SUPPLEMENT TO THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN" FOR JANUARY 6, 1899.

The Consett Guardian

Derwent Valley Advertiser, and North-West Durham Gazette.

1899. ALMANACK. 1899.

CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Meetings held the First Wednesday in each month, at 4 o'clock.

Chairman, Coun. Wm. Aynsley, J.P.; Vice-chairman County Coun. Geo. Ainsworth, J.P. Councillors G. T. Hyden, Jas. Daly, J. Lowes, J. Kempson, Geo. D. Powell, Jas. Scott, H. Holliday, Dr. A. D. M. Macintyre, Thos. Dunne, and N. Elsden. Clerk, Mr T. W. Welford, Solicitor; Surveyor, Inspector, and Rate Collector, Mr. W. S. Shell, M.S.A. Medical Officer, Dr. W. Allen. Treasurer, Mr. T. L. Gledstone.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman, Coun. J. W. Taylor, J.P.; Vice-chairman, Coun W. Fitzpatrick, Councillors J. G. Taylor, W. Down, W. Young, J. Mason, J. Storey, W. Eltringham, G. Wailes, T. Clark, R. Hall, and W. Johnson. Clerk, Mr T. L. Watchman; Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances Mr T. J. Trowsdale; Treasurer, Mr J. Robinson, Annfield Plain; Collector, Mr. R. Bates.

BENFIELDSIDE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Meetings held the Third Wednesday in each month at 5 o'clock.

Chairman, Coun. Wm. Telford, J.P.; Vice-chairman, Coun. C. Parnaby. Councillors Ed. Sloane James Annandale, J.P., Jos. Eltringham, J. Dowson, R. G. Barclay, J.P., H. Cares, R. Eccles, J. Heymer, W. M. Annandale, and G. J. Robinson. Clerk, Mr. J. B. Lazenby, solicitor, Shotley Bridge; Surveyor, Inspector of Nuisances, and Collector, Mr John Dixon; Medical Officer, Dr. W. Allen.

LEADGATE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Meetings held the Second Wednesday in each month, at 6.30 o'clock.

Chairman, Coun Henry Palmer, J.P.; Vice-chairman, Coun. L. Nicholson. Councillors W. F. Lane, W. J. Foreman, J. W. Winter, Geo. Nicholson, J. Costello, H. Cheesmond, T. Keenleyside, M. D. Greener, Chas. Clegg, R. Robson, and W. Robson. Clerk, Mr J. H. Coupland; Surveyor, Inspector, and Collector, Mr Thos. Longstaff; Medical Officer, Dr. W. Allen.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Meetings held last Wednesday in each month at 5.30 o'clock.

Chairman, Councillor Jonathan Green, J.P.; Councillors G. Forster, M. G. Armstrong, J. Anderson, T. Forster, Wm. Severs, A. H. Swinburn, Wm. Welsh, T. Duffy, A. Kuhlman, G. Ridley, W. Indian, J. Smith, R. Kay, and T. W. W. Ritson. Clerk, Mr J. G. Ridley, Stanley, R.S.O.; Surveyor, Mr. J. Routledge; Treasurer, Mr. R. G. Barclay, Shotley Bridge; Collector, Mr Wm. Hewison.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Meetings held the First Wednesday in each month, at 7.15 o'clock.

Chairman, Councillor H. C. Wood, J.P.; Vice-chairman, Rev. T. H. Archdall, Councillors W. Bulmer, J. W. Anderson, W. Harrison, J. Warwick, J. Rodham, W. Holmes, W. G. Turnbull, T. Pringle, jun., E. Wigham, and A. Davies. Clerk, Mr Thos. Armstrong; Surveyor and Inspector, Mr R. Heslop.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RURAL COUNCIL.

Meetings held Alternate Thursdays, at 2 o'clock.

Chairman, Councillor Geo. Ridley, J.P.; Vice-chairman, Councillor John Hodgson; Councillors C. J. Banks, J. Burnett, F. Herbert, A. P. Stoker, Jacob Sharp, H. E. Henderson, R. H. Lonsdale, J. Mitchell, P. Hay, F. Harle, J. Todd, J. Humble, J. Tully, M. Gilhespy, G. H. Hornsby, P. Oswald, T. Arnell, W. S. Harris, J. Anderson, J. Smith, T. C. Renwick, W. Hawking, R. E. Purves, R. Selby, Wm. Hedley, J. W. Bolam, Geo. Middlemas, John Emmerson, W. C. Blackett, R. J. English, M. J. Starford, Robt. Bolam, R. B. Clark, M. H. Douglas, Wm. Morris, J. W. Patterson, Thos. Richardson, T. F. Brass, J. H. R. Garson. Clerk, Mr. R. Dickinson.

STANHOPE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman, Coun. W. Rippon, J.P. Councillors T. Collingwood, T. Phillipson, J. Smurthwaite, J. W. Roddam, Dr. Livingstone, G. Moses, J. Crawhall, J. C. Iley, J. Curry, J. Wears, R. Turnbull, and G. H. Waller, Clerk, Mr. J. Thompson; Surveyor, Mr J. Parker.

WEARDALE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman, Coun J. W. Roddam, J.P. Vice-chairman, Coun. W. Love. Councillors Rev. F. C. Jagg, O. Monkhouse, G. Mainprize, J. A. Snowden, G. Curry, J. Lowden, G. Brownless, W. Teasdale, T. Hall, Dr. Grey, C. Strong, R. Watson, M. Reid, J. Muschamp, H. Featherstone, J. Harrison, J. Maddinson, and J. Surtees. Surveyor, Mr Wm. M. Egglestone; Highways Surveyor, Mr G. Egglestone; Clerk, Mr J. Thompson. Meetings are held at the Board Room, Stanhope, every alternate Friday at 1 p.m.

BLAYDON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Blaydon Ward—Councillors Ed. Aisten Vice-Chairman, Wm. Crooks, J. Cunningham, E. J. W. Powell, Joseph Robson, W. Scott, Alfred Skidmore. Winlaton Ward—Councillors Wm. Atkinson, G. Bullerwell, jun., Wm. Latimer, J. Raine, A. B. Tebb, Chairman. Victoria Garesfield Ward—Councillor A. Smith. Chopwell Ward—Councillors W. Archer, Wm Douglass, J. R. Gilchrist., J. W. Tucker. Stella Ward—Councillor J. C. Robson. Clerk, Henry Dalton.

PARISH COUNCILS.—LANCHESTER UNION.

KNITSLEY.

Chairman, A. Stoddart; Councillors W. Aynsley, J.P., Geo. Lowes, Thos. Harrison, Thos. Knox, W. Reed, W. Rippon; Clerk, Mrs. M. J. Elliott.

LANCHESTER.

Councillors J. R. Ritson, chairman, J. Chapman, vice-chairman, Geo. W. Wilson, J. J. Sinton, D. Champney, U. A. Ritson, jun., Geo. Thornton, James Gibson, W. Hallier, J. Keenleyside, A. Hartley, G. Shipley, J. W. Dixon, T. Pallister; Clerk, Mr. H. Knowles, Burnhope; Treasurer, Mr. W. Ramsay, North-Eastern Bank, Blackhill.

ESH.

Quebec Ward—Councillors Wm. Collier (chairman) Thos. Lowden, Jas. Wilkinson, David Cheek, and George Pritchard. Langley Park Ward—Councillors Jos. Elliott, (vice-chairman), George Ritchie, W. A. Holmes, and M. Stevenson. Ushaw Ward, Rev. P. C. Fortin, Jas. Johnson, James Ogg, William Shaw, James Moffatt and Edward Cook. Clerk, James Moffat, Durham Road, Esh Winning, Durham.

HEALEYFIELD.

Chairman, Councillor J. W. Golightly, Councillors R. Johnson, A. Richardson, J. Ripley, M. Anderson, T. C. Elliott, T. Raine. Clerk, Mr. W. J. Scott. Treasurer, Mr. W. Ramsay, Blackhill.

EBCHESTER.

Meet Second Wednesday in January April, July, and October.

Chairman, Coun. J. Pumphrey; Vice-chairman, Coun. T. Irving. Councillors W. Charlton, C. Waggott, G. Wheeler, J. G. Brown, and G. Charlton. Clerk, J. Middleton.

MEDOMSLEY.

Chairman, Coun. H. Palmer, J.P.; Vice-chairman, Coun. W. Robinson. Councillors, J. Brown, John Harrison, J. Crawford, T. J. Milligan, T. Storey, Jos. Armstrong, Wm. R. Cooke, O. Clark, Geo. Starford, Jacob Walton, W. Hogg, T. Ridley, W. Walton. Clerk, Mr M. Milburn, Medomsley.

HEDLEYHOPE.

Chairman, Coun. Wm. H. Telford. Councillors Wm. Brennan, George Crowe, Matthew Davison, Robt. Robson, Thos. Faircleugh, Daniel Jones, Jhn Wollis, James Borrows. Clerk, R. Crowe.

CORNSAY.

Chairman, Coun. Robt. Barron. Councillors W. Hateley, W. Johnson, Dobinson, J. Walburn, T. Harnon, H. F. Harty, J. Staplin, J. Fuddes, Joseph Atkinson, Simon Taylor, and Allan Browell. Clerk, J. Storey. Parish Council meetings are held the 3rd Thursday in each month at 7 p.m., in the British Schools, Cornsay Colliery.

STANHOPE PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman, Councillor J. Barker, Vice-chairman, Councillor S. Watson. Councillors T. Robinson, T. Moffatt, T. Vickers, T. Rippon, J. Elliott, J. S. Freeman, J. Coulthard, R. Walton, R. Watson, J. Turner, and G. Maddinson. Clerk, Mr R. Thompson.

WOLSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL.

Chairman, Councillor J. A. Snowden; Vice-chairman, Councillor G. R. Wooler. Councillors J. H. Atkinson, W. Love, J. Mainprize, J. Nicholson, J. Dobson, H. Coates, T. Patty, J. Parker, and J. Skipsey. Clerk, Mr. W. Shaw.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Rev A. Baillie; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Wm. Ramsay, Members—Revs. G. H. Ross-Lewin, M.A., E. W. Jenkins, Messrs Geo. J. Robinson, John Sloane, and J. Dowson. Clerk, Mr R. G. Barclay, Bank Buildings, Shotley Bridge. School Attendance Officer, Mr Hall, Blackhill. Head Master, Mr P. Teare.

MEDOMSLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Mr. H. Palmer, J.P.; Vice-Chairman, Mr W. R. Cooke. Members—Rev. W. Cockin, M.A., Messrs R. Moffitt, W. Robinson, Geo. Starford, and W. Hogg. Clerk, Mr J. H. Coupland; Treasurer, Mr R. G. Barclay; Attendance Officer, Mr M. T. Milburn, Medomsley.

KYO SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Mr R. Kay; Vice-chairman, Mr G. Ridley. Members—Messrs W. Eltringham, T. Bowes, J. W. Robson. Clerk, Mr W. H. Ritson, Lanchester. Attendance Officer, Mr T. Robson. Headmasters—Annfield Plain, Mr G. Sterling; Hare Law, Mr W. S. Telford; Oxhill, Mr. N. Raw; West Kyo, Mr J. Dixon.

COLLIERLEY (DIPTON) SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Coun. J. W. Taylor, J.P.; Vice-Chairman, Mr S. Swalwell. Members—Messrs T. Clark, R. Wilson, and W. Young. Clerk, Mr D. Mole; Attendance Officer, Mr H. Beatham. Head Master, Mr W. McQuillen; Infant Mistress, Miss E. Terry.

GREENCROFT SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Mr P. Reay; Vice-chairman, Mr H. Greener. Members—Messrs J. Mason, R. Mitchinson, Thos U. Ord. Clerk, Mr W. H. Ritson, Lanchester. Attendance Officer, Mr Robert Tindale, South Pontop, Annfield Plain. Head Master, Mr W. I. Mackay, Schoolhouse, Catchgate.

TANFIELD SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Coun. H. C. Wood, J.P. Members—Messrs J. Green, J.P., Rev. T. H. Archdall, M. G. Armstrong, Geo. Forster, W. Bulmer, R. Mason, Rev. Father Thompson, and W. Severs. Clerk, W. H. Ritson, Lanchester. Attendance Officer, Mr. Seymour, Meddick, Hobson Colliery, Burnopfield.

HEALEYFIELD AND ROWLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Mr J. W. Golightly; Vice-chairman, Rev. J. Wallis. Members—Messrs T. C. Elliott, T. J. Muse, and W. Pattinson. Clerk, Mr J. Prond. Attendance Officer, Mr W. Walton. Head Master, Mr T. Duckworth.

CHOPWELL SCHOOL BOARD.

The Board Meetings are held the First Tuesday in every month.

Chairman, Mr J. R. Gilchrist; Vice-chairman, Mr W. Richardson. Members—Mr J. W. Tucker, Mr E. Stokoe, and Rev. G. D'Eath. Clerk, Mr W. H. Ord, solicitor Swinburne Street, Gateshead. Attendance Officer, Mr W. Hunter.

STANHOPE SCHOOL BOARD.

Chairman, Ald Dr. Livingstone. Members—Rev. R. Hartley, Messrs T. E. Fenwick, T. Vickers, O. Monkhouse, H. Featherstone, J. Maddinson, Thos. Phillipson, J. Falkin, V. A. Rippon, and G. R. Wooler. Clerk, Mr J. Thompson. Attendance Officer, Mr J. Peart.

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

TIMES AND PLACES IN CONSETT SUB-DISTRICT.

MR. W. RAMSAY, Registrar. Offices:—65 Derwent Street, Blackhill.

BLACKHILL—Each Tuesday, 12-30 to 2-30 p.m. Each Thursday, 12-30 to 2-30 p.m. Each Friday, 9-30 to 11-30 a.m., at Registrar's Office, 65, Derwent Street Blackhill.

CONSETT—Each Tuesday, 6 to 8 p.m. Each Friday, 12-30 to 2-30 p.m., at Mr. J. G. Murray's Office, Taylor Street.

CASTLESIDE—1st and 3rd Tuesday in each month, 9-30 to 10-30 a.m., at Smelter's Arms.

MEDOMSLEY—1st and 3rd Monday in each Month, 11 a.m., to 12 noon, at Royal Oak Hotel.

WESTWOOD COLLIERY—1st and 3rd Monday in each Month, 12-30 to 1-30 p.m., at Mr. Pearson's, No. 43.

EBCHESTER HILL—1st and 3rd Monday in each Month, 2 and 3 p.m., at Mr Charlton's Public House.

LEADGATE—1st and 3rd Monday in each month, 9 to 10 a.m., at 119 Front Street.

TANFIELD SUB-DISTRICT

Mr. GEORGE RIDLEY, Registrar. Office: Stanley, R.S.O.

STANLEY—Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, 8 to 10 a.m., at Registrar's Dwelling-house and Office, Stanley.

CATCHGATE—1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month, 10 to 11 a.m., at Mr R. Jackson's Shop, Catchgate.

DIPTON—1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month, 12 to 1 p.m., at Reading Room, Vicarage, Dipton.

BURNOPFIELD—1st and 3rd Tuesdays in each month, 2 to 3 p.m., at Temperance Hall, Burnopfield.

LANCHESTER SUB-DISTRICT.

Mr GEO. BUCKHAM, Registrar. Office: Lanchester.

LANCHESTER—Each Monday, 3 to 5 p.m., at Registrar's Dwelling-house.

" —Each Wednesday, 3 to 5 p.m., at Registrar's Dwelling-house.

" —Each Friday, 3 to 5 p.m., at Registrar's Dwelling-house.

QUEBEC—1st and 3rd Mondays in each Month, 9.30 to 10.30 a.m., at Reading Room.

ESH WINNING—1st and 3rd Mondays in each Month, 11 to 12 noon, at Reading Room.

LANGLEY PARK—1st and 3rd Mondays in each Month, 1.30 to 2.30 p.m., at Reading Room.

ANNFIELD PLAIN—1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 9.30 to 10.30 a.m., at Reading Room.

SOUTH MOOR—1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 11 to 12 noon, at Mrs Gray's Shop.

CRAGHEAD—1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 1 to 2 p.m., at Mr Taylor's Providence Terrace.

SATLEY—1st Thursday in each Month, 1 to 2 p.m. at Mr Buckham's Private House, Satley.

EAST HEDLEYHOPE—2nd and 4th Thursdays, 11 to 12 noon, at Reading Room.

COWSLEY COTTAGES—2nd and 4th Thursdays, 12-30 to 1.30 p.m., at Miss Brownbridge's Private House.

WEARDALE MAGISTRATES.

Chairman, C. J. Backhouse, Esq., St. John's, Wolsingham. Rev. Chancellor Espin, D.D., Wolsingham; Rev. T. H. E. Espin, Tow Law; J. Rogerson, Esq., Hollywell Hall Wolsingham; T. E. Fenwick Esq., Wolsingham; C. Bainbridge, Esq., Wolsingham; J. Smurthwaite Esq, Stanhope; E. Stobbart, Esq, Harperley; J. W. Roddam, Esq., Stanhope; Alderman Dr Livingstone, Stanhope; V. A. Rippon, Esq., Rogerley Hall, Frosterley; J. A. Hildyard, Esq., Horsley Hall, Stanhope; J. Graham, Esq., Tow Law.

Stanhope Petty Sessions are held on the 3rd Friday in each month. Chairman, V. A. Rippon, Esq.

Wolsingham Petty Sessions are held on the 1st Tuesday in each month. Chairman, C. J. Backhouse Esq.

STANHOPE HEALTH RESORT ASSOCIATION.

President, Bishop of Richmond; Vice-Presidents, J. W. Roddam, Esq., J.P., and Dr. Grey; Secretary and Treasurer, J. A. Mason; Assistant Secretary, F. Batute. Committee—W. Wearmouth, R. Turnbull Coun. T. D. Collingwood, Supt. Snowden, G. Phillipson, G. Waller, I. Brown, F. Bruce, J. Briggs, T. Phillipson, J. G. Bainbridge, D. McCallum, and W. Egglestone.

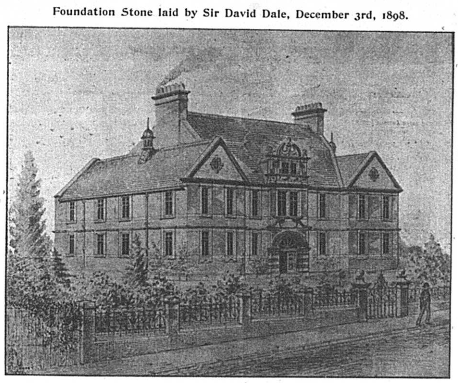
LOCAL COUNTY COURTS.

Judge—His Honour Edgar John Meynell.

Courts are appointed to be held at the following places and times:—Consett—Wednesday Jan. 4th, Feb. 1st, March 1st, April 5th, May 3rd, June 8th, at 10-30 a.m. Wolsingham—Saturday, Feb. 4th, April 5th, and June 17th, at 11 a.m.

The Consett Technical Institute.

Foundation Stone laid by Sir David Dale, December 3rd, 1898.



JANUARY—31 Days.

1	S	**Sunday aft. Christmas.** *New*
2	M	Calcutta tkn., 1757. [*Year's Day*
3	Tu	Harrison Ainsworth, novelist, d.,
4	W	Roger Ascham d., 1568. [1882
5	Th	*Dividends on Consols, etc., due.*
6	F	*Epiphany.—Twelfth Day.*
7	S	Calais taken by the French, 1558.
8	S	**1st Sunday after Epiphany.**
9	M	(8) Napoleon III. died, 1873.
10	Tu	Penny Post introduced, 1840.
11	W	*Hilary Law Sittings begin.*
12	Th	Dean Alford died, 1871.
13	F	*St. Hilary.*
14	S	Duke of Clarence died, 1892.
15	S	**2nd Sunday after Epiphany.**
16	M	Edmund Spenser, poet, d., 1599.
17	Tu	*St. Anthony.*
18	W	German Empire Proclaimed, 1871
19	Th	Prince Henry of Battenburg d.,
20	F	London Docks opened, 1805. ['96
21	S	Louis XVI. guillotined, 1793.
22	S	**3rd Sunday after Epiphany.**
23	M	(22) First Impl. Parliament, 1801
24	Tu	Lord Rlph. Churchill d., 1895.
25	W	*Conversion of St. Paul.*
26	Th	Dr. Jenner (vaccination), d., 1823
27	F	Ger. Emperor William II. b., '59.
28	S	Paris capitulated, 1871.
29	S	**4th Sunday after Epiphany.**
30	M	Charles I. executed, 1649.
31	Tu	Rev. C. H. Spurgeon d., 1892.

FEBRUARY—28 Days.

1	W	*Partridge & Pheasant Shtg. ends.*
2	Th	*Candlemas: Scottish Quar. Day.*
3	F	Marquis of Salisbury born, 1830.
4	S	Trial of Bishop of Lincoln, 1890.
5	S	**Sexagesima Sunday.**
6	M	Sir H. Irving born, 1838.
7	Tu	Charles Dickens born, 1812.
8	W	John Ruskin born, 1819.
9	Th	Gen. Sir E. Wood, V.C., b., '28.
10	F	Queen Victoria married, 1840.
11	S	Mary, Q. of England, b., 1516.
12	S	**Quinqua.**—*Shrove Sunday.*
13	M	(14) *St. Valentine's Day.*
14	Tu	*Shrove Tuesday.*
15	W	*Ash Wednesday.*
16	Th	(15) Cardinal Wiseman d., 1865.
17	F	Duchess of Albany born, 1861.
18	S	Martin Luther died, 1546.
19	S	**Quadra.**—*1st Sunday in Lent.*
20	M	Duchess of Fife born, 1867.
21	Tu	Trinidad taken, 1797.
22	W	George Washington born, 1732.
23	Th	Joanna Baillie, poetess, d., 1851.
24	F	Dr. Guthrie died, 1873.
25	S	Earl of Essex beheaded, 1601.
26	S	**2nd Sunday in Lent.**
27	M	Longfellow, poet, born, 1807.
28	Tu	*Hare Hunting ends.*

MARCH—31 Days.

1	W	*St. David's Day.*
2	Th	John Wesley died, 1791.
3	F	Gladstone resigned, and Lord
4	S	[Rosebery acc. Premiership, '94
5	S	**3rd Sunday in Lent.**
6	M	Rev. J. R. Green, historian, d., '83
7	Tu	(8) King William III. died, 1702.
8	W	Earl of Mayo assassinated, 1872.
9	Th	William I., Germ. Emp. d., 1888.
10	F	Prince of Wales married, 1863.
11	S	First Daily Paper published, 1702.
12	S	**4th Sunday in Lent.**
13	M	Duke of Connaught mar., 1879.
14	Tu	Humbert, King of Italy, b., 1844.
15	W	*Close Season for Fresh Water Fish*
16	Th	Duchess of Kent d., 1861. [*begins.*
17	F	*St. Patrick's Day.*
18	S	Princess Louise born, 1848.
19	S	**5th Sunday in Lent.**
20	M	*Spring commences.*
21	Tu	Princess Louise married, 1871.
22	W	Goethe died, 1832.
23	Th	Sir P. Cunliffe-Owen d., 1894.
24	F	Queen Elizabeth died, 1603.
25	S	*Annunciation.—Lady Day.*
26	S	**Palm Sunday.**
27	M	(26) Duke of Cambridge b., 1819.
28	Tu	Duke of Albany died, 1884.
29	W	*Hilary Law Sittings end.*
30	Th	Peace with Russia, 1856.
31	F	*GOOD FRIDAY.*

APRIL—30 Days.

1	S	*All Fools' Day.*—P. Bismarck b. '15
2	S	**Easter Sunday.**
3	M	*EASTER MONDAY.—Bank*
4	Tu	St. Ambrose died, 397. [*Holiday.*
5	W	*Dividends on Consols, etc., due.*
6	Th	*Old Lady Day.*
7	F	Duke of Albany born, 1853.
8	S	Home Rule introduced, 1886.
9	S	**Low Sunday.**
10	M	(9) King of the Belgians b., 1835.
11	Tu	*Easter Law Sittings begin.*
12	W	Rev. Rowland Hill died, 1833.
13	Th	Handel, mus. com., died, 1759.
14	F	Princess Beatrice born, 1857.
15	S	Cardinal Vaughan born, 1832.
16	S	**2nd Sunday after Easter.**
17	M	Duchess of Albany born, 1861.
18	Tu	(17) Turkey decl. war with Greece,
19	W	Ld. Beaconsfield d., 1881. [1897.
20	Th	King of Roumania born, 1839.
21	F	Baroness Burdett Coutts b., 1814
22	S	(23) *St. George's Day.*
23	S	**3rd Sunday after Easter.**
24	M	(23) Shakespeare died, 1616.
25	Tu	Princess Alice born, 1843.
26	W	Oliver Cromwell born, 1599.
27	Th	W. C. Macready died, 1873.
28	F	Lord Shaftesbury born, 1801.
29	S	(30) Duke of Argyll born, 1823.
30	S	**4th Sunday after Easter.**

MAY—31 Days.

1	M	*Bank Holiday in Scotland.*
2	Tu	(1) Duke of Connaught b., 1850.
3	W	Tom Hood, poet, died, 1845.
4	Th	Paris Fire, 1897.
5	F	Napoleon I. died, 1821.
6	S	Phœnix Park Murders, 1882.
7	S	**Rogation Sunday.**
8	M	(7) Lord Rosebery born, 1847.
9	Tu	Frederick Schiller, poet, d., 1805.
10	W	Indian Mutiny com., 1857.
11	Th	*Ascension Day.—Holy Thursday.*
12	F	(11) William Pitt died, 1778.
13	S	Sir Arthur Sullivan born, 1842.
14	S	**Sunday after Ascension.**
15	M	*Whitsun-day.—Scot. Quar. Day*
16	Tu	Rt. Hon. Sir H. H. Fowler b., '30.
17	W	King of Spain born, 1886. [1882.
18	Th	New Eddystone Lighthouse op.,
19	F	Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone d., '98.
20	S	(19) *Easter Law Sittings end.*
21	S	**Whit-Sunday.**—*Pentecost.*
22	M	*Whit-Mond.*—BANK HOLIDAY.
23	Tu	(22) Victor Hugo died, 1885.
24	W	Queen Victoria born, 1819.
25	Th	Princess Christian born, 1846.
26	F	Duchess of York born, 1867.
27	S	Calvin died, 1564.
28	S	**Trinity Sunday.**
29	M	Restoration of Charles II., 1660.
30	Tu	*Trinity Law Sittings begin.*
31	W	Joan of Arc burnt, 1431.

JUNE—30 Days.

1	Th	*Corpus Christi.*
2	F	"No Popery" Riots, 1780.
3	S	Duke of York born, 1865.
4	S	**1st Sunday after Trinity.**
5	M	(4) Viscount Wolseley b., 1833.
6	Tu	Bentham died, 1832.
7	W	Robert Bruce died, 1329.
8	Th	(7) First Reform Act, 1832.
9	F	Charles Dickens died, 1870.
10	S	Sir Edwin Arnold born, 1832.
11	S	**2nd Sunday after Trinity.**
12	M	Harriet Martineau born, 1802.
13	Tu	Dr. Arnold born, 1795.
14	W	Battle of Marengo, 1800.
15	Th	*F. Water Fish Close Season ends.*
16	F	*Drummond Castle* wrecked, 1896
17	S	*St. Alban.*—First Eng. Martyr.
18	S	**3rd Sunday after Trinity.**
19	M	(18) Battle of Waterloo, 1815.
20	Tu	Accession of Queen Victoria, '37.
21	W	*Proclamation Day.-Longest Day.*
22	Th	Diamond Jubilee Day, 1897.
23	F	Duke of York's son born, 1894.
24	S	*Midsummer Day.*
25	S	**4th Sunday after Trinity.**
26	M	A Jew first sat in Parliament,
27	Tu	Charles Parnell b., 1846. [1858.
28	W	Queen Victoria crowned, 1838.
29	Th	*St. Peter.*
30	F	The Pillory abolished by Act of Parliament, 1837.

JULY—31 Days.

1	S	*Dominion Day (Canada).*
2	S	**5th Sunday after Trinity.**
3	M	*Dog Days begin; and Aug. 11th.*
4	Tu	*Independence Day, U.S.A.*
5	W	*Dividends on Consols, etc., due.*
6	Th	(5) Rt. Hon. Cecil Rhodes b., '53.
7	F	(8) Rt. Hon. J. Chamberlain b., '36
8	S	*Midsummer Fire Insur. ceases.*
9	S	**6th Sunday after Trinity.**
10	M	Calvin born, 1509.
11	Tu	Alexandria bombarded, 1882.
12	W	The Crimea evacuated, 1856.
13	Th	Treaty of Berlin signed, 1878.
14	F	Bastille stormed, 1789.
15	S	*St. Swithin's Day.*
16	S	**7th Sunday after Trinity.**
17	M	Franco-German War com., 1870.
18	Tu	Papal Infallibility procl'd, 1870.
19	W	M. Stamboloff died, 1895.
20	Th	Army purchase abolished, 1871.
21	F	Robert Burns, poet, died, 1796.
22	S	(23) Duke of Devonshire b., 1833.
23	S	**8th Sunday after Trinity.**
24	M	Gibraltar taken, 1704.
25	Tu	Rt. Hon. A. J. Balfour born, 1848.
26	W	(25) *St. James, Apostle and Martyr*
27	Th	Transvaal Gov. bankrupt, 1885.
28	F	Dr. Jameson's trial, verdict, 1896.
29	S	(30) Prince Bismarck died, 1898.
30	S	**9th Sunday after Trinity.**
31	M	French Revolution, 1830.

AUGUST—31 Days.

1	Tu	*Lammas Day.-Scottish Quar. Day*
2	W	(1) Parcel Post commenced, 1883.
3	Th	James II. of Scotland kld., 1460.
4	F	(3) Viscount Peel b., 1829. [1844.
5	S	(6) D. of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha b.,
6	S	**10th Sunday after Trinity.**
7	M	BANK HOLIDAY.
8	Tu	George Canning d., 1827. [1890.
9	W	Heligoland ceded to Germany,
10	Th	Rt. Hon. G. J. Goschen b., 1831.
11	F	(12) *Grouse Shooting begins.*
12	S	*Trinity Law Sittings end.*
13	S	**11th Sunday after Trinity.**
14	M	Lord Clyde died, 1863.
15	Tu	Sir Walter Scott born, 1771.
16	W	Gas first used in London, 1807.
17	Th	Frederick the Great died, 1786.
18	F	Emperor of Austria born, 1830.
19	S	Robert Bloomfield, poet, d., 1823.
20	S	**12th Sunday after Trinity.**
21	M	*Blackcock Shooting begins.*
22	Tu	Battle of Bosworth Field, 1485.
23	W	Treaty of Prague, 1866.
24	Th	*St. Bartholomew.* [1822.
25	F	Sir W. Herschell, astron., died,
26	S	Prince Consort born, 1819.
27	S	**13th Sunday after Trinity.**
28	M	(27) Landing of Julius Cæsar, B.C.
29	Tu	Mr. Speaker Gully b., 1835. [55.
30	W	Battle of Plevna, 1877.
31	Th	John Bunyan died, 1688.

SEPTEMBER—30 Days.

1	F	*Partridge Shooting begins.*
2	S	Great Fire of London began, 1666
3	S	**14th Sunday after Trinity.**
4	M	French Republic declared, 1870.
5	Tu	Cardinal Richelieu born, 1825.
6	W	Archbishop Sumner died, 1862.
7	Th	Queen Elizabeth born, 1533.
8	F	Amy Robsart died, 1560.
9	S	Canon Liddon died, 1890.
10	S	**15th Sunday after Trinity.**
11	M	Lady Palmerston died, 1869.
12	Tu	Marshal Blücher died, 1819.
13	W	Capture of Quebec, 1759.
14	Th	Duke of Wellington died, 1852.
15	F	I. K. Brunel died, 1859. [1714.
16	S	George I. landed in England,
17	S	**16th Sunday after Trinity.**
18	M	Versailles occ. by the Germans,
19	Tu	Lord Brougham b., 1779. [1870.
20	W	Battle of the Alma, 1854.
21	Th	Sir Walter Scott died, 1832.
22	F	Theodore Hook, novelist, d., 1788
23	S	(24) Relief of Lucknow, 1857.
24	S	**17th Sunday after Trinity.**
25	M	Siege of Paris commenced, 1870.
26	Tu	Funeral of Pres. Garfield, 1881.
27	W	Battle of Busaco, 1810.
28	Th	Louis Pasteur died, 1895.
29	F	*St. Michael.—Michaelmas Day.*
30	S	Lord Roberts, V.C., born, 1832.

OCTOBER—31 Days.

1	S	**18th Sunday after Trinity.**
2	M	*Pheasant Shooting begins.*
3	Tu	Treaty of Limerick, 1691.
4	W	Barry Cornwall died, 1874.
5	Th	*Dividends on Consols, etc., due.*
6	F	Queen of Spain abdicated, 1868.
7	S	(6) Lord Tennyson died, 1892.
8	S	**19th Sunday after Trinity.**
9	M	*St. Denis, Patron Saint of France*
10	Tu	Benjamin West, artist, b., 1738.
11	W	Dr. Benson, Arch. of Canterbury,
12	Th	Pekin taken, 1860. [died, 1896.
13	F	Joachim Murat shot, 1815.
14	S	Sir W. V. Harcourt born, 1827.
15	S	**20th Sunday after Trinity.**
16	M	Marie Antoinette executed, 1793.
17	Tu	Bombard't of Sebastopol began,
18	W	*St. Luke the Evangelist.* [1854.
19	Th	Dean Swift died, 1745.
20	F	Balfe, composer, died, 1870.
21	S	Battle of Trafalgar, 1805.
22	S	**21st Sunday after Trinity.**
23	M	Coffee first brought to Eng., 1641.
24	Tu	*Michaelmas Law Sittings begin.*
25	W	Balaclava, 1854.
26	Th	William Hogarth died, 1764.
27	F	Capitulation of Metz, 1870.
28	S	*St. Simon and St. Jude.*
29	S	**22nd Sunday after Trinity.**
30	M	Dr. Edwin Lancaster died, 1874.
31	Tu	*All Hallows' Eve.*

NOVEMBER—30 Days.

1	W	*All Saints' Day.*
2	Th	*All Souls' Day.*
3	F	George Peabody died, 1869.
4	S	(5) Gunpowder Plot, 1605.
5	S	**23rd Sunday after Trinity.**
6	M	Princess Charlotte died, 1817.
7	Tu	*London Gazette* first pub., 1665.
8	W	John Milton, poet, died, 1674.
9	Th	Prince of Wales born, 1841.
10	F	(9) *Lord Mayor's Day.*
11	S	*Martinmas; Scotch Term.*
12	S	**24th Sunday after Trinity.**
13	M	George Fox, Quaker, died, 1690.
14	Tu	Hy. VIII. mar. Anne Boleyn, 1532
15	W	Great Fire at New York, 1835.
16	Th	John Bright b., 1811; d., 1889.
17	F	Suez Canal opened, 1869.
18	S	Common Prayer Book pub., 1662
19	S	**25th Sunday after Trinity.**
20	M	Ld. Chf. Justice Cockburn d., '80.
21	Tu	Emp. Frederick of Germany b.,
22	W	*St. Cecilia.* [1840.
23	Th	Sir John Browning died, 1874.
24	F	John Knox died, 1572.
25	S	John Kitto died, 1854.
26	S	**26th Sunday after Trinity.**
27	M	(26) Princess Maud of Wales b., '69
28	Tu	Washington Irving died, 1859.
29	W	*Times* first printed by steam, 1814
30	Th	*St. Andrew's Day.*

DECEMBER—31 Days.

1	F	Princess of Wales born, 1844.
2	S	Marquis of Lothian born, 1833.
3	S	**Advent Sunday.**
4	M	Thomas Carlyle born, 1795.
5	Tu	Rome made Cap. of Italy, 1870.
6	W	Anthony Trollope died, 1882.
7	Th	Mary Queen of Scots born, 1542.
8	F	(9) Mr. Gladstone's First Min.,
9	S	Geo. Washington d., 1799. [1868
10	S	**2nd Sunday in Advent.**
11	M	(10) *Blk. Game & Grouse Shooting*
12	Tu	Dr. Campbell died, 1876. [*ends.*
13	W	Dean Stanley born, 1816.
14	Th	Prince Consort died, 1861.
15	F	Prince Jerome Bonaparte b., 1784
16	S	Jane Austin born, 1775.
17	S	**3rd Sunday in Advent.**
18	M	Slavery abol. in United States,
19	Tu	Turner, artist, died, 1851. [1862.
20	W	Battle of Suakim, 1888.
21	Th	*St. Thomas' Day—Shortest Day.*
22	F	(21) *Mich'lmas Law Sittings end.*
23	S	(24) Rt. Hon. J. Morley b., 1838.
24	S	**4th Sunday in Advent.**
25	M	*CHRISTMAS DAY.*
26	Tu	*Boxing Day.*—BANK HOLIDAY.
27	W	Hepworth Dixon died, 1879.
28	Th	*Innocents' Day.* [1809.
29	F	Rt. Hon. W. E. Gladstone born,
30	S	(29) Sir Titus Salt died, 1877.
31	S	**Sunday after Christmas.**

ESTABLISHED 1860.

The Largest and Best Local Paper in the District.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN

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Petty Sessions for General Business and for the Purposes of the Acts 25 and 26 Vic., cap. 114, and 42 and 43 Vict., cap. 49, will be held at the Justice Rooms, at Lanchester, on alternate Thursdays; at Consett on alternate Mondays, at Eleven o'clock in the Forenoon respectively; and at Stanley on Wednesdays, once a Month at 12.30 o'clock in the Afternoon, on the several undermentioned dates:—

At Lanchester—January 5th, 19th; February 2nd, 16th; March 2nd, 16th, 30th; April 13th, 27th; May 11th, 25th; June 8th, 22nd; July 6th, 20th; August 3rd, 17th, 31st; September 14th, 28th; October 12th, 26th; November 9th, 23rd; December 7th, 21st.

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Special Sessions will be held at Lanchester at 11 a.m. on the several undermentioned dates—January 5th—For Poor Rate Appeals; To appoint Special Sessions for appointment of Overseers. January 19th—For Transfer of Licenses. March 2nd—For Transfer of Licenses. March 30th—To appoint Overseers of the Poor; For Poor Rate Appeals. April 27th—For Transfer of Licenses. June 22nd—For Poor Rate Appeals; For Precepts and Notices preparatory to General Annual Licensing Meeting. July 6th—For Transfer of Licenses. July 20th—For Precepts to Overseers for Lists of Men qualified to serve as Jurors. August 17th—For Transfer of Licenses. August 31st—General Annual Licensing Meeting; For Poor Rate Appeals. September 28th—For receiving and verifying Jury Lists; For Transfer of Licenses; Adjourned General Annual Licensing Meeting. November 9th—To appoint Special Sessions for Poor Rate Appeals; For Transfer of Licenses. December 7th—For Transfer of Licenses.

Quarter Sessions will be held at Durham, January 2nd, April 3rd, June 26th, October 16th, 1899, January 1st 1900.

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Directors—Messrs D. Ormerod (chairman), C. W. Almond, J. W. Harker, J. Whitehead, C. Davison, C. C. McColvin. Trustees—Messrs J. Davison, R. G. Barclay, J.P., J. Oliver. Secretary—Mr. J. Gibbinson, Shotley Bridge.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.

Chairman, Mr. W. Aynsley; Vice-Chairman, Mr. J. Oliver. Trustees, Mr. W. Aynsley, Mr. J. Oliver, Mr. T. Nicholson, Directors, Mr. G. T. Hyden, Mr. S. Brodie, Mr. W. Eales, Mr. E. Lockey, Mr. T. Milner, Mr. W. Hardcastle, Mr. P. Teare. Arbitrators, Coun. J. Annandale, J.P., John W. Walton-Wilson, Esq., J.P., W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., J.P., F. Priestman, Esq., J.P., E. W. E. Balleny, Esq., J.P. Bankers, Messrs Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, Spence, and Co. Solicitor, Mr. T. W. Welford; Surveyor, Mr. W. S. Shell; Auditors, Mr. A. Russell and Mr. J. M. Nicholson; Secretary, Mr. Jas. Inglis, 18, Durham Road, Blackhill. Office, New Town Hall, Consett.

BLACKHILL, CONSETT, AND DISTRICT MODEL BUILDING SOCIETY.

Directors—Messrs J. S. Murray, G. J. Robinson, J. Sloane, A. Richardson, J. Symington, R. Marshall, W. Ramsay, and G. T. Hyden. Bankers—Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, Spence, & Co. Surveyor—Mr. Joseph Eltringham. Solicitor—Mr. J. G. Murray. Secretary—Mr. J. M. Nicholson, A.C.A., Blackhill.

FOURTH DERWENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

President, Mr. Richard Murray; Vice-President, Mr. Thompson Siddell, Directors Mr. Matthew Richley, Mr. Robert Marshall, Mr. George Eltringham, Mr. J. S. Murray; Inspecting Officers, Mr. W. S. Shell, Mr. M. Robson, Mr. John Dixon; Stewards, Mr. Thos. Whinney, Mr. Wm. Wilson; Auditors, Mr. Matthew Richley, Mr. Joseph Osborne; Arbitrators, Mr. James Annandale, Mr. G. Ainsworth, Mr. F. Priestman; Solicitor, Mr. John G. Murray; Secretary, Mr. Joseph Eltringham. Bankers, North-Eastern Banking Company, Blackhill Branch.

CONSETT READING AND RECREATION ROOMS.

President, Mr. Geo. Ainsworth, J.P.; Vice-President, Mr. Wm. Aynsley, J.P.; Committee, Messrs R. Park, Jas. Scott, J. Petherick, G. T. Hyden, E. G. Kirkhouse, Joseph Pescod, James Oliver, C. Lumley, Thos. Heslop, E. J. Colmar, P. E. Surtees, G. R. Aynsley, T. Milner, J. R. Brodie, G. A. Williams, W. Redshaw, and W. Harrison. Treasurer, Mr. T. L. Gledstone; Librarian, Mr. J. Pescod; Secretary, Mr. Wm. Eales.

POSTAL INFORMATION.

CONSETT DISTRICT (Postmaster, Mr. Thomas Dunne.)

Deliveries—8, 4, 6.50. Despatches—9.45, 11-15, 1-15, 5-35, 8-15. Money order saving bank and telegraph hours from 8 a.m to 8 p.m. The Consett Post Office is now a Telephone Call Office; hours, from 8 a.m. to 7-30 p.m. Sundays (for telegrams and sale of stamps only), 8 to 10 a.m.

6-29/93

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ASK FOR
JOHNSON'S INKS
WRITING—COPYING—DUAL—FOUNTAIN PEN.
GOOD COLOUR. RUNNING FREELY.
A pleasure to write with.
BLUE-BLACK, BLACK, AND COLOURS.
Good Value.
Sold Wholesale and Retail by
ROBERT JACKSON,
"Guardian" Office, Consett.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 2003 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. | FRIDAY, January 6th, 1899. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

A BLESSING TO ATHLETES
STOREY'S GREEN OILS
Absolutely the best Embrocation. Cures Sciatica, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sprains, Stiffness, Swellings, &c., &c. Gives relief after the first application.
Prepared from the recipe of Mr. H. Storey, Bonesetter, Deckham Place, Gateshead.
To be had from all Chemists or from the Manufacturer—
ALFRED MAIN,
57, WEST STREET, GATESHEAD.
Price, 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per bottle; post free securely packed, 1s. 6d. and 3s. 3d. 771y

Money.

MORTGAGES from £100 to £30,000 can be obtained at a reasonable rate of interest. —For particulars apply J. G. GARDNER & Co., Accountants, Town Hall Buildings, Consett.

Contracts.

CONSETT WATERWORKS COMPANY.

SALE, BY TENDER, of 3,000 four per cent. PREFERENCE SHARES (£5 nominal value each), of and in the Consett Waterworks Company, being part of the Capital authorised to be issued under the provisions of the Consett Waterworks Act, 1894, and required by Section 36 of the said Act, to be offered to the Public.

RESERVE PRICE: £6 PER SHARE.

The Directors give notice that they are prepared to receive, on or before the 25th day of January next, at the Company's Offices, Consett, sealed Tenders (forms of which can be had on application) for the above 3,000 Shares, addressed to me and endorsed "Tender for Shares."

The Reserve Price, below which no Tender will be accepted, has been fixed at £6 per Share.

The allotments will be made to the highest bidders. In the event of Tenders being received in excess of Shares to be allotted, the allotments on the Tenders at the lowest price accepted will be subjected to a *pro rata* diminution.

A deposit of 10 per cent. will be required to be paid at the time of acceptance of Tender, the remainder to be paid on or before the 15th day of February next.

The Shares will be registered in the name of the purchaser without charge, and will be entitled to dividend from the first day of March next.

By order of the Directors,
ALEX. RUSSELL, Secretary.
Consett, 23rd December, 1898. 951c

Lost and Found.

LOST, a Cur DOG; black, tan, and white; finder rewarded on giving information to JOHN HERDMAN, Healeyfield, Consett. 922c

LOST, Young Skye Terrier DOG; blue; answers to "Silk." Detention incurs prosecution. Reward.—LITTLE, Livingstone Street, Consett.

Wanted.

SITUATION WANTED as Housekeeper in a respectable family by an abstainer, no children preferred. — Apply, *Guardian* Office.

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at Mr COCKBURN'S, Stationer, &c., 13, Front St., Consett

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT, able to bake and wash, not under 20.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 876c

WANTED, a LAD for country work; must be a good ploughman.—Apply to THOS ROBINSON, Margery Flats, Lanchester.

WANTED, STRONG YOUTH for Farm Work; able to plough. — Apply T. ANDERSON, West Law Farm, Shotley Bridge.

WANTED, a Good SERVANT, best wages paid. — Apply, Mrs RAWES, Taylor Street, Consett. 939c

AGENTS WANTED to push first-class Machinery Oils. Liberal Commission.—Box 31, Post Office, Liverpool. 936c

RESPECTABLE man seeks SITUATION for his daughter (aged 18) as nurse or general.—Apply, *Guardian* Office. 927c

BUTCHER.—Respectable LAD WANTED, one been two or three years at the trade. Apply, WHEATLEY DOWNS, Shotley Bridge.

HALF-DAY BOY WANTED for Consett Station.—Apply, BOOKSTALL, Blackhill Station. 960c

WANTED, a strong GENERAL for Carlisle.—Apply, any day after 11 a.m., to Mrs. SCOTT, Highfield, Consett. 957c

COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS WANTED in Consett, sitting-room and bedroom, by single gentleman.—Apply, stating terms, etc., W, *Guardian* Office. 955c

WANTED, a Respectable Middle-aged Woman as HOUSEKEEPER, good reference required.—Apply, 19, Watling Street, Leadgate. 946c

WANTED, PUPILS for Painting, Freehand Drawing, and Shading. Painting 1s per lesson, or 10s 6d quarter.—Apply, Miss M. A. HENDERSON, 22, Park Road, Consett.

SITUATION WANTED as HOUSEKEEPER to Tradesman by a reliable and thoroughly domesticated person; good references.—Apply, by letter only, to Box X *Guardian* Office.

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J. ORTON, Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, WATCHES, CLOCKS, and JEWELLERY to repair at reasonable prices. All repairs warranted for one year.—H. WOOD, 22, Victoria Street (next door to Crawford's Salerooms), Consett. 89b

AGENTS WANTED.—Highest commission, and no risk; experience unnecessary; specimens free.—Address Newcastle Rubber Stamp Company, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle.

WANTED, to be known everywhere, that Wringing Machine ROLLERS of very best quality are being Fitted and Guaranteed for 12 months at 10s per pair, by J. DAWSON, Wringing Machine Roller Turner, &c., South Moor Cycle Works, and Front Street, West Stanley. 529b

WANTED, by the West Stanley Co-operative Society, Ltd., a ROLLEYMAN; must have been accustomed to go with two horses, and also collect money; security required, wage 28s per week.—To apply to the Committee, on Monday Evening, January 9th, 1899, at 7.15 o'clock. THOS. W. W. RITSON, Secretary. 941c

ROYAL LIVER FRIENDLY SOCIETY.—Established 1850.—Members' Accumulated Capital, £2,000,000. Claims paid over £5,000,000. WANTED Six Energetic MEN as Additional Agents, good terms, no Debit System, interest in Books, good openings for pushing and working men.—Apply District Office, 17, St. Cuthbert's Avenue, Benfieldside Blackhill, JOHN THOMAS ASHTON, District Superintendent.

ANNFIELD PLAIN CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

WANTED, for the Dipton Branch, an APPRENTICE to the Hosiery Business; must not be under 14 years of age; no wage paid the first six months, 4s per week the second six months, open to members' families only; also, an Apprentice to the Millinery Business, Sacriston Branch; must not be under 15 years of age; confined to members' families trading at Sacriston.—Applications to be made to the Committee, Annfield Plain, on Monday, January 9th, at 7 p.m.—W. R. PIGG, Secretary.

WHAT a beautiful INCANDESCENT LIGHT! Where did you get it? From W. E. TURNER, Front Street, Consett. Incandescent Lights complete, 4s. each; Mantles at 8s. per dozen; Chimneys and Globes at all prices. Quotations for quantities. Cycles Cleaned, Plated, and Repaired like new. Lamps, Bells, and all other Accessories. Gents' EVENING DRESS SUITS a Speciality. Prices to suit all.—W. E. TURNER, 8, Front Street, Consett. 313c

WANTED it known that Thos Hall has for hire and intends to run from Consett Town Hall every Monday and Saturday, a close select CARRIAGE to run to Leadgate, Dipton or any part of the District; to carry four or six passengers; orders may be left for the same with THOS HALL, Front Street, Leadgate, or at the Branch Hairdressing Establishment, Medomsley. Orders by post will receive prompt attention. Brake and other Carriages will be at hand shortly. 865c

To Let.

TO LET, four roomed HOUSE in Thomas Street, Blackhill.—Apply, 84, Durham Road, Blackhill. 893c

HOUSE TO LET in Blackhill, three Rooms and Scullery. — Apply, Mrs CAREY, Aynsley Terrace, Consett. 885c

HOUSE TO LET, 11, Belle Vue Terrace, Medomsley Road, Consett. — Apply, JOHN T. POTTS. 947c

TO LET, HOUSE, BYRE, &c., with 10 Acres of Land.—Apply to WILLIAM BROWN, Iveston, Leadgate. 963c

TO LET, GROCER'S SHOP, with OFF-BEER LICENSE, situated 17, Medomsley Road, Consett.—Apply, J. W. CAMERON & Co., Ltd., 2, John Street, Sunderland. 964c

TO LET, a self-contained five-roomed HOUSE, with Wash-house with every convenience, situate at 13, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Apply, 11, Durham Road, Blackhill.

HOUSE TO LET, at Castleside, with Garden, Stables, Byres, and other out buildings.—Apply to GEO. DAVISON, Maude Villa, Castleside. 949c

TO LET shortly, the LOCK-UP SHOP in Victoria Street, Consett, now occupied by Mr H. Wood, Watchmaker and Jeweller.—Apply, WM. BRAND, Fishmonger, Victoria Street, Consett. 882c

For Sale

FOR SALE, a Young COW, close at profit.—Apply to THOMAS FRENCH, East Kyo.

SOW, FOR SALE, due to pig middle of January.—Apply, WILLIAM SYER, Iveston.

HOUSE of Six Rooms FOR SALE, situated at West Kyo.—Apply to ROBINSON JEWITT, 6, Neville Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

FOR SALE five or six tons of HAY.—Apply to Mrs EDWARD G. LUMLEY, Durham Road, Leadgate. 914c

FOR SALE, very fine GANDERS; also, young pure-bred DUCKS and DRAKES; cheap.—GRAHAM, Stanley Hall Farm, Stanley, R.S.O. 958c

THEODOLITE, FOR SALE (8 in. transit) by "Troughton and Simms," to be sold very cheap.—Apply, J. PHOUN, Grove Cottage, Shotley Bridge. 945c

BULBS. BULBS. BULBS.

GEO. PATTRICK, 5, Front Street, Consett, has received a large consignment of HYACINTHS, TULIPS, NARCISSUS, and all kinds of Dutch Bulbs. Call and inspect.

BASIC SLAG.
Largest Productions. Best and most reliable varieties.

THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER for Pastures, Meadows, and Clovers. Wholesale Agents — LANGDALE BROTHERS, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle. Langdale Bros. Patent Process Phosphates most effective fertilisers.

