying. For to enact laws for Ireland that the English people repudiate, is to deny the Irish people of the benefits of the union. The allegations that exceptional legislation is required for the Irish people is not supported by any credible evidence whatever. How long will the Government presumptuously risk the consequence of such selfish conduct? What fruits do they hope to gain by using their despotic power in such a cruel manner? They are sowing the seeds of disappointment, and what can they expect when the harvest comes? The Government is sending their miscreant spies to Ireland, and arming the rich against the poor; they have let the war hounds loose, and they are ready for slaughter at any time; the bulwark of their injustice is fortified against the Irish nation, and their fain hope is that the people may commit themselves so as to afford sport for their vengeance. The Irish people are prohibited by exclusive and oppressive laws from holding meetings. Let an honest Englishman ask himself the question—Is it right for a policeman or a soldier or a spy to have the authority to stifle a meeting called for a legal object, and thrust the leaders into prison and kept there without being tried by judge or jury? I think the only rational and proper means for ascertaining the public opinion of the country upon any great question affecting the general welfare of the country. But the Irish people are deprived of explaining to the English people the way in which they are robbed of their daily bread. Let the Government do its worst—let them fill their gaols, and let them build others, and fill them; but I hope the agitation of the Land League will continue until their labours are crowned with success. In conclusion, I hope that the Irish people all over the world will unite for one interest, and with sincerity, and loyalty as brothers should do in any struggle for liberty and justice. Let the Irish people remember that what they sow in tears they shall reap with joy.—Yours truly,

PATRICK CARLING.

Lintz Colliery, Dec. 28th, 1881.

Business Announcements.

NINTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss WILLIAMS', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 1·30 p.m. to 3·30 p.m.

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PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING PRICES:—

BEECHAM'S Pills, 9½d. BURDOCK'S Pills, 9½d.
CLOUGHS' Golden Pill of Health, 9½d. ENO'S Stomach Pills, 9½d.
KAY'S Essence of Linseed, 9½d. Perrino Essence, Horehound and Coltsfoot, 9½d.
MOLLER'S Cod Liver Oil, 1s. 6d. POWELL'S Balsam, 9½d.
RACKHAM'S Liver Pills, 9½d. SCOTT'S Pills, 9½d.
The Northern Cure for Rheumatism, 9½d.,
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NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

GEORGE PATTON,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, BRASS FOUNDER, &c.
Has Removed from opposite entrance to Central Station to Premises adjoining entrance to Gas Office,
NEVILLE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, without first obtaining the said Company's permission, will be prosecuted according to Law.

By order of the Directors,
August 21st, 1875. M RICHLEY, Secretary

WATCH, CLOCK, and JEWELLERY CLUBS FOR 1882.
WILL COMMENCE JANUARY 14th.

FOR TERMS APPLY TO
J. W. DAVISON,
WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Watches, Clocks, and Jewellery carefully repaired on the Premises by Practical Workmen. 13q

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that 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 therefore, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Person 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.

FARMERS!!!
BUY YOUR SEEDS AT
GEORGE HOBSON'S
OLD-ESTABLISHED SEED WAREHOUSE,
HARPERLEY MILLS,
Near Annfield Plain, and
NEW STEAM MILLS, CATCHGATE.

The quality of those Seeds has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturists in this District for upwards of 34 years, and, as a proof of the manner in which the business has been conducted, the trade has steadily increased year by year, which speaks volumes in favour of G.H.'s Seeds, in the face of the very keen, and at the same time unfair competition which has been practised during late years.

G. H. does not go from farm to farm to tell his Friends that he can do better than anyone in the trade; neither does he give Silver Cups, as a bribe—which he need not say are to be paid for by parties purchasing the Seeds—but relies entirely on the past for the benefit of the future.

G. H. desires his friends before making their purchases or giving orders elsewhere, to come to his Seed Warehouse, and inspect his carefully-selected Stock of Agricultural and Garden Seeds.

All of the above Seeds are from the best growing districts in the world.

Purchasers can have the kinds and quantities properly mixed and packed up for each field, which is a great boon to farmers.

G. H. gives the same personal attention to the Mixtures for Permanent Pastures which have always given universal satisfaction.

Fine Spring Tares, Seed Peas, Oats, Barley, Potatoes, also Artificial Manure always in stock. 93p

WINTER CLOTHING WINTER CLOTHING

WINTER Clothing direct from the Factory to the Public at HUGH MORTON & CO.'S, Supply Store, 55, Grainger Street, Newcastle.

Owing to the extreme depression in the manufacturing districts Hugh Morton and Co., have recently purchased an extensive lot of superior All-Wool Cloths, of the latest designs, much under the regular price, and will, in accordance with their system, give the public the benefit of the same. They have also given great attention to the Cut and Manufacture of the Garments, so as to secure a combination of fashion and durability. Their new Winter Stock will therefore consist of by far the best value ever offered by them. It is impossible to particularise the various departments, but they here append a list of a few specialities which are Extraordinary Value.

- Good Quality Diagonal Overcoat, warm and durable, 16s 11d.
- Superior Quality Overcoat, a great variety, "The Marvel Overcoat," 20s.
- Very Superior Overcoat with best linings, 29s 6d.
- Best Quality Black Worsted Overcoat Woaded fast colours, all wool, 32s 6d
- Very superior Blue Nap Overcoats, Velvet Collars, and Indigo Dye, 24s6
- Good Warm Suits, complete, dark useful colours, 19s 11d.
- Very Superior Suit complete, extra quality linings, 26s 6d.
- Excellent Quality Black Worsted Suits complete, 29s 6d.
- Heavy Hairline All-Wool Trousers, Twisted Warp and Weft, 8s 11d

Boys' and Youths' Winter Suits and Overcoats equally cheap. Goods not approved, exchanged or the money returned, at option of customer. Special attention given to letter orders.

HUGH MORTON & CO.,
CLOTHING MANUFACTURERS,
55, Grainger Street (Corner of Nelson Street), Newcastle.

WINTER CLOTHING WINTER CLOTHING

DIARIES FOR 1882,
AT
ROBERT JACKSON'S,
9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

OCTOBER BREWINGS.

JOHN AITCHISON AND CO.
BREWERS,
EDINBURGH.
Offices and Stores,
Lisle Street, Newcastle,
944p JOHN BORTHWICK, Agent.

PLUMBING AND GASFITTING.

P. SURTEES having commenced Business as PLUMBER and GASFITTER, at Sherburn Terrace, Consett, begs to intimate to the Inhabitants of the District that he is prepared to Execute all Orders entrusted to him in a Prompt, Cheap, and workman-like manner.

☞ All Orders left with Mr. AITCHINSON, Publican, Annfield Plain; or Mr. H. DAVISON, Ironmonger, &c., Catchgate, will receive prompt attention. 792o

REVELY AND KELL,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

BEG to announce that they have removed their Business from Mosley Street to more Commodious Premises.

No. 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET. 764o
NEWCASTLE.

NEW CONFECTIONERY ESTABLISHMENT.

SIMON ROWE,

LATE of Allansford, respectfully intimates that he has commenced Business as Wholesale and Retail Confectioner and Plain and Fancy Bread Baker, at 17, Newmarket Street, Consett.

Funerals and Parties of every description supplied.
Brides' Cakes, both Plain and Ornamental, made to order. Address—17, Newmarket Street, Consett. 894o

J. STEPHENSON,
IRONMONGER AND FANCY GOODS REPOSITORY, PLUMBER, GAS-FITTER, PAINTER AND TIN PLATE WORKER,
NEW MARKET STREET, CONSETT.

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he has commenced business as above.

Any article made to order in TIN, ZINC, COPPER, or IRON.

A large Stock of PAPER-HANGINGS, COCOA MATS, MATTING, OIL CLOTH, &c., always on hand.

J. S. hopes by strict attention to business, and good workmanship, to merit a share of public patronage. 344p

THE AUCKLAND UNION PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.
ESTABLISHED 1857.

Offices—56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland.

THE Directors are prepared to ADVANCE MONEY on approved securities. The repayments may spread over 16 years, or any less number, to suit the means of borrowers.

INVESTING SHARES may be entered at any time, and withdrawn, if required, at a month's notice.

PROFITS are divided every three years.

The Interest and Profits paid to members on Completed Shares has averaged 6½ per cent. per annum.

Any further particulars may be obtained of Mr. GEO. STILLMAN, 56, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland; or Mr WILLIAM ELLIOTT, 22, Nelson Street, Consett. 306o

WEST-END TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

JACOB HUTCHINSON
TAILOR,

BEGS to call special attention to his present immense Stock of WOOLLEN CLOTHS and NEW GOODS for the Season, 1881.

Doing a large Retail Trade enables him to show to his Customers such an Immense Choice, and at such Low Prices as few people in the trade.

SPECIALITIES:—
OUR CELEBRATED WORSTED SUITS, £2 16s.
A marvellous production.
OUR 13s. 6d. TROUSERS and £2 10s. TWEED SUITS Speak for themselves.
OUR RELIABLE ALL-WOOL TWEED SUITS, £1 18s., are world-renowned.

PLEASE TO CALL BEFORE GOING ELSEWHERE AT
J. HUTCHINSON'S,
Next door to Mr. M'COURTNEY, Watchmaker.
☞ FIRST-CLASS FIT AND WORK GUARANTEED.

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON

TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and SPLITTING MILLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.

Try the EXCELLO HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.

Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.

HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, and
NEW STEAM MILLS, CATCHGATE,
ESTABLISHED 1817.

Agent for the Live-Stock Condiment Company's CHAMPION SPICE, for Horses, Cattle Sheep, Pigs, Dogs, Poultry, Game, Stacking Hay &c. 390o

Business Announcements.

WINTER FASHIONS.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN

ARE NOW SHOWING

NEW GOODS IN EVERY DEPARTMENT

FOR THE PRESENT SEASON,

HAVING JUST RETURNED FROM THE MARKETS.

☞ NOTE.—THE TRADE SUPPLIED AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN;
GENERAL DRAPERS, 872p
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

LUTON HOUSE
DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT!
22, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

COME AND SEE THE LARGE AND VARIED ASSORTMENT OF

NEW GOODS!

INCLUDING A LOT OF VERY SPECIAL BARGAINS:—

Lot of Ladies' Ulsters, to be sold at 2s. 11d.; splendid value.
Lot of Ladies' Silk Umbrellas, at 2s. 11d.; cheap.
Splendid Grey Calico, at 4½d.
1000 yards of Black Alpacca, at 4½d.; this is wonderfully cheap.
Cocoa Mattings, 1 yard width, 1s. 3d.; 1½ yards width, 1s. 10½d.; 3 yards width, 2s. 6d., good quality.
Large Assortment of Wool Shawls, Millinery, Dress Goods, Corsetts, Trimmings, &c.

READY-MADE CLOTHING.

In this Department we have always been noted for supplying a Class of Superior Goods than what is generally kept in Stock, at Prices usually charged for an inferior article. Having just received a large supply of Men's and Boys' Suits, Trousers, &c. &c., we are now prepared to Show the Cheapest Goods in the District.

☞ Do not miss this opportunity of Buying a Cheap Parcel.

Lots of other Bargains not enumerated above.

THOMAS SHAW ATKINSON,
LUTON HOUSE,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

CHAMPAGNES.
PAUL RUINART AND CO., OF RHEIMS.
ERNST BIESTERFELD, Sole Agent.
No. 33, BROAD CHARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
A choice Stock always on hand.—Sub-Agents Wanted.

MITCHELL'S KING OF WASHERS

Delight and astonish your friends at home by taking them one of MITCHELL'S PATENT STEAM WASHERS, for by it—

Ladies' dressed may wash with ease,
On Parlour Tables if they please;
A fortnight's washing in an hour,
By steam's efficient, matchless power.

J. MITCHELL,
PLUMBER, GAS-FITTER, COPPERSMITH, and HEATING ENGINEER,
126, WESTGATE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
☞ Laundries Built, and Bleaching Greens fitted up on the most efficient and labour-saving system known.

LOOK HERE!
LOOK HERE!!
LOOK HERE!!!

☞ COME TO CONSETT AT LAST. ☜

THE CELEBRATED

NABOB INDIAN TEA!

THE Rare Quality and the Delicious Flavour which has obtained for it an immense Sale in every large Town in this Kingdom.

