ADAM BRODIE, AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE AND ESTATE AGENT,
TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
CONDUCTS
SALES BY AUCTION ON REASONABLE TERMS.

ONLY AUTHORISED AGENT for ASSISTED PASSAGES to QUEENSLAND, every Month by steamer from London and Glasgow; and to CANADA every week from Liverpool. Passages Booked by every Principal Line to America on Lowest Terms.

☞ WANTED TO PURCHASE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE FOR CASH.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

ADAM BRODIE,
SHARE AND INSURANCE BROKER,
TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
LOCAL GAS, WATER, AND OTHER SHARES BOUGHT AND SOLD.
☞ DEALER IN STEAMSHIP SHARES. ☜
FIRE, LIFE, ACCIDENT, AND PLATE GLASS INSURANCE AGENCY.

ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett, wishes to draw the attention of the public to the fact that Insurances of every description can be effected through his Agency, and that the Offices he represents are noted for prompt Settlement of Claims.

NOTE.—The Oldest Insurance Agency and the only Share Broker in the District.
ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

No. 1,249. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, July 18th, 1884. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

THE INDUSTRIAL LOAN COMPANY advances Money from £5 to £500 to respectable Householders, at a moderate rate of interest and easy payments. Applications personally or by letter (strictly private), 20, Clayton Street East, Newcastle.—Manager, I. TURNER. Business hours, 10 till 5.

MONEY WITHOUT SECURITIES.—The Monetary Advance Company Lends Money from £10 to £500 to respectable householders, farmers, &c., on their own security, at moderate interest and easy repayments. Applications, personal or by letter, receive prompt attention, with the strictest privacy. Offices, Neville Street, (opposite Central Station Hotel), Newcastle-on-Tyne.—H. S. SCOTT, Manager. 539s

MONEY ADVANCED, in large and small sums in Town or Country, on Personal and Household Security, Farm Stock, Second Mortgages, Deeds, Life Policies, Building Society or any other Shares or Interest, repayable to suit borrowers' convenience, as may be arranged. Write or call on Agent, Mr. JAS. FROSDICK, Rose Mount, Consett, or direct to M. L. ROSENBERG, Cross House Chambers, 54, Westgate Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne (opposite Mr Angus, Coachbuilder.) Established 1860. 696½r

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the Erection of Sexton's Lodge in New Cemetery, Blackhill, for the Benfieldside Burial Board.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender obtained, at our Office, Town Hall Buildings, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders, sealed and endorsed, to be delivered to us on or before Saturday, the 26th day of July, 1884.

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects, &c.
July 4th, 1884. 313t

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY, LIMITED, are prepared to receive TENDERS for the following WORKS:—

1.—Addition to their British School Buildings, at Consett.

2.—Erection of Out-buildings for their Cottages, at Bottle Bank, Blackhill.

3.—Re-metalling, &c., of Bessemer, Rogers, Cort, and Williams Streets, Blackhill.

Plans can be seen, and all particulars obtained on application at their Consett Offices, on and after Wednesday, 23rd inst.

Tenders to be addressed and delivered to the Consett Iron Company, Limited, not later than Saturday, 2nd August, 1884.

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

Consett Iron Works, Blackhill, 17th July, 1884. 349t

Lost.

LOST, a Young SOW PIG.—Any one restoring the same to JOHN SMITH, Hollin Hall, Lanchester, will be rewarded. 347t

LOST, a Ladies' Silver WATCH and CHAIN, between Blackhill and Shotley Bridge, on Tuesday, July 15th, 1884.—Any one returning it to No. 8, Ledger Terrace, Blackhill, will be suitably rewarded. 345t

Wanted.

WANTED APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply 22, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 344t

WANTED, small HARMONIUM; must be cheap.—Apply *Guardian* Office, Consett. 351t

WANTED, APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply 13, Cort Street, Blackhill. 359t

WANTED, a Young Man, accustomed to Farm Work.—Apply ROBERT LAWSON, Low Bradley, Medomsley. 356t

WANTED, a PLOUGHMAN; also a GIRL, a good milker.—Apply to T. CARR, Dyke Nook, Consett. 337t

AGENT WANTED to push first-class Machinery Oil. Liberal Commission. — Box 201, Post Office Liverpool. 324t

BOARD and RESIDENCE offered to Ladies and Gentlemen. A comfortable, quiet Home.—Mrs. J. PROUD, Derwent House, Shotley Bridge. 499s

SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE.

LADIES requiring Servants; also, Servants wanting Situations.—Apply to MISS COCKBURN, at the S. R. O., 13, Front Street, Consett. 828s

WANTED, at once, COOKS, HOUSEMAIDS, NURSEMAIDS, and good General SERVANTS.—Apply, Miss SCOTT'S Registry Office for Male and Female Servants, 3, Saville Row, Newcastle.

AUSTRALIA and AMERICA.—Reduced Fares—500 Workmen of all classes wanted for Queensland and Canada. Work immediately on arrival at Highest Wages. Assisted Passages granted. Employment guaranteed in Canada. Passages Booked to United States, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Sydney at specially reduced Rates.—Apply to the Great Northern Emigration Co. (Queensland Government Agents). 96, High Street, Gateshead. 184t

WANTED, Ladies requiring SERVANTS, Male or Female, also NURSES, INVALID NURSES, &c., and Servants good Situations, can be suited daily by applying to Miss PHELAN, Servants' Institute, 75, Clayton Street, Newcastle (formerly with the late Miss Leybourne). Hotels supplied from the Bar to the Kitchen.—Wanted, daily, Cooks, Kitchen and Scullery Maids, House and Kitchen Maids, Head and Under Laundresses, General Servants, &c., &c. 15s

EMIGRATION! EMIGRATION! EMIGRATION.

WANTED, at once, for America, Canada, Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, and South Africa, Mechanics, Artizans, Labourers, Agriculturalists, Miners, Domestic Servants, and others. Assisted Passages to eligible Persons. Free Passages granted to South Australia to a limited number of Domestic Servants. Send Stamped Addressed Envelope for Particulars and Rates to DAVISON & COMPANY, House, Estate, and Emigration Agents, 23, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Handbooks on the different Colonies, price 6d. each, or 6½d. by post.

NOTICE.—Having been able to effect special arrangements with the principal Railway Companies in the United States and Canada, we can book passengers direct from Newcastle to any railway station in either the United States or Canada, at lower rates than any Agents in the North.

To Let.

TO LET, the HOUSE of Four Rooms in Delves Lane, as occupied by W. Pearse.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 329t

TO LET, a Five-roomed HOUSE, with Gig House and One-stalled Stable, if required, situate in Durham Road, Leadgate. Entry on August Term.—Apply to M. MOYLE, Leadgate. 320t

TENTS TO LET, on reasonable terms, 120ft. by 30ft. and 60ft. by 30ft.—Apply to THOMAS CALVERT, Grocer, Medomsley, Lintz Green. 911s

TO LET, a WAREHOUSE, situate in Cross Street, Blackhill.—Apply to W. CHARLTON, Dean House, Ebchester. 150t

TO LET, WESLEY COTTAGE, Green Street Shotley Bridge, containing Five Rooms, Yard, and Out-buildings.—Apply to J. OLEY, Auctioneer, 10, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 46t

TO LET.
ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT MARQUEE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE Members of the above Company will LET their Marquees on the most reasonable Terms, in sizes from 20 ft. by 20; 48 by 30; 84 by 30; or 100 by 30. Also, they have a small Refreshment Tent, which can be LET on favourable Terms.—For particulars apply to ROBT. HENDERSON, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green.

For Sale.

TO FARMERS.—FOR SALE, a large IRON ROLLER.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office Consett. 85t

For Sale.

BEES! BEES! FOR FANCY AND PROFIT.—A few good first and second Swarms FOR SALE, from 10s. to 15s.—THOMAS MCCOURTY, Watchmaker, &c., Newmarket Street, Consett. 336t

FOR SALE or TO LET, at November Term, a HOUSE of Five Rooms, with every Convenience, and GARDEN.—Apply to JOHN HETHERINGTON, at Messrs. Jackson & Co., Clothiers, Market Place, Durham. 339t

FOR SALE, a HOUSE and SHOP, with COTTAGE attached thereto, situate in Durham Road, Blackhill.—For particulars apply to J. G. ARMSTRONG, Medomsley, *via* Lintz Green. 243t

NITRATE OF SODA, of excellent quality and low price, at Northumberland Dock and Gateshead.—Apply to SCOTT BROTHERS, 2, Queen Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 49t

FOR SALE, RIDING SADDLES and BRIDLES, HORSE CLOTHING, GIG APRONS, CLIPPING MACHINES, and SINGING LAMPS—THOMAS OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

TO INNKEEPERS.—SPIRIT STOCK BOOKS. One Shilling each, may be obtained at the "Guardian" Office, Consett; or sent by Post on receipt of 13 Postage Stamps.

A GOOD PLAN.

£10 AND upwards invested, under the non-liability system, in carefully selected Stocks and Shares often returns handsome profits in a few days. Full details in Explanatory Book (fourth edition), gratis and Post Free. Address GEO. EVANS & Co., Stockbrokers, Gresham House, Old Broad Street, London, E.C. Best and safest plan ever devised. 275t

FOR SALE, an unlimited supply of PIANOFORTES, in Black and Gold, Walnut, and Rosewood Cases, by English and Foreign Makers, on our SPECIAL HIRE SYSTEM, from 50s. per quarter for three years, when the Instrument becomes the Property of the Hirer. Every Instrument warranted for seven years. HARMONIUMS from 10s. 6d. per month, on the same system.—DAWSON & Co., Pianoforte and Harmonium Warehouse, and Music Sellers, 1 and Saville Row, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 178r

Business Announcements.

J. BATES,
JOINER, UNDERTAKER, AND FURNITURE BROKER,
SECOND-HAND FURNITURE BOUGHT, SOLD, OR EXCHANGED.
☞ HARVEY STREET, CONSETT. 305t

CHEAP STATIONERY DEPOT.

JASPER COCKBURN,
STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, PRINTER, BOOKBINDER, CONFECTIONER, AND DEALER IN FANCY GOODS,
13, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

ACCOUNT BOOKS, DIARIES, POCKET BOOKS, BIRTH-DAY CARDS, And STATIONERY of every Description in Stock.

Books not in Stock to be had on a Short Notice. 613s

THE ONLY NEWSPAPER PRINTED AND PUBLISHED IN THE DISTRICT.
THE
"CONSETT GUARDIAN"
AFTER ATTAINING
A LARGE AND INCREASING CIRCULATION
HAS BEEN
CONSIDERABLY ENLARGED,
AND MAINTAINS ITS POSITION AS
THE LOCAL NEWSPAPER.

Full and Impartial Reports of all Meetings in the District (by its own Reporters). The General News is carefully condensed, and special attention is given to Local News, by Agents of known ability and character.

☞ TO ADVERTISERS.

THE *CONSETT GUARDIAN*

Has now been established upwards of twenty-four years, and has gained a most extensive circulation in Consett, Shotley Bridge, Blackhill, Lanchester, Annfield Plain, Medomsley, Ebchester, Castleside, Burnopfield, Lintz Green, Rowland's Gill, Iveston, Dipton, Tow Law, Burnhope, South Moor, Stanley, Tanfield, Tanfield Lea, Tantobie, White-le-head, Hobson, Clough Dene, Swalwell, and the adjacent locality.

The large and increasing circulation of the *Consett Guardian* renders it invaluable as an advertising medium, and current Advertisements are inserted in its columns at moderate charges. Advertisements for lengthened periods are subject to considerable reduction

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY AFTERNOON
AT
59, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
Where Advertisements are received up to NINE o'clock on that morning.

THOMAS MILNER,
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST,
(By Examination),

Begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett, Benfieldside, and vicinity, that he has BOUGHT THE BUSINESS (recently relinquished through declining health) of Mr. J. W. SCAIFE, Front Street, Consett, which in future will be carried on by T. MILNER, at

THE CENTRAL PHARMACY,
7, SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

T. MILNER is Sole Agent for Consett, Lanchester, and District for NESS & Co.'s Tar Elixir Sheep Dip, BELL & RIDDLE'S Hexham Sheep Dip, BELL & RIDDLE'S Concentrated Cattle Spice, MCDOUGALL'S Non-poisonous Sheep Dip, COOPER'S Sheep Dipping Powder, MORRIS'S, LITTLE & Co.'s Chemical Sheep Dip, WILSON and KITCHEN'S Dips, TOMLINSON'S Glycerine Sheep Dip, &c., &c. Tobacco Juice, Powders, Hellebore, and Soft Soap, and all other ingredients used for Dipping Sheep.

Milner's Diarrhœa Mixture, specially recommended for Diarrhœa and Colic.

HORSE BALLS, FELLON, CLEANSING, AND OTHER DRINKS FOR CATTLE.
Butter Colouring and Butter Powder.

Milner's Dandelion Podophyllin Aperient Pills, in combination with the Podophyllyn Sarsaparilla Blood Purifying Mixture, are one of the best Family Medicines at this season of the year. Quinine Wine. Quinine and Iron Tonic. Invigorating Hop Bark, and Calumba Bitters. Corn Solvents. Tooth Ache Drops, Spasm Drops, &c.

TEETHING AND WORM POWDERS FOR CHILDREN.

Milner's Effervescing Saline in Bottles, an excellent substitute for Eno's Fruit Salt.

Agent for Mr. LAMONT'S Magnetic Appliances, the Eureka-tinted and other Spectacles and Eye Glasses.

TRUSSES, BANDAGES, ELASTIC STOCKINGS

Insect Powder for the Destruction of Beetles and other Vermin at this Season of the Year.

T. M. specially recommends a good assortment of Furniture Cream, Brass Polish, &c., &c. Ammonia Washing Liquor.

OILS, PAINTS IN TINS, OR MIXED TO ORDER.
MAHOGANY, SATIN WOOD, AND OTHER SPIRIT VARNISHES.
Best Oak, Carriage, Copal, Black Japan Varnishes.
BLUE, GREEN, and OTHER COLOURS, of every description.

NOTE ADDRESS:— 166t
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, CONSETT.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

WILLIAM STEWART AND SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

FLOORCLOTHS AND LINOLEUMS
CUT TO ANY SIZE AT MANUFACTURERS' PRICES.

A. C. MORGAN AND CO.,
FORTH HOUSE, PINK LANE (OPPOSITE CENTRAL STATION),
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

WORKS. KIRKCALDY, N.B. 14s

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET. 691n

☞ FURTHER EXTENSION OF PREMISES.

TO MEET AN INCREASING DEMAND FOR MILLINERY, BABY-LINEN, AND LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING,

J. GOODFELLOW
HAS OPENED ANOTHER SHOP, BEING No. 19, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
With a splendid Assortment of Goods,
STRAW HATS, and MILLINERY, nicely Trimmed, at Prices to suit everybody.
CHEMISES, from 1s. 1½d., 1s. 4d., 1s. 10½d., 2s. 3d., &c., beautifully Trimmed.
LADIES' DRAWERS, from 10½d., 1s. 3d., 1s. 4½d., 1s. 11d., &c
NIGHT DRESSES, from 1s. 10½d., 2s. 11d., &c.
INFANTS' ROBES, FROCKS, PELISSES, TUNICS, HATS, HOODS, PINAFORES, &c.
CORSETS, FEATHERS, FLOWERS, ORNAMENTS, RIBBONS, LACES, COLLARETTES and RUFFLES, SILKS, SATINS, VELVETS, PLUSHES, &c.

☞ Also, at the OLD PLACE OF BUSINESS, will be shown a large Stock of
MEN'S TWEED SUITS, from 16s. 11d., 18s. 11d., 22s. 6d., 23s. 6d., 26s. 6d., &c.
MEN'S BLACK WORSTED SUITS, Bound and Well-made, at 22s. 6d. See them.
BOYS' SUITS, from 2s. 7½d., 2s. 9d., 2s. 11d., up to 18s. 11d.
MEN'S TWEED TROWSERS, from 2s. 11d.
BEST VALUE IN HATS, all Fashionable.
SHAPES, ZEPHYR FELTS, from 1s. 11d., 2s. 3d., 2s. 9d., 3s. 6d., &c.
BOY'S HARD and SOFT FELTS, from 1s. 6d.
CALICOES, from 1½d., 2½d., 3d., &c.
HOLLANDS, 3½d., 4½d., 5½d.
FLANNELS, 5½d., all Wool.
☞ DRESSES, in all the latest Makes and Colourings, from 2½d., 3½d., 5½d., 6½d., 8½d., 10½d.
SHIRTINGS, PRINTS, SATEENS, and POMPADOURS.
OBSERVE THE ADDRESS:—

J. GOODFELLOW, NEAR THE SALVATION HALL,
AND 19, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 182t

EMIGRANTS! EMIGRANTS!!

EMIGRANTS Booked to and from all parts of AMERICA and CANADA, also to AUSTRALIA, at the most reasonable rates, compatible with accommodation. Recent Pamphlets on Canada and its Prospects free on receipt of stamp for postage.
JOSEPH WETHERALL, Emigration Agent.
Oxhill, Chester-le-Street, Durham. 826r

HERBS, ROOTS, AND BARK.

W. J. SMITH,
270, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD,
IMPORTER,

Can supply from an Ounce to One Hundred Weight of every description of Herbs, Roots, and Barks, Powders, Compound Powders, Oils, Essences, Tinctures. The only Importer in the North of England. Just arrived, a large Stock of Centuary, Pennyroyal, Agrimony, Yarrow, Cherry Bark, Horehound, Clivers, Baybury Sarsaparilla, Blue Flag, Yellow Dock, Mandrake, Quilla Bark, and 500 of other kinds of Herbs. Prices on application. Chemists or Herbalists supplied at less than London Prices. Hints for Herb Beer Makers. 206t

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

J. MCINTOSH,
(Cutter for the late Mr. T. S. Atkinson, of Consett),

HAS REMOVED his Business to JESSAMINE COTTAGE, BENFIELDSIDE EDGE ROAD, BLACKHILL,
☞ ALL ORDERS WILL RECEIVE PROMPT ATTENTION

BROOKS'
CELEBRATED
FELT 2s. 6d. HAT,
59, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 754

PERSONS WISHING TO MAKE UP THEIR
HORSES FOR SALE OR SHOW,
SHOULD USE THE
"OPTIMUS" HORSE MIXTURE.
IT IS UNEQUALLED BY ANY OTHER MIXTURE.
PREPARED ONLY BY
JOHN HUME AND SONS
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
BRANCH—MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 583r

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

DONALD BAIN, DRAPERY WAREHOUSEMAN, begs to notify his many patrons that he has removed to his NEW WAREROOMS, 71, WESTGATE ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, for the express purpose of devoting his whole time and energy to the COUNTRY AND WHOLESALE TRADE only. Wools, Yarns, Smallwares, and every description of Drapery Goods supplied at List Prices.

NO CONNECTION WITH ANY OTHER ESTABLISHMENT.

N.B.—Mr. MATTHEW WILLEY, Iveston Road, Leadgate (late with GEORGE HAWDON, Rate Collector), will be happy to wait upon you, on receipt of Post Card, and submit Patterns and Prices of our well-known Dress and Drapery Goods. All Parcels forwarded at once, CARRIAGE PAID 879s

Business Announcements.

INDIA RUBBER STAMPS,

FOR Endorsing Envelopes, Cheques, and Postal Cards, Heading Notepaper, Marking Linen and Pigeons, Stamping Monograms, Crests, and fac-similes of Signature.

POCKET AND DATING STAMPS,
Price and Pattern Sheets Free on application.
WILLIAM COLDICOTT,
BRIDGEMAN STREET, WALSALL. 783s

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

PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 66t

COOKE'S NEW DRAPERY
ESTABLISHMENT,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE Shop beside the railway gates
  Has opened been by C. F. COOKE;
So do not any longer wait
  But go at once and take a look.
At all the goods therein displayed,
  In quality—both rich and rare—
And this much may at least be said,—
  Minute inspection they will bear.
Examine well, the prices note,
  The quality then criticise;
Mark well the easy fitting Coat,
  The Shirts, and Collars, Cuffs, and Ties.
COOKE'S Suits are noted near and far,
  A ready sale they must command,
For neatness, elegance, and wear,
  They are renowned throughout the land.
Some hundreds have been sold, and still
  Their sale increases day by day,
For suits like these they must, and will,
  In public favour make their way.
If then you want a useful Suit
  Or Draperies of any kind;
Go to COOKE'S shop and I've no doubt,
  Full satisfaction you will find.

HUGHES & CO.'S
PHARMACY,
OPPOSITE THE NEW TOWN HALL.

CURRY'S Invaluable STOMACH & LIVER PILLS.

CURRY'S TOOTHACHE DROPS.

HUGHES' Cough, Rheumatic, and Neuralgic Pills. The IXL Blood Purifying Mixture and Pills. Rheumatic and Gout Mixture. Hop, Dandelion, and Mandrake Bitters. Concentrated Sweet Essence of Senna. Compound Decoction of the finest Red Jamaica Sarsaparilla. Tonga, the new Specific for Neuralgia. Raspberry Beer Powder.

TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Dr. SCOTT'S ELECTRIC APPLIANCES.

AGENTS FOR THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST OPTICAL ASSOCIATION.

☞ SPECTACLES IN GREAT VARIETY.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, AND VARNISHES.

HORSE AND CATTLE MEDICINES

ALTERATIVE POWDER FOR HORSES.

SHEEP DIPS—COOPER'S, BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, AND OTHER KINDS.

HUGHES & CO.,
54, FRONT STREET, CONSETT

CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE IMPROVED
MAGNETIC BELTS

For Lumbago, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Liver Complaints, &c.
INVIGORATORS for Bronchitis and Asthma.
INVIGORATORS for Weak Lungs and Debility.
CHEST PROTECTORS for Colds, Coughs.
THROAT PROTECTORS for Sore Throats, &c.
KNEE CAPS for Sore and Weak Knees.
SOLES for Pains and Cold Feet.
Shoulder, Arm, Leg, Ankle, and Wrist Appliances.

THOUSANDS OF CURES have been effected by these Appliances during the past six years, and fresh testimonials are being daily received. The WONDERFUL SUCCESS that has attended their use, and the fact that they are now worn and recommended by doctors, clergymen, and persons in all ranks and classes of Society, conclusively proves their great value as REMEDIAL and PREVENTIVE agents.

THE SPECIAL MAGNETIC BELT at 21s., and SPECIAL LUNG INVIGORATOR at 21s., (formerly sold at 30s.), continues to give unbounded satisfaction. They are, without exception, the CHEAPEST and MOST EFFECTIVE MAGNETIC CURATIVE APPLIANCES ever offered to the public. In sending for Belt, please state WAIST MEASURE OVER FIRST GARMENT. Sent Post Free on receipt of 21s.

MR. LAMONT has much pleasure in publishing the following TESTIMONIALS, recently received. Further particulars will be found in DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET POST FREE.

MAGNETIC BELT FOR BAD BACK.
Clyde Street, Wallsend,
May 6th, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—Seven years ago I met with an accident by which my back was badly hurt. I suffered a martyrdom of pain, as I had fallen on the small of my back and injured the spine. I tried several doctors and every remedy I thought would relieve me, but still I made little progress; and if I was moderately well for a month, I was unable to do anything for another month.

I heard about your Magnetic Belts, but having tried so many things, I was sceptical about their doing me any good. I tried one of them, however, and I am delighted to inform you that it has benefited me in a most wonderful way. The pains are all gone, the feeling of constant weakness in the back and loins is removed, and I can now do work that I dared not think of before. It is fully a year since I got it, and I have not lost more than two or three weeks' work in that time.

I have not the least objection to your using my name in any way that will commend the appliances to other sufferers.—I am, yours truly,
Mr. D. Lamont. ROBERT PEART,

RHEUMATISM COMPLETELY CURED.
9, Milburn Street, Cowpen Quay,
Blyth, April 1st, 1884.

DEAR SIR,—My wife was a great sufferer from rheumatic pains for 22 years. Fully two years ago she was very ill for one month, and not able to get out of bed. I procured a Magnetic Belt from you, and she has been quite free from pains ever since. I send belt by same post for renewal. Please return as soon as possible. You can place this, if you wish, amongst your testimonials.—Yours gratefully,
Mr. D. Lamont. JOHN MAYES.

RECENT TESTIMONY. REDUCED PRICE LIST.
☞ SEE DESCRIPTIVE PAMPHLET, GRATIS AND POST FREE.

D. LAMONT'S MAGNETIC DEPOT, 44A BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
NOTE.—The Appliances are forwarded Post Free. 138t

Business Announcements.

NOTICE.—NEW APPOINTMENTS.

ADAM BRODIE
HAS BEEN
APPOINTED SOLE AGENT
FOR THE FOLLOWING:—

THE GUION LINE of Steamers to AMERICA, being the fastest vessels afloat. Steerage, Fare, Liverpool to New York, Four Guineas. THE GUARDIAN HORSE AND CATTLE INSURANCE COMPANY. Owners Insured against Loss by Death or Accident. APPLY, ADAM BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

SPORTS. — MEDALS, MALTESE CROSSES, CUPS, &c., in Silver and Electro, Suitably Inscribed, from 2s. to 50s. Cap Badges for Bicycle Clubs, &c., from 1s. to 7s. 6d. Designs and Samples on application.—Agent, T. H. KIRKUP, Ridley Street, Blackhill.

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.

☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

PRESENTS! PRESENTS!!

THE CHEAPEST HOUSE IN THE NORTH OF ENGLAND FOR
CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO-PLATED GOODS,
CUTLERY, AND FANCY GOODS,

BUNN AND DICK,
10, WEST GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 458s
☞ WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

ROBERT JACKSON'S,
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, July 18th, 1884.

A DUTCH TERCENTENARY.

Tuesday, the 10th of July, 1584, was a day ever memorable in the history of the Netherlands, as on that day William the Silent, her hero and liberator, was assassinated by Bathasar Gerard, the fanatic who had been hired by the Prince of Parma to do that deed of blood. Three centuries have only deepened in the memories of the Dutch their sense of obligation to the matchless hero under whose single leadership they fought for and gained their liberties after a conflict of forty years' duration against the whole might of the Master of Spain and the Indies. Anyone who has read Motley's pictorial page, the most Livy-like of modern historians, and at the same time far more trustworthy than Livy, must feel that the assassination of William the Silent is a fitting drop-scene to Motley's account of the Rise of the Dutch Republic. As the Epic of Homer ends with the death of Hector and the funeral games in his honour, so with the removal of Orange, the heroic part of the narrative has reached its climax. His life had given existence to an independent country: his death defined its limits. Had he lived twenty years longer, as Motley justly remarks, it is probable that the seven provinces would have been seventeen, and that the Spanish title would have been extinguished in Flanders and Brabant, as well as in Holland and Zealand. As it was, the dagger of Balthasar Gerard made history, in a deeper sense even than the assassin of William the Silent ever contemplated. They certainly could not look forward three centuries to see that causes which hindered from the first the union of the whole of the Revolted Provinces into one great Confederation of the Hetherlands were to continue, and even to deepen as time went on. Antwerp, almost immediately after the death of William the Silent, made its submission to the Spanish Viceroy, and as a reward for its tame servility it sank rapidly from a commanding position as a commercial port into the torpor and dulness of a provincial town in which the Inquisition was dominant. It is true that its trade has revived in our day, and again Antwerp is lifting up its head as one of the great commercial emporia of Europe. But this is owing to other causes which we need not avert to here. As far as the assassination of the heroic William of Orange is concerned, it may be said that his death, of which Holland has just celebrated the tercentenary, is one of those epochs making events in history in which land-marks are laid down which at the end of centuries remain as distinct as ever. These reasons alone would make the celebration of this event in the dull little town of Delft an event of almost European interest. The modern expression of hero worship has taken the form of centenaries of the birth or death, as the case may be, of great men who have made history two, three, four, and even five centuries, as in the case of Wicklif, are not too long to effase the memory of some epoch-making man. On this ground alone, the assassination of William the Silent on the 10th of July, 1854, stand out on the page of history as a landmark only more distinct as time rolls on. His death, as we have seen, determined where the dividing line was to be drawn between the provinces which had revolted from Spain and those which still held to the old faith, and with it to the old loyalty to the House of Spain. At the end of three centuries the same dividing line exists. Holland and Belgium have never coalesced: though an attempt was made at the Treaty of Vienna to create a United Kingdom of the Netherlands, it failed, and in less than fifteen years Belgium had thrown off the Dutch yoke, and declared itself independent.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Lords, important statements were made with reference to the withdrawal of Government Bills, and the holding of an autumn session on account of the action of the House of Lords respecting the Franchise Bill.

In the House of Commons, Sir George Campbell asked whether, in the event of the British occupation and military protection of Egypt being continued for several years, the ordinary cost of the British troops kept there, and the cost of any necessary military operations, would be charged upon the Egyptian or the British taxpayer. Lord Hartington said that formed part of the general question of Egyptian finance now under consideration, and he was afraid that it would be impossible at present to give an answer to the question. In answer to Mr A. Bartlett, Lord E. Fitzmaurice said the Government understood that the French Government had demanded an indemnity from China, but they were not aware of the amount. With regard to the protection of British commerce, he reminded the hon. member of the convention entered into last year by the Powers for the protection of the mercantile marine in the event of an outbreak of hostilities. Mr Trevelyan, in answer to Mr Healy, said the police were aware of the whereabouts of Mr Cornwall. He was not in a position yet to announce the decision of the law officers upon the question whether the evidence in the case would be sufficient to sustain a criminal prosecution, but it was the intention of the Government to proceed against all persons against whom evidence was forthcoming. Mr O'Brien, who was loudly cheered by Irish members, said that when the vote for the salary of the Chief Secretary comes on for discussion he will move that the vote be disallowed. In answer to Mr Healy, Mr Gladstone stated that Mr Clifford Lloyd was still in the public service. Mr Gladstone, in making his statement as to the intentions of the Government in the present crisis, said it had been the object of the Government to put forward the Franchise Bill, and their first duty was to secure by the proper constitutional, regular methods at the earliest possible moment the passing of the Franchise Bill. The Government wished early next session to proceed with the Redistribution Bill, and they did not see any way in which these two objects could be obtained except by the method of advising Her Majesty to consent to the assembling of the House in course of the autumn for the purpose of considering the Franchise Bill. The Prime Minister proceeded to state that under the circumstances the Government had decided to drop all bills that were likely to meet with strong opposition. It was the view of the Government that it was of vital importance that they should concentrate their attention on the Franchise Bill and go forward on the first opportunity with the question of redistribution. Sir Stafford Northcote, objecting to the tone of the Prime Minister's remarks, moved the adjournment of the House. He said he was anxious that there should be no misunderstanding as to the intention of the Government with regard to the Redistribution Bill, and he was anxious that it should be before the House in the shape of a bill before they were called upon to deal with the Franchise Bill. He asked on what day the House would be called together, and whether an opportunity would be given to discuss the Egyptian policy of the Government. Mr Gladstone said the Franchise Bill had been pushed forward in order to give the House of Lords ample time to consider it. They had not complicated the Franchise Bill with redistribution, because in 1866 they had found it impossible to press both measures forward. With regard to the date of the autumn session, probably it would be about October 20th.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords the Marquis of Salisbury called attention to the speech made by Mr Gladstone at the Foreign Office on Thursday, and complained that in explaining the proposal of compromise submitted by Earl Granville to Earl Cairns the Prime Minister had not only revealed a perfectly confidential communication, but had misrepresented the reasons given by himself (Lord Salisbury) for declining the suggestion. He had never used the words attributed to him—viz., that he could not discuss redistribution with a rope round his neck. Earl Granville and Earl Cairns gave their versions of the transaction, and, after some further discussion, the orders were proceeded with.

The same subject was brought before the House of Commons by Lord Randolph Churchill, who moved the adjournment. Mr Gladstone denied that the proposal submitted by Earl Granville to Earl Cairns was to be regarded as of a private and confidential nature. In reference to his statement that the Marquis of Salisbury refused to discuss the matter with a rope round his neck, he had not intended to represent that that phrase had been actually used by the noble Marquis, though he considered that it concisely and effectively described his attitude. A long and heated debate ensued, at the close of which Mr Whitbread and Lord R. Churchill suggested that it would be for the general advantage that the offer made by the Government on Tuesday last, now that it had become fully known, should be reconsidered deliberately and fairly by the general body of the Peers and the Commons. Mr Gladstone gave an assurance that the Government were still in the same spirit and frame of mind which dictated the suggestion. The House was counted out at a quarter to eight o'clock.

MONDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Wemyss gave notice for Thursday of a resolution in favour of passing the Franchise Bill and presenting an Address to the Crown praying that Parliament may be summoned in October to deal with the redistribution of seats. The Marquis of Salisbury protested against such an attempt to reverse the decision solemnly arrived at by the House last week as being informal and disorderly. Earl Granville, in answer to the Earl of Rosebery, intimated that the Government were prepared to accept the resolution in substance. Subject to the Franchise Bill being read a second time this session they would be prepared to summon Parliament in November, and then present their scheme of redistribution. A bill, introduced by the Archbishop of Canterbury, to make Bristol a separate bishopric, was read a second time.

The Home Secretary in the House of Commons read the official report of the fatal Orange riot at Cleator. Mr Gladstone gave notice that on Tuesday he would propose that on Wednesdays, for the remainder of the session, Government business should have priority. Mr Childers stated to Sir H. D. Wolff that no date had been fixed for the next meeting of the Conference. The House went into Committee of Supply, and discussed the Civil Service estimates.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, several bills were advanced a stage. The Earl of Milltown asked the Government whether, considering the vast importance of the subject, their own professed anxiety to settle the question, and the admitted inconveniences and dangers of piecemeal legislation, they will take advantage of the coming autumn session to present to Parliament and the country a complete bill for the reform of the representation of the people. Earl Granville replied that he could make no further statement on the subject at present. Lord Lamington directed attention to the dangerously foul state of the Suez Canal, and to the report that the cholera was introduced into France by one of the ships that passed through the Canal.

In the House of Commons, in reply to several questions with reference to the Cleator Moor disturbances on Saturday last, Sir W. Harcourt pointed out that it was a fallacy to suppose that the Executive Government were the conservators of the peace. The proper authorities were the magistrates in the various districts over whom the Executive Government had no control. That being the case, magistrates had authority and responsibility in dealing with such matters. They might under the Army Regulation Act apply direct for military aid or they could obtain advice from the Home Office as to the course which should be pursued. There did not appear, however, to be power to stop processions that had assembled for a lawful purpose, and he did not see that the magistrates had at all failed in their duty. They had gathered together a sufficient number of police to separate the parties even after the collision had taken place. The fatal result of that collision was due to the detestable practise of people going to these meetings armed. If it had been an ordinary meeting, and no firearms were in use, it could have been stopped. He had written to the magistrates in reference to taking the most strenuous measures to have the persons implicated in these outrages punished, and he had seen the Lord-Lieutenant of the county that evening, who was to see that every measure was taken for that purpose. On the motion that Government orders have priority on Wednesdays, Mr Gladstone, in answer to Sir H. D. Wolff, said the Government did not anticipate that the Conference would fail to come to a decision. As far as he could understand there was three weeks or more of business upon the books; but when further progress had been made, it would be perfectly fair to renew the question whether the House would be kept waiting for the decision of the Conference. Mr Gladstone moved that the Government orders should have priority on the Wednesdays of this session, and, after Mr MacIver had spoken against the delay in proceeding with the merchant shipping legislation, the motion was agreed to. A motion that, for the remainder of the session, the standing order of the 27th November, 1882, relating to notices on going into Committee of Supply on Monday or Thursday, be extended to Tuesday and Wednesday, having been agreed to, the House went into Committee on the Navy estimates.

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, Mr J. Lowther asked if the Government had any information respecting General Gordon's position at Khartoum. Sir Wm. Harcourt said he was not in a position to answer the question. Sir H. Maxwell gave notice that on Thursday he would ask the Secretary for War whether urgent appeals had been made by the General commanding the troops in Lower Egypt for reinforcements, and whether any notice was being taken of the application. The House went into Committee of Supply on the Civil Service Estimates. A vote of £5,592 for the Registrar of Friendly Societies gave rise to some discussion on the propriety of registering friendly societies. Sir H. Holland and Mr Rylands protested against the compulsory registration of friendly societies. Mr Macfarlane asked what proportion registered friendly societies bore to those that were unregistered. Sir C. Dilke replied that it was almost impossible to state definitely the number of unregistered societies, but the system of registration was gradually gaining ground. The vote was agreed to. On a vote for £23,936 for the office of the Land Commission of England, Mr A. Arnold called attention to the want of progress shown by the Commission in the enfranchisement of the copyholds. The average number of enfranchisements had fallen from 600 to 200 a year. Mr Courtney said the Government had done all they could to promote a Bill for Facilitating the Enfranchisement of Copyholds. This and a large number of other votes were agreed to. Mr Hibbert introduced a Bill to remove doubts as to the powers of the Secretary of State in relation to altering, enlarging, rebuilding, and building of prisons, and appropriating any building for a prison. Mr George Russell introduced a Bill to continue certain Turnpike Acts and to repeal certain other Turnpike Acts, and for other purposes connected therewith.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

London, Wednesday Evening.

The bulk of the Conservative majority in the House of Lords, after the reconsideration of their position necessitated by Lord Wemyss's motion, decided to maintain their ground in regard to the Franchise Bill. Thus all hopes of a pacified settlement during the present session were destroyed, and there seemed to be no course left but for the agitation on both sides to go on into the autumn. This is to be regretted, on account of the ill will that must be stirred up between different sections of the public over a point which is really more one of form or procedure than of principle; and by the time that Parliament meets again in October we can perhaps only expect that party spirit will have exaggerated the importance of the matter in dispute. The policy of the Conservative party is obvious, in trying to force Mr Gladstone to a dissolution on the present electorate, instead of the enlarged one; but time alone can show whether in this case the result obtained will compensate for the obloquy endured.

It may reassure the public to be told that the Government has its eye on the cholera, but one would be glad to know what this empty phrase means. It is quite as likely that the cholera has its eye on the Government; and if the present hot weather lasts much longer, we shall hear of hasty preparations to ward off the post only when it is too late. Perhaps it would be more sensible, instead of talking platitudes of this kind, to issue stringent orders to inspectors of nuisances to do their duty. If every man swept before his own door, we might then dispense with the Government eye on the cholera. And in this connection I may remark that Sir Thomas Nelson, the City Solicitor, has done good service in pointing out the danger to health which has been caused by the Committee of the House of Commons throwing out the Lower Thames Valley Draining Scheme. The present condition of the river is foul in the extreme, and a cup of water from the Thames being placed in the Committee room for inspection, some political wag labelled it "Hogg-wash." This is scarcely fair to the gallant Chairman of the Board of Works, as the blame lies elsewhere, with the Committee who have unwisely thrown out this Bill.

The cholera scare has reached its acute stage in Italy for on passing through the Mont Cenis Tunnel unhappy travellers have to get down at Bardoneccia, and look down at Susa far below and Turin in the distance, like the Peri who sat disconsolate at heaven's gate. A Peri of this class I suppose has written to the *Standard* to tell her woes. Her sire, a Continental chaplain, was due at his post in Italy, but inexorable Quarantine stepped in to bar his going on for five days. We are not told whether his sermons first fumigated, was forwarded by telephone.

The question of corporate funds does not stop with the London City Companies, whose vast wealth now calls for redistribution. A report has been issued of the funds now locked up in Chancery, which represent the vast capital sum of upwards of seventy millions sterling. It was out of the mere accumulation of interest that a few years ago a site was cleared at vast expense, and our new Law Courts erected at a disproportionate cost. If we were to utilize this sum on the *cy-près* principle, we might make the administration of justice cost-free to the community.

The rejection of the Franchise Bill by the Peers is scarcely more reprehensible than their avowed reason for this course. Mr Gladstone's taunt that the Lords are the real Revolutionists is not without some warrants in the facts. Lord Salisbury and his supporters declares that they rejected the Bill for the purpose of appealing to the people. The introduction of the Cavens is less a peril to the British constitution, than the introduction of the Plebiscite. No election ought to turn on one single measure, otherwise the existence of Parliament ought to terminate with the accomplishment of each several mandate. The Conservative sneer, that Mr Gladstone shrinks from an appeal to the constituencies, is curiously ill-timed. In point of fact, the present crisis is, from the point of view of Liberal Party interests, more favourable for an election than any period since Mr Gladstone came into power. With remarkable infelicity, the Conservative leaders would elect to join issue upon almost the only question upon which the position of the Liberals is impregnable.

As a result of the action of the Peers, we have before us the prospect of a long, unseemly, and dangerous series of wrangles, such as those of Thursday and Friday last in both Houses. It is an open secret that the Queen, deeply regretting the action of the House of Lords, has nevertheless employed her influence with the ministers to prevent an agitation against the Upper House. But it is impossible even for Mr Gladstone to check his advanced followers in this matter.

The present session is expected to close early next month. That, at least, is what the Government desire. But there are dangerous elements to be reckoned with. The Irishmen kept themselves tolerably quiet until the fate of the Franchise Bill was sealed. But now they are disposed to make matters lively. They are determined to revenge themselves on Mr Trevelyan for saying that, though an Irish Secretary, he was an English gentleman. The formal business which remains to be accomplished affords plenty of opportunity for those arts of obstruction in which the Parnellites excel, and they are minded to make the best of them.

The new Circuit arrangements have caused utter consternation amongst those in the profession who depend upon Circuit work for the main portion of their practice. It is impossible henceforth for any barrister to go the whole round. The two judges will be at different towns. The whole business at each assize town will be accomplished by a single judge. The effect will be a great increase in cost to counsel and to suitors, to say nothing of the inconvenience of breaking up and disintegrating the old Circuit system, which is the practical result of these innovations. The hoped-for gain is some economy of judicial time, and economy exercised, it is to be observed, for the benefit of London suitors at the expense of country suitors. The judges have been moved to consent to the new plan by several considerations. In the first place, the Lords Justices and the Chancery Judges are to be practically exempted from going Circuit at all. The Common Law Judges might reasonably be expected to oppose having so much additional assize work thrown upon their shoulders, and having besides the inconvenience of pursuing the zig-zag routes now assigned to them. But they have been appeased by a provision for Circuit expenses being paid by the Treasury on the scale of seven and half guineas a-day. As a set-off against this new charge on the public funds, the judges have agreed to forego the luxury of a second clerk who receives £200 a year. There is not much self-denial in this, for it applies really rather to future than to present judges. The existing second clerks are to be given up, as places fall vacant for them in the various offices of the Law Courts. The clerks of the latest-appointed judges are first to be provided for in this manner. Thus a place has already been found for the junior clerks of Mr Justice A. L. Smith. It will take some years before the staff of the senior judges is affected.

The recent return of deaths from drowning in the Lea during the years 1882 and 1883 shows a shocking state of affairs. Considering its size and length, the Thames is innocence itself compared with this "Cockney river." There are no steam launches on the Lea. The accidents occur through sheer ignorance or through sheer brutality. There is need of increased police supervision upon this stream for more reasons than one. Once the charming resort of anglers and pic-nic parties, its banks are now the chosen summer resort of East-End ruffianism. For senseless horseplay, quarrelsome, and bullying, for blustering and blasphemous language, and for barefaced vulgarity, there is hardly another place in or near London to compare with it.

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Correspondence.

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

THE TRADESMEN'S HALF-HOLIDAY AT BLACKHILL.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I am very glad to see some person take the matter up in respect to the half-holiday question, which is now becoming general throughout the villages and towns. What is more pleasant than a half-holiday at this time of the year? The tradesmen of Blackhill, however, do not seem to think it a boon to themselves or their assistants. Being in the habit of meeting several of the tradesmen while on my travels round here I have asked their opinion on the question. The majority seem to be in favour of closing if not every Wednesday, every other Wednesday, and the rule recommended by "J. W.," to close at seven every night except Fridays (pay) at eight, and Saturdays at ten o'clock, I am sure will be found, as in other places, at the year's end to be no loss to business. The only way to bring the matter to a head would be for two tradesmen to go round and get the votes for or against the movement, and I hope that the result will prove that the tradesmen of Blackhill agree to join in the same friendly cause with the surrounding villages for the half-holiday and early-closing movement, and not let it be said. "I'll close if the others close," but let it be done altogether with the best of feeling to all.—Yours, &c.,

G. C.

SCURRILE RAILLERY AT LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD MEETING.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Whilst perusing the columns of the last issue of your journal, my attention was drawn to the report of the meeting of that august body—Leadgate Local Board, in which I observed certain grossly opprobrious remarks with reference to the hamlet of Templetown, and which, as it tends to cast an unpleasant stigma upon the inhabitants of that place, I cannot allow to pass unchallenged. After a little bantering had been indulged in, occasioned by the wit (?) of Mr Brown, that gentleman proceeded with his vacuous satire: "Well, it (meaning Templetown) is the filthiest, dirtiest, and most unhealthy 'town' I know of. It is never clear of epidemics or fever of some description!" which hyperbole, instead of being regarded with the gravest concern, was hailed with derisive laughter by his compeers. Well, Mr Editor, I must assert that the former part of Mr Brown's statement is entirely incorrect, and it was certainly unjust on his part to make such unfounded assertions. Whether the "town" was in such a state as Mr Brown describes it to be when he abode there, I know not; but *if* it was, I am glad to inform him that since he left, it has been transformed from the "filthiest, dirtiest, place," into one in which the most respectable citizen would be proud to reside. I grant that there is *some* truth in respect to the place being unhealthy, but by all means not to such an extent as Mr Brown portrayed it. But, at any rate, whenever there is an epidemic prevallent, it is always ascribed by medical practitioners to improper sanitary arrangements, for which the Sanitary Authority (of which Mr Brown is a member) is to blame for allowing such defects to exist. I trust this will have the dual effect of showing Mr Brown that he should be positive of a thing before asserting it; and likewise exonerate the denizens of the "town" from the reflections cast upon them by the words of that gentleman.—Thanking you for allowing me so much of your valuable space, allow me, Mr Editor, to be yours faithfully,

A Resident.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Dear Sir,—What is called the House of Peers is constituted on a ground very similar to that against which there is a law in other cases, and amounts to a combination of persons in one common interest. No better reason can be given why a house of legislation should be composed entirely of men whose occupation consists in letting landed property, than why it should be composed of those who hire, or of brewers, of bakers, or any other separate class of men. What pillar of security does the landed interest require more than any other interest in the state? or what right has it to a distinct and separate representation from the general interest of a nation? It is difficult to discover what is meant by the landed interest, if it does not mean a combination of aristocratical landholders, opposing their own pecuniary interests to that of the farmer, and every branch of trade, commerce, and manufacture. In all other respects it is the only interest that needs no partial protection It enjoys the general protection of the world. Every individual, high or low, is interested in the fruits of the earth—men, women, and children, of all ages and degrees. It is the only one for which the common prayer of mankind is offered, and the only one that can never fail from the want of means. It is the interest, not of the policy, but of the existence of man, and when it ceases he must cease to be; also, other interests in a nation stands on the same united support. Commerce, manufactures, arts, sciences, and everything else, compared with this, are supported but in parts. Their prosperity or their decay has not the same universal influence. When the villagers laugh and sing, it is not the farmer only, but all creation that rejoices. It is a prosperity that excludes all envy; and this cannot be said of anything else.

If a House of Legislation is to be composed of men of one class, for the the purpose of protecting a distinct interest, all the other interests should have the same. The inequality, as well as the burthen of taxation, arises from admitting it in one case, and not in all. Had there been a House of Farmers, there would have been no game laws; or a House of Merchants and Manufacturers; the taxes would neither have been so unequal nor so excessive. It is from the power of taxation being in the hands of those who can throw so great a part of it from their own shoulders, that it has raged without a check.—I am, yours, &c.,

Consett, 15th July, 1884. Old Jonathan.

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One Box of Clarke's B41 Pills is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel, and Pains in the back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s 6d each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers, The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Wholesale Agents, Barclay & Sons, London, and all the Wholesale Houses.

Throat Irritation and Cough.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d., tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." A letter received: "Gentlemen,—It may, perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice.—Yours faithfully, Gordon Holmes, M.D., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary."

Epps's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette*.—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in Packets, labelled—"James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London.'—Also makers of Epps's Chocolate Essence.

Cricket.

CRICKET FIXTURES.

July 19th, Consett v. Crook, at Consett.
" 19th, Consett 2nd v. Blaydon, at Blaydon.
" 26th, Consett v. Marley Hill, at Marley Hill.
" 26th, Consett 2nd v. White Stars, at Consett.

Derwent Valley v. Park Road.—Played on Saturday, and resulted as follows:—Derwent Valley, 51; Park Road, 48.

West Denton v. Greenside.—Played at Ryton on Saturday, resulting in a win for the former. For the victors Messrs J. G. Smith, W. Cowans, and J. Palfreman batted well, as did Messrs Benson and Davidson for the losers. Score:—West Denton, 68; Greenside, 40.

WHICKHAM v. CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

Played at Whickham on Saturday, resulting in a victory for the home team. Score:—

WHICKHAM.		CONSETT.	
T. R. Mowbray c Raw	19	I. Richards b Mowbray	5
H. W. Hawks st Flynn	6	Dr O'Donnell b Mowbray	0
R. Atkinson b Israel Richards	10	P. Flynn c Hawks	0
T. M. Burn c Gibson	6	T. Jameson run out	2
R. Warren run out	8	P. Gibson c and b Atkinson	0
T. Atkinson b Israel Richards	7	J. Costello c Burn	2
J. Scott c Costello	0	J. R. Richards b Atkinson	3
M. Summers b Israel Richards	0	W. Ramsay b Atkinson	0
J. Liddell run out	1	J. Askew run out	2
J. Frater b I. Richards	0	N. Raw not out	7
N. Liddell not out	0	R. Marshall b Mowbray	0
Extras	7	Extras	6
Total	64	Total	27

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 2nd v. CONSETT IRON COMPANY'S WORKMEN'S TEETOTAL BRASS BAND.

The above game took place on the Consett ground on Saturday last, and resulted in a victory for the former by 26 runs. Score:—

CONSETT 2nd.		CONSETT BAND.	
G. Richards c Ruddick b Milner	5	W. Turnbull b Kirkup	5
W. E. Gough b McWilliams	9	B. Milner run out	3
T. Jackson b McWillms	0	P. Quigley b Kirkup	0
W. Gibson b McWillms	0	M. Hobday b Richards	4
Thos. H. Kirkup b McWilliams	10	J. McWilliams b Richards	1
O. Heymer c Hobday b Siddle	13	J. Siddle b Kirkup	4
T. Gibson b Siddle	0	W. Kempster b Richrds	0
J. Welsh b Siddle	1	J. Ridley b Richards	3
T. Grey b McWilliams	2	J. Hobday b Kirkup	0
F. Heymer not out	10	W. Ruddick c Gibson b Richards	3
J. Wright st Siddle b McWilliams	4	T. Siddle c and b Kirkup	1
		—McWilliams b Kirkup	0
		T. J. Caygill b Kirkup	0
		T. Herd b Richards	0
		W. Wears b Richards	6
		J. Westgarth not out	7
		J. Marshall c Kirkup b Richards	0
		A. Lamb c Gibson b Richards	0
		J. Lamb b Richards	0
Extras	13	Extras	4
Total	67	Total	41

SOUTH MEDOMSLEY STARS v. MEDOMSLEY ROVERS.

This match was played on Saturday last, on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. Score:—

STARS.		ROVERS.	
W. Steel c Bramley	7	M. Eccles c J. College	0
W. Bailey c Dobson	2	W. Simpson run out	2
J. Platt c R. Cant	5	J. Dobson run out	5
W. College b Simpson	7	R. Cant c Argyle	2
R. Kennedy run out	3	T. Bramley b Steel	1
J. College b Simpson	2	J. Cawthorn c Teasdale	0
T. Sanderson c Bramly	2	W. Cant c Argyle	1
J. Argyle run out	6	J. Wilson b W. College	3
H. Bates b Simpson	2	F. Graham b Steel	0
S. Thompson not out	2	H. Pearson c Platt	1
F. Teasdale b Cant	2	R. Milburn not out	0
Extras	6	Extras	0
Total	46	Total	15

LEADGATE SWALLOWS v. MEDOMSLEY 2nd

This match was played at the Leadgate Band sports on Saturday last, and resulted in a victory for the latter by one wicket. The victory was chiefly due to the splendid batting of J. Maxwell (14) and F. Archer, not out (10). Score:—

LEADGATE.		MEDOMSLEY.	
J. Warlow ht wkt	4	G. Walton b Bage	1
O. Bage b J. Walton	5	J. Snowdon run out	2
S. Nattress b Campbell	5	G. Graham c Prince	3
T. Douling b J. Walton	2	J. Maxwell b Bage	14
J. Murphy run out	4	G. Campbell c Brown	2
J. Monaghan b J. Walton	4	F. Archer not out	10
J. Walton b J. Walton	0	G. Lightburn c Weston	0
A. Prince st G. Walton	1	J. Walton b Bage	4
R. Weston not out	7	W. Taylor b Murphy	0
J. Brown b J. Walton	2	W. Richardson b Bage	1
J. Watson b Graham	1	J. Cant not out	0
Extras	7	Extras	7
Total	42	Total	44

BURNHOPE v. CRAGHEAD.

This match was played at Burnhope on Saturday last, in pleasant weather, and the game resulted in a win for the home team by seven runs. The batting and bowling of both teams were very good. Score:—

BURNHOPE.		CRAGHEAD.	
W. Dyson b H. Young	1	T. March run out	0
T. Brown b H. Young	15	J. Wardle b Dyson	21
H. Dixon c J. Wardle b H. Young	2	E. Wardle b Dyson	3
J. Watson c E. Wardle b H. Young	16	C. Cummings b Dyson	1
G. Turton c E. Wardle b H. Young	4	N. Musgrove b Dixon	3
T. Burnett run out	0	R. Young b Dixon	0
J. Robinson b R. Young	3	G. March b Dyson	5
M. Heslop run out	2	H. Young b Dyson	6
W. Elliott b R. Young	1	G. Moss b Dyson	0
H. Burnett c and b H. Young	0	J. Prudhoe b Dixon	5
T. Knight not out	1	W. Maughan not out	2
Extras	9	Extras	1
Total	54	Total	47

TANFIELD v. BEAMISH.

Played on the ground of the former, the result being an easy victory for the home team by 28 runs. Score:—

TANFIELD.		BEAMISH.	
T. Jewitt lbw	12	Dr Kilham run out	1
E. Reay run out	2	J. Tennent b Jewitt	0
T. Swinburn c Wraughn b Tennent	8	P. Clark b Jewitt	0
H. Nicholson b Tennent	0	J. Wraughan b Jewitt	0
Rev T. H. Newman b Tennent	5	A. Jackson b Jewitt	2
W. T. Brown b Tennent	1	G. Jackson b Jewitt	0
J. Bowes b Tennent	4	J. Ironside c Reay b Newman	7
J. Robson c Ironside b Tennent	1	J. Jackson c Laidler b Newman	7
H. Handcock b Jackson	0	T. Carr c Morton b Laidler	4
J. Laidler not out	5	J. Hawkins not out	0
T. Morton c Jackson b Jackson	9	J. Mason c Morton b Laidler	0
Extras	4	Extras	2
Total	51	Total	23

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY C.C. v. SPEN COLLIERY C.C.

Played on the Hamsterley ground on Saturday last, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team Score:—

HAMSTERLEY.		SPEN.	
F. Richardson b Henderson	0	A. Emmerson c Smiles b Chaytor	8
J. Greener b Henderson	6	J. Johnstone run out	2
T. Storey run out	9	A. Henderson b Billcliffe	0
J. Brown run out	12	G. Emmerson c Richardson b Billcliffe	0
T. Billcliffe b Henderson	2	J. Cetery b Chaytor	7
J. Holden run out	18	W. Hodgson st Greener	0
R. Chaytor c Henderson b G. Emmerson	32	W. Herron c Richardson b Billcliffe	2
M. Goodwin c and b G. Emmerson	0	L. Dickinson b Billcliffe	2
J. Anderson c Herron b Johnstone	0	J. Forster c Richardson b Chaytor	0
D. Little c Dickinson	19	W. Armstrong b Chaytr	0
J. Smiles b Johnstone	0	R. Forster c Anderson b Billcliffe	0
J. Ward not out	1	W. Laing not out	0
Extras	9	Extras	0
Total	108	Total	21

DARLINGTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL v. CLEVELAND COLLEGE, DARLINGTON.

A cricket match was played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a win for the College. The batting of S. Knott and T. Curry was very good. The bowling of Leadbitter was good, taking seven wickets for nine runs. He also did the hat trick. Score:—

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.		CLEVELAND COLLEGE.	
Smith c Knott b Leadbitter	0	S. Knott b Fletcher	16
Haswell b Leadbitter	4	W. Cooper b Haswell	0
Sewell b S. Knott	2	G. R. Leadbitter b Saltmer	4
Fletcher c S. Knott b Leadbitter	0	G. E. Starkup run out	2
Fisher b S. Knott	6	H. Oswald b Saltmer	1
Saltmer c H. Knott b Leadbitter	0	J. Watkins c and b Haswell	0
Stewart b S. Knott	3	R. Oswald b Fletcher	9
Carr b Leadbitter	0	H. Knott c South b Saltmer	2
South b Leadbitter	0	T. M. Curry c Stewart b Saltmer	11
Winch b Leadbitter	0	W. Surtees not out	0
Forster not out	0	A. Putnam b Fletcher	0
Extras	6	Extras	6
Total	21	Total	51

BITS FROM BOOKS.

A SIMILITUDE.

I once saw a cow that had lost her cud. How forlorn and desolate and sick at heart that cow looked! No more rumination, no more of that second and finer mastication, no more of that sweet and juicy reverie under the spreading trees, or in the stall. Then the farmer took an elder and scraped the bark, and put something into it, and made the cow a cud, and after due waiting the experiment took, a response came back, and the mysterious machinery was once more in motion, and the cow was herself again. Have you, O poet, or essayist, or story-writer, never lost your cud and wandered about days and weeks without being able to start a single thought or an imagining that tasted good—your literary appetite dull or all gone, and the conviction daily growing that it is all over with you in that direction? A little elder bark, something fresh and bitter from the woods, is about the best thing you can take.—*Pepacton; Birds and Poets; Locusts and Wild Honey; Wake Robin; Winter Sunshine. By John Burroughs.*

OBTAINING OBEDIENCE WITHOUT MURMURS.

One night Marshal Bugeaud was walking about the camp, as he often did, and heard a dispute between two Zouaves. One said, "What a dog's life! I have been wet through three days, and not a chance to dry myself; if only we had a little bread and a drop of brandy there would still be a chance to sing 'Mère Godichon.' But there is nothing at all, and, into the bargain, those rascally Arabs, whom we cannot catch to pay off our ill-humour on their backs." An old soldier answered, "Conscript, you have no business to grumble. If you had been, as I was yesterday, on duty at '*the Casquette's*' (a pet name among the soldiers for the Marshal) tent, you would put away your complaints! Marshal of France and Duke that he is—listen, conscript—I saw him with my own eyes, all alone, making no complaint, as he gnawed at a bit of biscuit, and drank a cup of water after it. When God has nothing, what do you expect the saints can have?" The squad cried out, "The old one is right. Shut up, conscript. Down with the conscript." When the marshal told this little story, he said he felt as pleased as he had ever done in his life.—*Memoirs of Marshal Bugeaud. From his Private Correspondence and Original Documents. 1784-1859. By the Count H. D'Ideville, late Prefect of Algiers. Edited from the French by Charlotte M. Yonge.*

A STORM IN THE TRANSVAAL.

The air was so deadly still that heavy rumbling thunder was only an additional warning of the coming storm. As the sun sank we entered a deep gorge, called Doons Kloof, a ravine worn by the torrents that swept down the hill-sides during the tropical storms of which we were presently to have a lively experience. The rain water constantly deepening the ravine, had in course of time swept the bed clear of all the lighter soil, leaving bare piles of round water-worn stones and boulders. Over these as the darkness increased the horses stumbled and often fell. When the spills happened in front they caused many exasperating halts and collisions, as the men behind cannoned against and nearly rode over those suddenly halted. Our progress was necessarily slow, and when we had gained the centre of the gorge the storm broke overhead. The first flash of lightning, startling man and horse, nearly blinded us; the blaze was almost incessant, and the rain that fell in sheets quickly drenched us through and through. The wind, too, that now howled down the ravine was icy cold, and so gusty that many a man lost his hat. Lord, how it rained! not in a pattering shower, but in heavy driving sheets, that splashed off the rocks in white misty spray with a hissing sound. Soon the stones underfoot were covered with a swirling current, and the full hollows formed sure traps for our horses to stumble into. My teeth fairly chattered with the cold, and I could hardly feel the reins that slipped through my fingers. Another hour of this misery before we emerged from the head of the kloof, and then pushed forward at a canter over the remaining four miles of fairly good road to Kruger's Post.—*The Promised Land; or, Nine Years in the Transvaal.*

A QUAKERESS AND A QUEEN.

Mrs. Fry, although belonging to that religious community which takes not off the hat to royalty, possessed loyal feelings. Therefore, when Queen Charlotte commanded her to appear at the Mansion House, in order to be formally presented to her, with true womanly grace and respect, she hastened to obey. It was intended that the presentation should have taken place in the drawing-room, but by some mistake Mrs. Fry was conducted to the Egyptian Hall, where a number of school children were waiting to be examined. Mrs. Fry occupied a post near the platform; and after a little time the Queen, now aged and infirm, perceived her. As soon as the examination of the children was over she advanced to Mrs. Fry. Her Majesty's small figure, her dress blazing with diamonds, her courtesy and kindness as she spoke to the now celebrated Quakeress, who stood outwardly calm in the costume of her creed, and just a little flushed with the unwonted excitement, attracted universal homage. Around stood several bishops, peers, and peeresses; the hall was filled with spectators, while outside the crowd surged and swayed as crowds are wont to do. For a few moments the two women spoke together; then the strict rules of etiquette were overcome by the enthusiasm of the assembly, and a murmur of applause, followed by a ringing English cheer went up. This cheer was repeated by the crowd outside, again and again, while the most worldly butterfly that ever buzzed and fluttered about a Court learnt that day that there was in goodness and benevolence something better than fashion and nobler than rank. This was almost, if not quite, Queen Charlotte's last public appearance; she very soon afterwards passed to her rest, "old and full of days."—*Elizabeth Fry. By Mrs. E. R. Pitman, Eminent Women Series.*

HEINE'S FIRST LOVE.

Red Sefchen, the executioner's daughter, had grown up suddenly, and her tall and thin form made her appear much older [than 16]. On account of her sudden growth she looked rather thin. She had the small waist which we find among the quadroons of the West Indies, and as she wore no corset and not a dozen petticoats, she resembled, with her tightly-clinging dress, a statue in a wet garment. No marble statue, however, could compete with her in beauty, and every one of her movements revealed the rhythm of her body, I might even say the music of her soul. None of the daughters of Niobe had a more finely-cut face. Its colour, just as that of her skin in general, was of a changing white. Her great deep-dark eyes looked as if they had just pronounced a riddle, and were waiting quietly for an answer, while the mouth, with its strongly curved bow and oblong teeth, white as ivory, seemed to say, "You are stupid, and never will guess it." Her hair was red, perfectly blood-red. It fell over her shoulders in long locks, which she could tie together under her chin. But this made her appear as if someone had cut her throat, and the blood was welling forth from it in red streams. The voice of Josepha. . . . was not exactly sonorous, and occasionally her speech sounded as if it came from a distance, being almost inaudible; when she was excited, however, some of the purest metallic tones broke forth which greatly affected me, especially because Josepha's voice resembled so much my own. . . . She knew a good many old popular songs, and it was perhaps she who awakened in me a love of this kind of poetry; there is certainly no doubt that she had a great influence upon the nascent poet, so that my first poems, the "Traumbilder," which I soon afterwards wrote, have a kind of gloomy colouring, and are full of cruelty, just like that attachment to her, which threw its blood-red shadows over my young life and thoughts.—*The Memoirs of Heinrich Heine, with an Introductory Essay.*

Catarrh of the Bladder.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints cured by "Buchu-paiba." At Chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward street, London, E.C.

A Large Offertory.—The offertories at St. Alban's Parish Church, Birmingham, at the annual dedication festival during the week are reported to have reached the enormous sum of £2,200. The services are of the High Church School. The vicar, the Rev T. B. Pollock, and his brother, who acts as curate, are both graduates of Trinity College, Dublin.

NORTHERN LIGHTS.

XXIV.—ISAAC LOWTHIAN BELL, ESQ., J.P.

Chemistry is so great a subject that those who begin the study of this science invariably find themselves compelled to labour in some particular direction in order to accomplish any practical results It is very seldom that one person can be an artist and an actor at the same time, nor a doctor and a writer, and be skilful at both. In the same way it is hardly possible to be perfect in all the different subjects of chemistry at the same time. Each man knows his own subject best. Just as Dr. Gilbert is an authority on agricultural chemistry, so is Isaac Lowthian Bell an authority on the chemistry of the iron trade.

Mr Bell is the son of the late Alderman Thomas Bell, and was born in 1816. He first studied at Dr. Bruce's Academy in Newcastle, where a good foundation was laid, and where the boy was noted for his active and studious habits.

