GREENOCK MERINO MILLS.

SOLE AGENTS FOR CONSETT AND DISTRICT
BAIN & CO.,
DRAPERS AND HATTERS,
NEW TOWN HALL, MIDDLE STREET
AND
QUEEN STREET, CONSETT.

Greenock Fingering, from 2d per ounce; Berlin Fingering, from 2½d per ounce; Double Berlin, from 2½d per ounce; Welsh Wool, 3d per ounce; Double Knitting, from 4d per cut; Petticoat Fingering, from 4d per cut; Wheeling Yarn, 1½d per ounce or 3½d per cut. Also, Greenock Hosiery and Fancy Knitted Goods. 471z

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

"GRANDMOTHER,"
In the *Queen* of October, 1885, says that the Yarns manufactured at the Greenock Merino Mills are the best she ever knitted.
SOLE AGENTS FOR CONSETT AND DISTRICT:
BAIN & CO.,
DRAPERS & HATTERS,
NEW TOWN HALL,
MIDDLE STREET and QUEEN STREET,
CONSETT. 471z

No. 1,454. | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, June 22nd, 1888. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

SPECIAL BRANCH.—M. L. ROSENBERG, 54 Westgate Road, Newcastle, advances MONEY on Reversionary Interest or Legacies under Wills, on Life Policies for £100 and upwards, on Building Society or other Shares, on Household Furniture without removal, and on deposit of Silver Plate, Jewellery, or any goods at a reasonable rate of interest, and on terms of repayment, all as arranged.—Established 1860. 739v

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY, From £10 to £2,000, in town or country, on approved note of hand alone, at 5 per cent. Also upon furniture, trade or farm stock (without removal), and to assist persons into business.
No sureties required. Strictly private, and no delay. Write or call on actual lender,
Mr. F. DUNBAR,
Kent Villa, St. Mary's Road, Harlesden, London

Contracts.

BEAMISH, PONTOP, and CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW at LANCHESTER, on WEDNESDAY, August 15th, 1888.—TENDERS for fitting up the Show Ground; for supplying the Dinner and Refreshments; for tents for Poultry, and for a Band, will be received by the Secretary on or before 27th June.—GEORGE HEPPELL, Secretary, Newfield, Chester-le-Street.

Lost.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

BASKET OF PIGEONS MISSING.

MISSING, a BASKET about 5 feet long, 1 inches broad, painted Maroon colour; the Basket contained Pigeons, and was in transit from Lanchester (Annfield Plain Show) on Saturday Afternoon, April 16th.
The Basket was seen on Durham Station Platform. Reward given if restored.
Superintendent's Office, Newcastle. 714

Wanted.

WANTED, a Servant GIRL, able to Milk.—Apply to WM. HAUGHAN, Knitsley Grange.

WANTED, a clean, industrious Woman as HOUSEKEEPER.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 763z

WANTED, at once, a COOK for a small family.—Apply at COOKE'S Registry Office, Blackhill. 762z

WANTED, good Plain COOKS; also, HOUSEMAID requiring Situation.—Mrs. PROUD'S Register Office, Shotley Bridge. 771z

WANTED, for the Butchering Department of the Langley Park Branch of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, a strong Lad as an APPRENTICE.—Applicants to be not less than 15, nor more than 17 years of age, and to meet the Committee at Annfield Plain, on Monday Night, June 25th, at Seven o'clock. Confined to Members.

LADIES REQUIRING SERVANTS and SERVANTS SITUATIONS will do well by applying at MRS. COOKE'S Registry, 38, Durham Road, Blackhill. 889w

GIRLS REQUIRING SITUATIONS, and Ladies requiring SERVANTS.—Apply at Mrs. BELL'S Register Office, 54, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 296w

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE. FOR SERVANTS, (Established in 1877) 13, Front Street, Consett. A call invited, when best attention will be given. 340w

Under Distinguished Patronage.
MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 263w

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. QUIGLEY, 5, Front Street, Consett. 396v

WANTED it thoroughly known at Consett and the District, that High-class PORTRAITS, artistically finished, MAY BE HAD at very Reasonable Prices, at VENICE DUNN'S, PHOTOGRAPHER, 13, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—2,000 Female Servants, Miners, Farmers, Labourers, Quarrymen, and others WANTED for Queensland, Australia. Free and Assisted Passages granted by Mail Steamers. Immediate employment on arrival.—Apply at once to the Queensland Government Agent, WM. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead.—Also, WANTED Emigrants for the United States, Canada, British Columbia, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, South America, Argentine Republic, £8.

NOTICE.—EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.—Lowest Fares to NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, and all parts of the United States and Canada, &c., every week from Newcastle Quay. Special arrangements for the comfort and convenience of Passengers by First-class ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, *via* Rotterdam.
N.B.—Passengers are met on landing, and receive full directions how to proceed to their journey's end.
For Passage, &c., apply personally, or by letter, to GEO. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer, Catchgate, Lintz Green.
NOTE.—G.R.H. undertakes Sales by Auction on the most Reasonable Terms. 361z

To Let.

COMFORTABLE LODGINGS for one or two respectable young men, at 63, Benfieldside Edge Road. 181z

TO LET, THREE Four-roomed HOUSES (New Fines Cottages), pleasantly situated at Medomsley.—Apply to JACOB WALTON, Overman, Medomsley Colliery. 911y

TENTS TO LET, on Reasonable Terms, 30ft. x 30ft., 60ft. x 30ft., 90ft. x 30ft., 120ft. x 30ft., up to 180ft. x 30ft., if required.—Apply to THOS. CALVERT, Grocer, Medomsley, Lintz Green. 379z

BEERHOUSE, AT CONSETT, TO LET.—The TINMILL INN, with possession next August.—Apply personally to MATTHEW TAYLOR & Co., Swalwell Brewery. 745z

TO LET, a HOUSE, containing Six Rooms, Bath Room, and Scullery, situate in St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside.—For particulars, apply to Mr. PETER GIBSON, Boot-maker, 57, Durham Road, Blackhill. 261z

MARQUEES TO LET on HIRE, in several sizes; Refreshment Tent, 40 feet by 18 feet; Large Tent, 100 feet by 30 feet.—For prices and particulars, apply to Mr JOE. HENDERSON, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 553z

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.
TO LET, the CO-OPERATIVE HALL (capable of seating 500 people) for Concerts, Lectures, &c. Also, ROOMS suitable for Clubs and Friendly Societies.—For Forms and Conditions, apply to the Secretary JESSE HALL, Consett. 65z

TO LET, from 1st August, the Old-established GENERAL DRAPERY SHOP, at Dipton; Large Plate Glass Windows, together with good House, Coach-house, Stable, and Garden. A capital opening for a pushing man.—Apply to Mr. A. PHILLIPSON, Property Agent, Dipton, *via* Lintz Green; or the Proprietor, J. M. BEAVAN, Prudhoe-on-Tyne. 752z

Park House, Lanchester, Co. Durham.
TO BE LET, and entered on almost immediately, the above desirable RESIDENCE, situate one minute's walk from Lanchester Station, where there is a convenient service of trains. The house contains 3 Reception Rooms, 6 Bed and Dressing Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, and convenient Outoffices. A Three-Stalled Stable and Coach House, Harness Room, and about an Acre of Old Grass Land.—For further particulars, and cards to view, apply to THOS. BLANDFORD, Corbridge-on-Tyne.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a GROCERY and DRAPERY BUSINESS; and SHOP TO LET.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 747z

FOR SALE, a PONY, 4 years old, about 11½ h.h., thoroughly quiet and accustomed to children.—Apply at High Hamsterley, Lintz Green 749z

FOR SALE, Capital WAGGONETTE; very cheap.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 736z

FOR SALE, several Good Second-hand PIANOS, HARMONIUMS, and AMERICAN ORGANS.—A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton.

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester 196v

FOR SALE, Two STOVES, BARS two COILS, and a quantity of IRON PIPES, for Heating Purposes.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office.

FOR SALE, by Private Treaty, a good, useful HOUSE of Four Rooms, with necessary Outbuildings.—For particulars, apply to EDWARD TELFORD, on the Premises, No. 12, Front Street, Templetown. 730z

NITRATE OF SODA, Peruvian and Ichaboe Guanos, Superphosphates, Bones, and Agricultural Salt FOR SALE. Also Linseed and Cotton Cakes, Foreign Hay and Straw. All best quality. Imported by HAVELOCK and USHER, Side, Newcastle.

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.

BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES FOR SALE.—Sole agents for the New Rapid; also, The Brooke's Safeties; the latter holds the world's records. Prices from £11 10s; New Type Safeties, £10 10s; Bicycles from £6 10s, balls both wheels; Second-hand Machines from £2. Price lists free on application.—JAMES SUTTON & Co., 26, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. R. PATTISON, Manager.

BICYCLES, TRICYCLES, and SAFETIES FOR SALE. Largest Stock, best variety, including the celebrated Rex Safety. Liberal cash discounts, easy payments. Old machines taken in exchange. See our splendid Double Frame Safety, £10 10s. Clearing out a big lot of second-hands cheap. Repairs.—Egdell, 10, Newgate Street, and 116, Northumberland Street, Newcastle. 443z

Business Announcements.

SWEEP! SWEEP! SWEEP!

WITH PATENT APPARATUS no dust can escape; no forks to damage the jambs.
Address—WILLIAM BUTCHER,
Messenger Street, Shotley Bridge.
REASONABLE CHARGES.

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

Our Siding is connected with Railway direct to Consett and West District. Prices given for Common Bricks, Flooring, Quarls, House Tiles, Draining Pipes, &c. Goods carefully hand-packed into Trucks at Kilns. 760z

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, or Consuming Gas upon any Premises without first having obtained permission from the Secretary to the said Company, will be prosecuted as the Law directs.—By order,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.

THE GREENOCK KNITTING WORSTED AND KNITTED HOSIERY
ARE THE BEST AND CHEAPEST IN THE MARKET,
And can only be had in CONSETT from
BAIN & CO.,
GENERAL WAREHOUSEMEN,
MIDDLE STREET AND QUEEN STREET.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.
MRS. FRANCES CHRISTOPHER begs to return her sincere thanks to the Public for the liberal patronage she has received since the death of her husband; and respectfully intimates that she has removed from Delves Lane to the Old-Established Hacking Yard in Front Street, where business will be carried on as usual. HEARSES, MOURNING COACHES, CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS and POSTING in all its branches, on most reasonable terms.
Note the Address—
CONSETT LIVERY, HEARSE, AND MOURNING COACH ESTABLISHMENT,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
FRANCES CHRISTOPHER, PROPRIETRESS

THE WHISKEY,
BEN-GLEN-DEW,
42s. per Case of One Dozen each, or 21s. per Gallon (packages included).
RICHARD MURRAY,
BEN-FIELD-SIDE.

XMAS CASES OF ASSORTED SPIRITS AND WINES. 790y

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
First-class, full-powered Iron Steamships.
Accommodation for Passengers equal to any European Line.
Passengers and Goods landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad.
The Shortest and Best Route to the West.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 217z

MANCHESTER CORPORATION
CONCENTRATED MANURE,
MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT,
BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c.,
ANALYSING ABOUT

38·66 per Cent.	of ORGANIC MATTER, containing	
3·60 "	of AMMONIA.	
5·08 "	of ALKALINE SALTS, containing	
1·26 "	of POTASH.	
8·57 "	of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.	
2·50 "	of SULPHATE OF LIME.	

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 150 miles of Manchester in not less than Four Ton Lots, and within 50 miles in not less than Two Ton Lots, at £3 PER TON.
Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made.
HY. WHILEY, Superintendent,
Health Department, Town Hall, Manchester; or to W. WOOD, Field Head, Shotley Bridge;
JOHN FATHERLEY, Washington. 799y

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE
AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWARD 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 & SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD NEWCASTLE 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

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.

DENTISTRY.
MR. R. COLLIER
SURGEON DENTIST,
Supplies PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH at Moderate Charges.
PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED. CHILDREN'S TEETH REGULATED WITH G[illegible]T CARE
TEETH STOPPED, &c. CONSULTATIONS FREE. NITROUS OXIDE GAS ADMINISTERED IF DESIRED
59, GRAINGER STREET, NEAR ART GALLERY, NEWCASTLE

WANTED PEOPLE TO KNOW
THAT
R. WILLEY'S 2s., 2s. 6d., AND 3s. TEAS
Are acknowledged by thousands to be the
POPULAR BEVERAGE
As a refreshing summer drink, being securely packed in sealed lead caddies [illegible]ngth and flavour is thus preserved.

R.W. WISHES to call your special attention to his well-selected STOCK of GROCERIES and PROVISIONS; all remarkably cheap. Bottler of Bass and Co.'s Pale Ale and Guinness' Dublin Stout. Mild and Bitter Ales on Draught.
NOTE THE ADDRESS—
R. WILLEY, CONSETT TEA HOUSE, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT

DRESSMAKING DEPARTMENT.

QUESTION.
OH, WHERE DID YOU GET YOUR DRESS MADE—IT'S BEAUTIFUL?
ANSWER.
WHY, AT
HUTCHINSON'S, CONSETT.
DRESSMAKING UNDER PRACTICAL MANAGEMENT DONE ON THE PREMISES.
PRICES LOW. STYLE AND FIT GUARANTEED.
LADIES' OWN MATERIALS MADE. A TRIAL ORDER SOLICITED.
NOTE ADDRESS:—
WM. HUTCHINSON & CO.,
THE RIGHT HOUSE,
4, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.
P.S.—MOURNING ORDERS A SPECIALITY.

WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY.
WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. D. GRADON, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.
WATCHES.—Splendid English Patent Levers, at 55/ and 58/-. D. G. can specially recommend these Watches, as they are exceptionally good value, and are giving good satisfaction; Warranted. LADIES' SILVER GENEVA WATCHES from 15/-, a Superior Watch, made by Mathey (best maker), 36/6., also a good selection of other Watches. CLOCKS—Marble—Suitable for Presentation, from 21/-. AMERICAN Eight-days' Striking Clocks, from 15/6; Timepieces, from 3/6. JEWELLERY.—Half-dozen Nickel-Silver Tea-spoons and Gold Wedding Ring, from 7/-. A large and choice stock of Jewellery, Whitby Jet, Electro-Plate, &c. SPECTACLES AND EYEGLASSES in great variety. Steel-workers' Spectacles, 1/6 with case. D. G. *supplies the best Steelworks in the United Kingdom with these Specs.* All Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Spectacles, and Eyeglasses repaired on the premises at Moderate Charges. Watches and Clocks Cleaned and Repaired by D. G. are upheld for one year, unless over-wound or damaged by accident.
ARTICLES MAY BE PURCHASED BY INSTALMENTS. CLUBS SUPPLIED. BAROMETERS AND THERMOMETERS.
190z D. GRADON, MANUFACTURER, BLACKHILL.

JOHN THURLOW POTTS
Begs to announce to his Friends and the Public that he has
PURCHASED A MANUFACTURER'S STOCK,
At a Large Discount, consisting of the following Goods, which will be shown in the Large Window, and placed on Tables down the Centre of the Shop for Inspection and Sale on SATURDAY FIRST.