TO INNKEEPERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, &c.—SPIRIT STOCK RECEIPT and DELIVERY BOOKS, with portions of the Act of Parliament affecting the same. Price 1/-, or 1/1 (post free), from ROBERT JACKSON, Printer, Bookseller, and Wholesale Stationer, "Guardian" Office, Consett.

FOR SALE, Two WHITECHAPELS, and One Governess CAR, all second-hand and in first rate condition; also, New Conveyances of every description, Materials and Workmanship guaranteed. Will sell either for cash or on the hire purchase system. — COWEN'S, Carriage and Rolley Works, Taylor Street, Consett. 941b

FOR SALE, PONY COB, and full size Gig Harness, with solid Nickel Furniture and Non-rustable Bits. New stock of Horse Sheets from 4s 9d each, Driving and Travelling Rugs, Lamps and Waterproof Aprons. All at moderate prices.—COWEN as above. 942b

SAND FOR SALE, from Summerhill Sand Pit, Blaydon; suitable for Builders' and Plasterers' work.—Apply, T. C. NICHOLSON, The Loup Farm, Blaydon-on-Tyne. 302c

FOR SALE, a large Stock of UNREDEEMED PLEDGES, Selling off at HALF PRICE.—REPTON, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 708a

CONSETT, 32, John Street.—Large SHOP with DWELLING-HOUSE attached, suitable for pawnbroker or others; also side SHOP and COTTAGE. The whole let to four tenants at a gross rental of £60 per annum. Price £470.—Apply to Mr CHAS. HOPTON on the premises, or Mr JOHN MORLAND, 69, Front Street. 434c

STONE and COAL BORING MACHINES (Stand and Borrie's makes), also, Copper Stemming Gear for Sale.—F. WELCH & Co., Annfield Plain and Stanley. 3a

FOR SALE, Two HOUSES, in Belle Vue Terrace, Price £300 each, Four HOUSES in Seymour Street, Price £230 each. One Excellent Building Site (the only one to be had) in Middle Street, the central Business Place of Consett, price 51s per yard—For further particulars of purchase, apply N. ELSDON, Auctioneer and Estate Agent, Consett. 636b

Public Notice

C. M. S.

CENTENARY MISSIONARY EXHIBITION.
OLYMPIA, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
FEBRUARY 8TH TO 14TH, 1899.

Business Announcements.

C. H. SMALES,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CONFECTIONER,
6, TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT,

TAKES the present opportunity of thanking his Customers for their past favours, and hopes by strict attention to business to merit their patronage.

☞ SHOPS SUPPLIED.

W. GILHESPY & SON,
THE LEADING NORTHERN SHOE FIRM,
ARE SHOWING ALL THE
LATEST NOVELTIES IN BOOTS AND SHOES
For Winter Wear.

A LARGE CHOICE OF

LADIES' DRESS SHOES	In White Kid, from 2s. 11d. In White Satin, from 2s. 6d.
LADIES' BOX CALF BOOTS & SHOES,	From 5s. 11d.
LADIES' GAITERS,	From 11½d. to 3s. 11d..

Try our Celebrated GENT'S 10s. 6d. BOOTS.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
18 and 19, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

"An honest tale speeds best,
Being plainly told."—*Shakespeare.*

H. P. TYLER'S,
BOOTS AND SHOES
ARE BEST AND CHEAPEST.
12a, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

We cannot
"LET 'EM ALL COME"
Together, the shop is too small, but we advise all to come as soon as possible and get re-booted, and thus be prepared for the real hard weather which is almost sure to overtake us before very long.

H. P. TYLER'S, BOOT AND SHOE STORES,
12a, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
884c H. GOODEN, Manager.

'ROYAL LIVER' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1850.

CHIEF OFFICE—
PRESCOT STREET, LIVERPOOL.

Members' Accumulated Capital £2,000,000.

Claims paid over £5,000,000.

Assurances at all Ages, from 1 day to 80 years, for Amounts up to £200. Branch Offices and Agencies throughout the United Kingdom.

Wanted Six Energetic Men as Additional Agents, good terms, no Debit System, interest in Books, good openings for pushing and working men.
Apply District Office,
17, St. Cuthbert's Avenue,
Benfieldside, Blackhill,
JOHN THOMAS ASHTON,
890c District Superintendent.

Business Announcements.

JACKSON'S BEAUTIFUL VIEWS
OF CONSETT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.
PRICE: ONE SHILLING.
An Elegant Present for Christmas or New Year.

To be had at the "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

ESTABLISHED 1875.

WM. SURTEES & SONS,
ART DECORATORS, PAPERHANGING, PAINTING, GILDING, SIGN WRITING, GRAINING.
Artistic Designs in Lincrusta Walton, Anaglypta and Cordelova Wall and Ceiling Coverings.
Good Selections in Picture Frame and Room Mouldings.

NOTE ADDRESS:
TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.
And at BENFIELDSIDE, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE COMBINATION OF ALL THAT IS BEST FOR XMAS CHEER IS TO BE HAD AT
JOHN HALL & CO.'S,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE FINEST FLOURS. THE FINEST TEAS.
THE CHOICEST FRUITS—CURRANTS, VALENCIAS, MUSCATELS, &c.
FIRST PRIZE CHESHIRE CHEESE, 10d. PER POUND.
TIP-TOP CANADIAN, WENSLEYDALE, AND OTHER KINDS OF CHEESE.
FINEST SMALL HAMS, ONLY 8½d. PER LB.
REAL WILTSHIRE BACON.
CHOICE IRISH ROLLS, AND OTHER BACONS OF BEST QUALITY.
PLUM PUDDINGS, MINCE MEAT, AND CAKES OF RICH QUALITY.
BRITISH WINES. NUTS, ALMONDS, &c.
TART FRUITS, TINNED FRUITS, &c., &c.

SEE CHRISTMAS PRICE LIST; IT IS WORTH YOUR PERUSAL.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

TURNBULL BROS.,
GROCERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, WHOLESALE ALE AND SPIRIT DEALERS,
LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD, AND AT LINTZ COLLIERY.
Letters and Telegrams :—Burnopfield.

WISH to thank their Customers for past support and would ask them to give the following Price List their consideration.

GOOD FLOUR, 1s. 3d. per stone; 12s. per 10 stone bag.
SUPERS, 1s. 5d. per stone; 13s. per 10 stone bag.
SNOW WHITE, 1s. 6d. per stone; 14s. per 10 stone bag.

Also, one of the Largest and Varied Stocks of Groceries and Provisions in the District.

PRICE LIST.

WHISKIES (in Bottle)—

	Per Bottle.
Lea-ess	2/6 and 3/-
Counsel	3/-
The Real Mountain Dew	3/6
In Stone Quart Bottles—	Per Quart.
Lea-ess	3/-, 3/6, 4/, 4/6
Counsel	4/6

Real Mountain Dew (Oldest Scotch Whiskey) 20/- per gallon.
Other Whiskies from 12/- to 18/- per gallon.

RUM.

Jamaica	2/6 and 3/- per bottle.
"	3/-, 3/6, and 4/- per quart

BRANDY.

	Per Bottle.
Jamaica	4/9
Also a Cheap Brandy	3/6
The Noted "OLD TOM"	[illegible]

WINE.

	Per Bottle.
Old and Full Flavoured	2/6
Magnificent (Specially for Invalids)	4/-
BRITISH WINES (all kinds)	1/3 per bottle.

ALES AND STOUT (in Bottle)—

Gills	1/6 per dozen.
Full Pints	2/6
9-Gallon Casks XXX Ale	10/6 each.
9-Gallon Casks (From Burton on Trent)	10/6.

☞ Special attention given to Orders for Funerals and Wedding Parties.

We shall take it as a favour to be informed of anything that is not in good condition, or does not give full satisfaction, in order that we may at once replace it.

GOODS DELIVERED TO ALL PARTS.

JAMES DALY & CO.,

Wish to return thanks to their numerous Customers for their increased patronage during the year, and wish to inform the Public generally that they are offering the best possible value for money in Flour, Groceries and Provisions, Ales, Wines, and Spirits, &c., during the Christmas Season.

We still hold the lead with our celebrated Yorkshire Flour, and intend to keep it.

OUR TEAS recommend themselves at the following prices, 1s, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, and 2s. Our 2s 6d Tea a speciality, no better obtainable, honestly worth 3s per lb.

Currants, Raisins, Spices, Candied Peels, Almonds, Jams, Jellies, Marmalade, Tinned Meats, and Bottled Fruits of all descriptions.

CAKE FLOUR—Snow, Madeira, Cocoanut, Sultana, Almond, Rice, Lemon, Fruit, &c.. 4d per packet.

DALY'S BREAKFAST BACON, and IRISH ROLL, defy competition. A choice selection of (Kingan's) Hams, Rolls, Shoulders, and Sides, Prices from 3½d to 6d per lb.

CHEESE—Dutch, Edam, Cheshire, American, Gorgonzola. American, &c., from 5d to 9d per lb.

Our Pure DANISH and IRISH BUTTER cannot be beaten. We also have a Choice Selection of MARGARINE, and Mixtures.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

We are the Sole Proprietors of the Celebrated DREAMLAND and FAIRYLAND WHISKEYS, and Sole Agents for this District for the ROYAL BLEND as supplied to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. COLERAINE as supplied to the House of Commons, and John Jameson and Sons' Famous Old IRISH WHISKEY.

For Age and Maturity no better Whiskies than the above can be had, as they are specially recommended by the Medical profession.

IRISH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Irish	1s 10d
Good Irish	2s 0d
Old Malt Irish	2s 3d
Parker Green and Co.'s	2s 6d
Dunvilles V.R.	3s 0d
FAIRYLAND (10 Year Old)	3s 0d
COLERAINE (Pure Malt)	3s 6d
John Jameson and Sons	3s 6d

Quarts @ 3/-, 3/6, 4/-, and 4/6.

SCOTCH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Scotch	1s 10d
Good Scotch	2s 0d
Old Matured Scotch	2s 3d
Old Highland	2s 6d
Renowned Highland	3s 0d
Roderick Dhu	3s 0d
Old Glenlivit	3s 0d
Glencadam (8 Years Old)	3s 6d
DREAMLAND (10 Years Old)	3s 6d
ROYAL BLEND	3s 6d

BRANDY.

	Per Bottle
Fine Brandy	3s 6d
Old Do.	4s 0d
Very Old Vintage Brandy	4s 6d
30 Year Old Vintage Brandy	6s 6d

CHAMPAGNE AND OTHER WINES.

GIN.

	Per Bottle.
Good Gin	1s 10d
London Gin	2s 0d
Special Gin	2s 6d
Extra Special Gin	2s 9d
Hollands Gin	2s 9d
Old Hollands Gin	3s 0d

Quarts, 3/-, and 3/6.

RUM.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Rum	1s 10d
Good Rum	2s 0d
Old Jamaica Rum	2s 6d
Very Old Jamaica Rum	3s 0d

Special Rum, 3/-, and 3/6 per quart.

BURGUNDY WINE.
Emu Brand, 2/- per flagon.

PORT WINE.
Spanish Port, 1/-, 1/3, and 1/6 per bottle.
Fine Old Port, 2/- per bottle.
Very Fine Old Port, 2/6 per bottle.
Extra Special Port, 3/- per bottle.
SHERRY WINE, 1/6, 1/9, 2/-, and 2/6 per bottle.
CLARET, 1/6, 1/9, and 2/- per bottle.
GINGER WINE, 1/-, and 1/3.

Agents for VAUX'S PALE ALES and Highly Nourishing STOUT. Pints 2s 9d per dozen; Gills, 1s 9d per dozen. ALSOPP'S ALES and STOUT, 2s 6d per dozen pints. MELVIN'S ALE in Casks of 9 gallons, from 8s. McEWAN and YOUNGER'S ALES on Draught. All orders promptly and accurately executed.

FOR DETAILED PRICE LISTS, APPLY TO
JAMES DALY & CO.,
2, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL, AND FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

THOMAS MACKEY,

Begs to inform the Public that he has commenced Business as STATIONER, BOOKSELLER, TOBACCONIST, AND FANCY GOODS DEALER, in Front Street, Consett (next door to the Post Office), and now invites public inspection to a large and varied Stock of CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR'S CARDS, which comprises the daintiest and most artistic productions of the leading manufacturers. Toys of every possible description! Fancy Goods and Stationery! Christmas Presents and New Year's Gifts to suit all! Before doing your Christmas shopping it will be to your advantage to call and inspect our Christmas Stock—While every taste is respected; Every pocket is protected.

N.B.—Our Annual Large Show of Toys, Cards, and Presents in Special Show Room at rear of Shop in Derwent Street, Blackhill. 493c

GEORGE PARSONS,
THE PEOPLE'S DRAPER,
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT,

IN Thanking his Customers and Friends for their favours in the past expresses the hope that an extension of the same will be accorded him.

He is now showing a special line in MILLINERY, Felt Hats (trimmed and untrimmed,) Children's Bonnets, Aprons, and Babies' Pinafores.

Special Job Lot of Linen and Linen Damask Tablecloths, Fringed and Unfringed Toilet Covers, and Doyleys.

Also, a lot of Huckaback Linen Towels from 9d to 1s 3d, these are worth consideration.

A selection of 'Xmas Cards, Silk Handkerchiefs, and Goods suitable for Seasonable Presents.

XMAS, 1898.

CHARLES A. MARSHALL
(LATE JOSEPH MARSHALL AND SON)
WATCH MAKER, GOLD AND SILVERSMITH, JEWELLER, &c.,
3, SHAKESPEARE ST., AND 26a, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

After "Up-to-date" alterations we are now showing a magnificent stock of JEWELLERY, CLOCKS, ELECTRO-PLATE, WATCHES, and Fancy Goods of Newest Patterns at very low Prices.

The Stock is one of the best ever seen of its kind in the District. In Gold, Dress, and Gem RINGS alone, we have a selection of several Hundreds, in a wide range of Prices.

☞ With WEDDING RINGS and WATCHES at Xmas time we give Extra Special Prizes.

FOR THE LATEST AND BEST CHRISTMAS CARDS AND PRESENTS
GO TO
THOS. J. JACKSON'S,
STATIONERY AND FANCY GOODS EMPORIUM,
FRONT STREET, STANLEY
(Next door to Wesleyan Chapel).

Owing to the great rush last year, we are showing all Cards in Special Show-room. Inspection invited. All-round quality and price defied! Remember that we had the best Cards last year. EXPERIENCE IS THE BEST TEACHER! We have had 16 years experience of the trade, so know what suits the people.

ALL THE LATEST Albums, Purses, Prayer Books, Photo Frames, Pocket Books, Companions, Writing Desks, Work Boxes, Pocket Knives, &c.

SEE OUR WINDOWS ON FRIDAY FIRST, DEC. 9th.

We earnestly ask our friends to come soon and so avoid the crush and disappointment.

PRIVATE XMAS CARDS printed on the premises from 3s. 6d per doz.

LADIES' UNDERWEAR, &c., &c.
UNSHRINKABLE WELSH FLANNEL.
MEN'S SHIRTS, PANTS, VESTS, &c., &c.

Direct from our own Mills, the Largest in South Wales.

Any Garment Shrunk in Washing replaced.
Guaranteed all Home-Grown Wool, and made by HANDS LOOMS.

Four yards of our Flannel equal to Six of the ordinary flannel in the Market.
☞ Prizemen at the Eisteddfodau, and
PATRONISED BY ROYALTY
at the London Exhibition of 1898. Two Shirts will last THREE YEARS.
Ladies' and Gents'. Waterproofs in the latest Style from 14s 6d.
Renowned for Blouses and Dresses.
Suits to measure from 40s.
Seeing is believing, so come and try them.

WILLIAMS & CO.,
FRONT STREET (NEXT DOOR TO THEATRE), CONSETT.

WEST END HOUSE MILLINERY AND FANCY ESTABLISHMENT,
2, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

MESSRS. J. & J. PARKER,

Beg to announce that they have provided very extensively for the coming Festive Season with a varied Stock of Useful, Ornamental, and Fancy Articles, suitable alike for Presents and Decorating your Homes.

SOMETHING FOR THE CHILDREN !!

Dressed Dolls; also, a large assortment of Mechanical and Musical Toys, Games, and many other Novelties too numerous to particularize.

LADIES! GIVE YOUR SPECIAL ATTENTION!

Ladies' White Muslin Aprons, Children's Embroidered Pinafores, the celebrated Mersook Silk Pinafore, Children's Dresses, Hats, Bonnets, Costumes, &c. A Speciality in Ladies' Companions, Fancy Tidies, Silk Pockets, Work Baskets, Needle Cases, Scents, &c. Silk Handkerchiefs, very effective. Ladies' and Children's Kid Gloves. Umbrellas, a splendid assortment.

A LINE FOR GENTLEMEN. MARK THESE, PLEASE!

Cigar and Cigarette Cases, Pouches, Pipes, &c. Call and inspect them. Gentlemen wishing to make a nice Present to a Lady and *vice versa* will do well to pay us a visit.

CARDS! CARDS! BEAUTIFUL CARDS!

A brilliant display. A splendid assortment. Most exquisite designs of Christmas and New Year Cards. In this line we do excel.

Don't miss this grand opportunity. Give us an early call, and
Your homes will be brightened,
Your Children delighted,
If you purchase your Toys at our Stand—
No. 2, FRONT STREET.

P.S.—Fancy Wools kept in Stock.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
DRAPERS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
Are making a
SPECIAL SHOW OF FANCY AND USEFUL GOODS
SUITABLE FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.

Silk and Kid Gloves, Ladies' Umbrellas, Silk and Cambric Handkerchiefs, Aprons, and Wool Wraps, and Fancy Goods. Silk and Woollen Materials suitable for evening wear. White Lisle Hosiery, Cream Silk, Hose. Gent's White Kid Gloves 2B. 1s pair. 601c

EXTENSION OF PREMISES.

"LION TEA WAREHOUSE," DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

GEO. J. ROBINSON,
TEA DEALER, GROCER, PROVISION MERCHANT, AND DRAPER,

Has now completed the Alterations and Additions to his Premises to meet the growing need of his Business, and is fully prepared with an UP-TO-DATE STOCK OF SPECIALITIES FOR THE CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S TRADE.

NEW SEASON'S FRUITS.
Raisins. Muscatels. Sultanas. Valencias. Currants. Figs. Candied Peel.

PROVISIONS.
Butter. Lard. Special Mild Cured Bacon. Splendid Mild Hams. Rich Cheese. Finest Quality Cheshire. Choice Stilton. Special Consignment of Wensleydales and Edams.

Try our HOUSEHOLD TEA at 1s. 4d. and 1s. 8d., extra quality and blend.

JABEZ SWINDALE,
(ASSOCIATE OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN),
DISPENSING AND CONSULTING CHEMIST,
BLACKHILL.

SPECIALITIES.

PURE DRUGS, FINE CHEMICALS FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, &c. NURSING AND SICK ROOM REQUISITES, SURGICAL APPLIANCES, TRUSSES, &c., SUPPOSITORIES AT WHOLESALE PRICES, SYRUPS, CHEMICAL FOOD. Our preparation is a beautiful Article, and well worth noticing.

OINTMENTS.—We give Special Attention to the Manufacture of all Ointment. Try our OINTMENT for TOILET USE, in 6d. Boxes.

GRANULAR EFFERVESCING SALTS.—ANY RECIPE MADE UP ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.

DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTIONS.—WE HAVE EXCEPTIONAL EXPERIENCE IN THIS DEPARTMENT.

GENUINE CORN SOLVENT (PROF. DRUMMOND'S RECIPE). PAINLESS AND EFFECTIVE, IN 6d. BOTTLES.

ANALYSES—CHEMICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL.

BRANCH ESTABLISHMENTS—
SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT, & FRONT STREET, LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

HENRY WALKER & SON, LTD.,
FOR
CHIMNEY PIECES, STOVES, KITCHEN RANGES, TILE HEARTHS, SANITARY GOODS, GASFITTINGS, FURNISHING IRONMONGERY, and BUILDERS' HARDWARE, AND EVERY DESCRIPTION OF HOUSEHOLD AND KITCHEN UTENSILS.
DISTRICT AGENTS FOR THE BOWES' PATENT "[illegible] FIRE"
DISTRICT AGENTS FOR THE "EAGL[illegible] GRATES.
HEATING, VENTILATING, AND [illegible] IRONFOUNDERS, SMITHS, PLUMBERS [illegible] HANGERS,
SOLE MAKERS OF [illegible] BOILERS.
No more [illegible]
WORKS: GALLOWGATE IRON WORKS.
WAREHOUSE: 55, WESTGATE ROAD, NEWCASTLE.

TELEPHONE: "BAKERY, MELBOURNE STREET, NEWCASTLE, 1369."

JOHN HUME AND SON,
CONFECTIONERS AND BAKERS,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

CHRISTMAS CAKES.
BIRTHDAY CAKES.
CHRISTENING CAKES.
WEDDING CAKES
(ICED AND ORNAMENTED TO ORDER)

School Treats, Public Teas, Social Gatherings catered for on best terms.
Funeral Orders promptly attended to.
High-class Cholocates and Confectionery always on hand.

AGENTS FOR
BROOKE, BOND'S HIGH-CLASS TEAS.
They sell 1-lb. in every 19-lb. of Tea consumed in all Great Britain. This fact is the best proof of value. 524c

IT IS AN ASTONISHING FACT THAT EVERYONE WHO IS ILL AND CANNOT GET CURED GO AT ONCE TO

GEO. PATTRICK,
CHEMIST, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
WHO HAS MADE SOME MARVELLOUS RESTORATIONS TO HEALTH IN CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS.
GO TO HIM AT ONCE IF YOU ARE NOT WELL. THOUSANDS OF CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY.

"WHAT YOU'LL WANT AND WHERE YOU'LL GET IT."

FOR your GROCERIES, Choice, Cheap, and Good New Season's Fruit, from the Best Markets.
FOR your Provisions, Mild Cured Hams, and Bacons, Rich Succulent Cheese.
FOR your Draperies, this Department is especially replete
FOR the Christmas and Winter Season.
FOR your Boots, Shoes, and Slippers, elegant, easy, strong, and hard-wearing.
FOR your Clothes.
Ready-mades and made-to-order deserves attention, best fit and quality guaranteed.

The BUTCHERING DEPARTMENT has this year been stocked with Beef, Mutton, and Pork, from the most noted Breeders and Feeders in the District.

CENTRAL STORES:—SHOTLEY BRIDGE;
BRANCH:—DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

THE FINEST FRUITS OF THE SEASON.
FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S, NEW SEASON'S FRUITS.

Have arrived and cannot fail to evoke the hearty appreciation of all who see and try them. They are

CLEAN, FLESHY, DELICIOUS, ECONOMICAL.

Large Variety of Goods suitable for Christmas and New Year.

SPECIALITY: Challenge Check Tea at 2/- and 2/6 per lb.; 6d. Check with every pound.

Their Grocery and Provision Departments are Stocked with a variety of CHRISTMAS GOODS—Currants Raisins, Muscatels, Figs, Oranges, Grapes, Apples, and a large Assortment of Cakes at lowest prices. They have also a supply of excellent Bacon, Shoulders, Rolls, Butter, Lard, and Cheese of various kinds—including Prize Cheshire from the great Cheese Shows.

Their DRAPERY DEPARMTENT comprises a lot of Useful and Seasonable Goods suitable for presents. White and Fancy Aprons; Silk Lace, and Embroidered Motto Handkerchiefs; Pincushions Point Guipure Collars, Mob Caps, Novelties in made up Lace Collarettes, Ladies Fur-top Lined Kid Gloves, Gents' Lined Kid Gloves, Gents' Silk Handkerchiefs and Mufflers, Ties, Collars, Shirts, Fronts, Hosiery, &c.

SEE OUR CHRISTMAS WINDOWS.

The Thrifty Housewife invests wisely when she purchases at
FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,
DRAPERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

QUALITY IS THE TRUE TEST OF CHEAPNESS:

DRYDEN'S CHRISTMAS SALE,
(Proprietors of the Glenfyne Blend),
At 65, FRONT STREET, CONSETT (next door to the North-Eastern Bank).

Our Brands of Wines and Spirits have established a name for quality and purity second to none in the County, and the celebrated Glenfyne has become a household word, while our Wines have proved the best value in the trade.

We purchase all our Wines and Spirits in the Countries of their production, and Bottle them in our Duty Paid Stores, thereby saving the numerous profits charged by Agents, and enabling us to give our Customers superior Goods at lowest possible prices.

SCOTCH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Scotch Whiskey	2s
H.M. Special Blend (Our Own)	2s 6d
O.V.G. Glenlivit	3s
Old Glenfyne	3s
Old Glenfyne, the Cream of Whiskies	3s 6d
Old Melrose, 2 gallon casks	24s per gallon
Fine Scotch	3s per quart

BRANDIES.

	Per Bottle.
Cognac Brandy	3s 6d
Fine Pale Brandy	4s
Fine Old (Our Own Blending)	4s 6d
Old 10 years Old Pale Brandy	6s and 6s 6d

Hennessey and Martell's always in stock.

GIN.

	Per Bottle.
Gin	1s 9d and 2s
Finest London	2s 6d and 2s 9d
Very Special (Cream)	3s
Hollands Gin	2s 6d and 3s
Good Quality	3s per quart
Schweppe (Aromatic)	3s

PORT WINE.

	Per Bottle.
Good Sound Port Wine	1s, 1s 3d, and 1s 6d
Vintage Style (Grand Value)	2s
Vintage Style bottled 2 years	2s 6d
Jubilee Port, very fine	3s
Old Vintage Wines	3s 6d to 5s
Our Invalid Port specially recommended by the Medical Faculty	3s
Glendinning's Malt, Beef, and Wine,	2s and 3/9

BRITISH WINES.

	Per Bottle.
Ginger, Rasp, Orange, &c.	1s and 1s 3d
A Special Green Ginger	1s 6d
Australian Burgundy	1s 6d and 2s per flagon.

IRISH WHISKEY.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Irish Whiskey	2s
Special Blend (Our Own)	2s 6d
Mitchell's Old, Our Own, (15 years)	3s & 3s 6d
Mitchell's Very Old	4s
The famous Quarts	3s

RUM.
Vatted Specially for T.D.D. & Co.

	Per Bottle.
Vatted Rum	2s and 2s 6d
Very Special Qualities	3s and 3s 6d
A Wonderful Rum	3s per quart

The best value in the trade.

CHAMPAGNE & MOSELLE.
Champagne from 26s per case to 84s
Hock and Burgundy a Special Line.

SHERRIES.

	Per Bottle.
Fine Bright Sherry	1s, 1s 6d, and 2s 6d
Jubilee	2s 6d
Vino De Pasto, old	3s
Royal Jubilee Vintage	3s
Old Bottled	4s

CLARETS.

Gova Claret	1s, 1s 6d, and 2s
Chateau Poimet, Special Value	2s
1897 Medoc and St. Julian	2s and 2 6d
Chasteau La Rose & other Old Vintage Wines	3s & 4s

SPRUCE BEER, 1s 4d per Bottle.

Syphons: Soda, Potass, and other Waters 4d each, Bass's Beer in bottles and Casks.

Salt's and Co.'s Beer in Bottles, and 4½ and 9 gallon casks, 5s 6d, 6s 6d, and 10s 6d.

Vaux Beer and Stout in gills and pints. Awarded the Prize Medal at the Health Exhibition.

Family Ales, 18 gallons for 18s.

Dryden's Family Ale, 1s 6d, 2s 9d; 9 Gallon Casks, 10s, 12s.

Baxter's Beer, 9 gallons, 18 gallons.

Allsopp's Pints—Ale, 2s 6d dozen.
Stout, 2s 6d dozen.

Choice Cigars in Stock.

A Beautiful Decanter, holding full bottle of Whiskey, 3s. 6d. and 4s. Special Value.

FULL SPIRIT AND WINE PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

ALL GOODS DELIVERED FREE BY OUR OWN CARTS.

We would ask you to look at our Groceries, Italian Goods, and Provision Department, without doubt THE BEST SELECTION IN TOWN.

P.S.—On account of the great crush at our establishments on Christmas and New Year's Eve, we respectfully ask our patrons to kindly favour us with their Orders as early as possible, so that they may be attended to with care and promptitude.

Everything we sell is guaranteed to be as labelled.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESS—
T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,
GROCERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT Next Door to North-Eastern Bank.

FOOTBALL

THE "GUARDIAN" SKILL COMPETITION.

JANUARY 6th, 1899.

	Goals		
Consett Swifts ..		Newburn	
Stanley		South Shields	
Spen		Annfield Plain ..	
Sunderland A....		Leadgate Park	

Name ....

Address ....

....

TWO GUINEAS FOR [illegible]

Competitors are requested [illegible] d the appended rules, and then [illegible] coupon and leave it at our offic[illegible] before 12 o'clock on Saturday mor[illegible]

RULES.

A prize of TWO GUINEAS will be offered each week to the person, or persons, who correctly forecast the results and number of goals scored in the four matches mentioned in the coupon. In the event of more than one being correct, the prize will be divided between the winners.

In the event of no one being exactly right, a Consolation Prize of 5/- will be given for the best or nearest attempt at four correct results.

Coupons must be sent in addressed "Off-side," "Guardian," Consett, and marked "Football Competition," NOT LATER THAN 12 O'CLOCK ON SATURDAY MORNING. This rule will be strictly adhered to, and all letters arriving late will be destroyed unopened.

Should anyone be dissatisfied with a result, he can have the coupons scrutinised by depositing 2/6, which will be returned if a mistake is found. The appeal must be made within two days after result is made known. A person may send in as many coupons as he likes in one envelope, on condition that they are fastened together, and that the coupons are all in his name. One halfpenny will NOT cover the postage, and any letters insufficiently stamped will be refused.

All employees at this Office are debarred from taking part in the competition.

The prize money will be paid to the winners on the Monday after the announcement of the result.

If any other question should arise which is not covered in the above rules, the decision of "Off-side," the football editor, will be final.

MATCHES.

Burnhope Rovers beat Sacriston Rovers by three goals to two.

Craghead Juniors beat Tribly Star Juniors on Saturday by one goal to nil.

Craghead Juniors defeated West Pelton Rovers by three goals to nil on Monday.

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's and Mr J. Hughes played a draw of one goal each on Monday.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. DELVES LANE UNITED.

Played at Blackhill. The home men had most of the play, and were leading at half-time by two goals to nil. Play in the second half was very fast, Delves Lane scoring once. A hard game ended in a win for Blackhill by two goals to one.

CHESTER-LE-STREET v. SUNDERLAND SELBOURNE.

This match took place at Chester-le-Street on Monday last before a small attendance. Teams:—

Chester-le-Street.—Goal, Elliot; backs Willis and C. Harle; half-backs, J. Quinn, T. Quinn, and Hughes; forwards, Grievson, Daley, Ritson, Pentland, and F. Clark.

Selbourne.—Goal, Wilson; backs, Reed and Robson; half-backs, Rogerson, Liddle, and Ferguson; forwards, Downs, Pearson, Smith, Mather, and Jackson.

The visitors commenced operations, but Chester-le-Street quickly forced their way down, and two corners fell to them, but they proved fruitless. The homesters, keeping up the pressure, forced another corner, and Grievson opened the scoring. Selbourne were kept penned in their own half for some time, but at last managed to get away, and Elliot had to save twice in succession. Harle handled the ball within the twelve yards' line and a penalty kick was given to Selbourne, and Smith scored. The homesters went straight away to the visitors' goal and Daley gave Chester-le-Street the lead. End-to-end play followed, the homesters having the best of matters. A foul against Selbourne was sent past, and Ritson sent over the line a second later. The homesters were making the Wearsiders' defence work hard, and Selbourne were not able to make any headway. Daley shot into the goal-mouth and Clark tipped into the net. A few minutes later the whistle announced half-time, when the score stood:—

Chester-le-Street .... Three goals
Sunderland Selbourne ...... One goal

Chester-le-Street quickly asserted their superiority by scoring, Ritson being responsible for the goal. Elliott was called upon to save, and then Chester paid another visit to the Sunderland end, but they were sent to the rightabout, and Selbourne scored an off-side goal. After this the homesters just did what they liked with Selbourne, and it was not long before Pentland added the fifth goal, and a minute later the same played scored the sixth. Selbourne were now quite mastered, and Chester-le-Street had a runaway victory, the score being:—

Chester-le-Street .... Six goals
Sunderland Selbourne ...... One goal

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

TOW LAW v. LEADGATE PARK.

At Tow Law on Saturday, before a moderate attendance. The homesters started well together, Hymers opening the score with a clinking shot. The Park retaliated, Foster and company working their way to the home citadel, where matters were equalised. The visitors still maintained the pressure, and No. 2 was netted. At half-time the Park led by two goals to one. In the second period, after a quarter of an hour's play, the referee stopped the game presumably on account of the misty weather, although no one appeared to know the precise reason for him doing so. Final—

Leadgate Park .... Two goals.
Tow Law .... One goal

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

LEADGATE PARK RESERVE v. TANTOBIE.

These teams met on the ground of the former on Saturday afternoon in very miserable weather. The ground was in a very slippery condition, which made it very hard work for the players to keep their feet. When the referee got the teams together they faced each other as under:—

Leadgate Park.—Goal, J. Calvert; backs, W. Walton and A. Aitkin; half-backs, D. Cartmell, R. Dawson, and J. Birtley; forwards, J. Harper, C. Todd, W. Crowther, T. Cook, and C. Walton.

Tantobie.—Goal, J. Brown; backs, Jordan and R. Atkinson; half-backs, Hanover, Elliott, and Gladders; forwards, Fletcher, Hindhaugh, McKever, Beck, and Dick.

Referee, Mr H. Cruddas, Iveston.

The spin of the coin resulted in favour of the home lads, who elected to kick towards the entrance goal with the wind in their favour. Tantobie set the ball in motion, and after a few exchanges in mid-field were awarded "hands," which proved of great advantage to them and they reached the low goal, the home custodian and backs having plenty of work for a time, but a neat run on the part of Cook and Walton carried play to the visitors' quarters, but Jordan relieved with a huge kick, and once more the home goal was in danger, but Aitkin returned. The home forwards now travelled towards the entrance goal, where Harper beat Brown with a good shot. From the centre kick the home forwards again took up the attack and carried play well up the field, but Jordan was true to his charge. Hindhaugh and Fletcher getting possession made a splendid run down the wing, the home halves and backs being kept busy for a while, but at last the pressure was relieved by Dawson placing well up the field, and a bit of good play took place in front of the visitors' goal, ending in Harper sending behind. From the goal-kick Tantobie tried hard to reach the Park quarters, but could not penetrate the defence opposed to them, and when the whistle sounded the score stood as under:—

Leadgate Park Reserve ...... One goal
Tantobie .... Nil

On crossing over the visiting forwards went away with a rush, but only managed to reach the half-backs, where Birtley returned in fine fashion, and once again the visitors were put on the defensive, T. Cook adding a second goal for his side. From the centre kick the homesters again took up the attack, and Cook again beat Brown with a fast shot. After the centre kick end-to-end play was the order of the game for a while until the home forwards again got the upper hand, and the attack was not relieved until C. Walton had netted the fourth goal, the whistle sounding immediately after for time. Score:—

Leadgate Park Reserve ...Four goals
Tantobie .... Nil

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

LEADGATE EXILES v. STANLEY.

In miserable weather these teams met on the Brooms ground on Saturday, before a very moderate attendance. It was after three o'clock ere the teams lined up as under:—

Stanley—Goal, G. Morris; backs, M. Joyce and T. Bell; half-backs, J. Cox, E. Buck, and J. Sutherland; forwards, A. Graham, W. Ellis, S. Wood, J. Dodds, and J. Masterman.

Leadgate Exiles—Goal, V. McGurkin; backs, J. Daly and J. Monaghan; half-backs, C. McAloon, P. Clark, and Greener; forwards, J. Grant, Roland, M. Brannen, J. Brannen, and G. Lock.

The spin of the coin went in favour of the Exiles, who choose to play with the strong wind at their backs. Wood set the ball in motion, but the home men quickly took up the attack, Joyce and Bell having a warm time of it. The visitors defended well, but the pressure was too severe, and eventually Grant credited his side with the first point of the game. The Stanley forwards indulged in some nice passing hereabouts, in which Wood and Dodds were prominent, but a big kick by Daly drove them back again, and once more play was raging at the railway end, Buck putting in some clever work and getting the ball out of danger. Grant returned and put over to the left, from whence Brannen had a long shot, and Morris made no attempt to stop it, evidently thinking that the ball had previously been in touch, but such was not the case, and the Exiles were two up. The visitors did their level best to notch a goal, and after some nice passing all along the line Wood seemed to have a chance; but he was just too late, and Monaghan cleared. The home forwards raced away, and Roland centred, a scrimmage ensuing in the Stanley goal-mouth, out of which Lock credited his side with their third point. Half-time:—

Leadgate Exiles .... Three goals
Stanley .... Nil

With the wind to aid them the visitors quickly made their presence felt, the front rank (well fed by the halves) being continually dangerous. McGuckin got away several warm shots in praiseworthy fashion, especially a difficult one from the toe of Buck. However, Stanley would not be denied, and ultimately Sam Wood scored a clever goal. The visitors now played harder than ever, firing in shots from all sides, but Daly, Monaghan, and McGuckin offered a sturdy resistance. Graham and Ellis now had a good run, and the former centred right into the goal-mouth, and, although the leather was temporarily rejected, Wood got hold and put through the second point. The Exiles tried their utmost to get within shooting distance, but the defence was too much for them. Wood initiated a nice passing movement, which was taken up by Dodds and Masterman, a corner being forced off Daly, and this was well placed to Sam Wood, who scored his third goal and put the teams on level terms. Shortly afterwards the light became so bad that the referee was compelled to stop the game, there being still some 15 minutes to play. Final:—

Leadgate Exiles .... Three goals
Stanley .... Three goals

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. ALLENDALE PARK.

The above teams met on the Vicarage Field, Consett, before a poor attendance, and in very stormy weather, the ground being covered with snow. There was a strong wind blowing up the field. The visitors arrived late, consequently the referee was obliged to stop the game 10 minutes before time owing to darkness. Teams:—

Consett Swifts—Goal, S. Johnson; backs, G. Wood and J. Finnigan; half-backs, Lee, Harrison, and Atkinson; forwards, B. Rafferty, T. Spence, J. Finnigan, P. Smith, and J. Dempsey.

Allendale Park—Goal, Armstrong; backs, W. Hunter and M. Walton; half-backs, T. Winter, T. Walton, and T. Walton; forwards, T. Brown, G. Craig, R. Milligan, W. Thompson, and J. Stokoe.

The homesters won the toss, and played against the wind and snow first half. Milligan kicked off for Allendale, who soon got near the home goal, but Wood relieved by sending to Rafferty, who came down the right wing and transferred to Harrison, who in turn shot by. Armstrong next saved from Smith, and Allendale broke away, Winter making a good attempt. Rafferty missed at the other end when nicely placed, Armstrong gave a corner in saving a good shot by Finnigan, Rafferty sending behind from the corner kick. Atkinson was penalised for handling, but nothing resulted. The Swifts again assumed the aggressive, and Rafferty made a capital centre. Smith received, but was robbed by Thompson Walton when in the act of shooting. Winter handled, and after the free kick Finnigan grazed the upright—a capital attempt. Dempsey next had a try, but shot wide. Smith was presented with a good chance of scoring, but shot wildly over the cross-bar. Finnigan was fouled, but nothing resulted from the free kick. Finnigan (the home centre forward) ran through the whole lot, and just failed to score. Armstrong saved splendidly from Spence. It was remarkable how the visitors' goal escaped downfall, considering the persistent efforts of the Swifts' forwards. M. Walton made a good save when hard pressed. The homesters, although playing against the wind, continued to bombard the visitors' goal which had several narrow escapes. The Swifts gained another corner, but Rafferty again placed behind. The home men continued to remain at the visitors' end until the whistle sounded half-time without either team having scored.

The storm had increased somewhat when Finnigan re-started for Consett. End-to-end play resulted for a few minutes until Harrison received, and with a long shot beat Armstrong completely. Immediately after the re-start, Harrison again troubled Armstrong who was getting plenty of work. The second goal (a regular beauty) came from the home centre forward, Finnigan, who made no mistake. Allendale wakened up a bit and forced matters. They were awarded a corner, which, however, proved abortive. Rafferty and Spence made a good run up the right wing, the former just failing to score. The third goal, which was the best scored during the game, was a long, dropping shot by Spence, and completely baffled Armstrong, just passing under the bar. Some of the players wanted the game stopped owing to the state of the weather, but the referee decided to play on. The Swifts continued the pressure and came very near scoring on several occasions. Spence once just failed to draw blood with a good shot, and the home forwards continued to combine well until the referee stopped the game about 10 minutes off time, owing to darkness, the final score being a decisive win for Consett as follows:—

Consett Swifts .... Three goals.
Allendale Park .... Nil.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

SUNDERLAND NOMADS v. BIRTLEY.

Birtley journeyed to Sunderland on Saturday last to face the Nomads, on the Blue House ground, Hendon. The supporters of the Birtley club were not at all sure of the result, the Nomads having played a draw of one goal each with Newcastle United A. The homesters won the toss, and Birtley starting the Nomads' defence was tested. The Nomads, however, made a grand run down the field, and Lambert tested Kinnear, who proved to be quite safe. Birtley returned to the attack, and were looking very dangerous, but owing to the bad state of the ground shooting was out of the question. The Nomads again pressed, and they were making things hum, but the Birtley defence proved quite equal to the task. The leather was taken to mid-field, where it remained for some time, until the Nomads again attacked, and Jefferson getting his head on the ball opened the scoring on behalf of the Nomads. The homesters pressed for a short time, but the Birtley defence was as good as ever, and the Nomads were kept at bay. End-to-end play now became the order, and no further scoring taking place half-time arrived with:—

Sunderland Nomads .... One goal
Birtley .... Nil

Shortly after the re-start Lavery equalised the score. The homesters pressed for a long time, but always failed at the final effort, and when time arrived Birtley had added their third "away" point to their total, the score reading:—

Sunderland Nomads .... One goal
Birtley .... One goal

STANLEY v. NEWCASTLE UNITED A.

Much interest was evinced in the meeting of these teams at Stanley on Monday. Last season the west team succeeded in annexing three points at the expense of the Tynesiders, and although in their first encounter this season at Newcastle the visitors were beaten by 5 to 1, the visitors were subsequently deprived of the points for playing Niblo, who was not registered. The United therefore have no reason to be elated over their encounters with Stanley. On the other hand, Stanley people are always pleased to receive a visit from the Alliance champions, and the attendance at Oakey's numbered about 3,000. The following were the teams:—

Stanley—Goal, G. Morris; backs, Joyce and Bell; half-backs, Pearson, Buck, and Redpath; forwards, Graham, Ellis, Howe, Dodds, and Masterman.

Newcastle United A.—Goal, C. Watts; backs, Lockey and Knifton; half-backs, Lamb, Birnie, and Carr; forwards, Mowat, Milburn, Hedley, Bartlett, and Milne.

Referee Mr. W. H. Bewley, Newcastle.

Martin Joyce won the toss and set the visitors the task of kicking off towards the railway end goal. Jake Dodds met Hedley's kick-off, and rapid exchanges sent the leather out of play. From the throw-in Masterman and Howe got away and sent to touch close to the United line. From here Mowat had a solo run, but Hedley being off-sides spoiled a chance. Morris declined to risk chances all the same, and threw out. Pearson afforded an opening, but the ball was sent over. Howe and Masterman then had a turn with Mowat and Milburn, and Howe sent in a shot which just missed by inches. Immediately following Ellis beat Bartlett, and shot across to Dodds, who had a grand opening, but let the ball past him. Still the homesters pressed, and Watts had a handful to deal with from the left wing. The visitors now worked down on the right, and from a throw-in Morris had to concede a corner. Pearson headed away, and play was transferred to the United end, where a corner fell to Stanley and Masterman's placing ended in the ball being sent over. Joyce put a stop to a run by Hedley, and Bartlett and a free kick to Stanley, taken by Bell, was sent over. A rapid run down the right wing by Mowat resulted in the ball being sent to Morris, who was unable to gather, and Bartlett coming up in the nick of time sent through. Play was kept up on the United's left wing, but without effect, and then the ball was sent gradually over to Milne, who was pulled up by Joyce. Some give-and-take play followed until Joyce, Graham, and Ellis got the ball away, and Stanley appeared to be well placed, but a goal kick ensued. Soon after Mowat got away again and sent to Bartlett, who missed a rare chance, the ball passing harmlessly outside. After a brief spell in the home quarter Stanley made an incursion, but were quickly repulsed and placed on the defensive. The visitors were penned in the corner until a goal-kick gave relief. A foul by Mowat who was being splendidly fed by his colleagues, led to the ball being sent to the centre. From here it was sent to Morris, who ran out and cleared. Another foul in favour of Stanley gave a chance, but the ball was sent high over. Stanley kept up pressure now, and from the right wing the leather was sent to Watts, who kept his charge safe. Immediately after United raced down, and from a free kick looked very dangerous, but Morris cleverly saved. The visitors were now holding most of the game, and from a corner well placed by Mowat the leather was headed over the bar. In the case of another free kick the ball was sent out, and Graham had an opening, but was declared off-side. Bad shooting by United lost them a point, and Buck got in a capital saving shot. Birnie then had an essay, and although it was a good attempt, it failed to effect the purpose. A foul to United in a good position ended in the ball being sent over and then Pearson, with a determination which could not be denied, fairly beat Hedley, Bartlett and Milne, and soon after Watts had some difficulty in keeping his charge intact. Half-time was now called with the score:—

Newcastle United A. ...... One goal.
Stanley .... None.

Howe re-started, and the visitors at once rushed up and sent over. A handful to Morris was cleared, and Howe was instrumental in sending down, Masterman ending by kicking over. A centre from Masterman to Howe and a pass to Dodds gave the latter a chance, but he failed. Another splendid centre by Masterman looked dangerous, and Watts had some difficulty in clearing. Stanley were decidedly aggressive and Watts had a hard shot to fist away. From here the visitors had a look in, and Morris was twice called upon to keep the entrance goal record clear. The game continued to be severely contested, and although the visitors were more resourceful they were hard put to it and on more than one occasion had to adopt tactics which were not altogether commendable. Carr had a shy which Morris had no trouble in clearing, but a corner immediately followed, which the homesters nicely cleared. Masterman and Howe looked like getting away, but the ball was passed to Ellis, who slipped, and play was immediately taken to the Stanley goal, where a corner accrued to the visitors. It was splendidly placed, but as cleverly cleared by Bell. After a bad shot by Birnie, Howe got away, and after a good run passed to Masterman, who was forced into touch. The visitors again got along, and although they made strenuous efforts they were unable to get through. Play now eased down considerably until Howe got away, and smartly dodging he passed to Ellis, who sent into Watts' hands. The game was again opened out, and once more became exciting, but neither side could claim any real advantage. So the game continued up to the call of time, when Newcastle were able to claim victory with the score standing:—

Newcastle United A. ...... One goal
Stanley .... None

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

CHESTER-LE-STREET II. v. WALDRIDGE II.

These teams met at Chester-le-Street on Saturday last, under the auspices of the Chester-le-Street and District League (Junior Division.) The homesters had a strong wind in their favour during the first half, but they could only score once through Williams, the visitors playing a grand game. The teams crossed over with Chester-le-Street leading by a goal to nil. Andrews scored the second goal for the homesters and Waldridge scored once. Owing to a late start, through the visitors' late arrival, darkness was rapidly setting down, and the referee (Mr. R. Bland) stopped the game, the score being—

Chester-le-Street .... Two goals.
Waldridge .... One goal.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "OFF-SIDE."]

An Abandoned Game.

It is a curious fact, but nevertheless true, that although the days are now so short in many instances players seem to take less trouble than ever in making a punctual start, and as a consequence we read of match after match being stopped owing to darkness. This was the case at the Brooms on Saturday, where Stanley and the Exiles met in a North-West Durham Alliance game. The visitors did not arrive until the time announced for the kick-off, but when they did turn out another wearisome delay occurred, as the Exiles could not manage to get a team together. The veteran Monaghan was pressed into service again, whilst V. McGuckin appeared between the sticks, and only some five or six of those selected to play thought it worth while putting in an appearance. This is very hard upon the committee, who, in the face of great difficulties, are doing their utmost to keep a team together, and the players might surely show a little more interest in the welfare of the club than what has been the case during the past three or four weeks. If the players won't turn up when chosen what encouragement is there for the committee to bother themselves about the team at all?

—o—

Stanley were not at full strength, playing two reserves at half-back in the places of Pearson and Redpath. It was ten minutes past three when a start was effected, and, although the visitors wished to curtail the time, the Exiles objected to this, and consequently two "three-quarters" were entered upon at this ridiculous time of the day so that little wonder need be felt that the game had to be abandoned ere time had expired. I do not propose to criticise the game at length, as the condition of the ground was all against a great game, and, in fact, in parts it was absolutely dangerous. With the wind blowing dead into the railway goal it was only natural that the team having this factor in their favour should have nearly all the play. Daly named the coin correctly, and consequently his men had a lengthy spell of attacking—and to some tune too. Grant was not long in opening the Exiles' account, and Brannen followed with another which Morris let through owing to a misunderstanding, or else he could have easily have saved it. Before the interval Lock (the old Parkite) made the total into three. When it came to their turn to have the wind behind them the visitors quickly made things hum, and they severely taxed the home defence, but McGuckin kept a good goal. Sam Wood rubbed off one of the points against his side with a clever effort, and the veteran followed this up by notching a second from a scrimmage and heading a beauty from a corner. With 15 minutes to go the referee stopped the game owing to darkness, the fog being very thick.

—o—

Although there were some clever pieces of play at times, the wind and fog went far to spoil the match. Each team held the upper hand when favoured by the breeze. Considering the team they had the Exiles did much better than could have been expected, but there is no denying the fact that Stanley were the superior lot, and had the game been finished they would most likely have won. The visiting forwards were a smart set, and they were admirable led by Sam Wood, who played a capital game in the centre, and likewise had the honour of scoring all three goals. Graham and Dodds were smart, Ellis passed well, but Masterman has been seen to more advantage. Buck played finely at half, having lost little of his old cleverness, and Cox and Sutherland are a promising pair. Joyce and Bell did well at back, but Morris hardly seemed to bother himself a great deal in goal. Grant and Brannen were perhaps the pick of the home forwards, Lock being rather rusty at present. Clark is a capital half, and put in nice work, as did also McAloon, and Greener was anything but a failure. Daly was in good trim at back, whilst Monaghan showed up surprisingly well, and is certainly a wonder considering the many years he has been playing. In goal McGuckin made a capital show, many of his saves being executed in splendid fashion, and if he should be induced to take the post permanently it will be a good thing for the Exiles, who have been sorely troubled for a goal-keeper since Callaghan's departure.

—o—

Another Unsatisfactory Game.

With four of their regular team off Consett were still able to account for Allendale with three goals to spare. The visitors too were poorly represented. Like many matches of late, however, the game was brought to an abrupt termination by reason of darkness overtaking the game. It was most unfortunate for Consett that Allendale turned up late, as there was only ten more minutes to play when the referee stopped play. The points ought certainly to be awarded to the home team, inasmuch as Allendale themselves were clearly the defaulters, and a well beaten team to boot. Johnson (the home custodian) apparently did'nt have a single dangerous shot to stop, which fact of itself is a forcible indication of the character of the play. Where little is required little is expected, therefore the home custodian is "critic-proof" so far as his display is concerne [illegible] gan and Wood at full back be [illegible] strongly and tackled well, but the [illegible] made upon them were likew [illegible] onerous or worrying. Harrison [illegible] selection in the half back trio, [illegible] a pretty goal. Atkinson and Lee also played a good game. Rafferty and Spence were a vigorous and clean wing, especially the former, who shewed admirable form on this occasion. If kept together they ought to generate into a splendid right wing pair. Finnigan in the centre as a "trier" also proved a success, and although only one of last year's juniors bids fair to become a useful and sterling player. Smith and Dempsey, too, got in some good work on the left, the latter figuring very well as the outside man.

—o—

For the losers, Armstrong in goal gave a very creditable display on the whole, but was decidedly better in the first period of the game than the second. In the first half he got through a lot of work, but the full backs, contrary to their usual display, were a trifle weak. Perhaps the holidays had something to do with it. The halves, Winter and Waltons (2) did better, and broke up the combination of the Consett forwards very notably at times. The visiting forwards, however, were only weak, and especially in front of goal, or they should have managed the trick on more than one occasion.

—o—

Stanley Entertain United A.