THE FAR-FAMED

CHALLENGE CUP INDIAN PEKOE!

3s. PER POUND.

ONE of the greatest boons ever introduced to the Hard-working Classes of this Country, because for its Strength and the Invigorating Properties it contains it has no equal.

ALSO, THE

NATIONAL INDIAN TEA!

2s. PER POUND.

TRULY a marvel at the Price. These Teas are in ½lb. and ¼lb. Packets. Ask for one trial and you will never change.

SOLD WHOLESALE & RETAIL BY
WILLIAM AYNSLEY,
GROCER, TEA DEALER, WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANT,
CONSETT, LEADGATE, & ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE NATIONAL STEAM SHIPPING COMPANY'S SPLENDID STEAMERS run regularly between LIVERPOOL and NEW YORK, at Moderate Rates.—Agent:—JAMES PALLISER, Grocer, &c., Foundry Row, Blackhill.

JOHN FREEK,
GROCER AND PROVISION DEALER,
23, VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.

HOT DINNERS, TEAS, and other REFRESHMENTS on the Shortest Notice and most Reasonable Terms.

N.B.—As J. F. has a REGISTRY OFFICE in connection with his Business, Ladies wanting Servants would do well to give him a call. 384c

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND CATCHGATE,

HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 673b

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.

First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.

Accommodation for passengers equal to any European Line.

Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

THE SHORTEST AND BEST ROUTE TO THE WEST.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, & CO., 17 and 19, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, via Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 833p

CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE IMPROVED

MAGNETIC APPLIANCES

MAGNETIC CHEST PROTECTORS. MAGNETIC LUNG INVIGORATORS. MAGNETIC WAIST BELTS. MAGNETIC SPINE BANDS. MAGNETIC KNEE CAPS. MAGNETIC WRISTLETS, SOLES, &c.

Mr. D. LAMONT is pleased to say that these Appliances are still receiving the marks of continued and increasing favour. It is unquestionable that many hundreds of persons in the North of England have been entirely CURED or more or less substantially BENEFITED by their use.

Mr WILLIAM CRAWFORD, Secretary of the Miners' National Union, writes:—

15, North Road, Durham, 21st Sept., 1881.

DEAR SIR,—Some years ago I had one of my legs severely injured. During last year I felt a weakness and constant aching pain, which partly confined me to the house and rendered walking—except for short distances—impossible. A few months ago I procured one of your Magnetic Stockings, and the good it has done me is beyond conception. I am now free from pain and aching, and can walk as well as ever without experiencing the slightest difficulty or hinderance. It has been, and is still, to me a blessing indeed.

Very truly yours,
Mr. D. Lamont. WILLIAM CRAWFORD.

CURE OF EPILEPSY.
Whorlton, Whalbottle, Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
November 18th, 1881.

SIR,—My wife's belt, which you have re-magnetized and re-made so beautifully, has come to hand. It has been in constant use for over a year, and I am glad to be able now to re-affirm every word of what I wrote to you on September 22, 1880. Since then I have procured several appliances for my friends, all of which have operated beneficially. Especially ought I to mention the case of the young girl, who was afflicted with fits frequently and severely. She has worn your spine band for about 11 months, and has not had one attack during that time.—Yours truly,
Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN EGGIE.

PAINS.—LOSS OF VOICE.—SORE BACK.
Cowpen Square, Blyth,
November 14th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—I consider it both a pleasure and a duty to inform you that the Magnetic Appliance supplied by you to several of my friends have in each case given the greatest satisfaction. My father got a waist belt and anklets, and they have done him a power of good. He could not walk a quarter of a mile, but can now walk about without any inconvenience. Some time ago, my mother lost her voice completely, and by applying one of the anklets to her throat for a few weeks it was entirely restored. My brother got a belt for weakness in the back, caused by injuries received while following his daily employment, and it has done him a vast of good. They are all agreeable for you to use this as a testimonial if you think proper.—Yours respectfully,
Mr. D. Lamont. ROBERT RHODES.

PAINS AND WEAKNESS IN THE KNEES.
Burnopfield Colliery, Durham
November 12th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—Six weeks ago I called to consult you about one of my knees, which for more than thirteen years has caused me much pain and many sleepless nights. Besides the pain and swelling, it was a little stiff and weak. On your recommendation I bought a Special Power Knee Cap, and though I have only worn it six weeks the benefit I have already received is remarkable. In walking I have little or no pain, and though tired as usual when through with my work, it does not cause me the uneasiness it used to do. Often at nights the intense pain would keep me from sleeping, or I would be awoke many times through the night with the shooting pains. I am glad to say that I have slept better since I got the knee cap than for many years before.—Yours with gratitude,
Mr. D. Lamont. JAMES HOLMES.

FROM MR. T. A. BURDON, CHEMIST.
Spennymoor, October 12th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—I have sold a good quantity of your Magnetic Appliances during the last few years, with the very best results—in fact, they have in some cases acted like a charm, and for what you recommend them they cannot be praised too much. There is one thing I would mention, as I have found such good effects from it, and that is to be most particular and wear Magnetic Soles with the other appliances. You are at liberty to make what use you like of this, as I think they cannot be made too well known.—I am yours, &c.,
Mr. D. Lamont. T. A. BURDON.

☞ Descriptive Pamphlet containing recent Local Testimony, Reduced Price List, and all information gratis, or sent Post Free. 755p

MAGNETIC DEPOT.—PERMANENT ADDRESS.
D. LAMONT,
44A, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—The appliances are forwarded Post Free to any address. Consultation by letter carefully attended to.

Business Announcements.

MRS. E. G. SMITH,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, &c.,
21, SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,

BEGS most respectfully to return her sincere thanks to the public of Consett and surrounding district for the liberal patronage bestowed upon her during the past, and hopes by strict attention to all orders entrusted to her care, to merit a still further continuance of the same.

☞ WATER BRANCHES LAID IN, and TAPS REPAIRED on the SHORTEST NOTICE. 1

BISHOP AUCKLAND EQUITABLE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

Chairman of Directors: Mr. JOSEPH WILKINSON, West Mills, Bishop Auckland.
Solicitor: RICHARD BOWSER, Esq., Bishop Auckland.

THE DIRECTORS are prepared to RECEIVE LOANS of FIVE POUNDS and upwards, at 5 per cent. interest, payable Half-yearly.

ADVANCES made and Shares entered at any time.

THE ENTRANCE FEES are abolished.

THE REPAYMENT of an Advance on Mortgage of £100 is 15s. per Month, or £9 per Annum, which covers Interest and Redemption.

PROFITS divided equitably amongst Members.

WM. V. THOMPSON, Secretary.
Offices: 25, Market-place, Bishop Auckland. 608n

THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON!

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.—I, your humble Servant, consider it my duty to tender my sincere thanks to one and all for the kind patronage bestowed on me during my sojourn amongst you. You supported me in health and out of health; therefore, I rejoice and thank God for the blessing that fell to my lot—namely, to be placed in the midst of so many kind and charitable people. Gratitude would be frozen within me if I thought not upon the many benefits I received from your hands, and especially the hands of our Medical Gentlemen. May God reward you one and all, for I cannot do further than to wish you A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, and this I do from my heart. My note is finished, and so is the year, but the time to do good is not finished yet.

I hope you will my thanks accept,
And enjoy a happy new year;
And when you want your chimneys swept,
Them I will set clear.

Believe me, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient and punctual Servant,
JOE HARRISON, Chimney Sweep.
Mayor's Chambers, Shotley Bridge,
December 15th, 1881. 992p

ONCE TRIED ALWAYS USED!

CURRY'S STOMACH & LIVER PILLS
PREPARED WITHOUT
CALOMEL OR ANY MERCURIAL PREPARATION,
An absolute cure for all diseases of the
HEAD, STOMACH, LIVER, KIDNEYS, AND BOWELS.
SOLD IN BOXES, 1s. 1½d. EACH.
Prepared only by the Proprietor, N. CURRY, A.P.S.

GENUINE PALE NEW SEASON'S
NORWEGIAN COD LIVER OIL.

This Oil is the finest imported, is guaranteed absolutely pure, and remains bright at a temperature much below the freezing point of water. The freedom from acidity, and the absence of all unpleasant smell and flavour, enables invalids who cannot digest ordinary "Cod Liver Oil" to take this with pleasure and advantage. In Bottles, 1s. Double the size, 1s. 9d.

CATHARTIC POWDERS, 2d. EACH.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES.

☞ PURE DRUGS AND CHEMICALS, with the Sundries of a First-class Dispensing and Retail Business.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
N. CURRY, A.P.S.,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
(Qualified by Examination in London)
(Assistant to the Society of Apothecaries),
SURGEON DENTIST,
54, FRONT STREET (Opposite the end of Middle Street), CONSETT. 788p

Public Notices.

TO PIG BREEDERS.—A BOAR of the Short-nosed Large Breed, bred by Mr. ROBINSON, of South Benwell, will Serve Sows at 5s. each.—Apply to J. YOUNG, Pit Hill, Chester-le-Street. 988p

NOTICE.

THE Game upon Medomsley East House and Allendale Farms is strictly preserved.—Dogs found on these Farms will be destroyed, and all Persons found Trespassing will be prosecuted. 363p

THE SYCAMORES, ROWLEY.

NOTICE!—The GAME upon this Estate is now strictly preserved.
January 1st, 1882. 44q

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society will be held in the Town Hall, on Saturday, January 14th, at Seven p.m.

R. HALL,
W. DICKINSON, } Secretaries.
41q

BLACKHILL MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

THE next of the SERIES OF DEBATES will take place in the Reading-room, on Monday, 9th January, 1882, at Half-past Seven p.m.

Subject:—"Is Republican or Monarchical Form of Government the best?"

Leaders—Mr. WYLIE and Mr. WOOD. 40q

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

THE Rev. D. T. YOUNG, of Headingley College, will deliver his popular LECTURE, in the above Chapel, on "John Hunt, the Plough-boy, who became a Missionary," on Thursday, January 12th, 1882.

Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock by Alderman HINDMARSH, J.P., Ex-Mayor of Gateshead.

Admission, Sixpence each.

DERWENT LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the Central Hall, Benfieldside, on Thursday, January 19th, 1882, when T. C. THOMPSON, Esq., M.P., for Durham City will deliver an Address on "Ireland, and the Work to be done in the Session."

Chair to be taken at Half-past Seven by J. PRIESTMAN, Esq., J.P., President of the Association.

ADMISSION:—Front Seats, 6d.; Back Seats, 3d.; Members of the Association Free.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

THE 74th QUARTERLY MEETING of the above Society will be held on Saturday, January the 7th, 1882, at Half-past Six p.m., in the Society's Meeting Room, Gibson Street.

N.B.—The Members' Share Books will be given out from the Office on and after the 9th of January, 1882.

THE HIGH SCHOOL, THIRSK

PRINCIPAL:—Mr. EUSEBIUS RICHARDSON, B.A. of Cambridge and Victoria Universities, &c.

AT the Distribution of Prizes on December 13th, 1881, Master RICHARD ROUTLEDGE, of Consett, was Distinguished in Composition and Mapping. He also received the Prize for Latin.

☞ References are kindly permitted by Mrs. SKELTON, Rosemount House, Medomsley Road, Consett.

Duties will be resumed January 16th, 1882. 985p

Public Notices.

CONTINUATION of POLYTECHNIC in the Primitive Methodist New School until Monday, January 9th, 1882. 45q

TOWN HALL FOR CONSETT.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the NATIONAL INFANT SCHOOL, CONSETT, on Monday, the 9th day of January, at Half-past Seven p.m., to consider the importance of Forming a Limited Company for the BUILDING OF A TOWN HALL with Premises suitable for Public Offices, Friendly Societies' Meetings, &c.

Chair to be taken by W. JENKINS, Esq., J. P.

☞ The Tradesmen, the Working Classes, and other Persons interested in the well-being of Consett are earnestly requested to attend, and in order to secure the co-operation of all, it will be proposed to raise the required Capital by £1 Shares.

T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Solicitor,
Middle Street, Consett. Sec., *pro. tem.*

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Oley.

An Excellent Pony for Sale.