	Manufacturer's Price.	Sale Price.
755 Pairs of Ladies' Corsets	1s 6d and 3s 6d	10½d and 1s 6½d.
2,000 Dozen Dress Buttons	4½d	1d per doz.
60 Ladies' Beaded Sets Collars and Cuffs	3s 9d	1s 11½d.
45 Do. Pannels, with Collars and Cuffs	8s 11d	3s 11½d.
286 Doz. Beaded Ornaments	6½d each	2½d each.
556 Cream and White Long Feathers	2s 11d and 5s 6d	9½d and 1s 4½d.
300 Black Long Feathers	5s 0d	1s 2½d.
120 Cards Beaded Gimps	4½d and 1s 11d per yard	1½d and 6½d per yd.
10,000 Yards Chintz Prints	2½d do.	1d do.
90,000 Yards Fancy Prints, New Patterns	4½d and 5½d do.	2½d and 3½d do.
6,148 Yards Fancy Dress Materials	4½d, 7½d, 8½d, and 10½d do.	2½d, 4½d, 6½d, & 7½d. do.
1,110 Ladies' Black Stockinette Jackets	6s 6d and 11s 6d	4s 11d and 6s 6d.
75 Ladies' and Children's Beaded Capes	11s 6d	4s 11d.
50 Dozen White Towels	2d	1d.
755 Yards Coloured Striped Satins	2s 6d	1s 0½d.

J. T. P. would remind his Friends that this is one of the Most Wonderful Purchases ever made during his business experience, which will be readily admitted by all who inspect the Goods.

JOHN T. POTTS,
THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 731z

TRY
JOHN HUME & SON'S
CELEBRATED
"GERM MEAL."

SOUTH ACOMB, STOCKSFIELD-ON-TYNE,
June 7th, 1887.
Messrs. JOHN HUME & SON,
GENTLEMEN,
You may recollect that some time ago I purchased several tons of your Germ Meal, and as I keep an accurate account of the food used by our cows, its cost, quantity used, and the amount of milk produced per week, it may interest you to know the result.
During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7½ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7½ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16¼ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.
I am, yours faithfully,
W. TROTTER.

Business Announcements.

WONDERFUL.
THE 2 W.'S
HAVE PURCHASED A LOT OF MEN'S AND BOYS' SUITS AT 20 PER CENT. BELOW REGULAR PRICES, AND WILL OFFER THE SAME THIS WEEK AT THE FOLLOWING PRICES:—
Men's Tweed Suits, 17/11; worth 25/6. Men's Best Tweed Suits, 25/6; worth 30/-.
Men's Tweed Trousers, 4/11; worth 6/11. Boys' Suits, 2/10 and 3/11.
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, and NEWCASTLE. 680z

W. T. ELTRINGHAM,
AGENT for BUILDERS' STORES and SANITARY GOODS of every description,
RAILWAY TERRACE, BLACKHILL.
ALWAYS ON HAND, FERENS' and LOVE'S NEW SINK and GULLEY with CLEANING BUCKET, as approved of by the Surveyors to the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority and Benfieldside Local Board.
SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR LARGE QUANTITIES. 104z

W. RICHARDSON,
BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL,
BEGS to thank his numerous friends for the liberal support they have given him since he opened the above place, and to announce to his Customers that his Shop is now replete with a BEAUTIFUL and VARIED ASSORTMENT.
Having bought largely, and not having room for all the Goods, he is determined TO OFFER THE WHOLE STOCK AT A VERY SMALL PROFIT, as he is determined that no one shall undersell him in the trade.
Several Packages of the Newest Goods and latest Novelties for the opening Season, all carefully selected, are now ready for inspection.
Special attention is directed to the MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT of WASHING FABRICS, which for bloom and beauty surpass all former efforts in this class of Goods; in Original Designs and Charming Colours.
☞ CALL AND INSPECT FOR YOURSELVES. 235z

JOHNSON HEDLEY,
MANUFACTURING and WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER, &c.,
37, PERCY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Superior Jams and Marmalades.
Biscuits of all kinds. 23z

THE NOTED TAILORING, AND MILLINERY ESTABLISHMENT.
A. E. TURNER, 41, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL, begs to thank his numerous Friends for their esteemed Patronage during the 36 years that he has been in business, and respectfully informs them that by his new arrangements he hopes to give continued satisfaction in all Branches of his Establishment, including TAILORING, DRAPERY, and MILLINERY.
N.B.—A. E. T. has always a good Stock of Black and Fancy SUITINGS and OVERCOATINGS on hand; best quality, at lowest prices; fit guaranteed.

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, INMAN & INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP Co., Ltd. LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every WEDNESDAY. Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.
Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY, 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95z

FARMERS! FARMERS!! FARMERS!!!
CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS.
DO not risk buying your Seeds from Agents who never see the stuff sent out, but go to HOBSON'S SEED WAREHOUSE and see SEEDS before you order them. A large and carefully-selected Stock to choose from, at the lowest possible price.
TURNIP SEEDS! TURNIP SEEDS!! TURNIP SEEDS!!!
As good as can be got for money. All from the best transplanted bulbs.
At KYO FLOWER SHOW, to be held at Catchgate in September, 1888, G. H. will give:—
5s. for Three of the best Purple Top Swedes (Hobson's Choice).
5s. " " Green Top Swedes (Hobson's Choice).
5s. " " Green Top Yellows (Hobson's Choice).
5s. " " White, Green, or Grey Stone.
5s. for the best White Loaf made from Hobson's Extra Supers.
5s. " Brown Loaf made from Hobson's Whole Meal.
259z

THOMAS MILNER,
DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT
SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS
T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the
TAR ELIXER PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP
Prepared by Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington, for which he is sole Agent.
PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.
☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, LITTLE & CO'S, JEYE'S, COOPER'S and WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips.
ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS AND PURGING BALLS FOR HORSES.
FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.
MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES
For the speedy production of a Delicious Temperance Cordial. Ginger, Pine Apple, &c. 6d. per Bottle.
MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.
The excellent qualities of these Pills are too well known to be enumerated here, while the increasing demand under the Popular Name of Milner's Own Pills, is the best Proof of their efficacy. In Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.
MILNER'S AFRICAN INSECT POWDER, IN TINS, AT 6d., 1s., AND PACKETS.
BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.
An excellent Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c. and all Diseases of the Chest and Stomach. 1s. per Bottle.
HAIR RESTORERS PERFUMES, POMADES. TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.
MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.
OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANSING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.
TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.
Agent for Mr LAMONT'S Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c. &c.
MILNER CHEMIST
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, CONSETT

EDUCATIONAL.
JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.
☞ PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.
Evening School, from 6d. to 1s. per week. Commence on Monday, 18th October. 854w

MUSIC!
MUSIC LESSONS given—Piano, Harmonium, and American Organs Tuned and Repaired. Dealer in Harmoniums, &c.—T. JONES, 4, Gibson Street, near Co-operative Store, Consett 927w

MISS CAIRNS,
5, WEST VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,
HAVING finished her educational studies, is prepared to GIVE LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE, MUSIC, and in the ART OF SINGING at the above address.
Pupils attended at their own residence if required.
235z ☞ TERMS MODERATE.

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Cricket.

FIXTURES.

June 23.—Consett and District 1st v Jarrow 1st, at Consett.
" 23.—Consett and District 2nd v Jarrow 2nd, at Jarrow.
" 23.—Delaval Royal Oak v Blackhill Royal Oak, at Delaval.
" 23.—Burnopfield v Tanfield, at Tanfield.
" 23.—Hendon v Chester-le-Street, at Chester-le-Street.
" 23.—Craghead v Croxdale, at Croxdale.
" 23.—Berlin v Felling Temperance, at Felling.
" 23.—Prudhoe Hall v Ryton, at Ryton.
" 23.—Nursery v Spen Bute, at Newcastle.
" 23.—Ovingham v Haydon Bridge, at Ovingham.
" 23.—Rendel v Greenside, at Greenside.
" 23.—Hexham 2nd v Corbridge, at Hexham.
" 23.—Penshaw v Seaham Ernest, at Penshaw.
" 23.—Whickham v Blaydon, at Whickham.
" 23.—St. James's v Ushaw Moor, on Ushaw Moor ground.
" 23.—Sacriston v Kimblesworth, at Sacriston.
" 23.—East Herrington v South Moor, at East Herrington.
" 23.—Greenside 2nd v Horsley Juniors, at Horsley.

IMPORTANT TO CRICKETERS.—A useful series of scoring books (printed in a superior style and on good paper) have just been published in cheap and handy form, containing the recognised LAWS OF CRICKET as rranged and passed by the Marylebone Club. Any of the following can be recommended:—No 1, size 4½ by 7 inches, in strong binding, for the pocket, price 1s, post free, 1s 2d; No 2, a smaller edition of the above, 4 by 5 inches, 6d, post free, 7d; No 3 (for the club), 9½ by 12 inches, with flexible binding, price 1s, post free, 1s 3d. To be had at Robert Jackson's, *Guardian* Office, 59, Front Street, and 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett.

Medomsley would like to arrange matches for Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Address W. G. Thompson, Medomsley Edge, Lintz Green.

SACRISTON v PENSHAW.—Played at Sacriston, and resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—Penshaw, 35; Sacriston, 72.

WEST PELTON LILYWHITE v OUSTON WANDERERS.—Played at West Pelton on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the former by 33 runs. Score:—West Pelton, 49; Ouston Wanderers, 16.

West Pelton Lilywhite have vacant dates, and would like to arrange for home-and-home games with other clubs under 16 years of age. Address James Lee, 36, G Villa, Chester-le-Street.

NEWBURN v BLAYDON.—Played at Newburn on Saturday, and resulted in favour of the home club by 28 runs. For the home team Spencer bowled remarkably well, taking eight wickets for seven runs only; whilst for Blaydon Agar bowled very well. Score:—Blaydon, 15; Newburn, 43.

STAGSHAWBANK v MR J. CORNISH'S XI.—Played at Stagshawbank, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by 28 runs. J. J. McIntyre bowled well for the visitors, taking seven wickets for five runs. G. Byron batted in good form for the winners, remaining at the wickets till the ninth wicket fell, having contributed a well-earned 16. Score:—Stagshawbank, 14; Cornish's xi, 42.

DURHAM COUNTY CRICKET CUP TIE.

PHILADELPHIA v CONSETT.

The game between these two clubs was played on Saturday, on the cricket ground in the Park. Great care had been taken to secure a good pitch, and although the ground was very soft on account of the recent rain, it gave the greatest satisfaction to the players. Great interest was manifested in the game, as this was the first time these clubs had met. Philadelphia C.C. stands among the first in Durham County, so it was generally expected that the game would end in a victory for them. The spectators mustered in great force, there being upwards of 500 upon the ground in the afternoon. The umpires were Mr Hutton, of Durham, and Mr Brown, of Gateshead. The Philadelphia captain having won the toss, sent Consett team in to bat. The first batsmen were I. Richards and Wm. Turnbull. Harrison began the bowling, and off his first ball Turnbull made a leg-hit for 2. W. Lee bowled from the end towards the road. His first two overs were maidens, but in the third Richards got him away for 2. Both bowlers were bowling well, so that the scoring was very slow. Turnbull did not seem to be able to do anything with Lee, but made three two's and a three from Harrison before being dismissed. One wicket for 11. Siddell followed, but was bowled first ball. Richardson was the next man, and a fair stand was made, the batsmen going in for defensive play. The bowlers were changed, Young taking the place of J. Harrison, while J. Lee bowled instead of his brother. The change secured a separation, as Lee got Richardson leg-before-wicket. Three wickets down for 38. The fourth wicket fell at 38; fifth and 6th at 39, the sixth being that of I. Richards, who had been batting for upwards of an hour for 18. J. R. Richards and W. Foggon were the only remaining members of the Consett team who seemed to play the bowling—the former making 10 and the latter 7 not out. The Philadelphia innings began with Blanckley and J. Harrison to the bowling of I. Richards and Frank Richardson. Both batsmen played fine cricket, but at length Harrison was caught at the wicket by Leadbitter. One wicket for 11. Laidler followed in, and he and Blanckley collared the bowling. The latter was at length bowled by Williamson for a well-played 21, and Wood succeeded in taking a hard catch from Laidler, whose 23 was got by hard hitting. The best individual innings was that of J. Lee, who played splendid cricket for 44. Score:—

CONSETT.		PHILADELPHIA.	
I. Richards c W. Laidler b J. Lee	18	J. Blanckley b Williamson	21
W. Turnbull b W. Lee	9	J. C. Harrison c Leadbitter b Richardson	6
J. Siddell b W. Lee	0	J. Laidler c Wood b Leadbitter	23
F. Richardson lbw b J. Lee	11	J. Lee c Richardson b Foggon	44
T. Jameson c Sharpe b J. Lee	0	J. Young lbw b Leadbitter	0
W. A. Leadbitter c Laidler b J. Lee	0	W. Lee not out	17
J. R. Richards b W. Lee	10	T. Harrison c Leadbitter b Foggon	6
P. Gibson b J. Lee	2	W. Laidler not out	11
W. Foggon not out	7		
A. Wood b W. Lee	6		
M. Williamson b J. C. Harrison	1		
Extras	1	Extras	4
Total	65	Total	132

WESTWOOD v EAST END.

Played at Westwood on Saturday, the visitors winning by 8 runs. For Westwood J. Clark batted best, and Walton and Mason bowled well. For East End Varty took seven wickets for 16 runs. Score:—

WESTWOOD.		EAST END.	
Bell b Varty	4	Muir b J. Walton	2
Lonsdale b Varty	2	Adamson b Mason	4
D. Clark b Varty	6	Poad b Mason	4
Brown b Chard	0	Varty b Mason	2
J. Clark c & b Chard	12	White c J. Clark b Walton	14
Quigley b Varty	4	Chard b Mason	9
J. Walton c Poad b Chard	0	Warren b Walton	0
Simpson c & b Varty	6	Dalrymple b Walton	0
Mason b Varty	1	Hobson c Lonsdale b Walton	0
Brodie b Varty	0	Kennedy (sub.) b Mason	0
W. Walton not out	1	Littleton (sub.) not out	0
Extras	2	Extras	11
Total	38	Total	46

CHESTER-LE-STREET v TYNE DOCK.

Played at Tyne Dock on Saturday, resulting in an easy victory for the visitors. The brothers Middleton were in excellent form, and performed well with both bat and ball for their team. Score:—

CHESTER-LE-STREET.		TYNE DOCK.	
J. Halliday b Banfield	2	R. Wake c W. Middleton b T. Middleton	0
T. Middleton c and b Banfield	43	R. Banfield c Halliday b T. Middleton	2
J. Bewick c Kirkley b Banfield	31	J. Pescod st Halliday b T. Middleton	1
D. Shepherd b Banfield	21	J. Smith run out	1
W. Middleton c Keers b Smith	9	R. Keers b T. Middleton	3
R. Armstrong c Wake b Smith	10	R. Kirkley b W. Middleton	9
J. Murdock not out	5	A. Hibbert ht wkt b W. Middleton	5
R. Garbutt b Banfield	8	R. Brown b W. Middleton	0
T. L. Gray b Smith	0	W. Walker b T. Middleton	0
W. Davidson c Pescod b Banfield	1	A. Heslop c Armstrong b T. Middleton	0
J. Brown lbw b Smith	0	R. Stokoe not out	0
Extras	4	Extras	2
Total	134	Total	23

SHERBURN HOUSE v DEAF HILL.