"A good game." Such was the universal verdict after the match at Oakey's between Stanley and Newcastle United A. Many thought a draw would have more closely represented the day's play, but opinions were divided as to whether the draw should have been nil on each side or a goal each. For my part, I think the goal scored by United was well deserved. It came from good initial play, and, what is more, it came from the hardest worked wing of the Newcastle side. Mowat, the best fed man of a good feeding day, gave Morris a teaser, and the Stanley custodian was endeavouring to clear when Bartlett jumped in and notched a goal. It seemed soft, but it wasn't. It was a good goal and was played for. Many teams would do well to take a lesson thereby. Goals are got by persistence, persistence is realised by organisation, and organisation is acquired by practice. Hence the Tynesiders' success. It was a goal— and it won the match. Why didn't Stanley equalise? They made bold bids for it, and especially so in the early stages of the second half. The answer to the question lies in the fact that Watts excelled, and probably has not been seen to better advantage even in the days of his first team experience. Without a doubt he saved his side.

—o—

In the first part of the game Newcastle were undoubtedly the better team. But they played for more than they got. They appeared to have tremendous confidence in their left wing. In my opinion, they bore too much in that direction. In other words they overdid their confidence. Had they distributed their play more they might have done better, for then they would not have had the opposing team focussed upon them so much. They held the upper hand, but with the exception referred to they failed to score. In the second half it was anybody's game. Howe, ably assisted at times by Masterman, shone to great advantage, and I have no hesitation in saying that he was the best forward of the day. Mowat and Masterman were splendid outside men for their respective sides. Jake Dodds should have rested after his Blyth collision, Ellis played well, and Graham showed considerable improvement. Pearson, Buck and Redpath were all there, and I adhere to previously expressed opinions that they are as good a half-back line as will be found in the Alliance. Joyce and Bell gave a good account of themselves, and Morris, especially in the second half, performed well in goal. He was anxious to keep the entrance end intact and he succeeded. Watts was more secure in the second than in the first half, and played remarkably well. Lockey was decidedly off, and Birnie did not come up to expectations. Hedley at centre forward was a good deal short of Howe, but the others of the half-back and forward lines played in sterling fashion and were worthy of the praise bestowed upon them. Taking it from beginning to end, I can only repeat my opening sentence, "A good game."

—o—

Stanley, like other unfortunates, having been driven out of the cup competition have had vacant dates thrust upon them, but unlike others, they have, as it happens turned a misfortune into a miniature gold pot. On Monday they had a good gate in their encounter with Newcastle, on Saturday South Shields, fellow "pot" unfortunates, have arranged to play their postponed Alliance match at Oakey's, and on the following Saturday Hebburn have agreed to fill up another otherwise cup date. Three good home matches off the reel. Well, they deserve it, and I hope the exchequer may swell and keep swelling.

—o—

The Park at Tow Law.

Both the Park and Tow Law men will tell you that you can look forward to bad weather whenever they meet, and really after this season's experience I have become a strong believer in this. When the teams first met earlier on at Leadgate it was one of the most miserable days of the season, and on Saturday, when the return came off at Tow Law, there was another nice sample on tap. Last season the Park beat Joe Temperley's boys on their own ground, and they made the journey on Saturday with the determination to try and repeat the feat. Unfortunately for the visitors, the game was not finished. I say unfortunately advisedly, because when operations were suspended the Park were leading by two to one, and so well were they going that they seemed likely to maintain their lead. However, the game came to a summary close, the referee suddenly doing a "bunk." It did not seem exactly clear why he took this step, some saying that it was owing to the bad weather, whilst others were of the opinion that it was due to the uncomplimentary remarks emanating from the spectators. As the light was as good when the referee stopped the game as it was during nearly all the time play was in progress, it is difficult to understand the referee's ruling supposing this is the reason he gave for "ceasing fire." In any case, it is hard lines upon the Park, who were at Tow Law before one o'clock, and could have been ready for play at two. I understand that the visitors intend to claim the points.

—o—

MEMS.

"A capital game."

So said the crowd on leaving Oakey's on Monday.

Even Stanley's partisans were satisfied with a goal defeat.

Newcastle sent a strong team and meant business.

The points were all in all to them.

And they knew what they had to do.

Stanley have given them more than one fright, and nearly did so again.

Watts was their saviour, and the committee should not lose sight of the fact.

They have now quenched their thirst for vengeance against Stanley.

And have gone home with a considerable opinion of west-county players.

Three thousand paying spectators was a help to Stanley.

The "pubs" were closed.

South Shields visit Oakey's next Saturday to fulfil a postponed Alliance game.

The "pubs" will be open.

But the attendance will be large.

And the game interesting.

Bother the "pubs" so long as there is a good match about.

The week following there will be another good match against Hebburn.

Stanley committee are quite cheerful just now.

I wish them continued luck.

Stanley had hard luck at the Brooms on Saturday.

Had the light allowed of the game being finished they would probably have secured both points.

Sam Wood wears remarkably well.

And can still play a good game.

Sam was very proud at notching all three goals.

It was a capital wind-up to the old year, Sam.

Artie Graham (who played for Rutherford College last season) is a speedy forward.

Jimmy Howe was an absentee.

So were Pearson and Redpath.

Stanley were probably saving them for the Monday.

Teddy Buck, despite his long association with the pastime, can still play a good game.

The old Diptonite is one of the neatest tacklers that I know of.

George Lock turned out for the "greens."

He wants more practice before he can do himself justice.

George has plenty of football in him yet.

The veteran Monaghan played a capital game at back.

Jimmy is one of the staunchest players the Exiles ever possessed.

He is always ready to turn out and do his best in case of emergency.

It is rumoured that Daly is going to join his club-mate (Callaghan) at Jarrow.

Johnny is a fine back, and would not disgrace any team.

I don't know how the Exiles' committee manage to run a team at all.

As a rule, about five or six of those selected for a match put in an appearance.

Now, boys, buck up, and give your committee a chance.

The Park Reserve have an unbeaten record for the first half of the season.

Out of 14 matches they have won 13 and drawn one.

Byer Moor are the only team that have finished on level terms with them.

Their goal record speaks for itself:—For, [illegible] ads.

[illegible] veston player, assisted [illegible] Saturday [illegible] of practice, but still [illegible]

I think that Harper and Teasdale would make a good wing.

They are both speedy and clever.

The Park hoped to get two points out of Tow Law last Saturday.

Had the game being played out they probably would have done so.

They had the best of the game, and held the lead when the referee suddenly took flight.

The Park appear at Roker Park this week-end.

They are hopeful of doing as well against Sunderland as they did against Shields.

The Wearsiders will probably play some of their "pros."

They regard it as a pinch, but there might be a surprise.

Medomsley White Stars accounted for the Park Juniors on Monday.

The Stars are not yet out of the running for the championship.

They intend to make a great effort to finish on top.

Consett Swifts secured other two points in the Tyneside League fixtures on Saturday.

In beating Allendale by three to nil.

There was only a poor attendance.

And the weather was boisterous.

Altogether there was very little interest in the match.

It was unfortunate also that the game had to be abandoned.

It is to be hoped that it won't have to be played over.

As the Swifts will find it difficult to get an open date.

Having several games already to re-play.

The substitutes on the home eleven all gave a creditable account of themselves.

When will teams learn to turn up to time?

Ditto referees very often.

Not to say anything about not coming at all—sometimes.

Harrison again gave his "as per usual" all-round good display.

Rafferty at outside right continues to improve.

And is likely to prove a regular demon.

If nothing occurs to check his career as a player.

Hunter and Mat Walton appeared to be a bit off at full-back.

Holiday matches, however, generally find the players below "par."

Allendale were short of several of their regular players.

And had great difficulty in getting together a team of any kind.

This accounted for their late arrival.

Secretary Milligan had to don the war-paint.

Chester-le-Street seem to delight in piling up large scores.

As several clubs have found to their cost. Notable results:—Woodside 11-0, Fatfield 7-2, Pelton 4-0, and Selbourne 5-1.

What a fall for Selbourne.

The Amateur Cup-holders were completely "doubled up."

All the home forwards scored—Pentland twice.

They'll have to be reckoned with in the Amateur Cup-ties.

The supporters of Birtley are in ecstasies.

Their pets have taken a couple of points from Shankhouse, and one point from Sunderland Nomads.

In their last four engagements, two at home and two away, they have scored 13 goals against 6, and got 7 points out of a possible 8.

Not a bad record if taken by itself.

But when the beginning of the season is reckoned, and goal average looked at, there is cause for satisfaction.

However, the ironworkers are now making amends.

And don't intend to be bottom of the Alliance table this season.

Not Likely

NORTHERN LEAGUE.

DIVISION I.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Bishop Auckland	8	4	0	4	19	9	12
Stockton	13	5	4	4	27	23	14
St. Augustine's	8	4	1	3	12	7	11
Middlesbrough	10	4	3	3	24	13	11
Darlington	9	4	3	2	24	19	10
South Bank	8	3	4	1	10	13	7
Crook	10	3	6	1	16	27	7
Leadgate Park	6	1	1	4	5	11	6
Tow Law	6	0	3	3	5	10	3

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
*Newcastle Utd A	15	12	2	1	42	14	24
Jarrow	11	9	1	1	29	12	19
Hebburn Argyle	13	8	1	4	29	15	17
South Shields	11	7	1	3	21	9	15
Wallsend Pk Villa	14	5	5	4	28	30	15
Willington Athltc	13	5	4	4	25	16	14
Gateshead NER	13	6	1	6	24	25	13
*SunderlandA	13	6	3	4	25	18	13
Blyth	13	4	2	7	20	29	10
Birtley	10	3	3	4	17	24	9
Stanley	10	3	2	5	15	19	8
Shankhouse	12	3	1	8	16	34	7
Sunderland Nmds	17	1	4	12	17	47	6
St Peter's Albion	12	1	2	9	8	34	4

* Two points each deducted for playing ineligible men.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Consett Shamrcks	11	8	1	2	32	14	18
Medomsley W S	9	6	1	2	30	10	14
Delves Lane Uted	9	4	3	2	22	13	10
Leadgate Park Jr	10	4	4	2	21	16	10
Blackhill St Cths	7	4	2	1	10	8	9
*White-le-HeadR	6	2	3	1	9	10	5
*Catchgate Llwts	11	2	8	1	15	33	5
Highgate Rovers	11	0	10	1	11	50	1

* Saturday's result not in when table was made up.

J. W. KELSEY, Sec.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Prudhoe	10	7	1	2	26	11	16
Walbottle	8	6	1	1	23	6	13
Mickley	8	6	2	0	21	13	12
Throckley	7	4	1	2	18	7	10
Annfield Plain	6	4	1	1	14	7	9
Consett Swifts	6	3	2	1	11	7	7
Hobson W'nd'rers	7	3	2	2	12	9	8
Allendale Park	6	3	3	0	18	24	6
Newburn	10	1	7	2	9	24	4
Dipton Wander's	9	0	8	1	3	22	1
Spen	7	0	6	1	4	20	1

WINLATON AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

Results up to date:—

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals For	Goals Agt	Pts
Blaydon United	11	10	0	1	33	6	21
Mickley Reserve	10	6	0	4	20	6	16
Greenside	13	5	4	4	17	16	14
Clara Vale	12	5	3	4	22	15	14
Bensham Villa	11	6	3	2	23	16	14
Spen Albion Res.	11	5	5	1	16	17	11
Chopwell United	13	4	7	2	19	24	10
Swalwell Albion	5	4	0	1	12	6	9
Prudhoe Reserve	10	3	6	1	9	11	7
Winlaton West E	9	3	5	1	10	14	7
Newburn Reserve	10	1	6	3	6	18	5
Scotwood Albion	4	0	3	1	1	28	1

Scotswood have taken up Throckley's fixtures.

MATCHES WANTED.

Blackhill St. Cuthbert's have the following dates vacant—Feb. 4 and March 25 at home; March 11 and April 15 away. Apply, H. Hetherington, 8, Eltringham Street, Blackhill.

Leadgate Athletic have all dates vacant; ages, 12 to 14. Apply, E. Robson, 521, North Cross Street, Leadgate.

Eden Terrace Rangers have all dates vacant; ages, 10 to 12. Apply, W. Kerr, 4, Eden Terrace, Pitt Hill.

East Castle Violets are in want of matches; aged, 11 to 12. Apply, G. Brown, East Castle.

West Pelton Violets are in want of matches; ages, 11 to 14. Apply, T. Williams, 13, William Street, West Pelton.

Allendale White Stars are in want of dates; ages, 12 to 15. Apply, J. Walton, 46, Allendale Cottages, Medomsley.

Spen School Rangers are in want of matches. Apply, J. Richardson, 1, Store Houses, Spen, Lintz Green.

White-le-Head Temperance have several vacant dates; ages, 15 to 17. Apply, T. Reay, 7, New Row, White-le-Head, Tantobie.

Marley Hill Royal Oaks are in want of dates; ages, 15 to 17. Apply, E. Robson, 23, Front Street, Marley Hill Colliery, Swalwell.

Woodhouses Lilywhites want matches; ages, 12 to 15. Apply, J. W. Greaves, Woodhouses, Dipton.

Marley Hill Royal Oaks Reserve have several vacant dates; ages, 12 to 14. Apply, A. Robson, 23, Front Street, Marley Hill.

Hamsterley School Rangers are in want of matches; ages, 10 to 12. Apply, J. Dawson, Howlett Hall, Low Westwood.

Consett Park are in want of matches; ages, 11 to 13. Apply, J. Spencer, 18, Cleadon Street, Consett.

Bradley United are in want of matches; average age, 12. Apply, R. McGowan, 39, Bradley Cottages, near Leadgate.

Leadgate Young Park have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up as soon as possible; ages, 11 to 13. Apply, J. G. Sibley, 328, South Cross Street, Leadgate.

Consett Rangers are in want of dates; ages, 9 to 11. Apply, M. Perry, 33, King Street, Consett.

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Invite Inspection of their Extensive Stock of Goods suitable for the above. Committees liberally dealt with. 277b

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Messrs Elliston and Ford's company are appearing at the above theatre this week in the successful melodrama, entitled, "The Penalty of Crime." The piece is one calculated to absorb the attention of the audience from start to finish, and its representation by the company helps to this end to a considerable extent, while the stage effects enhance the story. Mr B. Copping, as "George Gibbons," is highly successful, his delineation of the villianies of this part being quite a treat. Mr F. Withers is very effective as "Bertie Chumbley," while as "Mr Glendinning," Mr William Colebrook makes a very good lawyer. Mr John Cecil appears to great advantage as the hero, "Guy Glendinning," and Mr Henry Beaufort is a success in the part of "Martin Norris." Miss Daisy England achieves a big success as "Elsie Norris," while Miss Isa Bellington is a clever "Joe," a street arab, her songs being very well taken with. The fun and comedy have two very clever representatives in Mr F. Lester, as "Michael O'Reilly," and Miss Nelly Burdette, as "Peggy Sharpe." Both the last-mentioned artistes sing some very clever songs with much success, and the lady fairly brings down the house with her clever dancing.—Next week, Miss Cissie Moxon and company will appear in the pantomime, "Blue Beard."

WEDDING AT WEST AUCKLAND.

A wedding of considerable local interest took place at St. Helen's Church, Auckland, on Wednesday morning of last week, the contracting parties being Mr Joseph Harrison Wilkinson, son of Mr Wm. Wilkinson, Annfield House, North Bondgate, Bishop Auckland, late of Catchgate, and Miss Louisa Lizzie Wild, daughter of Mr John Wild, Talbot Hotel, West Auckland. The happy event occasioned much rejoicing, and there was quite a large attendance at the church to witness the nuptial ceremony. The bride, who carried a handsome white shower bouquet, was given away by her father, and she wore a dress of cream satin with pearl trimming and a white felt hat with plumes and orange blossom. The bridesmaids were Miss Wilkinson, sister of the bridegroom, and Miss Maud Wild, sister of the bride, and they were dressed in blue, with pearl trimming, and wore cream picture hats. Mr William Potts acted as "best man," whilst Mr Thomas Robinson also attended. The officiating clergyman was Rev. Mr Douglas. Amongst those present were Mr and Mrs Wm. Wilkinson, Mr and Mrs John Wild, Coun. and Mrs Joseph Eltringham (Blackhill), Mrs W. Eltringham (Horsley), Mrs Salkeld, Mr and Mrs Johnson, Mrs Richardson, Mr and Mrs Hope, Mr J. Wild, jun. (West Auckland), Mr and Mrs Bailey (Seaton Delaval), Miss Symington, Mr Turnbull, Mr and Miss Ellis, Mr McCuckard (Bishop Auckland), Mr, Mrs, and Miss Salmon, and Sergt. and Mrs Thom (West Auckland). After the ceremony the party were driven to the residence of the bride's parents, where a most sumptuous lunch was served, and subsequently the newly married couple left with hearty congratulations for Scarborough. The happy couple were the recipients of a splendid range of presents from relatives and friends, the list including the following:—

BRIDEGROOM'S PRESENTS.

Bride to bridegroom, gold links.
Mr W. Wilkinson, father of the bridegroom, cheque and dining room suite.
Mrs Wilkinson, mother of the bride, bedroom suites.
Miss Wilkinson, sister of the bridegroom, sideboard and two hand painted pictures.
Mr W. Potts, centre table, brass curb and fire brasses.
Mr and Mrs Landers, uncle and aunt of the bridegroom, velvet pile tablecloth.
Mr and Mrs Robinson, uncle and aunt of the bridegroom, tapestry quilt.
Mr and Mrs J. Eltringham, uncle and aunt of the bridegroom, rocking chair and jelly spoons.
Mr and Mrs Geo Eltringham, flower stand and table.
Mr and Mrs Wm. Eltringham, silver breakfast cruet.
Mr and Mrs J. T. Eltringham, cousin, Japanese cushion.
Mr Thomas Robinson, cousin, basket chair.
Mrs W. Wilkinson, jun., silver jelly dish.
Mr Jos. Robinson, cousin, vases.
Mr and Mrs Ellis, silver breakfast cruet and bread fork.
Mrs Dunn, silk handkerchief.
Mrs Thompson, knife box.
Mrs Snowball, wool antimacassars.
Mr H. Turnbull, bread trencher and knife.
Mr and Mrs Johnson, dressing case.
Mr A. Heslop (groom), lamp mat.
Mr T. Robinson (bankman), silver teapot.
Mr and Mrs C. Bousfield, vases.
A friend, pair of fans.

BRIDE'S PRESENTS.

Bridegroom to bride, gold brooch set with rubies and diamonds.
Bridegroom to bridesmaids, gold brooches.
Mr John Wild, father of bride, cheque.
Mrs Wild, mother of the bride, household linen, ware, and copper kettle.
Mrs Salkeld, sister of the bride, breakfast service and clock.
Mr and Mrs R. Johnson, brother-in-law and sister of the bride, dinner set, quilt and other articles.
Mr John Wild, brother, picture.
Mrs Hope, sister, linen sheets.
Miss Maud Wild, sister, silver teapot, jugs, and glass dessert dishes.
Miss Lily Salkeld, niece, jewel box.
Miss May Salkeld, niece, fruit dish.
Master Walter Johnson, nephew, case of silver teaspoons.
Miss Jenny Johnson, niece, silver jam spoon and butter knife.
A friend, linen table cloth.
Mrs Oliver, linen table cloth.
Miss Reid, brass-mounted flower stand.
Miss Thom, linen.
Miss Salmon, handkerchiefs and d'oyleys.
Mrs Wardle, linen table cloth.
Mrs Simpson, tray cloth and fruit dish.
Mrs Bailey, set of views.
A friend, lady's companion.
Miss Symington, mounted frame.
Mrs Vickers, teapot.
A friend, set of antimacassars.
Mrs Walker, steel engraving.
Miss Pattison, glass dishes.
Miss Hannah Pattison, sugar basin and cream jug.
A friend, a set of ornaments.
A friend, a set of views.

FIRE AT STANLEY.

On Thursday afternoon last, a somewhat serious fire occurred at Mr. T. Taylor's drapery store, in Front Street, West Stanley. Soon after four o'clock the gas was put on, and a jet in the right-hand window came in contact with some material which immediately burst into a flame, and before water could be obtained the fire had got a strong hold of the goods and fixtures in the right side of the shop. A pitch pine beam was also affected, and ultimately split in two. Councillor Ritson, Mr. Hewison, and Mr. John Smith quickly arrived with the Co-operative Society's hose, and, assisted by Constables Thomas and Phizacles and others, a good supply of water was brought to bear upon the fire, which soon began to subside. Attention was directed to the beam, and fortunately the progress of the fire there was stayed, otherwise the whole building would have been affected. As it was the damage, though considerable, was confined to one side of the shop, the window, fittings, and stock in that portion being destroyed partly by fire and partly by water. Mr. Taylor, who has just been about nine months in business, was insured. The damage is estimated at about £140.

How to Prove a Will.—Without expense—price 6d. Will Forms 3d each; Improved Will Forms, with full directions how to fill it up, with printed example, 6d each, at the "Guardian" Office, Front Street, Consett.

AMONG THE GLOVEMAKERS.

Yeovil Glove Factories employ no less than 4,000 hands. Within the last quarter of a century the borough has grown wonderfully, and it would be difficult to find a more flourishing or go-ahead place. Houses and new streets have sprung up where only yesterday, it seems, were green fields, and one of the most pleasant parts of the town, Pen Mill, is an almost entirely new district. Ten years ago there was scarcely a house to be seen, but now it is a regular little city. Victoria Street is one of the most recent additions. Here resides Mr. Kennard Russell, who is about thirty years of age, a carpenter by trade, a prominent member of the Yeovil Volunteers, and a person of repute, as the local paper has lately interviewed him. "Hearing he had an interesting story to tell," a Yeovil newspaper man writes, "I called upon him, No. 2, Victoria Street has a nice plot of garden ground, and at the time of my visit Mr Russell was busily engaged in hoeing. A few short weeks ago such a task would, to him, have been impossible, for he was then suffering from an acute attack of sciatica, but he had now entirely recovered, as a glance at his erect figure showed.

"Yes, I have been bad, very bad," he said, in response to the first query. "I first felt my left leg begin to get stiff, especially at bedtime, and when at work. It got worse and I could hardly do anything."

His wife interposed and informed the reporter that things grew serious "Kennard could not sit down to his meals because it hurt him to bend his leg. And," she continued, "I had to suffer as well as him, for the pain made him so short-tempered, you know." This remark raised a smile, in which the pressman joined.

But to continue the patient's story, "One day," he said, "I read in a little book which was left at the house of a friend of mine, a Mr Cruse, who used to be a policeman here, but is now in the Metropolitan force. He had had sciatica, and had been cured by taking Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People, and I wondered at the time if they would do me good, and, as it happened, my wife bought a box of the pills unknown to me and brought them home. She told me that as she had bought them I must try them, so I did, and I am very thankful I did. I used to take two of the pills with me to work each morning, and every day I got better and better, until the pains went right away."

"I suppose you took more than one box?" asked the scribe.

"No; I only had the one box, but the sciatica is gone, and I'm right glad of it I can tell you."

"I suppose your mates were a bit surprised?" the newspaper man asked.

"Well," replied Mr Russell, "they laughed at me when I used to take my pills each morning, but I didn't mind because I knew they were doing me good."

"You look well enough now," the journalist remarked.

"Yes, and I do not fear another attack. Even if it did come, I should know what to take."

It is a common error to treat sciatica and rheumatism as disorders for outward medication by liniments and embrocations. These things are sometimes useful in relieving pain, but the cure must be through the blood and nerves. As in the case described above, so in every other case that they have cured, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills go to the root of the disease, enriching and purifying the blood of improper constituents and thus doing away with the tendency to cause inflammation and pain whenever the weather changes. By similar effect on the blood, they cure (but only when genuine, mind; substitutes won't cure anything) scrofula, rickets, anæmia, palpitations, premature decay of the faculties, and all sorts of ladies' ailments. They are not a purgative. It is by strengthening you that they cure. If not readily obtainable genuine (i.e. with the full, seven-word name, Dr. Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People) send direct for them to Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 46, Holborn Viaduct London, E.C., price, 2/9 for one box, or 13/9 for six.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[By "THE OLD CROW."]

As with the proverbial bad shilling, your old bird turns up again, Mr Editor, to wish you and your numerous readers

A Happy and Prosperous New Year,

and many of 'em. The wish is undoubtedly somewhat belated; but the fault rests entirely with your advertising columns, the pressure on which, as you know, has been so great for the past week or two that your poor though faithful scribe have not had a chance of a "look in." Well, the year open propitiously, and shows to advantage of a material sort as compared to some of the years recently passed. Trade is brisk, there is plenty of money flowing, there are no strikes either prevalent or in prospect, and altogether the outlook is decidedly gratifying and full of encouragement. If we have not had a strictly seasonable time in regard to weather, it has not failed to prevent our enjoyment of the many good things the season provides, and to our poorer fellow creatures has been most kind. For this there is much to be thankful.

It is eminently satisfactory to learn that the complimentary benefit recently given at the New Theatre, Consett, to Mr Lloyd Clarance, the energetic and highly esteemed acting manager, and his good wife, proved a thorough success. I am told that the two nights' takings over which the benefit ran, was quite unprecedented, and realised a handsome sum. Since Mr Lloyd Clarance came into our midst he has, by his kindly urbanity of manner and courteous bearing at all times, made a host of friends, and that his catering for his theatrical patrons has been for the most part excellent is nothing less than a household word. It is freely admitted that if anyone in the profession is calculated to give good things to patrons of the local home of Thespis, that man is Lloyd Clarance. Here's a long life to you!

The

Catastrophe at Durham,

by which a little girl lost her life the other day, is but a repetition of a form of accident which, of recent years, has become shockingly prevalent. It is another illustration going to show how necessary it is that some legislative measure should be introduced of a stringent sort that shall absolutely prohibit the sale of toy fire-arms to our youths—indeed, that shall make it an illegal act for youths to carry such instruments. It is really becoming a far too common source of danger to our children, who already stand in sufficient peril from reckless drivers of vehicles in our streets. Surely it is time some of our members stepped in to suggest a measure to meet this lamentable position of affairs which is a reflection on our much belauded nineteenth century civilisation.

Now that the big rush may be said to be fairly well over, a visit to one or other of the

Newcastle Pantomimes,

becomes something of a pleasure. I see that on Saturday, the North-Eastern Railway Company propose running a special train at 1.5 p.m. from Consett, timed to return home at 10.40 p.m. This gives ample time to allow of the witnessing of either productions in its entirety, and doubtless will be largely taken advantage of. It is scarcely time yet to speak, without prejudice, of the merits of either "Dick Whittington" at the Royal, or "Puss in Boots," which is the attraction at the Tyne. Suffice it at this point to say that both theatres are drawing splendid houses, and that both pantomimes are likely to have a protracted run judging from present appearances. The company of artistes at the Royal is a very powerful one, embracing, as it does, several well-known names, as, for instance, J. H. Douglas and Henry Wright both already familiar to theatregoers in the "north countree" as stars of no mean order, and then, also, there is Charles Anderson, who was the heart and soul of last season's pantomime at the Royal. The favourite Sisters Lavy are also here. Cliff Rylands an eccentric comedian, is the "leading star" at the Tyne, where "Puss in Boots" plays her antics nightly to the delight of crowded audiences. As a spectacular production this one, perhaps, exceeds anything seen at the Tyne for some years past, and recalls the earlier productions of the late Sir Augustus Harris. There is plenty of fun too, and the music is of the distinctly "catchy" order sure to be appreciated by habitues of the music-hall. The ballets, scenery, and dresses, are big "features" also, and altogether the "show" is admirable.

Floriline!—For the Teeth and Breath. Thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, and gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly whiteness and a delightful fragrance to the breath. Price 2s 6d for the liquid, or 1s per jar for the Floriline "Powder," of all Chemists and Druggists.

Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white or falling off use the Mexican Hair Renewer, for it will positively restore in every case, grey or white hair to its original colour. It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth. Price 3s 6d. per bottle.

Weardale District Council.

Mr. J. W. Roddam presided over the fortnightly meeting on Friday afternoon.—A letter was read from the Clerk of the Muggleswick Parish Council asking the Weardale Authority to repair a certain bridge between Muggleswick and Edmondbyers. It was decided to write to the Muggleswick Council pointing out that the question of repairing the bridge lay with the Stanhope Parish Council.—With respect to the Frosterley Batts, it was decided that the committee should report to a future meeting of the Council, Mr. Snowdon pointing out that their duty was to look to the insanitary state of houses. They had nothing to do with the cleaning of the race.—A letter was read from Messrs Turnbull, of Bradby Hall, in regard to certain damages to their land by the Council's servants. The matter was deferred.—Arising out of the Inspector's report, reference was made to certain Wolsingham matters. Amongst the recommendations which were adopted was the provision of a lamp at the West corner of Durham Road. Notice was also instructed to be given to the owners of three houses at Wolsingham, who have no proper water supply to make provision from the Weardale Co's mains.—The Committee appointed to report upon the application for an increase of salary by the Clerk (Mr. J. Thompson) had before them the particulars of the application. Mr. Thompson pointed out the past increase which had taken place in his duties, especially by the introduction of the Local Government Act of 1894. He asked for an increase of £10 in the sanitary department and £30 in the highway department. For the extra work which the question of extraordinary traffic had entailed over a period of two years, from which £2,000 had been secured by the Council, he asked £12 10s. The committee, after considering the matter, recommended an increase of £5 in the Sanitary Department and £20 in the highway department. They also recommended that the claim for £12 10s be waived, and a total increase of £25 per year be allowed. This was agreed to on the proposition of Mr. Love, seconded by Mr. Brownless.

Weardale Guardians.

Mr. J. W. Roddam presided over Friday's meeting.—Mr. T. Hall drew attention to the fact of the signing of a precept by the Tow Law overseers for £43 for the Stanhope School Board. He contended that it was not fair. They had to educate their own children.—The Clerk pointed out that Wolsingham and Tow Law were joint parishes.—Mr. Phillipson remarked that it had been stated at a meeting of the School Board that Tow Law had not contributed for two or three years. Thus it came about that they had to make up a deficiency.—Mr Mainprize contended that Mr. Hall's position was illusory. Tow Law were practically suffering no injustice. The Chairman observed that they as a Council could do nothing in the matter, whether there was an injustice or not. Their remedy was to petition the Local Government Board.—Mr. Hall said they could have prevented the deferred payment for three years. The matter then dropped.—Letters of a circular character were read in connection with the Vaccination Laws. The Wells Guardians advocated local cost out of the Imperial Exchequer, the Huntingdon Guardians suggested a repeal of the Act of last year, whilst the Burslem Guardians referred to the great danger that might possibly arise out of the "Conscience Clause." It was decided, on the proposition of Mr. Mainprize, seconded by Mr. Snowden, to support the Wells Guardians in their suggestion.—Reference was also made to the remuneration of the vaccination officers, which arose out of a circular letter from the Local Government Board in regard to the payment of fees. Mr. Snowdon observed that the law upon the subject got more complicated than ever. Mr. Moses pointed out that Dr. Tinlady, of Tow Law, thought that he ought to receive the same fees as the other officers of the Local Government Board. Mr. Snowden: Yes; he deserves it more for taking the minimum on trial. The Chairman: Yes; it's only fair.

Concert at Stanhope.

A benefit concert was held in the Town Hall, Stanhope, last week, presided over by the Rev. J. C. Orr. The concert was promoted on behalf of a lamentably afflicted family by a committee of quarrymen, including Messrs W. Wearmouth, G. Hall, T. Roddam, T. Heatherington, T. Brown, assisted by Mr. W. Tweddle and others, and resulted in a crowded house. Mrs. T. Crawhall, The Square, kindly accorded support, and others cheerfully worked, making it a great success. In the absence of Mr. J. Bell, Miss Annie Egglestone presided at the piano. The artistes were principally local, and gave their services. Superintendent Snowdon kindly lent the ante-room for the occasion. Subjoined is the programme:—Song, Miss Coulthard, Ireshopeburn, "Sweet Genevieve;" recitation Miss Cass, Frosterley; song, Mr. David Thompson, Stanhope, "We've been touchin' 'em up a bit;" song, Mr. W. Denham, Stanhope, "I've been in love" (encored); song, Miss Dawson, Ireshopeburn, "Guid New Year to ye all;" duet, Mr. Tom Moore, Eastgate, and Mrs. J. Moore (encored); song, Mrs. Crawhall, Stanhope, "She wore a wreath of roses;" instrumental piece, accompaniment with piano, tongs and fire-irons, by Mr. W. Fairless, Westgate, and Miss Egglestone Stanhope. Part II.—Song Mrs. J. Moore, "Killarney," song Miss Coulthard, "Cathedral Voices;" song, Mr. W. Denham, "On the hop" (encored); quartette, Mrs. Crawhall, Mrs. J. Moore, Mr. J. Egglestone, and Mr. W. Hogarth; song, Miss Dawson, "Robin Adair;" trio, "Three Old Maids of Lea" (in character), Miss Thompson, Miss Crawhall, and Mrs. J. Moore (encored); stump speech, Mr. D. Thompson; song, Mr. G. Egglestone; song, Mrs. J. Moore; song, Mr. W. Fairless, "Piggie Wiggie" (encored).—On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. W. Tweddle, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded all the performers and promoters of the concert.—On the motion of Mr. W. Tweddle, a similar compliment was paid the Chairman, and after the singing of the National Anthem the company dispersed. The Stanhope Band played up the street to the concert. A dance followed.

CONSETT.

Tea and Meeting.—The members of the Gospel Hall, Front Street, Consett, held their annual tea and meeting on Monday. About 300 people partook of the good things provided, and the tables were presided over by several young ladies. At the evening meeting the annual financial report was submitted, which shewed that during the year there had been an increase in the membership and also financially. Suitable addresses were delivered by Messrs McGregor, Jarrow, Jobson, West Hartlepool, and Britt, Sunderland. There was a capital company present and the meeting was very successful.

Primitive Methodists.—On New Year's Eve, the Primitive Methodists of Consett held the customary watch-night service which was conducted by Mr. Wilson Clayto Addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. S Nightingale, and Mr. George Lowes. The was a good congregation.—On New Year Day, special sermons were preached by th Rev. James Taylor, Blackhill. Large co gregations were present at each servic The members of this society now posses sanctuary which has been made to lo exceedingly beautiful through the rece renovations.—On Monday night, a conv sazione was held in the School-room, a was largely attended. The interior of t building was decorated. The Rev. J. Nightingale presided. A capital programm consisting of music and games, was go through. The artistes were Miss Quisi Mrs. Bullock, and Mr. A. S. Coster. M Thomas Jones officiated as accompani The refreshment tables were presided o by Mrs. Bullock, Mrs. Laverton, Mrs. Be Misses Potts, P. Hall, Nellie Thompson, Rowell, and C. Thompson. A very enjoya evening was spent by all.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Young Helpers League.—On Wednesd week the members of the Young Help League, assisted by several ladies and gen Church Institute [illegible] in of Dr. Barnardo's Homes. The enterta ment was preceded by a tea, tables bei given and presided over by Mrs. A. Bl Mrs. Yeld, Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Gibson, M Watson, and Mrs. Harle. The first p of the programme consisted of songs a dances, in which the following took part Miss Davis, Miss Swanson, the Misses R ton, Miss Hare, Miss Dewdney, Master Nicholson, and Miss L. Clark. The sec part consisted of the musical sketch, "C and Saucers," the parts being taken follows:—"Mrs. [illegible] Worcester China mania), Mrs. Lyon Smith; "General D-clah" (another), Mr. C. Garvey. This was followed by a song Mr. Garvey, "Long ago in Alcala" af which came "Outwitted," in which the following took part:—"Bertha Stewart" Mrs. Lyon Smith; "Jane," Miss Laura W son; "Harold Foster," Dr. Werner. T third part was composed of a nigger ent tainment by the members of the cho The entertainment reflected very cre on all who took part in it, the dancing a singing in the first part was enjoyed by a and the acting in the second part w exceptionally creditable. The soloists the nigger entertainment were all encore and a song by Master A. Rilley was give with great effect. The institute was pack to its utmost capacity, and many had stand. All present thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

(Copyright.)

TOLD BY MANY:

OR,

COLLECTION OF DOCTORS' STORIES.

By MRS. J. KENT SPENDER.

Author of "Parted Lives," "Mr. Nobody," "Both in the Wrong," "Kept Secret," "A Strange Temptation," &c., &c.

Author's Introduction.

Some of the friends who were kind enough to give so favourable a reception a few years ago to the collection of short stories called the "Recollections of a Country Doctor" have asked me from time to time to write another series.

But old Dr. Meredith is dead. I have certainly a few of his "Recollections" still, but it seemed to me—as time passed on—that it would be a better plan to collect anecdotes from other doctors, of their more varied experiences. The little store now offered to the public contains—as in Dr. Meredith's case—many episodes which actually happened; the difference being that these took place not in one little country village, but in many towns and villages—some of them not even in England.

When I asked my friends for their varying experiences urging that each of them ought to be able to tell me at least one story of what had happened during their practice, I endeavoured to use all the grist that came to the mill, remembering that though in life the sensational may not often happen, unexpected episodes of character and incident are to some folks equally interesting, and often more natural.

A DEATHBED CONFESSION.

The most terrible secrets are generally given up at last, and it is often the fate of doctors to listen to them. The nurse and the physician are unable to help themselves when some of these secrets are confided in delirium, and it is their ill luck to hear unwillingly all the closely-guarded sorrows of many a distracted heart.

I need not say that it is a matter of honour with us never to betray such secrets; still more guilty should we be if we divulged a deliberate confession made to us—possibly for the relief of a dying man.

Therefore, in a story which I am about to tell you I shall be careful to alter the names of the people and the places, though so many years have elapsed that the tale can now compromise nobody, all the actors in it being dead.

Amongst one of the men whom I was called to attend in his last illness was a well-known diplomatist—a man of considerable note, who had been honoured and respected by all who knew him.

Anthony Fenton had retired, when he came from his last Consulate, to a quiet place in the neighbourhood of London, where he lived in seclusion, preferring the companionship of his books and his flowers to having many common-place people about him. Still it could not be said that he deliberately shut himself up, for every now and then men of like calibre came from town to dine with him. His little dinner parties were singularly select; the conversation often brilliant and always high-toned. He was pleasant as a companion, being able to describe many countries and many people. Nor was he the sort of man of whom folks cared to gossip unkindly. Nobody could even hint that he had sown his wild oats before he settled down in life. On the contrary, there was a touching story of his devoted attachment to a young wife, whom he had married before he had left England, who had died in childbirth, and to whose memory he had always remained faithful.

Therefore, I was never more surprised than at the change which came over him when I had to announce to him, during a serious illness, that his complaint would soon terminate fatally. His heart, which he had thought to be like an iron safe, opened, as it were, against his will, and the confidences which he began to make to me led me to feel like a burglar breaking in upon it.

"Doctor," he said, speaking with laboured breath, "I have something which I must get off my mind before I die—perhaps I ought not to have kept silence about it till now."

I was so utterly astonished that I could only stammer:

"My dear fellow, I believe in times when a man must keep silence."

"I did not keep silence for my own sake," he panted out, "nor do I even tell you now because I am afraid. I do not believe in whimpering like a whipped dog, or cringing because we would avoid punishment for ourselves. We must take the reward of our own misdeeds. But when a fellow is near death, and feels the immense distances which divide him from his kind—when he must go forth, 'the alone to the alone'—he feels for the first time his need of human sympathy, and he longs to tell of the very worst he has done."

I waited in silence, only hoping he would not exhaust his strength.

Presently he said:

"The odd thing about it is that I tried to lead an upright life, and yet I am not sorry for the fact that I perjured myself—aye, and led other people to perjure themselves, too—in a court of law."

I started, and he saw it, unable to continue for the next few minutes owing to an attack of convulsive agony connected with his complaint.

"Ah," I said, trying to smile, "you see what comes of bringing these false accusations against yourself:

'That ancient pilot, Pain,
Sits beside the helm again.'

I assure you it is nothing uncommon. People in your state often have strange delusions."

"It is not a delusion," he declared when the pain had passed off, and when I saw that it would not do to contradict him, but that it would be better to let him tell his tale.

It was not a very long one, as a man in his condition could not put it in many words.

He was not, of course, strong enough to tell the story as a whole—just as I tell it to you now; but I understood it after hearing it bit by bit, and put it afterwards together into a coherent whole.

The episode which he related had thrown such a shadow over the whole of his existence, and had in consequence been so indelibly impressed upon his memory, that he told me it seemed to him as if it were only the other day when he and two of his friends—who were reading for an examination—took lodgings in a farmhouse on the coast of ——shire. The scenery was most varied—woods clothing with their verdure the sides of the adjacent cliffs, and sloping down to the golden sands. The bluffs at a little distance were crowned with fern and gorse, and the wild moorland above them was rendered all the more picturesque by the hollows—sometimes grass-grown, but more often savage in aspect, and filled with rugged stones—said to be deserted mines.

The examinations for the Foreign Office and the Diplomatic Service were not nearly so stiff then as they are now. Still the young men expected to get through a certain amount of reading, and as they all had the same "coach," and were doing much the same work, it seemed to them then as it often seems to young fellows now—as if it would be desirable to put their horses together and take their summer vacation at the same seaside place.

There was after a time as much play as work, and Fenton began to suspect that one at least of his companions had known before he came of the far-famed attractions of the farmer's daughter. She was one of those cold-hearted, manœuvring, self-seeking and beautiful women who seem to have been born to work mischief to the human race. Till Fenton had seen her, he told me, he had never realised the "red ruin" which could be wrought by such women all through the ages, from Helen of Troy to Mary Queen of Scots. He could almost exonerate John Knox for his roughness of speech after he had had experience of the coquetries of Lina Watts. Angelina was, of course, the name which had been given to her by her godparents; but the girl was so much above her class that she had insisted on dropping the former part of her baptismal name when she discovered that someone had laughed at it.

That was one of the strange things about her—she was so immeasurably above her parents and all the people with whom she had hitherto associated, being gifted with quick insight and a singular faculty for making the utmost of all that she learnt, that it was scarcely wonderful for a romantic fellow like Edward Byefield to have insisted that there must have been some mystery about her birth. Lina was stately in her walk, her hair was of such a tint "as when the chestnut-shell divides, and shews the fruit within," and the delicate damask of her cheek had been imparted by the sea-breezes, which were said, on this part of the coast, to be as soft as they were refreshing.

That Byefield had met her before, Anthony Fenton was more and more convinced when he saw the two together. Byefield was an unselfish fellow and his was a personality very fascinating to Fenton, though some people found him difficult to get on with, and, on the whole, he was not popular. He was delicate of build and not tall of stature; whilst with his pale brown hair, his somewhat pallid complexion, and features which were only fairly regular, he did not look to advantage by the side of the other student—handsomer and more buoyant—Richard Newling.

Byefield was somewhat sensitive in character, and easily wounded by unkindness, having lost his father and mother early in life, so that his childhood had been shadowed by unusual grief. Yet he was honourable to a degree, and when he told Anthony Fenton, in confidence, that he had promised marriage to Lina Watts, Fenton knew that it would be hopeless to attempt to shake his resolution. The conventional arguments could not be used to dissuade him, for not only was Byefield alone in the world, so that he had to consult nobody but himself about his marriage, but the girl had shewn herself to be possessed of such unusual intelligence that his friend could not contradict him when he insisted that with a little extra training Lina would be fitted to take her place amongst better born ladies.

But Anthony had watched her, and knew her to be so thorough a coquette that he was convinced she would not be satisfied with the conquest of one man. When girls of her sort had begun to discover their power, it was his opinion that they were always sharpening their weapons and longing to take more scalps.

Neither did he trust that handsome fellow Newling, who never confided in anyone, but amused himself as he pleased. Whilst Byefield hinted that now—in view of his future marriage—he should have more need than ever to exert himself to pass his examination; whilst he was content to sit through the evenings poring over his books, with the green lamp carefully screened so as throw the light only upon the paper, Newling had suddenly discovered that these very evenings were the fittest times for taking his walks abroad. He believed, he said, that the owls and night-flying moths had hitherto had the best of it, and added that he did not see why they should keep all the beauty to themselves, since the moonlight was far more mysterious and beautiful than the light of the day.

Fenton began to be suspicious, but he did not alarm Byefield, thinking that his was a stage of passion out of which he would be certain to emerge sooner or later, and that the more quickly he was disillusioned the better. But one night he guessed that the hitherto unsuspicious Byefield had heard something which made him unable to sit still as usual over his books.

"He did not confide in me," he said, "for his had lately become like Newling's, the silence of reserve. But I noticed that red spots were glowing on his usually pale cheeks, and that he was fidgetting absently with his ring, turning it round and round his finger. It was the ring which he had promised to wear ever since he had engaged himself to Lina Watts. So, from this and other signs, I concluded that he was wrestling with jealous pain, and that someone or other had probably told him of the moonlight meetings which took place between his betrothed and Dick Newling.

"After a time he got up, pushing his fingers through his hair in a way he had when he was agitated, and throwing the books down upon the table.

"'I am going to the bridge,' he said, hastily. 'I am not in a mood for working to-night. I think that I shall go to it by myself, and try to walk off the blues.'

"'Ah! you have been mugging a little too hard,' I answered. 'That sort of thing seldom pays in the long run.' I was lazy myself, and a little restless, for I had walked and rowed more than usual that day. So far as my own comfort was concerned I would rather have lolled in the armchair with my pipe. But somehow I was a little anxious. One of those presentiments for which we can none of us account had suddenly come upon me, and seemed to clutch me as if with cold fingers at my heart.

"'Why,' I asked myself, 'had Byefield taken his stick—a loaded stick, which we sometimes chaffed him about—for we told him that a blow on the head from it would be enough to do for any fellow.' He had taken it, as it had seemed to me, in a sudden way, almost as if on the sly, groping for it in one of the dark corners of the room, and then giving me a hurried look, as much as to ask if I had noticed him.

"The stick, which was silver-headed, had been a present from one of his friends, and it had been, as I said before, the cause of endless joking between us, as we told him that it would have been much more suitable for his grandfather.

"'I will go,' I said to myself, as more than an hour passed, 'and see that those two do not quarrel. He as much as told me that I was not to follow him; but he will not see me if I go after him now, as he must be at the bridge, more than half-a-mile ahead.'"

The moon seemed to swim in her bed of clouds as Anthony Fenton left the house with the intention of keeping an eye upon his friend. It was another half hour before, sauntering slowly, he reached the bridge with its dark shadows. He thought, but he never could be quite sure, that he had heard a cry of distress as he approached his destination, so that he turned the corner of the roadway over the moors a little more quickly, and came suddenly upon it.

The bridge could scarcely be called a structure worthy of the name, and had only been christened so in courtesy by the natives. It was, in fact, little more than a few planks of wood rudely nailed together, and swung across one of those gaping wounds in the moorland which were said to be abandoned mines. The reason for using these planks at all was that the opening to this special mine was more dangerous than that of the others. No grass had grown in the hollows, and the sides and bottom of the fissure were still strewn with rough boulders, just as the miners had left it when, years before, they had excavated it for tin, and had not found sufficient to reward them for sinking their shafts.

As Fenton came nearer he thought he heard other footsteps. A dark cloud was passing over the moon just at that time, so that at first he did not recognise his friend Byefield, who was walking in an odd way, and almost staggering, as he tried to pass him. Then the light suddenly shone out, revealing haggard eyes, which stared at him as if they did not know him.

"There was a gleam," he said, "in those eyes which at the same time frightened me. They glared at me with the frenzy of terror, as if they had focussed all the rays—not of the pale, pure moon, but of some terrible and more scorching light, as through a burning glass.

"I caught hold of him, and held him with all my strength, accusing him of looking as if he were going mad, as he tried to pass me, though he attempted to shake himself free.

"The thrill of the moment gave me strength; I was quite sure that something terrible had happened.

"'Don't touch me—don't defile yourself—I am outlawed—they will call me a murderer—they [illegible] bring in manslaughter,' he said [illegible] doing his best to shake me off with his convulsive movements. 'Why did you come after me?'

"'Because you were out so late. I thought it was time to reconnoitre,' I answered, trying to speak in my ordinary voice, 'and because you are my friend, and it was my duty to look after you.'

"'We can never be friends again,' he said, speaking with difficulty, as if his voice was dry. 'There is an impassable gulf between us, just as there is a gulf which can never be bridged over between what I was an hour ago and what I am now.'

I could not bear to see him standing pallid in the moonlight, looking years older than he had looked a few hours before, and with that strained expression in his eyes as if the strings of his eyeballs would crack. He told me afterwards that he had felt as if he had lived centuries during those last few minutes, and I had reason to fear the worst as he continued in an unnatural voice:

"'Don't speak to me—don't question me. I must not risk my nerve—it is all I shall have to help me, and you will be obliged to give evidence against me.'

"'No,' I answered—weariness and excitement threatening to make me lose my own self-control, and speaking almost as wildly as he did. 'Not if they were to tear me to pieces with wild horses as they did in more cruel times. I will never be witness against you! Tell me clearly what has happened—you can trust me like your own soul—it is better to speak plainly. Have you—by any unfortunate accident—seriously hurt—Newling? If so, had we not better go back together and try to help him?'

"'It is too late,' he cried, in that hoarse voice which I scarcely recognised, the sense of sickness and faintness suddenly overpowering him, so that he sank to the ground, no longer able to stand for the trembling of his limbs. 'I—I—struck him with my stick—and he fell—fell all the way into the mine. He is lying there now with his head under the water, and we could not possibly get down to him. By this time he must be drowned. I have been watching as long as I could.'

"I saw that he was gasping for breath, and trying to keep back his sobs, and then I remembered that the ground beneath the fissure was moist—percolated by a little stream—so that a pool of water lay at the bottom of it, and that if a corpse was lying there, just beneath the bridge, nobody would be able to haul it up without the aid of ropes, which could not be procured till the morning.

"'Good heavens!' I cried, becoming almost as giddy with terror as Byefield was himself, and conscious of the cold sweat standing in drops on my forehead, so that I could well comprehend him when he told me that after the body had fallen, and he saw the impossibility of getting to it—so as to be able to lift it—on account of the steepness of the sides of the fissure, slanting sheer down to the water, he had been, as it were, paralysed by a frenzy of terror which had seemed to stimulate all that was worst in him. He told me afterwards how he had tried to bolster himself up and fight with his cowardice, but how the determination to flee had suddenly come over him, and he had been rushing, he knew not where, when I came up to him.

"That allusion to his cowardice suddenly gave me hope, for I knew Byefield to be a man of delicate physique, too cowardly, as he would have said to himself, to become a criminal of the deepest dye. I was comforted as I considered that *he could* not have killed a man intentionally. He would have been too afraid. Then I suddenly remembered the stick, and asked: 'Where have you left it?'

"'*It fell as he fell.*'

He looked me full in the face as he stammered out the words, as if fully aware of the horror of his statement, and all that it would involve.

"'The stick will be found with him,' he explained in a ghastly whisper, 'and I tell you he never stirred after he fell, never struggled like a man who could swim, or tried to get to his feet. He must have been stunned before he reached the bottom.'

"I saw it all as in a vision, though I tried to rouse him from the stupor which was coming over him, chafing the dead-cold numbness of his hands. I could see the stolid country policemen and the handcuffs they would put upon him when they took him at the farmhouse, where we three had been lodging, to lead him away for his trial, and I wondered vaguely whether Lina Watts would care an atom if it came to the worst.