After leaving Newcastle his education was continued in Edinburgh, Paris, and Denmark. Lawson says: "Wherever he went, he made rapid progress and took an exalted position, amongst all his compeers, distinguishing himself alike in the languages, both ancient and modern, the sciences, literature, and general knowledge; earning the reputation of being a highly accomplished scholar, and fitting himself for filling almost any position in life with satisfaction to every one concerned."

Immediately on completion of his education, he entered upon a commercial career, which has, from the very first, proved exceptionably brilliant. Joining the Walker firm, he devoted himself to the study of the manufacture of iron. In 1840 he succeeded Mr John Vaughan in the management of the iron works, and under his superintendence a number of improved blast furnaces were erected. Upon his father's death in 1845, he assumed the responsibilities of managing partner. He is or has been connected with a large number of other commercial undertakings, such as the Clarence Iron Works; the Washington Aluminium Works; the North-Eastern Railway Company; the Normanby and Skelton Mines in Cleveland; the Wear Blast Furnaces at Washington; Messrs. Thomas Fell and Co's Pottery Establishment; and Messrs. H. L. Pattinson and Co's. Blast Furnaces at Felling. Mr Bell is a practical ironmaster; to business tact he has united great scientific research. His reputation as an authority on the chemistry of the iron trade is world-wide. It has secured his distinction abroad and honours at home. His extensive knowledge of the iron trade of the district can be inferred from the following statement which he made in an able paper he read before the Yorkshire Union of Mechanics' Institutes at Darlington, on May 22nd, 1872. After stating that the total make of pig-iron in Great Britain might be taken at six millions of tons, and that of this quantity the Cleveland district provides nearly one-third, he said: "Inclusive of the collateral demand for labour, I have, I trust, given fair grounds for believing that to bring to-day the minerals consumed in our iron works, and to convert them into the forms in which they are delivered to commerce, not far short of 650,000 men and boys are engaged. Fresh collieries have been sunk to such an extent that the production of this northern coal-field just doubled itself in twenty years; that is, according to the Government returns, it was twenty-eight millions of tons in the year 1870, against fourteen millions in 1850."

Mr Bell has been both Sheriff and Mayor of Newcastle on more than one occasion; the second time he served as Mayor was during the year 1863, when the British Association paid its memorable visit to that city.

His recent appointment as High Sheriff of the County of Durham is described by one journal as "a fitting recognition of a remarkable man." This office is ancient and perhaps obsolescent, but it is understood as a distinct honour to hold it.

Mr Bell first sought political honours in 1868, when he unsuccessfully contested North Durham, the following being the state of the poll: Mr Elliott, 4,649; Sir Hedworth Williamson, 4,011; Mr Bell, 3,822. In 1874 he again returned to the charge, and was returned at the head of the poll, the numbers being: Bell, 4,364; Palmer, 4,327; Elliott, 4,011; Pemberton, 3,501. The Conservatives, however, filed a petition, and after a protracted trial at Durham, the election was declared void. A new writ was issued in June, 1874, when the sitting members, who had been personally exonerated from blame, once more entered the lists. This time worse fortune attended Mr Bell, the poll being as follows: Palmer, 4,256; Elliott, 4,254; Bell, 4,104. In July, 1875, he was returned for Hartlepool, a place for which he has done much, and over whose railway interests in particular he has kept a watchful eye. He ceased to represent that borough in 1880, but is still greatly esteemed there. The respect and admiration of his former constituents found expression two years ago in the presentation of a piece of plate to Mr Bell. At the last election in Newcastle he was mentioned as a probable candidate, but he generously declined to oppose Mr John Morley.

To Mr Isaac Lowthian Bell, the Liberal party are under a deep obligation for the heavy expenditure which he has incurred in fighting their many battles, and there can be as little doubt that he will again obtain a seat in Parliament, as that he is certain to prove an honour to the constituency which has the wisdom to elect him. Moreover, his standing in the commercial world, and the weight of his opinions on all questions affecting the trade of the Empire all combine to commend him to the confidence, not only of the Liberals, but also of business men of all shades of politics, who, in not a few instances, are traders first and then politicans.

Lawson in his "Tyneside Celebrities" says:—"Mr Bell possesses much public spirit, and is an effective speaker. He is respected by all who have watched his bright career, and is beloved by everyone who has enjoyed the opportunity of discovering his many excellent qualities as a gentleman, a scholar, an employer, a merchant, a public man, and a friend."

The subject of the next sketch will be Councillor W. D. Stephens.

HISTORICUS.

*FOR ASTHMA, HAY FEVER, AND CATARRH.—Himrod's Cure was employed under the highest medical sanction in the case of the late Earl of Beaconsfield. The medicine from which his lordship found most comfort and relief was Himrod's Powder. The fumes are inhaled by the patient, and at once afford relief.—Per Tin, 4s. Sample Free. J. M. RICHARDS & and 8, Great Russell Street, London.
[illegible]

METHODIST DEMONSTRATION AT LUMLEY CASTLE.—On Saturday, through the kindness of the Earl of Scarborough, the annual demonstration of the Chester-le-Street Primitive Methodist Circuit was held in the grounds of Lumley Castle. Tea was served in the old baronial hall presided over by the ladies of the circuit. The united choirs of the circuit sang selected anthems and sacred pieces.—A temperance meeting was held, presided over by the Rev M. Drummond, and addresses were delivered by Messrs S. Stubbs, T. Copland, T. Campbell, J. Barass, and T. Wanlass. —The annual camp meeting was held on Sunday.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM IN THE NORTH.—Official sanction has been granted, under specified conditions, to proceed with the erection of suite of school and class-rooms in connection with the discontinued Theological Institute, Sunderland, the entire cost to be £3,000, the designs being supplied by Mr. Jos. Sheilds, architect, of that town. New chapels are also being proceeded with at Gateshead, New Hartley, Greenhead, Bearpark, Spen, and Victoria Garesfield.—The testimonial fund to the Rev Thomas Brodie of Newcastle, who has removed to Shotley Bridge, his native place, is reported to amount to £123, and is to close at the September quarterly meeting.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—The great need.—The blood is the life, and on its purity our health as well as our existence depends. These Pills thoroughly cleanse the vital fluid from all contaminations, and by that means strengthen and invigorate the whole system, healthily stimulate sluggish organs, repress over-excited action, and establish order of circulation and secretion throughout every part of the body The balsamic nature of Holloway's Pill's exercises marvellous power in giving tone to debilitated and nervous constitutions. These pills dislodge all obstructions, both in the bowels and elsewhere, and are, on that account, much sought after for promoting regularity of action in young females and delicate persons who are naturally weak, or have from some cause become so.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, July 14th.—Before JONATHAN PRIESTMAN, Esq (in the chair), JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq., ROBERT DICKINSON, Esq., and A. B. WILBRAHAM, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Ann Lynn, a married woman, now separated from her husband, was summoned for being drunk and disorderly. —P.C. Davidson adduced that on Thursday, 3rd inst., about nine o'clock at night, he saw the defendant very intoxicated and making a great disturbance at Hill Top, Dipton. He found that the woman had left her child lying in a garden, while she was wandering about the place, with a crowd of 200 people following her.—As there was no appearance on behalf of the defendant, she was mulcted in a penalty of 5s and costs.

John Hagan having been found by Sergeant Thornton lying helplessly drunk across the highway at Dipton, at six o'clock on the night of the 5th ult., was fined 10s 6d, including costs; with the option of seven days' imprisonment.

Joseph Bushby, a single man, failed to appear to answer a charge, preferred against him by Sergeant Thornton, of having been drunk and causing a disturbance by fighting in front of the Red Lion Inn, Dipton, at eleven o'clock on the night of the 5th inst.—A fine of 10s and expenses was inflicted; in default, to undergo fourteen days' hard labour.

Thomas McDonald (who was represented by his father) was charged by P.C. Hudson with having been drunk and swearing, and creating an uproar at Broomhill, on June 28th—Defendant was fined 5s and 5s 6d costs.

A TRAMP "ON THE SPREE."

John Marley, a tramp, pleaded guilty to a charge of being drunk and riotous.—P.C. Jameson adduced that at nine o'clock on the previous Saturday night, he saw the prisoner in Newmarket Street, Consett, very drunk, and behaving himself in a most disorderly manner. He was pushing people off the footpath, and knocked a parcel of groceries out of a woman's hand. Prisoner also struck at several persons, and he caught hold of a boy by the neck, and threatened to strangulate him—Prisoner had nothing to say in answer to the charge, and the Bench sentenced him to seven days' hard labour.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Mary Judge, of Blackhill, and *Francis Johnson*, of Shotley Bridge, were severally charged by Mr Alex. McKean, at the instance of the Benfieldside School Board, for neglecting to send their children to school.—They were fined 5s each, including costs.

A similar charge preferred by the Lanchester School Attendance Committee against *Owen Collins*, of Consett, which was previously remanded, was further adjourned for a fortnight.

THREATENING THE POLICE.

Matthew Murphy was summoned on a charge of using threatening language to P.C. Jameson while in the exercise of his duty.—The officer deposed that about 7·30 p.m. on Saturday, the 5th inst., he was proceeding along Sherburn Terrace, Consett, when his attention was called to a disturbance in the public yard behind the the Beehive Inn. Accompanied by two other constables he went to the spot, and found a couple of young men stripped and fighting, a crowd of about 400 or 500 people surrounding them, the defendant being aiding and abetting them. The combatants were arrested, and were being escorted to the Police Station, when Murphy and a large crowd followed them. On the road, the defendant twice threatened the police if they did not release the prisoners, and picking up a half brick, Murphy exclaimed, "If you do not be careful, you b—— b——, and let these lads go, I will split your b—— heads open with this brick," at the same time brandishing the missile in the face of Jameson. He arrested Murphy, when several men rescued him, and dragged him into a house.—By the Bench: Defendant had been drinking but was not intoxicated. He had his hat off, however, and was greatly excited.—The Chairman: Are you afraid this man will do you some bodily harm?—Officer: No, I am not in the least afraid of him; but I would just say that whenever a person is arrested at the high end of Consett, the police have always been followed by a mob, who have thrown stones at them.—Supt. Oliver said there was every possibility of the defendant carrying out his threat when a favourable opportunity arose, seeing that he held a half brick in his hand when he threatened the officer.—Defendant was accordingly bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for six months, and pay 8s as court costs.

DAMAGING GARDEN PRODUCE.

Michael Carroll and *Brass Robinson* were charged with doing damage to garden produce, to the value of 2s, the property of Mr William Grierson, of Sherburn Terrace, Consett, on the 22nd June.—Mrs Grierson said she was authorised by her husband to ask for the charges to be withdrawn, and the Magistrates, after the costs had been paid, consented to this course.

A NICE GANG OF "SCHOOLERS."

George Bell, Matthew Stobbs, Robert Lynn, William Lawson, John Robson, and *Charles Harris* or *Hawdon*, were summoned for playing at pitch and toss.—The charge against Lawson was withdrawn.—P.C. Hudson deposed that on Sunday, 29th June, he noticed the defendants (along with other men) gambling on the highroad at Byerside Farm, near Allendale Cottages. He concealed himself behind a bush about 30 yards distant and watched the "school" for ten minutes, and saw money thrown up and exchange hands.—Defendant Robson: Hes thoo kissed t' book, te stick to the truth, and then argue in that way (laughter).—The Chairman: Now, be quiet.—In cross-examination by the defendant Bell, the constable asserted that he did not see him sitting on the stile nearest Allendale Cottages, a long distance from Byerside; but saw him further along the road with the rest of the offenders. He observed him exchange money with another person from whom he (the officer) obtained his name.—Robson: Where did thoo see me?—Officer: I saw you standing at the corner, and passing money.—Robson: Why thoo's telling a d—— one of them things (laughter).—The Chairman (interrupting): Now, you must not talk like that.—Robson (to Hudson): How far wes thoo frae us?—Officer: About 30 yards.—Robson: Aye, a nice distance. Thoo's telling another lee.—The Chairman: You must not bring these charges against the officer, but accept his answers. You can make your statement afterwards—Robson: Thoo said thoo see'd me exchange money?—Officer: Yes.—Robson: Just tell me, will theo, how cud I change money when I had nyen?—The Chairman: That is not a proper question.—Defendant: It is a question. If it is not I divvn't want to ask him any mair. It's a strange thing that ivery time we're browt up here, the cases against sum o' us is sure to be withdrawn.—Another defendant averred that Hudson was concealed 130 yards from where he alleged they were gambling, as there was no bush standing any nearer hand.—Robson: And if it comes tiv a point, aa wad tell the trooth, and not tell a heap o' lees (laughter),—The Bench found the defendants guilty, and imposed a fine of 10s and costs, with the alternative of 14 days' imprisonment.

A DECEPTIVE FARM SERVANT.

Martha Cumming, a farm servant, was summoned by Mr Wm. Callendar, farmer, of The Leazes, Burnopfield, who claimed £5 damages as compensation for breach of contract in not entering his service on the 15th May last. —Plaintiff produced a written agreement signed by the defendant and himself, which set forth that she was engaged to him at the Newcastle Hirings from the 15th May until the 11th November next, at a sum of £6 for the half-year. Defendant, however, had failed to put in an appearance, and the consequence was that he (plaintiff) was deprived of an opportunity of securing another servant. He had since learnt that on the following Saturday, the defendant had gone to Durham hirings, and was again hired to Mr Jackson, farmer, of Pit Hill, for £7 for the half-year. He had occasionally engaged a young girl for 2s a day to perform a part of the household duties, but the majority of the out-door work had devolved upon his wife. He had already paid £2 to other people for doing extra work, and he had suffered a loss in not having a young woman to hoe turnips and attend to other crops.—Defendant said she had lost her agreement, and she did not know what address she had to go to. She was now willing to go and work for Mr Callender, but the plaintiff refused to take her. He explained that he had written to the address furnished by the defendant, and a reply had been forthcoming to the effect that no such person lived in that locality.—Defendant asserted that the plaintiff had written to the wrong address, as she was then residing with Mr Robert Woods, of Cleadon Lane. She was three days behind her time. Unfortunately she lost her written agreement soon after her interview with Mr Callendar, and as she was unable to find him afterwards, she proceeded to Durham hirings and accepted another engagement, otherwise she would have lost all her chances for a "place" for that half-year. She was a widow, and had one child to keep.—The magistrates awarded the plaintiff £2 damages, and also order the defendant to defray the costs, 5s 6d.

THEFT AT FLINT HILL: A YOUNG SCAMP GETS THE BIRCH.

William Rutherford, a schoolboy, aged 12 years, was placed in the dock and charged with breaking open the money box in Flint Hill National Schools, between the 27th and 30th June, and stealing therefrom 14s 6d, the moneys of the master, Mr Thomas Hope. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared for the prisoner, who pleaded not guilty.—Annie Bell Davison, assistant mistress at Flint Hill Schools, residing at Tantobie, testified that on Saturday, the 28th ult, she sold some books, and placed the money in a tin box kept for the purpose. There was £1 15s in the box when she locked it up in a closet, and put the key in the table drawer. On the Monday following she unlocked the box, and found that the sum of 14s 6d had been taken out. There were a number of burnt matches lying on the floor of the school. —Cross-examined by Mr Welford, witness said the boy was 12 years of age according to the school registers. She had £1 13s 9d in the box when it was locked away on Friday. She sold a book on Saturday for 1s 3d which made the sum £1 15s. The key of the table drawer was handed to the assistant-master, who also had access to the box. She missed the money on the Monday morning.—Wm. Haughan, a lad, living with his parents at White-le-Head, said that on Sunday, 29th ult., about three o'clock in the afternoon, he saw the prisoner along with several other boys at White-le-Head. Rutherford drew 14s 6d in silver out of his trouser's pocket, and gave him (witness) sixpence, saying that he had not to tell his (prisoner's) mother. He also handed some money to the other boys, and told them that he had found it laid under a stone at Flint Hill. Prisoner likewise bought sixteen bottles of "pop" at Robert Armstrong's (laughter), and one shilling's worth of sweets. Rutherford afterwards proceeded to Dipton, and witness went home.—By Mr Welford: The money was in silver and two or three coppers, and the prisoner counted the cash into his (witness's) hands. Rutherford never told him that Mattie Brown gave him the money. A lad of the name of Gladders was present; but he did not know where the prisoner got the money. Did not hear Rutherford tell the police that Mattie Brown stole the money. The boys were afraid that the prisoner had stolen the money out of his father's house. —Matthew Brown (another schoolboy), the son of Robt. Brown, of Dipton, stated that about one o'clock on Sunday, June 29th, prisoner called at their house, and offered him 6d if he would go for a walk. He gave witness the money, and they both travelled to Dipton, where the prisoner called at the Red Lion Inn and purchased three cigars (laughter), which he distributed amongst his playmates, witness getting one. Rutherford thrust his hand into his pocket, and showed him 14s 6d in sixpenny pieces and coppers. Witness counted the money, and the prisoner alleged that he discovered it at Flint Hill; afterwards stating that he had got it at Mountsett; at Sutherland's, the cowkeeper's, and several other places. Witness remained with prisoner most of the afternoon, and saw him give several of the other boys some money.—Cross examined: He was at the Lintz sports on the Saturday, and was not near the schools on that day. He did not give the prisoner the 14s 6d. It was 12·30 on the Sunday afternoon before he saw the prisoner. He was present on the Sunday night, when the policeman charged the lad with stealing the money, but prisoner did not say that he (witness) gave it to him.—Mr Welford: Did either Sergeant Thornton or P.C. Bain threaten the prisoner that if he did not confess he had stolen the money, they would throw him into the pond and "duck" him?—P.C. Bain: No such words were ever used.—Witness (after some hesitation, during which he freely shed tears) stated that his mother had told him that Sergt. Thornton did use such an expression to the prisoner. The boy, his mother and himself were in Sergt. Thornton's house, when the prisoner blamed him for stealing the money, but he denied the accusation at the time.—P.C. Bain deposed that he apprehended the prisoner on June 30th at nine a.m., and accused him of the theft, when he replied that "Matthew Brown took the money, and I opened the box." Upon approaching Dipton, the prisoner made another statement to the effect that it was not Brown that stole the money, but it was Gladders who took it. Proceeding further on, Rutherford again said, "Now, I will tell you the truth this time. There was nobody there but myself. I crept in by the window and got the money out of the tin-box. There was about 18s." Sergt. Thornton and P.C. Davidson were present at the time, and Rutherford declared that he gave his mother 8s, but she flatly denied that. Prisoner admitted that he had spent the rest of the money in ginger beer and given it to the boys. Prisoner's mother was at the Gibside encampment on the Saturday. Witness had recovered 5s 6d of the money presented to different lads.—Replying to Mr Welford, the officer said the only reason he assigned for the robbery having been committed on the Saturday night, was because the money was distributed on the Sunday forenoon. The schools were closed over the week ends, and the prisoner told him that it was between nine and ten on the Saturday night when he broke into the building. He volunteered these statements. No one threatened to pitch the lad into the pond and give him a good ducking if he did not confess that he had stolen the money —By the Bench: He never heard Sergt. Thornton or anyone else use that expression.—Mr Welford, in defence, said that when the prisoner was first charged with this offence, he asserted that Mattie Brown stole the money, and he adhered to that statement, until he was taken to Sergt. Thornton's house, when the police officers attempted to intimidate and frighten the lad by threatening to pitch him into a pond if he did not make a confession of his guilt. If the robbery was really committed on the Saturday night, then he should call witnesses to prove an *alibi* on behalf of the lad, and would state where he was from Saturday morning until the Sunday night.—Mrs Rutherford (the prisoner's mother) and Hannah Ennis, were then called, and spoke to attending the sports at Hamsterley on the day in question, returning home at 9 30 p.m., when the boy immediately went upstairs to bed.—Mr Welford intimated that if their Worships deemed it advisable, he would ask for the case to be adjourned for the production of the boy Gladders, who was really an important witness.—P.C. Bain replied that Gladders had made substantially the same statement as the other witnesses—that the prisoner said he found the money at Flint Hill.—The magistrates thought it unnecessary to adjourn the case; and after a short consultation, they ordered the lad to receive six strokes with the birch rod.

DRUNKENNESS AND ASSAULT.

Thomas Graham, a shoemaker, employed at the Consett Co-operative Stores, was charged with drunkenness, and also with assaulting James Tighe, a shoemaker employed in the same establishment, on Monday, the 7th inst.—Sergt. Murphy spoke to seeing the defendant, about twelve o'clock on the day named, in Newmarket Street, Consett, in an advanced state of intoxication. He assaulted two or three of the young men connected with the Co-operative Stores, accordingly he was brought to the Police Station, and locked-up.—The prosecutor Tighe said that the defendant entered the shop, and without any provocation whatever, struck him a blow on the face, and blackened his eye.—Defendant was admitted to bail, but has since absconded—He was fined 10s and costs for each offence; or one month in default.

BROTHERLY LOVE AND SISTERLY AFFECTION.

Edward Jackson, horse trainer, Consett, and *Daniel Stobbart* a fish hawker, Leadgate, were charged with committing an assault on Charles Jackson, a miner, of Leadgate, on the preceding Thursday.—Dr Carr represented the complainant, who said that he was living in Leadgate. Between twelve and one o'clock on the day referred to, he came to his father's house at Consett, where he saw his brother, and the latter accused complainant of owing him 25s. He denied the allegation, but charged the defendant with being indebted to him for that amount. Edward Jackson thereupon seized his brother by the throat and threw him on to the bed. While the complainant was in this position, defendant jumped upon him with his knees and kept him down, at the same time giving him several blows, and knocking him about. His wife shouted out and the neighbours came in and rescued Charles. Defendant then deliberately struck complainant on the thighs, and then ran out of the house. As the complainant was proceeding from Consett to Leadgate, between eight and nine o'clock the same evening, accompanied by Thomas Bates, for the purpose of seeing the police, he met his brother, along with the defendant Stobbart, when the pair attacked him. Jackson caught his brother by the coat, and exclaimed, "I'll finish this b—— to-night." He then pushed him on to the road, knocked him down into the gutter, and kicked and struck at him several times. He would have been badly used, if Bates had not pulled his brother off him. Stobbart likewise dealt him a blow, remarking, "I'll not let you go to Consett for the 'bobbies.' I'll give you a good hiding." His father was present on the first occasion, and his mother had received a severe shock.—In reply to the defendant Jackson, complainant denied that he had been thrashing his daughter, about four years of age, and never challenged to fight him. He (complainant) did get hold of the poker but not with the intention of striking at him He did not follow him out of the house and pelt him with stones. Did not stand and throw a half-brick at him. Never said if he got hold of his knife that he would "rip his b—— guts cut." Did not stone defendants on the second occasion.—By the Bench: He went into the middle of the road and picked up a few stones after his brother had dealt him a blow.—To Stoddart: He never asked him to put down these stones. —Dr Carr explained that Batey, of Dipton, was an important witness, but unfortunately he left home before the summons was served, and had not yet returned.—Defendant Jackson alleged that the prosecution had purposely put Batey out of the road, inasmuch as if he had come to court and told his own story, he would have cleared him (defendant).—P.C. Davidson was then called, and he said that Batey was away from home when the summons was served on Friday night, and up to Sunday evening the witness had not come back.—Robert Jackson, the father of the complainant and the defendant bearing that name, substantiated the foregoing evidence as regards the first assault, and expressed his deep sorrow at what had taken place He would not have urged these proceedings only the defendant came into the house the same night, at nine o'clock, and when he remonstrated with his son, he told him to "Go to h—— for an old b——," and said he would do as he liked. He also came in again on the Friday night, after the summonses had been served, and used some most abusive and insulting language to him. Complainant's head was swollen, and his arms were bleeding when he came to him the next day.—Defendant Jackson alleged that he merely questioned his brother about striking his daughter Lizzie, when the latter replied that he would do it again, and hit him as well Complainant then picked up the poker, which he took from him; and then he followed him (defendant) along the street, firing a volley of stones at him, and he had to seek refuge in a house At night, he again encountered his brother in Sherburn Terrace, when the latter immediately ran into the middle of the road and picked up another handful of stones to throw at him. He (defendant) merely took the missiles from his brother, and Bates (his companion) promised to take charge of him. Complainant, however, threw several stones, one of which struck him on the forehead, and when he pushed him down to get the missiles from him, he indulged in some obscene and filthy language, and even threatened to "rib his b—— guts out with his knife." Afterwards the complainant went to Consett and complained to his father, who had trumped up this charge against them—Stobbart denied that he ever molested the complainant in any way.—Thomas Todd, a youth, who was passing down Sherburn Terrace at the time of the affray, corroborated the defendant's story; and Mrs Westgarth spoke to seeing the complainant pursuing his brother with stones about 1.30 on the afternoon.—The magistrates retired to consult for about ten minutes. On returning, the Chairman said the Bench considered the defendant had received a vast amount of provocation, otherwise they would have inflicted a much heavier penalty. For the first assault, Jackson would be fined 5s and pay 17s 6d costs. In the second case, both defendants were discharged.—Defendant Jackson inquired what steps he should take to prevent his brother from constantly shouting at him in the streets, and "clodding" him with stones, but the Chairman said they could not advise him under such circumstances.

John Downey was sumoned for assaulting his married sister, Annie Eccles, on the 29th ult., at Consett.—About 9.30 on the Sunday evening, complainant said she was standing at the corner end of Princess Street, when her brother passed her, and after exchanging a few words, he struck her several times on the face and body, producing some black marks on her arms.—Mary Carroll, and other witnesses adduced similar testimony.—Defendant said that the complainant's husband had left her and gone to America. When he was passing along the street, he observed his sister coming out of Mrs Medici's, and she began to upbraid him for not seeing her husband away He told her to go home, and attend to the family and not lounge about public-houses He might have pushed his sister, but he denied striking her. Complainant was in the habit of drinking with one of her witnesses every day.—The Bench considered the case proved, and inflicted a fine of 1s and £1 8s 4d costs; otherwise fourteen days' imprisonment.

A TRUMPERY CHARGE.

Mary Temple, married, was charged with assaulting a single young woman, named Mary Errington, at Tanfield, on the 7th July Mr Welford appeared in defence. —In consequence of the severe rainfall, the yard partly occupied by the parties was flooded, and the complainant was engaged about eleven o'clock, on this particular forenoon, in sweeping the sand and water away, when she alleged that the defendant rushed out of the house and called her a "great long ugly thing," and threatened to "split her ugly face with a broom."—Defendant afterwards "let fly" at her and struck her over the head twice with the shank of the broom, and hit her on three occasions with the head; afterwards giving her a lot of impudence.—In answer to Mr Welford, complainant denied that she ever struck at the defendant, or used any abusive language to her.—Mr Errington spoke to hearing the defendant state she had assaulted his daughter, and declared that she would do so again whenever she had an opportunity.—Other evidence having been given, Mr Welford submitted that his client was the party who was assaulted, and had been ill ever since the affray, otherwise it was the defendant's intention to have proceeded to Lanchester on Thursday last, and obtained a summons against the complainant.—Mrs Charlton and Mrs Close gave evidence as to the complainant being the agressor, and dealing Mrs Temple the first blow.—The case was dismissed, complainant having to pay the costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

John Maddison was fined 5s and costs for being drunk and refusing to quit the licensed premises of Robert Armstrong, the Plough Inn, Mountsett, on June 28th.

THEFT FROM THE BURNOPFIELD CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

Mary Hindson, the wife of a pitman residing at Marley Hill, was brought up charged with stealing a parcel of groceries from the Burnopfield Co-operative Stores, on July 5th. Mr Welford was for the defendant. —Henry Surry Wood, the manager, attested to the prisoner entering the grocery department about three o'clock on the Saturday afternoon, and laying a small parcel she was carrying on a form among several other parcels. She purchased a few small articles, and as she was leaving the place, the prisoner picked up the parcel produced (addressed to Mrs Smith, Tanfield) along with her package, and placing the parcels under her arm, and covering them with her shawl, she marched out of the shop. He stopped her, and accused her of stealing the parcel. She replied "It's a mistake. This is not mine." Witness said, "This is not the first mistake you have made," (as he suspected her of stealing a parcel under similar circumstances in March last). He detained the woman in the shop, and sent for the police, but a constable did not arrive, and she was released. Two applications had been made to him, and one to the committee to "settle" the case out of court.—Henry Gates, assistant in the grocery and provision department, offered a similar statement, adding, in reply to Mr Welford, that as the prisoner was carrying the parcels out of the shop, she made no effort to conceal them —P.C. Robson (Marley Hill) said he apprehended the prisoner at 3·30 p.m. on Saturday, 5th July, at Friarside, and charged her with stealing the parcel (produced). She said, in reply, "I took it by mistake." He conveyed the prisoner to Burnopfield, and eventually brought her to the Consett lock-up.—For the defence, it was contended by Mr Welford that the parcel was not intentionally taken away by the prisoner, but that when she placed her parcel upon the end of the form, the shop-boys afterwards put several more packages alongside of it. On leaving, his client merely swept what she supposed to be her own parcel of draperies under her arm, and was not aware that she had taken another parcel as well.—Prisoner was fined 40s, including costs; and sentenced in default, to undergo one month's imprisonment.

LARCENIES AT USHAW MOOR: ALLEGED INTIMIDATION.

Patrick Ward, pitman, was brought up charged with stealing a silver watch, belonging to Peter McArdle, miner, of Ushaw Moor, on July 11th.—Prosecutor now stated that he handed the watch to the prisoner to take to Durham, and get it pledged at the shop of Mr Robt. Ritchie, pawnbroker.—Dr Carr (who defended) submitted there was no case.—Supt. Oliver (to prosecutor): If your watch was not stolen, why did you go to the police?—McArdle: Because I thought I was going to loose it.—The watch was accordingly returned to Mrs Ritchie and the case was dismissed.

John Ward (brother of the last prisoner) was accused of stealing a pick, the property of Peter McElvey, miner, also of Ushaw Moor.—It appears that the pick was taken to the blacksmith's shop on July 5th, and when P.C. Garbutt searched the prisoner's lodgings on the 11th inst., he found the article concealed upstairs amongst some bedclothes.—Dr Carr submitted that McArdle took the pick home by mistake for one belonging to the prisoner, as it possessed the same marks—This case was likewise dismissed.—Both prisoners it transpired, lodge with McArdle, and the police stated that the workmen at Ushaw Moor had held an indignation meeting, and had threatened to harm McArdle in case either of the Wards were sent to goal.

SERIOUS STABBING AFFRAY AT BLACKHILL.

At the Consett Police Court, on Monday, Hugh Clark, ironworker, of Cross Street, Blackhill, was brought up charged with greviously cutting and wounding a puddler, named John McIntyre, residing in Bottle Bank, Blackhill, on the previous Saturday night.

Sergt. Cruickshank deposed that at eleven o'clock on the night in question, he was on duty at the low end of Derwent Street, opposite Mrs Jameson's, Commercial Hotel, when he heard a scuffle, and on running to the spot, the crowd of people suddenly dispersed. From what he was told, he proceeded to the house of John McIntyre, and saw him sitting with a large open gash at the back of his neck upwards of three inches in length, and exceedingly deep. Dr Geo. Renton came and dressed the injuries. Witness apprehended Clark about midnight. When he entered prisoner's house, he was sitting at the table getting his supper. He said, "Hugh, I want you to go to Consett." Prisoner got up, and presently his wife began to cry, and just as they were crossing the doorway of his house, Clark said, "Hold your tongue, you silly woman. I wish I could go to the gallows for such a b—— b—— as that." On the way to the Station, prisoner said that McIntyre had taken a gill of whisky from his mate. Witness charged Clark, in the Consett Police Office, with cutting and wounding with intent to do bodily harm. Prisoner replied, "Not guilty." Witness had seen McIntyre that (Monday) morning, and he had experienced a bad night.

The Chairman inquired if the wound was very dangerous, and

The Sergeant replied that he could not say, unless hæmorrhage, mortification, or erysipelas set in. If such a wound had been inflicted in any vital part of the body, the consequences would have been fatal.

Supt. Oliver asked for the case to be adjourned for a week, producing a certificate from Dr Renton stating that prosecutor was too ill to attend Court.

Prisoner, on being asked if he had any objections to offer to a remand, said that he was not guilty. He was in Mrs Jameson's along with a lot of young fellows, until he was "hoyed" out. After they got outside McIntyre remonstrated with him for committing a nuisance in the street, and afterwards "chaffed" him about drinking with Orangemen, and he (prisoner) told him that he had nothing to do with it, so long as he paid for his own liquor. The words came to blows, and the prosecutor hit him three or four times on the nose, causing it to bleed.

The case was consequently remanded for a week. The Magistrates agreed to accept bail, prisoner being bound over in his own recognisance of £50; and two sureties of £25 each.

Mrs Jameson, of the Commercial Inn, writes to a contemporary denying a statement that either of the men concerned in the affray were drinking in her house on the night in question.

Sporting Items.