MR. J. OLEY, by order of the Executors of the late Mr. THOS. WILSON, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mr. MOFFAT'S, Commercial Inn, Shotley Bridge, on Monday, January 9th, 1882, at Three o'clock p.m., an excellent PONY, quite to ride or drive.

Shotley Bridge, 10, Wood Street. 45q

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

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Notice.

MR. ADAM BRODIE, of Town Hall, Consett, respectfully intimates that notwithstanding the late severe accident which occurred to him, that his Business in ALL ITS BRANCHES will be conducted as usual, he having entered into an arrangement with a gentleman of well known experience with whose kind co-operation he will be favoured until such time as he may recover.

☞ All orders to be left at the Town Hall, Consett, as usual, where R. J. BRODIE, his son, will be found every day from 9 a.m. till 7 p.m. 825p

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 744b

A. PHILLIPSON,
GENERAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE-AGENT, &c., DIPTON.

CASH ADVANCES made, and FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly, and upon Reasonable Terms. 27p

EMIGRATION TO AMERICA
CHEAPEST AND BEST.

For reliable information, apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton, or, to WILLIAM ROBINSON Medomsley. 393p

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6TH, 1882.

ECHOES FROM BLACKHILL.

[BY INCEDO.]

Where the worn out years are deposited I have yet to learn. If they are stored behind a huge wall on the confines of the world, as the sailor declared the old moons were, then will 1881 be easily recognised from its predecessors.

> Alas! each year dies on a pyre,
> Like the Assyrian Kings,

says L. E. L. Such is the experience of humanity; and will be, doubtless, while time endures. Sometimes gifted souls arise who dream dreams, and see visions of a glorious time—

> "When the sharpened share shall vex the soil no more
> And earth unbidden shall produce her store."

So much for the material world. Another discourse on the delectable condition of the immaterial:—thy mind

> "When some cord yet untouched within the breast
> Shall vibrate suddenly through all mankind;
> And in one simultaneous voice proclaim
> The universal brotherhood of mind."

Whether such a beau ideal state of existence will ever be realized on this side the "bourne" I will not hazard an opinion. If one may judge from appearances there is precious little indication of it in the meantime; but as it is not deemed charitable to speak lightly of the dead, I need not disturb the ashes of the departed year.

The weather still continues to be a source of interesting study to the meteorologist, and an inestimable boon to the out-door labourer. Had the winter been a severe one the condition of the latter would have been most deplorable, when it is borne in mind that that class lost a deal of time and money throughout the heavy rainfall in the summer of 1881.

Many of my readers would doubtless hear the buzzer sound a welcome to 1882. Few in Blackhill were, methinks, in bed. The streets echoed with the sounds of hurrying feet, and the air gave back the strains of sacred song. This sounds well, but did I drop my pencil here the impression conveyed to the mind of the reader would be a most erroneous one. Sacred songs truly; but sung by whom?—not by those whose hearts were laden with gratitude to the Giver of all Good. No, but by those who possess so little of the world's wisdom as to be unable to discriminate between a hymn and an obscene ditty. A hymn followed by a chorus of ribald jests. What an oblation to the new-born year! A comparison sang truly to the heavenly melody of the angels—"Peace on earth, good will to men." The prevalence of this blasphemous practice is not common to Blackhill. Nearly all the strolling beggars of the country have taken to hymn singing. It is fashionable, and more, it must be profitable else there would be fewer in the trade. A stranger to pass through our streets on a Saturday night would set us down as a generation of saints, whereas the custom is worse than barbarous—it is blasphemous. Well may the critics declare that there is not at present any great poet who is known to and reaches the hearts of the masses. The habit is a most pernicious one and ought to be checked.

The people in these parts have, I think, spent a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Almost every denomination has had a treat or a *fete*. Tables have groaned beneath mountains of sweetmeats, and Christmas trees have borne fruit as rare as ever bloomed in Eden's bowers.

I understand that a public meeting will be held in the National Schools, Consett, on Monday evening. The question of a Town Hall for Consett has at length come to the front, and the vigorous manner in which the matter has been taken up gives unmistakable indications that the originators of the scheme mean business. The inhabitants of Consett and district are expected to turn out in strong force on Monday night, and testify by their presence at the meeting, that a Town Hall is much to be desired. The amount of capital required to carry out the venture is about £3,500, which it is proposed to raise by forming a company by £1 shares.

Would the Consett people deem me impertinent were I to remind them of the Covered Market at this juncture? There was never anything of note accomplished in this world without an effort, nor will a Covered Market or Town Hall be reared without work—hard work. Meanwhile the aspect is cheering; the future is full of promise.

Local and District News

MINERS' NATIONAL UNION.—A meeting of the Central Board of the Miners' National Union was held at the Miners' Hall, Durham, yesterday. The business was merely of a routine character.

BLACKHILL MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—We observe from our advertising columns that the next debate, which promises to be a very interesting one, is to take place on Monday first. The leaders are Mr. Wylie and Mr. Wood.

A new Penny Weekly Serial, entitled, "The Family World," was published on January 2nd, 1882. It is a magazine of pure and select literature, and in addition to a multitude of amusing, scientific interesting, and instructive matter. "The Family World" (which is designed for family Reading) contains in each number three select stories—one complete and two continuous.

CATCHGATE CHRISTIAN LAY CHURCH.—A service of poetry was held on New Year's Eve, in the above church. Recitations were given by Mr. J. Baker and family, and solos were sung at intervals by Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong; after which a successful coffee supper was held for the purpose of raising funds for cleaning and renovating the church.

ANNUAL SUPPER.—The members of the Blackhill Primitive Methodist Choir together with a few friends held their third annual supper and games on the evening of Monday last, in the school-room adjoining the chapel. Solos, recitations, and readings were given by Miss F. Stoker, Messrs. J. Greenwood, J. H. Hodgson, A. Kempster, F. Phillips, and T. Atkinson. Mr. F. W. Stoker ably presided at the harmonium.

HAMSTERLEY.—On New Year's Eve the annual supper of the yearly club was held at the Cross Keys, Hamsterley, when 20 members sat down to an excellent repast, served up by Mr and Mrs Greenwell. Mr G. Young was afterwards voted to the chair, when songs were rendered by Messrs Hugh, Greenwell, Knaggs, Marquis, and other members of the club. The meeting broke up at 10 p.m., after a very pleasant evening had been spent.

WATCHNIGHT SERVICES.—A special midnight service was held on New Year's Eve in Christ Church, Consett, was well attended, an address being given by the Vicar.—The bells of St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside, rang a merry peal on the advent of the New Year.—A special service was held in the Wesleyan School-room, Nelson Street, when addresses were given by the Rev. J. Shearman, Messrs A. Jackson and M. Barron.

GOOD THINGS MADE, SAID, AND DONE, FOR EVERY HOME AND HOUSEHOLD.—In this work, issued by Messrs. Goodhall, Backhouse, and Co., of Leeds, is to be found many valuable recipes for the manufacture of dainties which cannot fail to please the tastes of the most fastidious. A copy of "Good Things" ought to be in the possession of every housewife; and the publishers intimate that they are prepared to supply a copy to anyone who forwards a penny stamp for postage.

POLITICAL LECTURES.—On Wednesday evening the Rev W. Baitey, of Consett, gave a lecture in connection with the Baptist Chapel, in the Assembly Rooms, Consett, on the subject of "Liberals and their Leaders." The Rev R. Richards, Baptist Minister, presided, in the unavoidable absence of W. Jenkins, Esq.—Yesterday (Thursday) evening a lecture was delivered in the Lanchester National Schoolroom, by Mr J. J. Thompson, of Lanchester, on the late "Lord Beaconsfield." Mr E. D. Balleny, of Little Greencroft, occupied the chair. Both lectures were fairly attended.

CANARY SINGING CONTEST.—A canary-bird singing contest was held at the Miners' Arms Inn, Highgate, Blackhill, on Monday last. Mr. W. Robson, the landlord, gave 5s. towards entrance fee as prizes. The canaries were drawn in pairs, brought up-stairs into a room and set upon a table for ten minutes, the condition being that the bird that sang sweetest and longest during that time, was to be awarded first prize. Mr. Walker, of Blackhill, acted as judge, and Mr Kennan, of Consett, as timekeeper. The first prize was awarded to a yellow Norwich canary, belonging to Mr. J. McGurk, Benfieldside, and bred by Mr. D. Sharp, Coventry; the second prize to a bird belonging to Mr. P. Duffy, Blackhill, and bred by himself.

EVENING CONCERT AT LANCHESTER.—The Lanchester Wesleyan Choir, assisted by Miss Muse and Mr. M. Lister, of Shotley Bridge, gave a concert in the National School of the above place, on Monday evening last, to a large and appreciative audience. The anthems, solos, quartettes, and songs were rendered in a manner which called forth the rapturous applause of the audience. The choruses were given with fulness and precision, the various parts being well sustained, and the baton wielded with grand effect, by Mr. J. Sinton, the conductor. Miss Muse was in good voice and received hearty *encores* each time she sung. Mr. M. Lister also rendered with grand effect the parts assigned him. Great credit is due to Mr. Sinton, for the efficiency to which he has brought the above choir during the short time he has been their leader. Mr. T. Wilkinson, V.S., discharged the duties of chairman in a very agreeable manner. The names of the anthems, &c., were taken as texts from which he made most appropriate remarks. Miss Meggie Dixon presided at the harmonium and piano in an efficient manner.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADGATE.—On Saturday last the teachers and friends in connection with the above school, held a bazaar for the sale of useful and ornamental articles, in the Bottle Bank School. The walls were artistically decorated with holly and evergreens. Mr Thomas Hardy opened the proceedings, and delivered an address suitable for the occasion, after which the sale commenced in a vigorous manner, Mrs William Hall and Misses E Foster, E. J. Robson, Whitfield and M. H. Johnson, being entrusted with the presidency of the affair. A magic lantern entertainment was given in one of the class rooms by Messrs E. B. Foster and J. Johnson, whilst Messrs John Lee, and Thomas Hardy had the management of the confectionary stall. The total amount realised was about £12. Taking into consideration the fact that they had only a fortnight in which to prepare the affair may be pronounced a decided success. The committee take this opportunity of thanking those who have in any way helped them in their undertaking.

CONTINUATION OF POLYTECHNIC in the Primitive Methodist New School until Monday, January 9th, 1882. 45q

SHOTLEY BRIDGE PRIMITIVE CHOIR.—The members of the Shotley Bridge Primitive Methodist Choir were supplied with their annual supper on Monday evening, after which a variety of games were indulged in.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.—The first social gathering in connection with the newly-formed branch at Consett of the above society took place in the Infants' Schoolroom, Consett, last (Thursday) evening, when a goodly number of persons were present and participated in games, &c.

CONSETT BAPTIST CHAPEL.—On New Year's eve, a coffee supper was held in the above place of worship, when a large number of friends sat down and partook of the rich viands which had been provided. After supper a watch meeting was held, at which there was a very meagre attendance. The pastor (Rev. R. Richards) preached an eloquent and soul-stirring sermon.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday last, the Rev J. Hallam, of Gateshead, preached in the above chapel morning and evening; and in the afternoon, the Rev. F. Steggall, vicar of Consett, delivered a capital New Year's address. There were full congregations on each occasion, and collections were taken on behalf of the trust fund.—On Monday afternoon, the annual congregational tea was held in the chapel, when about 200 persons sat down.

PRESENTATION AT MEDOMSLEY.—On Monday evening, a committee of the workmen of South Medomsley Colliery met in the colliery office to present the manager, W. J. Heckels, Esq., with a testimonial of respect and esteem on the occasion of his leaving the neighbourhood. The testimonial consisted of a silver watch and gold albert, with appendage, for Mr Heckels; also a dress ring for Miss Heckels. The articles were presented on behalf of the workmen by Mr Thomas Fenwick, jun. Mr Heckels suitably responded.