"He seemed to fathom my thought even in his present mood, as he had generally fathomed it—we had often laughed at the telepathy between us. For he said:

"'Ah, it was *that* which drove me mad. I picked up one of her ribbons when I went into his room to speak to him about something this afternoon. He was not there, but I still went in to find a book. Fancy my horror when I found the pretty ribbon the girl must have left behind her—dropped evidently by mistake. And then I said to myself that it would no longer matter what became of *me*, but that he should not be allowed to treat her like a harlot. I went after them, believing for the first time what one of the labourers had tried to tell me about their frequent assignations at the bridge. But he was alone, whistling and self-contented as usual. He answered, laughingly, that he had already seen enough of my betrothed, for one day at least, and then I told him he was a brute, and that I would expose him and force him to marry her. He mocked at me and my impotent schemes, telling me that I had ridiculous notions of honour, and then, when I repeated that I was in deadly earnest, he struck at me with his walking-stick. I struck back—for my blood was up—and in the heat of the moment I forgot that my stick was loaded. You had often cautioned me, and I knew that if you saw me take it with me you would have remonstrated. I did not do it willingly, but they will accuse me, and with reason. For he was overbalanced by the blow, and fell over the bridge, giving one cry and never stirring afterwards. Perhaps it will not much matter how it ends now, for, if I lived, my whole life would be hideously different; but, Fenton, they will hang me. They——'

"Dr. Milward, he spoke the truth. There would have to be an inquest, and probably the evidence would be all against him. I had always thought of capital punishment as an atrocious blunder, but in this case it seemed to me it would be too horrible to contemplate, and that everything ought to be done to avert it. *He*—with his finer sensibilities, his subtle inheritance of more delicate feeling than could possibly fall to the share of clodhoppers or ruffians—would be condemned to the same ghastly and humiliating fate. Never before had I felt how senseless it was to contend that the punishment would be the same for both classes of men. It was all a matter of nervous organisation, and this friend of mine, in a very short space of time, had already suffered æons of pain like the tortures of hell. And then, I loved his sister, and meant to take her my wife, and I determined, with the rapidity of lightning, that that pure-minded and innocent girl should never be lowered to the dust, as she might be if I did nothing to prevent it. I could do nothing to ward off the humiliation of the suspicion which would certainly fall upon him. I could imagine it all—the upheaval of indignant anger amongst the simple folk in the neighbourhood when he was suspected of murdering his friend, and the cross-examining of Lina Watts, whose evidence would probably be against him. But I could prevent the worst, and I made up my mind to do so.

"I remembered that Byefield, Newling, and I had more than once passed the night at a little hamlet in the neighbourhood, where an old nurse of mine lived who was deeply devoted to me. It suddenly flashed upon me that, as we had not always told our landlady when we suddenly made up our minds to pass a night at my old nurse's cottage, we might easily go there now and pretend that we had started earlier. I explained my plan to Byefield, who was in such an agitated state that he was willing enough to resign himself like a little child into my hands.

"'We have only to swear an *alibi*,' I said. 'I know that I can depend upon good Nurse Elton. We must say that we went straight to her cottage when we left the farmhouse this evening, and that you did not take your stick with you. The simpler our statement the better, but we must not allow ourselves to be shaken in giving our evidence.'

. . . .

"I had hard work to rouse Byefield from his inert condition. Looking back upon it, it seems to me as if I dragged him against his will and almost by main force to the village of Densley that night. It was as if I cared for him as I had never cared before, now that I had to protect him from a ghastly death. It all turned out just as I expected. The stick was found in close proximity to the body of the man who was supposed to be murdered, and Byefield was at once taxed with the crime. There was a strong feeling against him, and he would probably have had to pay the bitterest penalties of the law had it not been for the *alibi*. Fortune favoured us. The bridge had apparently been deserted that night. No one else had seen Byefield, so that nothing could shake our evidence. I was cross-examined sharply, almost acridly, and I trembled for my poor old nurse, but she was equally firm. Her intellect was in complete subservience to mine, and I had impressed upon her that the lie she was telling was not only a venial one, but that by sticking firmly to her statement she would be saving the life of an innocent man, and ensuring my own happiness in the future. I shall never forget the scene—the judge with his inflexible face, and the stolid faces of the jury. But the verdict was given in our favour. Someone else, it was concluded, must have taken the stick. There was even a reaction of public feeling when it was universally acknowledged that the whole of Byefield's former life could bear the strictest investigation, whilst that of Newling had been shady. Most unfortunately, my poor friend became almost a hero.

"Yet the sleepless hounds of conscience always pursued him. He was never a happy man, and would have given himself up during his lifetime, if the recollection of what he owed to me had not restrained him. None of us prospered. The wife for whom I had sinned was taken away from me early, under peculiarly sad circumstances. My poor old nurse fell a victim to a painful disease, and I never again saw her smile peacefully after the ordeal she had encountered at my request.

"And, after all, I was unable to save Byefield, who could not shake off tendencies, which were perhaps more or less constitutional, to morbid self-reproach. He became after a time Consul of a distant island, visited by but few English people, where he had time to eat his heart out in continual introspection. He might have lingered for many years of a melancholy life, if a meddlesome valet, who knew nothing of the story of his early life, had not one day found the silver-headed stick, cleaned it, rescued it from the other rubbish amongst which it lay abandoned and forgotten, and brought it triumphantly to his master.

"A few hours afterwards Edward Byefield was found in his bedroom hanging by the neck. The sight of the stick had been too much for him. He left a few lines addressed to me, saying that he had at last done his duty in inflicting exemplary punishment on himself."

STORIES OF THE CLIFFS.

On the hill-tops in the Devon Bay which stretches from Beer Head to Otterton Point the road is flat and level—the remains of the ancient plain which the waters have scooped away on either side. Here the furze common, which once covered the plateau, still remains, though the buzzards, the black-game, the roe-deer, once found in the district have disappeared. The short rabbit-turf runs on to within a yard of the verge of the cliff, where vegetation dwindles to mosses, then to tiny dust-like spores, and the land breaks off, as sharply as though pared with a knife, into a green sand precipice of 200 feet. Below this, in infinite confusion, lie loops and pockets of tumultuous ground overgrown with masses of thorn and furze, tangled and matted with clematis, waving reed beds, clusters of ferns, jungles of green iris leaves, hart's-tongue, berried ivy, and wild rose, melted by distance into a cloudy mass of yellow, green, and purple, with crags of crimson sandstone, and edges of rosy, crumbling marl. Lower, but rarely seen from above, are the red scarps of the lower precipice, and beyond all, the gently heaving sea. The structure of these cliffs is such that their whole extent cannot be seen neither from the summit nor from the base. The jut of the middle cliff, with its hanging garden of reeds and iris beds, clematis and blackthorn, furze and ivy, divided and intersected by tiny streams, and natural raised borders of grass and fern, screens the horror of the red precipice below.

As the downward gaze falls on the seductive region from the sharp edge of the summit, the temptation to descend and plunge in the mazes of the forbidden ground is hardly to be withstood. Yet the cliff should never be entered without a guide. It is no common crag, to be scaled or avoided according to the obvious warnings of the ground, but a confused and intricate region of mountain side, below which, hidden and abrupt is the unbroken line of precipice, to step beyond which is death.

Animals, equally with men, lose their sense of danger on the Salcombe Cliffs, and seem like men, affected by the sense of careless exhilaration which the immense expanse of light, air, and seaward prospect lends. Even the rabbits which fight on the ledges, are picked up dead and smashed on the beach below.

A chapter could be written on the adventures of their natural enemies, the dogs, collies, terriers, and spaniel, which have rushed over the precipice, and perished, or have been rescued, as the Highland shepherd rescues the mountain sheep, from some midway ledge on which they have fallen.

Recently, a young collie, which had joined in a rabbit hunt, in the independent way in which Devonshire dogs present themselves as volunteers at the sound of a gun, "went out over"—that being the local euphemism for a fall from the red cliff. A jut of cliff intercepted its fall, says a writer in the "Spectator," and for three days and nights the dog remained upon the ledge, whence its howling and barking could be heard above the screams of the angry sea-fowl, the natural inhabitants of the precipice. It was at last rescued by a fisherman. Five hundred feet of rope were lowered from the summit of the hill, and made fast below. Up this the rescuer climbed, and man and dog met, with perfect understanding on the part of the latter, on the narrow footing of the marl shelf. The dog "tuk to 'un so kindly as a child," in a Devonshire farmer's phrase, and allowed itself to be made fast to the rope, and drawn up to the summit, after which its rescuer was lowered to the beach. The dog went back to its sheep, and the man to his nets; but whenever they met in after days, the dog knew and welcomed its preserver.

Horses are no longer kept on the cliff-bounded fields. They have a curious habit of "backing" unconsciously against the wind, until they reach the edge of the precipice. Recently the fishermen below watched a horse stepping backwards at each gust from the sea, until, without it being in their power to aid, the animal's hind feet slipped into space, and it "went out over" to death.

But the strangest tale of the Salcombe Cliff remains to be told. Some 10 years ago, a fisherman, searching the foot of the highest cliff for the bodies of such rabbits as might have fallen over in their perilous battles during the night, found, lying in a deep bed of soft, red marl, which had oozed out of face, and spread for some yards over the shingle—not a rabbit, but a young lady, apparently dead. The clothes were half torn from the body, and her leg was broken; but when carried to the coastguard station at Sidmouth, the fishermen's wives declared she was alive and the doctor assented.

For a fortnight she remained unconscious in the doctor's house, and when she recovered had lost all knowledge of her fall, except that she had been standing on the summit of the hill, gazing over the sea.

From the marks on the face of the upper cliff it appeared she had rolled down the first and second sections of the cliff, and then fallen over the vertical precipice, which is at this point more than 200 feet high, on to the soft bed of marl which lay like a cushion below.

The total height from the summit to foot is 494 feet.

Yet the lady recovered, has married, and is now a mother.

WHITEWASHING WAR.

Sir John Herschell, the great astronomer, was a most humane man, like all scientific men, by-the-way, and one of the problems of his life was to reconcile the horrors of war, pestilence, and famine with the beneficence of the Creator. But he did it in a queer way.

One of Sir John Herschell's numerical problems was this: If, at the time of Cheops, or three thousand years ago, one pair of human beings had lived, and war, pestilence, and famine had not existed, and only natural death came to man, and this pair had doubled, once in thirty years, and their children had doubled, and so on, how large would the population of the world be at this time—could they stand upon the earth as a plane?

We were sitting at the breakfast table (says a writer) when he asked the question. We thought they could not.

"But if they stood closely, and others stood on their shoulders—man, woman, and child—how many layers would there be?"

I said perhaps three.

"How many feet of them?" he said.

"Possibly thirty," I said.

"Oh, more."

"Well, we'll say a hundred."

"Oh, more."

Miss Herschell said:

"Enough to reach the moon."

"To the sun."

"More, more!"

"To Neptune," said one.

"Now you burn," he replied. "Take a hundred times the distance of Neptune, and it would be very near. That is my way," he said, "of whitewashing war, pestilence, and famine."

Fond Mother: If that boy of mine has any particular bent, I can't find it.

Guardian: What experiments have you made to find out?

Fond Mother: Very thorough ones. I gave him a toy printing press, a steam engine, a box of paints, a chest of tools, and lots of other things carefully selected to find out whether his tastes were literary, mechanical, artistic, commercial, or what, and I know no more than I did before.

Guardian: What did he do with them?

Fond Mother: Smashed them all up.

Guardian: Ah, I see! He is to be a furniture remover.

"The Taming of the Shrew" has been produced at Florence. For the benefit of those who speak or read Shakespeare's mother-tongue the piece is placarded as "The Tamed Screw."

"You should have seen how legally Miss De Frivolous swept down the avenue yesterday!" "Well, that's the first time I ever heard of that girl doing anything useful."

"You didn't bring your wife with you, Mr. Jones," said the small boy of the house, addressing the guest. "No, my boy. Would you like to see her?" "Yes. Leastways, I would like to see her thumb." "See her thumb, what for?" "Well, ma says your wife keeps you under her thumb, and I'd like to see it, for it must be a pretty big one."

A gentleman who was visiting one of the public schools in a Scotch town asked a bright-looking boy, "What profit is there in the study of ancient history?" "About eighteenpence, I suppose," was the reply. "What?" "Well, the teacher makes us buy the books from him, and we have to pay three shillings; I think he gets them for eighteenpence apiece; so he has a clear profit of eighteenpence, according to my calculation."

A story of the last Paris carnival shows that an age of chivalry can co-exist with an age of robbery. Mme. Charlotte T——, Hallet saleswoman and, moreover, a widow, went out as was only natural, to have a look at the procession. She found on her return that her jewels had been stolen in her absence. For all ills, however, there are compensation, and on the table the thief had left a note, brief indeed, but gallant and gratifying to a degree. "A thousand regrets," so the note ran, "for not having found in this chamber by far its most lovely jewel!"

FATE—THE MOCKER.

It was in the wet grounds of the Casino at Ostend. The woman sat there, idly plucking at her fan, the man leaned over behind her, with his face near her own.

They had met but an hour since in surprising fashion; yet they seemed to have little to say to each other, only now and again the woman spoke, in low tones, with a little mirthless laugh alternating with the words. The man answered dreamily, with his eyes wandering over the scene before him.

"You want to know what I have been doing during these years?" said the woman, with a slight sigh. "It's easily told. After you lost sight of me—do you remember—I met Herrick Yeend. He was rich, and I—Oh, I was tired of the game of chances! I seemed never to win a prize, somehow. Yeend was—very nice, and I—"

"You married him," said the slow voice behind her. "Wise little woman!"

"Tell me," she said, "what have you been doing?"

"Oh, I've been wandering in the same aimless fashion about the world, writing poems which nobody reads, painting pictures which no man buys, gambling a little, running into debt a great deal."

"And you are not married?" she asked.

"No; I am not married." he said slowly, looking at her "Did you expect that I should be?"

She did not answer for a moment; she only looked shyly up at him, with a flush on her face.

"Poor boy!" she murmured at last, softly. "I remember that you were awfully fond of me—in those old days."

"Yes; I was fond of you," replied the man, without looking at her.

"I see that, in spite of your advice to me, you still carry some of your dreams," she said wistfully.

"Some of them," he said.

"And you are still fond of me, Leslie?" she said.

"Can you doubt it?"

"You poor boy, I treated you very badly in the old days, very badly indeed; I wish I could make it up to you."

Something in the tender, regretful voice touched the man; he bent nearer to her.

"And you thought I had forgotten all about you; you thought I could forget?" he whispered.

She looked down the lamplit path, and suddenly sat upright and stiff.

"Go away now," she whispered, "Yeend is coming; I can see his figure in the distance. Come back to me again, I want to talk to you."

She was sitting quite calmly, evidently very much bored, when her husband came slowly along the path and stood before her.

"Well?" she said, questioningly, glancing up at him.

"It's all finished" he said, in a hollow voice. "This is the end."

"You don't mean—" she began.

"I mean," he broke in, "that I have lost to-night as heavily as before—more heavily, in fact. I have 30 francs left."

"Thirty francs!" she exclaimed fiercely.

"That is all. I wanted to have enough to get some dinner and—and carry us elsewhere in the morning. The hotel bill, well—we'll forget it."

He laughed grimly and the woman shuddered.

"So this is the end," she said slowly, without looking at him, "beggary and shameful flight, and nothing in the future. This is all you have to offer me?"

"We are still together, Bertha," he said, looking at her hopelessly.

"Bah, that is the worst part of it," she said, scornfully. "Rich, you are tolerable; but poor——" She made a quick gesture of disgust, and turned away from him.

"And you can say this to me—at this hour?" he said bitterly.

"It is such moments as these that teach men and women honesty," she said, with a laugh. "You have been blind not to see it all before. You know I never really loved you."

He turned away with almost a sob in his throat. She looked at his bowed head curiously. Suddenly she leaned toward him, almost eagerly.

"Herrick," she said, "give me the 30 francs. Let me risk all or nothing. I'll try my luck."

He looked at her moodily; then drew the coins from his pocket and tossed them in her lap. "As you will," he said, "it doesn't matter now."

She caught the money together quickly and rose.

"I'll go alone," she said, "you'll spoil the luck. Something tells me that I shall win to-night."

He watched her as she walked quickly in the direction of the lighted building; then turned and thrust his hands into his empty pockets, and walked slowly and dejectedly in the opposite direction.

With a mad recklessness, which was characteristic of her, she staked all her small capital on the first throw—and won. Keeping no reserve, she staked all she had again, and won again. With a white, set face, and with something beating hard and fast in her temples like a little hammer, she played steadily on. Gradually a crowd grew about her; a little hoarse murmur of surprise went up as she raked over the money again and again. Everything she touched turned to gold; she followed no system; she played with the greatest irregularity.

Men coming out into the night air, laughing and talking eagerly, wondered who she was, and predicted that she would certainly break the bank; others, crowding in, and peering over each other's shoulders, pressed to catch a sight of the beautiful wonder. But the woman played steadily on; only now and again she whispered, through her set teeth, "For my love—my love!"

They came crowding out at last, with Bertha Yeend walking in the forefront of them—calm and white-faced as ever—with cries and shouts and laughter all about her; she had broken the bank. The notes and gold were gripped tightly within her fingers.

She shook herself free of the crowd, and came to the seat over which had leaned Leslie Penstone, and sat down there. But he did not come, and she got up at last, impatiently, and walked slowly away.

She saw him coming toward her; leaning on his arm was a young girl. Bertha Yeend thrust the notes and gold into a bundle, and held them between her hands—gripping them fiercely.

"I was hoping I would meet you," she said softly. "Who is your friend?"

"Allow me—Miss Dora Brooke—Mrs. Yeend. As an old friend, Mrs. Yeend, you will be glad to know that Miss Brooke has consented to share the fortunes and misfortunes of this most unworthy servant. She is staying here with her people; we're just looking for them."

He spoke with some degree of nervousness. Mrs. Yeend merely smiled delightedly, and spoke with her usual easy grace.

"I must really congratulate you, Mr. Penstone," she said. "I was looking for my husband." Despite all her care, her lips would tremble a little as she finished speaking, and bowing, left them.

"Coward!" she breathed fiercely, as she hurried on. "So he lied, like all the rest of them! Well, sing hey for the old life, with some money to gild it, and make the dose palatable!"

Turning a corner quickly, and thrusting the money into the bosom of her dress, she came on a little crowd gathered silently about something lying on the ground. They tried to keep her back, but she pressed forward, and came within the circle, and looked down at what they surrounded.

It was Herrick Yeend—dead! with a bullet in his brain and a revolver gripped in his stiffening hand.

Truly, Fate is a mocker.—"In Town"

Headmaster (addressing his class): How simple yet sublime is the beautiful and detailed description which Pliny, the younger, gives of the house in which he lived. Soloman (aside to his neighbour): Most likely he wanted to sell it.

Dobbs: Do you notice any difference in your wife now from the days of your courtship? Nobbs: Yes, I do. In those days she would be content to sit on my knee; now she sits on me altogether whenever she gets an opportunity.

Hicks: Everybody's buying bicycles now. I suppose you would be buying one, too, if you could raise the wind? Winks: I think I could raise the wind all right, but it is the tires that go around the wind, together with the other parts of the machine, that trouble me.

At a recent introduction of a bishop to his see someone noticed a Dublin graduate wearing an Oxford hood. He pointed it out to the Bishop, and said that the person stood there with a lie on his back. "Well," replied his lordship, "you can hardly call it a lie; but it is certainly a falsehood."

Mr. O'Hoolihan (proprietor of the restaurant): Miss Flanaghan, take that shamrock off yer throat! Lady Cashier: What for? Ain't it St. Patrick's Day, sir? Mr. O'Hoolihan: Yes; but yer hair's red and the shamrock's green, an' ye're wearing the red above the green. Take it off.

"My wife was to meet me here at this hour. Have you seen anything of her?" "Is she a small woman with golden hair?" "She is a small woman, but I don't know about the hair. She wasn't up when I left home this morning, and I don't know what hair she is wearing to-day."

CONCERT AT CONSETT

PROMENADE CONCERT.

The committee of the Consett Amateur Orchestra held their fourth New Year popular promenade concert in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Monday evening. The committee are to be congratulated upon their enterprise, and the "bill of fare" they provided on this occasion attracted quite a crowd. The spacious building was packed to excess. Besides the full orchestra the following were the artistes:—Mrs E. J. Colmar, Consett; Miss Kate Eltringham, Blackhill; Miss E. Davison, Blackhill; Mr J. W. Heslop, Consett; Mr T. Atkinson, Blackhill; Mr J. T. Symington, Consett; and Mr Robinson, Consett. The orchestra, as usual, under the conductorship of Mr G. A. Williams, rendered at intervals a choice selection of high-class music, including the polka march, "Whitehall"; waltz, "Mimosa" (melodies from "The Geisha"); march, "The famous cadet two step"; "Metropolia" lancers, "Geisha"; new waltz, "A vision of love," and "Haydn's farewell symphony." We have heard this orchestra perform on several occasions, but their performance on this night was everything that could be desired. Capital time was kept throughout, and each individual member of the orchestra did his best to make the rendition of the various selections as perfect as possible. The efforts of the orchestra were repeatedly applauded, and they were awarded an encore for the performance of "Haydn's farewell symphony." This piece had a curious and novel ending; the instrumentalists blew out their candles and disappeared from the platform one by one, only leaving the solo players to finish the extra adajio. This caused no end of amusement, but apart from this the symphony itself is one of the finest of Haydn's orchestral works. The humorous element was kept up with great zest and vigour by Mr Atkinson, and the rendition of the song, "John Bull," fairly brought down the house. Mr Symington was in rare form, and he sang "Anchored" and "The old brigade" (with full orchestra accompaniment), in splendid style, and was the recipient of vociferous applause. Mr J. W. Heslop scored as a vocalist by his capital rendering of "Father Eternal." This piece was also given with full orchestral accompaniment, and proved quite a success. The programme also included a laughable farce in one act, entitled "The boots at the Swan." The scenery provided for the farce was very good, and was lent for the occasion by Mr Lloyd Clarance, of the Theatre Royal Consett. The "make up" of the different characters was a special feature and reflected the highest credit upon those who had the getting up of the farce. The characters performed their parts in capital style, and the farce was gone through without a single hitch. The characters were as follows:—"Mr Henry Higgins," a gentleman with an unfortunate name and a fervent attachment to Emily Trevor, Mr J. T. Symington; "Frank Friskley," a cavalry captain with a genius for invention and an attachment for everything but his regiment, Mr Robinson; "Peter Pippin," a promising young gentleman in livery, with an enquiring mind and an unfortunate attachment, Mr A. H. Heslop; "Jacob Earwig," "The boots at the Swan," a free and easy youth with a talent for pantomime, a refined taste, and a strong attachment to refreshment, Mr Geo. A. Williams; "Miss Cecilia Moonshine," a romantic lady, a victim to sentiment and light reading, with a foul attraction to extraordinary novelties, Mrs E. J. Colmar; "Emily Trevor," a young lady with a fortune in perspective, and a confessed attachment to Henry Higgins, Miss K. Eltringham; and "Sally Smith," a genteel housemaid with a character from her last place, and a slight attachment to a fancy baker, Miss E. Davison. The successful proceedings were brought to a conclusion shortly after ten o'clock. The duties of accompanist were ably carried out by Mr Geo. P. Stephenson, of Blackhill.

CONSETT AMATEUR ORCHESTRA.

On Monday evening in connection with the Consett Wesleyan Methodist Church, a successful concert was held in the Lecture Hall. There was a large audience. The artistes for the occasion were:—Miss Mimi Beers, Newcastle; Miss Fanny Watson, Blackhill, Mr Sam R. Heenan, Newcastle; and Mr Frank Cooke, Newcastle. A vocal quartette, consisting of Misses Lowrie, Dunn, Tina Walton, F. Watson, Messrs W. Lowrie, C. Davison, M. Lowdon, and B. Bailey, and the church orchestra, were also in attendance. A high-class programme of music was rendered. The opening item was an Italian march, 'La tion de St. Marc,' by the orchestra, which was given in capital style, under the leadership of Mr C. Stelling. There were one or two other selections given by the orchestra, which met with rounds of applause. Mr Heenan, who possesses a splendid tenor voice, delighted the audience with his rendition of "With such a dainty dame," and was the recipient of loud and prolonged applause. Mr Heenan's other songs were "The star of Bethlehem," and "My Queen," which were given with considerable success. For the former song Mr Heenan was awarded a well-merited encore. Miss Beers charmed the audience with her singing of "Dream of love," "Queen of the earth," and "Children asleep." This artiste's voice was heard to advantage in each song, and she met with frequent outbursts of applause. Mr Cooke, the well-known humourist, created a favourable impression with his capital rendition of the Scotch song, "Flat-footed Jean," and was awarded an encore. He was equally successful with the recitation, "The battle of Limerick," and the song, "It does go." Miss Watson gave a good interpretation of "I seek for thee in every flower," and was loudly applauded. The duet, "Home to our mountains," was well executed by Miss Beers and Mr Heenan, and they received the warm applause of all present. The quartette party favoured with "Shepherd of souls," which was well appreciated, the various voices blending well. Several of the songs and quartettes were illustrated with lime-light views, which had a good effect. The lantern was manipulated by Mr Venice Dunn, assisted by Mr P. E. Surtees. The duties of accompanist were discharged by Mr C. Stelling, Blackhill. During the evening, in one of the class-rooms, the graphone, as used by Mr Lindon Travers, was exhibited, and the music and speeches that were produced by this marvellous instrument delighted large audiences. The successful concert was brought to a conclusion by a number of readings and fairy tales, which were illustrated by lime-light views. The reader was Mr Thos. Carr, jun. In the Infants' School a supper was provided, and was partaken of by a large number of people. The tables were presided over by Mesdames J. Cuthbertson, Ed. Whittaker, T. Cockburn, Carr, Milburn (2), Broadbent, and Lamb, while the culinary duties were attended to by Mesdames Cress, J. Skelton, Messrs Ed. Grant, and Geo. Parsons.

BLACKHILL.

Death of an Old Resident.—On Monday afternoon the death took place of Mr. Geo. Oliver, of No. 8, Siemens Street, Blackhill, after some weeks' illness, at the age of 71 years. Deceased was well known in the district, having resided in Consett and Blackhill for over 30 years. Formerly he worked in the ironworks at Sunderland, and latterly he has been employed at the Consett Iron Company's Tinmill Works. He leaves a widow and grown-up family.

BURNOPFIELD.

Free Church.—On Monday afternoon a sale of work was held in the above school-room in aid of the renovation fund. There were several stalls containing draperies, fancy goods, fruit, etc., which were presided over by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Drapery stall—Misses Errington, Beveridge, Taylor, Curry, and Mesdames Trotter, Clasper, and Mrs. Kyle (superintendent.) Children's Stall—Misses Armstrong, Taylor, Teasdale, Wigham, and superintended by Miss Leadbitter. Flower Stall—Misses A. Davis, L. Kyle, A. Cuthbertson, and J. Armstrong. Young Men's Stall—Messrs Jas. Clasper, R. Kyle, and J. Haughan. Mr. Wilkinson attended to the galvanic battery, while Mr. Harmer superintended the weighing machine. Later in the afternoon a knife-and-fork tea was provided, the tables being supervised by the Misses F. Errington, Fairbeirn, Beattie, and Cooper, while Mesdames Purdy, Teasdale, Taylor, Lawson, and Fairbairn cut the bread. In the evening a magic-lantern entertainment was given in the chapel by Messrs A. Kyle and F. Haughan, the subject being "From Gordon to Kitchener." Mr. Harris, of Stanley presided over a good attendance. The sale in the afternoon was very brisk, the stalls being literally surrounded by purchasers. A good sum was realised for the renovation fund.

The "Court Journal" notes, with interest a fashion penetrating even to what it cautiously particularises as "the most exalted" circles. The following is the discovery, culled intact from the "exalted" columns of Royalty's favoured chronicle.—"The practice of 'pink' pill-taking, so lavishly encouraged by bold advertisement, is said to be making upward progress in Society, and report has it that the product of the 'only genuine' manufacturer—the pill with the seven-worded name so often displayed before our eyes with piteous entreaty to shun all pills with a 'missing word' in their title—has penetrated to the most exalted circles. However this may be, it is not to be questioned that pale people in the highest walks of Society are availing themselves of 'Dr. Williams' discovery and comparing notes, not without satisfaction at the improvement in their personal appearance thereon resulting."

Fancy Dress Ball at Leadgate.

In connection with the Heliotrope Quadrille Party, a full and fancy dress ball was held on Wednesday of last week, in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate, and was a great success. Several pretty and effective costumes were worn, some of them being elaborate, and the whole forming a very bright and artistic variety. The committee comprised Messrs C. Browell, H. Hall, J. Pattison, R. Winter, and F. Walker, whilst the secretarial duties were admirably discharged by Mr Tom W. Whitfield, Blackfine. Messrs D. Cuthbertson and J. Turner were a pair of indefatigable M.C.'s. The music was in the hands of Mr R. Winter (piano) and Mr H. Hall (violin), whilst Mr J. H. Courtney, Consett, had charge of the refreshment department. There was a numerous attendance, and all present appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves. Amongst the company we noticed the following:—

Miss E. Teasdale, Leadgate (Gipsy.)
Miss A. Teasdale, Leadgate (Harvest.)
Miss Teasdale, Leadgate (Folly.)
Miss Jameson, Blackhill (Pirate.)
Miss M. Wilkinson, Leadgate (Night.)
Mr Ralph Wylam, Consett (Spanish piper.)
Miss Harris, Consett ("Tina")
Mr J. Winter, Leadgate (Cricketer.)
Mr S. Skelton, Consett (Cricketer.)
Miss Wylam, Consett (Red Riding Hood.)
Miss Black, Leadgate (Yachting Costume.)
Mr M. Black, Leadgate.
Mr F. Walker, Leadgate.
Mr W. Graham, Leadgate.
Mr D. Cuthbertson, Leadgate.
Mr T. Whitfield, Blackfine (Naval Costume.)
Mr J. T. Willey, Leadgate.
Mr R. Davison, Consett.
Mr G. Thompson, Consett.
Mr R. Wake, Consett.
Miss Jackson, East Castle.
Miss Gladders, East Castle.
Miss Finlay, Crookhall.
Mr H. Hall, Leadgate (Indian.)
Mr E. Hall, Leadgate (Cowboy.)
Mr J. Turner, Leadgate ("Tod Sloane.")
Miss Tate, Leadgate (Summer.)
Mr T. Leath, Medomsley (Jack Tar.)
Mr W. Leath, Medomsley (Military bandsman.)
Mrs C. Merritt, Blackhill (Monte Carlo.)
Miss Tuck, Crookhall (Sweet Violets.)
Miss Lax, East Castle (Sweet Violets.)
Mr J. Pattison, Leadgate.
Miss Sterling, Consett (Swiss Costume.)
Miss Dawson, Leadgate.
Miss Caley, Consett.
Miss Marrs, Jesmond.
Miss K. Winter, Leadgate.
Miss C. Robson, Leadgate (Bohemian Girl.)
Miss Reay, Consett.
Miss Moore, Consett (Schoolgirl.)
Miss J. Robson, Leadgate (Schoolgirl.)
Miss M. Black, Leadgate (Norwegian Costume.)
Miss McCourt, Consett.
Miss Gladders ("Dinna Forget.")
Miss Lax ("My Sweetheart.")
Miss Eltringham, Catchgate.
Mr Charlton, Catchgate.
Miss E. Morgan (Heliotrope.)
Mr Finlay, Crookhall.
Miss Winter, Consett.
Mr J. Thompson.
Mr Scudamore, Blaydon (Cricketer.)
Mr J. Kershaw, Leadgate.
Mr F. Lockey, Leadgate.
Mr J. Pescod, Consett.
Mr J. Wilson, Blackhill.
Mr Patterson, Waskerley.
Mr Jobling; and many others.

CONSETT.

Wesleyan Sunday-school.—The teachers of this Sunday-school held their annual teachers' meeting in the Infants School-room on Monday afternoon. There was a large attendance, presided over by the Rev. Joseph Bacon, Consett.—The various reports were submitted relative to the condition of the mixed and infants school. The number of scholars on the books was 500, and the average attendance of teachers and scholars was good.—The financial statement shewed that after meeting all expenses there was a balance of £9 16s 8½d in hand.—The whole of the reports were adopted.—The election of officers resulted as follows:—Mixed School: Superintendents, Messrs John Lowes and Robert English; secretaries, Messrs W. Farnsworth and J. W. Lowdon; infants' school: superintendents, Messrs Ed. Grant and R. Russell; secretaries, Messrs Newton and Cooke; librarians, Messrs E. Whitehead and R. Goulie; star markers, Messrs Roberts and Temperley; juvenile missions' secretary, Miss Egglestone; treasurer, Mr. Ed. Hobday; book steward, Miss Hilda Whittaker; representatives to the quarter board, Messrs A. Dodd and Geo. Parsons; auditor, Mr. Jesse Hall.—Several committees were appointed, including one for the library, and another for the management of the school orchestra.—The other business transacted was of a formal character.

STANLEY.

Presentation.—On Saturday, 24th inst., the members of the Shield Row Vegetable Society, held a social gathering at Mr. Joseph Watson's Shield Row Hotel, to make a presentation of a purse of gold to Mr. William Smith, taxidermist, West Stanley. Mr. Charles Scott, of Oakey's, one of the members, in a neat and appropriate speech made the presentation to Mr. Smith. He referred to the great benefit in which the society had resulted, and said it gave him very much pleasure in thanking Mr. Smith for the past support which he had so generously given, and wishing him long life and happiness for years to come. (Applause.)—Mr. Smith, in response, thanked Mr. Scott and the other gentlemen present for their handsome gift. He also thanked them for all the kindness they had shown towards him since he came amongst them in connection with vegetable shows, and he assured them that he would give a splendid case of stuffed birds at the next show. (Applause.)—Votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

Wesleyan Tea and Concert.—The Wesleyans of West Stanley opened the secular portion of their programme for the new year by holding a public tea and "an ancient and modern" concert, in the Board Schools, Front Street. During the afternoon a children's New Year's tree was on view, and was adorned with toys and useful articles, which were sold to willing buyers. There was also a shooting gallery, and by means of this combination of entertainment a considerable sum was added to the new church and schools fund. The tea tables and New Year's tree were presided over by Miss Ridley, Miss Hockaday, Miss L. Brown, Miss S. Brown, Miss J. Hall, Miss I. Hall, Mrs. Oliver, Mrs. J. Green, Mrs. W. Green, Mrs. Humble, Mrs. Mallams, Mrs. Willey, and Mrs. Calvert. The tea was supplied by Mr. H. Armstrong, and a large company sat down to a most replete and enjoyable repast. After the tea a grand selection of old Methodist hymns were sung by a special choir consisting of adult and married members of the church, Mr. John Carr ably officiating as conductor and organist. Solos were also rendered by Miss Humble, Miss Lizzie Ritson, Mrs. Emmerson, Mr. John Lowery, and Mr John Scott. Mr. J. Oliver presided, and at an interval delivered an address suitable to the occasion.

TANTOBIE.

Bandsmen's Ball.—On Friday evening the members of the Tanfield Lea String Band, an offshoot of the Tanfield Lea Silver Model Band, held an all-night ball in the Co-operative Hall, Tantobie. The music was supplied by the Tanfield Lea Band, under the leadership of Mr. T. Shepherd, while the duties of M.C.'s were very ably discharged by Messrs. L. Joyce and T. Clark. The refreshments, which were of excellent quality, were supplied by Mr. J. Eltringham, of Dipton. The secretarial duties were fulfilled by Mr. T. Armstrong, of Causey. A thin company of dancers turned up, and the amusement was stopped at midnight.

Football Club.—On Saturday evening the members of the above club held a knife-and-fork tea at Mr. Snowdon's, Commercial Hotel, Tantobie, the headquarters of the club, after their return from playing at Leadgate. The repast was provided by the host and hostess in first-class style, and was very highly appreciated. After tea Mr. Timothy Hanover was presented with a beautiful dinner set of ware, on the occasion of his marriage. After Mr. Hanover had responded the remainder of the evening was spent in a harmonious manner.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Monday afternoon, Mr W. Robson, of Iveston, preached a special sermon in the above chapel, after which a public tea was provided in the school-room, the tables of which were presided over by Mesdames McPherson, Ridley, Saunders, Brown, Gray, and Todd. In the evening the cantata entitled "The Prince of Peace" was rendered by the chapel choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. Gedling. Mr. J. R. Smailes presided at the organ. Mr. Robson was the chairman of the evening. The proceeds were in aid of the trust funds.

Co-operative Society.—The 151st quarterly statement of the society's accounts has just been issued. During the quarter 13 new members have been enrolled, 22 withdrawn and struck off the books, leaving 528 registered members. The nett profit for the quarter was £1,058 9s 8½d, which was divided as follows:—To members' purchases at 3/6 in the £, £899 15s 6d, while £65 1s 2½d was carried to next quarter. The share capital now amounts to £15,003 16s 9d. The average per member was £28 8s 3½d. The sales for the quarter amounted to £5,793 7s 4d. The average weekly purchases were 18/5½ per member.

SPEN.

Breach of the Peace.—On Thursday, at the Gateshead County Police Court, John George Best and Joseph Ley were charged with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Spen on December 26th.—Defendants were bound over to keep the peace in the sum of £5.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Sale of Work.—On Monday last, at the Congregational Schools, Chester-le-Street, the twentieth annual sale of work, promoted by the members of the Congregational Church, was opened in the presence of a large number of ladies and gentlemen. Mr G. H. Baines, J.P., of West Hartlepool, who is Chairman of the Northumberland and Durham Congregational Union, was to have opened the sale, but being unable to attend, through illness, he sent a subscription instead, and the pastor, the Rev. B. Crookall, declared the sale open. Tea was provided and various entertainments were given which all helped to make the proceedings enjoyable. A party of children gave an entertainment entitled "The children's musical hour." The "Graphophone" was also called into use. The stall-holders were as follows:—Refreshments, Misses E. Hall and White; ladies stall, Mrs Crookall, Mrs J. Hall, and Mrs P. Hall; fancy stall, Mrs Wragge and the Misses E. and H. A. Greenwell, and M. Head; china stall, Misses E. Hall and Jackson. The tea was presided over by Mrs Jackson, Mrs Storey, Mrs Betts, and Miss Darrie, and Miss L. Betts had charge of the Christmas tree. Buying and selling went on briskly and there was not much leisure time for either the stall-holders or those present, and everybody thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

WEARDALE.

Festivities.—Monday was observed in Stanhope as a general holiday. Public works and places of business were all closed. A football match in the castle park between Stockton Old Boys and Stanhope 1st drew a number of spectators, despite the covering of snow on the ground. The bazaar at the Wesleyan Chapel was also attractive. Stockton Old Boys usually visit Stanhope on New Year's Day and play a friendly game at football. Their goalkeeper drew forth from all hands praise for his smart performance. The annual concert was held on Monday night at the High House Wesleyan Chapel. Mrs Wooliscroft, sister of the late Judge Waddy, Q.C., opened a bazaar and New Year's tree on Monday afternoon for the Stanhope Wesleyans. An entertainment was held in the evening. The Waller family, of Frosterley, assisted by Mr J. Temperley, and the Misses Hogarth, of Stanhope, and others, gave a concert to the inmates of the Weardale Union Workhouse on Monday evening.

WINLATON.

Obscene Language.—At the Gateshead County Police Court, Joseph Aydon was charged with using obscene language at Winlaton on December 17th.—Defendant, who pleaded guilty, was fined 2/6 and costs.

Expensive Holly.—At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Thursday, George Robson and Robert Turbitt were charged with doing wilful damage to trees on December 18th, near Winlaton, the property of the Towneley Estate.—A woodman deposed that he saw the defendants cutting some holly, and also breaking the tops off some trees.—Defendants were each fined 10/-, 2/- damage and costs—18/- each.—Ernest Patterson was also fined 5/-, 1/- damage, and costs, for a similar offence at the same place.

A Heavy Fine.—On Thursday, at the Gateshead County Police Court, Robert Shield was fined 20/- and costs for being drunk at Winlaton on December 17th.

To grind our scissors at home, saw the blade on the neck of a glass bottle, as if you were trying to saw that part off. In a very short time the scissors will be quite sharp.

DON'T GIVE CHILDREN MUCH MEAT.

Until a child has cut the whole of its first set of teeth, meat every other day is quite enough for it. When all the teeth have come, meat may be given once a day, but certainly not oftener. As a rule, a child, until it has reached the age of six or seven, should only be allowed meat in very moderate quantities. A young child who is a large eater of meat is seldom healthy, and very often suffers from indigestion and sleeplessness.

TO WHITEN THE KITCHEN TABLE.

Spread it all over with a thin paste made of chloride of lime and hot water; leave on all night, and in the morning wash off.

A DELICIOUS SACHET POWDER.

A delicious sachet powder is composed of oil of patchouli, half drachm; oil of rose geranium half drachm; otto of rose, half drachm; oil of sandalwood, one drachm; oil of English lavender one drachm; oil of cloves, half drachm; oil bergamot, three and a half drachms; extract musk, half drachm. Mix, and add two drachms of this compound to powdered orrisroot, one ounce; Tonquin beans, one drachm; sifted pine sawdust, two ounces. The scented oils, if kept in a closely-stoppered bottle, may be used to renew the perfume when desired. Little bags of this sachet powder may be placed in drawers and boxes containing gloves, handkerchiefs and veils.

SCHOOL LIFE.

A child should not be sent to school before the age of six years, and from that to the age of about ten the school hours should not be more than three or four at most. The rest of the time should be spent in meals, rest, and play; for it is necessary for the health of every growing boy and girl that they have plenty of play-time, and they will learn all the better a little later on.

PUTTING BABY INTO BED.

It is not desirable to lay a baby on its back when sleep is wished for. Either one side or the other is best; and, if possible, it is well to accustom it first to one side and then to the other, as this obviates falling into the habit of being able to sleep only on one side. But a child who is wide awake and of a happy disposition, so that it lies cooing to itself and watching the mysteries of its own ten fingers, is all the better for being laid on its back, as the spine is thereby kept straight and unstrained, and growth goes on apace, just as it does when a growing boy or girl is compelled, from accident, to spend a few weeks in a recumbent position, and finds when allowed to get up that none of his, or her, clothes are long enough.

WOMEN WHO ARE BETTER OFF SINGLE THAN MARRIED.

The woman who proudly declares that she cannot even hem a pocket-handkerchief, never made up a bed in her life, and adds with a simper that she's "been in society ever since she was fifteen," should not marry. And there are others.

The woman who would rather nurse a pug dog than a baby.

The woman who wants to refurnish her house every spring.

The woman who buys for the mere pleasure of buying.

The woman who thinks men are angels and demigods.

The woman who would rather die than wear a bonnet two seasons old.

The woman who thinks that the cook and the nurse can keep house.

The woman who buys *bric-à-brac* for the parlour, and borrows kitchen utensils from her neighbours.

The woman who wants things just because "other women" have them.

AN AMUSING OCCUPATION FOR A RAINY DAY.

Mothers are often sorely puzzled to know what to give to children to play with when confined to the house through illness or bad weather. Here is a new and rather good idea. Procure about a dozen balls of wrapping twine in a variety of colours, select three—say, red, white, and blue—tie the ends together, securely fasten them to a table, and give them to the child to braid. It will take quite a long time to come to a point where the ends can be neatly knotted. When the first is finished, another can be made of yellow, white, and green, and a third of orange, black, and white. The three strings can then be made one by braiding, and the complete result will give the child a brilliantly-coloured pair of reins for playing horses. These reins have the advantage of being strong, and are all the more highly prized because they were actually made by the little owner.

A BOX TO PUT THE BABY IN.

The idea of padding a large box specially for baby comes from a busy German minister's wife, and when baby is safely in it his mother may have many quiet hours. Take a large dry goods box with sides just high enough for baby to take hold of while standing. Pad the box carefully with a brightly coloured quilt, and it is ready for use, either in the house or out. Here baby is safe from draughts, he can learn to creep, to raise himself to his feet and walk, and when tired of that exercise can have his toys and play with them in the bottom of his box, and scatter them about to his heart's content, and yet always have them within his reach.

COUGHING.

The following is from a well-known doctor at an institution where there are many children: There is nothing more irritable to a cough than a cough. For some time I had been so fully assured of this that I determined, for one minute at least, to lessen the number of coughs heard in a certain ward in the hospital of the institution. By the promise of rewards and punishments I succeeded in inducing them to simply hold their breath when tempted to cough, and in a little while I was myself surprised to see how some of the children entirely recovered from the disease. Constant coughing is precisely like scratching a wound on the outside of the body. So long as it is done the wound will not heal. Let a person when tempted to cough draw a long breath and hold it until it warms and soothes every air cell, and some benefit will soon be received from this process. The nitrogen which is thus refined acts as an anodyne to the mucous membrane, allaying the desire to cough, and giving the throat and lungs a chance to heal. At the same time a suitable medicine will aid nature in her efforts to recuperate.

Business Announcements.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR.

MRS. FAIRLESS,

NORTH-WEST DURHAM BAKERY,
SPEN, LINTZ GREEN,

Is now prepared to supply Game, Poultry, Geese, Ducks, Turkeys, Hares, and Rabbits. All Orders promptly attended to, and delivered to any Address.

CHRISTMAS CAKES AND SWEETMEATS ! !

The following among other Specialities—Madera, Cherry, Fruit, Plum, Rice, Seed, Snow, Cocoanut, Sultana, and Ginger Bread. Order early to prevent disappointment.

THE FESTIVE SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING AND

M. MACKENZIE & SONS,

Are prepared to meet the demands of those who buy, and select carefully their

XMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GOODS.

Currants	3d. and 4d. per lb.
Raisins.. ..	4d. and 5d. ,,
,, (Seedless)	6d. ,,
Peel	4d. ,,
Flavouring Essences	1d. and 5d. per bottle
Ginger Wine Essence ..	5d. ,,
Baking Powder ..	large tin, 3d.
Cake Flour..	4½d. per packet.
Table Jellies ..	1d. and 4d. per packet.
Butter Lard Flour	at lowest Market Prices.

BEEF SUET ..	2½d., 4½d., and 8d. per packet.
HAMS, lean and mild cured, ..	5½d. per lb.
,, smoked, delicious ..	only 6d. ,,
Rolled Shoulders ..	4d. and 4½d. ,,
Square ,, ...	4d. ,,
Smoked Rolls, recommended ..	5d. ,,
CHEESE.	
Cheshire, rich and crumbly ..	7d. per lb.
Scotch Cheddar, very rich ..	8d. ,,
American, very rich	5½d. ,,
Gouda and Gorgonzola at equally low prices.	

TEAS. TEAS. TEAS.

Here at last, amid all that is shifting, is one thing sure—MACKENZIE'S TEAS still remain the same good value.

Try our Choice INDIAN and CEYLON BLENDS, 1s. 8d. and 2s. per lb.

CAKES and BISCUITS in great variety. All kinds of Feeding Stuffs kept in Stock.

Goods delivered throughout the District.

M. MACKENZIE AND SONS,
25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT
AND AT LOCKERBIE. c

WATSON'S BUILDINGS, FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

R. D. GRUNDY,

TAILOR, HATTER, AND GENT'S OUTFITTER,
Has a Large and Specially Selected
New Stock of Suitings, Overcoatings, Ladies' Costume Cloths, Hats, Caps, Collars, Fronts, Ties, &c., &c. Everything New, Up-to-Date, and at Moderate Prices.
Large New Stock of Silk Handkerchiefs and Ties suitable for Presentation. 611c

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ANNFIELD PLAIN.—RE-OPENING OF BUSINESS PREMISES.

F. WELCH & CO.,

IRONMONGERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY,

HAVE great pleasure in informing their Friends and Public generally that, after Re-building and Re-modelling their Business Establishment, have re-opened same with a New and Varied Stock. We have also added a

FURNISHING DEPARTMENT,

with Novelties in Bedsteads, Chairs, Mats, Rugs, Carpets, &c.
We are now making our USUAL DISPLAY OF TOYS, GAMES, FANCY GOODS, &c., for the CHRISTMAS and NEW YEAR. We invite inspection.

F. WELCH & Co., ANNFIELD PLAIN AND STANLEY. 666c

MUSIC ! MUSIC ! ! MUSIC ! ! !

THOMAS JONES,

DEALER IN ALL KINDS OF
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS.
PIANOS, ORGANS, HARMONIUMS, &c., BY THE BEST ENGLISH AND FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS.

30 to 35 per cent. Discount for Cash off Makers' Price List.

Newest Designs and latest Improvements at the Lowest Possible Prices. Inspection invited. Sole Agent for H. Matz and Co.'s Pianos, Berlin, and the "Bell" American Organs. The largest stock of Music in the district.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical, Practical, and Singing Examinations. Latest success in Singing—First and Second Class Honours.

Pianos, American Organs, and Harmoniums Tuned and Repaired.

Special for the Season: Jones's Special 1s. Parcel, each containing Four Songs—Comic and Sentimental. Usual price, 4s. per copy.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:
MUSIC EMPORIUM, 5, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT.

JOSEPH MURRAY,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER, PROVISION, FLOUR, AND WINE MERCHANT.

CONSETT.

BRANCHES—SPEN AND CRAGHEAD.

In presenting the under-mentioned Special Xmas List, I wish to convey my thanks to my numerous customers for their increased support through the year, and hope that by continuing to supply best quality of Goods at moderate prices, to acquire a still larger share of your patronage.

We have on hand, a Splendid Assortment of

CAKES AND BISCUITS.

Good Currant Cake	4d per lb.
"Ulster," a rich Genoa Cake ...	6d ,,
Almond-flavoured Sultana Cake	8d ,,
"Columbia," a beautiful Cake made with Cherries, Sultanas, Citron, and Almonds	8d ,,
Rich Seed Cake	7d ,,

Rich Rice Cake	7d per lb.
A special lot of Novelty Cakes	2d. each.
A special lot of 6d. Cakes ...... Assorted Flavours.	5½d. ,,
Fancy Cakes, Plain or ornamented, Fancy Tins of Biscuits ...	from 6d.
Huntley and Palmer's Shortbread,	1/- per Tin.

Barcelona, Brazil, and Walnuts. Almonds, Muscatels, Apples, Oranges, Date, Prunes, Preserved Fruits, Metz Fruits, and Fancy Chocolates in great variety.

PROVISIONS.

A rich lot of Cheshire, Gorgonzola, Wensleydale, Stilton, Edam, Gouda, and American Cheese at low prices.
We have always on hand a select lot of small HAMS, SIDES, SHOULDERS, Cumberland, Wiltshire, and Wiltshire Smoked BACON of our usual good quality.
☞ See the Windows for Prices.
Finest Danish and other Butters, Pure Lard, and Fresh Margarines.

TEAS.

In soliciting a trial of our Teas, we have every confidence that they will give satisfaction. They are the best that can be got for the different prices, and while we ask you to try them, we would also ask you to try our PRESENTATION TEA at 2s 6d per lb., and examine the Presents which are shown in the windows at various times. They show remarkable value and cannot be equalled.

WINES. WINES. WINES

Port Wines, 1/4, 1/8, 2/-, 2/6, 3/-, and 3/6 per Bottle.
Sherry Wines, 1/4, 2/1, 2/6, and 3/- per Bottle.
Claret, 1/4 and 1/6 per Bottle.
Champagne, 4/6 per Bottle; 2/6 per half Bottle.

Australian Burgundy, "Oomoo" Brand, 2/- per Flagon.
Australian, Burgundy, "Tintara" Brand, 3/- per Flagon.
Flagons 6d. each, returnable.
Glendinning's Coca-Wine, 3/9 per Bottle.
Glendinning's Beef and Malt Wine, 3/9 per Bottle; 2/- per ½ Bottle.

British Wines in Port, Sherry, Ginger, Rasp, Tent, Red Currant, Cowslip, Orange, Raisin, and Gooseberry, 1/- per Bottle.

Fruit Wines, various flavours, 7d. per Bottle.

☞ We hold a good Stock of Groceries, Sundries, &c., and respectfully ask the favour of your orders, which shall have careful and prompt attention.

Business Announcements.

FOR HIGH-CLASS ARTIFICIAL TEETH
AT REASONABLE CHARGES, CONSULT

MR. ARTHUR J. LUCAS,

Of 47, CROWN STREET, ELSWICK ROAD,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

Who is now back again in the old district, and personally attends every patient.

ATTENDANCE every Tuesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., or any other time by appointment.

NOTE—Train fare allowed to all Country Patients requiring Teeth.

944c ☞ PAINLESS EXTRACTIONS.

LARGE AND CHOICE ASSORTMENT OF WALLPAPERS, BORDERS, AND DECORATIONS AT

ROBERT ROBSON'S,

PAINTER, GLAZIER, HOUSE DECORATOR, &c.,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,

Wreaths and Mottoes of every description. Sole Agent for Ardenbright's Gold Paint.

REMEMBER THAT

JOHN T. CASTLE

Keeps the Finest Selection of CLOCKS, WATCHES, and SILVER-PLATE in the District.

NOTE ADDRESS:—
CASTLE WATCH WORKS, FRONT STREET, STANLEY.

Suitable for Presentation.—Special Display of Gold and Silver Jewellery for Christmas and New Year's Gifts. 678c

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CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S PRESENTS.

MARSHALL AND SONS,

WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS,
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, ALSO BLACKHILL.

We again beg to announce that we have a most excellent selection of JEWELLERY suitable for the present season.

LADIES' & GENTS' GOLD & SILVER WATCHES at all Prices.

BROOCHES, BANGLES, DRESS AND ENGAGEMENT RINGS, GOLD AND SILVER SCARF PINS, AND GENTS' RINGS, a Choice Variety.