PRUDHOE ROVERS FOOTBALL CLUB.—At a meeting held in connection with this club, the secretary's and treasurer's reports were read and adopted, and the following were elected officers for next season, viz:—Captain first team, J. Leonard; sub-captain, R. Johnson; captain second team, Geo. Robson; sub-captain, G. Robertson; committee, H. Robertson, W. Dobson, and G. Charlton; treasurer, J. Hodgson; secretary, Jos. Thompson.

PIGEON FLYING SWEEPSTAKES AT THE FLASS LANE ENDS.—The coterie of pigeon flying fanciers who have their headquarters at the house of Mrs Dawson, the Flass Inn, at Flass Lane Ends, near Sleetburn, held another of their handicaps on Saturday, when a sweepstakes was competed for, the distance being between Brancepeth Station and Sleetburn and Flass Inn, a distance of four miles. Eleven competitors entered, and the following was the result:—Thomas Robinson's Nearway, 3 mins. 13 secs., 1; M. Marley's Flying Jib, 3 mins. 14 secs., 2; R. Dawson's Junction, 3 mins. 15 sec., 3; O. Jefferson's St. Simon, 3 mins. 29 secs., 4; and Geo. Wigham's Clearhead, 3 mins. 32 secs., 5.

HOBSON WANDERERS FOOTBALL CLUB.—A general meeting of the above club was held on Monday night, at Mr Cawthorne's, the Hobson Hotel, to elect officers for the incoming season, Mr Knox occupying the chair. The following gentlemen were elected, viz:—President, Mr W. Handcock; vice-presidents, Mr R. Mason, Rev C. E. Couchman, Mr R. Patterson, and Mr G. Watson; captain 1st team, J. W. Rodham; vice-captain, J. H. Brown; captain 2nd team, R. Wailes; vice-captain, J. Cruddas; committee, W. Hallan, J. Graham, G. Green, T. Curry, and J. Harrison. Matches played last season:—1st team, 24, won 20, lost 2, and 2 drawn; goals won, 52, lost 8. 2nd team, played 18, won 12, lost 2, drawn 4.

GALA AND SPORTS AT TANFIELD.—Pleasure-seekers will be well catered for at the pic-nic to-morrow (Saturday) of the Tantobie Reading room and Athletic Association. The 120 yards handicap has closed with a good entry, including some of the most renowned pedestrians of the north. The handicap takes a wide range—Foster, of the Felling is conceded four yards; Dawson, of Blaydon, four yards. Amongst competitors will be Ramsden, of Winlaton; Robinson, of Newcastle; Gibb, of Gateshead. The limit of twenty-five yards is given to J. Bates, of Tantobie. For the "Mayor's Prize," great excitement may be expected as several old "Peds" are taking their healthy exercises daily, and some exciting finishes may be anticipated.

GALA AND SPORTS AT CONSETT.

Under very favourable atmospherical circumstances, the members of the Leadgate Colliery Brass Band held their annual gala and athletic sports on Saturday last, in a field placed at their disposal by Mr W. Jenkins, J.P., near the Vicarage, Consett. Glancing retrospectively at the career of this band, it will be remembered that it was originated by the Friendly Societies of the district some thirteen years ago. Under the name of the "Leadgate Saxhorn Band," it soon gained celebrity, and was acknowledged to be one of the foremost bands of the locality. Of late years, however, through the loss of members, and other equally baneful circumstances, the band gradually degenerated, and seemed as if it were about to sink into oblivion. However, the members that remained, being "good men and true," determined to make an effort to bring the band again into noteriety; and the first step they took was to place themselves into the hands of the Consett Iron Company (being mostly employed in their collieries), who dubbed them "The Consett Iron Company's Colliery Brass Band." Members were enrolled to make up a full complement, and about a year ago they commenced to make special endeavours to raise funds in order to secure new instruments, and repair the old ones, by which they have been enabled to accumulate the grand sum of £70. Of this, £43 has already been expended for new instruments and repairing, and under the special tutorship of the celebrated music-teacher, Mr Thomas Woods, of Newcastle, the band is now making rapid strides to even surpass the fame it primevally possessed, which is signally manifested by the numerous engagements which it has had.

On the afternoon of the sports, the South Derwent Prize Brass Band (who kindly placed themselves at the disposal of their Leadgate friends), paraded the streets of the town, and attracted a large concourse of people to the field. Towards evening the number present, although not so numerous as anticipated, was very good, when the numerous counter-attractions were taken into consideration. Sports in great variety were announced to take place, and although they were too late in commencing, great interest was manifested in each as they were brought off. The following is a return of the sports:—

WRESTLING (Cumberland style): First prize, £1; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 2s 6d There were 6 entries. Final: W. Lochrane, 1st; R. Faringdon, 2nd; T. Temple, 3rd.

HANDICAP FOOT RACE (120 yards): First prize, £1; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 2s 6d. 23 entered. Final: M. Siddle, 6 yds, 1st; R. Howells, 10, 2nd; R. Teasdale, 5½, 3rd.

QUOITING (9 to 10 yards): First prize, £1; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 2s 6d. There were 40 entries. Final: P. Dorling, 1st: R. Armstrong, 2nd; W. Thorpe, 3rd.

CRICKETING: First prize, a bat (value £1); 2nd, a ball (value 6s 6d). 4 teams entered. The prizes fell to Medomsley 2nd and Leadgate C.C., who have arranged to play the final match next Saturday.

FOOTBALL (Association rules): Prize, a football, value 10s 6d. Leadgate Football Club was the only one entered, and the prize was awarded to that team.

TWENTY MINUTES GO-AS-YOU-PLEASE: First prize, 10s; 2nd, 5s; 3rd, 2s 6d. J. Robinson, 1st; J. Chilton, 2nd; W. Browell, 3rd.

THREE-LEGGED RACE: First prize, 10s; 2nd, 5s. M. Parker and T. Parker, 1st; J. Dent and J. Hall, 2nd; J. G. Scott and Wilkinson, 3rd.

BOWLING AT THE WICKET: First prize, 5s; 2nd, 2s 6d. H. Turner, 1st; W. Taylor, 2nd.

During the afternoon tea was provided in a large marquee, the caterer being Mr Thomas Rowe, of Leadgate. About 150 persons partook of the edibles that were served up with graceful promptitude by Mesdames Spiding, Graham, Anderson, Graham, White, and Anderson. The South Derwent Band discoursed music at intervals, to the strains of which many "young men and maidens fair tripped on the light fantastic toe." Other games were freely and heartily indulged in up till dusk, when a moderate company repaired to the ball that was held in a tent, the music being supplied by the Leadgate Band. The members of the band deserve commendation for the zeal and energy displayed by them in carrying out the arrangements, and although the affair was not such a success as expected, it is to be hoped their endeavours another year will be better appreciated.

AMATEUR ATHLETIC FESTIVAL AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

The second annual athletic festival (open to all-comers) promtoed by Mr Charles Richardson, the present lessee of the beautiful grounds at Shotley Spa, came off on Saturday last; the weather being delightfully fine. The attendance was not near so large as the number of spectators on the former occasion, but this may be partially attributed to the fact that various other attractions were provided in the immediate vicinity. Those present, however, principally comprised visitors from a distance, who had travelled by the special excursions run by the Railway Company from Newcastle, Shields, and other places; and the gathering was but moderately patronised by the residents of Consett and neighbourhood. A capital programme of sports was arranged, and the prizes offered in the different events by Mr Richardson, amounted to about 25 guineas. The number of entries was, moreover, up to the average, and the competitors included some of the best-known athletes in the North of England. The arrangements were perfect in every particular, and the programme was got through without the slightest hitch occurring. Appended are the results of the sports:—

100 YARDS HANDICAP: 22 entries.—Heat 1—W. T. Hyslop, North Durham C.C., 4 yards, 1; M. Latham, Durham City C.C., 9, 2; F. Baker, Percy Park F.C., 5½, 3. Heat 2—E. Dixon, North-Eastern F.C., scratch, w.o. Heat 3—J. Crombie, Belsay Rangers F.C., 7, 1; W. G. Hanning, Tynemouth, 2½, 2; J. S. Redmayne, O.U.A.C., 5½, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 4—R. Wilkinson, Burradon, 7½, 1; J. A. Grice, N.E.F.C., 4½, 2. Won easily. Heat 5—C. Brown, N.D.C.C., 2, † 1; T. H. Campbell, N.D.C.U., 5½, † 2. Won by a half yard, after a dead heat. Final heat—Wilkinson, 1; Hyslop, 2; Crombie, 3. Two yards between first and second, and a yard separating the third. Time, 10 2·5 secs.

WALKING RACE, MILE HANDICAP. 9 competitors. —T. S. Caris, Bensham B.C., 125 yards, 1; J. G. Walker, N.D.C.C., scratch, 2.

ONE MILE HANDICAP.—First and fastest loser to run in final. 19 entries.—Heat 1—J. Arbucle, N.A.B.C., 120 yards, 1; G. Maughan, Newcastle, scratch, 2. Won by about a dozen yards. Time, 4 mins. 10 2·5 secs. Heat 2—W. Dodds, P.A.B.C., 110, 1; W. Harkes, Lintz A.B.C., 105, 2. Time, 4 mins. 2·5 secs. Dodds pushing his machine over the mark before starting, consequently the handicapper placed him five yards beyond the scratch, but he rode in splendid style, and soon overtook his opponents, and won easily. Heat 3—W. H. Wood, Elswick A.B.C., scratch 1; W. Ferguson, Lintz A.B.C., 105, 2; G. N. Lumley, Ovington, 100, 3. Time, 4 min. 16 1·5 sec. Final heat—Wood 1, Dodds 2, Arbucle 3, Harkes 4. Arbucle kept the lead until the fifth lap, when Wood, who rode exceedingly well, made a spurt, and overtook him, soon putting a long distance between himself and the second man. Time, 4 min. 2 2·5 secs.

QUARTER MILE FLAT RACE HANDICAP. 13 competitors.—T. Baker, P.P.T.C., 20 yards, 1; J. W. Romanis, N.D.C.C., 30, 2; C. Brown, N.D.C.C., 8, 3. Baker led the way and won by about four yards.

ONE MILE FLAT RACE HANDICAP. Eight entries. —J. Hay, North Elswick, 50, 1; W. F. Hamilton, N.E.B.C., 100, 2; W. J. Pitt, Sunderland B.F.C., scratch, 3; R. S. Benson, Shotley Bridge, scratch, 4.

OBSTACLE RACE.—Final—John Nesfield, Sunderland Lacrosse, 1; W. G. Hanning, jun., Tynemouth, 2.

The officials were: Judges, Dr. G. Renton (Blackhill) and W. S. Richardson (N.D.C.C.) the latter gentleman also acting as handicapper; starter, Mr R. Brown.

The sports were concluded in good time, and Mrs Richardson subsequently presented the prizes, to the successful competitors. Tea and refreshments were provided by Mr S. Rowe, of Consett. The Spen Excelsior Reed Band was in attendance, and favoured with selections at intervals. We trust that when Mr Richardson holds his next sports to-morrow (Saturday) week, this gentleman will receive the patronage and support of the general public he so deservedly merits.

SATURDAY NIGHTS PEOPLE'S CONCERTS AT CONSETT.

Mr Charles Stephenson, who is ever to the front in catering for the public's edification and enjoyment, has initiated a project that has long been required in Consett, which will take the form of periodical concerts to be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday evenings, at prices to suit the poorest of the working classes. From a moral point of view this will be a great blessing. Hundreds of men who come into the town on a Saturday to court pleasure, after a week's hard toil, fails to find it, and as a natural sequence, resorts to the public-house and dens of vice; young women have to parade the streets, and be subjected to the rude and ribald jests of men saturated with depravity; and the young and rising generation have their morals blunted and poisoned by the enervating influence of the vicious atmosphere by which they are surrounded. On the other hand, the means that will be used by Mr Stephenson will not only tend to stem the current of this debased stream, but also act as a crucible in refining the moral propensities of the young; give pleasure, sociability, and edification to the old; and finally be instrumental in making the town a paragon of respectability and intelligence.

The first of the series was held on Saturday night in the New Town Hall. The artistes engaged for the occasion were—Miss Shield (soprano), Leadgate; Miss Mary Crease (contralto), Newcastle; Mr Thwaites (basso), Newcastle; Mr Hyden (tenor), Consett; and Mr Anderson (tenor), Leadgate; besides Mr Stephenson's choir, numbering forty voices. Mr Erskine, Newcastle, acted as accompanist; and Mr John Surtees, Consett, solo pianist. Unfortunately, there were a great many other attractions in the district, and the audience was not so large as it might have been; still there was an encouraging attendance. The concert was opened by the choir singing "Come where flowers," which, together with its subsequent renderings—chorus, "Laughing," and part song, "In this hour of softened splendour,"—were given in almost faultless style, the "Laughing" chorus being so well appreciated that it was lustily re-demanded. Mr Stephenson, in his usual splendid style, sang Adams' well-known song, "Nancy Lee," with much acceptance, and was warmly applauded for his efforts. Miss Shield's magnificent soprano voice was grandly brought out in the songs, "The Children's Home," and "The Lost Chord." Her rendering of the latter was indeed exquisite, and the way in which she could raise her voice so roundly and clearly to the highest notes without the least apparent exertion was truly marvellous. The song and chorus, "John Peel," was executed by Mr Hyden very creditably; and Mr Surtess' performance of Leyback's pianoforte solo, "Confidence," was also much admired. Miss Crease, although not possessed of an exceedingly good voice, gained rapturous *encores* in the songs, "Ehren on the Rhine," and "Barney O'Hea," which she acknowledged. "The Village Blacksmith," and "The Bay of Biscay," were the songs rendered by Mr Thwaites, and in these his efforts were much appreciated and lauded. Mr Stephenson and his pupil (Miss Shield) appeared side by side in Nicolai's beautiful duet, "One Word," and the "floods of melody" that were brought out of this was really entrancing. Mr Anderson gained a hearty re-call in his rendering of the song "My pretty Jane." The quintette, "The Bells of St. Michael's Tower," given by Misses Shield and Crease, and Messrs Hyden, Thwaites, and Erskine, elicited much admiration and *eclat*; and the quartet, "A Riverderci," by Misses Shield and Crease, and Messrs. Stephenson and Thwaites was equally well taken with. After the latter piece, the National Anthem was sung, and the company dispersed, seeming well-pleased with the evening's entertainment. Mr Erskine greatly enhanced the various pieces by his brilliant accompaniments on the pianoforte.

As the object is good, we hope the philanthropic spirits of the district will co-operate with Mr Stephenson by materially assisting him in every way possible to make his entertainments as successful as possible.

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

The traffic receipts of the North-Eastern Railway Company for the week ending July 12th show a total decrease of £11,391, principally under the heads of minerals and passengers.

MAN'S NOBLEST WORK.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fever, Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pills will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d and 2s. 9d Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester

Business Announcements.

ELEVENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

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

ESTABLISHED 1830. 962p

STEAM TO WEST AUSTRALIA, &c. AMERICA, AND AFRICA.
PLATE GLASS INSURANCE.
E, LIFE, AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE.

WILL. ELLIOTT,
ASSISTANT OVERSEER,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 771s

BOTANIC BEER.

FOR THE BEST SPARKLING AND NON-INTOXICATING BOTANIC BEER,
APPLY TO
JOSEPH MURRAY,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
WHO WILL SUPPLY IT IN CASKS AND BOTTLES, TO ANY PART OF THE DISTRICT.

T. C. CAMPBELL,
SURGEON DENTIST,
8, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

With all the greatest improvements of modern Dental Science. They 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 for a lifetime, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. Every set is adapted to the mouth without the stumps being extracted, is warranted to fit perfectly, and guaranteed for five years. The prices are so reasonable they are within the means of all classes.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SETS FROM 30s. TO £4 10s.
FROM 3s. to 10s. PER TOOTH.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed. All Charges strictly moderate.

Country patients visiting Mr. CAMPBELL'S Establishment in Newcastle, will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, which a travelling dentist cannot possibly offer.

HALL'S for OIL CAKE and COTTON CAKE.
HALL'S for HORSE FEED.
HALL'S for CATTLE SPICE.
HALL'S for FINEST HUNGARIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST CALIFORNIAN FLOUR.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW PROCESS FLOUR.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the BEST SUGARS.
HALL'S for the CHEAPEST TEAS.
HALL'S for FINEST NEW SEASON TEA.
HALL'S for BEST ASSAM TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST DARJIELING TEA.
HALL'S for FINEST BUTTER.
HALL'S for BEST LARD.
HALL'S for MANNA CAKE.

☞ HALL'S is the RIGHT SHOP for all who want a good Article combined with Cheapness.

STARCHES, BLUES, PATENT MEDICINES, and all PACKETED GOODS 10 to 50 per cent. Cheaper than the usual Prices.

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE GROCER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 298t

HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, *VIA* LINTZ GREEN,

GEORGE HOBSON,
WHOLESALE
MILLER AND CORN MERCHANT, FIELD SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HAS ALWAYS ON HAND A LARGE STOCK OF
PURE LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, WHOLE OR READY BROKEN.

INDIAN MEAL, PEA MEAL, BARLEY MEAL, BOXINGS, SHARPS, AND BRAN.

OATS, WHOLE AND CRUSHED, and FEEDING STUFFS of every Description.

THE CELEBRATED EXCELLO HORSE FEED
Thoroughly Cleaned by New and Improved Machinery, Spiced, or otherwise, to order.

HOBSON'S IMPROVED CONDIMENT FOR HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, PIGS, POULTRY, STACKING, &c., Cheapest and Best in the Market.

HOBSON'S AROMATIC CALF FOOD. REARS CALVES WITHOUT MILK.

This Calf Meal is an excellent substitute for milk, and what is of very great importance to Stock Breeders, it tends greatly to save calves from that inflammatory fever commonly called quarter-ill or Black Leg.

G. H.'S MIXTURE OF
PERMANENT CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the district upwards of thirty-eight years.

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION 427r

R. VON DIX,
THE PHOTOGRAPHER,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.
HALF-DOZEN CARDE-DE-VISITES AND ONE CABINET FOR 3s. 6d. SPLENDID FINISH.

THE "CITY OF ROME," STEAMSHIP, 8,415 TONS, WILL SAIL FROM
LIVERPOOL TO NEW YORK,
ON
SATURDAY, MAY 31st, &c.

☞ All going to America should secure Berths in this unrivalled boat.

For TICKETS, &c., apply to WILL. ELLIOTT, Assistant Overseer, 5, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 770s

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

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

ROBERT SAVILLE,
HAIRDRESSER,
13, NELSON STREET, CONSETT.

UMBRELLAS COVERED AND REPAIRED ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE.
☞ GRINDING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

STONE and COAL BORING MACHINES from the best makers, from £1 to £7 10s. Also, COPPER GEAR. A Stock always on hand.—Sold by GEO. HUNTER, Medomsley Colliery, Lintz Green. Repairs attended to. 826s

REVELY AND KELL,
IMPORTERS OF
FOREIGN WINES AND SPIRITS,
WHOLESALE AND FAMILY MERCHANTS,
No. 7, COLLINGWOOD STREET, NEWCASTLE.

FURNITURE AND HARDWARE SOLD UPON THE CO-OPERATIVE SYSTEM.

DISCOUNT 2s. IN THE POUND FOR CASH ONLY

WILLIAM WILKINSON,
CATCHGATE,

BEGS to inform his friends that owing to the great increase of business he has had to take the whole of his premises to meet the demands of his customers, and is now prepared with a well selected Stock of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, in all its Branches. Also, HARDWARE, GLASS, CHINA, CLOCKS, WATCHES, JEWELLERY. WEDDING RINGS from the best makers—Wholesale and Retail."

Agent for the New Patent Table Wringing and Mangling Machine, Hickman and Clarks Coffin Furniture, and Patent Horse Nails. 371r

Business Announcements.

WEDDING RINGS ! WEDDING RINGS

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN 920r

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

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

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

MESSRS. JOHN BARRASS and Co., of Gateshead, beg to announce to their Friends and Customers that they have REMOVED their Business to their New Brewery in CORPORATION STREET, BATH LANE, Newcastle-on-Tyne (which has been fitted with an entirely new Plant on the Burton principle, with all the most recent improvements), where their business will in future be carried on.

Please address all communications to
JOHN BARRASS AND CO.,
BATH LANE BREWERY, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

JOHN WALKER & CO.,
BISCUIT MANUFACTURERS TO THE QUEEN,
GLASGOW,

BEG particularly to call the attention of the Public to the superior quality of their Biscuits, which are manufactured only from the finest machines.

They submit a few of their Specialties, which are well worthy of a trial, viz:—Alberts, rich Tea, Wine, Shaughran, Water, Ginger Nuts, extra Toast, Digestive (rich and royal); also, their famed Scotch Farls (rich) and Scotch Oat Cakes (plain). These can be had from all Grocers, and from their Wholesale Agents,
CURRY & CO, CONSETT. 119t

☞ NOTICE.

JOHN ROUTLEDGE,
JOINER, CABINETMAKER, AND DEALER IN WOOD GOODS,
GIBSON STREET, CONSETT,

Desires to inform his Friends and the Public that he carries on Business as above, near the Co-operative Stores, and will be glad of a continuance of their favours.

Orders thankfully received and promptly attended to. Orders received after Working-hours at his Residence in Cemetery Road, Blackhill; or by Mr. JAMESON, No. 9, Melbourne Street, Consett. 67t

JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM,
BUILDER, CONTRACTOR, & UNDERTAKER,
9, RAILWAY TERRACE, BENFIELDSIDE,
(Adjoining the Railway Station),

Begs to return his sincere thanks to the Public for their patronage during the Twenty years he has been established, and hopes to receive a continuance of their support.

J. E., having made a large addition to his already extensive Yards, has always on hand a large Stock of Builders' Goods of all kinds, including Sanitary Pipes, Sinks, Grates, Gullies, Chimney Tops, &c., &c.

Undertaking carefully attended to. Men's and women's Robes always ready from 3s. 6d. upwards.

Coffins at all Prices, from 2s. 6d. to £10.

☞ J. P. ELTRINGHAM, Agent for Sanitary Goods. Special Quotations for 2 and 4 ton Lots. 163t

QUEENSLAND.

This young and promising Colony offers Special Advantages to all classes, and the QUEENSLAND ROYAL MAIL LINE convey Passengers
☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

MAIL or other Steamers will be despatched from LONDON or PLYMOUTH fortnightly, by which ASSISTED PASSAGES will be granted to eligible Persons, such as Engineers, Farmers, Fitters, Engine Drivers, Railway Carriage Builders, Blacksmiths, Bricklayers, Stonemasons, Sawyers, Carpenters, Wheelwrights Shoemakers, Tailors, Shipwrights, Farm Labourers, Domestic Servants, Gardeners, Vine Dressers, Road Makers, Miners, Quarrymen, Navvies, at the following rates:—

SECOND CABIN..£21 10s. | THIRD CLASS...£7.

Children under 12 years, half-price. Infants under 12 months, free. Persons not eligible for assisted passages will be taken at the following rates:—Second Cabin, £31 10s.; Third Class, £17.

For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to the Local Agent, A. BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 237t

KANGRA VALLEY TEA!!
AS SUPPLIED TO OFFICERS' MESSES IN INDIA.

Packed on Plantations, chiefly in Tinfoil-lined Packets, containing ONE POUND, and guaranteed to be absolutely pure. Can be obtained in any quantity, Wholesale and Retail, not less than One Pound.

The pure Hill Teas of India are superior to the blended China and India Teas, and are acknowledged to excel those of China.

KANGRA VALLEY INDIAN TEA GROWERS' ASSOCIATION.
6 LB. FREE OF CARRIAGE.

NORTHERN AGENCY,
6, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
To whom apply for Agencies. 50t

Public Notices.

IN PREPARATION.

A HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH WORKING CLASSES, from the days of Alfred the Great, to the death of John Kane. From the French. With a Preface by Louis Blanc. Translated and Annotated by JON. C. WYLIE. 257t

THE SCIENTIFIC DRESS CUTTING ASSOCIATION, Have appointed Miss ELLIOTT, 49, Durham Road, Blackhill, sole Agent for Consett, Blackhill, and District. Classes daily from 10 to 12, and 2 to 5, or as arranged for. Lessons also given to Classes of Ladies at their Residences if desired. To commence March 31st. Send Address for Circular. 871s

BEAMISH, PONTOP, AND CONSETT
AGRICULTURAL, POULTRY, AND DOG SHOW,
AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
☞ AUGUST 20th, 1884.

PREMIUMS NEARLY £400.

Prize Schedules on application to
JOHN RICHARDS, } Secretaries.
GEORGE RIDLEY, }
Beamish, Chester-le-Street. 288t

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

TEA AND PUBLIC MEETING.

The Committee of the above Society beg to announce that the
ANNUAL TEA
WILL TAKE PLACE
ON SATURDAY, JULY 19TH, 1884
IN THE
NATIONAL SCHOOL, CONSETT,
Kindly granted for the occasion by the Rev. F. STEGGALL. Tea on the Tables at 3·45 p.m.
N.B.—No Teas sent out.

AFTER TEA,
A PUBLIC MEETING
WILL BE HELD IN THE LARGE SCHOOL-ROOM,
To be Addressed by Mr. H. R. BAILEY, of Newcastle: Mr. WILLIAM TELFORD, Shotley Bridge; Mr. T. BECKWITH, Temperance Advocate, of Gateshead.
Mr. GEORGE LOWES, President of the Society, will Preside.

A Choice Selection of Music and Singing will be given at intervals by an efficient Choir.

☞ Tickets for Tea, 1s. each. These can be obtained at the Office up to the day of the Tea, or at the door of the School-room during Tea. Members who have not received Tickets should apply at the Office.

Entrance from Parliament Street to the Schools.

N.B.—The Places of Business will be closed punctually at Three o'clock.

By Order of the Committee.

Public Notices.

ROBERT LYNN, of Clough Dene, has a BRAWN, which will Serve Sows at 4s. each.

74 IS the Winning Number for the BICYCLE, drawn for at Trimdon Colliery. 352t

A GRAND FLOWER SERVICE will be held in Dipton Wesleyan Chapel, on July 20th and 21st. Great Exhibition of Flowers and other Special Attractions. "Come, for all things are ready." 355t

I, THOMAS CURRY, of 59, Cutlers Hall Road, Blackhill, will not be answerable for any Debt or Debts my Wife, JANE CURRY, may contract after this date.

Signed, this 18th day of July, 1884.
335t THOMAS CURRY.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

GRAND FLOWER SHOW IN THE LEAZES PARK NEWCASTLE.

ON Wednesday, the 23rd July, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT, &c., at 2·0 p.m. for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH.

Fare There and Back, Third Class, 1s.

The Return Train will leave Tynemouth at 8·25 p.m. and Newcastle at 9·0 p.m. the same day.

For further Particulars see Special Bills.

Newcastle, July, 1884.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TO LONDON FOR SEVEN DAYS.

ON Thursday, July 24th, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT at 9·10 a.m. for LONDON.

Fare, There and Back, Third Class, 20s.

The Return Train will leave St. Pancras Station at 9·45 p.m. on Thursday, July 31st.

For full particulars see Bills. 343t

TOW LAW FLOWER SHOW.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23rd, 1884.

UPWARDS OF 400 PRIZES for PLANTS, FLOWERS, FRUITS, VEGETABLES, POULTRY, RABBITS, BUTTER, EGGS, BREAD, ARTICLES OF MECHANICAL INDUSTRY, LADY, AMATEUR'S, and SCHOOL WORK. Also, a BRASS BAND CONTEST. Schedules ready. Entries close August 16th.
348t W. ANDERSON, Secretary.

SHOTLEY SPA.—SATURDAY, JULY 26th, 1884.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS.

WRESTLING, FLAT, HURDLE, OBSTACLE, and THREE-LEGGED RACING.

£15 IN PRIZES. OPEN TO ALL COMERS.

THE SPEN BAND ENGAGED.

Particulars of Sports in Small Bills, or of Mr. C. RICHARDSON, Shotley Bridge. 334t

SHOTLEY BRIDGE FLORAL SOCIETY.

2ND ANNUAL EXHIBITION OF
ROSES AND WINDOW PLANTS,
IN THE
TOWN HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
ON SATURDAY, JULY 19th, 1884.

The Music will be provided by
MR. AMERS, ART GALLERY, NEWCASTLE

☞ Admission:—From 12·30 to 3 o'clock, 1s.; from 3 to 8, 6d.

W. RAMSAY, } Secretaries.
W. DICKINSON, }
269t

JOHN JOHNSON,
JOINER, AND CONTRACTOR,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD (near the British Schools),
CONSETT,

PREPARES Plans of Houses, together with strict and exhaustive Written Specifications for each Branch of the Building Trade.

Specimens of both may be seen at any time.

Charge moderate, being 2 per cent. on the value of the property to be built.

N.B.—Beams, Rafters, Posts, &c., subject to heavy strains, will have their dimensions determined by Mechanical and Trigonometrical Formulæ, instead of trusting to mere guess work. 278t

THE CONSETT READING AND RECREATION ROOMS,
NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT.

THE above Rooms will be OPENED on Monday, July 21st, 1884, at Six o'clock in the Evening, by WILLIAM JENKINS, Esq., J.P., when the working men and others of Consett and District are respectfully invited to attend and enrol themselves as Members.

TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP:—The Employes of Consett Iron Company, 1s. 6d. per quarter; for other Persons, 2s. per quarter. Youths from 14 to 18 years of age and Ladies admitted to Reading-room and Library only, at 1s. per quarter.

The Games already provided include Billiards, Chess, Draughts, &c., and a plentiful supply of Papers and Magazines will be found on the Tables. 357t

The Sale of Papers will take place on Saturday, July 26th, at Half-past Seven o'clock in the Evening.
ADAM BRODIE, Secretary *pro tem.*

THE LICENSING ACTS, 1872—1874.

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPLY FOR JUSTICES' CERTIFICATE.

To the Overseers of the Poor of the Parish or Township of Hedleyhope, in the County of Durham, and to the Superintendent of Police of the West Division of Chester Ward, in the said County of Durham, and to all whom it may Concern.

I, EDWARD TAYLOR, now residing at Fir Tree House, in the Parish or Township of Hedleyhope, in the County of Durham, DO HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that it is my intention to apply at the General Annual Licensing Meeting, to be holden at the Justice-room, in Lanchester, on the 21st day of August next, for a License to hold any Excise License or Licenses, to Sell by Retail, under the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act, 1828, all Intoxicating Liquors, to be consumed either ON or OFF the House or Premises thereunto belonging, situate at Fir Tree House, in the said Township, of which Premises EDWARD TAYLOR, of Fir Tree House, is the Owner or Lessee, and which said Premises were lately occupied by EDWARD TAYLOR.

Given under my hand this 10th day of July, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-four.
314t EDWARD TAYLOR.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Fleece Inn, Castleside.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, honoured with instructions from Mr. JOHN L. KIRKUP, who is declining business, will SELL, at the above Inn, Castleside, on Saturday, the 26th day of July, 1884, the whole of his Valuable Household FURNITURE, FEATHER BEDS and BEDDING, &c. 342t

Sale to commence at One o'clock in the Afternoon.

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

By Mr. J. Vickers.

Tow Law Auction Mart.

MONDAY FIRST, JULY 21st, 1884.
PRESENT ENTRIES:—
10 Superior S.H. Dairy Cows and Heifers, Calved and to Calve.
2 Ditto, September Calvers.
14 Ayrshire and Cross-bred Cows and Heifers, Calved, and close to profit.
4 Geld Cows.
5 Finger Calves.
30 Prime Fat Sheep.
50 Fat Lambs, a few special top lots.
Pigs, &c., as usual.
Also, Patent Churn.
Further Entries respectfully invited.
Sale to commence at 2·30 p.m. prompt.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Partridge Close, Tow Law. 341t

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Marley Hill.—Monday, July 21st, 1884.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. GEO. REDSWELL, will SELL BY AUCTION, all his Household FURNITURE, &c., as above. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Half-past One o'clock. 354t

A. PHILLIPSON,
GENERAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION AND HOUSE AGENT, &c.,
DIPTON.
☞ TO AMERICA, £4, BY THE BEST LINES.

FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly and upon Reasonable Terms.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

To suit the convenience of several of our Customers, the Sale on Monday First, will commence at Half-past Ten o'clock, on the arrival of the Train from Newcastle.

☞ Royal Auction Mart, Agricultural Hall, Benfieldside.

MONDAY FIRST, JULY 21st, 1884.
24 Present Calving Cows and Heifers, including some grand Short-horns.
6 Prime Fat Cattle.
95 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
1 Very Prime Veal Calf.
2 Young Sows, in Pig.
10 to 20 Finger Calves.
Several Geld Cows, Store Cattle, Pigs, Carts, Harness, Poultry, &c.
8 Dozen New Hay Rakes.
Half-dozen Bags of Cattle Spice.
20 Watches, capital Timekeepers, part of a Bankrupt Stock.
Sale at commence at Half-past Ten o'clock.
340t NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER, VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

By Mr. William Raw.