Played at Trimdon Station on Saturday, and resulted in a win for Sherburn House. Score:—

SHERBURN HOUSE.		DEAF HILL.	
R. Hauxwell b Crowe	0	A. Vasey b Wilkinson	0
G. Wilkinson b Murry	2	T. Smith b Wilkinson	0
J. Jones run out	2	W. Murray b Wilkinson	0
T. Hutchinson b Crowe	1	A. Atkinson b Wilkinson	9
D. Cosker b Crowe	0	T. White run out	0
C. Kidd b Murray	1	— Morgan c Harrison b Wilkinson	17
A. Harrison b Atkinson	9	T. Weedy b Hutchinson	5
G. Alderson c Smith	0	— Abel b Hutchinson	0
J. T. Ridley not out	21	O. Dixon not out	2
R. Wilkinson run out	6	— Crowe b Hutchinson	4
G. Ridley b Crowe	1	T. Dixon st Hutchinson	1
Extras	4	Extras	7
Total	50	Total	45

CORBRIDGE v RIDING MILL.

Played on Saturday, the home side winning easily. Score:—

CORBRIDGE.		RIDING MILL.	
Rogers b Dixon	6	Dixon b Robson	3
Walton b Dixon	0	Bergen c & b Forster	2
Robson b Oliver	25	Oliver lbw b Forster	0
Forster b Oliver	3	W Tweddle c Joell b Forster	0
Dr Shoesmith c Trott'r b Oliver	20	J. Tweddle b Robson	1
Taylor c Swinburne b Oliver	16	J. Trotter c Joell b Robson	1
Turnbull c Greener b Dixon	12	Dean not out	5
Joell b Oliver	21	W. Trotter b Forster	0
Strothard not out	2	Swinburne b Forster	6
Pickering c Potter b Oliver	0	Sub. not out	5
Guy b Dixon	0	Dean to bat	
Extras	8	Extras	3
Total	113	Total	26

MARLEY HILL v WHICKHAM.

Played at Marley Hill on Saturday, and resulted in a draw. For the visitors Mowbray batted in excellent form for 17 not out. For the home team G. Robson hit hard for 25 before he was out to a splendid catch in the long field by Mowbray. Score:—

MARLEY HILL.		WHICKHAM.	
Hutchinson b Mowbray	0	Hawks b T. Robson	3
Joyce b Mowbray	1	Lawson b T. Robson	0
Brown c and b Atkinson	5	Thynn c Hutchinson b Robson	7
T. Robson b Mowbray	5	Mowbray not out	17
Burn b Atkinson	2	Mordue b Hutchinson	4
G. Robson c Mowbray b Lawson	25	Spencer c & b Hutchinson	4
Clark run out	7	Atkinson not out	6
Saunders c and b Lawson	4	Frater, Spoor, Highton, Snaith — To bat.	
Lee not out	3		
Elliott b Mowbray	6		
Sharp b Atkinson	0		
Extras	8	Extras	2
Total	61	Total	43

MEDOMSLEY v NEWCASTLE SCRATCH TEAM.

Played at Medomsley on Tuesday, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team. Newcastle arrived with a very strong team, composed of the best players of several Newcastle clubs—the Royal Artillery sending a strong contingent. The visiting captain winning the toss elected to bat, sending in Hardacre and Mee (Royal Artillery). The visitors, however, could make nothing of the bowling of A. Little, who is bowling splendidly this season, having taken 16 wickets at a cost of 4 runs each, Hogg being the only one to reach double figures. The visitors were finally disposed of for 41 runs. Medomsley then occupied the wickets, Mee and Kirton sharing the bowling. The first two wickets fell quickly, but Dales and M. Milburn made a stand, raising the score to 101 before being separated. Dales batted in fine style, never giving a single chance until caught by Mee off Wardroper. He occupied the wickets for over two hours, scoring 70. M. Milburn also batted carefully, obtaining 32 runs without giving a single chance. At the call of time Medomsley had lost seven wickets for 139 runs. Score:—

MEDOMSLEY.		SCRATCH TEAM.	
A. Little c Hardacre b Mee	0	Hardacre (R. A.) b Little	2
G. Walton b Mee	6	Mee (R. A.) b Little	0
T. D. Dales c Mee b Wardroper	70	Ridley b Little	0
M. Milburn run out	32	Kirton (R. A.) c Cant b Little	0
G. E. Milburn b Wardroper	4	Berry (R. A.) c Walton b Cant	0
F. Robinson b Wardroper	0	Hogg c and b Little	14
J. Snowdon not out	9	Turner run out	0
R. Cant st Hardacre b Mee	8	Drummond c Charlton b Milburn	7
M. Charlton not out	3	Dodd run out	8
W. G. Thompson to bat		Wardroper not out	4
J. Whitwell		Humble run out	2
Extras	7	Extras	5
Total	139	Total	42

CROOK v CORNSAY COLLIERY.

Played at Crook on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. Score:—

CORNSAY.		CROOK.	
Hope b Harding	14	Turnbull b W. Harding	0
Johnston c Reed b Hare	5	Scales c Gray b Slater	2
Slater lbw b Hare	1	Johnston c Anderson b Slater	9
Harding c Raine b Reed	19	Wilson b W. Harding	12
Halkier run out	11	Browning c Dodds b Slater	1
Grey c Hamilton b Harding	3	Hare b Slater	6
Dodds c Harding b Scales	20	Milburn c Dodds b W. Harding	2
Hodgson c Scales b Hare	0	J. Harding b W. Harding	11
Anderson b Scales	4	W. Reed b W. Harding	1
Milburn b Scales	6	Hamilton b W. Harding	0
Hull not out	0	Raine not out	4
Extras	6	Extras	2
Total	89	Total	50

USHAW MOOR 2ND v CORNSAY 2ND.

Played at Cornsay on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the visitors by 30 runs. Score:—

CORNSAY 2ND.		USHAW MOOR 2ND.	
J. Mace b Howgate	2	N. Howgate b Lowes	0
G. Lowes c Mould	0	W. Armstrong b Jones	13
W. Hardy b Howgate	2	A. Howgate b Jones	0
T. Scott c Davis	0	T. Davis b Lowes	2
R. Patterson c Walker	0	J. Glaister b Jones	9
W. Dowson b Howgate	3	T. Walker c Patterson	9
H. Lowes run out	8	A. Sewell not out	0
J. Raw run out	0	S. Howgate b Jones	1
T. Jones not out	3	W. Henderson b Lowes	1
R. Hardy st Sewell	0	J. Mould c & b Jones	0
R. Kettlewell b Howgate	0	E. Heckles run out	8
Extras	8	Extras	4
Total	17	Total	47

BURNOPFIELD v WEST STANLEY.

Played at Stanley on Saturday, resulting in a draw in favour of Burnopfield. R. Armstrong, Hogarth, and Finlay batted well for the visitors, while J. G. Mann played well for the home team. Score:—

BURNOPFIELD.		STANLEY.	
R. Armstrong run out	44	J. G. Mann not out	11
W. Hogarth b I. Harkness	26	P. Harkness b Lamb	4
G. Finlay b Benfold	24	W. Dodds c Davidson	2
G. Lamb c Fitches	0	C. Fitches b Curry	3
J. Curry b Fitches	13	J. Benfold, I. Harkness, R. Gibson, R. Knox, W. Bates, J. Curry, — Hughes — To bat.	
R. Ferguson b Harkness	0		
J. Potts run out	13		
W. Charlton run out	3		
G. Davis run out	0		
R. Davidson c P. Harkness	0		
N. Lamb not out	1		
Extras	18	Extras	0
Total	142	Total	20

DIPTON AND DISTRICT v SOUTH MOOR.

These teams met on the ground of the latter on Saturday, when the visitors won by 11 runs. J. Robinson, for the winners, batted in capital style, running up 28 without ever giving a chance. E. Reay was a long time at the wickets for his six singles, obtained in his well-known careful manner. For the home team, Messrs Hazon and W. T. Brass both got into double figures. After the game, the visitors were entertained to a first-rate tea, provided by and presided over by Mrs Dixon. Score:—

DIPTON.		SOUTH MOOR.	
F. Thompson b Wilkinson	5	W. T. Brass run out	10
E. Reay c Wilkinson b Hazon	6	R. Hope b Simpson	1
L. Simpson c and b Hazon	0	J. Wilkinson c Hope b Simpson	1
J. Robinson c R. Dixon b Wilkinson	28	J. Dixon b Simpson	6
J. W. A. Humphrey c W. Brass b Wilkinson	3	T. Hazon b Leadbitter	15
G. Leadbitter c and b Brass	7	J. Elliott c and b Thompson	0
W. Reed b Hazon	6	W. Greathead run out	4
J. Copley c J. Hope b Wilkinson	2	R. Dixon b Thompson	2
J. Welch b Hazon	2	G. Mason not out	1
J. Hope (sub.) not out	1	J. Wilkinson b Leadbitter	2
T. Welch (sub.) c Elliott b Wilkinson	6	J. Brass run out	0
Extras	3	Extras	10
Total	69	Total	58

Usworth True Blue—1st innings, 66; 2nd innings, 82. Blue Bell Heroes—1st innings, 9; 2nd innings, 67.

The Blaydon C.C. having formed a second team would like to arrange matches with any team 17 or 18 years of age. Secretary, R. Dunn, Pioneer House, Blaydon.

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

The Edmondsley Strangers Association football players are open to fix dates with any club. John Hunt, 105, Wood Row, Edmondsley, Chester-le-Street.

Sporting Items.

ANGLING IN UPPER WEARDALE.—It is years since trout was so plentiful in the upper reaches of the Wear and its tributaries, and some good baskets have been made despite the increased number of anglers.

DEARNESS VALLEY BALL ALLEY.—A good company assembled at the ball alley adjoining Mr John Hall's, Dearness Valley Hotel, to witness a fives match between John Cushlow and S. Thompson, both of East Hedleyhope, on the one side, and the Brothers Price, of Sunniside, on the other, for £5 a-side. Cushlow and Thompson had the best of the game, and only allowed the brothers to score 10 in a game of 21 up.

ANGLING IN THE DERWENT.—A Blanchland correspondent writes:—As a river for trout fishing the Derwent at Blanchland has now attained considerable popularity. For many generations back the stream was much polluted with the mineral water from the Derwent mines, which to a great extent was unfavourable for the habitation of the finney tribe, but the days of the lead mining industry in this part having some eight years ago departed, and the water having regained its original purity, year by year the increase of the quantity and quality of the trout has been very marked. The consequence is the number of anglers has very much increased in the district, additions being made to them by visitors from various distant towns. The locality has also aquired a high reputation as a health resort in addition to its beautiful natural scenery, and the well-known hostelry called the "Lord Crewes Arms Inn," at which every comfort is obtainable from Mrs Imison, the proprietress, is a very appreciable adjunct. The largest quantities of trout caught up to the present date have been by the vicar of Blanchland, Rev J. C. Dunn, who has exhibited great proficiency in the art; the best trout of the season, however, were caught on Friday afternoon, after a heavy rainfall, by James Collin and T. H. Parker, whose supplies fell into the hands of the writer, who found them to be of the finest quality. Mr Joseph Sanderson, merchant tailor, and Wm. Southern, schoolmaster, have also been very successful throughout the season.

DEARNESS VALLEY GROUNDS.—These grounds were well patronised on Saturday afternoon, when the trial heats of Mr H. Greener's fourth £7 10s 120 yards foot handicap were run off. Results:—Heat 1—J. Dowson, Boyne, 25, 1; W. Forster, Page Bank, 21, 2. Won by two yards. Heat 2—T. Bowman, Hamilton, 30, 1; W. Halliday, Framwellgate Moor, 15, 2; A. Wheater, High Grange, 21, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 3—B. Donegan, Crook, 22, 1; C. Todd, Willington, 18, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 4—T. Linton, Crook, 26, 1; J. Falkard, Page Bank, 18, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 5—C. Moley, Tow Law, 25, 1; R. Higgs, Durham, 17, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 6—Geo. Reed, East Hedleyhope 29, w.o. Heat 7—G. Winter, Crook, 25, 1; W. Hudson, Hedley Hill, 27, 2. Won by two yards. Heat 8—J. G. Marley, Durham, 16, 1; V. Hodgson, Esh, 23, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 9—J. Winter, Crook, 24, 1; A. Dodds, Quebec, 14, 2. Won by a yard. Heat 10—L. Halliday, East Hedleyhope, 19, 1; J. Slater, Broompark, 23½, 2; T. Proud, Helmington Row, 23½, 3. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 11—H. Collinson, Page Bank, 22, 1; R. Fenwick, Willington, 22½, 2; T. Winter, Crook, 25½, 3. Won by a foot. Heat 12—D. Trotter, Esh, 27, w.o. Heat 13—J. Boville, Waterhouses, 27, 1; T. Stephenson, Esh, 22, 2. Won by a foot, after a dead heat. Heat 14—T. Johnson, Durham, 23½, 1; T. Edwards, Durham, 18, 2. Won easily. The draw for the final heats, which will be run off on Saturday next, resulted as follows:—Heat 1—Donegan, T. Bowman, J. Winter, and T. Johnson. Heat 2—L. Halliday, H. Collinson, Geo. Reed, and John Boville. Heat 3—C. Mosey, W. Dowson, and D. Trotter. Heat 4—George Winter, J. G. Marley, and T. Linton. The match between Dan Burdess and Joe Martin, both of East Hedleyhope, who ran 80 yards level for £10 a-side, resulted in a victory for Burdess by two yards. George Henderson was stakeholder.

INCOME TAX: HOW TO GET IT REFUNDED.—This is the title of a very valuable work which ought to be in the hands of everyone who pays income tax. The author, Mr Chapman, shows plainly how to get income tax refunded, and this is of paramount importance to all who are called upon to contribute towards this unpopular tax.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Changes of temperature and weather frequently upset persons who are most careful of their health, and particular in their diet. These corrective, purifying and gentle aperient Pills are the best remedy for all defective action of the digestive organs. They augment the appetite, strengthen the stomach, correct biliousness and carry off all that is noxious from the system. Holloway's Pills are composed of rare balsams, unmixed with baser matter, and on that account are peculiarly well adapted for the young, delicate, and aged. As this priceless medicine has gained fame in the past, so will it preserve it in the future by its renovating and invigorating qualities, and the impossibility of its doing harm.