PIGEON SHOOTING HANDICAP AT WITTON GILBERT.—On Monday, a pigeon shooting handicap which commence on Saturday, the 24 December, was resumed and concluded in a field near to Mr C. Hunter's hostelry, Witton Gilbert, in the presence of a large number of spectators. There was an entry of no less than 60 shooters, and the following divided: T. Bell one lot; W. Oliver, two lots; G. Potts, one lot; B. Golightly, one lot; E. Thompson, one lot; Bend Or, one lot. Mr R. Richardson was referee.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT DIPTON.—On Saturday last an accident occurred on one of the lines leading from Dipton Colliery to Burnopfield, to a young man named James Kirkley, aged 21 years of age, a locomotive fireman. It appears deceased had slipped and fallen across the rails in front of some trucks in motion, and received such injuries that he died on Sunday.—An inquest was held at the Hobson Hotel on Wednesday, when a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned. The deceased was interred at Tanfield the same day, the remains being followed by a large company, he having been a young man of a quiet and thinking disposition, was greatly respected.

DIPTON CRICKET CLUB.—The above club held their first meeting for this year on Monday, the 2nd inst., in their old field adjoining Stobb House, and after having gone into the financial report (as submitted by the secretary and president, Mr J. W. Hodgson), which proved so satisfactory as to stimulate the members to a further effort, and they determined to have the ground levelled and the turf re-laid for the incoming season. The first day's play commenced at 1-30 p.m., and continued till 4 o'clock, and during the game some excellent cricket was displayed, the principal scores being made by Messrs Hodgson, Grey, Ridley, and Robinson.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Any dyspeptic sufferer aware of the purifying, regulating, and gently aperient powers of these Pills, should permit no one to cloud his judgment or to warp his course. With a box of Holloway's Pills, and attention to its accompanying "Directions,"—he may feel thoroughly satisfied that he can safely and effectually release himself from his miseries without impairing his appetite or weakening his digestion. This most excellent medicine acts as a nervine and bodily tonic by aiding nutrition, and banishes a thousand annoying forms of nervous complaints. An occasional resort to Holloway's remedy will prove highly salutary to all persons, whether well or ill, whose digestion is slow or imperfect, a condition usually evidenced by weariness, langour, listlessness, and despondency.

CONSETT RUNNING GROUND.—There was a good attendance at these grounds on Saturday to witness the first trials of the £23 rabbit coursing at 12s per lot. 14 nominations ran with the following result:—Watson's Kitty Dover, 16½, beat Glenwright's Queen Death, 14½; Binn's Luck's All, 16¾, beat Dodd's Wolf, 16¾; Kirkup's Shy Boy, 17½, beat Ledger's Bonny Mary, 16½. Glenwright's Queen Death, 14½, beat Kirkup's Shy Boy, 17½; Binn's Luck's All, 16¾, beat Armstrong's Lass of the West, 17½; Armstrong's Lass of the West, 17½, beat Davidson's Enchantment, 14½; Watson's Kitty Dover, 16½, beat Rumney's Antifat, 18. Second Round—Lass of the West beat Shy Boy, Queen Death beat Kitty Dover, Luck's All beat Kitty Dover. Luck's All will run against the first dog drawn to-day.

WHICKHAM CHARITIES.—During the recent Christmas and New Year tide, owing to the munificence of a Christian-hearted gentleman in the parish, there have been distributed, through the rector, a cart of 10 cwt. of coal to each of 38 poor families or widows in the village and neighbourhood of Wickham; tickets for 3s and 4s worth of groceries to 56 houses in Swalwell. There was also the usual Clavering bequest of coals and petticoats to 12 old men and 25 women in the parish besides a quantity of bed and under-clothing to needy persons in connection with the clothing club, 35 poor persons have received the rector's present of half a pound of tea and one pound of sugar. Wood's and other legacies, amounting to £14, were dispensed on New Year's Day, and a portion of the Church offertories, in addition to the doles by the clergy and churchwardens to poor people.

LANCHESTER WORKHOUSE.—On Monday evening, the inmates of the Lanchester Workhouse were, through the liberality of Edwd. Taylor Smith, Esq., Colpike Hall, Lanchester, treated to a splendid tea, which was served up under the directions of the master and matron, Mr and Mrs W. Brotherhood. About 180 sat down. After tea, rum punch was served out to the adults and tobacco to the smokers; oranges, sweets, &c., being supplied to the non-smokers and children. Mr Dunn, schoolmaster, afterwards entertained the inmates upwards of an hour with a magic lantern. The children sang several pieces in a highly effective manner. Dancing commenced about eight o'clock, and was kept up till a late hour—or rather till early the next morning. Before the inmates dispersed three hearty cheers were given for Mr and Mrs Smith.—Mr Geo. G. Taylor returned thanks on behalf of his father, and expressed the pleasure it had given him to be prerent that evening. He knew they had all enjoyed themselves, and he was highly delighted with the singing of the children, which reflected the utmost credit on the master and matron, for whom, before sitting down, he asked three more cheers.—The cheers having been lustily given, Mr Brotherhood feelingly returned thanks for the compliment.—Among those present during the evening were Dr Wilson, medical officer; Inspector Hutchinson, Mr R. Walton, Mr and Miss Muncaster, Mrs Wall, Mrs Reed, Miss Walton (Durham), &c. This makes the 35th year Mr Smith has given the inmates a tea at New Year. One of the inmates was 102 years old on Wednesday last, having been born on the 4th of January 1780.

The Earl of Durham has made his annual gift of 75 loads of coal, and the owners of Pelton Colliery of 25 loads, to be distributed to the poor of Chester-le-Street by the churchwardens.

OXHILL MISSION.—The Christmas festivities in aid of the Sunday-school recently established in conection with the above realized the handsome sum of £33—viz £18 from the tea and £15 from the Christmas tree.

HUNTING APPOINTMENTS.—The Braces of Derwent Foxhounds meet on Sat., 7, at the Ship at 10 30. —The North Durham Foxhounds meet on Fri., 6, at Burnopeside; Mon., 9, at the Ford; Wed., 11, at Ushaw College; Fri., 13, at Stonebridge—at 10 45.

The North-Eastern Railway Company has offered to its shareholders the option of having their dividends remitted direct to their bankers, instead as at present—by post to the shareholders' address. The new method was introduced a year ago by the Midland Railway, with the intention of lessening the risk or loss and of delay in the receipt of dividends.

BALL AT CONSETT.—A ball was held in the Assembly Rooms, Consett, on Monday night last, under the management of Mr John Morgan, Consett. There was an attendance of 50 couples of dancers. The band in attendance was under the management of Messrs. Robert Steward and E. Crossby. Dancing was kept up with great spirit until early morn.

MESSRS. George Evans and Co., Stock and Share Brokers, of Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C., have established an Agency, through the medium of which it is stated a small capitalist, by utilising their "option" system, is placed on a footing of equality with the largest investors. In fact, the former can invest £10 or £20 to the same advantage *pro rata* as a capitalist with thousands of pounds at his disposal. A clear explanation of this lucrative mode of investment is furnished in their useful "Guide," a copy of which will, we understand, be forwarded post free on application.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM HARRIERS.—On Tuesday, the New Year's meet of Mr Fred Lamb's hounds took place at Major Joicey's, at Tanfield Lea. Some hundreds of persons assembled to witness the hunt. A most sumptuous entertainment was very generously given by Major and Mrs Joicey to their friends and the members of the hunt. About 80 ladies and gentlemen on horseback attended the meet. The game being plentiful and the scent good, the sport was excellent. They had four good runs during the day, and four hares were killed, one of which after running from Tanfield direct to Gibside, crossing the Derwent, was killed near Rowland's Gill.

CHRISTIAN LAY CHURCH, SHIELD ROW.—A public meeting was held in the Mission Room of the above place on New Year's eve, when appropriate addresses were given by Messrs F. Woodcock, J. Whitfield, and R. Curry. Mr. J. Hall, of Sunderland, occupied the chair. After the meeting a substantial coffee supper was provided, when a large number sat down and partook of the good things provided gratuitously by the members and friends; the tables being presided over by the Misses Atkinson, Dawson, Little, and Jackson.—A tree furnished with useful and ornamental articles, voluntarily given by the members and congregation were offered for sale, being in charge of Mrs Whitfield, Mrs Kelly, and Miss Bewick. The proceedings were enlivened by Mr William Rowell, who performed on the harmonium a choice selection of music. The proceeds, which are to be devoted to the Church funds, amounted to £13 9s. 11d.

PAROCHIAL TEA AND CONCERT AT LANGLEY MOOR.—A tea and concert in connection with St. John's Church, Brandon, was held in the Iron School-room, at Langley Moor, on Tuesday week, this being the first of what is proposed to be an annual gathering. An excellent tea was provided, the following ladies presiding at the tables:—Mrs and Miss Lawson, Mrs Usher and Mrs Gardner, and Mrs Morland and Mrs Dunn. The concert commenced at seven o'clock and consisted of songs, recitations, pianoforte solos, recitations, readings, duets, &c., the performers being Miss Lawson, the Misses Bowden, Mr Bowden, Rev. J. Lawson, Rev. T. Lawson, Rev. F. D. Brooks, Mr Pilling, Master F. Usher, Master R. Taylor, and Master Bowden. As a considerable quantity of the good things provided remained unconsumed, the tea and entertainment were resumed on Wednesday evening.

BURNOPFIELD JUNIORS (ASSOCIATION) v. TYNE PILGRIMS JUNIORS.—This match was played on Saturday on the ground of the former. It was the first match for the Burnopfield Juniors, and they won by four goals to nil, after a fast and exciting game. The goals were kicked by Turnbull, T. Cawthorn, Geo. Cawthorn, and Bell. For the home team T. Cawthorn, Turnbull, and Henderson played well, and for the visitors Greener and W. Laing, did good service. Teams: Burnopfield—G. McNeil, goal; Geo. Cawthorn, and A. Turnbull, backs; Teasdale and A. Shaw, half backs; W. Henderson and Geo. Bell (captain), right wing; Wailes and Moody, left wing; Jas. Turnbull and T. Cawthorn, centres. Tyne Pilgrims—F. Vincer, goal, Round and Berkley, backs; Williams, Page, and T. Laing, half backs, Wood and Muras, right wing; Greener and Haig, left wing; Laing (captain), centre.

TANTOBIE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday and Monday last the annual services were held. The Sunday sermons were preached by Mr John Bell, of Consett, and collections were made at each service in aid of the trust funds.—On Monday, the annual tea was provided, at which about 140 partook; the edibles were all that could be desired, and were provided by Mesdames J. Gedling, T. Batson, and N. Smailes. The tables were gracefully presided at by Misses E. Gedling, M. Stoker, M. H. Brown, M. E. Athey, B. Rippon, and B. Coulson.—After tea, a public meeting was held—Mr. H. Greener, of South Pontop, presiding. Mr. W. Gedling read the report, which showed that the trust funds were in a highly satisfactory state. Excellent addresses were given by the Rev. V. Tyas, and Messrs. R. Taylor, J. Oliver, J. Humble, and R. C. Forster. During the meeting the choir sang a choice selection of anthems, Messrs. J. Gedling and W. Athey acting respectively as conductor and harmoniumist.

THE NEW YEAR'S MEET OF THE NORTH DURHAM FOXHOUNDS.—The first meet of the year of the North Durham Foxhounds was on this occasion at Cornsay, and notwithstanding that there was not the leviathan gathering which usually attends the New Year's run when it takes place near the kennels—at Hill Top or Witton Gilbert for instance—there was still a capital gathering of members of the hunt. The hounds were put into the Gladders cover, which, however, was drawn blank, and the neighbouring covers were tried until Broomshiels was reached. Mr Greenwell's cover seldom fails to furnish a good fox, and little surprise was therefore expressed when the merry music of the pack told the tale that reynard was at home. He longed for his comfortable quarters too ardently to allow of his going away, and after circling round with the evident intention of getting back to cover as soon as possible, the hounds ran into their fox after a sharp burst. A move was made to Black Banks, where a fox was seen stealing away, and after a run of half an hour he succeeded in making good his escape. Various covers were tried until late in the afternoon, when the triangular field near Colepike Hall was reached and a capital fox was put out, on to which Haverson speedily put his hounds, and away they rattled in the direction of the Derwent Fells. Reynard tried for shelter in the gill near Woodlands, but the hounds were too hot upon him, and they bustled him up the valley past Mr Haansbergen's pleasant demesne, and on to sheepwalks, where the fox pointed for the Marquis of Bute's covers. Before reaching these the scent grew cold, and the afternoon having drawn to a close, the hounds were whipped off after a burst of three-quarters of an hour without a check. The master and a large number of the members of the hunt were up at the finish, and a pretty stiff day was then brought to a close.