Baxton Burn, near Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, having been instructed, will SELL BY AUCTION, on Monday, July 21st, 1884, the whole of the Household FURNITURE, belonging to the late Mrs. MARY TODD, at Baxton Burn, comprising—High Chest of Mahogany Drawers; Eight-days' Clock, in Mahogany Case; Wall Clock; Corner Cupboard; 2 Boxes; 3 Tables; Arm Chair; 5 Kitchen Chairs; Four-poled Bedstead and Hangings; Feather Bed; Blankets and Quilts; Pans; Ware; Brass Candlesticks, &c.; and the whole of the Wearing Apparel.

Sale to commence at Four o'clock precisely.
Sale Office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 246t

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

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

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER AND FURNITURE AUCTIONEER,
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly and on reasonable terms.

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository, Haymarket.
The Oldest Established in the City.

SALES BY AUCTION of HORSES, CARRIAGES and SADDDLERY, EVERY TUESDAY, at Two o'clock.

Entries respectfully solicited.
A. T. CROW, Auctioneer
JOHN PEEL, Proprietor

Business Announcements.

THE NEW
COAL AND STONE BORING MACHINE
From 20s. and 25s. each, complete with Drills; also BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT STEEL PICKS and SHAFTS, DRILLS, JUMPERS, and STEMMING GEAR, Wholesale and Retail at
THOMAS BOSTON'S,
NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

CARRIAGES.

J. COWEN,
CARRIAGE BUILDER,
HEXHAM,

HAS FOR SALE, NEW DOG CARTS and WHITECHAPELS of most substantial make, elegant designs, and fine finish. For quality and price they are the cheapest in the market, and never fail to give satisfaction.

Carriages of any description built to order.
Repairs of all kinds well and cheaply done.
Gentlemen waited on, and Estimates given. 668s

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England. Established 1780.
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET),
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE.
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—A large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold and Silver GUARDS, ALBERTS, &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JULY 18TH, 1884.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

WE have received a letter from an old friend dealing rather harshly with us, because we thought there was no necessity to insert his letter on the proposed Inspectors of Mines. We refused to insert his letter on this subject as a deputation had previously waited on the Home Secretary on the question, and as the principal members of the deputation advocated that competent workmen—miners—should be selected for the office, and the Home Secretary was also of this opinion. When we state that the deputation on this important question comprised well-known and tried friends of the Miners, our readers will probably be satisfiied that the members of the deputation were fully able to deal with the subject without suggestions from others, particularly when these suggestions came too late.

THE KYO HIGHWAYS.—Our correspondent on this question pours a turrent of abuse on us for omitting his letter on this question, and he apparently has a large stock of strong language and unworthy insinuations at command. He had better keep his temper, as we are more easily moved by reason than by any threat he may make. *Perhaps* our friend will allow us to manage our business in our own way.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

Long railway journeys are anything but pleasant, but if the employes of the Consett Iron Company have made up their minds for a run to Saltburn that, I suppose, is their business. There is no accounting for taste, besides in matters of opinion it is wise to practice charity, for "a man's mind is his kingdom." The start will doubtless be a scene as usual—a frantic rush to get into the carriages headforemost or otherwise. It is no use talking about people keeping cool and a train of empty carriages gliding round the curve. It would be much better if the carriages were drawn up at the platform before the arrival of the excursionists, so that they could take their places as they arrive; and to insure order while the second and third trains were being made up, the crowd might be kept in check by simply closing the gates. Anything rather than the unseemly scrambles which one has on divers occasions seen.

It is not every day that the people of the North have the privilege of seeing a real, live Prince—if privilege it be—and although I do not suppose there are many extreme royalists about Consett, the novelty of the sight will no doubt be the means of inducing not a few to keep holiday. Perhaps the North-Eastern Railway Company will run cheap trains from Consett to the City, although they cannot be said to be very obliging in that way. They have the knack of getting up excursions to suit the Company—not the public. Strange, alas! but true. Of course, when there is anything particularly attractive it is understood that people will pay the ordinary fare rather than lose the treat; and—tell it not in Gath—when there is really no attraction in town, or city, the Railway Company generously get up an excursion to dispel the gloom! Shotley Flower Show is a notable exception, but the Easter and Whitsuntide holidays cry aloud for patronage and support. The aim of the half-holiday excursion system is commendable, and its development has been such as to encourage its promoters to keep up the steam until, in a sense, it has been overdone. Cheap trips are usually a rabble, where the small [illegible], together with the mingled effects of whisky fumes and tobacco smoke, leave an unmistakable sting behind. This comes of running crowds of people from one large town to another, while rural retreats like the valley of the Derwent are favoured by a visit once or twice a-year.

I had a run down the Tyne this week, and in passing Messrs Leslie's shipyard I had a peep at the passenger steamer which the head of this firm placed at the disposal of the Corporation of Newcastle for the conveyance of the royal visitors on the occasion of the opening of Coble Dene Dock. The term "passenger steamer" gives but a faint idea of this curious craft. It is more like the familar pictures of Noah's ark than any craft afloat in modern times, only we don't read of Noah's ark having had paddles. Fancy an ordinary steamer with three huge platform decks towering above the usual upper deck of the ship, like a three-story house; and you will be able to form some conception of this so-called passenger steamer.

The arrangements for the reception of His Royal Highness and party seem to be admirably planned, albeit that certain conscientious souls are troubled about many things, and especially about the wilful spending of public money. They could put up with the visit if it cost nothing—like the bachelor who thought that a wife to make one's supper wasn't such a bad thing, were it not that she would be looking for the half of it. The customs of entertaining Royal guests is not only as variable as fashion itself, but is of a much more isolated character. I have seen the same gentleman welcomed right heartily without display of bouquet or bunting. Respect has other outlets than that expressed by waving tapistry or cloth of gold.

General Graham well deserves the honour which the citizens of Newcastle have to-day (Friday) conferred upon him. The gallant soldier will doubtless "shoulder his crutch and show how fields are won."

> "—— of most disastrous chances,
> Of moving accidents by flood and field.

The warrior's occupation is not yet gone. The earth trembles beneath the tread of armed men, and although it is pleasing to people one's thoughts with dreams of the time when swords shall be beat into pruning hooks, we hear the distant clang of war—the terrible reality. Britain has a glorious roll of military heroes. They spring up unbidden in the hour of danger, and their admiring countrymen do well to do them honour.

Are the tradespeople of Consett piqued because their rivals in Blackhill have not declared in favour of the Wednesday half-holiday? It's hardly worth mentioning, seeing that the Blackhillites are mostly upon their own hook. That makes a material difference, although if they can afford a half-holiday they would do well to take it. Their attitude cannot, however, affect the interest of their Consett contemporaries. People will not scramble over the Blue Mountains to purchase an ounce of tea or a pound of sugar. Hence, there is no immediate cause for alarm. Were the district trade distributed so that the shopkeepers in Blackhill were obliged to extend their business premises and maintain a staff of blooming assistants, they might, under such circumstances, be induced to go in for the half-holiday movement. But in these precarious times business men are glad to keep open door to catch what fish the fluctuating winds of fortune may waft into their net.

The outlook in the ship-building line remains in much about the same position as it did exactly a week ago. The apprentices are plying hammer, drill, and chisel, but the skilled hands are strolling about by the highways and hedges. Several mass meetings have been held without practical result. There is no end of floating stories about the proposed introduction of blacklegs from Sunderland, but no reliance can be placed on such statements. Both men and masters are singularly reticent on the situation; but if a protracted struggle ensues, the distress and suffering will necessarily be great, owing to the immense crowds who have been out of employment for weeks and months. A gentleman told me the other day that the pawnbrokers of Byker had issued a notice to the effect that in the event of a strike taking place no parcels would in that case be taken in—a small matter to some people, but those conversant with the usages of a certain stratum of society will understand the purport of the step. The whole of the shipbuilders are not members of the Masters' Association, and those outside the pale of that institution may come to an agreement with the Society men. The funds of the respective clubs have been sadly drained during the last six months and, as I observed last week, the time chosen for a passage at arms is anything but opportune. The amalgamation of the Tyne and Wear list of prices in March last has been the means of unsettling the industrial atmosphere, and given rise to no end of dissatisfaction on the Tyne. The Tyne men want nothing to do with the Sunderland list—some jobs are better paid, some worse, but the question is altogether very a complicated one.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Co-operation.—The annual tea of the members of the Consett Industrial and Povident Society, Limited, takes place to-morrow (Saturday), in the National Schools, kindly lent by the Vicar. Afterwards, the usual public meeting will be held, at which Mr Geo. Lowes, President of the Society, will preside: and addressed by Messrs H. R. Bailey (Newcastle), W. Telford (Shotley Bridge), and T. Beckwith, temperance advocate (Gateshead).

The Twelfth.—The Twelfth of July, in striking contrast with former years and contrary to general expectation, passed over very peaceably in Consett—in fact, although the streets were literally thronged with people, a more tranquil "pay" Saturday night has never been experienced. In view of the possibility, however, of a recurrence of the disgraceful scenes and riots which have been witnessed in Consett on previous occasions, a strong contingent of officers and constables from all parts of the County of Durham, numbering 97 all told, were despatched to the Police Head Quarters, where Supt. Olliver (Consett), and Inspectors Davidson (Lanchester) and Fleming (Spennymoor) assumed the command. A larger staff of policemen, however, than usual patrolled the crowded thoroughfare, but beyond two or three slight scrimmages, no disturbances of a serious nature arose, and fortunately the services of the reserve men were not called into requisition.

The Bigamy Case.—Yesterday (Thursday), at the Durham Assizes, before Mr Justice Matthew, *James Henry Russell* (30), watchmaker, pleaded guilty to committing bigamy by marrying Mary Ellen Howe, Isabella, his former wife, being then alive at Middlesborough, on the 2nd April, 1884.—Mr Boyd addressed the court in mitigation of punishment. The woman with whom the prisoner went through the ceremony of marriage knew perfectly well that he was a married man. He maintained his first wife up to the 19th April, and she was now in the Middlesbro' Union. He maintained her and sent her money after his marriage with his second wife. The father of the second wife insisted on their marriage.—Mr Granger, who appeared for the prosecution, said the prisoner deserted his first wife, and she, with her children, became chargeable to the union.—His Lordship said that this case differed materially from the last, because he had no just cause of complaint against his first wife.—He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment with hard labour.

LACKHILL.

Benfieldside Stock Auction Mart.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray sold at their mart on Monday 33 calving cows and heifers, £11 15s to £23 10s; 6 fat cattle, £11 7s 6d to £16 10s; 5 geld cows, £9 to £12 2s 6d; 16 store cattle, £10 10s to £16; 9 calves, 34s to £4 15s; 84 sheep and lambs, 24s to 58s 6d; 2 horses, £2 10s and £17; and a quantity of cattle spice, poultry, &c. A very large company present, and satisfactory prices realized.

Choir Excursion.—The members of the choir of Primitive Methodist Chapel, Blackhill, along with their friends, &c., numbering upwards of 50, had their annual trip on Monday last, their place of destination being Lumley Castle. The party were conveyed in brakes by Mr R. Christopher, of Consett; and on their arrival at the Castle, were shown over the precincts of the historical building; and likewise beguiled themselves with boating excursions, pleasure tours, &c. They were also regaled with two substantial meals. The weather being tolerably favourable, the excursionists thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and reached home about midnight, highly delighted with their pleasant "outing."

Benfieldside School Board.—The monthly meeting was held at the Benfieldside Edge Schools on Friday afternoon, Mr Charles Wilson (chairman) presiding. The Revs Thos. Smith, Alex. Baillie, Messrs W. Telford, H. Carss, W. Wilson, and the clerk (Mr R. G. Barclay), were also present.—The care-taker reported that during the holidays the schools had been thoroughly cleaned, and several repairs had been effected.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

Mr A. McKean (Attendance Officer) presented the following statistics relating to the inspected schools in the district:—

Schools in the District.	No. on Roll.	Average attendance	No. admttd.	No. left.
Board School—Boys	220	196·6	3	0
" Girls	195	166	2	2
" Infants	86	67·5	1	4
Derwent Street Infants	114	85	5	4
Shotley Grove	110	100·6	0	0
Roman Catholic—Mixed	237	193	13	1
" Infants	114	88	2	4
Total	1076	891·7	26	17
May, 1883	1102	886·7	—	—
Increase	26	—	—	—
Decrease	—	5·16	—	—
Total	1076	891·7		
April, 1884	1059	896·16		
	17	1·1		
INSPECTED SCHOOLS				
Mrs Clements	55	48	20	9
Mr Wylie's	33	29	2	2

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

The hearing of the case of Dickinson *v.* Dickinson has, owing to pressure of other business, been adjourned by Mr Justice Chitty until after the Long Vacation.

Rose Show.—Our readers must not forget that the second annual exhibition of roses and window plants will be held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, to-morrow (Saturday). Mr Amer's Art Gallery Band has been engaged.

An Old Poacher.—On Tuesday, at the Hexham Petty Sessions, Isaac Winter, ironworker, Blackhill, for having in his possession game unlawfull obtained when searched on the highway in the Shotley Low Quarter township, on June 22nd, was fined £3 and costs. He had three hares, one rabbit, and two nests in his possession, and resisted the police in searching him.

Primitive Methodist Chapel.—The anniversary services in connection with the above place of worship were held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Sunday. Impressive and soul-stirring sermons were preached in the afternoon and evening by the Rev J. Taylor, of Spennymoor; and were listened to with rapt attention by highly appreciative congregations.—On Monday evening, a public meeting was held in the Wood Street Chapel, when addresses were delivered by Mr W. Hoe (Blackhill), Rev T. Elliott (Superintendent Minister), and Rev J. Taylor. Mr G. Richardson, of Shotley Bridge, ably presided. After the usual votes of thanks and the singing of the doxology, a very interesting meeting was brought to a close. Suitable music was rendered at intervals by the choir, and a collection was made on each occasion in aid of the chapel funds.

Found Dead in Bed.—On Saturday afternoon, Mr John Graham, coroner, held an inquest at Mr Joseph Moffatt's, Commercial Hotel, Shotley Bridge, on the body of John Hope, aged one month, infant son of John and Maria Hope, of 26, Cutlers Hall, who expired under circumstances reported in last week's issue. The child, which appeared to be in good health, was put to bed by its mother at 9·30 on the night of the 9th inst., and at four o'clock on the following morning, she found the infant lying in bed, beside her, life being extinct. A verdict that the child was "accidentally suffocated by being overlaid" was returned.—At the same time, an inquiry was held into the circumstances attending the death of a baby, three days old, the illegitimate male child of Maria Johnson, a single woman, also residing in Cutlers Hall Road. The mother lived with her father at the above address, and was confined at 2·30 a.m., on Wednesday, the 9th inst. The baby was apparently a healthy child, and was lying beside its mother in bed at two o'clock last Friday afternoon. The latter dosed over to sleep, and when she awoke an hour-and-a-half later, she discovered the infant quite dead. Dr W. Renton was called in, and made a *post-mortem* examination of the body, and he certified that the child had been accidentally suffocated by overlaying itself. A verdict to that effect was therefore recorded.

CATCHGATE.

Miss Leadbitter, daughter of Mr Leadbitter, of Catchgate, pupil of Miss Kennedy, Gosforth, has successfully passed the Midsummer Examination held by the College of Preceptors in Newcastle.

LEADGATE.

Primitive Methodist Society.—On Thursday night, July 3rd, in the school-room inconnection with the above, the Rev C. Longstaff (Consett) was presented with a small monetary donation, a free social supper likewise being given in his honour, on the occasion of his leaving the Shotley Bridge Circuit, where he has laboured successfully for the last three years. After supper, a meeting was held, presided over by Mr R. Westgarth, and addressed by Messrs. John Maughin, Thomas Reed, James Henderson, John Bunney, Thos. Lammonby, and Henry Whitfield, all of whom testified to the high estimation in which Mr Longstaff was held, and regretting that he was about to leave for Middlesborough.—Mr Longstaff feelingly replied.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

A Rare Old Durham Church.—The one thousand and first anniversary of the foundation of Chester-le-Street Parish Church was celebrated on Sunday.

Police Items.—At the Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions, on Wednesday, Francis McNally, an old man living at the Felling, was fined 20s and costs for working a horse whilst in an unfit state, at Chester-le-Street.—Thomas Lawson, was fined 9s, and John Connelly 7s 6d, for refusing to leave the cage when requested to do so by the onsetter, at the Teams Colliery.—George Jenkins (14) was charged with being unmanagable. He was placed with a respectable person, but behaved so badly that he was sent back to the workhouse. From there he absconded several times. Prisoner was sent to the Cockemouth Industrial School for two years.

WESTWOOD.

Free Methodist Circuit Demonstration.—The annual circuit demonstration of the United Free Methodists was held last Saturday, in a field lent by Messrs Davison Bros., of the Byerside Farm, for the convenience of the western part of the Consett Circuit. About 180 persons, adults, and children, took tea, most of the provisions being given by the members of the societies, and congregations of Westwood and Milkwell Burn. After paying expenses, over £7 6s 0d was raised, including donations, for the circuit fund. In the absence of Mr G. C. Barker, of Derwent Cote, the circuit superintendent (Rev G. Lord) presided, and addresses were given by Messrs C. Gray, of Wylam, W. Hogg, and H. Carss. The Consett Salvation Army Brass Band was in attendance, assisted by the choirs of Westwood and Milkwell Burn. Thanks were heartily voted for the use of the field, and to all the friends who had contributed in various ways to the success of the demonstration, tea, and meeting.

KILNPIT HILL.

Shop Breaking.—On Thursday se'nnight, the shop of Mr Turnbull, of Kilnpit Hill, near Edmondbyers, was broken into, and a pair of boots, some lasts, and a quantity of leather stolen.

WHITTONSTALL.

Game Trespass.—At Hexham Petty Sessions, on Tuesday, Robert Dobson, miner, Derwent Cottages, for unlawfully being on land in the occupation of William Brewis in pursuit of game at Whittonstall on June 21st, was fined 40s and costs.—Mr Taylor prosecuted on behalf of Mr R. Dickinson, of Shotley House.

SPEN COLLIERY.

Settlement of the Strike.—We are glad to say that the notices which the miners of the Spen Colliery gave the masters, and those the masters gave the rest of the men, were all withdrawn on Friday, except in six cases which the masters refused to withdraw. It appears the cause of the strike was respecting the above six men: they were the remainder of the twenty men (who it will be remembered received their notices some time since), and as they could not get work elsewhere, there being a little extra work at the above colliery, they were engaged upon the understanding that they should have twenty-four hours' notice, which they consented to at the time, but a fortnight ago, when they received they short notice, they would not accept it, as it was not the law of the Miners' Association. After holding a meeting, they presented themselves again next morning and asked for the customary fourteen days' notice, which was granted, but at the same meeting it was passed that the notices of all the men should be tendered at the same time, which was consequently done, with the above result. But the miners' agent met the masters of the colliery on Thursday se'nnight when it was amicably settled that all the notices should be withdrawn, except the six which were in dispute.

Accident.—An accident, which might have resulted very seriously, happened at the Low Spen, on Friday last. A little girl about four years old, belonging to Isaac Clerch, of the Spen, was staying with its grandmother at the Low Spen, and it appears the latter was standing at the door watching a butcher's cart, but she did not observe the girl jump upon the fore-part of the conveyance, and was trying to climb upon the step when the horse moved a little, the consequence being that the child was thrown down under the vehicle, but fortunately the horse was stopped before the wheel ran over it, or the infant would have been killed outright. As it was the wheel caught the child in the stomach, and they picked her up insensible, and was carried into the house, where Dr. Colquhoun was soon in attendance, and upon examining her body he thought it a very bad case. The doctor dressed the wounds, &c., and we are glad to say she has improved a great deal, but not sufficiently yet to be removed.

LANGLEY PARK.

Wesleyan Sunday-school.—The anniversary services were held on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday, tea was provided for the children and public in the Day School-room kindly, granted for the occasion. After tea, a public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by Mr T. Hepburn, when suitable addresses were given by Messrs. T. Cowey, of Annfield Plain, J. Dorbyson, sen., N. Crabb, and J. Newell, all of Langley Park.—On Sunday Mr Cowey preached two impressive sermons in the morning and evening. A children's service was held in the afternoon, when Mr Cowey gave a short address to parents, teachers, and children. The children recited portions of scripture at each service in such a manner as to reflect the greatest credit upon their teachers. The children, assisted bo the choir, sung some good anthems, the singing proving a great attraction and an important element in the anniversary services. Leader, Mr Henry Hepburn. This anniversary was the most successful that has been held in connection with the Langley Park Wesleyan Sunday-school.

WATERHOUSES.

Fatal Termination of an Accident.—Ralph Thompson, the goods guard, who was knocked down by the engine of his own train whilst shunting near Waterhouses on Tuesday, succumbed to his injuries on Friday night at his home at Ferryhill. Deceased was in charge of a goods train on the Dearness Valley Railway, and was engaged in uncoupling a waggon from the engine, which was moving slowly on whilst Thompson walked alongside, using his stick for shifting the coupling, when at a crossing he unfortunately tripped over the metals and fell down, the truck and part of the locomotive passing over the higher part of his arm. The injured member was found to be hanging by shreds of skin, and Thompson was at once placed in the van of his train and taken to Ferryhill, where amputation took place at the shoulder joint. He was the son of Foreman Thompson, and his untimely end is deeply regretted by his fellow workmen.

STANHOPE.

Primitive Methodists Demonstration.—On Saturday afternoon, a popular demonstration, under the auspices of the Primitive Methodist Church of Stanhope, was held in the park attached to Stanhope Castle. An efficient programme of popular music was rendered by the choir, under the leadership of Mr Joseph Temperley; and addresses were delivered by the Revs J. Featherston, of Eyemouth; F. Watson, of Shildon; J. Tweddle, of Spennymoor, and J. Elliott, resident minister. The Rev D. McKinley (superintendent), presided, and a public tea was provided in a large tent.—Special sermons were preached in the chapel on Sunday.—A musical demonstration was also held at Fir Tree by the Primitive Methodists of that place, at which several choirs from the neighbourhood attended.

CASTLESIDE.

Presentation.—On Saturday evening, July 5th, the members of the Primitive Methodist Society and others of the village, emphasised the esteem they entertained for Mr Jacob Pattinson (on his leaving Castleside for America) in a testimonial, which comprised the whole of Bunyian's poems in thirteen volumnes, enclosed in a casket, and a sum of money. Mr T. Raine made the presentation, to which Mr Pattinson responded. Deep and spontaneous feeling marked the speeches of the gentlemen who took part in the proceedings, viz.:—Messrs W. Eddie, J. Proud, J. Ripley, T. Collings, W. Pattinson, and Rev R. Carr, of Liverpool. Mr R. Jewitt presided.

MEDOMSLEY.

Monumental Memorial Stone to the late Mr John Teasdale.—The last ceremony in connection with the lamentable and fatal accident which occurred to Mr John Teasdale, on the 14th day of March, 1884, was performed on Thursday week, in the presence of the Committee—Messrs Richardson, Hogg, J. Armstrong, Stoddart, Benjamin Adamson, Brown Davison, and W. Elliott, in the churchyard, Medomsley, viz., by the erection of a very handsome and beautiful designed sicilian marble headstone to the sacred memory of the late Mr Teasdale, who was highly esteemed and respected by the different religious denominations around Medomsley, and also by his fellow-workmen and a large circle of friends. The Committee, who have had charge of the arrangements, have been very earnest in their endeavours in procuring a good substantial and endurable stone, and their exertions were wonderfully successful. Mr George Hope, of the Leazes, Burnopfield, who is well known as a sculptor, supplied the stone, and as a work of art the monument is elaborately finished and is looked upon as a work of artistic merit, and does great credit to the sculpture's high reputation. The cost is £13 7s 6d. The stone stands nearly six feet high, and bears the following inscription:—"In memory of John Teasdale, of Medomsley, who lost his life by a fall of coal in the Derwent Colliery, March 14th, 1884. In his 55th year. This monument was erected by a few of his personal friends, who deeply regret his loss, and also to commemorate the high esteem in which they held his private and public character. 'For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so those also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him'."

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Grand Field Day.—On Wednesday, 9th inst., a grand field day was held at the Burnt House Ruin, Annfield Plain, on behalf of the Wesleyan Circuit bazaar. Tea and a ham and tongue supper were provided in the barn, which were very well patronised, a large number partaking of the good things which filled the tables. The ladies presiding were the Misses Humble, Miss Dodds, Miss Maddison, Miss Mitchell, the Misses Martin, and Miss Tindall. These were backed up in their services by the generous gifts and abundant labours of a mixed multitude of others who co-operated—both ladies and gentlemen. The expectations of the Wesleyan people for a good day were not disappointed, but fully realised. The day passed off gaily among the children; and recreation went down with a manifest relish also among the adults, many of whom, if they did not exactly "renew their youth like the eagles," undoubtedly profitted not a little by the interval of unbending from labour and business afforded by the "field day." The day was quite a success every way. After paying all expenses incurred, the sum of £5 13s 6d was added to the fund for which the effort was organised. After a few words from the Rev W. Taylor and Mr C. F. Cooke, society steward, hearty votes of thanks were accorded to Mr W. Bell, Catchgate, for so kindly placing his premises and field at the service of the Wesleyan interest; also to Mr H. Greener, South Pontop, for so cordially furnishing coals, planks, &c., and fixing the tables, and to the ladies for their invaluable services. The proceedings were brought to a close by lustily singing the "National Anthem."

WEARDALE.

The directors of the Weardale and Shildon district Waterworks Company have decided to pay an interim dividend for the half-year ended June 30th at the rate of 3½ per cent. per annum, being the same as for the corresponding period last year.

The Leadminers' Pays.—These pays were held on Friday at the Weardale Lead Company's Offices, Newhouse. The disbursements were very small compared with former times, while not a vistage of the business of yore was visible in the dale. The strain is heavily felt by local tradesmen who are grateful for the steady influx of money in circulation from the iron company.

A Cartman Killed.—A cartman, named Matthew Robson, in the employ of Mr John Watson, Earnwell, Weardale, and residing at the latter place, was killed near Grove Rake Mine, Rookhope, on Monday, while unloading wood, being struck with a log as it came off the waggon. The deceased leaves a wife and three children. He was a native of Alleudale.—An was held on Wednesday by Mr Coroner Dean, at the residence of Mr J. Watson, Earnwell, Weardale, on the body.—The evidence went show that deceased in company with other four men, was unloading trees at the the edge of a quarry, when his companions cautioned him to come to the other side in case the log should slip. He went on, however, as before, and the log slipping, struck him on the legs, and, despite strenuous efforts, carried him with it into the quarry, when he fell upon his neck and was killed instantly in sight of his companions.—A verdict of "Death through misadventure" was returned.

PELTON FELL.

Fatal Accident.—On Tuesday morning, a deputy overman named Hutchinson Young, employed at Pelton Colliery, was engaged in drawing a "jud" in the low main seam, when the props gave way, and the *debris* falling upon the poor fellow, killed him instantly. Deceased was 50 years of age, and leaves a widow and grown-up family.

Miners' Annual Excursion.—On Friday, the miners employed at Pelton Fell Colliery celebrated their annual excursion, the place selected being Tynemouth. The workmen, accompanied by their wives and families, and numbering in all about 1,100 persons, left Chester-le-Street by special train at 8 a.m. The pleasure-seekers formed into groups, and visited the Castle, Aquarium, and other objects of interest. Delightful weather prevailed, and as a consequence an enjoyable day was spent, towards which the Pelton Fell Brass Band contributed in no small measure.

BEAMISH.

Wesleyan Chapel.—A very successful tea was held in a spacious marquee on Monday last, in a field kindly granted by Mr Jos. Young. After tea the Rev Peter Mackenzie, delivered one of his popular lectures to a very large company. Mr Silas Kent, of Gateshead, occupied the chair.

Sad Death of a Colliery Engineer.—Mr R. Clark, who represented the firm of James Joicey & Co., as chief engineer, and who resided at Urpeth Villas, near Beamish Colliery, was on Sunday morning last being driven in company with Mr J. Murton, of Newcastle, to Finchale Abby, where they purposed to spend an hour and return to dinner at two o'clock, but as they neared the Abbey, Mr Clark was seized with a stiffness in the knee, and left the vehicle to walk the remainder of the distance, but, unfortunately, he was seen to fall, and the groom, with Mr Murton, loosed no time in getting him laid down on the green opposite Mr Walker's door; the latter gentleman in the meantime communicating with two medical practitioners, who did their utmost to bring him about, but he gradually became insensible, and died within two hours of his taking ill. Mr Clark was well-known in the district, he having only very recently entered under the company. He was for some time manager at South Medomsley, where he was esteemed and admired both by his employers and workmen. During the short time he has been directing the engineering department of the Messrs Joicey, he has made many friends both with officials and workmen alike; more especially has this been the case at the Beamish Collieries, seeing that he took an active and deep interest in the sinking operations that are being so successfully carried out there. The deepest sympathy is being felt for his sorrowing friends, more especially Major and Mrs Joicey, Urpeth Lodge. His remains were interred on Wednesday, at Jesmond Old Cemetery, the family burial place.

LANGLEY MOOR.

Sudden Death.—A married woman, named Hannah Maughan (82), of 3, Littleburn Lane, Langley Moor, died suddenly last Friday morning.

WEST PELTON.

Science Class.—Teacher, Mr W. Tate, Sunderland. Elementary stage; Applied Mechanics, 1st class:—J. W. Kay and R. Summerbell. 2nd class—A. Jackson T. E. Richards, Wm. Simpson, Jas. Robson, Jas. Boucher, Michael Curry, Wm. Storey, Wm. Johnson, Jos. Severs, Robert Dodd, and Geo. G. Carr. Failures—Wm. Smith, Jas. Hepplewhite, Thos. Parker, Jas. Smith, Jas. Redhead, Jas. Wright, Robt. Naylor, Thos. Nicholson, Danson Storey, Wm. Kirkup, and Jno. T. Severs. Advanced stage: 1st class—Wm. Severs. 2nd class—none. Failures.—Geo. Marshall, Thomas Welsh, Wm. Bulmer.

GATESHEAD.

The Dispute at Usworth Colliery.—A special sitting of the Gateshead County Police Court was held yesterday (Thursday) to hear the cases of the miners of Usworth Colliery against Mr Lindsay the manager, for a breach of the rules by unlocking a safety lamp in the mine, on the wrong side of a safety boad, and lighting from it another safety lamp.—It was agreed to adjourn the case.

LANCHESTER.

The School Attendance Committee.—The monthly meeting of the School Attendance Committee for this Union took place at Lanchester yesterday (Thursday), when the undermentioned members were present: Messrs W. Logan (in the chair), Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., and J. Buckham.—The following report was read:—"To the Chairman and Members of the School Attendance Committee of Lanchester Union.—Gentlemen,—The boy George Siddle, referred to in my last report, has been sent to the Abbot Memorial School, Gateshead. By your instructions, proceedings were taken against Bernard Malloy, Peter English, and Owen Collins, for disobedience of attendance orders, and against Hugh Agnew, Thomas Brady, William Morrow, Margaret McCourt, and John O'Neil, all of Consett, and Michael Hynes, of Crookhall, for failing to comply with your byelaws. The cases were heard at Consett on the 30th ult., when Malloy, English, Agnew, Brady, Morrow, O'Neil, and Hynes, were fined 5s each. McCourt was dismissed with a warning, and the case against Collins stands adjourned to the 28th inst. During the month 213 absentee visits have been made in your district, and one official warning and 15 notices to attend school have been served.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant, W. Ward.—Iveston, July 16th, 1884."—The cases mentioned in the report were considered, after which the Committee arose.

NEW LITERARY AND RECREATIVE INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

In the architectural arrangements of the New Town Hall, two handsome rooms on the ground floor, with entrance from Middle Street, Consett, were specially designed for Reading-room, Library, and Recreation Rooms, and for that purpose have been fit up in the most handsome and complete manner at the expense of the Consett Iron Company, Limited, who also rent the premises from the New Town Hall Company.—On Monday evening, a meeting convened by circular was held in the New Reading-room, for the purpose of appointing the Committee and Officers to control and carry out the scheme—Mr Wm. Jenkins, J.P., in the chair—when the following gentlemen were elected until the first general meeting to be held in January next:—President, Wm. Jenkins, Esq., J.P. Vice-president, Rev F. Steggall. Treasurer, Mr T. L. Gledstone. Secretary, *pro. tem.*, Mr A. Brodie. Committee, Messrs G. Ainsworth, R. Evans, C. P. Douglas, Jas. Scott, R. Park, G. T. Hyden, Wm. Aynsley, T. L. Gledstone, Adam Brodie, T. W. Welford, jun., T. Swainston, Wm. Davison, John Charlton, D. Oswald, R. Brown, C. Sinclair, Wm. Thompson, and Wm. Moss. The Committee consists of six gentlemen representing the Consett Iron Company, six tradesmen of the town, and six nominees of the workpeople.—The billiard table is a most excellent one, and we understand an experienced marker is engaged for the opening. On the whole, we consider this institution will be a great boon to Consett and district, and we cordially wish it every success. The terms of membership are very reasonable, and ought to meet the approbation of the public at large.