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ST. MARY'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

On Sunday evening, the Rev D. Power preached a special sermon on "The Mercy of God," taking for his text the words—"There shall be joy before the angels of God upon one sinner doing penance." Luke xv. chapter and 10th verse. He said:—During the long period of 19 centuries that have elapsed since these words were first uttered how many a weary spirit, how many a bleeding heart has found peace and health in them. There shall be joy before the angels of God upon one sinner doing penance. How keen and intense must be the interest taken by the angels of God in the welfare of men, and since their joy is but the reflex of that of God, how great must be the value of the soul in the eyes of God What a mystery of love and mercy, O God, hast Thou revealed to us in these few words! The lesson that they teach, the hopes they inspire, the comort they impart, and the eternal blessings they confer make them more valuable to us, sinful creatures that we are, than all the kingdoms of the earth and the glory thereof. There are times and incidents even in the most ordinary and uneventful careers when the tongue fails to interpret the feelings of the heart, or to express the thoughts that are crowding in the brain. But there are also truths of vital importance and eternal interest so vast and grand that the mind of man fails utterly to grasp and comprehend them when conveyed in the ordinary forms of speech. It is by the special exercise of God's power, by the resources of the depth of the riches of His wisdom that man can form any adequate idea of the love of God, of the deep interest He takes in our eternal salvation, and of His desire for the conversion of the sinner. From the first moment when reason dawns upon the mind till death has stilled the heart and brain, men, yea and angels, too, might speak to us on this subject. They might say to us God is good, and loving, and merciful, trust in Him, and seek for His pardon. But the effects of such language should be as nothing compared to the magic influence produced on the soul of man by the words of my text. This masterpiece of God's mercy and wisdom shows us what human language could not. Like the words of the Cross, these words are, as it were, the power and the wisdom of God. They reveal to us the heavens with the angels and the Lord of angels made happier by the conversion of a sinner from his evil ways. Behold a pearl fished up from the depth of the riches of God's wisdom to give us an idea of the extent and perfection of God's mercy to the repentant sinner. Now, at one mighty bound the intellect has broken from the narrow trammels and limits of human infirmity, and the measure is broken by which we sought to fathom the depth, height, breadth, and length of the love of God. Now we rise with all the speed and clearness of the lightning flash to know and feel that there are no limits to the mercy of God towards the repentant sinner. O, sinner, look up and rejoice! Come forth from the dark dungeon of remorse and dread despair into which Satan has plunged thee! Rejoice, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Come, O sinner, defiled and blackened as thou art by the evil work in which Satan holds thee during the days of thy servitude, thou art still dear to God. Many a wound, many a foul ulcer and scar has the demon impressed upon thee, but never did he succeed in effacing the image and likeness of God to which thou wert created, nor the sacramental seal and character that baptism impressed upon thee. Many a fair jewel, many a grace and blessing hast thou lost; but have courage and trust in God. Thou art not so unacceptable to God as Satan tries to persuade thee. Thou hast it in thy power to give joy even to the court of heaven. Poor sinner, even now the angels are waiting for their holiday. Repent, therefore, and be converted that your sins may be blotted out. Repent, and the Good Shepherd, even Jesus Christ himself, shall rejoice and call upon his angels saying, "Rejoice with me, my friends, because I have found my sheep that was lost." In the warfare which the spirits of iniquity wage against God and man there is no weapon more frequently employed than despair. There is no crime that offers so hateful an insult to God or that inflicts such ruin upon men. It is by despair that the Tempter rivets for ever his chains on the souls of his victims. As long as the love or the fear of the Lord possess any influence over the heart of the sinner, so long does he paint in glowing language the advantages of youth, the pleasures of sin, and, above all, the mercy of God. He says—"You are young, and death is distant. You can repent hereafter. Virtue and ascetic temperament will expose you to the laughter and contempt of your companions. Virtue is a suitable accompaniment to grey hairs, and cold blood, and dead passions. Enjoy thy youth; you can repent hereafter, God is merciful; and He did not create thee to damn thee." But no sooner does man lose his innocence, no sooner has he entered well upon the broad way that leads to ruin, than Satan reverses his tactics. Now the prize is within the demon's grasp, and the problem is to keep it there. Despair in that very mercy on which the sinner had rashly presumed is the means adopted to secure a bad death, an unfavourable judgment, and a miserable eternity. Many a man who had tasted the wine cup of pleasure and found it bitter, many a man who thought the broad road led to a land of mirth, and music, and sunshine, and who found it to be in very truth a valley of death, full of rottenness and dead mens' bones, and sought to retrace his steps therefrom, was prevented by the feeling of despair, by the belief that God would not forgive him. Many a man might have been saved, but, like Cain, he said "My sin is too great that I should be forgiven." "God will not pardon you," says Satan, "your ruin is certain, and repentance useless." Now, though Satan be the father of lies and a murderer from the beginning, yet never did he utter so foul an untruth as this; never devised so destructive an instrument as this slander on the mercy of God. As a matter of fact, there is no sin that God is not willing to forgive if man on his own part repents of his evil conduct: there is no sin that can exhaust the ocean of God's love and mercy, or weigh down the infinite treasure of Christ's satisfaction. There is not on earth, nay, even in the dungeons of hell, a criminal for whose salvation ample satisfaction was not made by the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world. All those who are lost have been consigned to eternal misery, not because God would not pardon them, but because they, unhappy creatures, refused all the offers made them so persistently and so lovingly by God. There can be no doubt as to the reasons why Satan employs despair so largely in his efforts for man's ruin. Satan hates God first of all, and seeks to defame Him. He seeks to hide and to obscure the most prominent and glorious of God's attributes — that attribute which redounds most to God's glory and which is most effectual in winning the soul to virtue. Now it is very evident that this praise must be given to the charity or to the mercy of God. The history of the human race is one black record of sin and base ingratitude towards the Creator. From the beginning even till now, from morning till night, God is perpetually offended by thought, word, and deed. Like a foil, this sinfulness of man brings into greater prominence the spotless lustre of God's mercy. We may go still further, we may safely say that the mercy and love of God are not merely the most promising of His attributes, but also those in which God himself takes, as it were, the most pride and pleasure. "The mercies of the Lord are above all His other works; a suitable theme for everlasting song. The mercies of the Lord I will sing forever." We, with our memories of the hard labour with with we eat our bread and of the continuous study by which we acquire and preserve knowledge, are prompted and tempted to identify the name of God—the very idea of God—with power and wisdom. But not so with God himself. He wishes that His name should be synonymous with mercy. He says:—"God is love. He that abides in love abides in God, and God in him." It is but natural that Satan should try to withdraw from God the glory of his glorious attribute—the glory that is most highly prized by Him. But this is not all. Despair is the fatal rock that makes shipwreck of man's chance of salvation. Where there is no hope there is no enterprise, no effort, no results. It is hope that sends the sailors across the boiling surges of the sea: it is hope that sends the miner down into the darkness and dangers of the bowels of the earth; and hope supplies the only motive that can rouse from his love of guilt and prompt him to return to the Lord his master. Again Satan hates men, hates them because God loves them, because they are destined to fill the thrones vacated by the rebel host. He envies us our happiness even here below; and he would fain make sinners feel, even in this life, an anticipation of the sorrows of hell. Now the conviction that hope must be abandoned, is the bitterest drop in the cup of sorrow that the lost ones must drink to the dregs. Dispair is, in fact, the chief torment of the damned: it is the characteristic torture of hell. It is God's will that this feeling should not be impressed upon the soul of man till the twelfth hour has come and gone: till the account of the stewardship has been rendered: till the sinner has been weighed, found wanting, and condemned: till the gates of heaven have closed forever upon the victim of his own folly. Satan therefore seeks by despair to deprive God of glory, and man of the one great motive to repentance. He says to the sinner in the hour of remorse "You have so far trifled with the mercy of God, so far rejected his offers, so far despised His threats that there is no more mercy for you. Henceforth you must meet with God's justice." It is true indeed that God is just. But as eternity gives full scope to His justice, time is devoted to mercy. Therefore much as God hates sin, He wills not the death of the sinner, but rather that he be converted and live. There is no love like a mother's. How kind, how forgiving, how blind is a mother's love It is the strongest and the most disinterested love we see on earth. Yet what says the Lord, "Can a mother forget her infant so as not to have pity on the son of her womb; and if she should forgive, yet will not I forget thee. Lo, I have engraved thee on my hands." Like a heart-broken mother who follows her son into the haunts of sin, appealing to his prudence and to his love, warning him of the danger that attends upon his line of life, even so does God pursue the sinner, whispering in his ear words of gracious love and tender compassion,—nay, did we not know that God is incapable of sorrow, we might say there was heart-broken anguish in His cry to the sinner, "Turn ye, turn ye, why will you die, O House of Israel." To-day in the name of Him whose minister I am, I say to you if the envenomed dart of despair is rankling in thy heart know that it is launched not by the hand of God but by that of the most wicked one: if it has pierced, it was thy own fault, for you must have cast from you the shield of faith wherewith you might have extinguished all the fiery darts of the most wicked one. Be strengthened now in the Lord, and in the might of his power; pluck out the sting of death and cast it from thee. Turn, O turn, to the Lord. Why will you die O House of Israel? Why this infatuation? Begotten of the gospel in Christ Jesus, born of water and the Holy Ghost, ye who are redeemed not with corruptible things as gold and silver but with the precious blood of Jesus, as of a lamb unspotted and undefiled, ye who have eaten the bread of life that cometh down from heaven, who have drunk the chalice of the Lord—the blood that was shed to take away the sins of many—and House of Christ, temple of the Holy Ghost, why will you die? Why are you sad and thoughts arise in your hearts? Why are you fearful O ye of little faith? How often has God declared His readiness to pardon repentant sinners. "As I live," saith the Lord, "I will not the death of the sinner but rather that he be converted and live." "A contrite and a humble heart, O God, Thou wilt not despise." And again, "Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unjust man his thoughts, and let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him, and to our God, for He is bountiful to forgive." Have you sunk to the lowest depth of sin? Have you done as much injury to thyself and as much wrong to God as human nature will permit of? Even so; while there is life there is hope. God has spared you in order that you may repent, and that He may have mercy. If He were determined to consign you to eternal ruin, He would not have permitted you to live on in your sins; he would not have suffered you to increase the number of your crimes. Life, then, of itself proves you are still a recipient of God's mercy, the object of His tender compassion. Every moment that God gives you, He says to you with the eloquence of action, "If thy sins be as scarlet they shall be made whiter than snow, if they be red as crimson they shall be made white as wool." Can language be more clear than this? Can promise be more full and unreserved? Then how and why can despair of God's mercy find place in the heart of a Christian? Let us take a rapid glance at the words and the works of Christ to see what lesson they teach and what light they afford on this point. Listen to Jesus as He tells the story of the prodigal. A young man demands from his father his share of the inheritance. He had been brought up with loving care by his father. He was ungrateful, he was selfish, and sensual; sinful pleasure was the one thought of that misguided youth. He longed for freedom from parental control, and for money, that he might indulge his evil desires. He demands his birth-right, and the poor father, true to the custom of 20 years—a father who idolised his boy—could not refuse the request that broke his own old heart. The young man receives the substance, and he can scarce find time to say farewell, so eager is he to begin his life of freedom and pleasure. There is something terrible in the disregard for his father's feelings shown by the young spendthrift. It is sad to think of him rushing forward with impatient haste without deigning to cast one glance back on the home of his childhood, back to where tears were falling, and where hearts were breaking for him. Soon in a foreign land, he learned that there was no place like home. Extravagance dissipated his money; his friends abandoned him: want came upon him: the highborn youth becomes a servant: but his delicate breeding unfitted him for hard labour. He was assigned a task easy but degrading; he was sent to tend the swine. He that had been so tenderly brought up is pinched with want, and is feign to fill himself with the husks that the swine did eat. In that hour he thinks of the plenty of his father's house. Famine is round about him, so he determines to return where food awaits him in abundance—he will go back to his father. Now mark well, I pray you, his thoughts and his motives. He thought of his father exactly as the despairing sinner thinks of God. He thought it impossible that his outraged father would receive him kindly and restore him to the rank that he had lost. Neither was there anything noble in his sorrow. It was self that drove him from his father's home; it was self that drove him back again. It was starvation, not a sense of shame for his base ingratitude, that prompted him to retrace his steps. But, strange to tell, as he draws nigh to his old home, he sees his father coming forward to meet him. The old man saw him from afar, we are told. Yes, he saw him from afar, because with intense, yearning love the forgiving parent had watched for the return of the prodigal. Full many a time, at morning and night, had the old man walked the road by which his son had departed. He took advantage of the sunrise and the sunset to scan the horizon for traces of one that was dearer to him than life itself. Now, joy of joys, he that was dead is returned to life again, the erring boy, long lost and mourned for, is come back. In the fervour of love the infirmities of age are forgotten, and the old man bounds forward to meet his son. The young man's head is pillowed on his father's bosom, and in a strangely-blended stream tears of joy and of sorrow are flowing down the old man's grey beard. "Father, I have sinned before heaven and against thee, I am not worthy to be called thy son, make me as one of thy hired servants," the young man was saying. But the confession of guilt was checked by a fond kiss. "A servant! Nay, it shall not be. Bring forth the first robe, put a ring on his finger, and shoes on his feet. Kill the fatted calf, and let us make merry." Here is one, but there is yet another picture of the gladness with which God receives the repentant; and the especial value of the picture consists in the fact that it was traced not by one who was deep in the secrets of heaven, but by God himself. A sheep was lost from the fold, and the shepherd is filled with sorrow. He could not calmly abandon it to its fate. He cannot rest till he has found the poor lost one, so he leaves the 99 in the desert and goes in search of the one that was in danger. Weary, worn, and starving, the poor lost sheep has sunk to earth—it would seem to rise no more. But no; poor lost one, the good shepherd is at hand. He has tracked through rugged ways the course of thy ungrateful flight. Forgiven, nay, forgotten, is thy base ingratitude and rebellion. Full of tender pity for thee, and unmindful of Himself, He places thee upon His shoulders. No word of rebuke is spoken. No; all is joy. Nay, so glad is the Shepherd that He calls upon his friends to rejoice with Him because the sheep that was lost has been found. God does not demand from us greater perfection than He Himself possesses; He does not urge us to greater mercy than He Himself is ready to show to man. What does He say to St. Peter? "Lord," says St. Peter, "How often shall my brother offend against me, and I forgive him; till seven times seven?" And Jesus said to him, "I say not till seven times seven, but till seventy times seven times." Surely our Blessed Lord and Saviour never gave to St Peter a rule that He himself was not ready and prepared to observe. Let us look at the works of our Saviour. If the joy of heaven over the conversion of the sinner does not convince you of the deep interest God takes in your salvation, and His eager desire for your repentance, then, perhaps, tears can speak more powerfully than smiles and rejoicing at banquets. Then learn, O sinner, that not even this proof of God's mercy is denied to thee. We are told that when Christ drew near to Jerusalem for the last time, He wept o'er the unhappy city. "If thou had'st known, and that in this thy day, the things that are to thy peace." What deep compassion, what tender solicitude for obstinate sinners, are shewn in the cry, "Jerusalem, Jerusalem, how often would I have gathered thy children as the hen doth gather her chickens under her wing, and thou would'st not." Nay so tenderly does Jesus bear Himself towards sinners that He is called the friend of sinners. He glories in the charge, and justifies His preference by saying "That those who are well need not a physician, but rather those that are sick." Come with me to the supper at the house of Simon the leper. Whilst the guests are at table a woman bursts into the room. It is Mary. The Scribes and Pharisees look disdainfully upon her because she had been, or is, a public sinner. In their hearts these men despised our Lord, because He bore Himself kindly to the woman, and did not repel her. They knew not the power of sorrow, they saw not the streams of grace that God had poured on the repentant soul, they knew not that the sinner had become a saint. Imitate Mary in sorrow, and like Mary, you, too, shall be forgiven. Are you still obdurate? Do you still doubt that God will show you mercy? Christ has given proofs of love stronger than death, yea, He has given proofs that He values your soul more than all the things on earth. Think of the price that He has given for the salvation of your soul, think of the trouble it has cost Him. The world He made by a word from His mouth. "He spake and they were made: He commanded and they were created." But to secure the salvation of souls the Son of God laid down His life upon Mount Calvary. By His word all things were made, by His stripes you were healed. "Greater love than this no man hath than he that laid down his life for his friend." But God commends His charity to us because when as yet we were sinners Christ died for us. Sin, then, cannot preclude any man from the mercy of God, since it was on account of sin that Christ died. No sin can be so great that the blood of Jesus cannot satisfy for it; no crime can outweigh the satisfaction of Jesus. Nay, if the malice of all men was concentrated in one, and if that man were to repent, his salvation would be as certain as the existence of God. "As I live," saith the Lord, "I will not the death of the sinner, but rather that he repent and live." What element of love or of power is wanting from the life, and passion, and death of Christ to encourage the sinner to repent of his evil deeds. O, if you still doubt and hesitate come with me to where amidst the gloom of sympathising nature Jesus is dying on the Cross. The sun has withdrawn his light from this evil scene: the rocks are bursting: the earth is reeling: the graves are opened; and the dead appear once more amid scenes where they lived in days of old. O come and catch the last words that Jesus utters. "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." For whom is Jesus thus praying? O my brethren, for those who have persecuted and calumniated Him, for those who have scourged Him, and spat upon Him. For those who treated Him as a fool: for those who crown Him with thorns: for those who nailed Him to the infamous gibbet of the Cross: for those who rejected His doctrine, and looked upon Him as an impostor. Now again, and this time fainter than before, the lips of Jesus move. "Amen, I say to you: This night shalt thou be with Me in Paradise." To whom are these words addressed? To whom is this assurance of future glory given? To a thief who, till the twelfth hour had almost struck, had served satan; but who, in the agony of death, asked for, and obtained, pardon. O go to the Cross where Jesus forgives His enemies, and prays for them, and dies for them. Here is the climax of mercy, the masterpiece of charity, the triumph of hope, the death of despair. Now I leave you at the foot of the Cross. The heart of stone is gone, and youcannot refuse that invitation to penance. You cannot any longer deny the mercy of God, or His desire for your conversion. I leave you with Jesus. His head is bowed down to give you the kiss of peace; His arms are extended to embrace you; His side is open that you may find ready access to His heart. He being dead yet sleepeth, and from His lips come the words "Come to me, all ye that labour and are heavy burdened, and I will refresh you. Come, now, and if thy sins be as scarlet they shall be made whiter than snow." O come, and there shall be joy before the angels of God on the conversion of a sinner. Amen.