CONTINUATION of POLYTECHNIC in the Primitive Methodist New School until Monday, January 9th, 1882. 45q

BRAMISH.—Owing to New Year's Day falling on a Sunday, the usual watch-night service was not held in St. Andrew's Church this season. The annual treat to the choir was given on Thursday evening, 29th ult, when after the weekly practice the members, to the number of 44, including the churchwardens and their wives, sat down to an excellent repast, consisting of beef, ham, tongue, mince-pies, tarts &c., and served by Mr and Mrs Darney, the highly respected choirmaster and his wife in their well known style. Various amusements were afterwards entered into, and a most delightful evening was spent. A vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Darney proposed by the Vicar, and the singing of the National anthem, closing the proceedings a little before midnight.

BURNHOPE COLLIERY NEW WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—On New Year's eve, the Lanchester Wesleyan choir gave a grand concert in the above chapel to a respectable and appreciative audience. The programme was a good one, the pieces being well selected, and rendered with great precision and taste. There is the greatest credit due to the choir for the way they performed the several pieces, which were duly acknowledged by the audience, who seemed to enjoy themselves thoroughly, and certainly showed their satisfaction by the very hearty cheers that were given at the end of each piece. Mr Joseph Sinton acted as conductor, under whose instruction the choir has been brought to its present state, and Miss Meggie Dixon presided at the harmonium. In the absence of Mr Forster, the manager of the colliery, Mr Hunter occupied the the chair.—At the conclusion of the concert, the visitors were shown into the schoolroom behind the chapel, where they found tables richly spread with good things in the shape of a coffee supper, and displayed at once their appreciation of the same by doing full justice to the niceties provided. The supper was an excellent one, and as on a former occasion, was provided voluntarily by the members and friends. The tables were presided over, and the arrangements carried out, by Mesdames Teasdale, Turton, Walton, Brown, Ridley, Rollins, J. Gawman, Wilson, Waugh, Spirit, Spence, Scott, and Johnson. Mrs Hunter and Mrs Bell again had the colliery schoolroom open for the sale of goods, and did a little business. The takings amounted to nearly £10, and the proceeds are to be devoted to the Chapel Building Fund.

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The annual gathering in connection with the above school was held on the 2nd inst. At two o'clock the teachers met for the purpose of electing the officers, and appointing the teachers for the ensuing year. Mr. Wm. Strachan, superintendent, presided. The following gentlemen were elected:—superintendents, Messrs. James Palliser and George Wilson; secretaries, Messrs. Stobart, Gradon and A. E. Richardson; treasurer, Mr. Thos Rukin; auditors, Messrs. M. Noble and Wm. T. Gillies; librarian, Mr W. Best; secretary Mr. Thos Shotton; treasurer, Mr. J. Palliser; book steward, Mr John Edgar; Band of Hope, president, Mr. W. H. Pope; vice-president, Mr. Geo. Wilson; secretary Mr. S. Gradon, treasurer, Mr. Thos. Rukin; Committee, Messrs. W. R. Shimmin, A. E. Richardson, Wm. Thos Gillies, Wm. Johnson, and John Liddle.—At six o'clock a public meeting was held in the chapel, under the presidency of Mr Strachan. The secretary for the past year—Mr. Geo. Wilson—read an encouraging report, from which it appears that the total number of scholars on the books is 250—viz., 146 boys and 104 girls, with an average attendance of 171; the number having increased considerably since the opening of the enlarged school-room. The number of teachers is 39—viz., 29 males and 10 females, with an average attendance of 26. Instructive addresses were given by the Rev. Jos. Muir (Headingley College), Messrs Jas. Palliser and E. Carr (Blackhill), and Wm. Hogg (Westwood). At the close of the meeting an excellent coffee supper was provided in the adjoining school-room, when a large number partook of the good things prepared.—The tables were ably and gracefully presided over by the following ladies; viz:—Misses Elliott, Reed, Young, Liddle, Bell, Shotton, Shimmin, Strachan, Lee, E. J. Robson, Polly Robson, Rukin, Smailes, Muir, Hugill, and Lovett.

Local Postal Arrangements.

CONSETT.

Postmaster, ... Mr. R. FRASER.

First delivery of letters at 7·30 a.m.; Second, (at window of Post Office) at 9 a.m.; Third, at 6·50 p.m. The letter box closes at 12·5 (noon), 5·55 p.m., and 8 p.m.

Money Orders are issued from 9 a.m. to 5·30 p.m, and on Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 7·30 p.m.

Telegrams received from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m.

The PILLAR BOX at top of DELVES LANE is cleared daily (except Sundays) at 5·40 p.m.

BLACKHILL.

Postmaster, ... Mr. E. SLOANE.

First delivery of letters at 7·15 a.m.; Second, (and at window), at 3·20 p.m.; Third, at 6·50 p.m. The letter box closes at 12·20 p.m., 6 p.m., and 8·30 p.m.

Money Orders issued from 9 a.m. to 5·30 p.m., and on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Telegrams received from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

The PILLAR BOX at HIGHGATE is cleared daily (except Sundays) at 4·50 p.m.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Postmistress, ... Miss J. LESLIE, Front Street.

Letters arrive and are delivered about 8 a.m. Window delivery at 10 a.m. Letters are despatched at 11·50 a.m., 5·30 p.m., and 8 p.m.

The Money Order Office is open from 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.

Telegrams are received from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m. Sundays from 8 a.m till 10 a.m.

LEADGATE.

Postmaster, ... Mr. E. KINLESIDE, Front Street

The letter delivery commences at 8 a.m. A bag is also despatched from Blackhill at 9 a.m., and letters can be obtained at this office on application after 9·30 a.m. The letter box is closed at 5·30 p.m.

Money Orders are granted to the public from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and on Saturdays until 8 p.m.

Savings' Bank business is transacted during the same hours.

The Telegraph Office is open to the public from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m., and on Sundays from 8 a.m. till 10 a.m.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Postmaster, ... Mr. E. REED.

Letters delivered at 9·30 a.m.

Money Orders from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 to 10 a.m.

The PILLAR BOX at CATCHGATE is cleared at 3·25 p.m.

DIPTON.

Postmaster, ... Mr. E. MADDISON.

Letters delivered at 9 a.m. Box closes at 4 p.m.

Money Orders from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; on Saturdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.

LANCHESTER.

Postmistress, ... Mrs. CUMMING.

Letters delivered at 8·40 a.m. Box closes at 6·15 p.m.

Money Orders issued from 9 a.m. to 5·30 p.m.

Telegrams from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.; on Sundays 8 to 10 a.m.

Markets.

MEAT, POULTRY, PRODUCE, AND PROVISION.

NEWCASTLE MEAT AND POULTRY, Saturday.—

	s	d	s	d		s	d	s	d
Prime large beef	0	8 to	0	11	Grouse, pr couple	6	0 to	7	0
Prime mutton	0	9	0	11	Pigeons, pr couple	1	6	2	0
Small pork	0	9	0	11	Turkeys, per lb	0	11	1	2
Veal	0	8	0	11	Turkeys, poults	0	0	0	0
Lamb, per lb	0	9	0	11	Partridges, brace	4	0	5	0
American beef	0	2½	0	8	Pheasants	7	6	8	6
Do. mutton	0	5	0	8	Geese, per lb	0	8	0	10
Do. lamb	0	0	0	0	Goslings, each	6	0	8	0
Do. veal	0	7	0	9	Hares, each	5	0	0	0
Do. pork	0	7	0	8	Leverets	0	0	0	0
Hens, each	1	0	1	9	Rabbits, couple	2	0	3	0
Ducks, each	2	9	3	9	Venison	1	0	1	3
Ducklings	0	0	0	0	English fresh butter, per lb	1	7	0	0
Wild Ducks	6	0	7	0	Fresh eggs, 9 for 1s.				
Chickens	2	6	3	6	Salmon, per lb	0	0	0	0
Quails, per couple	0	0	0	0					

NEWCASTLE FRUIT AND POTATO, Saturday.—Grapes 6d to 8d per lb; English hothouse do., 1s 6d to 2s per lb; cabbages, 1½d each; apples, 10d to 1s 4d; Scotch potatoes, 6d to 8d; large onions, 1s 0d to 2s 9d; small onions, 1s to 1s 4d per stone; carrots, 2s 6d to 3s 0d per cwt; cauliflowers, 2d to 3d each; good celery, 1½d to 2½d per head; beet root, 1d per head; turnips, 3d per stone; oranges, 18 to 24 for 1s.

NEWCASTLE FLOUR, Saturday.—Hungarian, 3s 2d; American, 2s 8d; No. 1 superfine, 2s 8d; superfines, 2s 6d; fines, 2s 4d; households, 2s 2d; seconds, 2s 0d; ryemeal, 2s 2d; wheatmeal, 2s 2d; oatmeal—English, 2s 4d; Scotch, 2s 2d per stone; 4lb loaf, 8d.

HEXHAM PROVISION, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 6d to 1s 7d per lb; eggs, 9 to 10 for 1s; geese, 10d to 0d per lb; turkeys, 7s 0d to 15s; chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d each; pheasants, 6s 0d to 7s 6d; partridges, 2s 6d to 5s per brace; rabbits, 2s 9d to 3s per couple; hares, 3s 6d to 4s 6d each; potatoes, 6d to 8d; carrots, 6d to 8; apples, 1s 6d to 2s; onions, 1s to 1s 8d per stone; lemons, 3d; red cabbage, 2d to 3d each; grapes, 10d to 1s per lb; flour—extra superfines, 2s 6d; superfines, 2s 4d; fines, 2s 2d; maslin, 2s 0d; oatmeal, 2s 0d to 2s 2d per stone.

CORN.

NEWCASTLE CORN, Saturday.—At our market this morning we had a small show of local wheat and a fair supply of farmers' barley, both of which realised last Saturday's prices. From the stands we experienced a quiet demand for foreign parcels at rather more money. Fine barley showed a hardening tendency, the holidays, however, preventing a large business; and these remarks apply to oats, beans, peas, and maize. The flour trade ruled steady at full prices.

	BRITISH.	PER QR.	
Wheat	Northumberland and Durham, White	34 to	44
—	Do. do. Red	30	44
—	South Country, White	51	58
—	Do. Red	50	56
Barley		24	44
Oats	Scotch Potato	23	30
—	Scotch Common	21	27
Malt		41	50
Peas		37	46
Beans		30	42
Flour	Northumberland and Durham, per sack (280 lbs.)	38	41
—	Norfolk and Suffolk Whites	36	39
—	Scotch	34	38
	FOREIGN.		
Wheat	Lower and Upper Baltic	53	57
—	American	56	57
—	Russian	46	53
Barley	Saal	44	53
—	Californian	45	46
—	French	41	44
—	Danish and Swedish	30	44
Oats		20	25
Peas		36	39
Beans	Alexandrian	44	45
Flour	Hungarian	44	54
—	American	40	51
—	Baltic	38	44
—	French	38	46

NEWCASTLE CORN, Tuesday.—The quotations at to-day's market, at which there was only a small attendance, showed an advance of 1s per qr on wheat sold. Oats, barley, and maize remained unaltered in price, and flour witnessed a slight advance. The arrivals for the week are as follows:—Foreign—Wheat, 3,000 qrs; barley, 128 qrs; rye, — qrs; peas, — qrs; beans, — qrs; oats, 50 qrs; maize, — qrs; malt, — qrs; flour, 3,868 sacks. Per rail: Wheat, 978 qrs; rye, 25 qrs; barley, 228 qrs; peas, — qrs; beans, — qrs; oats, 223 qrs; maize, 12 qrs; malt, 216 qrs; flour, 328 sacks. Coastwise: Wheat, 6,575 qrs; rye, — qrs; barley, 130 qrs; peas, — qrs; beans, 50 qrs; oats, 770 qrs; maize, — qrs; malt, — qrs; flour, 2,838 sacks.

HEXHAM CORN, Tuesday.—Average supply of barley at our market this morning, which met with a rather better demand. Oats small supply, slow sale, at about late rates. Wheat, only one sample on offer, which sold at about previous quotations.

MISCELLANEOUS.

NEWCASTLE COW, Saturday.—At this morning's market about thirty good animals were shown, but trade on the whole was slow. The prices obtained were:—Half-breds, from £11 to £15; shorthorns, from £17 to £24 each.