A Solid SILVER ALBERT given to all buyers of our English Lever Watches during the next two months.

A HANDSOME PRESENT WITH OUR GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

THE BEST HOUSE FOR WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATE, AND SPECTACLES.

DOBSON GRADON,

WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

D. GRADON takes this opportunity of thanking his numerous and ever-increasing number of Customers for the large share of patronage given to him during the time he has been in business, and hopes by prompt attention and skilful workmanship to maintain the favourable position which he already holds.

Best quality English Lever Watches at Manufacturers' prices £3 3s.
Price Lists on Application.
Splendid English Lever Watches, £2 3s.
Ladies' 18ct Gold Watches, splendid quality, £3 15s.
Ladies' Silver Watches, £1 10s.
The above Watches are of excellent quality, all warranted, Albert given with same. Other Watches at much lower prices.

9ct Gold Alberts	20/- to 60/-
Sterling Silver Alberts	4/- to 8/-
Gold Brooches,	5/- to 50/-
Silver ,,	1/6 to 3/9
Jet ,,	1/- to 2/6
Gold Dress Rings	3/6 to 50/-
Gold Wedding Rings	8/6 to 20/-

Spoons given with Wedding Rings.
A large assortment of other Jewellery, also Clocks at prices according to quality.

Repairs a Speciality.

"Xmas comes but once a year,
And when it comes, it bring good cheer."

FOR QUALITY AND REASONABLE PRICES GO TO

M. FAWELL

FOR TEAS, COFFEE, FRUIT, FRUIT WINES, CHEESE, BUTTER, FLOUR, &c., FOR THE FESTIVE SEASON.

LARD, 4d. to 5½d. FRUIT LOAVES, 5d. to 8d. per lb. TOMATOES, 5d.

Our DRAPERY DEPARTMENT, which is well stocked and carefully selected, includes SILK HANDKERCHIEFS and MUFFLERS, FANCY APRONS and PINAFORES, SHAWLS, GLOVES, TIES, FRONTS, &c, suitable for the Season.

ADDRESS:—
40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, AND 1, DELVES LANE, NEAR THE STATION.

CHRISTMAS, 1898

JOSEPH POSTLE,

THE FAMILY GROCER AND NOTED PROVISION MERCHANT,
16, NEWMARKET STREET,
AND TOP OF PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

Returns his sincere thanks to his numerous Customers and the Public generally, for the generous favours during the year.

J.P. wishes to draw Special Attention to his large and varied Stock of Groceries and Provisions,

CHESHIRE CHEESE FROM PRIZE DAIRIES.

All those who are requiring the Finest Cheshire CHEESE that can be obtained, should give me an early call. Wensleydales, tip-top quality. Finest Canadian, Derby, Gorgonzola, Edams, and Goudas.
Mild Cured HAMS and BACON, noted for standard, quality, and flavour.
Perfect Danish BUTTER, finest obtainable. Pure Lard. Choice Margarine. Buttercup Mixture, delicious.
Choice Currants, New and Rich Raisins, all kinds in Stock. Finest Orange, Lemon, and Citron Peel. Ground Almonds, Dessicated Cocoanut.
Mason's Fruit Wines and Wine Essences. A Large Assortment of Biscuits and Cakes of every description. Cake Flour—Snow, Lemon, Sponge, Seed, Sultana, Cherry, Cocoanut. Jams and Jellies. Pickles and Sauces.
Tinned Fruits—Strawberries, Pears, Apricots, Pine Apple. Preserved Fruit in bottles—Cherry, Green Plum, Red Plum, Cranberries, Greengage, and Gooseberries.
Special Blends Ceylon and Indian Teas, 1s, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, 2s, 2s 4d, 2s 10d, and 3s per lb.
Sensation Prize Tea at 2s 6d per lb., is good value; Splendid Presents.
FLOUR—Finest Hungarian, Extra Whites, Family Pride, Ex. Superfine.
Wheat Meal, Whole Meal, Indian Meal, Pea Meal, Bran, Boxings, &c.
SPECIAL INSPECTION INVITED.
All orders Promptly attended to. 649c

"LET THEM ALL COME."

TO

PHILLIPSONS', BLACKHILL,

THE PEOPLE'S CASH STORES,
FOR

CHEAP DRESS STUFFS.

FOR CHEAPER DRESS STUFFS. FOR CHEAPEST DRESS STUFFS.

Fancy Stuffs at 4½d, double width.
Black Serge at 6½d, double width.
Marone coloured Cloth at 10½d, double width.

Heavy Tweeds at 6½d, double width.
Plum coloured Cloth at 10½d, double width.
Navy coloured Cloth at 10½d, double width.
Navy and Black Serges at 1s 4½d.

☞ SEND FOR PATTERNS.

SEWING MACHINES.

Have you seen these WONDERFUL MACHINES! If not, look at our Windows this week and you will be astonished.

We have every confidence in recommending them as they continue to give ENTIRE SATISFACTION.

PRICE, £4 10s. CASH PRICE, £4.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
SWAINSTON'S HOUSE FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT,
FRONT STREET AND NELSON STREET, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

MR. E. J. SLOANE, MUS. BAC.,

Trinity Univ., Toronto; National Gold Medallist, Trinity Col., London; L. Mus., L.C.M.; Organist of St. Mary's Church, Blackhill. Organ, Piano, Harmony, Counterpoint, Canon and Fugue Lessons. Pupils prepared for all Musical Examinations. THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES.
STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,

HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

THE CATCHGATE POSTING ESTABLISHMENT,

CATCHGATE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR.

HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.
MOURNING COACHES. CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS.
BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES.
SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23y
FURNITURE REMOVED. ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,

SURGEON DENTIST
Of 16, GRAINGER STREET NEWCASTLE,
Attends CONSETT every MONDAY from 1 to 3 o'clock, at
MRS. ELLIOTTS, 9, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
ESTABLISHED 1832. 160v

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH.

FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.

CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM THREE TO SIX, AT
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13, FRONT STREET
(SIDE DOOR.)

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

THE TEETH supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes. Every set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s to £4 10s.
PARTIAL SETS, from 5s to 10s per Tooth.

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL,

SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 8, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.
☞ All Charges Strictly Moderate.

CONSULTATION FREE.

Attendance from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Appointments may be made with Mr. Dobinson, Cooke's Buildings, Annfield Plain. 772b

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W. T. SMITH,

AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF
19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

Attends at MR. JONES' 10, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, every MONDAY, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, LONG ROW, STANLEY, every PAY FRIDAY, from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.; also, at MRS. HEPBURN'S, 8, SOUTH STREET, LANGLEY PARK, every ALTERNATE TUESDAY, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

Made with all the Latest Improvements and Best Materials at 5s, 7s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. per Tooth. Can also supply a cheaper Tooth if required. They are retained in the Mouth by Suction, a recent American Invention, without the aid of Springs. OLD SETS REMODELLED OR NEW TEETH ADDED, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new. All Sets made not giving Entire Satisfaction, will be attended to if they call at above Address.

ALL TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN,

By a Recent Discovery, which is Perfectly Harmless, thus avoiding the Danger of the Old System by the use of Chloroform and Gas.

Please note Time and Address.

EVERY
MONDAY
FROM
1 TO 5
AT
MR. BATES',
Jeweller,
FRONT, STREET,
STANLEY.

ARTIFICIAL DENTURES.

MR. KENDALL,

REGISTERED DENTAL SURGEON. ESTAB. 1850.
270 WESTGATE ROAD. NEWCASTLE

BEST and Purest Materials used. Finished and Artistic Workmanship Latest Up-to date Improvements Strictly Moderate Charges. Noted for Natural Appearance. Each and every case made to harmonise in Size, Shape, Contour, and Colour with the Complexion and Features. Imperfect and bad-fitting Dentures Remodelled, no matter where made. Absolutely Painless Extractions, by a New and Safe Method.

Daily Attendance, at 270, Westgate Road.
Every Thursday, at Mr. Hetherington's, 28, Durham Road, Blackhill, from 1 to 2·30; and
Mr. Wright's, Confectioner, Front Street, Shotley Bridge, from 3 to 5·30.

EVERY
MONDAY,
FROM
2 TO 5,
AT
MRS. PEARSON'S,
Wesleyan Chapel,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

PELTON,
FROM 6 TO 8,
AT
MR. LOW'S
Chemist.

Appointments made with Mr Armstrong, Clifford's Road, promptly attended.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

S. H. HORSEY & A. TEBB

24, NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
(Three Doors from Grainger Street.

ATTENDANCE AT
CONSETT every Saturday, at Mr Huntley's, 9, Newmarket Street, 1-30 till 5
Be sure and get to the right Address.
STANLEY every Monday, at Front Street, 1-30 till 5.
WEST PELTON every Tuesday, at Mr Benglass (Organist), 3, Church View, from 10 till 1 o'clock.
NEWFIELD every Tuesday, at Mr Jas. Young's, 32, North Road, from 1-30 to 3-30.

The Best English and American ARTIFICIAL TEETH at moderate prices
TEETH EXTRACTED by a Painless System, 1s.

Train Fare allowed to all Patients requiring Artificial Teeth, at Newcastle (by appointment) All operations will be painless, guaranteed, and any case not giving entire satisfaction will be immediately corrected, or an entire Set made Free of Charge. 132p

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MAKE YOUR HOMES BRIGHT AND HAPPY, AND KEEP YOUR CHILDREN WELL EMPLOYED AT HOME WITH ONE OF WARDILL'S GENUINE GOLD MEDAL PERFECT PIANOS.

A practical knowledge of music is now considered a necessary part of every child's education. In order to supply the ever increasing demand for a thoroughly reliable Musical Instrument at a reasonable price, and at this particular time, W. E. Wardill is determined to offer such value for money as has never been seen or heard of in the North of England. W. E. Wardill purchases Pianos in the open market, and on the best terms, and is thus able to show Pianos by all the best English and Foreign Manufacturers. The following are a few of the bargains which will be offered during the next few days:—

PIANOS.

	£	s	d
COLLARD and COLLARD. 65 Guineas. Very little used	32	0	0
HAAKE UPRIGHT IRON GRAND. 125 Guineas. This is a lovely instrument, specially constructed	65	0	0
MONINGTON and WESTON. 35 Guineas	24	0	0
BEAUTIFUL ROSEWOOD OVERSTRUNG PIANO, by LANGE. Cost 55 Guineas	23	0	0
WADDINGTON. Taken in exchange. Cost 42 Guineas	19	10	0
JUSTIN BROWNE. 75 Guineas	36	0	0
HIRSCH. 50 Guineas. Very fine overstrung	26	0	0
PIANO, by Wardill. Been used at concerts	17	10	0
SCHIRDMAYER. The original. 95 Guineas. Been used at Concerts	36	10	0

	£	s	d
PIANO. Suit a Learner	8	0	
PIANO. By Broadwood	3	10	
ESLER ORGAN, Pipetop. Cost 20 Guineas	10	10	
MASON and HAMLIN. Cost £35	15	10	
HAMILTON. Taken in Exchange. Cost 30 Guineas	11	11	
ORGAN. By Needham. 30 Guineas	12	10	
PACKARD. Second-hand	15	10	
ERARD GRAND PIANO. Suit a Concert or Mission Room	12	10	
ALEXANDRA HARMONIUM. As good as new. Cost £50	15	0	
HARMONIUM. By Cesarini. Cost £13 10s.	7	10	
KIRKMAN. Grand Piano. 125 Guineas	35	0	
GOOD HARMONIUM. Suit a Mission	2	10	

W. E. WARDILL has never been known to take undue advantage of any of his numerous customers at a time of affliction or depression in trade, or of trade disputes. He does not want both instrument and money. Pianos and Organs from 4s. per month. Guaranteed 20 years, tuned one year free, and delivered free to any address. Sec. Hd. Pianos taken in exchange or purchased for cash. NOTE ONLY ADDRESS—

W. E. WARDILL,

PIANOFORTE MANUFACTURER AND REPAIRER
1, WEST STREET, GATESHEAD, (HIGH LEVEL END). 773y

T. MILNER, M.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
CONSETT,

For Pure DRUGS and GENUINE CHEMICALS.
WINTER REMEDIES of every Description.
The CONSETT COUGH CURE, 1s. per bottle.
RESPERINE for Asthma, 1s. per box.
EXTRACT OF MALT and COD LIVER OIL, in bottles 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s., and 3s. 6d.
Finest COD LIVER OIL and PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.
EMULSION of COD LIVER OIL and HYPOPHOSPHITES, 11d. and 1s. 9d. per bottle.
LEIBIG and GLENDINNING'S MEAT and MALT WINE, 2s. and 3s. 9d. per bottle.

Choice PORT and SHERRY WINES, 1s. 6d., 2s., 2s. 6d., 3s. 6d., and 4s. per bottle.
CHEST and LUNG PROTECTORS in great variety.
A Choice Display of PERFUMES in bottles and boxes, suitable for Christmas Presents.
GLYCERINE and PAREGORIC JUJUBES. For Special Display see Windows.
ARMOUR'S EXTRACT of MEAT and VIGORAL, large and small jars.
HORSE, DOG, and CATTLE MEDICINES of every description.

☞ N.B.—Every person who spends 4s. during the month of December, will receive a copy of W. Bouguereau's Celebrated Picture, "The Fisherman's Daughter."

A Choice Display of Meerschaum and other Pipes, suitable for Christmas Presents.

ESTABLISHED 1817.

GEORGE HOBSON,

MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HARPERLEY & CATCHGATE STEAM & WATER CORN MILLS
NOTED FOR THE
BEST & CLEANEST HORSE FEED,

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

G. H. KEEPS A LARGE STOCK OF FLOUR. ALL THE LEADING BRANDS OF SUPERFINES, EXTRA SUPERFINES, AND HUNGARIAN.

TRY G. H.'s PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL. Manufactured by himself, and cannot be surpassed. LINSEED & COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE & BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c. Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices.

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

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

DEALER IN HAY, STRAW, AND MOSS LITTER.

NOTE THE ADDRESS— GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, TANTOBIE R.S.O., Co. DURHAM.

Business Announcements.

MARTIN BECK,

BILLPOSTER,
1, RAMSEY STREET, STANLEY.
☞ Good Private Stations. 289w

MR. TOM HOLLAND'S CONCERT COMPANY

Is now open to supply Sacred, Secular, Sentimental Concerts, Bazaars, Socials, &c., on the most Reasonable Terms.

Address:
MR. T. HOLLAND,
306b Galles' Buildings, Catchgate.

HOSPITAL

FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.

GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED... 2s 9d
LADIES' Do. Do. ...1s 9d

With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand.
(Signed), J. ORTON.

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,
HAVELOCK STREET.

J. H. COURTNEY thanks the Public of Consett and District for the support hitherto accorded to him, and hopes to merit a share of their future Patronage. Agent for Genuine Melton Mowbray Pies. Hot Joints and Pot Pies every day. Fruit Loaf, from 4d. per lb. Suppers and Parties catered for on reasonable terms. Rooms to Let for small meetings.

DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.
Accommodation for Football Clubs.

HESLOP STOREY,

BONESETTER,
ATTENDS
The House of Mr. John Fitzgerald,
DRUIDS' ARMS, 43, City Road, Newcastle, from 1 p.m., to 3 p.m., daily.

H. S. also attends the WHITE HORSE Hotel Great Market Every TUESDAY, THURSDay, and Saturday, from 11 a.m., to 1 p.m.

NOTE PRIVATE ADDRESS:
DECKHAM PLACE, GATESHEAD.

ESTABLISHED 1851.

BIRKBECK BANK,

Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.

INVESTED FUNDS ... ... £12,000,000.
NUMBER OF ACCOUNTS, 85,094.
TWO-AND-A-HALF per CENT. INTEREST allowed on DEPOSITS, repayable on demand.
TWO per CENT. on CURRENT ACCOUNTS, on the minimum monthly balances, when not drawn below £100.
STOCKS, SHARES, and ANNUITIES purchased and sold for customers.

SAVINGS DEPARTMENT.

Small deposits received, and Interest allowed monthly on each completed £1.

The BIRKBECK ALMANACK, with particulars, post free.

FRANCIS RAVENSCROFT, Manager.
Telegraphic Address: "BIRKBECK LONDON."
Telephone No. 5, Holborn. 575b.

£100,000 ALREADY ADVANCED.

SUNDERLAND NEPTUNE & PARAGON BUILDING SOCIETIES.

CHIEF OFFICE: 20, BRIDGE STREET, SUNDERLAND.

Advances at 1 per cent. to Balloted Members.
Advances at 4½ per cent. any time.
Repayments 13/4 per Month per £100.
Preference Shares issued, bearing interest at 4 per cent. Interest paid half-yearly.
We issued one new £100 Share for every working day during last year.
There is nothing desirable in Building Society Business which we do not furnish Cheaply, Intelligibly, and Profitably.

GEORGE SHIMMIN, Secretary.
Local Agents:—W. T. GILLIES, East View, Blackhill.
GEO GRAHAM, 9, Belle Vue Terrace, Consett.
624b

ALTERATION OF DAY.

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.

(ESTABLISHED 1887.)

MESSRS. POTTS and NICHOLSON in response to a requisition from influential Farmers and Butchers in the District, beg to intimate that on and after Monday, Nov. 21st next, they will conduct their usual Fortnightly Sale on every alternate Monday.

The Auctioneers embrace this opportunity of expressing their Thanks for the valued support that has already been accorded them, and to respectfully ask their Patrons to favour them with early Entries, in order that same may be duly advertised in the papers.

Look out for the Great Christmas Prize Show and Sale.

Sale Office—5, Nun Street, Newcastle.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
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SPECIALITIES.
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ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
WONDERFUL VALUE.
WONDERFUL VALUE.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
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TONE AND DURABILITY.
TONE AND DURABILITY.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
£19 10s. PIANO.
£19 10s. PIANO.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
PEOPLE'S MODEL PIANO.
PEOPLE'S MODEL PIANO.
15s. per month.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
"THOSE Wonderful KNAUSS PIANOS."
"THOSE Wonderful KNAUSS PIANOS."
WONDERFUL TONE.
WONDERFUL SONORITY.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
500 INSTRUMENTS TO SELECT FROM.
500 INSTRUMENTS TO SELECT FROM.
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ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
FREE LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME.
FREE LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME.
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ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
£406 10s PAID IN CLAIMS.
£406 10s PAID IN CLAIMS.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
SPECIAL ORGAN £12.
MARVELLOUS VALUE.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
SECOND-HAND PIANOS.
SECOND-HAND ORGANS.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.
SEND FOR CATALOGUE.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
NO FICTITIOUS PRICES.
NO ASTOUNDING STATEMENTS OF VALUE.
REAL VALUE.
REAL TONE.
REAL BARGAINS.

THE CHEAPEST PIANOS SOLD AT ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S may be RELIED ON. THERE IS NO CATCH—NO FALSE STATEMENTS. PURCHASERS GET FULL VALUE for MONEY, and in ADDITION a FREE LIFE AGREEMENT with the Bargain.

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ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN.
(LIMITED.)

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
(LIMITED.)
FRONT STREET, CONSETT, LEEDS, LONDON, SCARBOROUGH, YORK, DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBOROUGH, DARLINGTON, WEST HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, MORECAMBE.

Business Announcements.

FOR EMIGRATION to SOUTH AFRICA and AMERICA, apply to A. PHILLIPSON Auctioneer, Dipton.—SPECIAL AGENT. 157v

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JAMES FROSDICK is the only Billposter that has rented Stations within the three Urban Council Districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 598.

DENTISTRY.

J. M. VAN GELDEREN AND SON,
SURGEON DENTISTS.
17, ELDON SQUARE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THOMAS A. TURNBULL,

JOINER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

All orders receive prompt attention. 705a

ELM PARK, SHOTLEY BRIDGE. DAY & BOARDING SCHOOL FOR BOYS. A THOROUGH MODERN EDUCATION. On reasonable terms in most healthy situation Successful preparation for all preliminary Examinations

Next term, January 18th, 1899.
Instruction includes Book-keeping, Land Surveying, Science, Shorthand, Drawing and Music.
A Field for Cricket, Tennis and Football.
MONTAGU V. STEGGALL, M.A., Head-master.

MISS BECK,

TEACHER (by Diploma) OF
SCIENTIFIC DRESSMAKING.
to the Local Evening Classes held under the Durham County Council.

BEGS to announce that she is OPEN TO RECEIVE PRIVATE PUPILS at her residence, 32, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
TERMS ON APPLICATION.

W. RUTHERFORD,

JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, UNDERTAKER, AND FUNERAL FURNISHER
ALL ORDERS EXECUTED WITH DESPATCH.
ADDRESS:—
CATCHGATE, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.

MRS. EMMA BRODIE

(Late of Derwent Street, Blackhill).
PARK ROAD (Next Door to the P. M. New Chapel), BLACKHILL.
Men's Mercery and Outfittings.
Baby Linen and Fancy Goods.
Infants' Millinery in the latest styles.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
Next Door to the P.M. New Chapel. 508y

"SAUCINE." Registered.

THIS IS THE SAUCE.
Stomach Persuading.
Liver Invigorating
Kidney Stimulating.
Nerve Exhilarating. THIS IS THE SAUCE
Ask your grocer for "SAUCINE."
Sole maker — J. J. SNAITH, Sauce and Pickle Manufacturer, Tyne Dock, South Shields.

THE NOTED SHOP
FOR
CHEAP SUITS
IS

C. LUMLEY

6, SHERBURN TERRACE,
CONSETT. 309x

NATURAL HEALTH SALT.

IN TINS, 4D. AND 8D.
IN TINS, 4D. AND 8D.

STIMULATES THE LIVER.
CURES BILIOUS HEADACHE,
CLEARS THE BRAIN.
A SPARKLING COOLING DRINK.
Take a teaspoonful or two in Warm or Cold Water every morning fasting and it will keep you in Perfect Health.

SOLE PROPRIETORS:
WILKINSON & SIMPSON,
LIMITED,
NEWGATE ST., NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HENRY ANNANDALE TOWN

(Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute.)

LAND ESTATE AGENT, VALUER, AND SURVEYOR.
PROPERTIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION SOLD OR LET ON COMMISSION.
ESTATES EITHER IN TOWN OR COUNTRY MANAGED ON MODERATE TERMS UNDER PERSONAL SUPERVISION.
PROPERTY AND TIMBER SURVEYS MADE, Also, MORTGAGES NEGOTIATED.

15, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.

THE NEWCASTLE DRAPERY AND CLOTHING STORES.
FRONT STREET,
DIPTON.

J. A. CASTLE has undoubtedly made the above a Noted Establishment for quality and cheapness. Every Branch of his Trade will be found well represented.
His Tailoring Department is a very special feature, having considerably over 1,000 patterns of the Newest Scotch, West of England, and Irish Woollens to select from.
Style and perfect fit guaranteed.
Gents' Suits to order from 25s.

N. BROWN & SON

SADDLERS, HARNESS, AND COLLAR MAKERS.

Horse Clippers (to cut over three teeth), warranted, 7s 6d each.
Lined Drummond Driving Gloves from 3s to 6s 6d per pair.
Carriage Candles, per 2lb box, 1s 6d.
Warranted Solid Nickel Stirrups, 6s 6s per pair. Best quality only.
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Brown Leather (Newmarket) Leggings from 4s 6d per pair, and upwards.
Waterproof Cloth Reversible Leggings from 3s 3d per pair.

NICHOLAS BROWN AND SON.
RESIDENCE:
19, FRONT STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

MR. JOHN USHER,

LATE

£1 TO £10

MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, for first-class workmanship and best material, 2s 6d. 5s. 7s 6d per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED, PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS 724

THE SNOW'S GREEN COACH, CARRIAGE, AND ROLLEY WORKS,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

MESSRS

PEMBERTON & HALL,

PROPRIETORS,
TIMBER MERCHANTS, CONTRACTORS TO HER MAJESTY'S GENERAL POST OFFICE.

Most up-to-date Wood-cutting Machinery in the District.
Timber cut any length.
Estimates given for all kinds of Colliery and Farm Work.
Repairs executed by Experienced Workmen.
Five Minutes walk from Shotley Bridge Station.

ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.
A Trial Solicited. 600c

BABY WON'T CRY IF YOU GIVE IT

MOTHER'S FRIEND

AND BABY'S COMFORT.
RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

THE BEST AND SAFEST MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.
CONTAINS NO LAUDANUM, OPIUM, OR MORPHIA.
MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Wind, and Griping Pains in the Stomach or Bowels.
MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Convulsions, Fevers, Fits, and Thrush.
MOTHER'S FRIEND corrects Acidity and cures Diarrhœa.
MOTHER'S FRIEND removes Pain and produces Natural Sleep.

PREPARED ONLY BY
J. ROBINSON,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST.
STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN
AGENT FOR GLENDINNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE 335y

Business Announcements.

WALTER WILLSON,

CONSETT AND LEADGATE,

And One Hundred Branches,

WISHES to thank his numerous Customers for their liberal favours during the past year, and also during the Great December Sale just concluded.

The Quality of the Goods is maintained, while the Prices show that the best value is to be had here.

Pure Blended Teas, 1s. and 1s. 3d. per lb. Pure Rich Assam, 1s. 6d. per lb. Pure Rich Indian, 1s. 8d. per lb.

WALTER WILLSON'S is the Largest Business of its kind in the Kingdom.

ANTHONY HALL,

THE PEOPLE'S GROCER.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—

TOP OF PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

XMAS.

THOMAS LATHAM'S
CHRISTMAS SHOW AND SALE,
Will commence on
FRIDAY FIRST,
AND CONTINUE FOR 21 DAYS.

When he will offer an immense Stock of all the latest NOVELTIES, suitable for XMAS PRESENTS AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

Comprising:—Toys, Games, Photo Frames, Work Boxes, Ornaments, Ladies' Fancy Bags, Scents, Purses, Xmas and New Year's Cards, Inkstands, Writing Cases, &c.

DOLLS! DOLLS!! DOLLS!!!
Hundreds of Dolls, from 1d. to 2s. 6d.

A GRAND DISPLAY
Will be made in our
NEW SHOW ROOM.
Everybody should inspect these Goods before Purchasing.

T. L. also begs to call attention to the ENORMOUS STOCK he is now Showing of all the Newest Goods in Millinery, Ladies' Felt Hats, Ladies' Bonnets, Children's Granny Bonnets, Tams, Wings, Flowers, Ornaments, &c.

Owing to the extra Room this Department has been greatly enlarged, and Ladies will be able to procure Goods quite equal both in STYLE AND QUALITY to anything that can be bought in the Large Towns, and much Lower in Price.

Children's Pinafores, Ladies' and Children's Underclothing, Corsets, Tweed Blouses, Ladies' Divided Skirts, Aprons, Capes, Fur Boas, Wool Shawls, &c., all at SPECIAL PRICES.

ALSO,
SPECIAL BARGAINS
In Blankets, Sheets, Bed Rugs, Oilcloths, Dress Goods, Cretonnes, Sateens, Lace Shades, Flannelettes, Men's, Youths', and Boys' Ready-made Clothing, Hats, Caps, Ties, Shirts, &c.

SPECIAL SHOW
ON FRIDAY FIRST AT
THOMAS LATHAM'S,
THE NOTED CASH DRAPER,
TYNE HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

MRS E. WILSON,
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD,

Desires to inform the Public that she HAS NOW OPENED HER NEW SHOP, (Next door to Walter Willson's)

FIRST-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.
Extra Large Stock of
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S CAKES,
Madeira, Rice, Fruit, Seed, Cocoanut, Ginger Bread, and Cakes of all Descriptions.
HOME-MADE BREAD.
FRESH PORK AND PORK SAUSAGE DAILY.
PATENT MEDICINES
Supplied from leading firms.
Noted Tic Powders, Embrocation, etc., etc.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
BUSTY BANK, BURNOPFIELD.

GOLD MEDALS!
HIGHEST AWARDS!
1896 — 1897 — 1898.

DRINK ONLY
KERSHAW & SONS'
SUPERIOR
MINERAL WATERS
AND
KER'S ALE.
Can be had in Screw-stoppered Bottles, the CLEANEST, the BEST, and PUREST.

SEVEN
GOLD MEDALS AWARDED.

KERSHAW & SONS,
ALE AND PORTER BOTTLERS,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
LEADGATE, AND GATESHEAD.

NO
BOOTS & SHOES
LIKE
KIRKUP'S.

FOR GOOD WEAR.
KIRKUP'S
BOOTS & SHOES
ARE CHEAPEST AND BEST.

WALKING MADE EASY
BY WEARING
KIRKUP'S
RELIABLE
BOOTS & SHOES.

THE BOOT KING.
STANLEY
AND
WEST PELTON.

BEST SCREENED COALS delivered in Consett and Annfield Plain in loads of 15cwt., at 3s. 6d. per Load. Orders left at Mr. KEMPSON'S, Bee Hive Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, or Mr. G NICHOLSON, Contractor, Dipton. 863a

£4,000,000 HAVE NOW BEEN PAID IN RESPECT OF
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
ALL ACCIDENTS,
WORKMEN'S ACCIDENTS,
FIDELITY GUARANTEE,
BY THE
RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY,
64, CORNHILL, LONDON.
A. VIAN, Secretary.

Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

Agents required in unrepresented Districts.

84, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

F. TURNER,
HOUSE AND GENERAL FURNISHER, CONFECTIONER, &c., &c.
CHOICE CONFECTIONS FOR CHRISTMAS.
Please your children by buying your Toys, Dolls, &c., here.
Large Assortment of Goods suitable for Presents.
Christmas and New Year's Cards in endless Variety.
Furnishing in all Departments.
The Cheap Shop for Hardware.
NOTE THE ADDRESS AS ABOVE. 668c

THE NOTED FLOUR, GROCERY, AND PROVISION SHOP.
JAMES PALLISER,
FAMILY GROCER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TEA MERCHANT,
47 and 48, PARK ROAD, BLACKHILL.
A Good Assortment of Fruits.
Choice Cheshire Cheese and Fruit Cakes.
TRY OUR SPECIAL BLENDED TEAS.

WHO shall decide! Why of Course the Public.

HAVE YOU TRIED
NEVIN'S 1s. 6d TEA?
If not, take the public's advice, and try it. Best value in the World. Our 1s 4d Tea is sterling value. Our 1s 10d Tea is simply matchless. Try them, and you will always Buy them.

HAVE YOU TRIED
NEVIN'S PROVISIONS?
If not, do so at once. Splendid, Choice, and Cheap. Really Tip-top.
Try our Noted Fruit and Rice Cakes, From 6d to 8d per lb.
Give us a trial. You'll never regret it.

HAVE YOU TRIED
NEVIN'S ALES AND SPIRITS?
If not, by all means do so. The Best and Cheapest in the Country.
Highly matured Scotch and Irish Whiskies at 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, and 4s 6d per quart. Highly Matured Scotch and Irish Whiskies at 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d, per bottle. Rum at 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, and 4s 6d per quart. Rum at 2s 6d, 3s, and 3s 6d per bottle. Best London Gin at 2s, 2s 6d and 3s per bottle. Brandies at 4s 6d and 5s per bottle. Ales and Stouts at 1s 6d per dozen half-pints. Nine Gallon Casks, 9s and 10s.

J. NEVIN,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT, ALE AND PORTER BOTTLER, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT, LINTZ COLLIERY.

THE
NEW STANLEY HOTEL,
THE "QUEEN'S HOTEL,"
IS NOW OPEN.

PROPRIETRESS, MRS CHAYTOR.

Will be opened as above with a Stock of the finest
ALES,
WINES,
AND SPIRITS.

W. WHITFIELD,
LEADGATE.

BEST AND CHEAPEST TEAS!
SPLENDID LEMON PEEL 3d. PER LB.
BEST AND CHEAPEST FLOUR!
CHOICE TEA FRUITS!
SPLENDID VALENCIA RAISINS 3d. PER LB.
BEST AND CHEAPEST HAMS AND BACON.

W. WHITFIELD,
LEADGATE.

Business Announcements.

T. G. DODDS,
JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, & CONTRACTOR
22, TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.
Repairs to Property, in all its branches, with promptness and efficiency.
Estimates supplied for all classes of Work.

VICTORIA DAIRY, CONSETT
FRESH MILK, Twice Daily.
FRESH CREAM and BUTTER always on hand.
G. T. ROBSON,
PROPRIETOR. 81t

JOSEPH IRWIN,
OXHILL,
JOINER, CARTWRIGHT, HORSE-SHOER, GENERAL SMITH, UNDERTAKER, FUNERAL FURNISHER, &c.
HEARSE ON HIRE.
ALL ORDERS RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
H. B. DICKER,
6, NORTH TERRACE, NORTHGATE, DARLINGTON,
Attends STANLEY every PAY TUESDAY, from 12 to 4 p.m. at Mr SWINBURNE'S, View House, Front Street.
ARTIFICIAL TEETH of the best quality from 5s per tooth. Teeth Extracted Painlessly for 1s. Prices range from 2s. 6d. to 10s. 6d. per tooth.
Best Materials only used. Guaranteed for a year.

Established 1833.
WILLIAM POTTS & SONS, CLOCK AND WATCH MANUFACTURERS, OF LEEDS.
Beg to announce that they have OPENED a BRANCH of their Business at 22, COLLINGWOOD STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Makers of the Great Clock and Electric Greenwich Time Signal for St. Nicholas' Cathedral. 62p

DON'T FORGET.
GEORGE McNEAL
BILL-POSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.
HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Pit Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton, East Castle, &c.

AMERICAN LINE.—UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.
SOUTHAMPTON—NEW YORK SERVICE.
SOUTHAMPTON to NEW YORK DIRECT.
SATURDAY, at noon,
Highest Class of Accommodation for Saloon, Second Cabin, and Steerage Passengers.
LIVERPOOL—PHILADELPHIA SERVICE. Every WEDNESDAY.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
Calling at Queenstown every Thursday. Passengers and goods are landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has the shortest and most Direct Route to all places in the Western States.—Apply to Richardson, Spence, and Co., Southampton or Liverpool; or to Local Agents, J. Crawford, Victoria Street, Consett; T. D. Dryden and Co., Front Street, Consett; Alfred Phillipson, Emigration Agent, Dipton; William Gray, 5, North Road, Durham; Geo. Leadbitter, Accountant, Catchgate; Thomas Storey, Auctioneer, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. Johnson, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Wm. Anderson, Bridge Street, Tow Law; E. Sloane, Post Office Blackhill; or T. A. Brown, 3, Market Place, Crook. 725b.

WE STRIVE TO GIVE
HIGHEST VALUE for the SMALLEST AMOUNT of MONEY
In all Branches of
LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S TAILORING.
SPECIAL LINES IN LADIES' COSTUMES (to measure), 47/6
J. L. BRODIE,
2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET, BLACKHILL.

MONUMENTS,
IN MARBLE,
GRANITE, &c.
SHOW ROOMS:—CORNER OF BEWICK STREET
(Opposite Central Station, Newcastle.)
EMLEY & SONS, LIMITED,
42, and 44, WESTGATE ROAD,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 928b

KOLACTICUM OINTMENT
ACHES and PAINS disappear speedily by use of the newly-discovered KOLACTICUM OINTMENT. Highly recommended for the permanent cure of RHEUMATISM, PILES, VARICOSE VEINS, STIFF JOINTS, SKIN DISEASES, ULCERS, ERUPTIONS, etc., etc. Every sufferer should give this Ointment a trial, and prove its wonderful healing powers. Sold in large boxes with full directions.
PRICE, 2s 9d POST FREE.
THE KOLACTICUM CO.,
585y. 54, Bow Lane, Cheapside, E.C.

FANCIERS! FANCIERS! FANCIERS!
CALL AT
DAWSON'S
FANCIERS' SUPPLY STORES,
RITSON'S ROAD, BLACKHILL,
And see a full selection of
DOBBIE'S FAMOUS SPECIALITIES.
☞ AGENT FOR COUNTY DURHAM.

HURRAH. HURRAH.
We have found the place for good WHISKY, RUM, BRANDY, GIN, PORT WINE, &c., &c., at Reasonable Prices.
Quarts from 3s to 5s; Bottles, 2s 6d, 3s, 3s 6d.
Nicholson's Gin, 3s and 4s per Quart; 2s 6d 3s per Bottle.
Spruce or Black Beer, 1s 6d per Bottle.
A large supply of all kinds of
WINES AND SPIRITS.
Not particularised, kept in Stock. The very Best Quality at most Reasonable Prices. 10-year-old Whiskey, very fine, 3/6 per bottle.
ALES AND STOUT.
Half-pints, 1s. 6d. per Doz.; Pints, 2s. 3d; 9-Gallon Casks, 9s.
Nourishing Stout, containing 10 per cent in weight of solid matter, 2s per dozen; Half-pints, 2s; Pints, 3s.
His noted MINERAL WATERS require no bush. Hundreds of dozens always on hand; also SYPHONS.
NATHAN ELSDON,
DELVES LANE (near the New Consett Station.)
ESTABLISHED 1860.

40 NEW LAID EGGS FOR 6D.

YOU CAN GET THEM if you only treat your birds rightly. The first essential to success is good, sound food. If you are already giving them the best of food and they are not laying as you would like, give them a sprinkling of
COVERDALE'S
EGG-PRODUCING
POULTRY POWDER
in their morning meal. The result will astound you. I have letters every day speaking of most wonderful results, such as these:—

FORTY EGGS FOR 6D. A WEEK.
Flaxton, near York, Nov., 1898.
Dear Sir,
My hens had not laid a single egg for more than a month, but the tin of Poultry Powder you sent me has worked wonders. They are already laying 40 eggs a week and increasing. I will certainly continue to use it and recommend it. J. H. LUND.

SEVEN TIMES AS MANY EGGS.
Swinton, March 29th, 1898.
Having many fowls and only getting one or two eggs a day, I was persuaded to try your egg-producing Poultry Powder, and got a 6d. tin. After a week the number of eggs rose to 12 and 14 eggs a day. T. PURDY.

Everyone who uses it is delighted.
To be obtained locally in 6d. and 1s. tins from W. NATTRASS, Medomsley; DAWSON'S Fanciers Supply Stores, Blackhill; or from the maker
COVERDALE, Rotherham

Business Announcements.

MRS. M. WRIGHT,
DINING ROOMS AND CAFE,
4, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT,
In thanking the Public for the patronage accorded to her since opening these rooms, begs to state that she continues to provide
DINNERS, TEAS, AND SUPPERS.
PASTRY, CONFECTIONERY, AND PIES.

Dine at the
CONSETT TEMPERANCE HOTEL AND REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
23, MIDDLE STREET
(Next door to Mr Hedley Nicholson.)
Hot Dinners Daily. Try our Noted Pork Pies. Good Accommodation for Travellers. Horses and Traps for Hire.
H. HANSOM, Proprietor.

M. J. CHORLEY,
CONFECTIONER,
43, PARK ROAD, CONSETT,
HAS opened the above premises as Refreshment, Dining, and Tea Rooms on the Cafe system, and trusts to receive a share of public support. Orders for Cakes, Pastry, Trifles, Creams, Plain and Fancy Jellies, &c., promptly attended to.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
PARK ROAD REFRESHMENT ROOMS,
43, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

ESTABLISHED 1854.
J. SIDDLE
HOUSE AND CHURCH DECORATOR, PAINTER, GILDER, PAPERHANGER, GLAZIER, &c.,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,
TAKES the present opportunity to return thanks to his Customers in Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, and the surrounding District for their esteemed Orders during the Past Forty-four Years. It has always been his wish to give satisfaction to those favouring him with their custom; and by assiduous attention to business, he hopes to merit a share of Public Patronage. 734c

ANTHONY COOPER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL FRUIT AND POTATO MERCHANT,
24, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
BEGS to Thank his Customers for past favours. He will, as usual, give the Best Article at a Moderate Price.
Try our BEST SCOTCH MAIN CROPS At 5½d. per stone; also, at
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WM. LEE,
BEEF AND PORK BUTCHER,
English and Dairy-Fed Pork, 6½d to 7½d per lb.
Pork Chops, 8d per lb.
Fresh Chilled Beef (Fine Quality), 4d to 6½d per lb.
FRESH SUPPLY DAILY.
A TRIAL SOLICITED.
Note the Address:—
29a. NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

ALL THE YEAR ROUND.
HIGH CLASS PROVISIONS,
FINEST FLOUR,
CHOICE TEAS AND
GENERAL GROCERIES,
Can be obtained at
LOWEST CASH PRICES
AT
G. D. POWELL'S
CASH PROVISION STORE,
4, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
Goods Delivered anywhere in the District.

PHOTOS.
VENICE DUNN,
7 AND 8, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.
Will supply enlarged PHOTOS, finished in Oils, Water Colours, or Crayons, Framed; complete prices varying from 15s to 45s. PHOTOS artistically finished in the latest and most improved styles. Cabinets, 10s to 12s per dozen; Carte-de-Visites, 5s to 6s per dozen. Bands, Choirs, Football and Cricket Clubs, Lawn Tennis and Wedding Parties taken on the most reasonable terms.
VENICE DUNN, Junr., Travelling Agent, will be glad to call and submit prices and samples, and furnish all particulars, take orders, and supply club cards to all desirous to join the Club. Photos framed or copied. Cameras, Lenses, and Photographic material supplied to Amateurs. 520c

TO CO-OPERATIVE STORES, HAWKERS, AND CHINA DEALERS.
JOSEPH BUTT,
WHOLESALE GLASS AND CHINA WAREHOUSE,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.
SPECIAL TERMS TO ABOVE.
Largest Stock of
GLASS, CHINA, AND EARTHENWARE
in the district to Select from.
The Trade supplied in all Branches.
Good delivered to all parts by our own Vans.
NOTE ADDRESS:—
CHESTER-LE-STREET. 618c

BLACKHILL PLUMBING WORKS.
WILLIAM STRACHAN,
PLUMBER, GASFITTER, AND BELL-HANGER,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
RESPECTFULLY returns his sincere Thanks for the patronage accorded to him during the Thirty-five years he has been in Business, and trusts that by strict attention to all orders entrusted to him, good workmanship, and moderate charges, to secure a continuance of their favours. Always on hand a large stock of Materials, so that he is prepared to execute orders speedily and economically.
AUTHORISED AGENT FOR THE WELSBACH INCANDESCENT LIGHT.

TELFORD & COMPANY,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURERS,
WEST STANLEY.
For the
NOTED LEMON SQUASH.
Try our
STONE GINGER BEER.
SODAS AND LIME JUICE a Speciality.
Goods delivered by our own Vans.
SPECIAL TERMS TO RETAILERS.
NOTE ABOVE ADDRESS. 664c

FOR Finest quality in GROCERIES, &c., try
THOS. CALVERT,
TEA DEALER,
FAMILY GROCER, AND DRAPER, FLOUR AND PROVISION MERCHANT.
Choicest Teas and Coffees.
A large Assortment of Cheese, Butter, Hams, and Bacon.
New Season's Fruits, the pick of the Market.
Rich Chelsea Seed, Rice, and Fruit Cakes.
Huntley and Palmer's Biscuits in great variety.
British and Foreign Wines, from 1s. per bottle upwards.
Glendenning's Beef and Malt Wines 2s. and 3s. 9d. per bottle.
A call respectfully solicited.
ADDRESS:—
POST OFFICE STORES,
MEDOMSLEY, R.S.O. 685c

ESTABLISHED 1883.
LEYBOURN URWIN,
GENERAL PLUMBER,
GAS, HOT WATER, AND SANITARY ENGINEER,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
Work executed and completed for Public Buildings, Business Premises, Villas, and all classes of House Property.
Gas lighting on the Ordinary, Incandescent, or Acetylene Systems.
Electric Bell Fittings, Baths, Water-Closets, Lavatories, Metal Spouts, Tanks, Railings, &c., of Approved Make and Design.
REPAIRS AND ALTERATIONS ON REASONABLE TERMS.
ESTIMATES GIVEN.
Acetylene Gas Installations advised upon, and carried out with the Best, Safest, and most Improved Generators in the Market.
BRANCHES { WEST STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN.
GEO. A. MOORE, R.P.C.,
Branches Manager, West Stanley

Musical Tuition.

MISS FORSTER gives LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE; also LESSONS in LEATHER WORK. Terms on application.—South Pontop, Annfield Plain. 327a.

MISS JACKS,
GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY OF MUSIC. Terms on application. St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

MISS A. GRAHAM gives LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application.—Burn Vale House, South Moor. 771a

MUSICAL TUITION.
MR. W. RAMSDEN gives Lessons on Pianoforte and in Theory of Music.
28, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.

MR. JAMES R. FOSTER,
TEACHER of Music. Certificated with Honours. Gives LESSONS on Pianoforte, Organ, Harmonium, and Theory. Pupils attended at their own homes. Terms on application. DURHAM ROAD, LEADGATE.

MUSICAL TUITION.
LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned, post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 921c

Business Announcements.

SUN INSURANCE OFFICE
Sum Insured in 1897 Exceeds £425,000,000.
For full particulars apply to
MR. THOMAS WM. WELFORD, JUNR., Agent for Consett and Neighbourhood.

Try our Pork Pies, Home-made.
M. TWEDDALL,
CONFECTIONER AND FANCY BREAD BAKER,
22, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
Tea Cakes fresh daily. Baby Linen and General Drapery. Small Wares and all kinds of Plain Wools kept in Stock

J. R. BRODIE,
TAILOR, WOOLLEN DRAPER, HATTER, MEN'S MERCER, &c.,
6, CHURCH STREET, CONSETT,
THANKS his Customers for past favours, and hopes by strict attention to business to merit a continuance of public favour and support. 765c.

JOHN G. WADE,
52, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
WISHES to Thank the Public generally for the liberal support given him during the year, and would remind them that for the coming Festive Season he has a
SPLENDID DISPLAY OF NOVELTIES.
Such as Gents' Silk Mufflers, Ties, Caps, and Suitings, Ladies' Fancy Aprons, Pinafores, Lace Caps, Lace Collars, and Millinery in all its branches. He is receiving New Goods daily. Call early.

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,
HAVELOCK STREET.
DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.
ACCOMMODATION FOR CYCLISTS.
851a J. H. COURTNEY.

If you are in want of
FOOTBALLS, BELTS, SHIN GUARDS, INFLATORS, or HARNESS,
Of any description, for wear and quality,
GO TO
WILLIAM BIGGINS,
SADDLE AND HARNESS MANUFACTURER,
CHURCH STREET, BLAYDON.
BRANCHES:—Busty Bank, Burnopfield, R.S.O.
Tyne View, Lemington-on-Tyne.
COLLIERY WORK CONTRACTED FOR

ESTABLISHED 1860.
W. FITZPATRICK,
TAILOR,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,
THANKS the Public for the Support which has been accorded him in the past, and trusts to have a continuance of their favours during the year 1898.
The latest Materials and Designs in OVERCOATINGS, SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS.
The Suits at 45s having given unbounded satisfaction in the past can be thoroughly recommended, and will receive special attention during the coming season.
PERFECT FIT AND SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.
LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.

BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.
W. RICHARDSON,
DRAPER AND MEN'S OUTFITTER.
FOR THE SEASON.
Large Assortment of LACE, GLOVES, &c., &c., for Presents.
DECORATIVE PLANTS for Ornamentation.
UMBRELLAS, HABERDASHERY, AND HOSIERY.
New and Special Consignment.
To Spend Wisely STOP HERE.

TIME SAVED IS MONEY MADE.
The New D9 WHEELER and WILSON SEWING MACHINES are absolutely THE FASTEST, EASIEST, SIMPLEST, and MOST SILENT Machines in the world. ROTARY MOTION, BALL BEARINGS. Dressmakers and Tailors can double their Incomes.
No worry. Better work, and more of it. The IDEAL, handsome family machines. These combined advantages enable Live Agents to secure the most remunerative agency in Sewing Machines—and something GOOD to sell.
Lists and instruction free and free trial. Agents wanted where not represented. Sole Wholesale Representatives for Northumberland and Durham.
THE EGDELL CYCLE AND MANUFACTURING CO., LTD.
10, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

LIEBIG'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.
This preparation is made from
PORT WINE,
EXTRACT OF MALT, AND
EXTRACT OF BEEF.
Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended.
3s. 6d. per quart Bottle (usually sold at 4s. 6d.)
1s. 9d. per pint Bottle (usually sold at 2s. 9d.)

Tawagin Port Wine, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Sherry, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s.
Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s.
Claret from 1s. per bottle.
Burgundies from 1s. per bottle.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:
ROBINSON & CO.,
DRUG STORES,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

R. C. FOSTER.
IRISH LINEN GOODS
Of all kinds, at and under Belfast Prices.
PURE WHITE DAMASK TABLE CLOTHS
From 3s. 6d. to 16s. 11d. each.
DRAPERY GOODS
From the best Makers at Moderate Prices
DRESS GOODS
In all the leading Styles, arriving weekly.
FANCY GOODS
Of all kinds, Up-to-Date.
GENTLEMEN'S SUITS
Ready-made or to measure, to suit all tastes and pockets. Perfect fit guaranteed
MEN'S MERCERY AND OUTFITTING
Of reliable makes.
NOTED HOUSE FOR WOOLS AND STOCKINGS.
IRISH LINEN WAREHOUSE,
11 and 12, FRONT STREET,
CONSETT.

Church Notices.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 } REV. J. S. NIGHTINGALE.
Evening, 6
ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th, 1899.
Morning, 10·30 } REV. J. BACON.
Evening, 6
ALL SEATS FREE.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH MISSION, SNOW'S GREEN.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 8th, 1899.
Afternoon, 2 } Mr J. MOLE,
Evening, 6 } Blackhill.

Public Notices.

THE Winning Numbers of the Newland Drawing are as follows:—20, 370, 273, 373, 434, 462. 925c

WINNING Numbers for the Birds and Cages Drawn for at Wm. Martin's, No. 12, South View, Annfield Plain:—1, 409; 2, 402; 3, 11; 4, 182. 918c

HOBSON Wanderers Prize Drawing.—Winning Numbers:—1, 643; 2, 1,349; 3, 239; 4, 1,479; 5, 746; 6, 1,334; 7, 342; 8, 1,709; 9, 1,972; 10, 1,521; 11, 824; 12, 1,426; 13, 893; 14, 513; 15, 754; 16, 1,645; 17, 1,695; 18, 291; 19, 1,438; 20, 958. 944c

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN JUVENILE CHOIR, now open to book Engagements.—For open dates, prices, programmes, and full particulars, apply Master WILLIAM REYNOLDS, No. 51, Annfield Place, Annfield Plain. 913c

BLACKHILL AND DISTRICT CHRYSANTHEMUM SOCIETY.
THE ANNUAL MEETING of the above Society, will be held in St. Aidan's Hall, Blackhill, on Tuesday evening, 10th inst., at 7·30 o'clock.
980c A. TROTTER, Hon. Secretary.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LTD.
NOTICE TO MEMBERS.
THE 142nd QUARTERLY MEETING of Members of the above Society will be held on Saturday Evening, January 7th, 1899, in the Church Hall (entrance by Parliament Street,) Consett. Chair to be taken at 6·30.
For Agenda see Balance Sheets.
By order the Committee,
888c EDW. HUNTLEY, Secretary.

REV. F. STEGGALL MEMORIAL FUND
SUBSCRIPTIONS towards Fund for placing Marble Tablet and Stained Glass Window in Parish Church, Consett, in memory of the late Vicar, will be thankfully acknowledged by Coun. WM. AYNSLEY, J.P. (Chairman), Consett. T. L. GLEDSTONE (Hon. Treasurer), Consett. WM. EALES (Hon. Secretary), Consett. 635c

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT
SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	2259	1	6
"A Friend" per W. S. Davies		5	6
T. Sheldon, Blackhill		2	0
	£2259	9	0

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett; or further information from the Hon. Secretaries—Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Brynglas, Consett; or Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

WEST STANLEY BAND CONTEST AND SPORTS.
WHIT-MONDAY, MAY 22nd, 1899.
THE above Contest and Sports will be held on Whit-Monday, May 22nd, 1899, when Prizes amounting to
£150
Will be given to be competed.
Open and Amateur Contest for Bands. Any information required can be had by applying to the Secretary,
WM. INDIAN,
934c 17, Douglass Street, Stanley, R.S.O.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF STANLEY.
NOTICE
Of Application for an ORDER TO DIVERT A HIGHWAY, Leading from Co-operative Street, Stanley, to Glower-oer-em and Burnopfield Farms and Craghead.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that on the 3rd day of April next, Application will be made to Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace, assembled at Quarter Sessions, in and for the County of Durham at the Assize Courts, in the City of Durham, for an Order for turning, diverting, and stopping up part of a certain Highway, leading from Co-operative Street, Stanley, to Glower-oer-em and Burnopfield Farms and Craghead, namely:—By stopping up such portion of the said Highway as lies between the weigh-cabin of the Louisa Colliery, situate on the North-West side of the Railway sidings, leading to the said Colliery, and a point on the said Highway 133 yards to the East, situate at the divergence of the road to Glower-oer-em Farm (which said point is herinafter called "the Point of Diversion"), and substituting in lieu thereof a New Highway 36 feet wide, running along the North-Western side of the said Railway sidings for 117 yards, and thence at right angles, in a South-Easterly direction, under the said Railway sidings, and the Stanhope and Tyne Branch of the North-Eastern Railway, by means of a subway, 27 yards long and 18 feet wide, and thence in a Southerly direction, by a Highway 66 yards long, to the aforesaid "Point of Diversion," and that the certificate of two Justices, who have viewed the same, together with proof that the several Notices required by Law have been duly published, and a Plan describing the old and the proposed new Highways, and the consents in writing of the owners of the land through which the new Highway is proposed to be made, will be lodged with the Clerk of the Peace for the said County, on the 3rd day of March next.