THE BISHOPRIC OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE.

Bishop O'Callaghan having found himself unequal to the climate of the North of England and to the mental anxiety and labour attaching to the see of Hexham and Newcastle, has retired to the House of the Oblates of St Charles, Bayswater, London, which he originally joined with Cardinal Manning. The date of the consecration of the auxiliary bishop, Dr Wilkinson, has not yet been fixed; but the function will take place on an early date at Ushaw College. Cardinal Manning is too feeble to travel, and the consecrating prelates are expected to be Bishop Knight, of Shrewsbury, Bishop Clifford, of Clifton, and Bishop Vaughan, of Salford. The bishop-elect has left home to enter upon his retreat at Roehampton, preparatory to his consecration.

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, BEAMISH.

THE GIRLS' FRIENDLY SOCIETY.

The vigorous efforts by which the Church of England is almost everywhere throughout the country successfully striving to justify her claims to her title and position, are making it increasingly evident day by day that she is now thoroughly awake to her great mission, and to the faithful discharge of the heavy responsibilities it entails. Amongst the numerous schemes and organisations now employed by her for the aleviation of human suffering, and for increasing the sum total of its happiness, by carrying comfort, and kindly, sympathetic, joy-inspiring help into many a heart that would otherwise be joyless and lonely, the Girls' Friendly Society is rapidly assuming a very prominent place. This truth must have been deeply felt on Wednesday evening week, by the large audience that assembled in the West Stanley National School, to listen, with spell-bound attention for a full hour, to what proved to be a strikingly, interesting address from Miss Bowlby, the G.F.S. Deputation Secretary. The meeting had been planned by Mrs Crennell—who has established a very prosperous society in the parish—and had the support of the Vicar (Rev J. Crennell), who occupied the chair. At half-past seven, when Miss Bowlby began her lecture, the room, which holds about 300, was quite full. This lady, who is the daughter of the Rector of Birmingham, gives a large portion of her time and strength to traversing the country in order to acquaint people with the character, work, and value of this truly extraordinary society; as remarkable for its rapid growth, as for the soundness and nobleness of its work, and the large-hearted spirit by which it is actuated. In the course of her address, Miss Bowlby informed her audience that, although the society had been in existence but a little more than 13 years, it already numbered above one hundred and eighteen thousand, and something of the importance of the work that is being done amongst this vast army of our girls and young women by this society, in promoting purity of life, will be seen from the objects of the society, as described in the members' guide book, viz:—(1.) To band together in one society ladies as associates, and girls and young women as members, for mutual help (religious and secular), and for sympathy and prayer. (2.) To encourage purity of life, dutifulness to parents, faithfulness to employers, and thrift. (3.) To provide the privileges of the society for its members wherever they may be, by giving them an introduction from one branch to another. This importance will be further manifest from the following rule; the satisfaction of which is the only absolutely essential qualification, from which no exception whatever is made, viz.:—No girl who has not borne a virtuous character may be admitted as a member; such character being lost, the member to forfeit her card. Now it must be patent to everyone who reads the above objects and rules of the society, by which so many thousands of our English girls are already bound, that we have here an engine of no mean order for raising our national standard of morals, and acting as a safeguard to the purity of immense numbers of our girls who are to become the future mothers of Great Britain's children. This latter, however, is but one small part of the work of the society. The advantages accruing to the members are both great and many. If a girl leaves her home, whether for another part of England, or for Canada, or the United States of America, or for the Colonies—in all of which there are branches—she will have a lady friend, whom she can trust, to meet her, and secure her safety and comfort, and if necessary to aid her in getting employment. Should her health break down she will be sent to a home; if sick, she will have kind friends to visit and care for her; and if tempted, those who will help her to do battle with sin and evil in every form will be at hand. Indeed, some of the ways suggested by the lecturer, in which members shew sympathy, and lend aid to their suffering sisters were both ingenious and very touching. It was further explained that although organised on the parochial system, and under the management of lady associates, who must themselves be members of the Church of England, it is not necessary that the members of this society should belong to the Church of England. Moreover, the charge for being a member is within the reach of all. We sincerely trust that the interest in this good work, aroused by the lecture on Wednesday night, will spread and produce fruit in the formation of other branch societies.

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A PEDESTRIAN TOUR TO "THE END OF THE WORLD"

Owing, I presume, to a "military scare"—it was a real scare, no doubt—which now and again takes possession of the public mind, it was found necessary for the safety of the British Empire in 1852 to get up a strong force of militia throughout the country. I then, along with two inseparable companions, joined the South Durham Regiment, the headquarters of which were at Barnard Castle. There was no railway there at that period of our history. The locomotive engine had not reached by iron road that far off corner of the earth, so that, when we were called upon to attend our periods of training, we had to get there by "tramping" the distance. True, there was a coach daily by Durham to Barnard Castle, but the cost of that was 4s 4d the single journey, and our pits were working only half-time. So we packed up a few necessaries, provisions, and clothing, and off over hill and dale until we reached a spot where the road, if it were road at all, ended in what appeared to be an illimitable expanse of wild heather and furze. Here we halted and looked for a path where apparently none was to be found. We, however, seated ourselves, ate, drank, and smoked our pipes both on our outward and return journey, and called the spot "The end of the world." After a period of almost 40 years, I again desired to visit the spot. It was a June morning, not a bright one, but "rather dull," as the folks say when peering out on a holiday morning early to see if the sky appears favourable for their trip which has been looked forward to for at least a fortnight beforehand. But the dulness which indicated drought rather than rain—that was at least my interpretation of the sky's forebodings—did not deter me, and off I bolted "west away," and in half-an-hour I passed the first colliery village where the inhabitants were sleeping off the pay Friday night's carousal—I better say enjoyment, for that is what it is considered to be—with window shutters closed, the only inn in the place following the example. Further on another colliery village was passed, and then I had gained a height from which I could command an extensive view of the distant hills I was going to traverse. They were purple in the distance, and seemed blending in the summer sky. Then down a rapid descent lay the road before me with the tower of an ancient village church looking grandly heavenward from the bottom of the smiling valley. In my descent thither I met a couple of females setting out on a begging expedition for the day, who were supplied with bags for that purpose. They looked sadly to the ground as they passed me. They were not professional cadgers; professional cadgers look you boldly in the face, and ask you to "assist a poor fellow on the road," or "a poor woman," as the case may be. Not a form in the likeness of the genus homo had I seen until now, and I was five miles from my own village. A short sojourn at the village in the valley, and then up and up lay my path, passing Roman remains on the left with cows reposing upon grass-grown vestiges of the doings of centuries well-nigh—to me at least—lost in the past. Again I looked forward, and the hills I was going to traverse were still purple in the south-west. An equestrian passed me on the right at a sharp trot in the opposite direction, and then I was alone on the road amid desolation—nay, but it was a beautiful June morning, and the sky was—permit me the expression—celestial, and I was the happiest of mortals with a delightful summer's holiday before me. Labourers were now beginning to be astir, and salutation on all sides was "Like a sup wet, sir." "Going to have rain, sir." "Looks watery this morning," I think, sir," &c. I thought, however, there was an indication of intense drought, and so it turned out to be. There was a sound of cantering hoofs behind me; an old gentleman, farmer, evidently, was struggling for my companionship on the road, and up he came along-side of me; but his pony, with his load of fourteen stones was not equal to the occasion. He spurred it forward and forward, and called it awkward names. "Come on, ye lazy vagabond," he said, but notwithstanding the animal could only keep a position of four or five yards in rear of me. At the next village the man and pony came to a halt, and I was again alone on the road. Finger posts pointed me hither and thither at every intersection of the road. Those on the left telling me for miles of Esh and Durham. But a five-fingered one pointed me in as many different directions. To Esh, again, and Durham. To Cornsay and Brancepeth, on the same hand. To East Buttsfield and Consett, on the right. To Dover House and Salter's Gate. To Tow Law and Crook on the left. Next, they told me of Wolsingham and St. John's Chapel. A couple of empty carts by this time came rumbling towards me, told me there was life in the "Far West," a thing I had almost despaired of. Brighter blue grew the sky, and warmer the sun, and then I found myself seated in the quaintness of the Grey Bull Inn, at Wolsingham, with the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* before me, and—refreshments, of course, but of an anti-teetotal description. But I was to start again. "The end of the world," and the end of my tour were up the hills, mountainous in their aspect, on the south side of the beautiful valley before me. My years were sixty-five, and the hills were almost terrific. But I had been an invincible and determined pedestrian on my own account for forty-five years. I have always had an aversion for walking matches, or doing pedestrian feats for wagers, but always have had pleasure in walking long journeys for exercise and recreation after languishing periods of dark days and unpropitious weather. A short sojourn at Wolsingham, and then my path was up hill, over hill, and down hill for an hour or more. From these heights I turned to survey the beautiful valley behind me, and the scene was not only grand but paradasaical. To some this might not be so, perhaps, but I have always been an ardent admirer of the beautiful in nature. From this I descended into a valley where the chief population seemed to be birds, hares, and dwarfed sheep. But there were, nevertheless, lilacs and other blossoms smiling upon me at intervals as I passed, and there were shining, silvery streams here and there. In one of these I washed my hands and face, while it went singing onwards past gigantic firs, birches, heather, and broom, laughing and gurgling by flowery meadows until it found its pure waters amalgamated with the salt waves of the German Ocean. And here it was that I sang—nay, I did not sing, for I never could sing, but I thought the following—

> O, what a hymn divine
> Breathes from this golden June!
> And only this heart of mine
> Is beating out of tune.
> So lazy goes the hour,
> The very dragon fly
> Perch'd on the dozing flower
> Stirs neither wing nor eye.

I am not the author of the above lines, but they were then as now in unison with my thoughts. "So lazy goes the hour," &c. But it might not be supposed that a person on a 40 miles tour on foot could be after all very lazy. "The end of the world" and the end of my tour was the next halting place, and the last in that direction for the day. Here I rested for a short time, and thought of the "end" as regards my physical movements, and of the "errings and strayings" of the past forty years, returning to Wolsingham a little before fourteen o'clock, a twenty-four hours chronometer in the vicinity of the "Grey Bull" indicating the same. Now, I have never been a teetotaller, but why I should be on a retrogressive path in my searchings and wanderings heavenward while my non-alcoholic friends are going express direct for a "house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens," is more than I can comprehend; and yet some veteran abstainers assure me I am wandering in a Sahara (a desert of drink evils) of my own, and that ultimately I must perish in the sands of my own destruction. But if there is a good thing to be had at an inn while on a journey, a good man, I think, has infinitely more right to it than a bad man; and even the angels, I opine, must admit such a fact. Rest and refreshment over at Wolsingham again, I returned by the same dusty path as I had gone in the morning; and having to pass the Vicarage at Lanchester, I bethought myself of tea, and with that object in view I thrust my trampship—I was certainly a *bona-fide* tramp for the day—upon the good vicar there—nay, not upon the vicar, but upon his domestics, for that gentleman did not condescend to come down to speak to a dusty wayfarer, and I did not expect he would. After the good Vicar's hospitality, however, the steam was again up, and I did the last six miles of a day's tramping with the lightness of a summer morning's swallow. The above journey, a n light performance for a person sixty-five years of age, was made on the 11th day of June, 1887. JOHN ROWELL.

Twizell.

HOLLINGSIDE OLD MANOR HOUSE.