NEWCASTLE HAY AND STRAW, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £5 2s 6d to £7 10s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s 0d; new land hay, £6 0s to £8 0s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s 0d; clover hay, £5 0s to £6 10s per ton; wheat straw, 2s 10d to 3s 8d; barley straw, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; oat straw, 2s 9d to 3s 6d per thrave. Carts of hay at market, 97; carts of straw, 29.

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

ROSS'S ROYAL BELFAST GINGER ALE AND AERATED WATERS, IRELAND. Sold by all First-Class Dealers. [247

THE DIAMOND OIL BLACKING

Is specially prepared for the People, recommending itself. It has been acknowledged for years the best kind for preserving and imparting to leather a brilliant jet-black polish. It has numerous imitators, but continues to outshine them all. Ask for the original and see you get it. TRADE MARK. W. BERRY, Manchester.

FRANCIS'S BRONCHIAL PROTECTOR prevents and cures Throat Complaints, Coughs, &c. 1s. 1½d. of Chemists, or for Stamps sent to FRANCIS & Co., Leicester. [248

EMIGRANTS' PASSAGES.—For lowest Fares and fullest information apply to Messrs. Sewell and Crowther, 18, Cockspur Street, Charing Cross. Canada, £4 15s.; United States, £6; Australia, £13 13s.; Brisbane, £14 14s.; New Zealand, £15 15s.; and South Africa, £13 13s. Ships providing food. [198

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

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

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d. per bottle.

Business Announcements.

ROPE! All Descriptions Manufactured by the BELFAST ROPEWORK COMPANY, Ltd. Price List on application to Belfast Office. [300

STOCK & SHARE AUCTION COMPANY (Limited), Crown Court Buildings, Old Broad Street.—Best medium for disposal of all Stocks and Shares not readily marketable. Auction Sales every Tuesday and Friday, Two o'clock. Accounts opened for the fortnightly settlement. [242

FERGUSON'S COMPOUND GLYCERINE BALM.

X The best preparation for beautifying the Complexion and keeping the Hands soft and white. An infallible cure for Chaps and Roughness of the Skin. Removes Eruptions, Blotches, Freckles, and Tan, restores the healthy action of the Pores of the Skin, and gives to the most sallow complexion a natural and healthy appearance. Price 1s., or three in one, 2s. 6d. Sold by all Chemists & Medicine Vendors. See the name Ferguson, Chemist, Leeds, on each bottle, otherwise it is not genuine. [245

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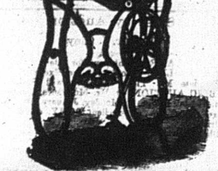

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TESTIMONIALS.

SIR,—A short time since I was induced by the novelty of the title to send for a bottle of your Liebig's Extract of Meat and Malt Wine. I was perfectly acquainted with the value of the *Extractum Carnis*, and not quite a stranger to the invigorating and fortifying properties of malt wine, and, therefore, felt a natural curiosity to test them when combined.

Men who work hard as I do, not muscular hard work, but that which is quite as exhausting, viz., brain work, very often experience the need of, and have sometimes, an almost irresistible craving for a "pick me up," and very often the panacea for a time for lassitude, and that state of mind which renders work irksome, and alcholic stimulants, the use of which must sooner or later end disastrously.

The man who can furnish a remedy sure, certain, and harmless, for the lassitude which follows constant brain work is a benefactor of his species, and may be said to have added many years of usefulness to the lives of useful men.

Your extract, if a success, and when more generally known, will be used by all toilers of the mind.—Yours faithfully,

O. D. RAY.

Thorpe Hamlet, Norwich, February 23rd, 1881.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT AND MALT WINE (COLEMAN'S)

Queen's Crescent, Haverstock Hill,
London, March 5th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—Some time since, being greatly fatigued with over-work and long hours at business, my health (being naturally delicate) became very indifferent. I lost all energy, strength, and appetite, and was so weak as to be scarcely able to walk.

As you are aware I sent for a dozen of your Extract of Meat and Malt Wine, which, in a few days, pulled me up marvellously. Three or four glasses of it daily have quite altered and restored me to better health than ever "without the assistance of a doctor."

I am now giving it to my son twelve years of age, whom we have always thought consumptive, and from a puny ailing boy he seems to be fast growing into a strong healthy lad.

Enclosed you have cheque. Please send me two dozen of the "Extract." With thanks for your prompt attention to my last.—Yours truly, I am, Sir,

GEORGE A. TYLER.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT AND MALT WINE (COLEMAN'S)

Granspound, February 25th, 1881.

Mrs. Coulson thanks Mr. Coleman for the book and stamps, and she has no doubt but that "the tonic" is a good one. Mrs. C. encloses twelve stamps for basket.
Mr. Coleman.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT AND MALT WINE (COLEMAN'S).

Vicarage, Kingsbridge,
Devon, January 25th, 1881.

DEAR SIR,—We are ten miles from the Railway, and have been snowed up, consequently the wine has only just arrived. I enclose a cheque for £2 11s. 6d. I like the wine, and will recommend it.—Yours faithfully,

Mr. Coleman, Norwich. A. N. KINGSTON.

Pints, 30s. per dozen; Quarts, 36s. per dozen Carriage paid to any Railway Station in Great Britain. Sample Bottle sent for 33 stamps.

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l as the Invalid. Strongly
l Faculty. An immediate
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OF MEAT AND MALT
LEMAN'S).
ONIALS.

as induced by the novelty of
your Liebig's Extract of Meat
ly acquainted with the value
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to the lives of useful men.
l when more generally known,
e mind.—Yours faithfully,
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LEMAN'S)

Haverstock Hill,
London, March 5th, 1881.
, being greatly fatigued with
business, my health (being
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, and was so weak as to be

r a dozen of your Extract of
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twelve years of age, whom we
ve, and from a puny ailing
into a strong healthy lad.
Please send me two dozen of
er your prompt attention to
r,
GEORGE A. TYLER.

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LEMAN'S)

ound, February 25th, 1881.
man for the book and stamps,
"the tonic" is a good one.
lor basket.

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ngsbridge,
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from the Railway, and have
e wine has only just arrived.
I like the wine, and will

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de to serve man, but
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and prolong his life,
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are truly wonderful,
o-day who once looked
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CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Parliament Street Offices, on Wednesday afternoon—Mr J. Calvert in the chair. There were also present the Rev F. Steggall, Messrs W. Aynsley, W. R. Taylor, T. Siddell, W. Shell, J. Collinson, J. W. Davison, and T. Dunne.

The minutes of December meeting were read and confirmed.

PROPOSED NEW TOWN HALL.

In consequence of the insufficient County Court accommodation at present in Consett, and the subject of erecting a Town Hall and County Court offices having been broached by a committee of the Board appointed to consider the matter at the last meeting,

The Rev F. Steggall moved that at the conclusion of the general business the Board resolve itself into a special meeting to consider the proposal to erect a Town Hall at Consett.

The resolution was seconded and agreed to.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION FOR CONSETT.

At the last meeting of the Board the Clerk (Mr Welford) was instructed to ask the North Eastern Railway Company if it was their intention to build a goods and passenger station at Consett in connection with the projected Annfield Plain Railway Scheme. The Chairman read a reply received from the Secretary of the Company stating that he had laid the communication from the Local Board before his directors, and he was authorised to say the directors could not agree as to building a goods and passenger station at Consett for the present at least.

Mr Shell said he had been given to understand that there was not to be a station either at Consett or Leadgate. If such was the case, he thought that now was the time for the Leadgate and Consett Boards to take the matter up.

The Chairman: The only thing we can do now is to oppose the scheme in the committee.

Mr Shell asked if the Local Board had no power to stop them from running throught their district? There was no doubt that the huge monopoly in the North of England was the North Eastern Railway Company, and they thought they could do just as they liked.

The Chairman replied that no one could stop them if they got their Act of Parliamedt passed. They had deposited the usual papers with the Board, but if they were unnoticed and nobody opposes them the Company would go on with their work.

Mr Shell observed that it was very strange that the Company were not going to make any more accommodation for the inhabitants of Consett and Leadgate, and yet were giving notice of the purposes for which they were going to run the line, and they had no power to stop them.

Mr Siddell: If we want the clauses inserted in the scheme we can only do so by opposing the Bill in committee.

The Chairman: To oppose the Bill would be a very expensive job, and might cost £500.

Mr Shell said he did not intend to oppose the scheme, nor did he think anybody else would do so. All he wanted was to ask the Company to provide railway accommodation for the inhabitants of Consett and Leadgate.

Mr Dunne believed the Company intended to open out the old Consett Station.

Mr Shell: No; they are not going to do that. The only stations on the line are at Annfield Plain and Stanley. What I want to know is, can the Company run through these places without heeding the petitions of the authorities elected to look after the interests of the inhabitants?

Mr Siddell: We can get the borough and county members to oppose the bill in committee.

Mr Aynsley moved that a deputation of the Board should meet the directors of the North-Eastern Railway on the subject, and ask them to let us have a station in Consett.

Mr Taylor: Would it not be better for a joint committee of the Leadgate and Consett Local Boards to consult the directors, as it affected the people at Leadgate more than it did at Consett.

Mr Siddell believed that if they joined with the Leadgate Board and agitated for a station either at Consett or Leadgate they might gain their ends; but if they went single-handed no notice would be taken of them.

Mr Shell had great pleasure in seconding Mr Aynsley's motion, as he thought the Leadgate Board were quite as able to look after the interests of the inhabitants as the twelve men who sat there.

Mr Dunne thought it would be better for that Board to go by themselves, as they had no right to dictate to the Leadgate Board.

Mr Shell proposed that the Chairman (Mr Jenkins), the Rev F. Steggall, Mr Calvert, and Mr Collinson, be appointed a deputation to meet the railway authorities on the subject.

Mr Aynsley seconded.

Mr Siddell begged to move that this Board act jointly along with the Leadgate Board in regard to inserting clauses in the bill for the erection of a station either at Consett or Leadgate. If they went jointly together they would be far more likely to get proper station accommodation in the district, and it would save that Board a hundred pounds or two.

Mr Taylor seconded this proposition.

Mr Shell objected to that Board having anything to do with the Leadgate Local Board, as they were quite qualified to look after the interests of the people of Leadgate as the members of that Board.

Mr Siddell: Mr Chairman, Mr Shell is out of order.

Mr Dunne: Certainly not.

Mr Shell: If I am out of order I will give in to the Chairman's ruling.

The Chairman: We should remember that "Union is strength."

Mr Dunne wished to know whether Mr Siddell's motion was opposed to Mr Shell's proposition as it certainly was not an amendment?

The Chairman observed that neither of the resolutions satisfied him. He thought they should confer with the Leadgate Local Board first and then settle their course of action betwixt them.

Mr Siddell: Mine is a proper amendment and I shall maintain it.

Mr Shell: I shall certainly press my motion, as I think nothing has been advanced as yet in opposition to it. Let Leadgate Local Board look after themselves.

Mr Collinson would support Mr Shell's motion if he put Mr Aynsley on the deputation instead of himself.

Mr Shell agreed to this course.

The Chairman also objected to be a member of the deputation.

Mr Shell: Very well, I will put Mr Taylor on in your place.

The Chairman then put Mr Siddell's amendment as follows: "That the Clerk be authorised to write to the Leadgate Local Board, asking them to co-operate with the Consett Local Board in endeavouring to get a clause inserted in the Annfield Plain Railway scheme, which will come shortly before the House of Commons, for the erection of a station at Carr House for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Consett; and likewise to ask the local members of Parliament to watch the bill when in committee."

Only two members voted for the amendment, consequently Mr Shell's original motion was carried. The final constition of the deputation is as follows: The Chairman, the Rev F. Steggall, Mr W. Aynsley, and Mr R. Taylor.