Another meeting of the Committee was held in the Town Hall Buildings, last (Thursday) evening, the Rev F. Steggall (vicar) in the chair. There was a good attendance of members.—A number of rules and regulations drawn up by the Sub-Committee were submitted for approval by the meeting. It may not be out of place to mention that the Consett Iron Company have rented the rooms from the Town Hall Company for a period of five years, and have generously furnished the recreation room with a billiard table and all necessary appurtenances, small tables, chess boards, draughts, dominoes, &c.; the reading-room with book shelves, tables, &c.; and the Librarian's Office with the requisite fittings, involving an outlay of £200, in order to give the institution a "lease of life."—It was resolved, after considerable discussion, to adopt the rule, "That the property of the Institute shall be lawfully invested in the hands of the Consett Iron Company as trustees;" and it was also ascertained, in the course of the conversation, that in the event of the Institute collapsing, the whole of the fittings shall revert to the Company.—Mr C. P. Douglas moved that the Institute be only dissolved by a majority of two-thirds of the members. This was seconded and carried *nem. con.* It was fixed that the Reading and Recreation Rooms should be open from 8 a.m. until 10·30 p.m.; but whenever the Librarian shall find the rooms vacant at 10 o'clock, he is authorised to closed them at that hour.—It was moved by Mr Geo. Ainsworth, and seconded by Mr G. T. Hyden, "That Mr Geo. Routledge be appointed caretaker, librarian, and billiard marker, at a salary of 10s per week, payable monthly, one month's notice to terminate the engagement on either side."—Mr Routledge was called into the room, and accepted the position.—A sub-committee, consisting of the Rev F. Steggall, Messrs T. W. Welford, jun., D. Oswald, R. Park, and G. T. Hyden, was appointed, to frame bye-laws for the conduct of the Reading and Recreation Rooms.—It was further agreed that the Institute shall be formally opened on Monday next, at 6·30 p.m., by the president (Mr W. Jenkins, J.P). The terms of membership are as under: Employes of the Consett Iron Company, 1s 6d per quarter; other persons, 2s per quarter (which constitutes full membership and includes all privileges). Ladies and youths from 14 to 18 years will be admitted to the Reading-room and Library only on payment of the sum of 1s per quarter. (Such members shall not vote or take active part in any meetings or the election of officers).—The fee for the current quarter (ending September next) be two-thirds of the ordinary fee—viz: 1s, and 1s 4d respectively, and 8d for youths and ladies.—The following is a complete list of the newspapers, magazines, and periodicals, which the Committee decided to purchase (the expense entailed amounting to a trifle of 10s per week):—*Daily*: "Newcastle Daily Chronicle," "Newcastle Daily Journal," "Northern Echo," "North Star," "London Daily Telegraph," "London Standard." *Weekly*: "Newcastle Weekly Chronicle," "Consett Guardian," Epitome "Daily News," "Durham Chronicle," "Iron and Coal Trades' Review," "Engineering," "Bazaar" (tri-weekly), "Iron," "Gardening Illustrated," "Christian World," "Illustrated London News," "Graphic," "Illustrated Sporting and Dramatic News," "Punch," "Fun," "Judy," "Funny Folks," "Tit-Bits," "Blue Ribbon Chronicle." *Monthly* (Magazines and Reviews): "Longmans," "Century," "Cornhill," "Quiver," "Cassell's Magazine," "Leisure Hour," "Chambers's Journal," "Harper's Monthly," "British Workman," "Good Words," "English Illustrated Magazine," "Nineteenth Century," "Contemporary Review." Mr Brodie (the hon. sec.) promised to present the "Alliance News" and "War Cry," weekly; and Mr T. L. Gledstone the "Temperance Record." The Consett Iron Company have likewise offered a number of newspapers and periodicals.—It was resolved that the two newsagents in the town should furnish the newspapers, &c., every alternate quarter, Mr J. Cockburn to supply them during the next three months.—Other business having been disposed of, the Committee adjourned.

NORTH OF ENGLAND IRON AND SHIPBUILDING TRADES.

(*Specially contributed to this Journal*).

There is no alteration of any importance to note in prices during the past week. Producers are very firm in their quotations of 37s for Cleveland No. 3, and cannot be induced by purchasers to take less than that figure, for prompt f.o.b. delivery. Merchants have little iron to offer, and makers are well placed with regard to orders, and able for the present to maintain their price. Grey forge is quoted at 35s 6d.

The quarantine imposed by the Spanish Authorities at Bilbao has influenced the freight market in that quarter to a serious extent, and makers, with small stocks of ore, will find much difficulty in keeping furnaces in blast at the already unremunerative prices obtainable for hematite. It is to be hoped that sufficient pressure may be brought to bear upon the Spanish Government in this matter, and that this grievous and unjustifiable action may cease. It is monstrous that because cholera exists at the French Mediterranean ports, that quarantine is to be imposed by Spain on English vessels in the Bilbao track.

The asertainment by the official accountants for the past three months shews the average realised price obtained during that period to have been 36s 4·65d per ton, or nearly 5d less than in the previous quarter. Blastfurnacemen's wages are unaltered.

In the iron trade, prices cannot be said to have fluctuated to any appreciable extent during the past three months or more, and it is generally felt that whatever may be the demand, prices cannot go lower. Specifications against old contracts have been more readily obtained during the past week, but makers in the Cleveland district are mostly badly off for orders, and before long there must be a cessation of work with some of them, unless things improve. Witton Park is still idle, and it is feared there is only a poor prospect for the hands employed by Messrs Jones Bros., who are under notice.

At the Britannia Works of Messrs Dorman, Long, and Co., a number of puddling furnaces are reported within the last few days to have been re-started.

The wages disputes on the Tyne and Wear remain undecided. Meetings between the employers and various sections of the men have been held, but as yet without any good result. It is expected, however, that a solution of the difficulty may now be speedily reached, and that work may be resumed as it had been on the Tees.

Enquiries for iron and steel can scarcely be said to be more frequent, but we have the consolation of knowing that with ordinary wear and tear, loss of vessels, and a diminished number of those laid idle new vessels must be bah to replace them.

An order for two small steel vessels which has been for some time past in abeyance, has, we hear, been placed with one of the builders on the Tyne.

TERRIBLE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

24 PERSONS KILLED AND 50 INJURED.

The fast train which left Manchester at 12·30 p.m. on Wednesday for London, with passengers for Grimsby, &c., left the rails on an embankment at Bull Hoebe, three miles from Penestone, on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway. All the carriages went over the embankment and overturned, but the engine, horse-box, and van kept the rails. Sixteen persons were killed and many injured. The train was due in London at 5·20 p.m., and was one of the ordinary through trains between Manchester and London, carrying passengers for East Coast towns. It was filled, and hence the great loss of life.

A Manchester correspondent telegraphs that news of the accident did not arrive there until four o'clock, and was conveyed in a telegram to the infirmary asking for medical assistance. The first sufferer arrived about half-past four o'clock, and by five o'clock twenty-one sufferers had been received in the institution. One, a woman, is lying *in extremis*, and another woman is in so serious a condition that an operation has been found necessary. In two or three cases a fatal result is anticipated. The accident seems to have been caused by the breaking of the axle of the engine. The guard of the train, named James Irving, of Manchester, was severely cut about the head and face, and was admitted to the infirmary for treatment. Can give no account of the cause of the accident. The train was going at the rate of fifty-five miles an hour at the time, and was fairly filled with passengers from Manchester, Newark, Grimsby, Liverpool, and London.

The scene beneath the bridge was terrible. All the carriages were upset, three being a mass of splinters. An alarm was given, and a number of colliers proceeded to the spot, but the wreckage was so great that little could be done until breakdown gangs came from Sheffield and Gorton. The few passengers who were so little hurt as to scramble out were too shaken to assist others, and only when the officials arrived were steps taken to rescue the survivors and extricate the dead. In the carriages in front and rear of the train many passengers were found to have been killed outright, and nineteen bodies in all were ultimately recovered, and in nearly every case they were fearfully mutilated. One infant appeared to have been killed whilst asleep, but two other children, from the expression on their faces, had evidently had brief warning of their fate. The killed were nine women, six men, and four children.

Up to last (Thursday) evening it was ascertained that 24 persons had been killed outright, and that over 40 persons had received injuries in greater or less degree. All the sufferers in the Manchester infirmary are progressing favourably. An inquest was opened and 16 of the 19 persons whose bodies were taken to the Wentworth Arms Hotel, and as to the identity of the remaining three there would seem to be little doubt from marks on their clothing and articles in their possession. The inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the catastrophe was adjourned.

THE WEARDALE QUARRYMEN'S DEMONSTRATION.

The fourth annual demonstration of the Weardale Quarrymen's Association was held at Frosterley on Saturday, in magnificent weather. The attendance was not very large, and except when Mr Burt, M.P. addressed the meeting, very little enthusiasm was shown in the proceedings. The chair was occupied by Dr Livingstone, of Stanhope; Mr J. Emerson, of Frosterley, being vice-chairman.

The **Vice-Chairman** delivered an address on "Co-operation," for which he claimed a foremost place among the movements for raising the condition of working men. The locality with which they were concerned was passing under a period of very serious depression. Indeed the lot of the working men might be described as one of privation, ignorance, and severe manual toil, at shamefully unremunerative pay. If a man were strong and healthy he might barely screw on, but if disease set in, he and his wife and family have to be depending on clubs or on the parish.

Mr **Joseph Toyn**, president of the association, said the resolution he had to submit was an old one, yet contained a great truth. Although it was supposed to be worn threadbare, yet the more he thought about it the better he liked it. (Cheers). It was as follows:—

"This meeting, believing that trades unions have been one of the most powerful agencies which have been in operation for the elevation of the working classes, and that as education and intelligence spreads amongst the masses of the people they will become more powerful for good, pledges itself to do all in its power to spread the principles of trades unionism and advance the cause of education."

The trade organisations had helped to better the position of the working men. Although he did not think it right to credit trades unions with all the changes for good in the conditions of working men yet those combinations had undoubtedly done a great deal. As education and intelligence advanced, the mass of the people will become more powerful for good. Working men should read the newspapers and look after the interests of their own particular calling, and he was proud to think the working men in this country had been educating themselves now for a number of years. (Hear, hear). One of the grandest things accomplished by trade organisations was the shortening of hours—(hear, hear)—and that one thing would repay them for their contributions paid to any union. He ventured to predict that the House of Lords will soon find a very strong feeling in the country that people could do better without them than they could without franchise. (Hear, hear).

The Rev **A. Lattimer**, of Loftus (formerly of Blackhill), in seconding the resolution, after referring to religious proceedings, in which he had taken part at Stanhope, submitted that he was equally within his duty in occupying the position he did that day. That was a duty he conceived he should discharge as conscientiously as the religious duty of which he had spoken. (Cheers.) There was in the resolution the expression "the elevation of the working classes." What did that mean? Was it to raise them above work? No. Every man should be a worker. Indolence was a reproach to any man, be he poor or wealthy. There was no class, he held, whose elevation was more desirable than that of the working class; and they were destined to rise. Their condition at home, at work, their life, their character—all had been improved; and that had been a great power for the general good. Tell him the character of the working classes, and he would give them the measure of a nation's prosperity; for the elevation of the general tone and conduct of working men would benefit the nation. One inch of self progress was infinitely better than a yard of progress which had cost no effort at all. What was the relationship of trades unionism to working classes? They maintained that trades unionism had promoted the elevation of the working classes. The improvements realised during the last half-century would have been absolutely impossible without combination. The working classes were animated by a burning hatred of wrong, and inspired by the righteousness of their cause. (Cheers.) They had testimony that trades unionism had been a power for good to the working classes, and that this combination had secured for them a liberty which, without it, might not have been won yet. (Cheers.) The working classes had never greater power than now. Let them, then, have men who had confidence in their own brain and muscle. In earlier days the working classes were at a serious disadvantage. That disadvantage was not found in the inferior quality of brain. It was found in the degree of education which the child received. He therefore called upon working men to improve themselves. Let them not confine themselves to newspapers alone, and here he would ask them to guard against the deteriorating influences of some of their newspapers. Working men should read history, pursue science and natural philosophy; and should ever remember this—that intelligence was nobler and higher than position, and wisdom mightier than wealth. (Cheers.)

Mr **R. Rowland** (the secretary of the association) next moved the following:

"This meeting, being of opinion that the requirements of the nation imperatively demand a radical reform of the land laws and the readjustment of Parliamentary representation, most emphatically protests against the action taken by the House of Peers in rejecting the Representation of the People Bill, and would urgently request Her Majesty's Government to use every legitimate means to pass the bill into law in the simple and comprehensive form in which it left the House of Commons, to be followed as early as practicable by a scheme for a redistribution of seats and a bill to amend the existing land laws."

Mr **Thos. Burt, M.P.**, said he considered that at the present time we were passing through such an important crisis in the political history of this country that it behoved every man, whether of the rank and file or a leader of his fellow-men, to come forward and take his part with his fellow-men in the assertion of their rights. There had been an enormous development of the material wealth of the country during the last half century, and in the power for the production and accumulation of wealth; and side by side with that they saw the toilers, the great mass of the producers of the wealth of the country, had not participated to the full extent they were entitled in the wealth they had done so much to create. They wanted the law of primogeniture abolished and the power of entail considerably limited, and an easier and cheaper transfer of land. But even then they would have but touched the surface of the question. He thought nationalisation of land was just and logical—(hear, hear)—but he confessed there were practical difficulties in the way of its accomplishment, and for the present he thought they might let it simmer. There was not the least doubt that with the House of Commons as at present constituted, although it was by far the most Radical that had ever existed in the country, it would be impossible for the most Liberal and Radical Ministry—even a Ministry presided over by one of the greatest statesmen ever at the head of affairs in this country, supported by able colleagues—to deal with any measure of radical land reform in the interests of the nation as a whole. (Hear, hear.) They had a still greater bar in the way of reform than even the House of Commons—that was the Upper House. The House of Lords represented something like 4,000,000 of acres of land, and it was hardly likely they would be favourable to any great measure of reform. His own impression was that much as the House of Lords disliked the Franchise Bill and Redistribution, it was because they see looming in the distance some other question more directly affecting their pockets and their own interests that they now set themselves so determinedly to resist the just measure before them. He then reviewed the history of the Bill in the House of Commons, and asserted that though he was sitting near Mr Pell he did not hear him dissent to the passing of the Bill. He considered Lord Salisbury's speech in support of the rejectment of the Bill one of the most unfortunate ever delivered in any House of Parliament. They were probably not unduly excitable, but he was glad they were not present to hear it delivered. For insolence of tone, contumeliousness, and scorn when Lord Salisbury referred to the great mass of the Radical politicians of the country he (Mr Burt) thought he had never heard anything that exceeded it. Lord Salisbury talked of appealing to the people. Strange words in the mouth of a Tory advocate like Lord Salisbury. He meant, however, the privileged electors—(hear, hear)—he did not mean to appeal to the two millions to be enfranchised. ("No, no.") He wanted to keep them from their political rights as long as possible. The House of Lords had become an anachronism. Its time has passed, and its existence is out of harmony with public opinion and the democratic spirit of the age. The House of Lords consisted entirely of obstructives. If the Lords would not allow the Liberals to pass the Bill, they would see a change in the kaleidoscope similar to what they saw in 1866 and 1867. The Tories will be in, and the nation will compel them to pass a much greater measure of reform than that which they were resisting at the present time. (Applause).

The motion being carried, the meeting was brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the Chairman and speakers, proposed by Mr Wallar (Stanhope), seconded by Mr Maddison (Frosterley).

Local Cricket.—Matches played on Saturday: Langley Park, 77; West Stanley, 49.—Sacriston, 81; West Pelton, 28.—Ushaw Moor, 28; Sacriston, 35 for five wickets.—Edmondsley White Star, 22; Colliery Row, 29.—Langley Park, 40; Sleetburn, 21.—Hamsteels, 42; Cornsay League, 30.—Holmside, 31 for four wickets; Pelton Fell, 25.—Cornsay, 82; Dipton, 33.—Burnopfield, 37; Lemington, 66.

"Ruptures"—White's Moc-Main Lever Truss is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided, a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. White and Co. (Limited), Piccadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J. White and Co have no Agents.

A member of a School Board visited a school under his jurisdiction. When asked to make some remarks, he said, "Well, children, you spells well and you reads well, but you hain't sot still."

"One half the world don't know how the other half live!" exclaimed a gossiping woman. "Oh, well," said her neighbour, "don't worry about it; 'tisn't your fault if they don't know."

It is rather hard on the fair young autograph-collector to write to an absent-minded poet for his autograph, and then have him send her a nice little note in reply, all printed on a type-writer.

"How do we hear?" asks a scientist. That is easily told. Somebody tells a friend, and tells him not to tell, and the friend of the teller tells a friend of ours, and he tells us; and so we hear.

A young poetess says she "told her secret to the sweet wild roses." She was very imprudent. When the sweet wild roses "blow" she will wish she had kept her secret to herself.

OUR LADIES' COLUMN.

This week there have been grand reviews held of travelling trunks in many English households, in preparation for the annual holiday. It is always doubtful in what condition the locks, straps, hinges, and handles will be found when the boxes are dragged out into the light of day. The wounds received on the road last year have been forgotten in the months that have since elapsed, and the accidents by flood and field to our favourite Noah's arks are scarcely remembered. "Living in trunks," as a lady expresses her condition when away from wardrobes, chests of drawers, and other developments of civilisation, is always uncomfortable. The packing and unpacking, the folding and refolding of dresses, are drawbacks to the pleasures of travelling, and most ladies are very glad to take possession of their own dressing-rooms again. So the boxes are cleared and consigned to some out-of-the-way place as soon as possible after returning home. It is quite possible that women may exist with such a sense of order that they insist on having the portmanteaus put in order before being sent to the box-room, but I confess I have never met one of this remarkable species. In books upon domestic economy we read of women who have model establishments, conducted upon systems which would be very astonishing if they ever existed—but we know that to be impossible. No day is more than twenty-four hours long, including our sleeping time, and the simplest domestic machinery grows complicated and goes out of order if too much is expected of it. The average woman leaves her trunks in their latest condition, be that good or bad, until they are again requisitioned, and it is of these average women that our world is composed. The utmost to be expected of a prudent person would be the examination of the trunks before the packing is begun. It is a dreadful trial of temper to the masculine element in the party when the cab is waiting at the door, to hear that a key is missing, or that the key is there and the hasp nowhere, or that though both key and hasp are *en évidence*, the lock will not turn. Next to the boxes all the straps ought to be looked carefully after, not only the attached but the unattached, and some son of Samson be invited to subject them all to considerable strain, just as a test. Those wonderful inventions, canvas box covers, are useful, but very hateful on a tour. The hotel housemaid seems to be always more or less at variance with trunk covers, and does not look upon the investiture of the boxes as her duty. The waiter, or the boots, either of whom may be summoned in a crisis, regards the covers with the air of a martyr, as if each one were a veritable straw laid upon the unoffending back of him—the camel. Then some of the designs on which the covers are constructed are complicated, and odd results attend these ungracious services. The modern dress basket, a wicker interior with black waterproof exterior, which is light, capacious, and not easily harmed, is the best travelling companion for a lady to take, and then she can discard canvas covers, plain or fancy.

Straps for rugs are an invention comparatively recent. First came the single strap, very long, and very defective in convenience, but still regarded as a boon. The leather handle, with a strap running through a loop at each end, was an advance regarded with much admiration by those travellers who used to fail in finding the exact centre of the bundle. In recent years the leather strap has grown into great perfection; the cross bar which firmly flattens the bundle, and through which the straps run freely, is now looked upon as a necessity, and increases in solidity year by [illegible]

Gentlemen fit themselves out with little travelling comforts much more luxuriously than ladies. We have so many ribbons, frills, feathers, and furbelows generally to buy before we start that there is no margin left for extras not downright necessities. A cloak strap at a shilling and three-farthings, bought at a cheap sale, is a boon to one of us, while up in the netting of the railway carriage we see a gentleman's wraps with a strap which cost seven-and-sixpence if it cost twopence.

Mrs. Grundy has been raising her voice over the bathing-dresses of this year, and the excellent woman has much common sense on her side, not to speak with greater severity. The tunic and trouser bathing suit shocked our grandmothers when it first appeared, they having been brought up to the use of a curious garment of green baize, the weight of which, when saturated with sea-water, was enough to carry a slender figure down to the bottom of the sea. Just when we have grown tolerant of the innovation some French house has supplied what is known in slang language as "The Diver's" dress, a combination of two garments made all in one. Perhaps by the time we of this generation have become grandmothers we shall be reconciled to this eccentric bathing costume; in the meantime I must warn my readers not to be too anxious for novelties of this kind. On the other hand it is quite possible to be too conservative in clinging to old habits—using the word in a double sense. Two ladies at a fashionable watering place the other day went into the water with such very long gowns of a clinging shape, which got so entangled round their feet that, only for timely help from shore, both would have been drowned.

Among the preparations for the seaside this year are the most delightful dressing wrappers, made of twilled Welsh blanket, the coloured stripes being arranged down the front and on the cuffs and pockets. When the wrapper is Princess shape the coloured border naturally forms the front. Another mode makes the stripes to run round the bottom, the back having additional fulness added by the insertion of a large box-quill at the waist. A coloured cord round the waist answers as a belt, the ends being finished with soft balls of coloured wool, made like those for children to be sold at bazaars, or fancy fairs. The comfort of the blanket-wrapper is not only its warmth, but its indestructibility, as it washes over and over again, and when the bathing season is over it can be given to some elderly person, some decent body in an almshouse, or in a home with scanty comforts.

The suggestion, first made by the *Lancet*, and taken up by other papers, that the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic in Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, should be a memorial to the Duke of Albany, has received the Queen's approval. Two years ago Prince Leopold, presiding at the festival of the society, and urging its claims on the public, invited workers to help, using the remarkable epigrammatic phrase, "to put the coping stone on the building they had helped to erect." No better monument could be devised for the young chairman who has not lived to see the work accomplished. It is one of the penalties which we pay for our advance in civilisation, the increase in the varieties of nervous disorders, and the inadequacy of our means of relieving them. Not the least trying feature of modern nervous complaints, especially of those among women, is the sacrifice of relatives in health who break down in trying to minister to the invalids. The selfishness of nervous women wrecks the peace of many households. Were the early symptoms but more widely understood, and the aid of doctors who have made such cases their study called in, many very valuable lives would have been preserved. In fact, none of us can tell when the great value of an institution like this Albany Memorial may not be brought home to our own domestic circle.

The cholera panic has spread all along the Mediterranean to the different health resorts where English people congregate, and sent them flying back to their own country. At present there is no quarantine except in the south of France, but no one can calculate how long the disease may be confined to one country. A letter just received from Venice from an artist who will not abandon her work alludes to the stampede: "Such a splendid studio as I have got, perfection in every respect, and such a charming room as Edith has, with trees and water, and sky to look out on, and a piano altogether to her mind to enjoy inside. I wish you would put on your bonnet and take a run over and see how snug we are before they lock up Italy, and all that is in it on account of the cholera. Almost all the English have fled in panic, and we shall soon have no one left to speak to. The weather is delightful, if we can keep it so, and not have it get too hot."

Old Thomas Carlyle's house in Chelsea is for sale, and, as it stands upon a freehold, it would be quite a lasting memorial of the great philosopher if some admirer chose to buy; there could be no notice to quit, no disturbance of the tenant who chose to preserve the dwelling-house in its present condition. Charles Dickens's old home, Gad's-hill, can be had for a few months, furnished.

AURORA.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

A COMICAL FAMILY.

The late Mr. Frank Buckland was very fond of pet animals. Perhaps there was not in the kingdom a household like his, for he lived and studied among his favourites, which included a collection of monkeys, rats, hares, and we know not what.

He had four monkeys: Little Jack, Tiny, Carroty Jane, and Jenny. His studio, it appears, was called the monkey-room by the servants, and there lived in it also Judy the marmoset, Joe, the tame hare, Jemmy, the suricat, the laughing jackass, and the old grey parrot. Little Jack was the life of the miscellaneous party, for he was always in mischief. Mr. Buckland in one of his books says: "Like all little people, Little Jack has a good idea of his own consequence, and he thinks that I, his master, am terribly afraid of him, for he makes the most hideous faces at me, and chatters in such a manner, that one would think he was at least a big gorilla: perhaps he is, in his own estimation. He can't bear being laughed at, and if I laugh at him he gets perfectly savage." Jenny was a monkey bought to keep Tiny company when another monkey, called the Old Hag, died. Her mind, it seems, was entirely given to eating, drinking, and grumbling. Carroty Jane went upon three legs, and though thin as a skeleton was always eating. "When I was working at the Scotch herring report I used to receive sprats," wrote Mr. Buckland, "and young herrings nearly every morning. These I used to broil for luncheon, and the monkeys used to steal them off the gridiron. The monkeys, all but Little Jack, would also drink beer; when Tiny wanted beer she crossed her hands in a devotional attitude and looked in a supplicating manner first at the glass and then at me." Most monkeys have cheek pouches, and in feeding they cram these with food which they eat at leisure.

A CHILD'S FANCY ABOUT THE WIND.

Here is a little poem taken from the *Magazine of Art* describing what a child-thought as he watched the doings of the wind.

I saw you toss the kites on high
And blow the birds about the sky;
And all around I heard you pass,
Like ladies' skirts across the grass—
O wind, a-blowing all day long!
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

I saw the different things you did,
But always you yourself you hid;
I felt you push, I heard you call,
I could not see yourself at all—
O wind, a-blowing all day long!
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

O you that are so strong and cold,
O blower, are you young or old?
Are you a beast of field and tree,
Or just a stronger child than me?
O wind, a-blowing all day long!
O wind, that sings so loud a song!

CHINESE BABIES.

Some funny things are told in *The Youth's Companion*, an American magazine for young people, about the way in which babies are looked after in China.

One of the first things that happens to a Chinese baby boy after he is born is to be shaved. A barber comes with his razor and all the hair is shaved off the poor little fellow's tender scalp.

After that, baby has to go to the barber for his shave just as a grown man, with a beard, might go in this country; but he never seems to enjoy it, and cries pitifully every time the sharp razor mows down the hair. After a while, when the hair begins to grow thicker, the head is not shaved all over, but is left untouched in spots, just as the parents think will look pretty.

Sometimes there will be three tufts, each as big round as a silver dollar; one just over the middle of the forehead and one over each ear. When the hair grows long enough in these tufts, it is braided and tied with bright cord, and then baby looks funny enough to a foreigner, for each little braid stands stiffly up for about two inches and then lops over. The braids look like horns on his head, and holes are cut in his green and red cap to let the horns come through.

When he grows older, he is allowed to wear a queue like the men, and he is just as proud then as American boys are with their first boots or trousers.

When baby is about a month old, he is given his first name, or milk-name, as the Chinese call it. A feast is prepared, the friends are called in, and papa gives baby his name. This name is used only until he is ready to go to school, when a new name is given him, and another feast is offered to the friends.

The names given to the boys are odd to us, but they seem all right to them. Think of being called Ink-Grinder or Promising-Study! But even this name is not kept, for when the boy grows up and is married, he takes a new name, which he keeps for the rest of his life.

If baby's papa is rich, baby is well taken care of, carried about tenderly and amused to his heart's content; but if his papa be poor, then he very likely will be tied to an older sister's back with a broad piece of cloth, so that his legs dangle down by her sides and his poor little head wobbles about over the top of the cloth as if his neck were made of indiarubber.

The little nurse goes about her work, or runs at her play, and never seems to give a thought to little brother and his bobbing head; and he does not seem to mind it, for when it looks as if his head must be almost shaken off, he very likely is fast asleep.

If baby happens to live on a boat, as a great many hundred thousand persons in China do, his mamma ties a big gourd on his back so that he cannot drown if he falls overboard, or he is tied by a rope to some part of the boat.

In summer baby wears as little clothing as possible, but in winter it is just the other way—he wears all the clothing that can be put upon him. Except in the northern part of China near Peking, where it is bitterly cold in winter, the Chinese people do not have fires in their houses, even when it is cold enough to freeze the water into ice.

Pair after pair of trousers is put on baby's legs, and jacket after jacket on his body, until by the time he is clad warmly enough he is quite as broad as he is long; and his little arms stick straight out from his sides, so that he waddles about, provided he can move at all, looking like a red-and-green pillow with a ball on top, and with smaller pillows on each side where the arms are. It makes no difference to him, then, how cold it is, and he sits in the open air on his little bamboo stool, with nose and cheeks very red and his body as warm as toast.

All this has been about boy-babies, because in China girl-babies are not thought as much of, and consequently all the good times come to the boys. A poor girl-baby must work almost as soon as she can toddle, and rich girl-babies are really worse off. They have their poor little feet pinched out of shape so that they walk very poorly and cannot run at all.

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—Buried Proverb.—I found a tree—a fir—standing majestically out in the darkness, and, on turning, I succeeded in finding, at last, Ryde House, where my old fag Ainsley lives.

2.—Two different nouns compose my name,
And both are eatables of fame,
Which, when united, make but one.
Perhaps you'll ask how this is done.
Go, find it out, and if I'm right,
You'll not refuse to take a bite.

3.—*Whole*, I am single; behead me, and I am the same; again, and I still am single.

4.—My *first* is a kind of my *second*; my *second* is sometimes a kind of my *first*; and my *whole* is a kind of my *second*, and is very common.

5.—My *whole* in war are often known,
A kind of plunder as you'll own;
Behead me twice, then transpose,
You tread me underneath your toes;
Behead again, you'll then discern
A liquid which you often burn.

6.—Behead an article of clothing, and leave a grain. A fruit, and leave an organ of hearing. To injure, and leave a part of the body. A fruit, and leave an adjective. A kind of furniture and leave capable.

7.—In 1, 2, 3—equality,
You'll find it's very clear;
In 4, 5, 6 a relative,
By parents loved most dear.
The [illegible] of everyone
Increases year by year;
Whole, 1 to 9, a dwelling place
Not loved too well, I fear.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Spear, pear, ear. 2. Scream, cream, ream. 3. Rage, age. 4. Where there's a will there's a way. 5. Lie-u-ten-ant. 6. Tennyson. 7. Pal-try. 8. (*a*) Rubinstein. (*b*) Haydn. (*c*) Mozart. (*d*) Handel. (*e*) Strauss.

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FROM RICHES TO RUIN.

JAMES S. BORLASE,

Author of "Darker than Death," "Both Princess and Police Spy," "Nina the Nihilist," "The Black Hand," "Who Killed John Cameron?" "Major McDragon's Wards," "Pride's Perils," &c.

CHAPTER XXXIV.

NED JACOBS TELLS ROSE ROSCORLA A THING OR TWO.

The bum-bailiff knocked at his own parlour door in a deprecatory sort of a way, and as though he had not the least right to do so, and when a sweet though at the same time sad sounding voice said "Come in," he at once went in, but had no sooner closed the door behind him than he looked as though he would have given anything to have found himself on the other side again.

But Rose Roscorla made him feel quite at home and perfectly comfortable by saying, genially, "Well, Mr. Jacobs, do you know I thought it was you when I saw you enter the house, but I was beginning to fancy that I must be mistaken for that, else you would have come in to welcome us at once, particularly after your kind words when we left Rose Mount."

"Why, Miss, and so I might, if so be as I'd found out before who you really was, which I didn't, for my Sal bain't no schollard, an' so your signature on the receipt was double Dutch to her, nor thanks be is she that forward as to ask imperent questions ov new acquaintances, an' so until I comed to take up the bit o' paper don't you see, Miss ——"

"Oh, yes," interrupted Rose cheerfully, "I quite understand that directly you *did* find out who we were you kindly came to welcome us to Crabtree-row. I'm a dressmaker and plain needle worker now, Mr. Jacobs, and so you will oblige me by calling me plain Rose, without troubling about putting the Miss before it, and you will talk to me just like you would to your own daughter also, please. You must see a great change in my poor father," and for the first time the smile faded out of Rose's face and the tears came into her eyes.