The ruins of Hollingside Manor House are situated on the bank of a steep acclivity rising from the north. A slight glimpse of them may be caught from the train on the Consett branch, just after it crosses the Lockhaugh viaduct, in going towards Swalwell Station. It seems to have been built rather with a view to defence from enemies than with an object of comfort or convenience. In one part of it is an arched vault, but for what purpose it may have been designed it would perhaps be difficult to conjecture. Not improbably it may have been a place to drive cattle into for protection against Caledonian or Tynedale marauders. It can never, I should fancy, have been a very comfortable residence. The windows are narrow, and seem more adapted for throwing weapons against an enemy than for letting light into the apartments. The days when Hollingside was built would be very different from these days, excepting as regards size. The comforts to be found in an ordinary working man's dwelling are far superior now than to any to be found at that time in the castles of the nobility. It would only be a sort of cheerless look out from the windows or battlements of old Hollingside Hall. The Derwent would be there as usual, but beyond that there would be little to see but dense forests and brushwood.

The earliest mention of Hollingside which I have is that in 1317. It belonged to one Thomas de Hollingside, but who Thomas was or how he got it I am unable to say. But it seems that in this year he granted it to one William de Boineton; but whether he sold it or gave it away is not stated. How long William kept it, or whether he made good use of it while he had it, there is no information to hand. The next trace we get of it is that it was in the hands of the Redheugh family. This Redheugh family must have been either a very wealthy family or a very grasping family, as we find that very many places in the North of England have had them as owners at one time.

The next possessors of it we know of are the Hardings, a family not yet entirely extinct. The Hardings came from Beadnell, in Northumberland, where one of them was living in 1312. I learn they acquired Hollingside by intermarriage with the then owners of it. They first acquired it in 1491. They have been a family of some respectability and standing in the northern part of the county of Durham, as we find traces of them forming connections by marriage with the neighbouring landowners and resident families. But, unlike some other families, they never seem to have had either the ambition, or perhaps the abilities, to increase their estates by adding lands to lands. Alliances took place between the Harrisons, of Byermoor, and the Hardings, and between the Handcocks and Hardings. The Harrisons have disappeared from the families of the district. The reverse of increasing their influence and wealth, the Hardings seem to have rather gone back in the amount of their belongings. Since, it seems, they had borrowed money from the neighbouring owners of Gibside until their obligations became so great that they were no longer able to pay the interest of their mortgages. About the year 1730, the estate passed into the hands of the owners of Gibside. The Harding family seem to have attempted, at one time, the coal trade, as on an old plan, dated about 1719, some coal staiths at Derwenthaugh are represented as belonging to Mr Ralph Harding. The family, until very lately, asserted that the minerals under Hollingside were theirs by rights, as they were never included in the transfer of the surface to the Bowes family. The writer himself has heard an old man, then living at Winlaton Mill, named Richard Harding, say that the minerals were theirs if everyone had their just dues. After the loss of their lands the family seems to have betaken themselves to industrial pursuits, as many of the name were at one time to be found in employment at Winlaton Mill Iron Works. At what time the old Manor House ceased to be a residence I am not able to ascertain. Hollingside farmhouse stood until a few years ago in a field on the left hand-side of the road leading from Fellside to Whickham, near the foot of the first bank. It was pulled down when the present large and commodious farm premises of Hollingside were built. There is a window at the west end of the old Manor House which has the appearance of having belonged to a domestic chapel. The architecture of this window seems, so far as I can remember of it, to be early decorated, which would seem if such to be the style to point out the early part of the fourteenth century as the probable period of the erection of the old castle. Altogether, the old Manor House of Hollingside is an interesting place, and well worthy of being visited by the antiquaries of the Derwent Valley.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr J. S. Murray had forward at this mart on Monday 11 fat cattle, 3 veal calves, 55 fat sheep, 40 fat lambs, 12 cows, 24 store heifers, 14 pigs, 16 ewes and lambs, a quantity of poultry, harness, potatoes, &c. There was a large company of farmers, butchers, and other buyers present, and, although prices were a little easier than previous weeks, a fair clearance was effected. Prices:—Fat cattle, to £18 15s; sheep, to 57s; lambs, to 35s; calves, to 58s; cows, to £15 10s; pigs, 24s. Quotations:—Beef, 8s per stone; mutton (clips), 8d per lb; sheep in wool, 9½d; lambs, 11d per lb.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday:—13 cows, which made up to £16 12s 6d; 7 fat cattle, up to £18 5s; 35 store cattle, up to £10 15s; 68 fat sheep and lambs; fat sheep, up to 52s 6d, fat lambs, up to 34s 6d each; and 35 black-faced ewes and lambs, sold up to 32s 6d per couple.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—Mr J. Turnbull held his usual sale on Monday, and had a much larger entry of stock of all kinds than was anticipated, and greatly in excess of the corresponding sale of last year. Numbers sold:—67 fat cattle, 6 veal calves, 7 new-calved cows, 4 in-calvers, 4 young bulls, 29 grazing cattle, 12 fat lambs, 70 fat sheep, 4 pigs, 25 keeping hogs, 2 phaetons, dog cart, harness, &c. There was one of the largest attendances of buyers present since the Christmas sale, and trade for all classes of stock was very animated, and prices tending upwards. The quality shown was very prime indeed in all the classes. Prices:—Fat cattle—Heifers, from £11 10s to £19 15s, top, Mr G. Menzies, Quarrrington Grange; fat bullocks, from £13 to £21 7s 6d, top, Mr G. Wilkinson, Chilton, Ferryhill; fat cows, from £11 to £24 17s 6d, top, the Marquess of Londonderry, who had also two grand sucklers, which realized £16 17s 6d and £18 5s each. Mr Wilkinson, of Chilton, showed 10 very prime cattle, including 4 grand sucklers, which realized from £17 10s to £20 5s 6d for the latter. Veal calves, to 55s each. New-calved and in-calving cows, from £10 to £16 17s 6d, top, Mr Richardson, Newfield. Fat lambs, to 33s 6d, top, Mr Robson, Relly. Fat hoggs, to 48s, top, the Earl of Durham. Fat ewes, to 58s, top, Mr T. Burn, Chester-le-Street. Fat tups, to 66s, top, Mr L. Wood, Hermitage. Young pigs, to 25s 6d each. Young bulls, to £16 5s for a very grand 19 months old short-horn, consigned from Mr A. L. Maynard, Newton Hall, and sold to the Earl of Durham. Grazing cattle, from £5 to £8 12s 6d.

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." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease." 210x

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.

EARLY DAYS OF THE IRON TRADE

A VETERAN'S REMINISCENCES.

THE CONSETT DISTRICT.

One of the most interesting studies to a Northerner must be the history of that great industry upon which half at least of the fortunes of the district have been staked and gained—the iron trade. Although the prosaic matter of fact journalist in his quest after hard facts has exploded such pretty little romances as that of John Vaughan's accidental discovery of the Cleveland ironstone whilst on a shooting expedition, there is still enough of the marvellous interwoven with the dusty, grimy trade and its history to verify the old adage that truth is stranger than fiction. Not the less is this the case because the most important and interesting portion of that history—that portion which marks an advance equal to that of a nation from a state of semi-barbarity to one of high civilisation—is compressed into a period covered by the memory of men who have not yet joined the great majority. There is now living on Teeside one gentleman—Mr Isaac Bigland, of Stockton—whose fortune it was in his earlier days to be very intimately connected with the opening-up and development first of the iron deposits in the mountain limestone in West Durham and East Cumberland, and subsequently of those vasts beds of ironstone in Cleveland which have literally created Middlesbrough and populous daughter-towns. In the course of recent conversations with representative of the *Echo*, this veteran was induced to relate an interesting series of reminiscences connected with the early days of the Northern iron trade, backing up his narrative by frequent reference to authentic documents in his possession. His wife and family were shareholders in the old Derwent Iron Company, the founders of the now gigantic ironworks, at Consett. These works, which originally consisted, we believe, only of two or three small blast furnaces, with an out-put of only some 60 to 80 tons each per week, owed their initiation to the enterprise of the late Jonathan Richardson, lord of the manor of Consett. He had secured a 63 years' lease from the Bishop of Durham—not then shorn of his temporal possessions and splendour—of a large tract of coal royalty in the Annfield Plain district, embracing some of the finest coking coal in the county. The acquisition of this coalfield led to the establishment of the works, the ore smelted in those days being chiefly of clay-band—or, as it was sometimes called, German band—ironstone found in the coal measures in uncertain quantities, and yielding a very small percentage of iron even after calcining. From an early period there had been a colony of Germans settled at Consett, some of whose decendants may still be traced there. They at one time established a reputation for the manufacture of swords from the iron of what was in consequence called "the German band" of ironstone. The Derwent Iron Company, besides the blast furnaces, erected puddling plant and a rolling mill at Consett, but at first the greater part of the pig iron they produced was refined and puddled at the Bishopwearmouth Ironworks at Sunderland, which also belonged to them. In 1847 or 1848 Mr Isaac Bigland went to Consett, and engaged in supplying the works with in the clay band ironstone, which was obtained in many different places. The Witton Park Ironworks of Messrs Bolckow, Vaughan and Co. were, we believe, erected under the expectation that large deposits of this class of ironstone had been found in the neighbourhood — an expectation which a comparatively brief period of working on the deposits (situate to the west of the Witton Castle estate) was sufficient to dispel. Even in those early days the manufacture of coke had become one of Consett's specialities; and through the agency of Mr Benjamin Bigland, of Workington, father of Mr John Bigland, now Messrs Pease and Partners' colliery manager in the Auckland district, Mr Bigland, in June, 1849, exported the first cargo of coke from that section of the Durham coalfield, its destination being Dublin, for trial on the Irish railways. The supply of clay band ironstone was irregular, and the yield, as had been stated, very small, and ironmasters began to look round for a better source of supply. This they found in the black band ironstone. Mr Bigland himself leased the principal mine of this kind of ore at Chesterwood, near Haydon Bridge, on the Newcastle and Carlisle Railway, and worked it from 1848 to 1853. Sir Edward Blackett was lord of the manor, and some old accounts show that for 1851—about midway in the term during which the mine was worked—the royalty rent paid amounted to £1,141 19s 6d, so that the amount worked must have been considerable. The best black band only yielded an average of 20 per cent. of iron in its raw state, against about 30 per cent. from the ores and stone now usually worked. The practice was to calcine the black band in huge heaps close to the mine, so as to burn away as much as possible of the worthless material, and so reduce the cost of carriage, the calcined ore yielding about 60 per cent. of iron, or three times the proportion of the raw ore. From the Chesterwood mine some of the now historic works in the North of England were supplied. Besides the Consett Works, the newly-established furnaces of Bell Brothers, built at Wylam in 1844, those of the Birtley Iron Company, and Bulmer and Co., of the Lemington Ironworks, Blaydon, drew their raw material during those years to a large extent from Haydon Bridge. From the black band ironstone, of the best quality, a very superior class of iron was made, but about 1854 the Chesterwood mine began to work out, and other sources of supply had again to be sought. Three or four years before this—about 1850—the late Chas. Attwood, the founder of the Tow Law Ironworks and the Steelworks at Wolsingham, had discovered and commenced to work the rich deposits of the Ryder ironstone in the mountain limestone of Weardale—that ironstone which still pays the Weardale Iron and Coal Company for working after carting it three or four miles down the dale and transporting it by the break-neck-looking railway of inclined planes and stationary engines which begins at Eastgate and runs up hill and down dale through Rookhope and across the moors until it joins the Consett d Darlington branch of the North-Eastern Railway. From this rich and pure ore Mr Attwood had commenced to manufacture steel of splendid quality, and Jonathan Richardson grasped the fact that to successfully compete with his neighbour and rival, he must go and do likewise. The existence of the Ryder ironstone in the Alston district had already been proved, and two men named Thompson and Walton, had obtained a lease of the mineral royalties over the vast extent of the Alston Moors, on the Cumberland side of the mountains. A Mr Attwood (not he of Tow Law and Wolsingham) had previously erected a small charcoal furnace near Alston, with the intention of smelting the rich Alston ores, and making a superior class of iron for gun metal, but the cost of carriage to Birmingham compelled him to relinquish the project after a short trial. At Mr Richardson's request, Mr Bigland explored the Alston Moor Royalties, and reported so favourably upon them that Mr Richardson embraced the opportunity of purchasing the lease from the original lessees, Messrs Thompson and Walton. Mr Richardson then (in 1854) erected a couple of blastfurnaces at Consett on his own account for the purpose of smelting the Alston ore, and also started what is known to this day as "Consett Tin Mill," by laying down plant for the manufacture of tin plates, &c., from the superior class of iron made from the Ryder ironstone. The Alston ore was worked extensively from this time up to the stoppage caused by the failure of the Northumberland and Durham District Bank (of which Mr Richardson was a director), in November, 1857. The ore was carted to Alston Station, and thence sent by rail to Consett. It was, generally speaking, of a very superior quality, but the deposits ran somewhat irregularly both as to quantity and quality. Only the fringe of the immense trail comprised in the royalty had been worked up to the time when the mines were closed, the heavy cost of cartage and carriage of course placing the mines at a great disadvantage when the less pure but more easily accessible Cleveland ironstone began to be worked. There is little doubt, however, that the Alston Mines will perhaps at no distant date be re-opened and their rich deposits worked more extensively than has yet been the case. The failure of the Spanish mines, over which we had quite a scare a few months ago, would of course inevitably lead to such a result, which would, doubtless, also be greatly hastened by the opening up of improved railway accommodation with the Alston district. Mr Bigland also opened up and worked extensive royalties of brown hematite ore at Melmerby—about midway between Alston and Penrith. In this he was joined by Messrs Mackin, of Middlesborough; Daniel Adamson, projector of the Manchester Ship Canal; Barnett, of the Norton (Stockton) Ironworks; and Ross and Willis, iron merchants, Middlesborough. This company took over the lease Mr Bigland had secured of the minerals underlying several thousands of acres of land, and in 1870 constructed a tramway from the mines at the turnpike road to Alston, a distance of fully two miles. From the terminus of the tramway the ore was carted five miles or more to Alston Station, and then transmitted by rail *via* Newcastle to Middlesborough. The ore was of a very rich character, yielding about 50 per cent. of iron, but the cost of carriage to the works was so enormous that the company gave up working, and sub-let their lease to the Wyrley-Cannock Coal Company, Wyrley, Walsall, who only worked the mines for about six months, sending the ore into Staffordshire to be smelted, but the heavy carriage nipped this project, too, in the bud. The remoteness of the Melmerby deposits from the coalfields, of course, militated greatly against their economical working. At one time, whilst Mr Bigland was working the Chesterwood Black Band Mine already mentioned, he contemplated opening out the Melmerby royalties (which he had acquired at that time) and bringing the ore down the Carlisle and Newcastle Railway to Haydon Bridge, and there smelting, or at any rate calcining, it along with the Black Band; but the idea was never put into practice. At the same time—as in the case of the Alston deposits—there is little doubt but that such rich ore will be one day availed of. At an earlier day Mr Bigland had commenced to work the Rookhope Mines; but, as in the other cases, the heavy cost of cartage killed the trade as soon as the cheaper ironstone of Cleveland began to come into the market.—*Northern Echo*.

THE SOCIETY OF ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS (INCORPORATED.)