It was resolved on the motion of the Rev F. Steggall that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Leadgate Local Board informing them of what the Consett Board intended to do.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following is Mr Rippon's monthly report:—

Office, Parliament Street, Consett,

To the Chairman and members of the Consett Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the past month the streets and highways in your district have had proper attention, and the following have been scraped and covered with limestone—Leadgate Road, Delves Lane, Foundry Road, Harvey Street, and portions of Pasture Drift, Tin Mill and Castleside Roads. The footpaths on Pasture Drift Road has been improved with small slag blinded with limestone chippings. The Knitsley Lane, Delves Lane, and portions of Castleside Road and Medomsley Road footpaths have been covered with coke ashes. I have received 100 tons of rough limestone during last month, a part of which is now broken. The formation of new streets in the Blackhill portion of your district is being pushed forward, and I expect that by next meeting they will be finished, except the cementing of the footways. I have inspected the whole of your district and found several nuisances, which have been abated on requesting the proper parties to do so. The sewage manure has been taken out of two of your settling ponds. Your main sewers are all in good working order, and your district, as a whole, in a fair sanitary condition.—I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

William Rippon.

January 4th, 1882.

The Chairman remarked that the sewer in Medomsley Road did not always work satisfactorily.

The Surveyor: I am afraid that before long we shall have to lay in a fresh sewer there.

Mr Siddell inquired how the settling ponds were working?

The Surveyor replied they were going on very satisfactory. He thought, however, it would be better to divert the drain that comes down to the filter bed by the top of the ravine. The slag heap was now close to the side of it.

Mr Shell: The more slag there is in the better. That was your suggestion, was it not, Mr Collinson?

Mr Collinson: Yes.

Mr Shell: The Board ought to present Mr Collinson with a medal for his ingenuous invention. (Laughter).

NEW STREETS AT BLACKHILL.

A letter was read by the Chairman from Mr Wm. Raw, stating that the two streets at Blackhill, of which the owners received notice some months ago to make, kerb, and channel, were already completed, with the exception of cementing the footpaths which could not be done until the spring; and he asked the Board to instruct the Surveyor to examine the same and pass the work if satisfactory, so that the contractors could receive their money.

The Surveyor said that all the work done up to the present was extremely satisfactory, but he could not certify that the street was completed when the footpath was yet unfinished. Of course that was what Mr Raw wanted.

After discussing the matter a little, Mr Shell moved that the Surveyor be empowered to give a certificate for the street so far as the work was done.

Mr Siddell seconded, and the motion was carried.

The matter was, therefore, left to the discretion of the Surveyor.

MR SHELL AS AN ECONOMIST.

A question having arisen as to converting an outhouse at the Board's offices into a waiting-room for the convenience of the applicants for out-relief at the Consett Guardians' Committee,

Mr Shell questioned the legality of the Board in letting these rooms for other purposes than for which they were originally intended—viz., a Board-room, offices, and residence for the Surveyor.

Mr Siddell was surprised at Mr Shell asserting now that the Board had not acted right in letting the Board-room to the County Court authorities, seeing that the question had already been fully discussed and settled. It was only a waste of time and labour to ferret out such matters.

Mr Shell said he opposed from the first the question of letting the Board-room, and the apartments on the ground floor, which were built for the use of the Surveyor.

The Chairman thought it very irregular for a member of that Board to attempt to force a discussion on a matter which had already been settled.

Mr Shell did not doubt that the time of the members of the Board was very valuable, but at the same time he might safely say that their course of action in this case was perfectly illegal.

The Chairman: Then you should have opposed it at the proper time, Mr Shell.

Mr Siddell thought the suggestion was a proper one, and the sooner the alterations were made for the parties concerned the better.

Mr Shell (to Mr Siddell): Would you sanction the work to be done in face of the fact that the County Court offices are only to be here for three months.

Mr Siddell: Certainly I would. It would be a great improvement to the property.

Mr Shell: If you will allow me to speak, Mr Chairman——

Mr Siddell: I think you have said enough already.

Mr Shell: I beg to move, Mr Chairman, that no money be spent in altering these premises. My experience of the Board of Guardians and all other public bodies is that they are very liberal with the ratepayers' money. I do not think it is the wish of the Board to sit in this room for more than three months, and I move that no alterations whatever be made during the intervening period.

Mr Dunne, in seconding, said they ought to be very careful how they spent the ratepayers' money.

Mr Siddell proposed an amendment to the effect that the outhouse in question (a pantry) be altered and converted into a room suitable for the paupers to assemble in and for the use of the vaccination officer.

The Chairman expressed his surprise at the remarks of Mr Shell, who seemed to entirely ignore the fact that members of public bodies were ratepayers themselves.

Mr Shell: I ask you, Mr Chairman, as an old member of the Board of Guardians, Local Board, Water Company—in fact as an old member of everything (laughter)—if your experience does not tell you that these bodies are more liberal with the ratepayers' money than they are with what comes out of their own pockets?

The Chairman replied that he could not say. Individually he always felt it his duty to guard the interests of the ratepayers more so than his own.

The Rev F. Steggall seconded Mr Siddell's resolution, because if carried out it would effect a great improvement in that place even as a residence.

Mr Aynsley said that as the arrangements with the County Court were only temporary, it would be unwise for them at the present to expend any money in alterations.

On the amendment being put three members only held up their hands in favour of it, consequently the voting was in Mr Shell's favour.

The Surveyor was instructed to provide all the necessary fuel, &c., which might be required by the County Court authorities.

The Board then dissolved.

Throat Irritation.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. Glycerine, in these agreeable confections, being in proximity to the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d. and 1s. 1½d., labelled "James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice. In no case can they do any harm.—Yours faithfully, Gordon Holmes, L. R. C. P. E., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary." 318c

PROPOSED TOWN HALL FOR CONSETT.

After the usual meeting of the Consett Local Board, on Wednesday afternoon, the Board resolved itself into a special meeting to consider the advisability of erecting a Town Hall, County Court offices, &c., in the town of Consett. Mr Calvert was voted to the chair.

On the motion of Mr Shell, Mr T. W. Welford was appointed secretary *pro tem* to the undertaking.

This was seconded and agreed to.

The Chairman said it had been suggested by the County Court officials that more efficient accommodation would be required by them than at present existed in Consett, and in order to meet this want the erection of a Town Hall in Consett had been projected. He then called upon

The Rev F. Steggall, who observed that a great deal of what he was about to say had been anticipated at the Board meeting just held. He would just say, however, that the accommodation in the Police Court buildings for County Court business was not sufficient, and the court was not provided with seats. It seemed necessary to have a public room erected in Consett, and this having been mentioned to Mr Jenkins, that gentleman thought the time had come when the erection of a Town Hall in Consett was absolutely requisite. Mr Jenkins was unfortunately unable to be present that day, but he (the speaker) thought that the project would be eagerly taken up by the people of Consett. It had been suggested to form a limited liability company; the shareholders of the Consett Iron Company would be asked to take shares, and there could be no doubt that the directors would take the matter up in a spirited manner since it would give a general impetuous to trade. Mr Jenkins himself had promised to assist in a substantial manner if the movement was taken up in earnest by the public at large. It would be unwise for them to go in for a very extensive undertaking. Having the interests of all classes of the community at heart, he thought the formation of a limited liability company of 3,500 single £1 shares would add greatly to the success of the undertaking; and the £3,500 capital would cover cost of site, building, and all other expenses. The buildings would of course include at least provision or offices for the accommodation of the County Court, or for a bank, or purposes of a similar nature; ante-rooms for small meetings of friendly societies and local authorities, &c.; and the rent from these would form a nucleus independent of what might be received by letting the Hall to those who cater for the entertainment of the public. There could be no doubt that in Consett they sadly required a suitable room for holding entertainments, concerts, &c., which could be used by the inhabitants of the district. He moved that a public meeting be called to take into consideration the necessity for providing a Town Hall for Consett, and to form a limited liability company or take any other course which may be then decided upon. If they could not get any suitable place to hold the meeting in he should be happy to place his Infant School at their disposal.

Mr Shell seconded Mr Steggall's motion with great pleasure, and thanked the rev gentleman for his offer of the use of the school-room. He suggested the meeting should be held on Monday evening next, or at any other early date convenient to Mr Jenkins.

It was decided to leave the arrangements of the meeting, printing, advertising, &c., in the hands of the Rev F. Steggall, and the secretary (Mr Welford).

The meeting then terminated.

CONCERTS AT THE BROOMS SCHOOL-ROOM, LEADGATE.

Two concerts of a varied and high-class character were given in the above room, on Monday and Tuesday last. These annual concerts having gained a high reputation in the district, and taken their stand as A1, there is nothing to wonder at the large attendance of enthusiastic pleasure-seekers who were present. The committee are to be congratulated on their choice of artistes, who were as follows:—Mr Rowland Harrison, the celebrated Tyneside comedian; Messrs T. Robson and Hasson, great negro comedians, of Sunderland; Mr Godfrey, comic vocalist; Mr William Lord, comic and sentimental vocalist, Newcastle; Mr Tom Walsh, special motto and nautical vocalist; and Mr Richard French, singer of comic songs of all nations. On Monday night the songs and duets were gone through in capital style by the performers, who were applauded at each piece by the audience. The programme on Tuesday was opened with the song—"Hurrah for the man," which was rendered in first-class style by Mr Godfrey. Mr Walsh, who was enthusiastically received by the audience, then contributed the song—"1882," after which he followed with the song—"What a fool I was to marry Mary Jane," for both of which he received the hearty plaudits of the audience. Messrs Robson and Hasson then executed a duet—"England's and Ireland's own," for which they received a well-merited *encore*, and they returned and gave the song—"Whitechapel Bill and Ben;" Mr Robson, who is the happy possessor of a fine tenor voice, sang and danced "I met her on the green." Mr French appeared on the platform in the dress of an old Scotch dame, and executed the song—"Oor wee Jock," when he sustained his part exceedingly well and received an enthusiastic *encore*. He gave for his re-call, a song entitled, "Ciin Chee," being arrayed in a Chinese costume. "The Light Brigade," was next rendered by Mr Lord, his hearers showing their approval by giving him a meritorious re-demand to which he responded by giving the song—"A cur at my heels." Mr Harrison, who was received with deafening cheers by the assembly, then sang—"Geordie Black," he being dressed in the style of an old pitman, with pick over his shoulder, and a stick in his hand. Next he appeared as a charming young belle, and sang "The bonniest lass in Shields." Afterwards he followed with the song—"The helper," he having again changed his attire to that of a tramp. "The wandering minstrel," was the next song he performed, in which he personated a minstrel of the lowest order. In all these pieces he received the plaudits of the auditory, which he justly deserved. The songs—"Major Brown," and "The solid man" were given in grand style by Mr Robson. A song, entitled, "The famine in Ireland," was rendered in a masterly manner by Mr Walsh, the piece being composed by him while he was in America. Messrs Robson and Hasson again appeared and contributed a duet—"Looking out for Uncle Dick," Mr Robson being dressed as a female. This piece was exceptionally well rendered, and being rapturously *encored*, they responded with the song—"The two jolly costers and their donkeys." Mr Lord was well taken with in his song—"I'll never do harm;" and Mr French rendered the song—"The Swiss maiden, and her lovely guitar," with much gusto. Mr Harrison again appeared and sang in his well-known style, the song—"Jack and Ben," when the "house was brought down" with the cheers of the hearers. Mr C. Wilkinson, of Sunderland, presided at the pianoforte. Canon Kearney, at the close of the concert paid a high elogium to Mr Harrison and the other artistes, and wished them God speed in the profession which they are now engaged in. The drum and fife band (under the leadership of Mr Lasler) was in attendance, and played selections of music.

The Salvation Army.—On Monday evening last a "come-and-see" meeting was held in the Salvation Hall, Consett, which was well attended. Afterwards a ham coffee supper took place, which was partaken of by about 300 persons.

NEW COLLIERY WINNINGS AT DIPTON.

CUTTING OF SODS BY THE MISSES SURTEES.

Thursday se'nnight may well be remembered as a red letter day by the inhabitants of Dipton. Notwithstanding the season of the year *Sol* seemed to have a share in the procession of what we hope will prove a great boon to the surrounding neighbourhood, for she shone out in all her glory as if on an April morn. Early in the morning might be seen flags flying, and passers-by might ask the question, why those decorations? The members of the Dipton Brass Band turned out in full uniform about eleven o'clock and played merrily through the village. On proceeding to the spot where the sods were to be cut we were astonished to see what a transformation the once quiet valley had undergone in a few weeks. Here were tramways laid, huge pulleys, &c., and tubs being run where many would have thought it impossible. On every side it seemed a hive of industry, and clearly showed what perseverance could accomplish. The site of the colliery is on the Marquis of Bute's estate and situate near Low Collierley Farm, the Royalty having been leased from his Lordship by Robert Dickinson, Esq., of Shotley Bridge.