"A happy change, Miss," said the bum-bailiff, remembering what Sally had told him about giving a pound of comfort to an ounce of pity. "I can see, of course, that he ain't his old self, but it's a deal pleasanter for him to be a smiling at the fire through forgetting everythink, than to be a frowning and knitting his brows at it, through remembering too much. Putting it plain, Miss, the beggar that's nigh always dreaming he's a king is better off than the king as is always dreaming he's a beggar. Perhaps the Almighty's sent it to him for his comfort. That's the best way to look at it."

"That's the way I *try* to look at it, and I wouldn't so much mind his forgetting everything else as long as he only remembered me—his daughter, his child—whom he once loved so much."

"Well, well, Miss, I daresay that'll come all right in time; for time works wonders, you know. Oh, dear me, yes, that'll come all right, there can't be a blessed doubt of it, Miss."

No, no, Mr. Jacobs, it'll *never* come right. The doctor says that it never will."

"Oh, blow doctors; what do *they* know about it, my dear? Miss Rose, I mean. Throw doctors to the dogs, as I heard a bloke say once at the Britannia Theatre. Now, keep up yer pecker, an' trust to time, an' then if a couple or three months don't do it, jest try a bottle o' Mother Siegel's Syrup, which they say cures everything under the sun. Bless you, never say die; where there's a way there's a will, an' all the rest of it," responded Jacobs, thinking cheerfully to himself the while "I'm getting on in the comforting line a deal better than I thought I should."

The fact was that at the mention of Mother Siegel's Syrup as a certain means of restoring her father's recollection of herself, Rose could not help smiling through her tears, which fact gave the kindly-meaning bailiff such a confidence in his cheering-up powers that, resolving to strike whilst the iron was hot, he went rapidly on with:—

"Now just sit ee down, my dear, an' listen to me. I daresay you fancies that all your old friends have forsaken ye, an' I daresay that notion makes 'ee feel dismal like too, as is but nattrel ov course. But it's all a mistake, for one of the handsomest an' pleasantest spoken young gents stopped me in Lunnon streets yesterday arternoon an' treated me to two goes ov gin—best sixpenny too—in order to pump me dry all about 'ee."

"To ask *you* about me? How did he imagine that you could tell him anything?"

"Now, don't be quick to take offence where none's meant, for he saw me at your old place the night ov the party, and fancied, I suppose, that, as I was the man in possession as the sayin' is, I'd have picked out where you went to and what you meant to do for a future living, etcetera. He hailed me at first 'aughty like, with a 'Hi, my man, I think we've met before;' but I'm a bit ov a radical, my dear, an' I couldn't stomach being spoken to like that, so I answered sarsy like, and 'I think we've been guests under the same roof, my lord,' says I. Lor, luv yer, he cottoned to it at once, an' says he back again, 'Then you won't be too proud to take a glass with me now?' So that, in course, got me polite in turn, an' I answer 'By no manner o' means, for pride arn't in my natur,' whereat he jumps out ov his grand carridge, an' runs his arm inside mine quite friendly like, whilst his coachman sets a grinning like a Barbary ape as soon as he thought our backs war turned, an' the young swell shoves me into the bar ov the *Sawyer's Arms*, as was just handy, and comes in arter me, an' says 'What's your tipple?' an' I answers 'Three of old Tom.'"

"And who was he?" asked Rose, eagerly, whilst naturally thinking of Earl St. Vincent.

"That's just what I can't tell ye, Miss, an' for the plain reason that I don't know; but he war mighty pleasant an' sociable, an' not a bit stuck up arter that first taking down that I gived him. The werry next time that I called him my lord he stopped me, saying, 'Drop it, old fella, I don't like it; I'm *that* where I can't be anythink better, but a man's a man for all that, and I prefer being called plain Mr. Brown. So I called him Mr. Brown to his heart's content, for I hate yer lords, an' he seemed to enjoy it all, an' kept on talking to me about you an' yer father as hard as he could."

"What did he ask about us?" inquired Rose, with considerable agitation.

"Well, he asked, in what spirits you had left Rose Mount, an' whether you was utterly destitoot, an' if I knew whether you had anythink at all to depend on, and if I didn't think that you'd soon tire of poverty an' hard work, which was the only question out of all that he put which I didn't like, so I up an' told him that leastways you wasn't the sort of gal as would very soon get tired ov doing your duty. But he bore it all in good part, an' we was getting on swimmingly together, for I could see that he was sweet on you, my dear, with half an eye, when all at once some dark-browed sallow-complexioned fellow put his ugly mug around the next bar division, an' says he, whilst a twitching at the young nob's sleeve so as to attract his attention, 'If you wants to know more than that old chap (meaning me) can let out about the young lady, I lodges in the same house, and can tell a lot if it's made worth my while,' whereupon the good-natured swell turns to me an' says: 'I must learn all I can, for I'm a-deeply interested,' or words to that effect, an' then pulls a golden sovereign out ov his pocket, an' gives it to me saying, 'I always give one of these to the most deserving case I come across during each day, but as I've an awful lot to get through I wish you'd look out one for me on this tickler occasion, and save me all trouble,' which I thought was as delicate a way of tipping a cove as I'd ever heard tell ov."

"And he didn't ask you to try and find out where I—that is, where *we* lived?"

"What was the use, when the other fellow could tell him that? The two went into the bar parlour, which just adjoined, but as I hadn't finished my second 'go' of gin I was in no hurry to be off myself. I won't say that I listened to the talk inside the parlour, but I heard that bold forrard feller a-telling the nob that he guessed you'd enough jewellery to keep the pair—his werry words, my dear—'for a couple of years in clover.' Of course, I knew 'twas a thundering lie, only I didn't exactly dare to bellow it out, an' then their voices sunk so low that I could catch nothing more, and so I comed away, feeling I'd like to twist one of their necks, an' it wasn't the swell's, neither."

"About what time of the day was this?"

"Close on three in the arternoon."

"And where was the inn situate that you both went to?"

"In Queen's-road, Dalston."

"And what was your questioner like? Was he dark or fair, tall or short?"

"He was tall an' slim, with a yallerish mustache, an' hair of the same colour."

"The Marquis of Scampertown," thought Rose, with a shudder. "What could *he* have wanted to know all those things about me for, and how odd it is that he should have been associated in any way with that unfortunate jewel case, and in such close communion with the very man who stole it! Could it have been a planned thing, I wonder? Planned with some deep ulterior motive?"

A moment later she had banished the suspicion from her mind as being altogether too absurd, and rallied herself so as not to lead the good-natured bum-bailiff to suppose that she attached any real importance to anything that he had told her.

He was shrewd enough, however, to discover that in some way or other he had hit the wrong nail on the head, and given pain where he had intended to afford pleasure, so that he soon after took his departure observing carelessly to Rose as he did so:

"By-the-bye, Miss, you will have to put up with another bedroom. Sal had no right to let that attic. Fact is, I'm going to learn phottygraphy, and so you see I shall want a skylight, and there's no other in the house. But don't be afraid but that Sal will fix ye nicely. We've arranged all that;" and then he hurried out of the room before Rose could make any reply. CHAP

CHAPTER XXXV.

SERAPHINA GIVES HER MOTHER A NERVOUS SHOCK.

It is now time for us to return for awhile to those very amiable personages, Mrs. Rachel Smith and her daughter Seraphina.

We will drop in upon them as they sit over the fire of an evening, calculating the profits of the day, and turning up their noses at all things sublunary.

The articles pertaining to their new craft are conspicuous all around them. The globes, terrestrial and celestial, stand one in either window, a stuffed baby crocodile hangs suspended from the ceiling, and a huge phrenological head with all the bumps duly numbered stands in the centre of the sideboard, with a real skull under a glass shade on each side of it. The skeleton alone is wanting to render the *tout ensemble* perfect in Professor Rachel Sanderson's estimation, and her daughter could have supplied *that*, had it really been indispensable.

Around the walls are pinned up plates, representing almost every variety of human countenance, that have been extracted from Lavater's *Physiognomy*, and the three huge volumes that they have been taken out of lie open on the table, in company with half a dozen letters and photographic portraits, interspersed with as many tiny pyramids of penny postage stamps.

Aunt Rachel has just done up her hair in loose curl papers, and her shadowed presentment on the opposite wall represents her with two perfect horns, and a number of bumps and protuberances that would have puzzled the most skilled phrenologist to decipher; whilst Seraphina, on the other hand, is plaiting her long but scant locks into about a dozen slender whips, each presenting a thickness of thong that the most thin-skinned of dogs would have secretly chuckled at if threatened with; and as to Topsy, the pug, she never misses an opportunity of jumping up at one whenever she fancies that it is within her reach, snarling playfully the while, and showing the whites of her eyes as only a pug can do.

Seraphina, however, was in no mood for play, and struck at the little blunt black nose with her comb whenever she could get the chance, for it was the evening of the day on which she had beheld Earl St. Vincent driving away with her cousin Rose from Bow-street Police-court, and the sight had stirred up her liver and her spleen to an extent that it would take days to mitigate the severity of, and weeks most probably, to wholly cure.

It was in vain that her mother attempted to restore her spirits by dwelling cheerfully upon the bright prospects of the business, or rather swindle, in which they had embarked.

"Twelve letters to-day, my love, against nine yesterday, and six the day before that. Twelve letters represent two hundred and eighty-eight stamps, or one pound four shillings in coin of the realm, which makes a clear income of eight guineas a week, from which deduct two for rooms, two more for food, wine, ale, coal, gas, and etceteras, and yet more two for working expenses and advertisements, and two still remain for amusements and dress. You see, dear, my expectations are already more than realised, and in another month, at this rate of increase, we will be able to double our advertising expenses, and begin to put by against a rainy day as well. I'm sure we have every reason for feeling both content and happy."

"I shall never feel either whilst I have to toil at writing letters and inventing lies to fill them with at such a rate. One can't give anything of a character in less than four sides of a sheet of notepaper closely written, and that takes half an hour. So that a dozen letters represent six hours' hard work a day. *You* don't help much with them."

"My dear, I do the brain work. I study *Lavater*, aye, for hours at a time."

"And generally with your eyes shut. I declare the book lay upside down on your lap this afternoon for a good two hours, and yet when you woke up you insisted that you had been studying the whole while. I hate such mean, sly ways."

"My love, it was the monotonous scratching of your pen that sent me off dozing—that is to say if I really *did* sleep. My impression is that I turned the book upside down in order to think the better, and when I am thinking deeply I always shut my eyes. I find it an excellent plan."

"But I should say that snoring at the same time, as you did for an hour and twenty-five minutes at a stretch, for I timed you, was quite a superfluous exertion whilst thinking deeply. Oh, you jolly old humbug, you can't take *me* in, however you may do other people, and as for your scheme of making both ends meet, it aint half a bad one, but I could invent a better any day."

"Perhaps you'll be kind enough to invent it then," rejoined Aunt Rachael, rather spitefully.

"I'm going to do it, as far as I myself am concerned, and you must help me hand and glove in consideration of my resigning to you my half share in the present business."

"*Your* half share? Well, I must say I admire your cheek, Seraphina, when I thought it out and planned it all myself, and could get a clerk at fifteen shillings a week to do all that you're doing, and be thankful in addition for the berth. I declare I never—never—never did."

"I have offered you all that I've got to offer for your help, mother, and since you won't take it you'll have to assist me for nothing. I'll only want a very little bit of hard swearing at the most."

"Hard swearing, Seraphina? I hope you mean *true* swearing also, my dear?"

"Now, ma, don't be a jolly old hypocrite, as well as a miserable old sinner. One false oath aint worse than a score of ordinary lies clumped together, and as you tell and write hundreds of *them* a day, and all for a few miserable shillings, you needn't stick at just a small bunch of the others when thousands of pounds may be hung on to them."

"Thousands of pounds!" gasped Mrs. Smith. "What can the child be dreaming of?"

"It's no dream," retorted Seraphina, half jubilantly and half spitefully. "The fact is, I've made up my mind that I'll spoil cousin Rose's little game, and profit myself at the same time. Earl St. Vincent shall either marry *me* or he shall pay dearly for not doing it in coin of the realm."

"Good gracious me, Seraphina! how are you going to bring either thing about?"

"Well, if he *won't* marry me, I intend to sue him for breach of promise, mother."

"I don't believe that he even as much as thought of marrying you, Seraphina."

"Nor do I *now*, and I'll go so far as to say that I was a fool for *ever* thinking so, if it will give you the least satisfaction; but I mean to have him or his money for all that. You know that he *has* shown me attentions, mother, and they must be made the most of. He and I were in the large conservatory for a long while together the night of the fête at Rose Mount, and, uneasy at my prolonged absence, you went in search of me and got into the conservatory just in time to hear the earl make me an offer of marriage, and me accept him, whilst standing in the rear of the great banana tree. Of course you saw us clearly, and heard the words as well; but, not liking to interrupt us, glided away unperceived, screened by the tropical plants."

"Do you know, Seraphina, I'm almost sure I could work myself up to believe all *that*, and then you see it wouldn't go so much against my conscience to swear to it. You are a clever girl, my dear, a very clever girl, and the earl certainly *has* been attentive to you; yes, very attentive. It was really very heartless conduct on his part if he didn't mean anything, and I'm sure it has told on your health and made you excessively thin and pale. It's my opinion that you are entitled to heavy damages, and very sure am I that as a fond mother——"

"That'll do, mamma; that'll do famously," laughed Seraphina. "I see that you'll come to the scratch when wanted, and act the fond and indignant parent to perfection. What I chiefly calculate on is the earl or the earl's father, the old duke, offering me a few thousands to stay proceedings, in order to avoid the scandal that such a public *exposé* as going on to trial would occasion, and that would be a very pleasant and easy way of making money, you know, whilst, however it turned out, St. Vincent would have had quite enough to do in the wooing line with one family, and so the odds are a thousand to one that I should ruin Rose's chances, at any rate."

"It would improve your case very much if you could inveigle the earl to this house."

"I don't think *that* would be difficult. I know he often lunches at the *Gaiety* Restaurant about two o'clock, and if on coming out he ran up against a female acquaintance who had just been robbed, or insulted, or frightened, or nearly run over in the street, he could hardly help doing the polite to the extent of seeing her home if she lived close by, and Cumberland-street ain't more than a quarter of a mile from the *Gaiety* at the very outside, and once get him to the door, I'll lure him in by saying that Rose is here; that is to say if it can't be done any other way, and when we get inside, of course, she will have started off during my brief absence. Then you must leave us together, and coming back suddenly find him on his knees to me, or me fainting in his arms, *à la* the widow Bardell and Mr. Pickwick. That'll be another bit of confirmatory evidence. Oh, we'll make up a very good case against him somehow or other, mother, don't you fear."

"My love, I think I'll have a glass of weak gin and water, with sugar and a slice of lemon on the strength of it. Your communication has given me such a fluttering at the heart that I fear I should not sleep a wink unless I took a slight something to compose my excited nerves."

Strange to say, Seraphina discovered thereupon that *she* required "a slight something" to quiet her nerves also, so the end of it was that the two Jezebels perfected their nefarious schemes over two tumblers of what was really very stiff *half and half*.

(To be continued.)

MULKINS'S SPECULATION.

Mulkins was a very quiet individual; very unobtrusive, a bachelor, and a day-dreamer. Mulkins found great comfort in these day-dreams. Sometimes he went so far as to fancy that he really possessed the mystic key to the hidden treasures of the genii, and for the time the fancy gave him joy.

But the dawning of the glorious realisation came at length. Mulkins drew one hundred dollars in a lottery! He was rich, and he was jubilant. He took a turn in the Park. He had passed out from Chatham Square, and was pursuing his way in a dreamy state of ecstasy, when a brilliantly flashing window arrested his steps. He stopped and looked. The array of jewellery was perfectly marvellous. He saw diamonds from Alaska and diamonds from California. One of the Alaskas was resplendently beautiful; and it was upon a card bearing the legend, "*Only* five dollars"

He entered the store—and asked to look at "that Alaska diamond." The proprietor was very gentlemanly.

"My dear sir," said the gentlemanly proprietor, "if you wish to purchase that pin, I will sell it to you at the price named upon the card; but I will not deceive you. The stone is not real——"

"I did not think it was a true diamond," broke in Mulkins.

"Nor," pursued the jeweller, softly and musically, "is it an Alaska stone, which, your are probably aware, are simple crystals of quartz. This is of French manufacture, and is of paste—far more brilliant than even a second-class diamond."

Mulkins purchased the pin, and stuck it upon his shirt bosom. The jeweller smiled, and nodded mysteriously.

"Might I know your name, sir?"

"My name is Mulkins."

"I'll tell you, Mr. Mulkins, how I happened to have these pastes—for I have a number of them. An agent of a heavy Broadway house recently smuggled through the custom-house, nearly a million dollars' worth of diamonds; and he did it in this way: For each pure stone he had two or three pastes. The stones were poorly set, and gummed, while the pastes were richly set, and bright. He exhibited them openly—but of course he had a confederate among the officers, who only submitted the pastes to the examination of the official lapidary; and thus he passed the whole lot through as cheap imitations. He sold me the pastes, and told me the story; and he assured me that he had made more than fifty thousand dollars clear by the operation. A pretty shrewd thing, wasn't it?"

Mulkins thought it was; and as he left the shop he fell to wishing that he could make fifty thousand dollars as easily as that.

By and by a gentleman passed Mulkins, and then stopped, and turned, and allowed him to pass on. This was repeated twice. At length the gentleman touched Mulkins upon the shoulder, and motioned to him in a secret manner.

"What is it?" asked Mulkins.

The gentleman desired a single moment's conversation upon a very important matter. Would he step into the neighbouring *cafe?*

Mulkins followed the stranger into the *cafe*.

"My dear sir," commenced the gentleman, "you must deem my conduct very strange, but I will explain at once, and in as few words as possible. First, will you allow me to ask where you got that pin?" pointing to the jewel upon Mulkins's bosom.

Mulkins told him.

"I know the pin the moment I saw it," said the stranger. "You bought it of Schwipenmeister. I sold it to him. Ah, my dear sir, you have it in your power to do me a very great favour. I watched you in the street, and I saw a generous heart in your face, and I resolved to throw myself upon your mercy. You will not betray me, if you do not assist me?"

Mulkins swore that he would not.

"My dear fellow," pursued the confiding stranger, "I sold to Mr. Schwipenmeister a number of pins like the one you wear—like that in style, though of different sizes and different qualities of settings. How I came by them I would prefer not to explain—only I swear to you most solemnly that they were honestly mine. A little matter of custom-house business in which an official friend is involved, seals my lips. The pin which you wear is paste—"

"I purchased it for such," interrupted Mulkins.

"But, my dear fellow, when I sold those jewels to him, I made one of the greatest blunders of my life. For a particular purpose which I need not elucidate, I had true stones and pastes in the same style of setting, and among the pastes which I sold to Schwipenmeister I accidentally let slip the most valuable gem I possessed. It was a diamond, of the very first water, of the finest rosecut, weighing over twenty carats, and worth— Well, I won't tell you what it was worth. If you are unacquainted with gems, you might doubt my word. But I will give a thousand dollars to get that stone back."

"Why—why—don't you go to Mr. Schwipenmeister, and—"

"Bless your soul, my dear fellow! were I to go in person upon such an errand, Schwipenmeister would smell a very big mice in a moment. And, furthermore, I have another reason for not appearing *in propria persona*—a reason hinging upon the custom-house matter aforesaid, which I need not explain. But, my dear friend, you could do it for me. You could go, and tell Schwipenmeister that you had sold your pin—or had engaged it—to a friend, and that you wanted another. You could ask to select one. He would then show you the lot; and I know the diamond is among them. I will tell you how you may know it. The gold setting of the true gem has upon the underside of the foot, or bar, three crosses, like the letter X, cut with a fine file. None of the others are so marked. If you will go and purchase that jewel, I will wait for you here; and I will give you one thousand dollars cash for it."

Mulkins needed no great urging. He said he would do it. And he went away, leaving his friend to finish the wine, promising to return as speedily as possible.

Mulkins found the little shop with the blazing window, and within he found the proprietor, to whom he made known his wish. The tray of jewels was produced from an iron safe, and submitted to the customer's inspection. Away in one corner Mulkins beheld a gem larger than its mates, and of a deeper brilliancy. He took it in his fingers, and upon the inner side of the setting he found three crosses cut with a file! He caught his breath, and composed himself.

He thought he would take that one.

The proprietor smiled, and shook his head.

"I would rather not sell that," he said. "It is only a paste, but it is the most marvellous imitation of the real diamond I ever saw. I wish to keep it as a *show-jewel*."

But Mulkins wanted it. He had taken a fancy to it.

"If I were to tell you that I wanted a hundred dollars for this mere bit of paste, you would laugh at me. But I do assure you, sir, that I can realise that value. Any other you may have cheap enough."

Mulkins was staggered; but he contained himself. He made it appear that money was no object.

Mulkins had just ninety-five dollars. He debated a while, and finally offered that sum, together with the pin he had already purchased, which would make the hundred dollars.

With great reluctance the gentlemanly proprietor acceded to the terms. Mulkins counted out the ninety-five dollars, and passed back his pin; and the new jewel, in a nice box, carefully bedded in pink-coloured floss, was duly transferred to his ownership; and as soon as decency would permit he departed.

Once on the way Mulkins stopped, and conferred with himself. He had in his possession a fortune, which he could keep if he would.

Mulkins entered the cafe, and went to the stall where he left the stranger, but no one was there. He inquired of a waiter, who informed him that the stranger had gone out immediately upon finishing his wine, and had said nothing about coming back. Mulkins waited half an hour, and then went out. On the Bowery he had a friend who was in the jewellery business—a salesman in a large establishment. To the Bowery he went and sought his friend, and to his friend he submitted his newly-acquired jewel. The friend submitted it in turn to the lapidary. The lapidary lifted the pin upon the end of his finger, and then touched the stone to his tongue. After this he applied a bit of acid to the setting.

"What is it? What is it worth?" asked Mulkins, breathlessly.

And the lapidary made answer—

"Paste!—gilded setting!—Attleboro' make!—worth three dollars and fifty cents a DOZEN!"

That night Mulkins failed to take his usual stroll in fancy through the realms of the future, being rather deeply engaged in solemn reflections upon the past; and on the following morning he resumed his legitimate work at the type case, being firmly of the opinion that he was never born to make a successful speculator.

ANOTHER SEVERE STORM.

A YOUTH STRUCK BY LIGHTNING AT SHIELD ROW.

On Sunday evening a severe thunderstorm passed over Consett and neighbourhood, accompanied by a great downpour of rain and a fall of hailstones of unusual size. The storm began about the time when divine service would be commencing, and lasted with some force until nearly eight o'clock. It is satisfactory to state that no serious damage is reported to have been done to property; but the growing crops have suffered considerably by the storm.

On Sunday, a youth of 13 years, named Ralph Armstrong, the son of Joseph Armstrong, of Pit Hill, was on a visit to his grandmother, who acts as housekeeper for Mr Thomas Atkinson, of Shield Row, near West Stanley. While the storm was at its height, the lad was sitting by the side of the fire, when a flash of lightning entered the house, by means, it is supposed, of a defective rafter in the roof, and struck the boy Armstrong, who immediately fell off his seat and rolled underneath the bed. He was paralysed, and remained unconscious for some time; but now he is recovering. No damage was done to the property.

During the thunderstorm in Upper Weardale, the daughter of Mr Thomas Conn, of Wolsingham, was walking down the road near Allergill, with an umbrella, when the electric fluid struck two large trees, totally demolishing them. It then struck the umbrella held by the girl, tearing it into shreds, and knocked it out of her hands, fortunately not injuring the girl beyond a severe shock. Twelve sheep were killed in the dale by the lightning.

GREAT FLOOD IN THE WEAR VALLEY.

On Thursday evening in last week, a tremendous heavy rain fell at Stanhope, Wolsingham, and Weardale, causing streams of water to run in all directions, the result of which was a very sudden rising of the Wear to an alarming flood height. Stanhope Burn presented a raging torrent, which rushed right through the Stanhope Burn Lead Smelting Mills, belonging to the London Lead Company, putting out the fires, drowning the pots, one of which was said to be five feet in water. A boarded road over the stream appears to have given way, and a huge iron melting pot had fallen into the stream, diverting its course through the mill, where considerable damage has consequently been done. Other tributaries were flooded, and a great amount of damage has been done over a considerable area in the Wear Valley. Some timber was carried away from Eastgate, where a new stone bridge is building at Haggford, over the Wear. The River Wear rose seven feet between the hours of 6 and 7·30 p.m. No damage was done at Frosterley, but a quantity of timber passed down the river supposed to be from Haggford Bridge, and a live pig on a plank. At Hare Law the flood took most of the contractor's plant away from the concrete jetty in course of erection, and at the east of Wolsingham a portion of the planks and staging from the Highway Board's works was washed away. A quantity of barrels, planks, and other wreckage was carried down Stanhope Burn to the Wear.

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AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHY.—Although the art of photography may be said to have been in existence for five-and-forty years (since M. Daguerre and Mr. Fox Talbot both introduced their processes in 1839), but little has been done till recently to popularise what may be regarded as one of the most useful, yet simple, of all the discoveries of science. When one considers the manifold ways in which photography is a necessary adjunct to successful study, it is matter for surprise that the endeavour to introduce that art for the amateur has been so long neglected. And not only to the student, indeed, but to the pleasure-seeker, is photography an accomplishment that will well repay the expenditure of time necessary to its acquirement. For instance—now that "leafy June" is here, and the days of pleasure-touring have commenced,—what is there more enjoyable than to be enabled to produce an actual presentment of some enchanting picture painted by Nature herself—"the valleys, hills, and woods in rich array"? How often does one feel the desire to recount the beauties of a favourite scene, yet with the consciousness of the utter inadequacy of verbal description? Here photography steps in. The tourist can by its means easily and quickly preserve for after-contemplation his choicest impressions, and without adding appreciably to his travelling *impedimenta*. For many other reasons is the popularisation of the art of photography a consummation to be desired; and therefore we are glad to notice that much is being done in this direction by the LONDON STEREOSCOPIC COMPANY, whose portrait studies doubtless many of our readers are already well acquainted with, *who are prepared, not only to supply a complete and remarkably compact set of apparatus for amateurs at a comparatively trifling cost, but also to give at their premises*, 110, *Regent-street*, W., *gratuitous lessons in the art of photography to those desirous of learning*. A good feature of these lessons lies in the fact that they are not given in classes, the privacy necessary to the diffident beginner being thus ensured, and proficiency the more readily obtained. By the introduction of the "dry process," the manipulation is greatly simplified, and cleanliness in working is secured. This at once renders the art more acceptable to the non-professional student. The free-instruction system is a decidedly new and liberal departure, which should meet with the success it certainly deserves. This is an intellectual and scientific amusement which need not be confined to gentlemen; ladies can pursue it with much pleasure, the apparatus being clean, light, and easy to work.—"*Knowledge*."

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AND now the small boy unravels the ancient stocking to secure yarn with which to make a cricket-ball. And when he has the ball made, he cuts the leg off one of his father's boots to make a cover of; and when the parent discovers the liberties taken with his boot, the small boy wishes that he had used it as a lining for his trousers.

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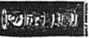

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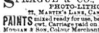

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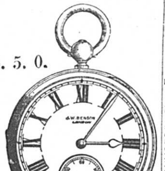

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THIS DAY'S NEWS.

"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRIDAY, 4 P.M.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR JUSTICE WILLIAMS.

The Central News regrets to learn that Mr Justice Watkin Williams died suddenly on Thursday, at midnight, at Nottingham, from heart disease. He sat hearing a case until five o'clock on Thursday afternoon, and was to have delivered judgment to-day (Friday).

THE CHOLERA IN FRANCE.

TOULON, FRIDAY MORNING.

There were 26 deaths from cholera here yesterday. The condition of the Mayor is now considered hopeless.

MARSEILLES, FRIDAY MORNING.

Twenty deaths from cholera occurred here last night.

The *Daily News'* Marseilles correspondent telegraphs on Thursday at midnight:—The situation is graver. The heat is intolerable. No wind is stirring. The epidemic spreads, and the mortality increases daily. M. Aleyard, a municipal councillor, and Madame Fisquet, wife of the Rear-Admiral, have died of cholera since this evening. Five deaths from cholera have occurred. The flight continues.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTUAL SHOW.

A dairymaid, named Hardy, who was severely injured by machinery at the Royal Agricultural Show, Shrewsbury, yesterday (Thursday), still lies in an unconscious state. No hopes are entertained of her recovery.

TO-DAY'S CRICKET.

AUSTRALIANS *v.* MIDDLESEX.—The Australians' first innings closed at Lords to-day (Friday) for 188 runs, Murdoch (not out) 64; against a total of 53 for Middlesex.

THE DUKE OF MARLBOROUGH'S PENSION.

Vice-Chancellor Bacon was to-day (Friday) asked to sanction the arrangements by which the Government commute the Duke of Marlborough's pension at 27 years' purchase. His Lordship required to be satisfied that the bargain would be for the benefit of Lord Blandford, who is a ward of the Court, and the next heir; and ordered the matter to be again mentioned.

TWO POLICEMEN SHOT BY BURGLARS.

Another case of policemen shot by burglars occurred in London early this (Friday) morning. At a few minutes past five o'clock, while two constables of the G Division were patrolling Murray Street, Hoxton, they came upon three burglars. A chase ensued, and upon the police overhauling the burglars, the pursued turned round and fired point blank at both constables, hitting one in the groin and the other in the upper part of the thigh. Both fell, but were able to spring rattles, and two of the would-be murderers were shortly afterwards captured and conveyed to the station.

LONDON, FRIDAY, 9 A.M.

It appears that all three of the men engaged in the police shooting affair this morning are well known to the police, and it was only a few minutes after the outrage that two of them were captured and conveyed to Old Street Police Station. The police confidently expect to arrest the third before many hours. Both constables are now lying in the Infirmary in a precarious condition. The men will be brought up to-day before the magistrates.

PRIZE SHOOTING AT WIMBLEDON.

The shooting for St. George's Vase at Wimbledon opened to-day (Friday), the wind being again uncertain. Sergt. Jackson, of the 21st Lancashire, has made 34 points.

THE PENISTONE RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

Two bodies of those killed in the Pennistone accident are still unidentified. The engine axle which broke was only fitted new in December last.

THE ORANGE FREE STATE AND THE BAROLONGS.

[REUTER'S TELEGRAM.]

CAPE TOWN, THURSDAY.

The insurgent Barolong chief, who recently attacked Chabanchu, in the Orange Free State, has surrendered to President Brand without a shot having been exchanged.

A HEARTLESS DESERTER.

To-day (Friday), Sergt. Thornton apprehended near Dipton, a widower named Joseph Smith, who is charged by Mr J. Moon, relieving officer, with deserting his two little children Sarah and Rachael about a month ago, thereby leaving them chargeable, since the 19th June, to the Guardians of Lanchester Union. The prisoner is lodged in Consett lock-up, and will be remanded before the Magistrates to-morrow (Saturday).

THE MUTINY AT ASSIOUT.

The *Standard's* Cairo correspondent telegraphing on Thursday evening says:—The mutineers from Assiout have arrived here and will be tried by court martial on Saturday. Further details show most gallant conduct on the part of Major Grant. He appears to have followed thirty-two Turks across the river in a ferry-boat with ten horsemen. Having come up with them at the Sheikh's house he demanded surrender, and on refusal he shot one dead and wounded others, whereupon the rest submitted.

FRANCE AND CHINA.

The *Daily News* Paris correspondent telegraphing on Thursday evening states:—All the semi-official journals affirm that, so far from war with China being inevitable, negotiations for a peaceful solution are going on satisfactorily, and France is disposed to reduce the amount of indemnity at first required, in return for other advantages.

TO-DAY'S MARKETS.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.—Consols one-sixteenth lower. Wheat unaltered.

NEWCASTLE POTATO.—There was a pretty large arrival of Dutch potatoes, but the market was dull. Bags sold at 3s to 3s 3d, and 3s 6d for finest regents; baskets sold from 2s to 2s 6d. About eight trucks of Scotch potatoes arrived this morning; fair demand, and all cleared out at £6 per ton.

NEWCASTLE FISH.—Quotations: Large haddocks, 6s to 7s per basket; second do., 3s; small do., 2s 6d to 2s 9d; codlings, 5s; ling, 3s to 5s each; cod, 2s to 3s; turbot, 8d per box.

NORTH SHIELDS.—There is a plentiful supply of fish at market. Prices:—Haddocks, 4s to 10s; picked whitings, 7s 6d to 10s 6d; plaice, 15s; lemons, 22s per basket; witches, 19s per basket; cod, 3s to 3s 6d; ling, 4s 6d to 7s; skate, 3s 6d each; halibut, 8d; turbot, 10d and 1s; salmon, 10d and 1s; trout, 9d to 10d per lb; soles, 18s per stone. No herrings were sold.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting on Wednesday evening was attended by Mr James Annandale, J.P. (in the chair), Messrs John Smith, Wm. Wheatley, A. E. Turner, Jos. Eltringham, F. Priestman, Richard Murray, Henry Carss, Wm. Telford, in addition to the Clerk (Mr J. Booth).