We extract the following from the *Citizen* one of the leading commercial newspapers in the Metropolis:—The third annual general meeting was held on Tuesday afternoon at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street. Mr R. E. Emson, F.S.S., president, occupied the chair, supported by Mr Jacob Earnshaw (Manchester), vice-president; Mr H. T. Norton (Norton, Rose, Norton and Co.), Solicitor; Mr E. Carr, F.S.S.; Mr E. H. Collins, Mr P. H. Sainsbury, Mr W. J. Smith, Mr W. O. Clough, Mr A. T. Hawkins, J.P., Mr A. Dick, Mr H. H. Knill, Mr A. E. Woodington, Mr A. G. Klugh, Mr J. Y. Mould, Mr A. Conder (London), Mr T. E. Gibson, (Crewe), Mr A. W. Procter (Nottingham), Mr J. J. Parker and Mr Sissons (Sheffield), Mr E. Whittaker (Southampton), Mr J. Marr (Liverpool), Mr F. Walmsley, F.S.S., and Mr A. E. Piggott (Manchester), Mr W. E. Cross (Macclesfield), Mr T. Rushton (Preston), Mr A. Brodie (Consett), and Mr J. Martin, F.S.S. (Secretary). The reports and accounts for 1887 were taken as read. The report, which was of an encouraging character, was reviewed by the President, who said that he could fairly congratulate the members upon the state of the affairs of the Society. During the year 1887 fifty-three candidates had been admitted to membership, and, besides members in the United Kingdom, they now numbered twelve members in Australia, and two members in India. The examination had been fairly well attended, and he strongly urged upon the members the necessity of inducing their clerks to submit themselves for examination, and subsequently join the Society. The series of lectures which had been delivered during the winter had been largely attended, and had been a great success, so much so that another body had thought fit to follow the example (hear, hear). He was pleased to note that the members in Liverpool and Sheffield had formed District Societies upon the plan adopted by the Manchester members, and paid a high tribute to the Presidents and Secretaries of the Manchester, Liverpool, and Sheffield Associations. The nucleus of a good library had been formed, and he hoped the members would forward to the Secretary donations of either books or cash. He should expect to hear from the Secretary in the course of a few days, that hundreds of volumes had been received (hear, hear, and laughter). The Parliamentary Committee had not been idle, the Lunacy Acts Amendment Bill, the Friendly Societies Acts Amendment Bill, and the Public Trustee Bill, had all been amended in the interests of the members. A committee was now considering the best way to advance the interests of the members on the Local Government Bill. He paid a high tribute to the society's solicitors, Messrs Norton, Rose, Norton, and Co., for the influential and energetic manner in which they had defended the society's interests. The council had a difference of opinion over one matter only, and this had arisen through a lady (laughter), claiming to be a qualified public accountant, and applying for admission to membership. He was of opinion that the present time was most inopportune for making such an innovation; and his friend, Mr Piggott, in answer to strong representations on his part, had agreed to withdraw his motion in favour of the admission of qualified ladies. With regard to the accounts, although the entrance fees and subscriptions were low, and the amount of work accomplished very heavy, a saving had been effected on the year of £188 8s. (Cheers.) He concluded by moving the adoption of the report.—Mr Jacob Earnshaw, Vice-president, seconded the motion, which was put to the meeting and carried unanimously.—The following retiring members of the Council were then re-elected:—Mr H. Walker (London), Mr W. A. Byrom (Wigan), Mr T. E. Gibson (Crewe), Mr T. Harper (Birmingham), Mr J. King (Chorley), Mr T. Rushton (Preston), Mr I. Senior (Leeds); together with the following new candidates:—Mr W. O. Clough (Armitage, Clough and Norton, London, Huddersfield and Dewsbury), Mr A. T. Hawkins, J.P. (Hawkins and Co., London), Mr J. J. Parker (Sheffield). The auditors, Mr J. Y. Mould (London), and Mr A. A. Gillies (Manchester), were also re-elected. Mr Piggott, having withdrawn his motion in favour of the admission of qualified lady accountants, Mr Whittaker moved, and Mr Earnshaw (Vice-president) seconded, a cordial vote of thanks to the society's solicitors for the great services they had rendered. Mr H. T. Norton, in responding, said he was indebted to the members for their kind appreciation of his services. He had acted as solicitor for the society from its incorporation, and took the deepest interest in its prosperity. (Applause.)

An extraordinary general meeting was then held for the purpose of adopting new Articles of Association. The articles, as drafted by the special committee and approved by the Council, were then submitted to the meeting, and carried with two dissentients only; Mr Painter protesting that, under the new regulations, gentlemen would be excluded whom he considered were worthy of admission to the society. A cordial vote of thanks to the president brought the meeting to a conclusion.

In the evening, the members and friends of the society dined together at the Holborn Restaurant. Mr Emson again occupied the chair, and was supported by the members of the Council, and the following guests:—Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., Mr W. R. B. Briscoe, Mr A. Statham, Mr J. Slater, Mr R. A. Germaine, Mr C. E. Musgrave, Mr J. M. Klench, and other gentlemen.—The usual loyal toast having been duly honoured, Mr Earnshaw proposed "The Houses of Parliament," and said that he considered the members of the House of Commons were the hardest-worked men in the community. The toast was coupled with the name of Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P., who, in responding, was loudly cheered. He wished the society every success, and said there was no doubt it was of immense value to the members, and any friction that might arise between this and any other society would, he hoped, be easily overcome. They all recognised the position of high trust and responsibility which was occupied by professional accountants. Referring to the audit clauses of the Local Government Bill, he said he was opposed to any monopoly being created, and would do his best to assist the society in resisting the pretensions of another body. (Cheers.)—The Chairman, in proposing the toast of the evening, "Prosperity to the Society of Accountants and Auditors," referred to the audit clauses of the Local Government Bill, and said that they provided for the auditing of the accounts of the new county councils by auditors appointed by the Local Government Board, but he thought that, as the ratepayers had to find the money, they should elect the auditors (hear, hear), of course with the approval of the Local Government Board. They were opposed to all monopolies, and he was glad to say that the attempt of another society to obtain a monopoly in this case would be opposed from both sides of the House, letters having been received from Mr Ritchie, Mr Mundella, and others, disapproving of such a suggestion.—The toast was drunk with much enthusiasm.—The toast of "The Solicitors and Examiners" was proposed by Mr Klugh, and responded to in a happy speech by Mr Briscoe, the legal examiner.—The remaining toasts were "The Legal Profession" proposed by Mr Proctor, and responded to by Mr Statham; "The Visitors," proposed by Mr Adam Brodie, of Consett, and acknowledged by Mr J. M. Klench; and the health of the president was drunk with much cordiality at the instance of Mr Atherley-Jones, M.P.—The president, in responding, proposed the "Health of the Secretary," the toast being acknowledged by Mr Martin.—The health of the Honorary Secretary of the Dinner Committee, Mr Klugh, having been proposed by Mr Piggott, and responded to, the proceedings came to a conclusion.—The musical arrangements were under the direction of Mr W. Coates, and gave great satisfaction; the other artistes being Madame Isabel George and Miss Blanche Murray.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS

The fortnightly meeting was held at Lanchester on Thursday se'nnight—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., being in the chair. Amongst the Guardians in attendance were Monsignor C. Gillow, Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Messrs W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., J. Wilkinson, Wm. Logan, Geo. Hobson, T. Taylor Smith, J. Lax, W. H. Hedley, J. A. Curry, Wm. Rutherford, T. Pringle, N. Clark, T. J. Muse, R. Murray, J. Watson, J. T. Oliver, T. Nichol, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

THE BENEFITS OF VACCINATION.

The Clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) stated that the Local Government Board had forwarded a number of handbills for distribution amongst the inhabitants, explaining the advantages of young folks and adults being re-vaccinated.

Mr CURRY thought it would be no use to circulate the bills, as little notice would be taken of them. Many people objected to vaccination in the first instance.

Mr LAX: The bills will do some good amongst those people who are not opposed to vaccination.

Mr MURRAY stated that Dr George Renton had lately re-vaccinated a number of young folks and adults in the Consett district.

Mr T. TAYLOR SMITH humorously suggested that the Guardians should set a good example to the public by every member thereof being again vaccinated. (Loud laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN: Then you had better make a start yourself. (Renewed laughter.)

Mr LAX stated that he would willingly go through the ordeal again, if it would be the means of influencing other people. (Laughter.) He believed the larger proportion of people were in favour of vaccination from the first. It was only the ignorant or those not properly acquainted with the success of vaccination that were opposed to the process.

Mr RUTHERFORD: That is a disputed question.

Mr LAX: I don't think so. There is a large preponderance of testimony in favour of vaccination, and this fact is clearly demonstrated by the success of the Vaccination Act from the outset.

Mr MURRAY thought that vaccination had proved very beneficial to the country generally, inasmuch as some years ago it was a very common occurrence for to see people pitted with small-pox, and now it was an exceedingly rare thing for to see a person so disfigured.

Mr RUTHERFORD: But there have been rapid strides made in sanitary matters during that period.

Mr MURRAY: No doubt the improved sanitary arrangements have had some effect in preventing the outbreak of this deadly and noxious disease, but still I think that vaccination has exercised the greatest influence in keeping is back.

The CHAIRMAN said there could be no harm in distributing the handbills.

After some further discussion, the Clerk was directed to send copies of the bills for distribution by the Union vaccination officers, who should be requested to pay particular attention to seeing that every child was vaccinated within the specified period of three months; and also try to persuade grown-up persons to be vaccinated again.

OVERSEERS AND THE PARLIAMENTARY REGISTER.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board, dated 29th May, 1888, drawing the attention of the Guardians to paragraph H, sub-section 2, of section 4 of the County Electors Act, 1888, which authorises Guardians, with the consent of the overseers of any parish or parishes within their Union for which an overseer has not been appointed, to annually appoint a fit person as registration officer for such parish or parishes.

A communication to a similar effect was likewise read from the Clerk of the Peace (Mr R. Simey), who called especial attention to the clause relating to the duties of overseers in the preparation of the registration lists not having been efficiently discharged and owing to the complication of the law, these difficulties had been increased. He therefore suggested that for the present year, wherever overseers for rural parishes had not a skilled assistant-overseer, the Guardians should carry out their powers by appointing a competent person to assist in the compilation of the registers, so that the lists of Parliamentary voters should be as accurate as possible.

The Clerk remarked that they only had one township—viz., Healeyfield—in the Union without an assistant-overseer, and he felt sure that the overseer for that parish (Mr Scott) was a very efficient and capable person, and quite competent to prepare the list in a satisfactory manner. (Hear, hear.)

ALCHOLIC STIMULANTS.

The CHAIRMAN, having looked at the returns of pauperism for the northern counties, prepared by Mr W. E. Knollys, Government Board Inspector, said he was glad to note that alcohol had been entirely dispensed with in the Lanchester Workhouse during the past year.

INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

Week ending June 6th	158
Corresponding week of last year	174
Week ending June 13th	161
Corresponding week of last year	176
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	16
Corresponding fortnight of last year	9

There was no further business.

"HOW TO BEHAVE," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rate, by ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

TOWLS PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickley correct all irregularities, and believe the distressing symptoms so prevatent with the sex Boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere for 15 or 34 Stamp by the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln. — BEWARE OF IMITATION

"HOW TO DEBATE."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of fourpence, may be had at Robert Jackson's bookseller, 9, Newmarket Consett.

"HOW TO DO BUSINESS,' price sixpence —To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 New market Street Consett.

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. 23z

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

EXTRAORDINARY SCENE AT WOLSINGHAM.

Since Thursday week, great excitement has existed in Wolsingham through two bailiffs from Durham coming to schedule goods at the house of John Wren Jackson, deceased. Mr Jackson and his wife died recently, and the estate is being wound up by the executrixes. In the house lived two sons, who also lived with their parents when they were alive. These sons at one time had a house each set up and furnished, and when they gave up housekeeping their furniture was brought to their father's house, where it has still remained, and which the two sons now claim. For some time the executrixes wanted a schedule of the goods, so as to realise the estate and wind it up, but this the sons refused, and they being in occupation of the house since their father's death, and in whose estate they take a share, would not allow anyone to go in on behalf of the executrixes to touch the goods. However, on Thursday week, while one of the sons, Matthew Jackson, was at Durham consulting his solicitors, two men arrived with one of the executrixes. The house was broken into, and the men walked in, scheduled some of the goods, and there remained. This proceeding caused great excitement in the town, and when Matthew Jackson returned at night, he was cheered all the way to his house by some hundreds of people. He entered the house amid deafening cheers, and groans for the bailiffs and cries of "Put them out." He quietly told them to go out, and they left amid groans. A cask of beer was given away at the Market Place in honour of the victory. Matthew Jackson then got a number of men, whom he marched from the back of his house to the front, and then drilled them. These he called his "Black Watch," and he then marched them into his house. At this time the whole town was out, and Jackson delivered an address from a window. By seven p.m., constables arrived from Stanhope, but their services were never required, as the bailiffs made a hasty retreat and left the town.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE VICAR OF TOW LAW.

The funeral of the late Rev M. H. Simpson, vicar of Tow Law, took place in Tow Law Churchyard on Sunday, amidst every outward expression of sympathy and regret. Upon the conclusion of the morning service, which was taken by Rev T. C. Hughes, curate of the parish, the funeral procession was met at the church gate by Rev J. R. Harmer, chaplain to the Bishop of Durham, Rev D. Perrott, Rev T. C. Hughes, and the choir of the Parish. The first part of the funeral service was taken by Rev D. Perrott, and the ceremony at the grave by Rev J. R. Harmer (Bishop's chaplain), the service closing with the hymn, "The King of Love my Shepherd is." The coffin was covered with a profusion of exquisite wreaths, and bore the words, "Michael Henry Simpson, first vicar of Tow Law," with the dates of birth and death. The chief mourners included Mrs Simpson, Rev M. M. Simpson, rector of Usworth; Rev H. D'Arcy Simpson, Dr and Mrs Murray, Mr and Mrs Pickering, Mrs Gouldie Scott, and the Misses Simpson. The churchwardens (Messrs W. Atkinson and Arthur Hall), with a large number of parishioners, were present to testify their respect for their late incumbent. Mr Simpson was in his seventy-third year, and had been vicar of Tow Law since its formation into a parish in 1878, previous to which time he had been for 17 years curate of Thornley (Harperley). The kindliness of his disposition and the singleness of his character will cause his loss to be generally deplored throughout the district, with which he has been for so many years associated.