The interesting proceedings were commenced about noon by R. Dickinson, Esq., J.P., presenting the Misses Surtees with a handsome silver trowel to perform the ceremony, which they did in a most graceful manner, naming the shafts the "Surtees" shafts. There were present on the occasion:—Messrs. T. and R. Armstrong, agents to Lord Bute, W. Green, Esq., M.E., Thorneley House, Miss Graham, Dipton, Mr J. W. Hodgson, manager, and Mr J. A. Thompson, engineer.

After the Manager had passed the champagne, and the company had drank success to the undertaking, the public, numbering some 500, gave three ringing cheers for Mr Dickinson, and three more for the ladies.

The employes were liberally treated by the Misses Surtees, and the ceremony brought to a close by the band playing a lively air.

The trowel bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Misses E. A. and E. Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall, on the occasion of their cutting the first sods of the Collierley Royalty Shafts, Co. Durham, December 29th, 1881."

DURHAM SESSIONS.

The Epiphany Quarter Sessions for the county of Durham were opened on Monday in the Assize Courts, Durham, before John Lloyd Wharton, Esq., and other magistrates.

The chairman, in addressing the grand Jury, strongly regretted that in numbers the calendar showed a terrible increase upon the corresponding Sessions of last year, when 32 prisoners were for trial, against 68 upon the present occasion. He was also sorry to say there were more cases of wounding for trial than they had seen lately.

FIRST COURT.—(Before John Lloyd Wharton, Esq., (chairman) Wm. Nicholson, Esq., R. W. Hodgson, Esq., D. H. Goddard, Esq., A. Wilkinson, Esq., F. Greenwell, Esq., and J. B. Dale, Esq.)

William Todd, 16, blacksmith, pleaded guilty to a charge of breaking and entering the shop of John Hume and Sons, and stealing therein 9s., at Consett, on the 2nd Dec. He also pleaded guilty to a further charge of breaking and entering the warehouse of Robert Jackson, and stealing therein 10s 6d and three packs of cards, on the 26th Nov.—He was sentenced to ten months' hard labour for the two offences.

Cornelius Boyle, 49, labourer, pleaded guilty to stealing a coat, the property of Alfred Hayton, at Langley Moor, on the 21st Dec. He had a bad record of past offences against him, and he was sentenced to five years penal servitude.

Henry Bell (on bail) was indicted for unlawfully wounding Ralph Bulmer, at Witton Gilbert, on the 7th November. Mr Granger prosecuted, and Mr Hedderwick defended. The jury found the prisoner guilty, but recommended him to mercy on account of the provocation he had received. The prisoner was sentenced to six weeks' hard labour.

Joseph Foster (55), pitman, was indicted for unlawfully wounding his daughter-in-law, Catherine Foster, at South Moor, on the 19th November. Mr Granger prosecuted. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

John Ainsley (on bail), was indicted for unlawfully wounding Wilson Robinson, at Esh, on the 18th October last. Mr Granger prosecuted, and Mr Atherley Jones defended. The jury found the prisoner not guilty.

SECOND COURT.—(Before Rev. A. D. Shafto, Chairman; Major Headlam, Major Horne, and P. S. Wilkinson, Esq.)

Sabina Rowan, 21, spinster, pleaded guilty to a charge of stealing a bottle of rum, the property of John Robert Atkinson, at Lanchester, on the 15th November. She was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

John McKenna, 42, hawker, a Newcastle notable, was found guilty of stealing 2s., the moneys of William Redshaw, at Shotley Bridge Hirings, on the 15th November. He was sentenced to four months' hard labour.

Michael Joyce (on bail), pitman, was indicted for unlawfully wounding Hannah Gibbons, at Quebec, on the 3rd December. Mr Luck prosecuted. The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

The members of this church held their annual Christmas tree and coffee supper in the school-room, on Saturday and Monday last. The room was exquisitely decorated with various specimens of fine art mottoes, evergreens, &c. Amongst the former was a full-rigged man-of-war barque, ploughing its course majestically through the briny billows to a distant haven, it being executed by one of the Sunday scholars, named George Wears. The tree and stalls were artistically adorned with useful and ornamental articles. There was a large number of friends present. The opening ceremony having been commenced with praise and prayer,

Mr Donald, in the absence of the secretary, read a very satisfactory report of the proceedings of the church during the past year, and called upon John I. Simpson, Esq., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, to open the bazaar.

Mr Simpson, in the course of an eloquent and lengthy speech, congratulated them on the extensive character of their bazaar. He understood that it was the younger portion of the congregation who had got up the various articles that were on the stalls. They deserved great praise for their never-ceasing energy which they displayed during the last few weeks in the making of the beautiful and useful articles. He hoped that after the bazaar was over that they would never cease to work, but should go into the world and bring sinners to the feet of Jesus. After speaking of the various successes of the Church both at home and abroad, he formally declared the bazaar open, and hoped that the bewitching eyes and the pathetic pleading of the fair waiters would make many purchasers. He also wished them abundant success, and hoped that they would all have a happy new year.

The sale of the goods was then proceeded with, the stalls being presided over by Mrs Frankland, Mrs Richley, Mrs Gray, Misses Little, Misses Jones, and Miss Douglas. As the sale was proceeding, supper was prepared by the lady friends, to which a large number of people sat down and partook of the "cup that cheers, but not inebriates," and also of the various sweetmeats, &c. The tables were ably attended to by Mesdames Davison and Wood. Songs were rendered during the evening by Misses H. Norton, E. Richley, and Jones, and Mr Ward Davison. Mr R. Frankland, jun., also contributed several selections on the harmonium.—On Monday the bazaar was again carried on, when a large concourse of people attended, and at the close of the proceedings votes of thanks to the several stall-holders, singers, &c., were carried by acclamation. A special resolution was accorded to Mrs Wood for her valuable services in connection with ladies' and children's sewing meetings. After the benediction had been pronounced, all returned home thoroughly satisfied with the proceedings. The following are the amounts realised by the stalls, contributions, &c.:—*Stalls*—Mrs Jones, £7 7s 0d; Misses Little's, £2 17s 10d; Misses Johnstone and Douglas's, £3 19s 0d; Misses H. Richley, Mary Morgan, and Rebecca Morgan, £1 18s 6½d; Mrs Frankland, Mrs Grey, and Mrs Richley, £5 11s 3½d; electric battery, views, &c., Messrs Bell and Bowker, £5 5s 0d; proceeds of sewing meetings, £1 13s 7½d. *Donations*: J. G. Benson, Esq., 10s 0d; J. Young, Esq., 10s; R. Evans, Esq., £2 0s 0d; Mr McDonald, 10s; taken at the door, £3 15s 3d—total, £30 7s 11½d.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY.

The first concert of the present season given by the members of the Consett and District Choral Society took place on Tuesday evening in the Boys' National School-room, Consett, kindly granted by the Vicar. The building was comfortably filled by a most respectable and appreciative audience. The principal artistes were Madame Shepherd (soprano), of Newcastle-on-Tyne; Mr C. Davison (tenor), of Consett; and Mr J. Nutton (bass), of Durham Cathedral choir, who were supplemented by a full chorus of sixty voices—members of the society. Mr W. Stoker opened both parts of the programme by performing two pianoforte selections in his usual masterly style. Madame Shepherd accomplished with enchanting exquisiteness the songs—"Oliva" (Dick) and "The Miller and the Maid" (Marziale), and receiving an *encore* for the latter, she gave the amusing piece "No, sir." The songs by Mr Nutton—"The Old Brigade" (Barri) and "True Blue"—were rendered in a vigorous and brilliant manner, and his truly powerful efforts were rapturously applauded. The first song was deservingly redemanded, and in response Mr Nutton gave that beautiful piece, "The Miller of the Dee." Mr C. Davison, a promising local musician, sang with much pathos, "The bloom is on the rye" (Bishop), and "Tell me, Mary, how to woo thee" (Hullah), and although his voice becomes rather weak and tremulous when soaring among the higher notes, yet the effective finish he gave to the final strains of the last song secured for him an *encore*! In acknowledging the compliment he sang "Norah, the pride of Kildare" (Hodson), a piece which seems particularly adapted to the pitch of his voice. The trios "Up! quit thy bower" (Richards), and "Maiden fair, a word I pray" (Bishop), were rendered in a thoroughly effective style by Madame Shepherd, and Messrs Davison and Nutton, who were frequently cheered; and the audience showed their high appreciation of their united efforts by requesting a repetition of the latter piece, which was acceded to. Madame Shepherd and Mr Nutton were accorded a fair share of applause, whilst artistically executing the duets "Old and Young" (Parry) and "The singing lesson" (Barnett), and the audience enthusiastically redemanded a repetition of each piece. The artistes not feeling disposed to gratify their wish on the last occasoin, the the "gods" in the gallery commenced a general stampede with hands and feet, which lasted for some minutes. The noise became more deafening than ever when Mr Nutton appeared on the platform to sing his concluding piece, and the "charge of the heavy brigade" was made with reboubled energy for a short period. Finally, Mr Stelling came to the front, and after order had been restored, said that Madame Shephard begged to be excused, and appealed to the audience to allow Mr Nutton to proceed with his song—"The four jolly Smiths" (Leslie)—which he did without further interruption. The choir sweetly and pathetically executed the following part-songs—"We rock away on the billows gay" (Sailor's chorus), "Serenade" (Weingand), "Sleep, gentle babe" (Smart), and the "Hymn of the Moravian Nuns" (Birch), the opening solo of which was rendered by Madame Shepherd. The efforts of the choir on this occasion, although not receiving the approbation it deserved, cannot but redound with credit upon the untiring zeal displayed by the able conductor, Mr C. Stelling, who beat the movements with correctness and precision. Mr F. W. Stoker acted as pianist to the soloists.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Dipton.—At The Besom, on the 28th ult., the wife of Mr James Johnson, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Lanchester.—At the Register Office, on the 24th ult., Mr W. Freak, to Miss B. Walton, both of Leadgate.—Same day, Mr J. W. Anderson, Croniwell, to Miss S. A. Chaytor, West Stanley.—Same day, Mr J. Appleby, to Miss M. A. Welsh, both of Cornsay Colliery.—On the 31st ult., Mr W. Turnbull, to Miss M J. Marley, both of Leadgate.—Same day, Mr R. Errington, to Miss M. Davison, both of Oxhill.—Same day, Mr T. Smith, to Miss M. A. Herron, both of Annfield Plain.

Wolsingham.—At the Register Office, 3rd inst., Mr Richard Simpson to Miss Rhoda Brown, both of Tow Law.—Same day, Mr H. Rand, of Tow Law, to Miss Alice Rutter, of Quebec.

DEATHS.

Consett.—At 11, Victoria Street, on the 30th ult., aged 52 years, after a long and painful illness, borne with Christian fortitude, Edward Hall Hutchinson, late of Newcastle. 46q

Shotley Bridge.—At Oakfield, on the 31st ult., aged 47 years, Mr Thomas Wilson, of the firm of Wilson Bros., merchants.
2nd inst., aged 64 years, William Bell, of Shotley Bridge, late sergeant in the Durham County Constabulary Force.

Leadgate.—1st inst., aged 60 years, Mrs Jane Temple, wife of Mr George Temple, Queen's Head Inn.

Medomsley.—On the 3rd inst., aged 10 months, Edwin; the beloved child of John and Elizabeth Milburn.

Dipton.—At South Medomsley Cottages, 2nd inst., aged 65 years, Dorothy, wife of Mr R. Brown.
4th inst., Mr Robert Cunningham.

Burnopfield Colliery.—On the 1st inst., aged 21 years, James Kirkley.

Victoria Garesfield.—1st inst., aged 72 years, Catherine, widow of the late Henry Gibson, formerly of Tanfield.

Catchgate.—5th inst., Margaret, second daughter of David Armstrong. Interred on Sunday, the 8th inst. Friends please accept this intimation. 47q

Gateshead.—At 19, Peterborough Street, 23rd ult., aged 72 years, Robert Siddle, late of Shotley Bridge.

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