Dated this 15th day of December, 1898.
JOSEPH ROUTLEDGE,
Surveyor to the said Council.

NEW THEATRE,
CONSETT.
Lessee and Manager - MR. HUGH ROBERTSON
(Also of the Royalty Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.)
Resident Manager - MR. LLOYD CLARANCE.

MONDAY, JANUARY 9th, 1899.
For Six Nights only, Grand Production of MISS CISSIE MOXON'S Gorgeous Pantomime—
"BLUE BEARD,"
or,
The Impecunious Parent and the Damsel dear,
The Lover bold and the Sister queer.

Scene 1	Bagdad Market Place
Scene 2	Hall in Blue Beard's Palace
Scene 3	The Palace Kitchen
Scene 4	The Happy Valley
Scene 5	The Palace Gardens
Scene 6	Corridor in the Palace
Scene 7	The Mystic Blue Chamber
Scene 8	The Home of the Lotus
Scene 9	Blue Beard's Palace
Scene 10	The Palace Hall

Grand Transformation, "The Birth of Love."
Concluding with a genuine old-fashioned Comic Harlequinade.

Clown	Mr Syd Raymonde
Pantaloon	Mr Burgoyne
Policeman	Mr Hillavd
Harlequina	Miss Lillie Verner
Columbine	Miss Lillie Lester

Shopkeepers, Swells, Pedestrians, &c.
Scene Whateveryouliketocallit Street
Brilliant Specialities Including
PROF. HUTCHINSON,
The World-renowned Ventriloquist.
16 BRILLIANTS. 16
Acrobatic Dancers and High Kickers.
C. H. BURNS,
The Musical Marvel.
AUGMENTED ORCHESTRA.
Full and Powerful Chorus. Splendid Ballets. Funny Comedians. First class Artistes, numbering about
60 PERFORMERS. 60
SATURDAY, JANUARY 14th,
Grand illuminated Morning performance at two o'clock.
Children half-price to all parts.
Next week
The Face at the Window.

MR. JACKSON GREEN,
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.
Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.
All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.
SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

NATHAN ELSDON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.
N. ELSDON wishes his friends and customers to know that he has the LARGEST AND BEST SALE ROOMS in the district and that he is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and all classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Sell on Commission according to arrangement.
All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction

---

Sales by Auction.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.
MONDAY, JANUARY 9th, 1899.
15 to 20 Fat Cattle.
2 Grand Young Fat Bulls, one close on 90 stone.
120 Fat Sheep.
Calves, Pigs and Poultry.
Dairy Cows and Heifers.
2 Donkeys, Coup Cart, Spring Cart.
40 Bags Carrots, Ropes, Halters, Harness, and other miscellaneous lots.
Ladders, &c.
Sale at One o'clock.
958c J. S. MURRAY.

NOTICE.
SALE OF FURNITURE advertised for Wednesday next at the Mart, will not take place.
959c J. S. MURRAY.

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

By Mr John T. Weston, Junr
4, Victoria Terrace, Catchgate.
SALE of Valuable FURNITURE on Monday first, January 9th, 1899, by Mr John T. Weston, Jun., Auctioneer, instructed by Mr C. Foggin; also, Splendid 40-Guinea PIANO (practically new). See bills for particulars.
Sale at One o'clock.
Sale Office: Cornwall House, Annfield Plain, R.S.O. 962c

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,
AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.
SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.
Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

By Mr. Wm. Robinson.
Chopwell Mill.
SALE of Mr Wm. Richardson's FARM STOCK and IMPLEMENTS, etc., in April.
WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.
Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

By Mr. John Crawford
Victoria Street Sale Rooms, Consett.
MR. J. CRAWFORD is instructed by a Tradesman of Consett, to remove to the above Rooms, and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday first, January 9th, consisting of four sets of Brass Mounted Scales, suitable for grocers or butchers; Flour Scales; Two Walnut Cabinets, Bevelled Plate Glass Sideboard, Mahogany Drawers, Brass Mounted Bedsteads, &c.; also, a splendid toned Piano from Mr Nichol, Edmondbyers. Sale to commence prompt one o'clock. The Lots are on view on Saturday and the morning of sale. Anyone having Furniture to dispose of can enter it in this Sale or have it bought right out for Cash. 984c

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street Consett.

SPECIAL NOTICE.
A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Office, Front Street, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station.

An Almanack for Nothing.

With this week's issue of the "Guardian," there will be GIVEN AWAY to every purchaser a large SHEET ALMANACK, containing much valuable information pertaining to local affairs. All readers should see that they receive an Almanack with the copy of the "Guardian."

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.
SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. ☞ DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, January 6th, 1899.

EDITORIAL CHAT.

IN ANOTHER COLUMN will be found a letter from Mr. Atherley-Jones dealing with the unfavourable comments passed upon his conduct in certain quarters, recently, and we think that the communication is one that will commend itself to the good sense of the hon. gentleman's constituents. At the outset Mr. Jones states that his experience of comments of this character is "that they arise from imperfect knowledge of what was said or written." "My critic," he says, "has probably read some short extract from a letter or speech carefully but not over-scrupulously culled by a Conservative journalist, and published with the object of making party capital out of the observations of a Liberal politician." Further on Mr. Jones strikes a note of independence when he tells us that "there are two types of Parliamentary representatives. One is the man who never raises his voice or lifts his pen on political questions except at the inspiration of his party leaders. I cannot consent to reduce myself to the moral and mental level of the doll of a ventriloquist." The other type is the man who "prefers to be the truthful exponent of the principles he avowed to his constituents rather than the servile apologist of his party leaders." The latter type Mr. Jones avows to be his ideal of a popular representative, and probably many will be found to agree with him. Mr Jones again prudently reiterates that the rank and file of the Liberal Party should know without delay what is in the mind of its leaders as to the position of Home Rule at the next election, and we think that this appeal is only reasonable. Some of the leading lights of the Party seem in favour of dropping Home Rule, but Mr. Morley contends that they should "nail it to the mast." As Mr. Jones very truly points out, "Divided counsels among our leaders are not helpful at elections." For the rest, we prefer to let the letter speak for itself, sincerely believing that it will meet with favourable reception at the hands of the Liberal Party in the division. So far as we are concerned, we must confess that we are not aware of anything that Mr. Jones has said or done to cause the Radicals of North-West Durham to withdraw the confidence they placed in him at the last General Election.

THAT WAS A VERY pleasant little gathering which took place on Tuesday night at the Station Hotel, Blackhill, as a send-off to Mr. A. S. Godfrey, who, ere these lines appear in print, will be on his way to Russia. Of course, Mr. Godfrey will be chiefly known to many by reason of his prowess on the cricket field, and he was certainly one of the finest exponents of the grand old English pastime that ever came into our district. When Mr. Godfrey first came amongst us about twelve years since, the game was nothing like so popular as it is now, nor were the players so proficient. Mr. Godfrey—ever a keen cricketer—naturally became identified with the fortunes of the Consett and District Club, and put forth all the characteristic enthusiasm of a Yorkshireman in order to improve the playing capabilities of the members. His own beautiful style of batting was an education in itself, and it used to delight old cricketers to see him despatching the ball to the boundary time after time without apparently any effort whatever. Of course, those who know the game best will tell you that it was all done with the wrist. Mr Godfrey has several times been chosen as captain of the club, and a keener enthusiast it would be hard to find. He has rendered splendid service to the club, and it was only right that a complimentary banquet should have been held in his honour in order to give him the opportunity of saying good-bye to many friends whom perhaps otherwise he might not have met before his departure. Under the genial presidency of Coun. Joseph Eltringham, the proceedings passed off most successfully. The arrangements were in the hands of Mr. Wm. Ramsay, and having said this it is scarcely necessary to add that they were perfect.

APROPOS OF OUR REMARKS of last week concerning Bishop Butler, a Stanhope correspondent writes:—"Mr. Gladstone bequeathed a statue of Butler to posterity. It is hoped that it may be erected in Stanhope, the place where Butler wrote his famous 'Analogy.' Nothing could be more fitting than that it should be erected in the little country town which he immortalised. The only monument to his genius in Stanhope is the beautiful row of lime trees which he is said to have planted." We trust that it may be found convenient to act in accordance with our correspondent's suggestion, and should this course be adopted it would afford much satisfaction to the inhabitants of what has sometimes been termed "Butler's Village."

ALTHOUGH A SIMPLE matter in itself, the danger of throwing orange peel indiscriminately about cannot be too plainly pointed out. At this season of the year, when oranges are plentiful and eaters are numerous, there is a tendency to distribute the peel on the public pavements. That this is a dangerous practice is obvious. We have heard of an individual who never kicks a piece of orange peel from the pavement to the gutter but what he mutters, "Another neck saved." Whether all the necks preserved are worth the preservation is a question to be considered by the misanthropic only. Suffice to say that individual does his duty according to his lights. His example may be commended to others, for there is no need for sprained ankles, broken legs, and maybe broken heads, when a little forethought will prevent them. We have heard of several accidents occurring owing to this senseless practice.

A LANCHESTER RATING APPEAL.

THE APPEAL UPHELD.

At Durham Quarter Sessions, on Wednesday, before the Right Hon. J. L. Wharton, M.P., and other county magistrates, an appeal by the Newcastle Breweries Co., Ltd., against the assessment of the Board Inn, Shield Row, made by the Assessment Committee of the Lanchester Union, was heard. Mr Simey appeared for the respondents, and Mr Bruce Williamson and Mr Gillies for the appellants.

In opening the case for the Assessment Committee, Mr Simey stated that the question to be determined was at what figure the assessment of a fully licensed house called the Board Inn, Shield Row, in the parish of Stanley, ought to stand. The house was close to the village of West Stanley, a pit village of increasing importance. This particular house was between West Stanley and the Railway Station, so that everyone that went from Shield Row Station to West Stanley must pass it. The population of the district in which the house was situated numbered about 43,000 people. It was an old house, and to meet the increased needs of the district it had recently been enlarged. The rating he was there to support was £240 gross and £200 rateable value, and the rate appealed against was made on an assessment of £260 gross and £216 10s rateable value, but these figures were reduced to the amounts mentioned on an appeal to the Assessment Committee by the appellants. The Company were not satisfied with this reduction, and hence the present appeal. Until 1895 the assessment of this house stood at £58 gross and £50 rateable value. In 1896 considerable additions were made, and the assessment was advanced to £240 gross and £200 rateable value. In March, 1897, the Breweries' Company appealed, with the result that it was reduced to £198 and £165 gross and rateable respectively. In June the respondents resolved to have the whole of the licensed houses in the union re-valued, and Mr Hedley, of Newcastle, was instructed to carry out the re-valuation. This valuation was £260 gross and £216 10s rateable, and the figures were adopted by the committee, but were subsequently reduced to the figures now appealed against.

Evidence was then called.

Mr Hedley stated that 170,000 people passed the house from the station of Shield Row to West Stanley and other villages in a year. This was about 500 a day. He had very little doubt but that he could find a tenant for this house at a rental of £260 a year.

Mr J. Lamb, valuer, Newcastle, and Mr J. G. Gradon, Durham, gave evidence in support of the valuation of respondents.

Mr H. Fuller, rating surveyor, London, called on behalf of the appellants, stated that his valuation of this house was £150 gross and £120 rateable. The house, he found, was arranged for the particular rush of business connected with a week-end trade.

Mr Smith, valuer, Gateshead, supported the last witness. The rental of the house was £150, and he considered the value of it to be about £5,000.

Mr W. C. Wheater, Mr Joe. Wheater, (Newcastle), and Mr J. Lovibond, managing director of the Newcastle Breweries' Company, gave evidence.

The Magistrates retired to consider their decision, and on their return the Chairman stated that the appeal would be allowed, and the assessment reduced to £223 net and £190 rateable value.

STANLEY.

Catholic Social.—On Monday night, the Catholics of West Stanley held a social and concert in St. Joseph's Schools. There was a large company for whom an entertaining programme had been prepared by a committee of the Catholic Society. Music was supplied by Mr Cranston's String Band, and the proceeds are to be devoted to the building fund.

Private Assembly Social.—On Friday night last the fifth annual social of the Stanley and District Private Assembly was held in the Co-operative Hall, West Stanley. The interior of the building had been beautifully decorated by the Misses Wetherall and Carr, aided by the members of the committee. There was a fine and effective display of fancy paper streamers, which had been made by the Misses Wetherall, whose patience was rewarded by the high encomiums passed upon the decorations. Between 70 and 80 couples attended, and every attention was accorded the guests by the M.C.'s, Messrs J. Fairbairn and R. Cunningham, who were well supported by the following committee:—Messrs W. Forster, T. Carr, R. Walton, W. Witty, J. McGregor, T. Forster, and A. Storey, with Mr Jos. Swinburn as treasurer, and Mr Geo. Sanderson, jun., as secretary. The music was supplied by Messrs Robson, Trevena, and Simpson, and refreshments by the Co-operative Society. Dancing commenced shortly before nine o'clock, and was kept up until five next morning.

"The Poisoner of Milan."—This is the title of a new sensational drama which is being performed at the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, during the present week. It has been written by F. Brooke Warren, and deserves to take high rank amongst stage productions. The story of the poisoner's career is connective, and so well draped in a literary sense, as to make the drama almost fascinating. Large audiences have been delighted with the capital portrayal of the leading part by Mr Walter Beaumont, and with the all-round excellence of the other members of a very capable company.

New Year Celebrations.—In Stanley and district the New Year was ushered in in a quiet and orderly manner. Watch services were held at St. Andrew's and other churches and chapels, and the usual "first footing" was freely indulged in. The children of Lanchester Workhouse had been invited to a matinee performance of "Aladdin" at the Victoria Theatre on New Year's Eve, but owing to the inclement weather it was felt inadvisable to expose them to the drive from Stanley. Mr Lindon, the popular lessee, had laid in a stock of buns and oranges, and these he has since had conveyed to the Workhouse, thus, as fully as he could, compensating the juveniles for their disappointment. The Wesleyans held a New Year's tree, tea and concert on Monday in the Board Schools; the Catholics had a soiree in St. Joseph's Schools, and other entertainments were held in various parts of the district. The licensed houses were all closed from mid-day on Monday, tending in a great measure to the greater quietude of the town. A large crowd gathered on the football ground at Oakey's, where a capital match was witnessed between the home team and Newcastle United A. There was again heavy traffic at Shield Row Station, which was successfully dealt with by Mr Newton and his staff, and the post office authorities had another busy time. There was a heavy downfall of snow on Saturday, and a frost setting in the meteorological aspect over New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, and Monday was decidedly wintry.

15 & 16, Middle Street, Consett.

TWO DAYS' SPECIAL

SALE OF FLANNELETTES.

On MONDAY & TUESDAY (Jan. 9th and 10th),

We shall offer for Sale,

A Large and Important Stock of Flannelettes

at very Special and Extraordinary Low Prices.

We advise all our Friends

To see the Four following Lots, which are the BEST and CHEAPEST FLANNELETTES we have ever had the good fortune to offer at the price.

THEY ARE WIDE WIDTHS, GOOD PATTERNS,

and are divided into Four Special Lots, and marked in plain Red Figures, as follows—

Lot 1. 2d. Lot 2. 3d. Lot 3. 4d. Lot 4. 5d.

PER YARD.

PLEASE NOTE ☞ As the Prices of these Flannelettes are SO EXCEEDINGLY LOW, we expect to clear the whole on MONDAY and TUESDAY NEXT. We therefore advise all those who are in need of Flannelettes to buy on those TWO SPECIAL DAYS.

ROBERT ENGLISH.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The monthly meeting of this Board took place on Thursday of last week in the Board Room of the Union Buildings, Lanchester, under the presidency of Mr. William Logan, J.P. (chairman.). The other Guardians present were:—County Councillor T. J. Muse (vice-chairman). Miss Peile, Mrs Piercey Taylor-Smith, Rev. Father P. C. Fortin, Messrs W. Gray, George Hobson, James Oliver, William Aynsley, J.P., Philip Kirkup, Robert Kay, Thomas Lowdon, Geo. J. Robinson, A. Kuhlman, George Ritchie, William Bulmer, H. C. Wood, J.P., J. W. Taylor, J.P., William Johnson, John Hunter, William Young, H. Greener, J. R. Ritson, Thos. Nichol, U. A. Ritson, jun., Ed. Sloane, Edward Wigham; W. S. Telford, the Clerk (Mr. W. H. Ritson) the Workhouse Master (Mr. W. Brotherhood), and the Medical Officer (Dr. John Wilson.)

Workhouse Staff.

The Workhouse Visiting Committee recommended the adoption of the Special Committee's report relative to the Workhouse staff, and recommended that the Board engage a young woman, not under 25 years, to look after the girls, and do other work in the Workhouse.

On the motion of Mr. Muse, seconded by Mr. Gray, the report was adopted.

The Clerk was instructed to advertise for suitable applicants for the post.

Proposed Old Age Pensions Bill.

The Chairman said the Clerk had received a circular from the Parliamentary Committee with respect to a proposed Old Age Pensions Bill, but he did not know whether the Guardians were desirous of having it read. The circular stated that the Committee expressed their sense of the importance of the question of Old Age Pensions being dealt with, and they joined in the memorial to the Government with a view of bringing this about. They also wished for suggestions from Boards of Guardians on the question. He did not know that they they could do anything in the matter. The question had been mentioned in the House of Commons, and had been considered by a Committee, and they had failed to arrive at a solution of the question. If the Government could not do anything in the matter it was not likely the Board would.

Mr. Taylor: Query.

The Clerk: The money will come from the County Councils.

The Chairman: It comes from the ratepayers' pockets in the first place.

The circular was ordered to lie on the table.

The Vaccination Act, 1898.

The Clerk reported that he had received three petitions and resolutions from the Honiton, Wells, and Burslems Unions, relative to the Vaccination Act, 1898. The petitions were all against the Act, and the respective Unions were desirous that that Union should join them with a similar petition. Honiton's petition was to the House of Lords and Commons asking them to repeal the Act passed this year, which they considered to be vexatious, retrograde in character, and so unsanitary in operation as to almost amount to a national calamity. Wells urged that as the cost of the Act was likely to be excessive they should ask for a grant from the Imperial Exchequer, Burslem wished the Local Government to make recommendations to Parliament with a view to making vaccination compulsory.

The Chairman said the Act had only been passed this year, and they did not know yet how it was going to work. He considered it was rather early in the day to be asked to give an expression of opinion, and would, therefore, suggest the petitions lie on the table

On the proposition of Mr. Muse, seconded by Mr. Gray, this was agreed to.

A Generous Offer.

The Workhouse Visiting Committee reported that the Master had received an invitation from Mr. Lindon, lessee of the Victoria Theatre, Stanley, for the whole of the children of the Workhouse to visit the pantomime at Stanley.

Mr. Sloane moved that the offer be accepted.

This was seconded by Mr. Kuhlman, and carried.

Master's Report.

The Master reported as follows:—I have received the following presents for the inmates:—Mr. W. M. Annandale, Lintzford, £1 1s; Mr. Robert Burdon, Branch Villa, Lanchester, 5/-; Mr. John Reed, Lanchester, box of oranges; Mesdames Brown and Parker, Lanchester, 5/-; Mrs. W. Cumming, Lanchester, two boxes of sweets; Mr. W. M. Scott, draper, Durham, three dozen dressed dolls, and a Christmas card for each of the children; Mr James Walton, Lanchester, barrel of apples and two bottles of sweets; Mr Geo. D. Powell, Consett, case of oranges, basket of grapes, and barrel of apples; Mrs. Aitchinson, Annfield Plain, box of sweets; Mr. T. J. Muse, Castleside, sweets; Mr. Hornsby, Maiden Law, box of sweets; Mr. T. Wilson, Ornsby Hill, bag of oranges; Mr. Brydson, Lanchester, box of sweets; Mr. W. Barrass, agent for Messrs Blair and Company, Edinburgh, sent a barrel of beer for Christmas dinner; Mr. J. Snaith, of the Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester, 12 dozen of lemonade, and other aerated waters.

The Chairman moved that the Clerk forward each of the donors a hearty vote of thanks for their gifts.

This was seconded by Mr. Muse, and carried.

For the Children.

The Chairman announced that the sum of £3 12s 6d had been collected from the Guardians by Mr. Oliver, for the purpose of providing the children with sweets, toys, etc., to be presented to them on New Year's Day.

Number of Inmates.

It was reported that the number of inmates in the 'House totalled 255, and the number for the corresponding week of last year was 242.

Out-door Relief.

The number of out-door paupers in the Eastern district was 357; corresponding period of last year, 438; Western district, 510; corresponding period of last year, 511.

This was the whole of the business.

WEARDALE.

Primitive Methodist Bazaar at Westgate.—On Christmas Eve the Primitive Methodists of Westgate held a bazaar in their schoolroom for the purpose of raising funds for a proposed new organ. The proceedings were opened by Mr. C. E. Fenwick, of Wolsingham, who was introduced by the superintendent minister, Rev. W. D. Judson. The schoolroom was tastefully decorated, and there was an excellent display of goods for sale, tea and supper being provided in the adjoining chapel. The bazaar was largely attended and patronised, the proceeds amounting to over £104, which will be added to the amount already in the fund. In connection with this effort special sermons were preached on the Sunday by the Rev. W. Donaldson.

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LANCHESTER JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

On Thursday afternoon of last week, the monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Board Room of the Union Buildings, Lanchester—Mr. William Logan, J.P (chairman) presiding. The other members present were:—Messrs Jas. Oliver, Philip Kirkup, Robert Kay, W. Bulmer, J. W. Winter, W. Gray, H. C. Wood, W. S. Telford, W. Young, Rev. Father P. C. Fortin, Ed. Sloane, Geo. J. Robinson, the Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson), and the Medical Officer (Dr. J. Wilson.)

The Site for a Hospital in Tanfield District.

The agreement with Mr. Eden, of Beamish Park, for three acres of land as a site for the infectious hospital in the Tanfield district was considered. The land was to cost £450.

On the motion of Mr. Gray, seconded by Mr Sloane, the agreement was ordered to be sealed.

Mr. Sloane moved that Mr. Geo. T. Wilson, Blackhill, be appointed architect, to prepare the plans for the new hospital.

This was seconded by Mr. Kay.

Mr. Gray proposed an amendment that the Board invite competitive plans from local architects for an infectious hospital, the general arrangements to be considered by a sub-committee, consisting of the Chairman, Mr Jas. Oliver, and the representatives from the Annfield Plain, Stanley, and Tanfield Urban Districts.

This was seconded by Father Fortin.

After a short discussion, a vote was taken which resulted in the amendment being carried by five votes to four.

Medical Officers' Reports.

Dr. Wm. Allen Blackhill, reported as follows:—Gentlemen,—Since the last meeting of your Board there have been no admissions into the Leadgate Infectious Hospital; but 13 cases have been discharged, and there remains in the Institution only two cases at present. These two cases are convalescing, and will be discharged soon. There are some improvements required in the grounds of the hospital which I wish you would affect as soon as possible. There ought to be two separate recreation grounds for convalescents. Also there ought to be an inner boundary fence to keep patients from going within 40 feet of the roadside. With your subcommittee's sanction I am taking steps to notify the patients' friends what are the visiting days.

Dr J. Wilson, Lanchester, submitted the following report:—Since my last report seven cases of scarlet fever from Lanchester, and two from the Workhouse have been admitted to Langley Park Hospital. Two cases convalescent from the same disease were discharged yesterday (Wednesday). On the 19th inst, a case of typhoid fever from Cornsay Colliery was admitted to the hospital.

The reports were adopted.

This was the whole of the business.

WHAT MILLIONS OF THE PEOPLE DRINK.

Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa IS the Food Beverage of the People, its merits having been recognised to an extent hitherto unknown in the history of any preparation. Its value as a food under every circumstance, and answering all requirements, has been testified to by people of almost every class and occupation, showing its wonderful restorative power in cases of the greatest variety.

We leave it to the reader to consult common sense, and at once to substitute Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa—if this has not already been done—for ordinary cocoa, tea, and coffee at breakfast and other meals.

DR TIBBLES' VI-COCOA

6d., 9d., and 1/6 can be obtained from all Chemists, Grocers, and Stores, or from 60, 61, and 62, Bunhill Row, London, E.C. As a test of its merits a dainty sample tin of Dr. Tibbles' Vi-Cocoa will be sent free on application to any address if, when writing (a post-card will do), the readers will name the "Consett Guardian"

CORRESPONDENCE.

☞ WE DO NOT hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—(Ed. "C. G.")

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

LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than TUESDAY morning.

THE BRAVE ACTION AT BURNHOPE.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian.

Dear sir,—In your issue of the 30th of last month, I notice a letter with the heading, "The Brave action at Burnhope." The facts as stated by your correspondent are incorrect; the writer of the same having been summarily dismissed for a flagrant breach of the Coal Mines' Reguation Act in October last could not have any personal knowledge of the facts. This perhaps may account for the spirit of the letter. I will be obliged if you will publish this.—Yours truly,

J. R. RITSON.

Burnhope Colliery, December 31st, 1898.

MIRACULOUS CURE OF ASTHMA.

The statement which we publish below confirms the claim of Dr. Schiffmann that he has now discovered an absolute remedy for Asthma, a disease which has heretofore baffled the skill of the most noted physicians. John William Lowe, Hopkinson's Yard, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, says:—"For two years I was an innocent sufferer from Asthma, and the winter before last I was unable to work at all, but after using two boxes of your Asthma Cure I was quite cured. Last winter I did not lose a day's work, nor did I suffr from a single attack. I had tried many remedies before but nothing did me any good, with the exception of "Schiffmann's Asthma Cure," which has completely cured me." "Schiffmann's Asthma Cure" is sold by all Chemists at 2/6 and 4/6 per package, or can be obtained by remitting the amount to Dr. Schiffmann's British Depot, 32, Snow Hill, London, E.C.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Snows Green Misson.—On Christmas Day, the services, afternoon and evening, at this mission were conducted by Sister Jessie of Wallsend. Large congregation were present. On Tuesday week, the usual monthly consecration service took place, and was conducted by the Rev. Wm. Reed, of Belfast.

BILLIARDS.

BLACKHILL AND DISTRICT INSTITUTES' BILLIARD TOURNAMENT.

[BY "IVORY."]

Each team has now run one-half of the journey, and a detailed account of individual performances as below will doubtless prove interesting to followers of the game:—

	Games Played	Scores For	Scores Agst	Points Gaind	Points Lst
CONSETT NEW TOWN HALL.					
R. Forster	6	591	400	191	
J. Murray	3	283	193	90	
J. Burnett	6	551	499	52	
G. Freek	2	200	175	25	
J. W. Bryant	5	411	393	18	
A. Ward	4	345	337	8	
H. Wood	6	546	569		23
J. Ridley	4	319	389		70
	36	3246	2955	384	93
STANLEY VICTORIA.					
W. Long	6	600	330	270	
T. Murray	4	400	311	89	
C. Benson	6	562	501	61	
W. Clark	6	512	466	46	
W. Barker	2	171	138	33	
T. Killgallon	6	496	511		15
R. W. Pringle	4	342	358		16
R. Thompson	2	150	200		50
	36	3233	2815	499	81
ALLENDALE COTTAGES.					
W. Eggleston	6	580	352	228	
G. Walton	6	589	486	103	
J. Page	6	507	461	46	
W. Beck	6	510	492	18	
R. Ashby	6	533	517	16	
M. Walton	2	178	185		7
J. Longstaff	4	311	353		42
	36	3208	2846	411	49
BLACKHILL MECHANICS.					
H. Hobday	6	594	474	120	
J. Barrow	6	533	468	65	
J. Siddell	6	556	501	55	
W. Atkinson	6	528	499	29	
J. Askew	6	479	461	18	
C. Merritt	6	484	492		8
	36	3174	2895	287	8
LEADGATE LEAGUE.					
F. McDonald	4	379	305	74	
P. Matthews	6	536	463	73	
J. McGee	6	509	491	18	
P. Hafferty	2	173	176		3
J. Monaghan	3	233	261		28
O. Hughes	6	473	521		48
A. McGurk	3	221	300		79
J. Matthews	6	466	559		93
	36	2990	3076	165	251
CONSETT IRISH.					
F. McNally	6	600	469	131	
J. Lagan	1	100	90	10	
P. Casey	1	85	100		15
D. Welsh	4	349	389		40
F. Hanlon	4	315	360		45
D. Rafferty	4	302	365		63
M. Rogers	1	34	100		66
J. McDonald	3	225	300		75
J. McKeon	6	429	572		143
J. Donnelly	6	412	590		178
	36	2851	3335	141	625
LEADGATE GUILD.					
C. O. Todd	1	90	100		10
T. R. Wilson	3	223	240		17
H. Makepeace	3	263	293		30
W. Bell	1	64	100		36
A. Newton	2	134	200		66
J. Kershaw	5	396	464		68
W. G. Robson	2	132	200		68
J. S. Jopling	5	397	469		72
G. R. Jopling	5	375	459		84
F. Lockey	4	269	400		131
J. E. Kinleside	5	302	500		198
	36	2645	3425		780

Only 42 players, i.e., six from each institute, are necessary to carry through the tournament, but in all save one instance the teams have at different times undergone changes, and 58 players have actually been requisitioned. The following details will explain this:—

	No. of players.
Leadgate Guild	11
Consett Irish	10
Consett Town Hall	8
Leadgate League	8
Stanley Victoria	8
Allendale Cottages	7
Blackhill Mechanics	6
	58

The two first-named have now not much further choice from the registered list of 12, but the remaining teams can provide for contingencies to a good extent yet, especially Blackhill and Allendale, the former not having deviated from the original six, and the latter only once. The number of games played is 126, producing a grand total of 21,347 points, giving an average of 169·4 per game or 84·7 per man. In the way of majorities there are six players who claim the handsome margin of over 100 after fulfilling every fixture, and the figures are worth reproducing in order of merit, viz:—

	Majority.	Avg majority per game
W. Long	270	45
W. Egglestone	228	38
R. Forster	191	31·8
F. McNally	131	21·8
M. Hobday	120	20
G. Walton	103	17·1

It would be superfluous my reiterating the good qualities of the various successful individuals, as these have been dwelt upon in full week by week, and the details now speak for themselves, but I certainly do make free to express the hope that a greater measure of success may attend the efforts of players who time after time have pluckily though unsuccessfully endeavoured to do credit to their institute. The novel idea of forecasting results has been presented to me by one gentleman making so bold as not only to name the winning team but to place the first four. His communication reads:—1st, Allendale; 2nd, Blackhill; 3rd, Consett Town Hall; 4th, Stanley. I will not presume to pass an opinion on this prognostication, but must confess that it is rather difficult to work out, and will doubtless come in for a good share of criticism. However, perhaps my correspondent knows something, and it would be intensely interesting to hear what other of my readers may know, so you are now all invited to give a forecast, placing the whole of the seven teams in such order as they will stand at the finish, and in addition name the final aggregate score of at least the winning team. As the games will be in progress next week forecasts must arrive not later than Saturday, 14th January, addressed to "IVORY," *Guardian* Office, Consett.

The exact positions at half time are as per table below, and will be at all events a slight guide to work by:—

TABLE.

	P.	W.	L.	For	Agst	Average per game
Consett TownH	36	21	15	3246	2955	90·1
Stanley Victora	36	22	14	3233	2815	89·8
Allendale	36	22	14	3208	2846	89·1
Blackhill	36	22	14	3174	2895	88·3
Leadgate Legue	36	17	19	2990	3076	83·0
Consett Irish	36	13	23	2851	3335	79·1
Leadgate Guild	36	9	27	2645	3425	73·4

The fixtures for next week are:—

Jan. 9th—Leadgate Guild v. Leadgate League

" 10th—Consett Town Hall v. Consett Irish.

" 11th—Leadgate Guild v. Leadgate League

" 11th—Stanley v. Allendale.

" 12th—Consett Town Hall v. Consett Irish.

" 14th—Stanley v. Allendale.

It is rather late in the day to draw up rules for a prize competition on the tournament final results, but doubtless this can be duly arranged for next winter, and in the meantime I ask the numerous enthusiasts to predict all for love. Names and addresses should be given, but these need not necessarily be published.

EBCHESTER.

Parish Church.—The services here on Christmas Day, which were fully choral, were bright and hearty, very large congregations being present, both morning and evening. The church was very prettily decorated with ivy, evergreens, etc., by Mrs. Pumphrey, Miss Bolton, and Miss Pumphrey. At the best of times the interior of the church looks dull and gloomy, but its appearance now is completely metamorphosed by the beautiful gifts added and used for the first time. These beautiful and costly gifts, which have been given by very kind friends, consisted of a massive brass lectern with bible for same, brass cross, brass alms dish, brass book rest for Communion Table, altar linen, credence table litany stool, new service book (four) for clergy, new psalters and hymn books for choir, carpet for pulpit and steps, etc. The effect was greatly enhanced by the new system of lighting, which consists of a series of pendant coronas, specially designed to be in harmony with the character of the early Roman Church. The Rector is heartily grateful to those kind friends who have helped him so nobly, and it is hoped that as a mark of appreciation of the beautiful and valuable accessories of worship, others will follow the example set before them, until the church is perfectly and worthily equipped.

DISOBEDIENCE IN THE ARMY is looked upon as one of the gravest crimes a soldier can be guilty of, and in the past it has often been punished by death. The fate of a battle and the lives of thousands of men, let alone our national honour, have often been dependent upon the prompt carrying out of what might have seemed a trivial order. Discipline without good health, however, would be like a house without a foundation; therefore, great pains are taken to keep our fighting men free from disease. Holloway's Pills have always been found an excellent medicine for this purpose, as, in addition to cleansing the blood, they invigorate and give tone to the system.

(Copyright.)

"CLEVERLY TRACKED."

BY RAILLI WEST,

Author of "Found out by a Dream," "Mayblossom," "The Sweetest Spell of All," &c.

"Of course, Dalton, if you had not been coming I should have sent off at once to Scotland Yard; but you know I always did say you were cut out for a detective. My first thought when the jewels were missed was—'Dalton will find it out.'"

The gentleman addressed, a grey-haired, shrewd-faced man of sixty, acknowledged the compliment with a deprecatory wave of the hand. "I will do my best, North; but I tell you plainly I consider this a case for a first class detective; and were I in your place I should employ one without delay."

"No, you would not," returned Squire North, testily. "Can't you see that if, as I fear, Gaston Tree is the culprit, I want the matter hushed up. Ida," turning to his only daughter, a dark-eyed girl of twenty, "is the one most concerned in the loss, and she says she would rather lose her jewels altogether than see the son of my old friend imprisoned for theft."

"A thousand times rather," said the girl, so earnestly that Mr. Dalton turned and surveyed her critically from beneath his bushy eyebrows.

"Then you think, Squire, there is no doubt of Mr. Tree being the delinquent?" struck in a lady, many years Ida's senior, but still beautiful enough to turn the heads of half the men she met. She was Mrs. Lorimer, a great friend of the Squire's wife, and an especial favourite of the Squire himself.

"My dear Madame, I fear there is no doubt of the matter. Two days ago I locked the case containing the jewels in the desk in my study."

"I warned you that it was unsafe," she murmured.

"I know you did; and I wish to goodness I had taken your advice. Any ordinary key could open that desk, but I thought I could trust everyone in this house implicitly. The first night the jewels were safe enough, and a considerable sum of gold beside. Last night I forgot to lock till after I had gone to my room, and as the gas was out in the study I had to take a candle. The light, as I held it, fell straight on to the desk and I noticed something glitter. It was a gold shirt stud. When I opened the cases they were empty, and the money gone also. I should never have suspected Tree had it not been that the stud was a peculiar pattern, one of a set, in fact, that I had given him myself, and I knew he had been wearing it that evening."

"But he seems such a steady, good-hearted young man," pleaded Mrs. Lorimer. "He can't be guilty, Squire; it is impossible."

"I will not leave a stone unturned to find out the real culprit; you may depend on that," returned Mr. North. "But I must go and break the news to my poor wife. Will you help me, Mrs. Lorimer? It is an awkward subject for an old blunderer like myself to introduce. Dalton, will you be ready in a few minutes to come with me to the study? Everything is as I left it last night, and I gave orders that the men were to touch nothing in the grounds until you had been round. He had lingered a moment to give these explanations, but finding Mrs. Lorimer already gone, hastened after her.

"And what do you think about this affair, Ida?" Mr. Dalton said, crossing to the window where the girl sat absorbed in thought. She started guiltily.

"I don't know what to think Mr. Dalton; only, nothing will make me believe that Mr. Tree did it. You have not seen him yet, I think?"

"No, I am particularly anxious to do so."

"I am sure that you will agree with me about him. His face, voice, manner, everything seems so honest and straightforward."

"You have known him some time, have you not?"

"Papa has known him from a child. He came here as tutor to Geoff, just a year ago; when Dr. Wills said Geoff was too delicate to go to school. He is the son of an old friend of Papa's. I believe really, that years ago, when Papa was quite a young man—before he met mamma, you know—that he was in love with the lady who became Gaston's mother, only she liked Mr. Tree better and married him. She was a French lady, that is why Mr. Tree's name is Gaston."

"Are his parents living?" asked Mr. Dalton. For reasons of his own he wanted to learn as much as possible about Gaston from the girl who was so evidently prejudiced in his favour.

"No, they died some years ago. Mr Tree has lived in France until lately. He came to England because there is some claim that his friends urge him to make to an estate of which he is the rightful owner. It was a case of undue influence, I believe, which the present possessor exercised over an old uncle of Mr. Tree's; but I do not know all the ins and outs of the story."

"And while this law suit is pending, your friend is earning his living as tutor, I suppose."

"Oh! The lawsuit is not commenced yet. Mr. Tree says it will be very costly and he is not rich enough to——"

The words died away on her lips. Money was what Gaston needed. Could it be that to obtain it he had yielded to temptation and robbed his old friend?

"From what your Father tells me, the only persons who knew that the jewels were in his desk were Mrs. Lorimer, Mr. Tree, and yourself. I am asking you all these questions, my dear, because your father gets so excited. It is difficult to learn the exact details from him."

"One other person knew, Brett, mamma's maid. She was just leaving the room when papa spoke of where he had put the cases, and must have heard what he said. She has been here over five years now."

"And you like her?"

"Pretty well; she is apt to get hysterical, and that is so bad for Mamma. I believe she is unhappy about a love affair, poor thing. She is engaged to a man much younger than herself, a regular rolling stone, who only cares for her savings, I fear; at any rate he seems disinclined to settle down as Brett wishes."

"I am glad you mentioned this, Ida, for the field is considerably widened in consequence. Brett may have mentioned the fact to her fellow-servants. Now, dear, just write down a description of the missing jewels, and I will release you. Ah! one thing more; who is Mrs. Lorimer? I never remember to have heard her name."

"She is the daughter of an old friend of mamma's. She has had a great deal of trouble, poor thing, for after her parents' death her husband deserted her and left her penniless. She is companion to mamma, really, though we always speak of her as a friend. Mamma has been so much worse lately that it was more than I could manage by myself. There, Mr. Dalton," handing the paper to him, "that is as exact a description as I can give you of the jewellery."

"H'm! Excepting the sapphires, a miscellaneous collection, I see. Old family jewels that your father was going to have set for you, he says."

"Yes, he meant to have taken them straight to town the same afternoon that he took them out of the bank, where they had been for I don't know how long, but his lawyer wrote saying he could not see him for a couple of days, so papa put them in his desk for the time being. Ah! here come Geoff and Mr. Tree."

Mr. Dalton noticed the flush that tinged her pale face as she introduced him to the tutor. He had been curious to see the man who appeared so strongly to interest both Ida and her father. Tall and slightly made, Gaston's clear, olive-tinted skin and dark hair betrayed the French blood that flowed in his veins. The mouth, firm to sternness, and a square cut chin gave an air of decision to a singularly handsome face—"not the face of a man who could stoop to an act of dishonesty," Mr. Dalton thought, as after a few minutes' conversation the young man left the room with his pupil. And yet the evidence was strong against him; for not only had his stud been found in the desk, but the Squire had himself requested him to arrange some papers in the study the evening before, and he had been alone in the room over two hours, during which time Ida, her father, and Geoff had been out riding and Mrs. Lorimer in close attendance on Mrs. North. Again Mr. Dalton did all in his power to induce the Squire to place the matter in the hands of the police, but the old gentleman was obdurate. "I won't be the means of sending poor Marguerite's boy to prison," he declared. "You do your utmost to clear the matter up, and if at last the proofs seem dead against him, I will see if I can't get him to make a clean breast of it. I would almost as soon arrest one of my own children as that lad. Nobody will suffer but Ida and myself, and she thinks the same as I do, bless her."

So, finding further remonstrance useless, Mr. Dalton set to work to make a thorough examination of the premises.

Ida meanwhile was having an anxious time. She knew Gaston loved her, though he was too honourable to ask her to be his wife, knowing that he was unable to offer her a suitable home. One evening when she had gone with Geoff and himself on the river, the boy, never very strong, had dropped asleep, overcome with the heat, so Ida and her would-be lover were practically alone; and when two young people love each other a few unguarded, agitated words speak volumes. She would wait for him until he could provide for her—she felt she could never, never marry another man. And now her lover was suspected of having robbed her own father!

"Oh! Why do you not go on searching? How can you walk quietly about the garden when so much is at stake," thought the girl, in an agony, as she watched Mr. Dalton slowly pacing up and down, some time later on. She did not know that he was minutely examining every nook and corner of the premises, trying to discover fresh links to what he feared was an overwhelming chain of evidence against Gaston. "If the temptation was, as I fear, too strong, the sooner the crime is brought home to him the better," thought this unwilling amateur detective.

Owing to Mrs. North's delicate health, life at "Ashendeane"—Squire North's place—was necessarily quiet, and Geoff and his tutor always joined the rest of the family at the seven o'clock dinner. To Ida, the idea of Gaston—suspected as a thief, spending the evening with them as usual, was simply terrible. The Squire seemed to feel it too, for he lost his temper over the game of whist which, as a rule, he so thoroughly enjoyed.

"Have you found out anything?" Ida anxiously inquired of Mr. Dalton next morning.

"My child," he said, tenderly laying his hand on her shoulder, "I am afraid there is no doubt, though I frankly confess I am loth to own it." She turned away with a look in her eyes that went to Mr. Dalton's heart. Yet what could he do? The more he searched, the more closely did the chain of guilt seem to twine around Gaston.

That evening Mrs. Lorimer came down to dinner in a dress that she knew the Squire particularly admired. "It is some brocade that belonged to my mother. *I* can't afford such stuffs, you may be sure," she had laughingly explained. It was a reddish brown colour, lightened by touches of trimming wherein various tinted beads were introduced. The dress was very becoming, and Mr. Dalton apparently admired it as much as the Squire, judging from the glances he cast at the fair wearer.

"Pretty frock, that," he remarked to Ida, as he helped her to arrange the whist table. "It suits Mrs. Lorimer down to the ground; far better than the one she wore last night. I call that beady stuff that glitters uncommonly pretty. I don't remember ever to have seen such a thing before, but then I am an old bachelor and don't understand ladies dresses. I suppose such trimming is often worn, only I have not happened to notice it."

"I do not think that kind of trimming is much worn at present," said Ida. "I know Mrs. Lorimer told me when the dress came home the other day that it was something quite new."

"Ah! It's a new frock, then?"

"Yes, she wore it for the first time the night before last."

The Squire came up at that moment to see if the table was ready, and Ida thought no more of Mrs. Lorimer's gown.

Once safe in his own room Mr. Dalton took from a locked box an envelope containing a few beads of various colours. Two he had picked up on the floor of the study, close to the desk; the others he had found in an outlying part of the grounds sheltered from observation by a clump of lilacs; a low paling dividing it from the lane leading to the high road. The next morning one of the housemaids gave it as her opinion that Mr. Dalton was crazy. She was going down the corridor with a dustpan in her hand, when he suddenly seized it and asked her what she had there. When she told him the sweepings from Mrs. Lorimer's room, he said, "How her pretty beads drop about," and was quite concerned at hearing that a number had been swept up by the garden door the very first time the dress had been worn.

All that day and the next Mr. Dalton went about the village chatting in a friendly way to men, women, and children alike. From one and another he gleaned the following facts, which, pieced together after, afforded him much satisfaction. About half an hour after the Squire and his son and daughter had started for their ride, on the night the jewels were stolen a man had been seen loitering about in the Ashendeane Lane. He spoke to someone over the palings by the lilac clump, had then walked towards the station with a black bag in his hand, and just managed to catch the London train. To whom was he speaking? Well, it sounded like a woman's voice. Whoever it was seemed in a mortal fright of being caught there, and kept herself well hidden among the trees. A boy, going on an errand to the house, deposed to seeing a female figure muffled in a grey shawl, hurrying towards the house about half-past eight. She came from behind the lilac trees. He thought it was one of the maids, who had been to meet her sweetheart, and crept up behind her to give her a fright; but when he came close he saw it was a lady—not Miss Ida, because of the fair hair.

Mr. Dalton put off the Squire's anxious questions and Ida's tearful "Nothing yet, dear old friend?" with entreaties that they would be patient. He thought he had a clue, but if he acted precipitately all might be lost. A fortnight passed. Ida looked pale and ill; the Squire was getting terribly irritable; even Mrs. Lorimer's fair face bore traces of anxiety.

One morning Mr. Dalton waylaid the Squire and his daughter as they came back from their ride.

"Come in here," he whispered excitedly. "I have found the culprit."

Ida led the way to the study. "Who is it?" she said, when the door had closed behind them.

"Mrs. Lorimer!"

"Impossible!" ejaculated the Squire. "My dear fellow, you must be mistaken."

"Then put the matter into the hands of the police, as I advised you to do at first," returned Mr. Dalton quietly. "I don't pretend to be infallible; but you asked me to do my best, and I have done so. I have as neat a train of facts against your fair friend as detective could desire." The Squire sank into his favourite chair. Ida, in her dark green, close-fitting habit, stood erect, one hand grasping her whip. "After what you told me, Ida, about Brett," began Mr. Dalton, "I own I suspected her. I searched this room, and on the floor, by the desk, found two beads. I searched the grounds carefully for traces of footmarks in case the thief might have been an outsider, set on to the job by Brett. Poor Brett—I owe her an apology for suspecting her as I did. For a long time I could not find a trace, but at last, by the palings behind the lilac trees—the ground is soft there—I saw footprints—pretty little foot-prints, not made by any common shoe. I looked about extra sharply after that, and came across five more beads like those I picked up in the study. The same evening I saw the fellow beads on Mrs. Lorimer's dress. It gave me an unpleasant shock, I assure you, but I felt I was on the right track at last. I borrowed one of her shoes, when I knew she was with Mrs. North. It exactly fitted the footprints. Then by judicious inquiries I elicited the following facts from various persons: That Gaston Tree left the library at half-past seven, over an hour before you returned from your ride; you had dined early that day, if you remember, as the Squire wished to ride over in the cool of the evening to see Colonel Reed. At twenty minutes to eight Mrs. Lorimer left your mother's room, Brett taking her place. At ten minutes past eight a woman was heard talking to a man behind the lilacs. Shortly after a boy saw a fair-haired, closely-veiled lady hurrying from the spot towards the house."

"But the stud!" broke in the Squire. "How could Gaston's stud have got on to my desk?"

"I am coming to that. Immediately after leaving Mrs. North, Mrs. Lorimer was seen by the housemaid watching young Tree down the drive. The girl went on to fetch something, and coming back, passed his room and saw Mrs. Lorimer come out, holding something small in her hand. Now I find that on the evening in question Tree dropped one of his studs. He told the housemaid about it the next morning, and asked her to look for it. That is just what Mrs. Lorimer intended he should do. She is a clever woman, but—she over-reached herself there."

"It's horrible!" said the poor Squire, wiping his face. "Here have I been suspecting the son of my dear dead friend to be a thief, and now, though he is cleared, I find it is my wife's friend who is guilty. By Jove, Dalton, what am I to do? I can't go up to a pretty woman who has eaten my salt all these months, and say to her, Madame, you are a thief!' You must be mistaken. It can't be Mrs. Lorimer."

"Ah! Who is taking my name in vain?" said a well-known voice, and Mrs. Lorimer herself pushed aside the curtain that hung over the doorway. She glanced from one to another of the trio, and, as she looked, and noted the expression of their faces, the bright look on her own gave place to one of despair. Mr. Dalton drew from his pocket the beads and Gaston's stud, and held them silently to her on the palm of his outstretched hand. With a sharp cry she flung herself on her knees by the Squire's chair.

"Mercy!" she gasped; "Mercy! It was my husband tempted me to do it. I have often met him by stealth since I came here. He bade me rob you; threatened if I did not he would expose me to you; tell you my real character, and have me turned out penniless to face the wide world again. Squire, have mercy; you don't know the miseries, the hardships I have gone through. My husband gambled away my money, and then left me to live as best I could."

The Squire moved uneasily in his chair. "I would have forgiven you everything," he said, "had you not tried to cast the blame on an innocent person. But for my friend here Gaston Tree would have lived a guilty man in my thoughts, though I would never have brought the crime home to him. How could you do this wicked, cowardly thing?"

She rose to her feet with a wild laugh. "I did it to separate him from that girl," she cried, pointing to Ida. "I loved him. He in return gave me cold words of judicious advice. When I saw that all his thought and all his heart were given to her, it maddened me. I determined that if he would not love me, at least he should never win her; that I would ruin him. I knew you would never give your daughter to a thief. And now—I give myself up. Send me to prison. *I* stole your money; *I* took your daughter's jewels, and gave them to my husband to take away. Why don't you have me arrested? I tell you I am a thief!"

For all reply the Squire went to his desk, unlocked it, put something into an envelope, and handed it to her. "You have been good to my poor wife," he said solemnly. "I believe you have been exposed to terrible privations and temptations. Take this money and try to lead an honest life. The servants shall be told that you leave by this afternoon's train. To-morrow I shall assemble them here and tell them the name of the culprit. By then I trust you will be out of England. Now—go."

She made a passionate gesture of refusal, but something in the old man's calmness seemed to awe her, for without another word she turned and left the room.

Eighteen months later Mr. Dalton came down to Ashendeane to assist at a wedding. Gaston had won his law suit and Ida for his wife. On her wedding morning the bride received a small diamond brooch—part of the stolen jewels. On a slip of paper was written:

"All I have been able to recover at present; but I am ever striving to repay your father's goodness. Pray your husband to forgive me"

The writing was Mrs Lorimer's.

EBCHESTER WESLEYAN CHURCH.

NEW YEAR'S FESTIVAL.

The Wesleyans of Ebchester celebrated their annual festival on New Year's Day. The pretty little edifice was decorated with holly and evergreens for the occasion. On the former night, the choir rendered a service of song, entitled "Little Johnny." There was a large audience presided over by Mr. George Buckham, Lanchester, who in his introductory remarks expressed the pleasure it gave him to preside over such a gathering, and he trusted they would have a good time together, and that they would all profit by the service of song that was about to be rendered by the choir. The service of song was one compiled by Mr. Thomas E. Hallsworth, and was very interesting. The choir under the leadership of Mr. Irving did full justice to the same, and shewed that they had been well trained. From the opening item, "Thy faithfulness Lord," to the last one, "Blessed words of Jesus," there was not a single hitch, and the performance on the whole was a most creditable one. The most effective solo was "I wonder why he comes not home." The soloists were Misses Nichol, Angus, and Waggott. The connective readings were given by Mr. Buckham, and Mr. J. Smith presided at the organ. At the conclusion of the service of song, a ham and tongue supper was provided, and was partaken of by a large number of people. The tables were presided over by Misses Nichol, Beck, Irving, Johnson and Waggott (2), assisted by Mesdames Irving and Johnson. The tea infuser was Mr. Angus.—The usual watch-night service was held. There was a large company present. Mr. Buckham conducted the service, and delivered a suitable address.—On New Year's Day special sermons were preached—morning and evening—by Mr. Buckham. Large congregations were present. At each service, Mis Buckham, Lanchester, sang several solos with good effect. In the afternoon, the choir rendered a sacred service of song.