FINANCIAL.

The Finance Committee recommended the payment of several accounts, amounting to £38 9s 1d, and on the motion of Mr MURRAY, cheques were ordered to be drawn in payment thereof.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr Dixon) read the subjoined report:—

To the Chairman and Members of Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district, water-tabling and dressing-up. The roads have been damaged a little by the heavy thunderstorms we have had recently. Your workmen have laid down a brick channel on part of Durham Road, these bricks being taken out of Derwent Street footpath when the cementing was done.

I wish to have the instructions of the Board with regard to cows committing a nuisance on the footpaths. I have had several complaints respecting cow's dung and filth being scattered over the footpaths. I wish to know if there is any means of preventing this nuisance?

I met Mr Askwith, the Consett Water Company's Engineer, about the defective fire-plugs. He promised to have them put right by placing a new main down the Cutlers' Hall Road. This, he says, will remedy the evil.

As the time is approaching for the lamp-lighting to commence, you will require another lamp-lighter. I have received three applications for the situation. Their applications have been laid before your Lighting Committee, who leave the selection of the lamplighter to the Board.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant.

JOHN DIXON.

Shotley Bridge, July 15th, 1884.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month I have inspected your district several times. I find the ashpits well cleaned out, and your district is in a satisfactory condition.

With regard to Musgrove's and Hagan's properties, the notices have expired. Musgrove has submitted plans for the alterations to his property. This work will be commenced as soon as the plans are passed. Mrs Hagan has done nothing to her property, and she complains of being too poor and cannot afford to make any alterations.

Mr Moore has connected the drain at the back of Derwent Hotel, Blackhill.

During the month one of your main drains at Blackfine was stopped up. This has been cleaned out and put right.

Mr Jopling has built the ashpit at the Scotch Arms, Blackhill.

During the month your Medical Officer and myself have had an inspection of properties at Shotley Bridge. There is one block of property your Medical Officer suggested that the Sanitary Committee ought to inspect—that is, the Bridge End House.

The following plans have been stamped and duplicates have been supplied Messrs Osborne's, Rochester's, Hall's, and McDonald's.

During the month your main drains have been well flushed-out by the heavy thunderstorm—in fact your main sewer down Cutlers Hall Road was not able to contain the overflow of water at one time, it escaping at the gulley-traps, and even bursting out of the road in several places.

I had a written notice served on me to prohibit Mr Rochester from building his conveniences abutting Baxton Burn road until the Board re-considered the question. Mr Rochester was served with a notice to stop his operations.—I am, gentlemen, yours, &c.,

JOHN DIXON.

Shotley Bridge, July 16th, 1884.

PLANS.

Mr CARSS moved the adoption of the Building and Sewerage Committee's report, approving of the plans submitted by Mr Musgrove, Rev A. Baillie (for additions to Presbyterian Manse) and the Burial Board (for the sexton's lodge in Benfieldside Cemetery).

Mr TELFORD seconded, and the proposal was carried.

A plan of a house for Mr Jonathan Stephenson proposed to be built at Blackhill, which only arrived on the preceding evening, was referred to the Building Committee.

MRS HAGAN'S PROPERTY.

The Inspector explained that Musgrove had submitted a plan for erection of back kitchen, &c., in Hawthorn Terrace. Mrs Hagan had promised to write to the Board that evening, explaining her circumstances, but she had failed to do so.

Mr ELTRINGHAM said it was very necessary that the work recommended by the Committee and their Medical Officer should be done. He considered this property was much worse than the other houses.

Mr CARSS: A great deal worse. It would not cost much to carry out the whole of the work.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: I have heard that Mrs Hagan has been boasting that no one can make her do the work necessary.

Mr MURRAY: We might close the property as being unfit for habitation—at least, that was the impression of the Committee who inspected the premises.

After further discussion, it was resolved, on the motion of Mr CARSS, and seconded by Mr WHEATLEY, that the Inspector be instructed to take proceedings before the magistrates relating to the notice served upon Mrs Hannah Hagan, on the 26th May last, to abate a nuisance on her property.

BUILDING AND SEWERAGE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.—MR CHEESMOND'S PLANS.

The following clause in this Committee's report relating to this subject was read:—"The plan presented by Mr Thomas Cheesmond, of two 2-roomed cottages and out-offices proposed to be erected on the side of Ritson's Road, Blackhill, received the attention of the Committee. The plans shew the cottages to front on to a 30ft. street, which the Building and Sanitary Committee declared to be a back street when they recommended the Board to pass the plans, presented by Mr R. Murray, of 13 houses, shewing yards and back doors next to the said street. [The Board passed the plans as recommended.] In connection with the above, there is Mr Robinson's letter complaining of the action of the Board in passing the said plans and the reply of the Building Committee to Mr Robinson's letter, in which it is acknowledged that Mr Murray has been allowed to use it as a back street. In the face of the above facts, the Committee feel it their duty to refer the said plans to the consideration of the Board, as the Committee are divided in their opinion in the matter.—(Signed) JOHN SMITH, Convener."

Mr CARSS said the facts of the case were simply these. Here was a 30ft. street given by a former owner of the land, and it was generally expected that Mr Murray would sell the adjacent ground for building sites. Now, however, Mr Murray had commenced to build, and he preferred facing his houses the other way—very properly so, for the simple reason that the street is something like 500 yards in length, two-thirds of which consisted of back buildings with houses facing them; and the Committee thought, when the plans were presented, that they could not insist upon Mr Murray facing the houses on a street, two-thirds of which was back buildings, therefore Mr Murray's plans were passed allowing him to erect his houses the other way. There were several peculiarities connected with this matter, and of such a character that the Board ought not to overlook them, inasmuch as they had dealt with similar instances, notably in the case of Messrs Eltringham and Turner a year or two ago. These were properties which were then in existence, and this Board ought not to cripple the owners, if it could possibly be avoided; therefore he considered that under certain circumstances it was not proper to allow them to do this as far as his judgment was concerned. Moreover, he thought it only right and proper that all houses should front a 36ft. street; but as they had departed from the bye-laws in the case of other proprietors in the neighbourhood, in order to prevent purchasers of land from sustaining any loss, he therefore moved that the plans be passed.

Mr SMITH enquired of Mr Carss how it happened the Sanitary Committee did not arrive at the same conclusion as he was now advocating? There was a copy of the report forwarded to Mr Robinson confirming the action of the Building and Sanitary Committee that they should pass these plans for a back street only. Therefore, he (Mr Smith) did not see how the Board could adopt these plans for houses to be erected facing a 30ft. back street. Their bye-laws specified a 36ft. street and not less. If the proposition was carried, then other proprietors in all streets ought to be allowed to carry out the same thing as Mr Cheesmond wished to do now. If they granted permission to build dwelling-houses fronting a 30ft. back street and looking towards Mr Murray's property, would it be in accordance with their bye-laws or common sense?

Mr CARSS: Unfortunately we have already allowed this to be done in two instances.

Mr SMITH observed that this plot of ground was opened out for new building sites, and before passing plans for new erections the owners must necessarily show a 36ft. street frontage.

Mr CARSS: The Board could have compelled Mr Turner to have set his house back and allowed a 36ft street.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: It's no use talking nonsense. In these two cases, the houses were already erected, and there was no alternative.

Mr TELFORD: Does our bye-laws actually forbid us passing plans for houses looking into a 36ft. street?

The Clerk replied there was nothing in the bye-laws to prohibit the Board from passing these plans. The Committee had called this a back street since this question had cropped up; but originally he believed this thoroughfare was intended to be a front street.

Mr ELTRINGHAM questioned that statement, averring that this had always been used as a back street.

The Clerk pointed out that in the old drafts and title deeds, the front streets were specified as 30ft. wide, therefore, it was only reasonable to assume that the former owner of this ground had evidently left this strip of ground for the purpose of a 30ft. front street.

Mr Turner explained that 15ft. on each side of the street was left by Mr Thompson and Mr Beckington, thus making it the full width. There were two conveniencies and a paint-shop abutting the said street.

Mr SMITH contended that to make this a back street at the high end, would thus depreciate the value of Mr Robinson's land.

Mr TELFORD: But if we do not pass these plans we depreciate the value of the property upon the land proposed to be built upon.

The discussion was continued for some time longer, and eventually, it was moved by Mr CARSS, and seconded by Mr MURRAY, that the plans submitted by Mr W. Raw for the erection of two houses for Mrs Cheesmond, abutting the back of Durham Road and adjoining Ritson's Road, be stamped, and duplicates furnished by Mr Raw.

The resolution was carried, Messrs Smith and Wheatley dissenting, and Mr Eltringham remaining neutral.

THE PRICE OF GAS: AN UNNECESSARY WASTE OF "GASS (!)"

Mr CARSS said that in accordance with the minute adopted at the last meeting, Mr Turner, Mr Lax, and himself awaited upon the directors of the Shotley Bridge and Consett Gas Company, relative to a reduction in the price of gas consumed by that Board, and the directors agreed to take 4d per 1,000 feet off the present charges.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: Is that reduction confirmed to the gas used by this Board, or does it likewise apply to private consumers?

Mr CARSS: Well, we were only dealing with the gas consumed by the Board.

Mr ELTRINGHAM understood that it was the intention of the Gas Company to effect a general reduction throughout the district.

Mr CARSS could not answer that question; but said it would not be a breach of faith on the part of the deputation to state that the deduction of 4d per 1,000 feet was pure and simple; the old price still being charged to the public, with a reduction of 10 per cent. to large consumers, and 5 per cent. to lesser ones.

Mr TURNER remarked that the directors had talked the matter over before the deputation were admitted, and they were told that any argument they might advance would not influence the directors in the least.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: That was highly complimentary to the deputation. (Laughter.)

Mr MURRAY (humorously): They must have been afraid of Mr Carss' arguments. He can sometimes prove that black is white. (More laughter.)

Mr CARSS (smiling): After I had stated the case on behalf of this Board, the Chairman of the Directors blandly informed me that I had wasted my eloquence on the desert air. (Loud laughter.)

BAXTON BURN, BLACKHILL: DISPUTED PROPERTY.

A memorial was read, signed by the property owners of Baxton Burn, Blackhill, setting forth that at the last meeting plans were passed for the erection of conveniences, &c., in Cutlers Hall, for Mr George Rochester. If these erections are built as at present proposed, they were likely to become nuisances and a source of annoyance to the adjoining householders, therefore they objected to the work being carried into effect; and they urged upon the Board either to prohibit Mr Rochester erecting his conveniences in that position, or to re-consider their decision and have the erections built so as not to become a nuisance to the other proprietors. Several reasons were advanced in favour of this course being adopted, the principal being that Baxton Burn was a private thoroughfare; that Mr Rochester intended to have "bull holes" in the middens and the night-soil and refuse would be thrown into the street right opposite their dwelling-houses; and that the hedge proposed to be demolished was a private fence, and could not be interfered with.

Mr MURRAY said he had been informed that the hedge abutting Mr Rochester's premises actually belonged the owners of the property on the opposite side—the complainants.

Mr ELTRINGHAM replied that Mr Rochester claimed the hedge as his property.

Mr MURRAY stated it was evident the plans had been passed under a misconception, and it would be necessary to have the minute already adopted rescinded.

Mr SMITH observed that when the Building Committee approved of the designs they had no block plan indicating the situation of the properties on the opposite side, otherwise they would not have sanctioned the erection of privies abutting this 15ft. street. The Committee had been misled, and he trusted that in future parties intending to build would furnish them with all particulars concerning the locality affected; and also give notice to the property-holders interested of their intention to build.

Mr Rochester attended the meeting with reference to the matter, and said he could not volunteer any additional information than the Board already possessed, except that he understood Baxton Burn to be a public road, and that he claimed the hedge as a limit of his boundary.

Mr Kirsopp was likewise called into the room, and he said that the owners on the opposite side claimed the ground up to the roots of the hedge, a portion of which had been destroyed.

The Clerk examined the title deeds produced by both parties, and gave his opinion that the hedge on the east side really belonged to the late Mr Jonathan Richardson, the vendor of the land. He did not think, however, that the executors of Mr Richardson had any desire to claim the hedge, seeing that it would devolve upon them to maintain in proper order the portion of the street abutting. Furthermore, the question of title could not be discussed by that Board, and did not in any way affect the point raised. The subject to consider was whether the Board had inadvertently passed plans for the erection of conveniences in such a position as to become nuisances to the owners of the property opposite. As this was a case of emergency, the Board was empowered (without giving the requisite twenty-eight days' notice) to pass a motion that day rescinding a minute already adopted.

Mr CARSS proposed that the question involved be declared a case of emergency.

Mr MURRAY explained that there would be no difficulty whatever in making a cartway in at the end of the buildings, and keep the conveniences from the street. He believed the street was a private thoroughfare.

The Clerk said he did not agree with Mr Murray that Baxton Burn was a private road; and he submitted that Mr Rochester had a right to use it, inasmuch as it had been open to the public for a number of years. The deeds alluded to Baxton Burn as a "street," which meant, in every sense, a thoroughfare dedicated to the public. If the Board considered that these conveniencies might eventually become a nuisance, then in all probability Mr Rochester would not object to carry out the recommendation of the Board as to the exact position of his ashpits. As matters stood at present it was a question of give and take, and each proprietor would have to concede a little.

Mr ELTRINGHAM could not say that any nuisance would accure from these privies standing in front of their houses, when the Board had already passed plans that day for similar conveniences to be built in front of Mr Murray's houses.

Mr MURRAY asserted that the two cases were not analogous; but Mr ELTRINGHAM maintained that they were alike.

The Clerk said that in one case the street was 30ft. in width; whereas in the present instance there was only a 15ft. street.

Mr ELTRINGHAM corrected the Clerk's misapprehension, adding that the conveniences proposed to be put up were some distance within the enclosed garden boundary, and would thus leave a space of about 30ft. from the adjacent property.

Mr CARSS and Mr SMITH thought that if the right soil was thrown out the "bull holes" into the street, and allowed to remain, it would undoubtedly be a great nuisance.

Mr TELFORD was of opinion that if each party gave way a little, the matter might be amicably settled.

Mr ELTRINGHAM pointed out that the other proprietors disputed Mr Rochester's right of way, and had asserted that they would not allow him to erect his privies facing that street, but would compel him to take his coals in and empty his refuse inside his own premises. On the other hand Mr Rochester claimed that he had a perfect right to use this road, and he was justified in upholding his privileges.

After further discussion, Mr MURRAY proposed that Mr Rochester be required to build his conveniences on a line with the old fence, or in a position to be decided by the Building Committee, and abandon the "bull holes," and that his coals be taken in, ashpits and privies be cleaned out from his own side of the property; also that the minute already passed be and is hereby rescinded, it being a matter of emergency.

The proposal was seconded by Mr TELFORD, and carried, Mr Eltringham only opposing.

When Mr Rochester was acquainted with the decision of the Board, he consented to conform with their recommendations.

"THE MAYOR" AGAIN TO THE FRONT.

A letter from Mr J. J. Harrison, professional sweep, was received, asking if the Board were awaiting the verdict of a coroner's jury before repairing the footpath in Messenger Street? (laughter).

The Surveyor said that some time ago Mr Westgarth was ordered to do the necessary work, and Mr Dixon was directed to urge its completion.

WATER PRESSURE AT BAXTON BURN.

The Surveyor reported that the Consett Water Company were laying down a larger main along Baxton Burn, which would improve the pressure of water; and it had been found necessary to remove the existing fire-plug to the back side. He suggested that it would be advisable to have another fire-plug in that locality, and the Board agreed with the recommendation.

LAMP LIGHTER.

The Board having considered the applications for this post, selected Mr Coulson, of the Snods.

DRIVING CATTLE ALONG THE FOOTPATH.

The Surveyor said he had received a great number of complaints recently respecting certain parties driving their cattle along the footpaths, and the beasts generally left some refuse thereon, which created a nuisance. This had become a vexed question, and he wished to know what measures he should adopt to prohibit a recurrence of the evil complained of. Sometimes he saw a person who was driving 10 or 12 cows, using his utmost endeavours to keep them off the footpath, but occasionally the cattle would stray on to the path and commit a nuisance, by depositing dung, &c.

Mr CARSS considered that all parties wilfully driving their cattle on the footpath (a practice he occasionally observed certain people indulged in) ought to be punished.

Mr WHEATLEY said it was ridiculous and absurd to suppose that persons driving cattle along the highways could keep them from stepping on to the footpaths occasionally. If they wished to protect the footpaths, they must fence them in.

The Clerk replied that, according to the legal aspect of the question, if any person driving two or three cattle along a road, used every precaution to keep the beasts off the footpath, and they occasionally stepped on to the path despite his efforts to prevent them, he could not be proceeded against. If, on the other hand, one man was driving a dozen or more cows, it was unreasonable to assume that he could manage that number by himself, and he must needs have some assistance. If such a person wilfully allowed his cattle to stray upon the footpath, and made no attempt to get them off, then he could be punished for creating a nuisance. It had recently been decided, in the Court of Appeal, that in the case where an ox ran into a china shop, in spite of every precaution observed by its driver, and upset a quantity of ware, then the aggrieved party could not sustain an action for damages. He (the Clerk) advised the Surveyor to caution all persons who habitually or wilfully allowed their cattle to stray on to the footpaths, and if this was of no avail, he should lay the case before the Board, and they would probably apply some legal remedy.

Mr WHEATLEY said that dogs were a greater nuisance than the cattle.

The Surveyor expressed a hope that this matter would be accorded the widest publicity through the press.

MR SMITH THREATENS TO RESIGN.

Mr SMITH asked the Board to appoint another convener of the Building and Sewerage Committee, adding that his close connection with plans and buildings prohibited him from performing his work in such a manner as to give satisfaction to the ratepayers at large.

The members, however, expressed their deepest sorrow at Mr Smith's determination, and finally persuaded him to retain his office until the end of the year in April next; but that gentleman intimated his intention of retiring from the Board at the next election. Mr Smith also uttered a protest against the decision of the Building Committee and the Board that day, which was totally inconsistent with their previous actions.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Appended is the quarterly report and statistics presented by the medical officer (Dr W. M. Renton):—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—I have rarely had occasion to present you with a more satisfactory table of vital statistics than the enclosed for the quarter ending June 30th.

The birth-rate is much above the average, and the death-rate one of the lowest on record.

Sporadic cases of scarlet fever continue to crop up mysteriously in Blackhill, and one case of enteric fever in Bessemer Street has recently been reported to me.

Whooping cough is generally prevalent all over the district.

With reference to the Local Government Board Memorandum dated July 6th, 1884, which Mr Booth has been good enough to send me relative to the precautions to be taken against the infection of cholera, I have communicated with your Inspector on the subject and have suggested to him that similar bills to those issued last summer be printed and circulated all over the district.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF BENFIELDSIDE FOR QUARTER ENDING JUNE 30TH, 1884

56 births, representing an annual rate of 34·4 per 1,000: 35 males and 21 females.

16 deaths, representing an annual rate of 9·8 per 1,000: 10 males and 6 females.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WM. RENTON, Medical Officer of Health.

July 16th, 1884.

The report was referred to the Sanitary Committee; and the Surveyor was authorised to have the necessary handbills printed and distributed, showing how the spread of the cholera may be prevented.

RE-APPOINTMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICER.

Dr W. M. Renton was re-appointed Medical Officer for the next twelve months, at a salary of fifteen guineas per annum.

THE RECENT STORMS.

Mr CARSS said that in consequence of the overflow of the sewers, his premises were completely flooded during the recent heavy storms, and he intended to forward the Board a claim for damages.

The Sanitary Committee was directed to inspect Mr Carss' property, and ascertain the loss he had sustained, and assess the amount of compensation.

The Board adjourned.

HARLITT'S HOPE.

BY WILLIAM J. LACEY.

CHAPTER I.

It was a strange name to give to a house, and not everyone in Beccleford knew exactly how it had been gained. The new manager at the branch bank was curious about it and asked his chief clerk when walking round the lanes with him one frosty December evening.

"By-the-bye, Marshwood he said, "what a singular title that small house at the corner of your Beccleford Park goes by; what is the explanation?"

"Harlitt's Hope, you mean, sir?"

"Yes; the building is shut up now, I believe."

"It is. Ah! it is a queer story! When I first came into the town the cottage—it is scarcely a more pretentious edifice—was known as "The Elms," but the other appellation has superseded that for a long while now."

"Some romance, no doubt."

"A rather pathetic one, at least to my old-fashioned way of thinking."

"Will you let me hear it? You have already wrought up my interest to quite an exciting pitch."

The clerk laughed,—"Then I am afraid the narrative may after all seem tame," he said, "however I'll try to give it to you in a comprehensive shape. At starting I must have a word about the Park, for the fortunes of Beccleford Manor are also to some extent involved."

"Indeed! It is a drama of two homes to which I am to listen?"

"Of two homes and of one race. At the beginning of the present century the Beccleford Manor Estate belonged to the Harlitt's—had been theirs, according to tradition, since the days of the Tudors. But there came a father and a son who combined not only to cut off the entail but to involve the property in inextricable difficulties. The family was ruined and their estate sold to strangers.

"It is now in Chancery, is it not?"

"I believe so; a suit is pending concerning it, and that it is how it is that the mansion is at present occupied only by caretakers. But to return. The last of the Harlitt's was a lad of twenty when his ancestral home came to the hammer. He, or his solicitor for him, managed to save from the wreck of his fortunes a very narrow income, and the small *demesne* about which you have been inquiring. The young fellow—Anthony by name—settled there, and he lived in that house for close upon thirty years, alone and almost a hermit. It is said there was a rumour once that he was engaged to be married, but nothing came of it."

"Afraid to test the practicability of love in a cottage, perhaps."

"It may be so; I cannot say, all this was before my own acquaintance with the circumstances commenced. Certainly, when I knew him, Anthony Harlitt was far too pronounced a misanthrope to make it easy to link ideas of love with him in any fashion, and here comes the key to the mystery of Harlitt's Hope. The one ambition which possessed Mr. Anthony's soul, the dream for whose fulfilment he seemed to live, was to be able some day to repurchase Beccleford Manor, and to re-establish therein the byegone glories of his family. Probably, had he succeeded, he would have married then."

"The vision was vain?"

"Quite so. But it never left him. The cottage, as you may have noticed, is exceedingly well placed and overlooks the Park. From the garden a complete view of the Manor precincts is to be obtained, and Anthony Harlitt was so constantly seen walking up and down within his circumscribed borders and gazing on the lost inheritance, and was so widely and accurately understood to be actuated by the aim of winning back the estate, that by a sort of gentle irony the designation of 'The Elms,' came gradually to be changed to 'Harlitt's Hope.'"

"But what was the hope founded upon? Why did he not go out into the world and fight for his fortune in the field of commerce? Was he a mere sentimentalist?"

"Those are questions somewhat difficult to answer. Perhaps a feeling of family pride restrained him from adventuring into a counting-house. He may have looked upon the necessary contact with men his inferiors in birth and breeding as a degradation too grievous to be borne."

"Then he was a fool! These are the days in which such aristocratic notions generally mean ruin to the folks that harbour them. But if so, how did he propose to reach the end of which you speak. He must have known that money could not be made by sitting down with folded hands; he could scarcely have expected that the bricks and mortar of Beccleford Manor House would again become his by simply watching them."

"He was an inventor."

"Ah!"

"I fancy he possessed some genuine mechanical ingenuity, and at any rate he was always at work contriving or fashioning some new appliance."

"Which was not a success?"

"No; but to which he looked to bring a golden harvest."

"And what has become of Mr. Anthony Harlitt now?"

"That I cannot tell you. He disappeared quite suddenly a year ago last Christmas-tide, and the house has been closed ever since. I doubt if even Perrowne, his solicitor, has any clue to his whereabouts. It was rumoured that he had a legacy, in the shape of an orphan niece, and left on that account."

"I pity the girl consigned to the tender mercies of so eccentric a relative."

CHAPTER II.

It was Christmas Eve; and a Christmas Eve of the old-fashioned sort, with snow on the ground and frost in the air, and skaters on the ponds, and abundance of flaming holly-berries on English hedges and in English homes.

Anthony Harlitt sat before a small fire in a dingy suburban dwelling and held his thin and wrinkled hands out to the churlish blaze. By the chronicle of the Beccleford registers he was but little advanced beyond the prime of life; but the years had been as ungenerous to him as Dame Fortune herself, and he was grey, and bowed, and fast growing feeble. His face was pale and haggard. The plough-shares of many disappointments had left their furrows across his brow. His voice as he indulged in a bitter soliloquy, was harsh and quavering.

"And it is five-and-twenty years ago to-night since Agnes and I parted," he said, "I told her that I had vowed a vow and would keep it. That love of woman should never master my heart until by my efforts the home of my ancestors was reclaimed. She had shaken my resolution as none other could do. But when the issue became clear and a decision was necessary not even Agnes could cause me to yield. We parted and I have never seen her since. She was a lovely girl, and as good as lovely."

The speaker arose and with uncertain footsteps crossed the dimly lighted room to a corner bureau. He opened this and touched a secret spring. A miniature and a lock of fair curling hair were revealed within. The withered fingers wandered caressingly about these relics of the past, and again the sad-voiced whisper came.

"I threw aside love for wealth—for a vision, which has ever eluded my grasp, and to-night is so far off! so far off!" he said. "Was I as wise as I supposed? Or, did I indeed blunder, that Christmas Eve?"

At this moment the door opened and a merry, maidenly figure tripped into the apartment.

"Why uncle, how dull you look, with such a tiny glimmer of gas—and a fire—is there a fire at all, I wonder? and such a night! you'll be half frozen! I'm sure we are not so poor as to make this state of things a necessity."

Even as she uttered those rapid sentences Claire Estbrook had administered a playful tap to the chandelier, almost dazzling herself and her uncle with the blaze which abruptly followed, and skipping to the hearth was busy with the cunning replenishment and coaxing of the sullen and sinking fire. It was as if a beneficent fairy had stepped into the cheerless room, a fairy in whose very presence were the gifts of light and beauty and warmth. And those who enjoyed the advantages of Claire's acquaintance would have said that the comparison was no inappropriate one. In face Claire was charming—with clear cut regular features, laughing hazel eyes, an exquisite complexion, and lips like June rose-leaves dividing upon pearls. In figure she was slim and graceful. To-night her high spirits seemed however, phenomenal, and her uncle with his apprehension possibly quickened by the reminiscences into which he had drifted was suspicious of some hidden explanation.

"Don't act quite like a whirlwind, Claire, if you *are* excited," he said. "What has happened to make your cheeks burn so, and to put such a brightness into your eyes? I ought not to have allowed you to go wandering through London streets alone."

"St. Philip's is not far, uncle," Claire replied, angry that the tell-tale blush instead of departing was stealing upwards into the very roots of her hair.—"we have been so exceedingly busy, decorating the old church; I suppose I am rather warm. I think the building will look pretty to-morrow."

"No doubt, no doubt; and was Mr. Bretbury there?"

There was no mistake about the girl's agitation now. It disclosed itself in a dozen different ways—in crimsoned countenance, in downcast eyes, in the twitching of the mobile mouth, in an unwonted hesitation.

"I can tell that he was," said Anthony Harlitt, with a strange, enigmatical sigh; "and of course he has been talking the inevitable soft nonsense to you. Young men are all alike for that, whether they mean anything or not."

It was self-reproach that was vibrating in the last sentence had Claire guessed it; but she was absorbed in her own little romance. Her uncle seemed in an unusually kind and gentle mood this evening. Why should she not seize the opportunity of making the confession which, sooner or later, was inevitable? Courage came to her and she made the plunge.

"It is true that Harry Bretbury has been—talking," she said. "Will it surprise you, uncle? Will it grieve you, or displease you? Harry wants me—to marry him; he says he'll never be happy else."

A trembling young hand was laid with a caressing gesture on Anthony Harlitt's shoulder. There was a long, harassing silence.

"And what has my niece replied?" the old man asked hoarsely; "can she care for this suitor enough to trust him with her whole future happiness?"

The radiance on the suddenly uplifted face was a sufficient answer.

"Then no word of mine shall part you," said the watcher.

(*To be continued.*)

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

WHAT IS A GOPHER?

Four New York business men sat in a Third-avenue car on their way down town recently. Looking up from his newspaper one of them said: "Here's an item that says gopher holes make horseback riding dangerous on the plains. Now, I'd like to know what a gopher is, anyway, looking around inquiringly. "A gopher is a striped squirrel," said a tall man in a tone of quiet assurance. "You're mistaken, sir," said his neighbour; "a gopher is a land turtle that burrows." "I shall have to differ from you, gentlemen," interposed the fourth man; "a gopher is neither a striped squirrel nor a turtle. It is a kind of rat." A man on the opposite seat, who had listened to the conversation with evident interest, said, "Excuse me, gentlemen, but you are all mistaken. A gopher is a snake. I've killed lots of 'em, and I know what I'm talking about." "Are you willing to back up your opinion?" asked the gopher squirrel man, taking a roll of bills from his pocket. "Certainly, sir. Here's five dollars that says a gopher is a snake." The money was put into the hands of the gentleman who started the discussion. He accepted it under protest, saying he was positive that a gopher was a grey burrowing squirrel. He had often seen them. A heated discussion followed, in which the words gopher, snake, squirrel, rat, and turtle figured prominently. The money in the stakeholder's hand soon amounted to 25dol. It was agreed that Webster should settle the dispute. The gentleman alighted from the car, went into an [illegible] a copy of the "Unabridged" was [illegible] "Gel-gop-p-go-pher—here it is," said the [illegible] as he ran his finger down the page. "Gopher, animal of several different species. The [illegible] originally given by French settlers [illegible] ing animals from their honey-combing [illegible] In Canada and Illinois the name was [illegible] grey burrowing squirrel; west of the [illegible] and in Wisconsin to a striped squirrel. In [illegible] a common species is a pouched rat of a chestnut brown colour, with [illegible] In Georgia a snake is called by [illegible] in Florida a turtle.'" As the [illegible] the money, he said, "Gentlemen, [illegible] are all right and all wrong. [illegible] learned something."

The Rev. Robert Hall, when asked how many sermons a preacher could prepare in a week, replied: "If he is a man of pre-eminent ability, one; if he is a man of ordinary ability, two; if he is an ass, six."

"Excuse me," said a polite citizen of the "States" to a coloured man. "I didn't kick you on purpose" "No, sah," replied darkey, "kicked me on de shin, sah. 'Scuze yer dis time, but don't git in de habit ob it, sah."

A swell, while being measured for a pair of boots, observed, "Make them cover the calf." "Impossible!" exclaimed the astonished shoemaker, surveying his customer from head to foot; "ain't leather enough in my shop."

"Will you ever pay that bill you owe me?" "Oh yes; sooner or later." "That's all very well, but I want you to set a time. I want to know for certain when it will be paid." "Well, if you want me to be exact about it, I'll say—later."

It may be all right for papers to publish diagrams of the rise and fall of stocks, grain, and metal for the year. But the woman who takes one of these things for a paper pattern and acts accordingly furnishes a sight to make a wooden Indian weep.

Old Tim borrowed the governor's saddle, and after keeping it several months refused to return it. "Why don't you return my saddle?" asked the governor. "I'se had it four months, sah, an'—" "That makes no difference." "Don't it? Wall, I'll keep it longer ef it doan' make no difference. Good day, sah."

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Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

WINLATON.—14th inst, the wife of T. W. Bagnall, of twin sons.

MARRIAGES.

PIETERMARITZBURG, Natal, South Africa.—At St. John's Presbyterian Church, on June 12th, 1884, by the Rev John Smith, Mr George Smith, formerly of Consett, to Margaret Ann Gilbertson eldest daughter of Matthias Gilbertson, formerly of Shotley Bridge. 338t

LANCHESTER.—Wesleyan Chapel, 16th inst., by the Rev W. Douglas, Thomas Charlton, of St Joseph, Missouri, America, son of the late John Charlton, of Rookhope, Weardale, to Sarah Hannah, only daughter of the late George Hedley, Langley Park.

DEATHS.

TEMPLETOWN.—18th inst., Margaret, the beloved wife of John Grant. Interment at Benfieldside, on Sunday first, July 20th, 1884. Friends please accept this intimation.

MARLEY HILL.—Street Gate, 11th inst., aged 67, John Leighton.

PRUDHOE.—Beaumont's Cottages, 11th inst., aged 64, Margaret, wife of Edward Watson.

BURNOPFIELD.—17th inst., aged 48, Matthew Heatherington, innkeeper.

ASH VILLA.—9th inst., aged 1½ years, Alfred Ernest, son of Mr John George Crofton, mining engineer.

WATERHOUSES.—9th inst, aged 64 years, James Douglass.

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