HUMAN LIFE.—Fifty years record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Diseases and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr. Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D., author of "Patriarchal Longevity Returnable." "Earth-life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every sufferer, Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 48, Theobald's Road, Holborn, London, W.

STANHOPE.

Confirmation.—The Bishop of Richmond held a confirmation at Stanhope Church on Wednesday night of last fortnight. Upwards of 30 candidates offered themselves for confirmation. A large number of villagers were in church to witness the ceremony.

A Bishop Soloist.—At Stanhope Church on Sunday night week, a number of Xmas carols, anthems etc., were sung during the service. The Bishop of Richmond sang a solo which was well appreciated. Mr. G. Egglestone also sang one. The service throughout was musical.

THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year, more than £300,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country to the great injury of our own working people, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches that firm would be enabled to pay £1,000 a week more in wages, and large numbers of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism.

APIOL and STEEL PILLS for females, a French remedy for all irregularities and obstructions, superseding bitter apple, pill cochiac, pennyroyal, &c. Price 4/6 post free. Obtainable only from MARTIN Foreign Chemist, SOUTHAMPTON.

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'WHAT WILL YOU TAKE?' 'WHAT ARE YOU DRINKING?' 'WHAT WILL YOU HAVE?' ETC.

Some of these questions are asked by Medical Men: some by Fanatics: some by real Sociable Friends. All are important! Morally and socially what we eat and drink have a deal more to do with our welfare than is generally considered. Health, wealth, and happiness depend upon it largely,

AND THE ANSWER

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WISHING YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

CONSETT POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, January 2nd.—Before Mr. J. T. Potts (presiding), and Mr. W. Aynsley.

ALLEGED THEFT OF SILK MUFFLERS.

James Ross and John Dunn, labourers, were brought up and charged with stealing one dozen silk mufflers and one dozen caps, the property of John Darney, draper, and men's mercer, West Stanley.—Supt. Benzies explained that the prosecutor travelled the district with draperies. On the 29th December, Darney went into the Maiden Law public-house, and found the prisoners present. After transacting business at the public-house, Darney proceeded to Burnhope, and on arriving at the latter place he missed two boxes containing the mufflers and caps. Sergt Lawson received information relative to Ross going about the village of Dipton selling silk mufflers to various persons. He suspected that Ross had stolen them, and proceeded to Hill Top for the purpose of arresting Ross. When in custody Ross stated that he got the mufflers from a man named Burns at Maiden Law.—Prosecutor stated that on this particular day he was travelling the district, executing several orders that he had received. He had the boxes of mufflers and caps in his conveyance as samples which he was going to show some customers at Burnhope. He called at the Maiden Law public-house. There were twelve silk mufflers in one box, and as far as he could remember about twelve caps in another box. He took the box containing the silk mufflers into the public-house with him. After transacting certain business at the public-house he proceeded to Burnhope, where he missed the boxes. He could not say whether he brought the box of silk mufflers out of the public-house when he resumed the journey to Burnhope.—In answer to the Bench, prosecutor said he was perfectly sober.—Sergt. Lawson averred that on Friday morning, about 11 o'clock, he received information about Ross selling silk mufflers to several people in the village of Dipton. He suspected they had been stolen, and he at once proceeded to Hill Top, Dipton. When Ross saw him he ran away, and concealed himself in a coal-house. He took Ross into custody, and asked him where he had got the silk mufflers. Ross replied: "I bought them from a man called Burns at Maiden Law, and gave him 3/- for them." Ross was wearing one of the mufflers (produced), and witness received silk mufflers from several people to who Ross had sold for various sums of money. He also received one muffler from Ross's landlady to whom he presented as a Christmas box. Witness made injuries and learned that the mufflers were the property of the prosecutor, and that they had been stolen. He (the sergeant) apprehended Burns at the lodging-house, at Dipton on Saturday night, and brought him to Consett Police Station, where the prisoners were charged with the larceny. Burns replied that he knew nothing about the offence. Ross then interposed and said: "Yes you do, you got the caps, and threw them away." Burns then declared that Ross took the boxes. Witness found the boxes by the roadside near Maiden Law, but there were no caps. The goods were valued at £2 10s.—Burns said he was innocent of the offence, and Ross said he was under the influence of liquor when he took the silk mufflers.—Prisoners were remanded for eight days.

COLLIERLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

A special meeing of this Board was held in the Board Room of the Collierley Board Schools, Dipton, on Thursday evening, to appoint a teacher, temporarily, or otherwise, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Miss Hindson. There were present—Messrs S. Swalwell, R. Wilson, T. Clark; and the Clerk (Mr. D. Mole.) Mr. S. Swalwell presided.

At the otset of the meeting the Clerk read a letter from the Education Department asking for plans showing the boys and girls schools before they could sanction the proposal of the Board to convert those departments into a mixed school.

The Chairman, in placing the subject before the Board, thought that there should be a temporary appointment made at once until some definite reply had been received from the Department.

After some conversation, Mr. Wilson moved that Mr. McQuillen be asked to take charge of the girls' school until they knew definitely whether the Department would sanction the proposal, or until they appointed a headmistress, and that Mr. McQuillen be paid at the rate of £200 per annum.

Mr. Clark seconded the motion, which was carried.

Cookery Mistress.

The Chairman then said that Miss Hindson had been the cookery mistress, and in all due fairness he thought Miss Clark should be appointed provided that the Department would sanction the appointment.

The Clerk thought that under the present circumstances the Department would sanction the appointment.

Mr. Clark said he would like to be clear on the point. He thought there was a foot-note in the Code to the effect that a teacher could give lessons in cookery provided that she was studying for her diploma in that subject.

Having found the note it stated that were a teacher had not the diploma the competency of the teacher would have to be proved to the Department.

The Chairman said that when a teacher was studying for the diploma that would be sufficient proof for the Department.

Mr. Wilson asked as to the legality of making the appointment?

The Chairman thought the meeting was quite within its right to make the appointment, seeing that it was a vacancy caused by Miss Hindson's resignation.

Mr Wilson then moved, and the Chairman seconded, that Miss Clark be appointed cookery mistress temporarily at the rate of £10 per annum.—Carried.

The Chairman thought that if only half of the children were taking lessons in cookery, there would be only half the work. While he did not wish the Board to pay less than others, he thought they should make some adjustment of the salary paid for the instruction in that subject.

The Board then rose.

EPPS'S COCOAINE.—Cocoa-Nib Extract. (Tea-like).—The choicest roasted nibs (broken up beans) of the natural Cocoa, on being subjected to powerful hydraulic pressure, give forth their excess of oil, leaving for use a finely flavoured powder—"Cocoaine," a product which, when prepared with boiling water, has the consistence of tea, of which it is now, with many, beneficially taking the place. Its active principle being a gentle nerve stimulant, supplies the needed energy without unduly exciting the system. Sold only in labelled tins. If unable to obtain it of your tradesman, a tin will be sent post free for 9 stamps.—James Epps and Co., Ltd., Homœopathic Chemists, London.

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SALE OF WORK AT HOBSON COLLIERY

On Saturday afternoon a two days' sale of work was opened in the Pickering Nook Board Schools by the Rev. E. Campbell, of Burnopfield, in the unavoidable absence of his better half, Mrs. Campbell, who was detained at home through the storm. The special effort was made to augment the renovation fund of the Hobson Colliery Primitive Methodist Chapel, which was beautifully decorated and renovated some time ago. There were four stalls, heavily laden, and in a tempting manner arranged, with articles suitable for everyday use as well as ornamentation. The drapery stall was presided over by Mesdames J. Watson Bell, Jackson, Aynsley, and the Misses Burrip and Harrison. The fancy stall was under the charge of Mesdames Hall and Davison, Misses Bell, Davison, and Spink; the sweet stall by Miss Maddison and Mr. J. Maddison; the refreshment stall by Mrs. Watson, Mrs. Meddick, and Miss Urwin. In addition to these attractions there was a weighing machine under the control of Mr. J. Watson Bell; stereoscopic views under Mr. Greenacre's charge; a working model locomotive engine, running on an ingeniously constructed line, under the supervision of Mr. Stokoe; and a "curiosity room" under the management of Messrs S. Meddick and C. Hall. Amongst these interesting exhibits were a Russian rifle and bayonet, taken at the siege of Sebastopol, a Chinese god, sandals such as the ancients wore in the East, Chinese cocoanut pipe, shells from the Phillipine Islands, which have lately been brought very prominently before the notice of readers of the daily newspapers through the recent Spanish-American War; a serpent from South America, which was confined in a bottle, so as to prevent it doing any bodily harm to the onlookers; a huge butterfly from Java; an enormous pear taken from the river Tyne; a silk and beaded cap made by the natives of India; some really beautiful paintings done by Miss Burnip, of Hobson Colliery, which were fine specimens of art; a tea-pot just 250 years old; a clay pipe bearing the date "A.D. 1,640;" a china model of a dog, 200 years old; a piece of Australian coal, from Newcastle, Australia; an old soldier's skin water bottle; a wag o' the wa' 200 years of age; ancient plates; together with a host of stuffed birds and animals, all of which had been kindly lent by neighbours and friends. After singing and prayer,

The Rev. E. Campbell, in declaring the sale of work open, expressed his regret at Mrs. Campbell's absence, observing that he would make a very poor substitute. While thanking them on her behalf for the honour conferred upon her, for which she felt grateful, she, along with himself, hoped that the people who went to show their sympathy would go with well-lined pockets, and empty them before leaving. He hoped the sale of work would prove a financial success. The officials of the church had been put to a great expense in renovating the House of God, and therefore he trusted that the people of the church, and those of the village as well, would show their practical sympathy by going forward and clearing the stalls of the useful and ornamental articles before their view. In conclusion, he trusted the proceedings would produce a good balance for the treasurer. He had great pleasure in declaring the sale of work open. (Applause.)

Mr. J. Watson Bell moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Campbell on behalf of the trustees and members of the church, which Mr. Meddick seconded. The motion was carried in the orthodox fashion, and the sale commenced. Later in the afternoon a substantial tea was provided, the tables being gracefully presided over by Mesdames Rodham, Henderson, Parker, Greenacre, the Misses Robson, Gray, Mason, and Hall, and was fairly well patronized. Another source of attraction was the phonograph and electrical machines and microscopes, which were under the personal supervision of Mr. Jas. Johnson, of Burnopfield Temperance Hall. In the evening a concert of sacred and secular music was rendered by the church choir, under the leadership of Mr. N. Smailes, of Blaydon. The sale of work was continued on Monday, and in the evening a magic-lantern entertainment was given by Mr. H. C. Wood, J.P., of Burnopfield.

WHICKHAM CHORAL SOCIETY.

On Friday evening, the members of the above society held their annual social and dance in the Parochial Schools, Whickham. The interior of the building was artistically decorated, for which Mr. Edward Liddell (secretary) and Mr. J. Nicholson (treasurer) were responsible. Dancing commenced shortly after 8 o'clock, and was kept up with much spirit till the early hours of Saturday morning. The duties of M.C.'s were ably carried out by Councillor R. T. Swinburn and Councillor R. Rutherford. A capital programme of dance music was supplied by Mr. W. W. Willis, Mr. O. Tate, and Miss Woodcock. Upwards of 60 couples were present, and the dance was greatly enjoyed. Amongst those present was noticed—Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Custance, Miss Ashcroft (Newcastle), Mr. and Mrs. Thirlaway, Miss Nicholson, Mr. J. Nicholson, Mr. E. Liddell, Mr. R. Atkinson, Mr. J. Gardener, Mr. C. Robson, Miss Maguire, Mr. R. Richardson, Miss Shotton (Newcastle), Mr. Geo. Swinburn, Mr. Jno. Turnbull, Mrs. Parkin, Miss Lucas, Mr. S. Spoor, Mr. Anderson, Mr. N. Snowball, Miss Pratt, Mr. and Mrs. R. Rutherford, Miss Rutherford (Gateshead), Miss Cooper (Lanchester), Mr. Forster, Mr. Young, Mr. Rutherford (Dunston), Mr. Gladstone (Dunston), the Misses Parbottle (Swalwell), Mrs. Skelton (Newcastle), Miss Wilson (Newcastle), Mr. and Miss Viner (Blaydon), the Misses Swinburn, Miss Donaldson (Jarrow), Miss I. Wrightman, Miss Allison, Miss Hall, Mr. A. Campbell (Gateshead), Miss Gardner, Mr. J. Nowell (Newcastle), Mr. Chilton (Blaydon), Miss Atkinson, Miss Liddell, Mr. Anderson, (Newcastle), Mr. Wm. Glass, Mr. R. A. Prior (Gateshead), Miss Walker, Mr G. Spark, Miss Thirlway (Sunniside), Mr. C. Robinson, Mrs. Parkin, Mr. Young, Miss Shotton (Newcastle), Mr. and Miss Insey, Mr. J. Mordue, Miss Stark, Mr. and Miss Buckhurst, Mr Storey (Gateshead), Miss Tarbitt (Swalwell), Mr. Reigg, Mr. H. Crothers, Mr. J. McDougall (Dunston), Mr. Geo. Easy, Mr. Wm. Laybourn, Mr. Ward, Mr. J. W. Thompson, Mr. C. Raine (Blaydon), Mr. Wm Blackbird, jun. (Swalwell), Miss J. Rutherford (Swalwell), Miss Pratt (Newcastle), Mr R. Thompson, and others.

WEST BUTSFIELD.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Christmas Eve the choir of the above gave a service of song entitled, "Watermill Hollow," conducted by Mr. Wm. Bird, of Consett. Mr. J. Egglestone, Consett, acted as harmoniumist, while Mr. Turnbull, Blackhill, gave the connective readings in a very able manner. After the service of song a ham-and-coffee supper was provided, when a goodly number sat down. The tables were presided over by the following ladies:—Miss M. McDonald. The proceeds were in aid of the chapel funds.

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GARDENING NOTES.

The Editor's object in inaugurating these articles is to provide expert advice for such of our readers as are interested in gardening or agricultural matters; and we have therefore made arrangements that all questions directed as beneath will be fully answered, free of any charge and by return of post.

Both the Editor and Mr. Toogood will be obliged if the two following rules are adhered to:—Pack all specimens of fruits, flowers, insects, plant-diseases, etc., sent for identification, in cardboard or tin boxes which will not be crushed in transit; and send at least three specimens of any fruit of which the name is required.

If any reader who is in a difficulty with reference to his garden will write direct to the address given beneath, his questions will all be answered in full detail, free of charge, and by return of post.—[ED.]

It is particularly requested that specimens submitted for identification be packed in boxes that will not be crushed in transit. Hundreds per week now reach us in envelopes and broken cardboard boxes, thus involving us in an enormous amount of extra labour.

GARDENING NOTES.

SOWING SEEDS.

General.—It is now a very fit and proper time to consider the sowing of seeds, so as to have the requisite information at one's finger ends before the actual sowing season begins.

Stratification.—Some seeds are contained in hard, bony coverings, and require to lie in the ground for a long time before germination is effected. Nature sows some seeds as soon as they are ripe, to prevent them from becoming hardened, as they would do if allowed to dry. The same end is attained by placing the seeds in the soil during autumn, so that the winter moisture may be utilised to soften their hard coats, though, as mice are often troublesome, stratification in pots, boxes, &c., is preferable. Stratification is the term applied to the embedding of seeds in permanently moist, sandy soil or course sand, to hasten germination. A box, pot, or other convenient receptacle is selected, and partially filled with a layer of cinders or pot-sherds, to insure perfect drainage. This is covered with a thick layer of sand, on which the seeds are spread out singly, before being covered with another layer of sand, on which more seeds are put and so on. Since free ventilation is necessary, four layers of seed and sand are enough, and the layers of sand should be only about two inches thick. The stratified seeds, which may be stood in a cellar, or even under a warm wall where protection can be given during frost, should be kept constantly moist, without being too damp. The time at which stratification must be commenced depends, of course, upon the length of time the particular king of seed to be treated takes to germinate, because it is not desirable that the young plants shall have grown out much before being transferred to the open. Some gardeners prefer to bury the stratified seeds, until the following spring, about 18 inches deep in a well drained sandy slope.

The Soil.—The soil for pots and pans, in which seed is to be sown, must allow of perfect drainage, without drying up too rapidly. A compost for leaf-mould, peat, or turf loam and sharp sand answers admirably as, indeed, will any good potting soil, admixed with about one-third its bulk of very sandy loam or of coarse silver sand. A really good soil should fall apart after being pressed in the hand.

Drainage.—All seed pans and pots must be thoroughly drained with pot-sherds or other coarse material; and this layer may be covered with dead sphagnum moss, on which is first placed the coarse material; and this layer may be covered with dead sphagnum moss, and which is first placed the coarse sifting, the finest of the soil being kept for the top.

Depth of Sowing.—The depth of sowing of seeds is regulated by the necessity of covering them with just enough soil to keep them moist, without preventing free access of the oxygen of the atmosphere, so that the thickness of covering depends upon the size of the seeds and the porosity of the soil. When the seedlings will not be transplanted, it is, of course, necessary to take into consideration the fixing of the plants firmly in the soil. Out of doors a depth of two inches is enough for sunflower and other vigorously growing seeds, while medium sized and small seeds need a covering of from 1 to ½ inch. Seeds sown in pots can be covered with a layer of fine soil from ¼ to ⅛ in depth, but, generally speaking, it is sufficient to cover them with about their own thickness of mould. Minute seeds, such as Erica, Calceolaria, Gesnera, Achimenes, Mimulus, Lobelia, Begonia, Primula, Gloxinia, Carnation, etc., and spores of ferns germinate best if sown on the surface of well drained pots of compost, pressed down with a fit board, and then plunged into a shallow tray of tepid water until the whole of the soil becomes moist, when the pot or pan may be covered with a sheet of glass to prevent evaporation, and placed in heat or in a cool frame, according to the outside temperature and the hardiness of the species of plants.

Temperature of Germination.—All hardy and half-hardy plant seeds germinate freely in a temperature of from 50 to 60 degrees, while those of warm greenhouse species require a temperature of from 65 to 80 degrees, and stove plants from 80 to 95 degrees.

Thick Sowing.—Not only is seed wasted by too thick sowing, but the growth of the seedlings is injured by their having to compete with one another for air and food, so that thin sowing should be invariably practised.

Excess of Moisture.—Excess of moisture is responsible for the rotting of many seeds. Indeed, by preventing the free access of the oxygen as too deep sowing. As a rule, the smaller the seeds the less moisture they need; and it is always more advisable to retain the original soil-moisture by preventing evaporation with sheets of glass or paper, or with light litter, than to water seed-beds frequently, and so cause them to become caked. Very small seeds must not be actually watered, the necessary moisture being supplied to them by standing the pot or pan in a shallow vessel of water for a time, as previously advised.

Method of Sowing.—For ordinary garden crops, drilling is much preferable to broadcasting, because it permits of the ground being stirred and hoed earlier and more expeditiously. The distance between drills must, of course, be regulated by the space necessary to afford the foliage of plants abundant light and air if they are not all to be transplanted.

Aquatic Plant Seeds.—Seeds of those aquatic plants that have to be sown in ponds must be placed in balls of clay and dropped into the water.

Shading.—Seeds that are sown in frames and pits require shading during the heat of bright days, especially during late spring and summer.

Early Treatment.—When once the seedlings have appeared the operation of pricking out must be effected as early as possible. Indeed, the welfare of the plants depends largely on early and bold thining and transplanting.

Damping Off.—Damping off if a fungous disease common to young seedlings and cuttings. The stems become brown and contacted near the surface of the soil, and in a very short time they rot and fall over. This ailment is much encouraged by a moist, close atmosphere, crowding and careless watering; and plants are peculiarly susceptible to damping off when only sufficient water is given to keep the surface moist, while the under-soil remains dry. At the first symptom of the trouble, admit air freely, and prick out the seedlings.

THE CULTURE OF LILIES IN POTS.

General.—Lilies are probably the most beautiful of all bulbous plants, their stately habit, variously coloured flowers, and in many cases, delightful perfume make them indispensable for greenhouse and border decoration. Nearly all the species are hardy in well drained soils. As early as the bulbs can be obtained, partially cover them singly in well drained pots about half filled with light soil, placing a little pounded charcoal under the base and round the scales of each bulb. A light syringing will occasionally be necessary to supply moisture until the roots are formed and top growth commences, when the pots should be filled up. If a shift become necessary, re-pot the bulbs deeply. Supply liquid manure towards flowering time, but discontinue the applications as the blossoms expand. Abundant water and air must be admitted when growth is fairly started. Ripen off the plants in the open air, a cool shed, or under the benches after flowering, repot in autumn, and store for the winter in a cool, moderately dry place.

E. KEMP TOOGOOD, F.R.H.S.,
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AGRICULTURE.

A FEW FARM PESTS.

Mangel.—Full sized mangel leaves often become mutilated by a leaf-spot disease, which first of all forms light or ashy spots, and later holes. The destruction of the foliage naturally checks growth in the roots, but happily the disease can be checked by spraying with Bordeaux Mixture the first application of which should be made about mid-June or early July.

Root rot is very troublesome after roots are stored, affected portions turning black. The foliage appears to be first attacked by the same disease and should consequently be protected with Bordeaux Mixture through the growing season. Of course the leaves must be removed before the roots are stored.

Cabbage.—Club-root or finger-and-toe causes malformed swellings on the root systems of cabbages and related plants, such as turnips. In bad attacks the roots becomes swollen into one shapeless mass of putrifying matter. Affected plants make, of course, only dwindling or very weakly growth. Unfortunately the disease can lie dormant in the soil for several years, so that a sufficient period of time should be allowed to elapse before plants of the cabbage family are again grown. The only remedy appears to be the application of gas lime in sufficient quantity to kill everything in the way of animal or vegetable life in the soil. About two tons per acre can be applied for this purpose; but it must be permitted to lie on the surface of the soil for at least 6 or 7 weeks; after which it may be turned in, and forms a useful fertaliser of the nature of gypsum.

For many years past the root-gall maggot has been causing great loss to cabbage growers. The adult insect is a two-winged fly bearing a close resemblance to the common use fly, but being considerably smaller. It appears in noticeable numbers during April and early May, the eggs being laid about the bases of newly set plants, sometimes in remarkable quantities. About a week later the young maggots are hatched, and they then burrow along the root surfaces, finally destroying infested roots. Eventually, in the ordinary course, the main root is attacked, and possibly the stem itself may be entered, so that the whole crop may be rendered practically valueless. At least two broods appear in the year, possibly three. The position taken up by the maggot makes it a difficult pest to fight, and few of the many remedies suggested have even the least worth. Pieces of tarred brown paper, fitted closely around the stem of each plant when it is set are very effectual in preventing the laying of eggs; but this method, while driving away the fly, does not ensure its destruction, since the maggots thrive on weeds of many kinds. There should be no necessity to impress the importance of clean cultures, involving the removal of all crop refuse and weeds which may harbour plant disease of one kind or another, because there is no one general method by which the former can do more to protect his crops from insect and fungus injury than by clean culture. A large proportion of injurious insects and fungus spores pass the winter in or under rubbish of many sorts, the burning of which in late autumn would lead to the destruction of the germs of future troubles, since if rubbish be not allowed to accumulate, such enemies will have far less chance of surviving wintry weather. It is a safe rule to clear off and destroy all remnants as quickly as possible after any crop has been harvested.

The caterpillars of the several cabbages butterflies and moths do a vast amount of damage some seasons. During last summer an attack was so widespread and serious in the south of England that very many crops were absolutely ruined. As gardeners are only too familiar with the various species it would be profitless to dwell on the peculiarities of individual caterpillar pests. The weak point of the enemy is its grub stage, when it may be easily destroyed. As the caterpillars eat the foliage of cabbages, they can be poisoned readily with hellebore of Paris Green, which latter is a dangerous arsenical poison, which should be used only on young plants to avoid possible risk of injuring the human consumer. Hellebore can be freely used at any time. Personally we are inclined to the use of hot water, which is cheap, clean, and easy to apply. It may be boiled in the usual way, and will then be at about the proper temperature when it reaches the plants. Whatever remedy be selected, however, great care must be taken to destroy the first brood, from which succeeding ones come, and repeated applications of the chosen remedy must be made whenever necessary.

Oats.—Loose smut causes the grains and sometimes the containing husks to become black masses, from which all trace of the normal cereal has disappeared, the black powdered mass consisting of fungus spores, which mature about blossoming time. By the season of harvest the stalks are left almost naked, as the spores have by then been blown away, to in due time, and under favourable conditions, germinate, and start the trouble again. Now it has been found that the infection of the plant takes place when the seed is germinating, and from spores adhering to the seed when planted or sown; and if these adherent spores can be killed the resulting crop will be wholly free from smuts. It has been found also that when seed cereals are treated with some trustworthy and tested steep in any neighbourhood the diseases caused by the smut family of fungi gradually disappear.

The steep in most general use consists of 1 lb. of crushed commercial sulphate of copper (blue vitrol or bluestone) dissolved in hot water, and added to 22 gallons of water. The seed should be poured into the steep and there allowed to stay for from 12 to 15 or 16 hours, when it may be removed and allowed to drip. A better method than this, however, is that of running off the copper sulphate liquor and adding a mixture made by soaking a pound of good lime in four gallons of water, stir about five minutes, then run off the liquid, and permit the grain to drip. If sown broadcast by hand the seed may be used in a few hours; but it should dry for 24 hours before being sown with a machine.

The well-known Jansen method of treating seed corn was discovered by J. L. Jansen in 1887, and consists in the immersion of the seed in scalding water for a sufficiently long time to kill the smut spores without injuring the germination of the seeds. Provided the water be at a temperature of 132½ F., and that the immersion be not continued for more than 15 minutes, the spores will be killed and the seed uninjured. In no case must the temperature rise above 135, or fall below 130 F. To ensure these conditions when large quantities of seeds must be treated, provide two large vessels, the first containing water at from 110 to 130 F., and the other containing scalding water at 132½ F. The seed which is to be treated must be placed, a half bushel or more at a time, in a bushel basket, which will allow the passage of the water through its sides, while still retaining the seeds. A loosely woven sack can be used also. Now dip the basket or bag of seed into the first vessel; lift it out for a moment; and replunge it when most of the water has escaped from it. This do several times adding a rotary motion, so that every grain is brought into contact with the water. After a minute of this treatment plunge the basket into the second vessel. The basket of seed should, very shortly after its immersion, be lifted and then plunged and agitated in the manner described above, the operation being repeated 8 or 10 times during the fifteen minutes immersion. Immediately after its removal plunge the basket into cold water, and then spread out the seeds to dry.

The important precautions to be taken are as follows:—

(1) Maintain the proper temperature of the water, which is easily effected by the addition of hot or cold water, in no case allowing it to rise above 135 or to fall below 130 F. Immersion for one fifteen minutes will not injure the seed. (2) See the volume of scalding water is at least 6 or 8 times as great as that of the seed treated at one time. (3) Never fill the basket or sack containing the grain entirely full, but leave plenty of room for movement.

The foregoing treatments are applicable to wheat as well as oats.

The various rusts which attack wheat, oats, barley, &c., have not yet been successfully coped with by means of fungicides, so that nothing is to be gained by their discussion here.

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THE CURIOUS CHARGE OF ROBBERY AT SWALWELL.

PRISONER COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Thursday, Thos. Thompson, 49, mason, Swalwell was charged that he, between Nov 19th and Dec. 19th, broke and entered the dwelling-house of John Hood Ryle, at Swalwell, and stole therefrom a bag containing £200. Mr. F. Harle prosecuted and Mr T. Lambert defended.

Mr. Harle said the prosecutor carried on business as a newsagent, at Swalwell, and his mother-in-law was the owner of the house and lived with him. Having reason to put by money which he would need shortly, i.e, for security, put it in the attic, by opening the trapdoor in the room below. He had the sum named in the attic, but when he went for it on December 19th it was gone. On November 25th the defendent and a labourer were called to the house to do some repairs to the roof. They were shown where the repairs were needed. After these repairs had been completed they went to another part of the roof, and there removed a number of tiles and broke the laths. The defendant then got into the attic. While in the attic he sent the labourer who was working with him to get him a candle and some matches. These were given to him, and he disappeared into the attic, where he remained some time. Afterwards he sent the labourer for some fresh tiles and laths, which were fixed where the others had been removed. This was what the labourer would say. Afterwards the defendant was dealing with large sums of money.

Mr. Lambert objected, and the objection was sustained.

Prosecutor said he was a newsagent at Swalwell. He resided on his mother-in-law's property. On November 19th he had £200 in gold. It was in a brown leather bag. On that day he put it in the attic. He just lifted the trap and put the money on the edge, just inside. On Nov. 25th the defendant and a labourer, named Stead, came to the house to do some repairs to the roof. He was present when his mother-in-law pointed out to the defendant the repairs to be done. These repairs were not near the attic. The repairs were finished the same day. On the 19th inst. he went to the attic for the money, but it was gone. The way he put the money in the attic was by getting on two chairs and lifting the trap door. He looked once or twice between Nov. 19th and December 19th, to see that the money was all right, but he could not say when he looked first or when he looked first nor when he looked the last time.

Jane Holmes, widow, the prosecutor's mother-in-law, said the prosecutor, his wife, her unmarried daughter, and herself all lived together. On Nov. 25th she went to the prisoner and engaged him to do some repairs to the roof of the houses. He came with Stead, a labourer. She took him to the back bedroom where the rain was coming in. There was nothing the matter with the main roof, and she gave the defendant no instructions to do anything to that part of the roof. She never knew that he had been there until the money was missed. She had got no bill for the repairs yet.

Cross-examined: Her son-in-law kept the bedroom locked. She knew that they took their money up to the bedroom every night. Anybody in the house had the same means of knowing this as she had.

Thomas Stead, mason's labourer, residing in Newcastle, said that on November 25th, he was employed with the defendant upon some property at Swalwell. The defendant said Mrs. Home had been down asking him to repair the property. They put some tiles in on one part of the roof, and then the defendant said he would have a look at the other side. He went there, and took off eight tiles. When he had got the tiles off he broke the laths and got inside. Defendant then asked him to get matches and a candle from the missis, and he got them and took them to the defendant, who was standing in the attic. The defendant then disappeared into the attic. After this the defendant told him to get some fresh tiles and laths, and he had to go about 100 yards for them.

Cross-examined: It was quite natural for a man, when on a job, to look round to see if any other repairs were needed.

By the Bench: The defendant did not get through the roof at the first part where they made some repairs. The defendant was standing in the same place when he returned." He had known men have to work with candles at such jobs.

Wm Wailes, formerly a miner, Hebson Colliery, said that on November 29th, at 10.30 p.m., the defendant came to his house. He was in "a tipsy condition," and gave to witness a brown leather bag with a lot of gold in it. The bag was like the one produced.

Mr. Lambert objected to the admissibility of evidence on this point, contending that money could not be traced unless it was marked. As to the bag, all that was to be said was that bags of that sort were alike. The money must be identified before evidence could be given bearing upon it.

The prosecutor (re-called) said he sold bags such as that produced at his shop at Swalwell.

Mr. Lambert did not press his point, and the evidence was taken.

Witness said he did not count the money, but put it under his pillow. He kept the money from the 29th to 6.30 p.m., on the 30th. Before he came back he (witness) sent a message to the defendant's sons at Swalwell. The prisoner returned after the message. He had had some beer, but the arrival of his sons appeared to sober him. Witness handed the money back as he got it. He held up the bag and the defendant seemed vexed about his doing so. Witness said "That's what I sent for you for." He spoke to him about carrying so much money about with him, and the defendant said he often carried as much about with him. He had, he said, always plenty of money "in stock."

Cross-examined: There was a coursing match in the neighbourhood the day the defendant came to his house. He said he had won the money.

Jane Ann Thompson, 13, daughter of the defendant, said on December 5th her father gave her a little box with money in it, and told her to take it to Mrs. Holmes, her aunt, and to tell her uncle to take care of it for her. There was £78 in the box when it was counted at her aunt's house. The money was all in gold.

Jane Holmes, wife of John Holmes, Back Walton Terrace, Swalwell, spoke to the fact deposed to by the last witness. The police had had handed to them all the money excepting £4, which the defendant's daughter got.

Sergeant Reynolds, Dunston, said that on December 19th, he received information of a robbery having been committed, and he went to the house of the last witness where a box containing £74 was handed to him.

P.C. Kindred said he arrested the defendant he was drunk. He charged him with having stolen, from an attic, £200 between November 19th and December 19th, the money of John Hood Ryle, Swalwell, and he replied "I did not steal it. I only had my head and shoulders in." He charged him again that morning, and he made the same reply. There were footmarks in the dust in the attic of the prosecutor's house.

Cross-examined: He never thought about putting this in his statement when it was made.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Lambert, on behalf of the prisoner, said, taking the case in the strongest light, no reasonable man could say that it was more than a case of suspicion. He pointed out that at the time the prisoner was working on the roof the prosecutor could not say that the money was in the attic. What the prosecution had to do was now to call upon the prisoner to explain where he got the money. This had not been done. The prisoner was entitled to have money in his possession. He was a very respectable man, and he had characters as to his respectability from residents at Swalwell.

The Chairman (Mr. J. M. Redmayne) said the Bench had no hesitation in committing the prisoner for trial at the Assizes. In the interests of the prisoner himself the Bench thought the case ought to be dealt with by a higher tribunal. They would grant bail.

Mr. Lambert said he could get substantial bail. Almost the whole village of Swalwell were willing to stand bail for him.

The Bench committed the prisoner for trial, and fixed the bail—the prisoner in £50 and two sureties of £25 each.

VICTORIA GARESFIELD.

Christmas Tree.—On Monday evening the members of St. Patrick's Band of Hope met together in the schoolroom to enjoy their annual party and Christmas Tree. There was also a goodly number of their parents present. The tree was crammed with presents, which were "drawn lots" for by, and distributed to the members of the Band of Hope, after which refreshments were partaken of and various games, etc., indulged in until ten o'clock, when a most enjoyable evening was brought to a close.

Benefit for Lavery's Widow.—The recent boxing tournament and exhibition in the Standard Theatre, Gateshead, promoted by Mr. Thos. Landreth for the benefit of the widow and children of the lately deceased boxer, George Lavery, has realised the substantial sum of £19 15s 0d, which has been forwarded to the Editor of the "Sporting Life," to supplement the subscriptions being gathered by kindly and willing assistants in this and other districts there was also a handsome sum gathered from the proceeds of a concert in the Co-operative Hall some few weeks ago in order to help the fund. It may be mentioned that Mr Landreth has done everything possible to aid in assisting the widow and children, having subscribed £5 on the day of the inquest.

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LANCHESTER WORKHOUSE.

The Christmas Dinner.

On Boxing Day, the inmates of the Lanchester Workhouse were provided with their annual Christmas dinner, consisting of roast beef and plum pudding, at the expense of the Board of Guardians. For the occasion every preparation had been made, and everything was done to make the inmates cheerful and happy. The dining hall of the large institution had been tastefully decorated. In fact, the decorations this year surpassed all previous efforts, and were carried out by Mr. W. F. Dobson, boys' warder; Miss Martha Scott, and Mr. W. J. Brown, under the supervision of the Master and Matron (Mr. and Mrs. W. Brotherhood). The decorators had carried cut a pretty and effective scheme, which proved very charming. The supports from the roof were twined around with holly and evergreens, making them quite attractive. Ropes of laurel, evergreens, and holly were stretched from wall to wall, on which were hung Japanese lanterns, bannerettes, etc. The ledges of the windows were artistically dressed with coloured drapery. On the walls were hung seasonable greetings, all hand-painted, and executed by one of the inmates. On the far wall the first motto that struck the eye of the visitor was, "For Auld Lang Syne," and immediately above the rostrum was "Health and Prosperity to the Chairman, Vice-chairman, and Guardians." On the side walls were the following beautiful mottoes:—"Onward, upward, Heavenward," "Hark the Herald Angels sing, Glory to the new-born King," "A Merry Christmas," "God save our Queen," "The Compliments of the season," "Good cheer," "Welcome," "Peace on earth, and goodwill towards men," "Faith hope, and charity," etc. The walls were also decked with the Prince of Wales feathers, flags, bannerettes, holly, and ever greens. Added to this, the human element, the inmates dining merrily, and kindly ladies and gentlemen helping, and the picture was complete. The men, women, and children that sat down to the excellent repast totalled 260, and those that were confined to the hospital through illness were provided with a fare that was considered to be substantial and good, according to the orders of the Medical Officer (Dr. John Wilson). The dinner was cooked by the Matron, assisted by Mrs. Maltby (Nottingham), Miss Brooks (assistant-matron), and other workers connected with the kitchen. Very soon after the grace was sung by the inmates, the juicy slices of beef and mutton cut by the Master and his able lieutenants found their way to the tables. The visitors present promptly assisted to carry the well heaped plates to the diners, and quickly all was animation. The Christmas pudding that followed was just as heartily enjoyed by the inmates as the previous feast of beef and potatoes. The meal was served out in a business-like manner, after which Mr. Thomas Sadler (Lanchester) once more undertook the onerous duty of serving each adult with a pint of beer where required. The other inmates and the children were provided with lemonade. Afterwards there was a distribution of sweets, oranges, apples, and nuts, while pipes and tobacco were given out to the smokers. At the conclusion of the dinner the inmates gave three hearty cheers for the Chairman, Vice-chairman, and the Guardians, for the excellent fare that had been provided for them.

County Councillor T. J. Muse, as Vice-chairman of the Board of Guardians, and Chairman of the Visiting Committee, in a short speech offered to the inmates the very best wishes of the season, and expressed the hope that they had all enjoyed themselves.

The visitors present at the treat included County Councillor T. J. Muse, Mr. J. Muse, and Miss Muse, Castleside House, Castleside; Mr. Fierney-Taylor-Smith, Colepike Hall, Mr. Thos. Sadler, Lanchester; Mr. Joseph Towns, Lanchester; Mr. R. Milburn, Consett; Mr. R. Walton, Lanchester; Misses Reed (2), Lanchester; Mrs. Maltby, Nottingham; Mr. Thos. Wilson, Ornsby Hill; and others.

The Master and Matron entertained the visitors to a substantial repast. After the cloths were removed, several toasts were proffered, including "The health of the Master and Matron," proposed by Coun. Muse, who remarked that he was pleased to see that they were once more restored to their usual health and strength. (Applause.)

In responding to the toast, "The Helpers," Mr. Sadler said he had attended the Christmas dinner for the past 20 years, and whenever there had been liquor to serve out to the inmates that required it he could say that no one got beyond the limited quantity—one pint. (Applause.)

The following contributed to the Christmas treat:—Mr. W. M. Annandale, Lintzford, one guinea; Mr. Burdon, Branch Villa, Lanchester, 10/-; Mesdames Brown and Parker, Lanchester, 5/-; Mr. J. Reed, Lanchester, sweets; Mrs. W. Cummings, Lanchester, sweets; Mr. W. M. Scott, Durham, dolls and Christmas cards; Mr. I. Walton, Lanchester, apples and sweets; Mr. Geo. D. Powell, Consett, grapes, oranges and apples; Mrs. Aitchison, Annfield Plain, sweets; Coun. T. J. Muse, Castleside, sweets; Mr. Hornsby, Maiden Law, sweets; Mr. T. Wilson, Ornsby Hill, oranges; Mr. Geo. J. Brydson, Lanchester, sweets; Mr. J. Smith, Lanchester, aerated waters; and the two barrels of beer were forwarded to the Workhouse by an anonymous donor.

MILKWELL BURN.

Concert and Supper.—On Christmas Eve, the members of the Milkwell Burn Church held their annual concert and supper. The programme of music was provided by the choir and other local talent, and was thoroughly enjoyed by the large company that was present. After the concert, there was a knife-and-fork supper, which was well patronised.

LANCHESTER.

A Double Wedding.—On Monday week, Miss Elizabeth Ann Robson and Miss Isabella Robson, refreshment proprietresses in North Road, Durham, were married at Lanchester Parish Church by the vicar, the Rev. G. Jepson, M.A. Miss Elizabeth was the bride of Mr. John Warlow, late of Leadgate, now of Bearpark, while Miss Isabella became the spouse of Mr. Andrew Bell, of Durham. Mr. Thomas Robson, brother of the brides, and Miss Nellie Warlow, sister of one of the bridegrooms, acted as "best man" and bridesmaid respectively, while Mr. John Ritson and Miss Jennie Ritson, cousins of the brides, also acted in a similar capacity. Mr. James Robson and Mr. John Martin gave the brides away. The brides were attired in navy blue dresses, trimmed with creme silk, and wore white felt hats. After the ceremony was completed the wedding party returned to the home of the brides' mother, where the rest of the day was spent in merriment.

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TOW LAW.

Wesleyan Church.—At the Wesleyan Church the Vigilance Band celebrated their anniversary on Xmas Day. In the morning and evening Mr. Summers, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, preached sermons to capital audiences, and on Monday evening gave one of his popular lectures, the title being "Mrs. Booth." Mr. Summers has just completed a successful mission at the above Church.

Primitive Methodist Church.—In connection with the Primitive Methodist Church and Xmas Tree, sale of work, was held on Xmas Eve and Monday following. The various items on the programme were well received, great credit being due to the performers. The "Sunlight Soap" washing competition was a big success, over 20 competing. In the ladies' competition Mrs. Iley carried off the 1st prize, while Miss Parker was successful in gaining the 2nd prize. After an exciting finish Mr. Telford was the winner of the gentlemen's competition, and Mr. W. Dixon succeeded in gaining the 2nd prize. The 1st prize in each competition was given by Messrs Lever Bros., of Port Sunlight.

FROSTERLEY.

Presentation.—The Frosterley Wesleyan Choir and a number of friends met in the schoolroom on Wednesday week to present Miss E. A. Moffatt with a marble clock, on her retirement from the position as organist. During the evening the choir rendered several anthems, &c., interspersed by readings by Messrs J. and G. Johnson, and an excellent recitation by Miss Cave. Mr. R. Bainbridge (chairman) gave a very interesting address on the changes which time and other circumstances had wrought since he was first a member of the choir. After an excellent programme the Chairman called upon Mr. Joseph Waller to make the presentation. Mr. Waller said he could speak from personal observation of Miss Moffatt's faithful services rendered to the cause of Methodism for the past ten years. He was glad the friends not only desired to express their appreciation in words, but that they wished to do so in a tangible way by presenting this timepiece, not for its money value, but as a memento of the many pleasant hours spent in connection with the choir, and as a token of the kindly regard and affection which had always existed between them. Mr. J. Squire, on behalf of Miss Moffatt, heartily thanked the subscribers and all who had so kindly taken part in the ceremony and assured them that Miss Moffatt would always look upon the beautiful present with pleasure as a reminder of the days spent as organist.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Oddfellows' Dinner.—The members and friends of the "Rose of Derwent" Lodge, No. 580, of the Bolton Unity, held their annual dinner in the club-room at the house of Messrs Glendinning, King's Head Inn Bridge End, on Christmas Eve, when a good number responded to the invitation. A good dinner was provided by the hostess, and when the cloths were removed, Bro. Thomas Johnson, one of the trustees of the Lodge, was voted to the chair. He thanked the members for the honour of being elected to the chair at that meeting. It also made it very pleasant to know that he and his colleague during the year had deposited in the Bank to the credit of this lodge no less a sum than £1 for every week in the year, and when depositing every year it makes duties very pleasant. He did not know how the financial year had done, but the Secretary would let them know shortly. The hostess was then given a hearty vote of thanks for the very able manner in which she had provided so substantial a repast, for everyone enjoyed the dinner thoroughly. The hostess replying said that she thanked them very much for their confidence. She had done her best to give satisfaction to all, and was very pleased that everyone was satisfied, and she would continue to assist the lodge. (Applause.) The Secretary, Bro. George Scott, then briefly gave the yearly report. He was very pleased to report that the sickness among their members during the year had been very light, which indicated that their members had passed through a year of good health. (Hear, hear.) After having paid all claims for sickness, burial, etc., they had to their credit the net sum of £41 9s, which, added to their previous account, brought the sick fund up to £251 1s 10d. This had been a record year since the formation of the Consett District Branch, and one of the best in the lodge's history. (Applause.) They must not forget that they had also a good district funeral fund, the accounts for this year had not yet been returned, but last year they had to their credit £393 13s 4d. (Hear, hear.) The remainder of the evening was spent in singing etc., Mr. Christopher Oley entertaining with some good recitations and songs; also Mr. George Armstrong, who created roars of laughter by his wit and songs. Bro. John Judge, who holds a silver medal and was on the last occasion presented with a purse of silver, has just passed through a long and painful illness and thanked the members for the kind invitation given him to the dinner. He had always tried to do what he could for the lodge, and would continue to do so. A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought a very enjoyable evening to a close.

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Mr. Atherley-Jones and his Constituents.

A Reply from the Hon. Member.

To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian."

Sir,—I observe in the last issue of your paper an editorial note referring to some unfavourable comments alleged to have been passed upon a speech I recently delivered at Chatham, and a letter from me lately published in "The Times."

My experience of comments of this character is that they arise from imperfect knowledge of what was said or written. My critic has probably read some short extract from a letter or speech carefully but not over scrupulously culled by a Conservative journalist and published with the object of making party capital out of the observations of a Liberal politician.

I cannot undertake to reply to the criticisms of those who, never condescending to read what I said or wrote, found their judgment on press paragraphs of this nature; but I feel that I should be wanting in due respect to a journal which, during the period I have had the honour of representing North-West Durham, has in the frank discharge of its duty to the public never failed to display towards me personally the greatest courtesy and kindness, were I to disregard its suggestion that I should take some cognisance of these comments.

Before dealing with the matter in question may I make one or two observations of general application?

There are two types of Parliamentary representative. One is the man who never raises his voice or lifts his pen on political questions except at the inspiration of his party leaders. I cannot consent to reduce myself to the moral and mental level of the doll of a ventriloquist.

The other type is the man who prefers to be the truthful exponent of the principles he avowed to his constituents rather than the servile apologist of his party leaders.

The latter type is my ideal of a popular representative, and that which I think is most after the heart of my constituents, though possibly it is not the type which receives the most favourable recognition in official quarters.

As you justly observe, it is difficult to understand the reason of this unfavourable comment, proceeding, as far as I am aware, from a single individual, either in relation to my letter or my speech. As to my letter, it was published in your paper last week, and is therefore before my constituents; they can judge for themselves whether it be disloyal to Liberalism. My experience is to the contrary; from Liberals throughout the country I have received the warmest expressions of approval of my not unreasonable appeal that we should know without delay what is in the mind of our party leaders as to the position of Home Rule at the next election, whether, as Sir H. Campbell-Bannerman and Sir H. Fowler seem to suggest, we should drop it, or whether, as Mr Morley contends, we should "nail it to the mast." Divided counsels among our leaders are not helpful at elections.

With regard to my speech at Chatham, I spoke there at the pressing request of the local Liberal Association, and at a large and enthusiastic meeting was supported on the platform by the leading Liberals of the borough. I blush to think that I detained my audience for an hour-and-a-half while I reviewed the position of the Liberal party. I hope you will not think I am vainglorious when I say that my speech was rewarded by unanimous thanks and cheers, and much kindly pressure to again speak at Chatham. So much for being out of touch with Liberalism.

I am really ashamed to trouble you with these personal matters, but, sir, may I appeal to my critic or critics, who, I doubt not, have acted in perfect good faith, to give me credit, until the contrary is proved, of being true to democratic principles, and not, upon some chance paragraph, to rush to the conclusion that I have been disloyal to my constituents, or, what I value even more than their goodwill, the principles of public action which were my most valued inheritance.

And now, having discharged my duty, will you allow me to seize this opportunity to wish to all my constituents, Liberal and Tory, and even my severe critic, one and all, "A happy new year and many of 'em."—I am, sir, your faithful servant,

L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES.

25, Pembroke Road, Kensington.
Jan. 2nd, 1899.

Alleged Manslaughter at Consett.

Sad Result of New Year's Drinking

On Thursday morning, at the Consett Police Court, before Mr J. T. Potts, a labourer, named Charles Dent, 23 years of age, was charged with having committed manslaughter on January 1st, at Medomsley Road, Consett. It appears that the prisoner had been lodging with a widow named Ann Storey, who was 79 years of age. On New Year's morning, about 3 a.m., prisoner went home very drunk and began to create a disturbance by knocking the furniture about the house. The landlady, who was in bed in the kitchen, got up to stop him, when he knocked her down. She fell with her side against the corner of a chair, and fractured some of her ribs. She lingered on in pain until 10 p.m. on Wednesday, when she succumbed to her injuries. Dent who was apprehended by Sergt. Dryden, was remanded for eight days. An inquest on the body will probably be held to-morrow.

HIGH SPEN.

Yearly Club.—On Saturday night, a meeting under the auspices of the High Spen Yearly Club, was held in the Assembly Rooms, Spen, it being the breaking up of the club. Mr Jos Robson (President) was in the chair. The secretary (Mr. Wm. Richardson) read the report and balance sheet for the past year, which showed the club to be in fair position. The total income for the past year amounted to £54 9s 3d, and after paying £44 6s 10d for sickness, death, legacies, and working expenses, there was a balance of £21 6s 8d to be divided among 43 members. The club was commenced for the next year with a roll of 35 members, which is a good beginning for 1899. The election of officers resulted as follows:—Mr. Jos. Robson, president; Mr. Jos. Emmerson, treasurer; and Mr. Wm. Richardson, secretary.

Entertainment.—On Wednesday evening, the members of the Victoria (Consett) Party gave an excellent entertainment in the Assembly Rooms, High Spen, before a good audience. The artistes included:—Miss Mulholland, soprano; Miss Lilian Venna, contralto; Mr A. Cleveland, operatic tenor; Mr H. Gooden, tenor; Mr J. Cant, bass; Mr J. Day, humorist; Jim McManns, bone soloist; Arthur Schellayer, elocutionist; and Miss Gertie Gooden, accompanist. All the members of the company acquitted themselves in admirable fashion, Messrs Cleveland and Murray being encored, whilst the quartette, "Larboard watch," had also to be repeated. The entertainment was highly enjoyed, and the company is certainly a most capable one.

DIARIES FOR 1899, from 6d. upwards for vest pocket, coat pocket, or desk, at the "Guardian" Office, Consett. Lists free.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO MR. A. S. GODFREY.

On Tuesday evening, the members and friends of the Consett and District Cricket Club entertained Mr. A. S. Godfrey, captain of the club, to a complimentary dinner at the Station Hotel, Blackhill, on the occasion of his leaving the district to take up an important appointment in Russia. For a period of 12 years Mr. Godfrey has been an active member of the club, and for the greater portion of these years he has held the captaincy, and has done much to further the interests of cricket in the district. It was only natural that the members and friends should assemble in good numbers to give Mr. Godfrey a hearty send-off to his new home in a foreign country. The Consett Club will sustain a serious loss by the removal of Mr. Godfrey, and cricket generally will be the poorer, as he was a keen sportsman, and loved to follow the good old English game. We only trust that he will meet with considerable success in the country wherein he has chosen to labour in the future. The arrangements for the dinner were carried out by the energetic secretary, Mr. W. Ramsay. The gentlemen present at the gathering were County Councillor Joseph Eltringham, President of the club; Mr. A. S. Godfrey, Mr. R. Park, Mr. J. R. Williams, Mr. W. H. Hooper, Mr. M. Richley, Mr. J. G. Murray, Mr. G. H. Erskine (Newcastle), Mr Geo. T. Wilson, Mr John Dixon, Mr. Joseph Askew, Mr. J. Scott, Mr. M. Hobday, Mr. J. Raw, Mr. M. Williamson, Mr. J. Siddell, Mr. R. Watson, Mr. H. Dowson, Mr. F. Brodie, Mr. J. W. Hill (Newcastle), Mr T. D. Robinson, Mr Geo. Maxwell, Mr. George Dryden, jun., Mr. Thomas Longworth, Mr. W. E. Brown, Mr. R. Marshall, Mr. W. Ramsay (secretary), and others.

After the company had done ample justice to the splendid repast, which reflected the highest credit on the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. George Cancick), the cloths were removed. Councillor Joseph Eltringham occupied the chair, while the vice-chair was ably filled by Mr. R. Park.

The Chairman said it was usual at gatherings of this description to open the toast list with the loyal toast, "The Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family." It was not necessary for him to address them at any length to prove to them why this toast should be honoured first. They were all loyal subjects and they all knew they had a good Queen, and they would honour the toast in the usual way. (Applause.)

Mr. Hill, in a forcible speech, submitted "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces." He said it had fallen to his lot to propose this important toast. The service of the navy was known to them all, and to show the way the navy did their wonderful work he had only to recall to them what had taken place during the past few months. The motto they possessed caused peace to reign at the present time. If the dogs of war had been let loose millions of people would very likely have suffered, and things would have undergone a great change, with the result that perhaps their friend, Mr. Godfrey, would never have thought about going out to the country where he had now made up his mind to go. The army had shown by what had taken place at Omdurman, that the Anglo-Saxon pluck was not dead yet. (Applause.) What the army had achieved in the past it was prepared to do in the future. They still retained the true British spirit amongst their soldiers, and they would never allow the name of England to be disgraced. (Applause.) The auxiliary forces were a most useful body, and could be relied on to give their assistance in times of danger. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. Maxwell.

Mr. Maxwell responded in a humorous speech. He said he had been trying to study in his own mind why he had been called on to respond to this important toast. He had wondered whether it was to the fact that his figure was presenting a more soldiery appearance—(laughter)—or owing to him having been feasting pretty freely on plum pudding during the festive season, that had caused Mr. Ramsay to attach his name to this toast. However, he was glad that England possessed such an army and navy, because it was on these two services they had to depend for the protection of the country's interests at home and abroad. He trusted that when Mr. Godfrey landed in Russia he would let the people see that he was a Briton. (Applause.) What the army had accomplished in the Soudan showed that the soldiers still retained the good fighting qualities that had characterised the army in the past. They read a great deal about the charge of the Light Brigade, but could they have anything nobler than the charge made by the 21st Lancers at the recent battle in the Soudan? (Applause.) When he thought of that heroic action on the part of that body of men he only wished he could have witnessed it for himself, then he would have been able to have given them a more graphic description. (Laughter.) The volunteers were another useful body of men, but he was sorry to say the Consett Corps were a long time in being called into existence. Did he hear someone say that the reason the Consett Corps was not formed was because they were afraid the dogs of war were going to be let loose? (Laughter and applause.) He did not believe that. There were other reasons, and he hoped that the difficulties that stood in the way would be removed, and that the day was not far distant when they would have a Volunteer Corps for Consett. (Applause.)

Mr. Murray proposed "The Trade of the District," and referred to the flourishing condition of trade in the neighbourhood. With regard to commerce England stood in a very satisfactory position, and was doing all that was possible to extend in this direction by seeking fresh markets in the outside world. During the last few years thousands of square miles had been added to the British Empire with very little bloodshed. At the present time they were at peace with other nations. (Applause.) He was glad that a sort of spirit prevailed which showed that the strength of the army and navy was to be maintained, and that they had a navy which was equal to any other two navies in the world. It was essential that this should be the case if their commerce and trade was to be protected. By the removal of Mr. Godfrey from the district they were losing a friend, and so far as cricket was concerned it would be the poorer in that district by his absence. He was sure Mr. Godfrey had the well-wishes of all present at that gathering, and he wished him God-speed in his venture. He was also confident that Mrs. Godfrey had played no unimportant part in the step that Mr. Godfrey had taken. It showed great devotion and courage on her part, in accompanying her husband such a distance from home. (Applause.) He trusted that Mr. Godfrey would be spared to return to England, and that he will have met with that success which he justly deserved, and that he would be still able to grasp the hand of friendship which had been extended to him that night. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Williams briefly responded. He said it was an honour to have to respond to such a toast, and especially when trade in their district was in such a flourishing condition. He thought that during the past 20 years they had been highly favoured. As a district, they greatly depended on the mercantile trade for their property, and some of them might think it selfish, but he said let the nations go on giving orders for the building of war vessels as fast as they liked, because many of these orders found their way to the North-East coast, and they in that district benefitted very materially. Having alluded to the transition of iron to steel at the Consett Works, and the success it had proved, he went on to say if aluminium became a leading production he had no doubt but that it could be produced at Consett, and prove a success. He trusted that the present prosperity would continue. (Applause.)

The Chairman next submitted the toast of the evening,—"Our Guest." He said this was a very important toast, and he trusted that they were prepared to honour it. They were assembled for the purpose of bidding Mr. Godfrey good-bye and wishing him success in his new undertaking. It was one of these gatherings when, although they had met to enjoy themselves, still mingled with this was a feeling of sorrow at the departure of their good friend, Mr. Godfrey. He did not wish to say anything that would dishearten Mr. Godfrey, but he would rather that he could have seen his way clear to have stayed amongst them. He was sorry they were going to lose his services in connection with the cricket club. During the past ten or twelve years he had rendered valuable service to cricket in the neighbourhood, and also as a citizen and a workman. (Applause.) He was not going to say anything about Mr Godfrey's qualifications in the profession that he had been following whilst employed under the Consett Iron Company, for the simple reason that he knew nothing about them; but he could say something about his qualifications as a cricketer, and the service he had rendered the club during the past ten or twelve years. During the greater part of this period Mr. Godfrey had been captain of the club, and he had done a great deal to bring it up to its present position. They were certainly indebted to Mr. Godfrey to a great extent for the success of the club in the cricket field. During the time that Mr. Godfrey had had been captain of the club he had led his team to victory on many occasions. (Applause.) Mr. Godfrey did much to assist the club to win the Challenge Cup, the Junior Cup, and had seen the club attain a creditable position in the Senior League. By Mr. Godfrey's consistency it had stimulated the other players, and had done a great deal in enabling them to retain their position in this important league. (Applause.) He had heard it said that Mr. Godfrey had remarked that he was getting too old to play cricket. (Laughter.) However, let that be as it may he knew this that if Mr. Godfrey had stayed in the neighbourhood he would have been an able supporter of the club. (Applause.) They all knew Mr Godfrey's qualifications as a cricketer, and he did not think it was necessary for him to refer to them. He did not know whether there was any cricket at the place where Mr. Godfrey was going to, but he felt confident of this, that if there was any material there to make a team, Mr. Godfrey was the gentleman to get a team together and make the club a success. (Applause.) He did not know whether Mr. Godfrey would ever be able to bring a team over to England, but he had no hesitation in saying there might be a chance of them hearing of him leading some team on to victory in Russia. He wished Mr. Godfrey every success. Loud and prolonged applause.)

The toast was drank with musical honours.

Mr Godfrey feelingly responded. He said he had to thank the Chairman for having used brevity in proposing the toast. At gatherings of that description there was generally a great deal of flattery, and there was a tendency of flattery being overstrained. He was a man that did not care to be eulogised, and he had to thank the Chairman for the good policy he had pursued in proposing the toast. He also thanked Mr. Murray for his kind remarks, and also the company for the way they had responded to the Chairman's call in honouring the toast. In one of the songs rendered by Mr. Maxwell, he referred to the fact that a "rolling stone gathered no moss." He thought this was a fallacy. (Hear, near.) He was perfectly satisfied that if he had stayed at Consett till the crack of doom, there would have been very little moss for him to have gathered. He was going to a place where he believed there was a considerable amount of "moss" to be gathered and that was the sole reason why he was going abroad. Twelve years ago he thought himself very proud to be engaged under the Consett Iron Company, but he could only point out that the dividends and earnings of the Consett Iron Company were not to be compared with the Company that he was going to be employed under. By going abroad he was going to improve his position. (Applause. He knew he would meet with difficulties, and especially when going to a city where he would have to go through a course of second school-days, and he knew the difficulty would be greater than if he had been going out to a colony of their own. He had not the slightest doubt that he would meet with success in the new country, and he did not think he would impress the people that he was a bullying Englishman. (Laughter and applause.) The Chairman had kindly referred to the service he had rendered the cricket club. The club had seen prosperous days, and it had passed through dark ones. He only hoped that the future history of the club would be brighter than that of the past, and that he would hear of them still retaining their reputation on the cricket field. (Applause.) There was one or two things he might be pardoned if he referred to. One was the amount of debt the club was in at present. He felt very strongly on this point, and he knew what he was going to say would not meet with the approval of one or two gentlemen in the room. The item that figured very largely on their balance sheet was expenses to matches. This was always a large sum, and he failed to see why it should be. He was under the impression till two years ago that the players paid their own expenses. He maintained that if players, as true sportsmen, loved the game, they ought to be prepared to sacrifice a little, and assist the club. The members of the club should take the bull by the horns, and reduce this expenditure. There was another thing the club should seriously consider, and that was weather it was worth while retaining their position in the Senior League. He had been going into this question very seriously, and he noticed that clubs that were connected with leagues were generally in debt. This was the case with the majority of the league clubs in Lancashire and Yorkshire. The cause of this was, they failed to get big enough gates to meet the expenses. It might be said that Consett did not pay the high wages that these clubs had to pay their players, but he did not know whether it would pay the Consett club to remain in the league. There were plenty of clubs in Newcastle and the immediate neighbourhood who would be willing to play friendly matches, and they knew what they were friendly, as this did not at present exist in connection with league fixtures. The keen rivalry that existed some-times ended in fisticuffs, which was not a pleasant thing to see on the cricket field. After alluding to the way Hartlepool secured two points from Consett last season, the speaker went on to say that he met a friend when coming down from Consett who happened to ask him if he was going to get the cricket boots before he went away. He understood there was a pair of boots to be given to the highest scorer for last season. He happened to be that fortunate player, and he would just like to say that when these boots came to hand for them to be presented to Willie Walton, a young player, who he was sure would make his mark in the Consett Club. (Applause.) When he looked round the room he missed many old faces, and the speaker then paid a touching tribute to Dr. George Renton and the late Mr. Joshua Lax, for the valuable service they had rendered to cricket in that district. He was obliged to them for being present on that occasion. He was anxious to see as many of his friends as possible, as it would have been impossible for him to have called on them individually for the purpose of saying good-bye. He would also like to point out to them that in connection with the sale that he had held he had not disposed of the clock which the members of the club so kindly presented him with when he took unto himself a wife. (Applause.) It was his intention to cherish that gift as long as he lived, and he had no doubt it would be handed down as a heirloom to his family. He thanked them heartily for the way they had honoured the toast. (Applause.)

Other toasts followed, and during the evening songs were rendered by Messrs George Maxwell, Geo. T. Wilson, George Dryden, W. E. Brown, T. D. Dryden, F. Brodie, Thos Longworth, A. S. Godfrey, J. Dixon, and others. Mr. Erskine acted as accompanist. The enjoyable proceedings concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

CLAIM FOR DAMAGE TO A PONY AND TRAP.

At the Consett County Court, on Wednesday, before His Honour Judge E. J. Meynell, Wm. Garfoot, miner, of Dipton, sued Richard Lewins, miner, of Annfield Plain, for £5 for damages caused by the defendant to plaintiff's trap and horse. Mr T. W. Welford, Consett, appeared for plaintiff, and Mr J. Leadbitter, Catchgate, defended.

In giving his evidence, the plaintiff said he was a miner, and had a pony and trap which he lent out to defendant on Sunday, Sept. 18th, 1898, to go to Tow Law. Defendant landed back at five o'clock on the Monday morning with the trap broken at the side and the pony bleeding at the tail. Plaintiff accused defendant of being so late, and of breaking the trap. Plaintiff sent the trap to get mended, which cost £3 10s, for which he produced the receipt. The claim was for £3 10s damage to the trap, and £1 10s for loss of hire and damage to the pony.

Mrs Mary Ann Lacey said she heard plaintiff accuse defendant, whom she heard say, "Get it mended and I'll pay for it."

James Telford, a miner, said he was in the Sportsman's Arms, Dipton, on Sept. 24th, when defendant told him to tell Garfoot to get the trap mended and he would pay for it.

Mr Leadbitter urged that the damage was excessive and the trap an old one.

The witnesses for the defendant were James Smith and Thomas Richards, who were called to prove that all the damage done was that the seat of the trap fell down and one of the sides went out.

His Honour found for the plaintiff for £4 and costs.

TANFIELD.

Entertainment.—On Tuesday evening a most enjoyable entertainment, promoted by the Girls' Friendly Society, to raise funds for the decoration of the church was given in the Board Schools, Tanfield. The programme was of a varied character, and all who took part fully deserved the praise accorded by a large audience.

STANHOPE.

Magic Lantern Entertainment.—A magic lantern entertainment was given at the Stanhope Board school on Friday night by Mr T. D. Collingwood. At Barrington the same night the Sunday school children gave another rehearsal of "The Enchanted Palace."

OXHILL.

Primitive Methodist Concert.—On New Year's Eve the Primitive Methodists of Oxhill intended opening a handsome new organ which has been erected at a cost of one hundred guineas, and placed in their chapel at that place. Owing, however, to incompleteness, the formal ceremony had to be postponed. The Rev. W. Gellsy, who presided (in the absence of Councillor Storey, of Catchgate), had to take the voice of the audience as to whether they wished to have a concert, which had also been arranged, to be proceeded with or postponed, and the former alternative was agreed upon. The concert consisted of songs, duets and violin solos, taken part in by Miss C. Kellett, soprano, South Moor; Miss H. Dixon, contralto, Annfield Plain; Mr T. Wilson, tenor, South Moor; Mr G. Arkless, bass, Hare Law; Miss H. Anderson, violinist Catchgate; and Mr A. W. Hinkley, accompanist, Flint Hill. There was a large audience.

BLAYDON.

Festivities.—Monday was generally observed as a holiday. The Wesleyan body held their annual public tea and meeting. The chair was occupied by Mr Amos Wilkinson, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. W. H. Mosley, Mr E. V. Fagrt, and Mr William Johnson (Birmingham.)

Local and District News.

Consett.

Promenade Concert.—The refreshments in connection with the promenade concert held on Monday evening in the New Town Hall, Consett, were provided by Mr. W. James, caretaker, and were of a first-class character.

Consett Baptist Church.—Christmas Celebrations.—The usual Xmas festivities at the above church commenced on Saturday evening week with an Xmas tree in the afternoon for the juveniles. A large sale of toys, etc., was made from the tree and the stall. The stall was presided over by the Misses Teasdale and Jones and Mr. J. G. Moss. On the Monday following the customary entertainment and supper were held in the church, when there was a goodly attendance of friends. The Rev. Thos. Durant conducted the preliminaries, after which the entertainment and supper were proceeded with. Songs, recitations, and instrumental music were rendered by the Misses Nicholson, Mulleo, and Jones (2), and Messrs Bird, Heslington, Ward and Peacock, whilst the tables were presided over by the Misses Teasdale, Dick, Heslington (2), and Mesdames Knox and Bird. Miss Smith accompanied the singers.

Coming of Age Celebration.—On Christmas Day a dinner was given in honour of the coming of age of Mr George J. Brown, hairdresser, Consett. The repast was provided by Mr Richardson in a manner highly creditable to him. About 25 guests accepted the invitations sent out and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. On Monday evening a party was held, at which about 21 guests assembled. After the cloths were removed several toasts were proposed, including the health of Mr Brown. Songs were rendered by Messrs W. Camming, Brown, Lowes, and Manghan, the latter gentleman acting as accompanist. Dancing was kept up until 3 a.m. the following morning. Amongst those present were Mr and Mrs Coward Klee, Mr and Mrs Paul, Mr and Mrs Page, Miss George, of Stockton, Miss McIver, Miss Turnbull, South Shields; Miss Chisholm, Miss Robson, Messrs Lowes, Mass, Hutchinson, Cumming, Brown (Stockton), Barnes, Wake, and several others.

Church of England Temperance Society.—On Monday, the members of the Consett Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society was held in the National Schools, Consett. A large number of people partook of the good things provided. The tables were presided over by Miss Mawson, Mrs. G. Biggins, Miss Tweddell; Miss Hinds Miss Charlton, and Miss K. Powell. In the evening there was an entertainment presided over by Coun. Geo. D. Powell, Consett. A capital programme, consisting of songs, recitations, dialogues, etc., was gone through by the members of the Band of Hope. Two temperance stories were given, illustrated by magic lantern pictures. A splendid address was delivered by Rev. Geo. D'Eath, hon. organising secretary, The Spen. The duties of accompanist was discharged by Miss Jefferies. There was a large audience.—On New Year's Eve, the usual watch-night service was held in the church conducted by the Rev. C. S. Wilson.—On New Year's Day special sermons were preached by the Rev. A. R. Steggall, M.A., returned missionary. The congregations were large.

Gospel Temperance Silver Model Band.—The members of this popular band held their annual supper on New Year's Eve in the Wesleyan Schools, Consett. The members and friends to the number of 80, partook of the excellent repast provided. After the cloths had been removed, the Chairman (Mr B. Bainbridge) gave a "resume" of the work done by the band during the year, and the financial statement showed that the band stood in a very good position. Songs were rendered by Miss Grainger, Mrs Bullock, and Messrs Sisterson and J. W. Heslop; violin selections by Masters Chilton and Askew. During the proceedings, Mr J. V. Heslop, conductor of the band, was made the recipient of a silver-mounted black ebony baton from the members, in recognition of his services during the year. The presentation was made by Mr T. Shaw, who said that they had found in Mr Heslop a good bandsman, and a splendid musician. Considering the short time Mr Heslop had held the conductorship, and his experience of brass bands as an amateur conductor, he might have his equal, but not his superior as far as the north was concerned. (Applause.) He (the speaker) then handed Mr Heslop the baton, which he said was given to him as a token of respect from the members, and he trusted that he would long be spared to conduct the band. (Applause.) Mr Heslop briefly returned thanks for the beautiful gift, and said that it was always a pleasure to him to do all he could for the welfare of the band. During the evening, Mr A. H. Heslop presided at the piano, and the enjoyable proceedings was brought to a conclusion in the usual way.

Blackhill.

Chrysanthemum Society.—On Tuesday evening first, the annual meeting of this society will be held in St. Aidan's Hall, Blackhill, at 7.30 p.m. A good attendance is invited.

Primitive Methodist Church.—In connection with the above church, a conversazione was held on Monday night, in the School room, when a good company was present. During the evening, songs, etc., were rendered by several friends, their individual efforts being well received. Refreshments were also provided, the culinary department being ably presided over by several lady friends. The proceeds were in aid of the new building fund.

Benfieldside Mart.—This being a holiday mart on Monday, and a lot of the chief butchers not being cleared out of their Christmas stock, there was not a large entry, viz., 19 fat cattle, 158 sheep, 3 calves, 2 cows, 4 horses and ponies, 2 donkeys, 4 stirks, &c. There was a good attendance and fair average prices were obtained. Fat cattle to £17; calved heifers to £12 5s; stirks to £5 12s 6d; calves to 29s; donkey, 25s; do. 21s; other lots at fairly satisfactory prices. This being the last of the holiday marts for a while it is expected the sale will next week resume its normal condition and continue so for some time to come.

Social.—The social that is promoted every year by the young ladies connected with St. Aidan's Church, Blackhill, is evidently becoming a most popular gathering as was demonstrated on Monday evening by the large number of people who patronised the same. On entering the hall the visitor was at once struck with the artistic decorations, and added to this were the spinsters attired in Minnie Palmer costumes, which gave the whole a unique appearance. Dancing was a prominent feature in the evening's programme, while songs were rendered at intervals, besides a selection on the zither by Mr Isaac Davies. The refreshments, provided by the young ladies, were of an excellent character. The music for the dancing was supplied by Mr J. W. Davison and Mr Coward Klee.

Baptist Sunday School Band of Hope.—The annual New Year's entertainment and supper in connection with the above was held on Monday night. The meeting was held in the chapel, being very ably presided over by Mr. Nixon, Snow's Green. The programme consised of solos by Misses E. Barron N. Twitchett, and E. Vince, selections by the choir, recitation and reading by the chairman; dialogue, "The Servants Party," by 7 members; each in turn receiving well merited applause from the large congregation present. Mr. Thompson was accompanist at the organ. After the meeting a substantial ham-and-coffee supper was partaken of, over 120 taking advantage of the good things provided. The tables were presided over by Mrs. L. Robson, Misses M. J. Sterling, L. Watson, A. Forster, E. Vince, H. Robson, N. Carruthers and E. J. Armstrong, while Mrs. J. Stoker kept the tables supplied with necessaries. The proceeds, over £5, go to the Sunday School renovations.

Death of an Old Standard.—The death of Mr. George Oliver, an old standard of the district took place on Monday afternoon after a short illness at his residence in Siemen Street, Blackhill. Deceased, who was well-known and highly respected in the district had reached the advanced age of 71 years. Mr Oliver was a native of Sunderland, and after working at the Wearside ironworks for a short time he removed to the Consett district and procured employment at the Consett Iron Works as a puddler. He was afterwards transferred to the Tinmill Works, where he was employed as a charger, until he retired from the same about ten years ago. Deceased having resided in the district for a period extending over 30 years, witnessed many changes in connection with the Consett Iron Works. He leaves a widow and grown-up family. The funeral took place this (Thursday) afternoon at Benfieldside Cemetery and was largely attended by relatives and friends.

Hamsterley

Incorporated Society of Musicians.—At the examination recently held by the above society in Newcastle, Master George, son of Mr John Musgrove, Hamsterley, Ebchester, and pupil of Mr J. Surtees, Blackhill, passed with honours—Grade I. piano, &c. The examiners were Dr. G. Marsden, Mus. Doc. Centab., and Mr S. S. Stratton, Birmingham.

The Honourable Mr and Mrs Vereker gave a children's party at East Cowes Castle, on Tuesday afternoon, January 3rd, when they were honoured by the presence of Their Royal Highnesses the Duke of Albany and Princess Alice of Albany, and Their Highnesses Prince Alexander and Princess Eva of Battenberg. Mr Goodwin Morton attended and gave an exhibition of his living photographs, which were much appreciated.

Annfield Plain.

Wedding.—On Saturday morning, the Rev. D. Kyles joined in holy matrimony, Mr John Down, of Annfield Plain, to Miss Curry, of Dipton.

Catchgate Free Church Choir.—On Saturday evening the members of the above choir held a successful supper and social in the above church, at which a good company assembled. Their efforts in carol singing were very much appreciated by the members and friends of the church, for they collected no less than £8 while on their Xmas rounds.

Primitive Methodist Social.—On Monday evening, the teachers of the above Sunday School held a successful social and supper in the school-room in aid of the Foreign Missionary Fund. An entertainment was given by the members of the choir, after which the evening was spent in amusement. The supper tables were presided over by the Misses Robson, Wells, Daintree, Jacques, and Mesdames Scott, and Brankston.

Pontop Colliery Yearly Fund.—On Friday evening, the annual meeting of this fund was held in Mr. Aitchinson's long room. There was a good attendance of members. The secretary reported that after paying 47 weeks sick money and other expenses, there remained a dividend of 6/5 per member. It was resolved to hold a meeting in the middle of January for the purpose of electing officers for the ensuing year, and to invite all workmen at the colliery or coke-yard to become members.

Concert.—On Monday evening the members of the Catchgate Free Church held a concert in the above hall, at which Mr J. Bainbridge, of Hare Law, presided, in aid of the church fund. The arrangement of the programme was in the able hands of Mr T. Holland, of Catchgate, who provided an excellent "bill of fare." The artistes were Miss S. L. Scott, South Shields; Miss Dixon, Annfield Plain; Mr C. Atkinson, Newcastle; Miss E. Williams, of Consett; the accompanist was Miss Florrie Marshall, of Newcastle.

Wedding at the Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Monday morning a marriage in which a considerable amount of interest was centred, was celebrated at the above place of worship. The contracting parties, both members of the church, were Mr William Stoddart and Miss Esther Richardson, both of Annfield Plain. As both parties were well known and highly respected in the district, the church was crowded to witness the interesting ceremony. The Rev. D. Kyles, of Annfield Plain, officiated. The bridesmaid was Miss Isabella Richardson, sister of the bride, while Mr Thomas Speers acted as "best man." The bride looked charming in a slate dress trimmed with white satin, and wore a white picture hat. The service was fully choral, the organist Mr J. Robinson playing the "Wedding March," as the bridal party left the church. The presents were both numerous and handsome.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Monday afternoon, a sale of work was opened in the schoolroom by the Rev. J. W. Denham, of Annfield Plain, in the regretted absence of Mrs Johnson, of Dipton. The object of the effort was to augment the building fund. The drapery stall was presided over by Mesdames Russell, Tait, Wailes, Reed, Denham, and Moore; the drapery and ware stall by the Misses Dawson, Bell, Russell, Cooke, Mitchell, and Cawthorn; the sweet and toy stall by Miss E. Russell and a host of willing assistants; the refreshment stall given by Mr J. F. Smith, by Mesdames Walker, McPherson, Dobinson, and Gibson. The washing competition, for which there were about 20 competitors, provoked much amusement, the prizes being carried off by Mr Buckham, of Lanchester, and Mr Kellett of South Moor. In the evening a magic-lantern entertainment was given in the chapel by Mr W. Rutherford and Mr A. Brown, at which the toy symphony, which was so well appreciated on Christmas evening, was repeated by Mr B. Smith and company. The school was artistically decorated for the occasion by Messrs G. Moore, A. Brown, J. Russell, sen., J. Russell, jun., W. Rutherford, G. Moore, and Stanley, the Misses Russell, Cooke, and Brown. Mr George Dunn gave a comic entertainment and amused his audience.

Burnhope

Colliery Managership.—Mr Nelson, of Burnhope, has been appointed to the position of manager of Hunwick and Newfield Collieries.

Burnopfield

Lintz Mission.—On Saturday evening a grand entertainment was given in the above place by a company of local artistes and a string band from Dipton, after which a substantial supper was provided and done full justice to by a large company. Mr. R. Abbott, of Leazes, was in the chair. The proceeds were in aid of building fund.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Saturday evening an entertainment was given in the above chapel by the chapel choir, under the leadership of Mr. J. T. Johnson, the organist being Mr. J. Pyle. After the entertainment a pie supper was provided and well patronised. On Sunday sermons were preached by Mr. A. Allen, of Dunston, at the usual hours while in the afternoon a service of song, entitled "Wm. Ewart Gladstone," was rendered by the choir. The proceeds were in aid of the trust fund.

Co-operative Society.—The 30th quarterly balance sheet and report has lately been issued to members. The membership for the present quarter is 1,165, a slight increase upon that of last quarter, when it numbered 1,149. The sale during the quarter gave a weekly average of £1,230 15s 11d, the average purchases per member amounting to £13 14s 8d for this period. The interest received from investments amounted to £223 11s 9d, inclusive of the nett profit from rents of cottages, while the amount paid in interest on members' claims was £362 7s 2½d. Out of a disposable profit of £3,345 17s 3d, the sum of £2,875 4s 6d, or a dividend of 3/8 in the £, was paid on members checks sent in. The Education Committee reported that that department maintained its satisfactory character. The hall had been almost in constant use during the quarter, and had been a source of considerable revenue. A second billiard table had been provided, and both were in great demand. The lights in the reading room had been lowered, with the result that readers could peruse the papers with more satisfaction than formerly. The receipts of educational fund amounted to £135 12s 3½d, while the payments were £75 12s 7½d, leaving a balance of £52 19s 8d.

Dipton.

Wesleyan Chapel.—On Tuesday evening, a fourteen days' mission was commenced in the above place of worship by two "Joyful News" Mission Evangelists, Messers Cowell and Bramwell.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—On Sunday morning and evening special sermons were preached in the above chapel by Mr H. C. Wood, J.P., of Burnopfield, while in the afternoon a flower service entitled "Winter roses," was rendered by the choir, under the leadership of Mr E. Herdman, the organist being Mr W. D. Lawson. Mr J. W. Taylor, J.P., read the connective readings. On Monday afternoon a grand bazaar was held in the Dipton Board Schools. The drapery stall was attended to by Mrs Hardy, Mrs Wharton, Mrs T. Robson, Mrs Pace, and Miss Foster; toy stall by Messrs R. T. Batey and W. Alderson; the sweet stall by Messrs C. Pace, R. Maddison, and G. Taylor. A public tea was superintended by Mesdames J. W. Taylor, J. G. Taylor, T. Hardy Oliver, E. Williams, Barns, Mosley, and Miss Ward. In addition to the sale of work there were several amusements in the shape of shadow pantomimes, comic entertainments, and magic lantern entertainments which were given by Messrs J. W. Taylor, E. Herdman, R. T. Bates, and T. Lawson, while the choir rendered selections under the leadership of Mr E. Herdman. The bazaar was opened by Mr A. Oates, of Newcastle, whom Mr Taylor introduced to the gathering. Mr Oates, who was accompanied by Mrs Oates, in declaring the bazaar open referred to his connection with the Primitives of Dipton when they worshipped in the old chapel 33 years ago. He was with them in the erection of the new one—the present place of worship. (Applause.) He made his first effort at public speaking in the old chapel along with several other young men, and remembered that he broke down in trying to speak. But he persevered, and eventually succeeded in becoming a local preacher. His sympathies were with Methodism, and he urged the members of the church to make the place of worship as attractive and comfortable for the young people as their own homes, and to encourage them in whom their hopes lay, to be loyal to the places of worship if they wanted them to be useful men and noble citizens. (Applause.)—Mr Beatham moved, and Mr J. G. Taylor seconded, a vote of thanks to Mr Oates, which was accorded with acclamation. After Mr Oates had responded and shown his sympathy with the cause in the gift of a substantial donation, a brisk sale followed, and the stall-holders were kept busy for a long time. The effort was made on behalf of the new building fund, and was very successful. The total takings from all sources during the day, including Mr A. Oates' donation, amounted to the handsome sum of £62.

Medomsley.

Accident to Mr. Jacob Walton.—We regret to learn that Mr Jacob Walton, the highly-esteemed under-manager of Medomsley Colliery, fell on the ice near Milkwell Burn, on Monday morning, and sustained a compound fracture to his left arm. Dr. Marshall, who was sent for, set the arm, and we are glad to learn that Mr. Walton is progressing favourably.

Catchgate.

Serious Accident.—On Monday morning, as an elderly man named Robert Liddle was returning home from Catchgate to Kyo, he fell over a stone which was lying on the footpath and broke his thigh. He was conveyed home, where the fracture was dressed by Dr. Morrison, of Catchgate.

Collierley Parish Church.—On Monday afternoon, a sale of work in connection with the above church was held in the Greencroft Board Schools, Catchgate. The parish stall was presided over by Mrs Smith and Miss Watchman; the sweet stall by Mrs Ferguson; the advertisement stall by the Rev. J. Gornall, vicar; the "dips" by Miss Boswell, while the tea tables were attended to by Miss Neal, Miss Mitchinson, Mrs Bell, and Mrs Dodd. A magic-lantern entertainment was given in the evening by Messrs Harker and Hamwell, of Durham. The subject was, "Our soldiers on the Nile," and was illustrated by a set of beautiful slides. The Rev. H. Henderson, curate, presided. Throughout the day the churchwardens and sidesmen assisted, and the effort was very successful, the proceeds being in aid of the church building fund.

Lanchester

Treat to the Workhouse Inmates.—On Monday, Mrs. Piercey Taylor-Smith, of Colepike Hall entertained the whole of the inmates of the Lanchester Workhouse to their customary new year's treat. A splendid tea was provided which was thoroughly enjoyed. Afterwards there was a distribution of oranges, sweets, nuts, etc. In the evening the annual dance took place. A full report of this gathering will appear next week.

Muggleswick

Entertainment.—A grand entertainment was given in the school, Muggleswick, on Monday night, presided over by the Rev. J. Wallis, Vicar of Castleside, and consisting of songs, duets, musical selections, and two humorous dialogues. Great credit is due to the performers for the way they carried out the parts allotted to them. After the entertainment a supper was provided, and dancing followed, which was kept up with great vigour until the next morning. The music was supplied by the Messrs Bolam, of Blanchland, in their usual capable style.

Stanhope.

Wesleyan Bazaar.—Mrs. Wooliscroft opened out a bazaar and New Year's tree at the Stanhope Wesleyan School-room on Monday, for the sale of useful and ornamental goods, which was well patronised. In connection with it some novel competitions were introduced. The bazaar was a grand success, and realised a nice sum.

Swalwell.

Axwell Park Colliery.—The election of check-weighman at this colliery on Wednesday week, resulted as follows:—G. Irving, 102; G. Wilson, 56.

Presbyterian Church.—The annual tea and entertainment in connection with this church was held on Monday, in the new Presbyterian Hall, Swalwell. The gathering proved a great success, about 200 persons being present, as well as close upon the same number of children. The tea tables were presided over by Misses J. Fletcher, M. Cook, E. Oxnett, M. Forster, J. Lumley, E. Shield, I. Newton, M. Douglass, P. Newton, M. Smiles, M. Newton, E. Cook, E. Donnelly, M. E. Stailes, L. Jobling, M. Fletcher, and E. Mann. In the evening an interesting lantern entertainment, entitled "A peep behind the scenes," was given by the Rev. Wm. Dryburgh, B.D. Songs were also ably rendered by Miss I. Newton and Mr H. Gilpatrick. Mr T. Elliott proved an able accompanist.

Tanfield Lea

Wesleyan Choir Concert.—On Wednesday evening, the annual concert of the above choir was given in the new school-room. The programme, a very interesting one, consisted of choruses, anthems, glees, which the choir, under the leadership of Mr W. Hall, rendered efficiently, while solos and duets were ably contributed by Miss Scott, of Shields, and Mr Tom Holland, of Catchgate. In the unavoidable absence of Coun. A. Davis, of Burnopfield, through illness, the chair was occupied by Mr John Saunders, of Tanfield Lea. There was a fairly good attendance to listen to the good bill of fare which was provided for the music-loving public. In the first part of the programme the choir rendered the anthems "O come, let us sing to the Lord," "Praise the Lord O my soul," and the glee "Awake Aelian Lyre," in a creditable manner. Miss Scott's first contribution was "The better land," which she rendered very efficiently. Then the duet, "Maying," was ably sung by Miss Scott and Mr Tom Holland, which met with the hearty appreciation of the audience. Then the company were treated to a solo, "The last milestone," by Mr Holland, which demonstrated the fact that he was a singer of no mean order. The second part of the programme opened with a glee, "The sea hath its pearls," which was well rendered by the choir who subsequently gave the chorus, "Awake the harp," and the anthem, "Come, at times." Miss Scott's clear voice was again heard to great advantage in the solos, "Carolval," and "Calvary" the expression in the last piece being given with nice effect. Mr Holland also favoured with "Star of my soul," which was also rendered in his usually efficient and attractive manner. After the concert a ham and coffee supper was provided in an adjoining room, the tables being gracefully presided over by Mesdames Richardson, Mason, Taylor, and Simmons, while Mesdames Bailey, Nicholson, and Rowe kindly assisted to cut bread, etc. The proceeds were in aid of the choir fund. The accompaniments to the soloists were supplied by Mr John Russell, jun., of Annfield Plain, while those to the choir were supplied by Mr Jos. Greener.

Whickham

Sad Scalding Fatality.—On Saturday afternoon, Deputy Coroner A. T. Shepherd conducted an inquiry at the Crown Hotel, Whickham, into the circumstances attending the death of a child named Margaret Tweddle, 5 months old, and daughter of Mr Wm. Tweddle, farmer, Whickham.—From the evidence tendered it transpired that on Friday, the 23rd ult., the child was left lying upon the mat, wrapped up in a blanket, when a coffee pot was accidently upset the contents of which fell upon the child, who expired on Friday last, the 30th ult., despite the best attentions of Dr. Newcombe—A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

Westwood.

Co-operative Hall.—On New Year's Eve, the members of the Milkwell Burn Free Church choir held a social in the above place. During the evening various games, &c., were freely indulged in. An excellent supper was provided by Mesdames M. Hunter and M. Stewart, who deserve great praise for the way they contributed to the night's enjoyment. After a most cordial and pleasant night had been spent, the choir went around the village carol singing.

Waskerley

Carol Singers.—On Christmas morning, at the close of the Sunday School, the teachers and scholars sang through the village, under the superintendence of Mr George Raine. The singing reminded the villagers of the great event when the heavenly choir sang "Glory to God in the highest, on earth, peace and good-will toward men." On New Year's Eve, after the storm of snow abated the majority of young men and women went out and sang a few Xmas and New Year's hymns, and made the hills echo from far and near. On Sunday evening the same party went out to a few farm houses, and had a hearty reception, all returning well satisfied with the results of the journey, covered from head to foot with snow. One of the villagers who saw the party the next day said they all looked hearty and well, and they had never enjoyed singing so well. One old woman, evidently greatly interested in the singers, said "Give us another of your hymns, leader; they are so beautiful," after which she wished them "A happy New Year." The proceeds were in aid of the choir funds.

White-le-Head

The Bank Accident.—On enquiry we are glad to learn that Mr. Thos. Maddison, the man who a few days ago, was seriously hurt through the trucks leaving the rails on the White-le-Head incline, is progressing favourably. His medical advisors, Drs. Dewar and Charles, of Stanley, are hopeful of complete recovery.

Tanfield Moor Branch of the Miners' Permanent Relief Fund.—The annual meeting in connection with the above fund was held on Wednesday night, Dec. 28th, when the balance sheet presented by the secretary was received as satisfactory. The following were elected as officers for the ensuing year:—President, Mr Wm. Hardy; treasurer, Mr Jas. Nicholson; secretary, Mr John Harrison; committee, Messrs Jas. Lennon, M. McCabe, Jas. Doolan, and Thos. Nicholson.—On Saturday, Dec. 31st, the old members of the fund were, by the kindness of a few friends, entertained to dinner at the house of Mr R. Gladders, Waggon Inn, who, it would seems, having specially considered the tastes of the old friends spread a tempting table. On the cloths being removed, Mr Wm. Hardy was voted to the chair, and Mr J. Harrison to the vice-chair. "The health of the old friends of the Tanfield Moor Branch" was proposed, and responded to by Mr T. Huggup, who expressed thanks on behalf of himself and his aged companions, to the friends who had so generously entertained them that day. Other appropriate toasts were given and responded to, which brought a successful gathering to a close

HOCKEY.

DERWENT VALLEY v. ST. GEORGE'S.

This match takes place at Newcastle on Saturday, when the following will represent

DERWENT VALLEY.—Backs, T. D. Dales (capt.), J. E. Thorpe, and J. E. Parker; half-backs, H. G. Young, G. Hamilton, and A. C. Blunt; forwards, R. S. Renton, W. S. Douglas, J. O. Todd, A. V. Stanley-Wells, and C. T. Foreman.

Bully-off at 2-30.

FOOTBALL.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

The usual monthly meeting of the above league was held on Wednesday night week at the headquarters, the Burton House Inn, Burnopfield. Mr T. Amos presided, and the following clubs were represented:—Langley Park, Annfield Plain, Winlaton West End, Dipton Wanderers, East Castle, Spen, Byer Moor, and Tantobie.—The minutes of the last meeting were adopted.—The Tantobie and Hamsterley first team players submitted were accepted.—The protest of Dipton against the Spen was left over till the next meeting.—A claim by the Spen against Hamsterley was moved off the Board, whilst Howe, of Winlaton and the Swallwell Albion Reserve team have to be reported to the Durham F.A. for misconduct.—Winlaton were allowed to finish the Hobson fixtures.—The next meeting will be held on Janbary 13th.—Referees for January—

Jan. 7th—Annfield Plain v. Langley Park, G. Brookbanks.
„ 7th—Winlaton v. Swalwell, G. Short.
„ 7th—Byer Moor v. Tantobie, R. Freek.
„ 7th—Hamsterley v. Spen, W. H. Dawson.
„ 14th—Langley Park v. Dipton—G. Grey.
„ 14th—Hamsterley v. Tantobie—R. Freek.
„ 21st—Spen v. Langley Park, G. Hudspith.
„ 28th—Langley Park v. Spen, R. Bell.
„ 28th—Byer Moor v. Winlaton, G. Grey.
„ 28th—Hamsterley v. Dipton, G. Brookbanks.
„ 28th—East Castle v Tantobie, J. Allen.

Kick-off at 2-30.

Fixtures for Saturday, Jan. 7th.

DURHAM SENIOR CUP.

COMPETITION PROPER.

FIRST ROUND.

LEADGATE PARK v. SUNDERLAND A.

This tie comes off at Roker Park on Saturday, when the visitors will make a determined effort to reach the next round.

LEADGATE PARK—Goal, J. Hunter; backs, J. T. Willey and R. Coates; half-backs, T. Cartmell, R. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, B. Cook, T. Houston, G. Milburn, Jos. Wilson (capt.), and G. Forster. Reserves, G. Temple, M. Robinson, and W. Walton. Team leaves Leadgate Station by 11-35 train.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

STANLEY v. SOUTH SHIELDS.

For this postponed match to be played at Oakey's on Saturday the only alteration in the home team will be the substitution of Wood for Howe from the team which met Newcastle United A.

STANLEY—Goal, Morris; backs, Joyce and Bell; half-backs, Pearson, E. Buck, and Redpath; forwards, Graham, Ellis, Howe, Wood, and J. Masterman.

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT TOWN SWIFTS v. NEWBURN.

This game is down for decision at Consett, when the following will play for

CONSETT—Goal, S. Johnson; backs, A. N. Other and R. Charlton; half-backs, R. Wake, W. Harrison, and W. Atkinson; forwards, W. T. Spence and B. Rafferty, right wing; J. Finnigan, centre; J. Morgan and J. Dempsey, left wing. Reserves, D. Marshall, J. Lee, and P. Smith.

Kick-off at 2-15.

HOBSON v. THROCKLEY.

To be played at the Hobson, when the subjoined will represent the

HOBSON—Goal, McNeil; backs, Liddle and McCue; half-backs, Heslin, Henderson, and Cullen; forwards, Cullen, J. Layton, Walton, Andrews, and Lown.

Kick-off at 2-30.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM ALLIANCE.

ALLENDALE PARK v. STANLEY.

This game will be decided at Medomsley.

ALLENDALE (chosen from)—Bailey, Lynop, Armstrong, M. and W. Hunter, T. and M. Walton, Landells, Brown, Craig, Calvert, Robinson, Talbot, Trueman, Anderson, Dodd, and Winter.

STANLEY—Goal, E. Beckwith; backs, S. Chisholm and Watson; half backs, M. Sutherland, Smith, and Gailes; forwards, Cox, A. Wylam, Watson, Dargue, and Dodds. Referee, Mr T. Amos. Kick-off at 2-15.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

LINTZFORD v. SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS.

To be played at Lintzford.

LINTZFORD (chosen from)—Gibbon, I. Adamson, W. Adamson, J. Seath, T. Middleton, W. Seath, Weightman, Allanby, T. Seath, Bell, Jackson, and D. Seath.

FRIENDLY FIXTURES.

EAST CASTLE WANDERERS v. ESH ST. MICHAEL'S RESERVE.

To be played at Esh, when the following will represent

EAST CASTLE—Goal, J. Jackson; backs, A. Stewart and J. Shearer; half-backs, D. Tilley, J. E. Johnson, and A. Cooper; forwards, W. Cranson, T. Parker, G. Stoker, J. Cooper, and A. Forster.

Brake leaves headquarters at 12-30.

BURNOPFIELD AND DISTRICT LEAGUE.

BYER MOOR RESERVE v. TANTOBIE RESERVE.

On the ground of the former.

BYER MOOR—Goal, W. Robson; backs, R. Layton and J. Reed; half-backs, G. Kirby, R. Fairbain, and J. Smith; forwards, R. Hall, A. N. Other, M. Hunter, W. Eddy, and J. Keefe.

Referee, Mr R. Freek. Kick-off at 2-30.

LEADGATE WEDNESDAY v. BIRTLEY WEDNESDAY.

These teams meet on the Park ground at Leadgate next Wednesday. The visitors come with a great reputation, but the home men are going to do their level best to maintain their unbeaten certificate.

LEADGATE WEDNESDAY—Goal, W. J. Foreman (capt.); backs, W. Bell and C. V. Todd; half-backs, W. Forster, T. Greener, and J. Steel; forwards, J. Williams, J. Kershaw, A. Burnhope, F. Lockey, and R. Gleadow. Reserve, J. Prest.

Referee, Mr T. Reed.

PRIZE COMPETITION.

Our last week's competition proved a somewhat difficult one. Three of the four games were stopped before time was up, but we of course take the result just the same as if the games had been finished. The following share the consolation prize:—

Robert Bowes,
12, Puddlers' Row, Consett;
Wm. E. Walker,
114, Front Street, Leadgate, and
G. Piggins,
Havelock Street, Consett.

BLACKHILL.

Wesleyan Sunday School Teachers' Annual Meeting.—On Monday evening, the annual teachers' meeting in connection with the above school was held in the school-room, Blackhill. The Rev. J. Bishop, of Shotley Bridge, presided over a good attendance. After the financial statement had been read and received as satisfactory, the election of officers was proceeded with. Messrs J. Swindale and G. J. Robinson were elected superintendents; Messrs J. R. Ashby and R. Leonard, secretaries; Mr W. Palliser, treasurer; Mr E. E. Eltringham, secretary of the library; Mr A. Spence, librarian; Mr J. Palliser, treasurer; Miss Palliser and Miss Sheldon, book-stewards; Messrs E. E. Robinson and W. H. Palliser, organists; and Mr M. J. Robson, representative to the circuit quarterly meeting. Addresses were afterwards delivered by the Rev. J. Bishop, Messrs J. Swindale and J. Palliser, whilst a song was ably rendered by Miss Siddle, of Blackhill, and a dialogue by six senior girls.

From the Accident Insurance Company (Limited), of 10, St. Swithin's Lane, London, E.C., we have received a Wall Calendar, in which the tear-off date Indicator is a prominent and useful feature. The Company was founded in 1849, and insures against Accidents and Disease, in addition to granting indemnities to Employers under the Workmen's Compensation Act &c.

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"BLUE BEARD" PANTOMIME AT CONSETT.

Miss Cissy Moxon's pantomime, which will be presented on Monday next, is one of exceptional splendour, and its gorgeous scenic display will be a revelation to local playgoers, while the numerous artistes engaged are of undoubted ability. In the opening scene is presented the basaltic retreat of the Demon Hategood, and the worthy wicked one is represented scheming to bring disaster from one end of the Tyne to the other. Happily, Fragantine, the fairy, whose mission is one of goodwill, determines to foil the plans of the demon, and announces that despite his fiendish tricks there shall be universal enjoyment, and to lead up to that she determines to have a pantomime, which she names "Blue Beard." The real business thus introduced runs merrily along without a dull moment, until the close, when Selim conquers the wicked gentleman with the coloured whiskers, and claims the beautiful Fatima for his own. Mr Housden, who is responsible for the working of the production, also appears in it, and plays the part of Redlock Combs, a defective detective. Mr Chas. H. Burns, who plays the title role, is in figure an ideal Blue Beard. He says his lines with good effect, and sings acceptable. Miss Emily Lyndale makes a delightful Selim. If the part was made for her it was made a good fit, for we could not or would not desire a more delightful Selim. In the duets with Selim, she is heard to good good effect, but her real success is in her other songs, the most catchy of which is a happy parody on "Oh! Mr Porter." She is also a successful sand dancer. Mr S. Raymonde, as "Fatima's only Pa," has a very busy time of it, but he never tires, and never ceases to be interesting. Sister Anne is taken by Consett's old favourite, Mr W. S. Hutchinson, and it could not be in better hands. His make up as a woman is in itself a wonder, and nothing more need be said on this score. Messrs Burgoyne and Hillard, whose chief business is to be funny, do their work admirably. Then we have Miss Marie Milford as Abdallah, a most charming young masher, and the no less charming charming Zorilda (Miss Olive Gwynne) his sweetheart. We have the pretty Haidee (Miss Katie Leaver), Bluebeard's daughter, and Mustapha (Miss Carrie Knowles) her admirer. All these are excellent in both singing and dancing. Then there are such specialities as Professor Hutchinson's ventriloquial exhibition, the music exhibition by Mr C. H. Burns are all excellent items. A grand morning performance will be given on Saturday, January 14th, at 2 o'clock, when children will be admitted to all parts at half-price. Play-goers of Consett and district should not fail to avail themselves of the opportunity of witnessing this exceptional seasonable entertainment.

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Everybody to their Business.

OUR Business is not only to supply Oak and Polished Coffins of a superior description at the lowest Prices, but we also Supply Hearses, Coaches, Cabs for Weddings, and Horses and Conveyances of all kinds.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Births.

BROWN.—Castleside, on 3rd inst., the wife of J. Brown, of a daughter.
TULLEY.—Blackhill, 88, Durham Road, on 28th ult., the wife of John Tulley, of a son.
WILLERS.—Consett Park Terrace, on 29th ult., the wife of J. Willers, of a daughter.

Marriages.

GOWLAND — RUTTER.—Frosterley, Wesleyan Chapel, on 31st ult., Shield Gowland to Nellie Rutter, both of Frosterley.
MOUNT—LAYBOURNE.—Ryton Parish Church, on 3rd ult., by the Rector, Rev Canon Bailey, William Bruce Mount, son of Mr W. B. Mount, of Halkerton and Craignathro, Forfarshire, to Annie S. E., elder daughter of Robert Laybourne, 6, North Avenue, Ryton-on-Tyne.

Deaths.

ARMSTRONG.—Consett, 13, Foster Street, on 3rd inst., aged 59 years, Thomas Henry, beloved husband of Mary Ann Armstrong. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery on Saturday; cortege to leave at 2-30. Friends please accept this intimation.
BELL.—Annfield Plain, 17, Pontop Rows, aged 18, Robert Bell.
DAGLISH.—Blaydon, on the 1st inst. (at the house of her son-in-law, George J. Oglivie, Stella Road), in her 81st year, Mary Daglish.
GLENDINNING.—Chopwell, on 2nd ult., aged 60, Mary Glendinning.
GILLENDER.—Swalwell, on 30th ult., aged 72, Francis Gillender.
HECKLES.—South Moor, on 30th ult., in his 16th year, Alexander Heckels.
HODGSON.—Co-operative Terrace, Tantobie, on 4th inst., aged 70, Thomas Hodgson. Interred at Tanfield on Sunday. Friends please accept this intimation.
ILEY.—Burnhope, on 30th ult., in her 59th year, Mary Ann Iley.
JONES.—Dunston, 3, Catherine Street, on 27th ult., aged 1 year and 8 months, Ethel Jones.
LUBBOCK.—16, Thomas Street, Blackhill, on 31st ult., aged 61, Mary Ann, widow of the late Wm. Lubbock.
LEE.—Louisa Terrace, West Stanley (at the residence of her daughter), on 1st inst., aged 72, Mary Lee.
MASSEY.—Winlaton Mill, on 19th ult., aged 80, Robert Massey.
MILNER.—Castleside, on 30th ult., aged 18 years and 10 month, Florence, beloved daughter of T. and M. Milner.
OLIVER.—Blackhill, No. 8, Siemen's Street, on 2nd inst., aged 71, George Oliver.
PRINGLE.—Birtley, 18th ult., on her 26th birthday, Elizabeth Joyce Pringle.
PRINGLE.—Perkinsville, on 1st inst., aged 21, Henry Pringle.
RICHARDSON.—Winlaton, Zion Place (at the residence of M. Parker), on 28th ult., aged 73, Jane Richardson.
STANDLEY.—At the residence of her son-in-law, Mr W. Brewis, Ravensworth Terrace, Birtley, on 31st ult., aged 81, Emma Standley.
STOREY.—Storey, 25, Medomsley Road, aged 79 years, Ann, widow of the late William Storey. Interment at Benfieldside on Saturday first; lift at 2-30.
THOMPSON.—At South Pontop, on 26th ult., aged 72, Elizabeth Thompson.
WILSON.—Birtley, 7, Daisy Cottages, in his 29th year, William Thompson Wilson.
WIGHAM.—Burnopfield, Derwent View (at the house of his son-in-law, Wm. Iley), on 31st ult., aged 73, Edward Wigham.

In loving memory of my dear sister, Ann, beloved daughter of John and Jane Heron, who died Jan. 7th, 1891, aged 21 years.

Oh, for the touch of her vanished hand,
Or the sound of her voice that is stilled.

In loving memory of Matthew Stoddart, of West Butsfield, who died Jan. 5th, 1898, aged 80 years.

Released from sorrow, sin, and pain,
And free from every care:
By angels' hands to heaven conveyed
To rest for ever there.
Ever remembered.

Mr and Mrs Pugsley, of Bradley Cottages, desire to return their sincere thanks to the public for their sympathy in their sad bereavement.

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