Another account says:—

"The interment of the late Rev Michael Henry Simpson, first vicar of Tow Law, who died at Redcar on June 14th, took place on Sunday, in the Tow Law Churchyard. The time fixed was 12-15, and as the morning service concluded, the bell began to toll, and the funeral party started from the Vicarage, which adjoins the Churchyard, and were met at the Churchyard gate by the clergy and surpliced choir, numbering thirty voices. The bearers were Messrs William Atkinson and Cuthbert Hall, churchwardens; Messrs George Roberts, Jos. Ridley, A. Weatherall, and J. Smith, all of whom have been parishioners during Mr Simpson's 26 years' residence. Mrs Simpson, accompanied by her eldest and second sons (Rev H. D. Simpson and Rev M. M. Simpson) followed the coffin. Mr H. Simpson, of Shrewsbury, one of the two surviving brothers of deceased, was also present, together with Mrs Murray, Mr and Mrs H. Pickering, Mrs Maud Simpson, and the Misses Simpson. As a mark of sympathy and respect, Rev J. R. Harmer, chaplain to the Bishop of Durham, attended the funeral, and read the service at the grave side. Rev D. Perrott, curate of Washington, who had been temporarily assisting Mr Simpson, conducted the rest of the service. The sentences "I am the Resurrection and the Life" were chanted from the gate to the church. The coffin was placed in the chancel, and after Psalm 90 had been sung and the lesson was read, hymn 430, "How bright those glorious spirits shine," was sung by the choir and congregation, who had all retained their seats after morning service. During the concluding verses of the hymn, the family of the deceased advanced to the chancel, and placed wreaths and crosses of flowers on the coffin, on which a brass plate bore the inscription, 'Michael Henry Simpson, first vicar of Tow Law, born January 21st, 1816; died June 14th, 1888. 'The Lord is my Shepherd.'' The choir then formed into procession, and, followed by the clergy, bearers, relatives, and congregation, sang to a slow chant the "Nunc Dimittis," as they marched slowly down the aisle to the grave side. The scene here was solemn and impressive in the extreme, as marking the peaceful close of a long and laborious life spent in the Master's service. At the grave side the Bishop's chaplain read the prayers and commital, the brother and sons of the deceased sprinkling the earth on the coffin. The grave was lined with white, with bright-coloured edging, which did much to soften the hard sentence of "Earth to earth." The hymn, "The King of Love my Shepherd is," was sung before the final prayer; and after lingering to give a last loving look at the resting-place of the loved one, the congregation slowly dispersed. Rev J. P. De Pledge, vicar of Satley, and Rev J. King, vicar of Crook, came as representing the neighbouring clergy. Mr John Hughes acted as organist and choir conductor, and did everything to ensure the beautiful effect of a solemn and victorious Christian burial, such as is designed in the appointed ritual of the Church.

The late vicar came to Tow Law in 1862 as curate to Rev G. P. Wilkinson, of Thornley, of which parish Tow Law then formed a part. For many years he conducted service in a school-chapel, and a district church was built in 1869. In 1878, the parish of Tow Law was constituted, and Rev Mr Simpson appointed vicar by the patron, the Bishop of Chester. In 1885 the vicar completed a handsome new Vicarage on a site adjoining the church, and in 1882 he filled in, as an offering from himself, the east window of five lights with stained glass, representing Our Saviour as the Good Shepherd, and the four Evangelists. In 1886 a fine organ was erected. These marks of work and progress will stand for future generations, while it may be hoped that the regular congregations and fine surpliced choir may continue as a basis for still further increase in Christian influence. The late vicar was not what is called a "party man," and while carrying on his work on strictly Church and rubrical lines, his genial character and large-heartedness endeared him to all classes and sects. He took an active interest in all local matters affecting the welfare and health of the parish.

"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 not any Agents

"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.

Business Announcements.

SIXTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDANCE.

MR. H. MARKHAM,
SURGEON DENTIST,
OF 50, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

ATTENDS CONSETT EVERY MONDAY, from 1 p.m., to 3 p.m., at Mrs LOWSON'S, 22, MOUNT PLEASANT. ARTIFICIAL TEETH, to suit Youth or Age, inserted with all the latest and Best English and American Improvements, at Moderate Charges. A Perfect Fit Guaranteed.

ADJOINING CONSERVATIVE CLUB, MOUNT PLEASANT. ESTABLISHED 1830.

THE COVENTRY CYCLE CO., LIMITED,
WHITEFRIAR LANE, COVENTRY

SOLE MAKERS OF THE COVENTRY IMPERIAL BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES, SAFETIES, and TANDEMS

ALL GUARANTEED MACHINES BEAR THE REGISTERED TRADE MARK OF THE COMPANY.

PRICE LISTS, 3 STAMPS. 876v

WATCHES WATCHES!! WATCHES

MARSHALL & SONS,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
CONSETT AND BLACKHILL,

BEG to announce that they have opened a BRANCH SHOP in the NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, where they are now showing a fine assortment of CLOCKS, WATCHES, & JEWELLERY Splendid Silver Patent Lever Watches from 70s. and upwards. Ladies and Gentlemen's Silver Geneva Watches from 20s. and upwards. Timepieces from 5s. All kinds of Repairs will be executed at Moderate Charges, combined with Good Workmanship.

KINDLY NOTE ADDRESS:—
MARSHALL AND SONS,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
NEW TOWN HALL, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, & HIGHGATE, BLACKHILL. 311x

SPRING, 1888.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

GEORGE RICHARDSON,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPER,
HAS PLEASURE IN ANNOUNCING THAT HIS STOCK IS NOW REPLETE WITH THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.
An inspection of his large and varied Stock is respectfully solicited.
ALL GOODS SOLD AT LOWEST CASH PRICES.
207z TAILORS, MILLINERS, and DRESSMAKERS kept on the Establishment.

J. W. DAVISON AND SONS,
HOUSE FURNISHERS AND IRONMONGERS,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEG respectfully to announce to their Friends and the Public that they have now on hand a choice assortment of FURNISHINGS suitable for Cottage or Mansion, which for Price and Quality will compare with any in the North of England.

A SPECIAL LINE IN PAPER HANGINGS.

PERAMBULATORS AND WRINGING MACHINES.

MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. WARNING.—NOVELTIES LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

AND NEW GOODS in Clocks, Watches, and Jewellery, at all prices, at the CONSETT JEWELLERY EMPORIUM in great Variety. The Quality and extreme Cheapness of the Goods is noteworthy. New Novelties are being constantly received, and intending Purchasers should see the large Variety before purchasing elsewhere. SILVER GOODS sold at little more than price usually charged for Gilt and Plated Goods. Half-Dozen Best Tea Spoons given to Purchasers of an extra thick 18-Carat GOLD WEDDING RING, from 10s. each.

J. M. wishes to caution the public against taking Watches to inexperienced men to repair, as they do as much harm to a Watch in ten minutes as the owner will do by wearing it ten years. Many people think that when they see "Watchmaker and Jeweller" over the door, they will find a practical man; but this is a mistake, as many shops in the district are kept by men who have no practical knowledge of a Watch whatever.

ALL REPAIRS ARE DONE BY EXPERIENCED MEN ON THE PREMISES; this being an exception to what many so-called Watchmakers do—who send repairs they are unable to do to another man, thus making the public pay a double price for repairs. J. M., not having to send repairs away, saves you the double charge, and GUARANTEES ALL REPAIRS. By the establishment of his two Shops, J. M. entirely obviated the necessity of the public sending their Watches to Coventry and other Watchmaking districts to be repaired.

LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD. JOSEPH MARSHALL, Watchmaker, Jeweller, & Silversmith, 7, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, and LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD. 7, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT. 912y

J. J. SINTON (the Apiary), LANCHESTER, Durham, BEE FURNITURE MANUFACTURER. Feeders, 1s each; Smokers, 2s 6d each; Foundation, 2s 3d lb; Sections, 2s 6d per hundred; Skeps; Supers. Hives complete. Telescope, 6s 6d; Ritson, 8s 6d; Sinton, 8s 6d; Burgess, 10s; Dixon, 10s. IMPORTER OF FOREIGN BEES. Stocks always ready for Sale. Metal Ends, 8d per dozen; Crates, 1s 2d each; Frames, 1s per dozen. 371z

ROBERT JACKSON'S
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
☞ AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

Public Notices.

58 IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Watch Raffled for at Victoria Street, Consett. 744z

ANNFIELD PLAIN Y.M.C.A. GALA DAY on Saturday, August 4th. 650z

LOOK HERE!—ANNFIELD PLAIN AMATEUR CYCLING CLUB ANNUAL SPORTS will be held on July 7th, 1888. 415z

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S, "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 9, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

LANCHESTER FLOWER SHOW, SPORTS, &c

THE THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SHOW will be held on Saturday, September 1st, 1888. Good Band.
712z G. V. P. PARKER, Hon. Sec.

BEAMISH, PONTOP, and CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY'S SHOW at LANCHESTER, on WEDNESDAY, August 15th, 1888.—Prize Schedules on application to GEORGE HEPPELL, Secretary, Newfield, Chester-le-Street.

THE PEDIGREE BULL, "Home Rule," White; Sire—"Major Fitz Halnaby" (48,281), Dam—"Snow Queen." Kept by Mr. J. W. ARMSTRONG, West Newbiggin, Lanchester. Terms, 5s. each cow. Now standing at Mr. PROUDLOCK'S, Commercial Inn, Consett. 698z

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, BLACKHILL

ON MONDAY, JULY 2nd, 1888,
A SERMON WILL BE PREACHED
In the above place, by the
REV. E. LLOYD JONES,
Of Darlington.
Service to commence at 7·30 p.m.
☞ A Collection will be taken on behalf of the Trust Funds. 719z

ORD AND MADDISON,
AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKS,
DARLINGTON,

SUPPLY Bamlett's, Kearsley's, Samuelson's, Wood's, Hornsby's, Harrison and McGregor's, Bamford's, and other Makers' GRASS CUTTERS. Also, Ransome's, Nicholson's, Howard's, Jeffery and Blackstone's, and other Makers' HORSE RAKES and HAY-MAKERS.

A Large Stock always on hand during Season.
Depots at DARLINGTON, STOCKTON, BISHOP AUCKLAND, DURHAM, BARNARD CASTLE, NORTHALLERTON, and SUNDERLAND. Write for Prices and terms.

ORDER FROM THE AUTHOR,
Mr. ALEXANDER BARRAS, 138, Lower Cuthbert Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne,
"THE DERWENT VALLEY AND OTHER POEMS."
PRICE, 4s.

"A specimen of good native Tyneside poetry, written by one who knows the district and perceives its beauties."—*The Newcastle Courant*

"The descriptions of nature are those of a real lover of the rural world, and one who 'thinketh in the heart' as the old writer phrases it."—*Northern Weekly Leader*.

Public Notices.

MONSTRE GATHERING of CHRISTIAN and MISSION BANDS (Eight expected) at CONSETT, on June 30th. See Bills. 717z

THOMAS BARRY,
HAIRDRESSER,
12, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding district, that he has engaged a Young Man as ASSISTANT, and hopes by strict attention to business to merit a share of the patronage which he has retained for thirteen years past.

T.B. wishes it to be known that he is prepared to wait upon any customer at their own residence on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All orders punctually attended to. Children's hair neatly cut. 636z

THE NEW GROCERY AND PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT AT WEST STANLEY.

WM. AYNSLEY
OF
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, AND FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,
WILL
OPEN THE EXTENSIVE PREMISES AT WEST STANLEY
(Formerly occupied by the late Mr. Winship),
ON FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1888,
With a Large and Superior Stock of
GROCERIES
AND
PROVISIONS
Which he will Sell at Prices that will command the Patronage of the Public.

Price Lists will be delivered throughout the District, an inspection of which, and comparison of the Goods supplied, will convince the Public that this Establishment will compare favourably with any other in the North of England.

Families Supplied with the following Celebrated MILD and BITTER ALES, in Bottles, also in Nine and Eighteen Gallon Casks:

	Six Gallons.	Nine Gallons
Mild Ales	7/6, 8/6, 9/6.	10/6, 12/-, 13/6
Bitter Ales	7/6, 9/6.	10/6, 13/6

Bass & Co.'s 33/- India Pale Ale 18 Gallons for 27/-
Bass & Co.'s 27/- Mild Burton 18 Gallons for 24/

BOTTLED ALES AND STOUT—Per Dozen.

	Half-Pints.	Pints.
Bass & Co.'s India Pale Ale	2/-	3/-
Bass & Co.'s Sparkling Mild Ales	1/9	2/9
Guinness's Stout	2/-	3/-
Nourishing Stout	1/9	2/9

Fine Old	Half-Gallons.	Gallons.
Glenlivet Whiskey	9/-, 8/-, 6/9.	18/-, 16/-, 13/6.
Fine Old Jamaica Rums	9/-, 8/-, 6/9.	18/-, 16/-, 13/6.
Old Tom Gins	From 6/-.	From 12/-.
Brandies	From 6/9.	From 13/6.

BRITISH WINES—Per Bottle.

Port Wine	1/-.	Orange	1/-.
Sherry	1/-.	Raisin	1/-.
Tent	1/-.	Raspberry	1/-.
Elderberry	1/-.	Ginger	1/-.
Cowslip	1/-.	Lime Juice Cordial	1/-.

Goods delivered daily to any part of the Neighbourhood.
Splendid Edinburgh Ale (in sparkling condition) on Draught at 4d per quart.
Burton Ales at 5d.

Remember the Date of Opening:
FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1888.
684z WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Proprietor.

Public Notices.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

ON Wednesday, 27th June, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT at 2·30 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, and Lintz Green), for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH. See Bills. 759z

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

GRAND VENETIAN BAZAAR IN THE ARTILLERY NEW DRILL HALL, SUNDERLAND.

ON SATURDAY, the 30th of June, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT, at 1·45 p.m. (with bookings from Knitsley, Lanchester, Witton Gilbert, and Aldin Grange) for SUNDERLAND, returning at 8·15 p.m. See Bills.

MISS ELLA REED respectfully announces to the Inhabitants of Annfield Plain and District that she has commenced a DRESSMAKING BUSINESS, on the Improved Scientific Cutting System, and that all Orders entrusted to her charge will be carefully and promptly executed.
THE POST OFFICE,
773z Annfield Plain.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!

THE STANLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT DEMONSTRATION will be held in a Field at Oxhill, on Saturday, July 7th, 1888. CONCERT by the Choirs in the Afternoon at Two; Tea at Four. At 6·30 p.m., R. CAMERON, Esq., J.P., of Sunderland, will LECTURE, subject—"The English in Ireland." 953z

MILITARY INSPECTION AND SPORTS AT GIBSIDE.

ON Friday and Saturday First, a MILITARY INSPECTION OF VOLUNTEERS and SPORTS will take place at Gibside Park, five minutes' walk from Rowlands Gill Station.
Admission—only One Penny each.

NOTICE.

THE Members of Victoria Garesfield Colliery Accident Fund intend to hold their Eighth Annual SPORTS and PIC-NIC, on Saturday, June 30th, 1888, when £30 will be given in Prizes. £7 10s. 120 Yards Handicap Foot Race, entrance, 1s. £2 10s. Quarter-Mile Handicap Foot Race, entrance, 6d. £4 for Quoiting on the Sward, entrance, 6d. Prizes to the value of £3 will be given for Football playing. Prizes will be given for Running High Leap, Wrestling, Skipping, Sewing, and Workmen's Local Handicaps. For further particulars see Bills. Entrance for 120 Yards Handicap and Quarter-Mile Handicap Foot Races close on Monday, June 25th, 1888, to Mr. THOMAS MINKS, Victoria Garesfield, via Lintz Green, handicapper for both events. Cards sent on receipt of 1½d.
746z P. DUFFY, Secretary.

Sales by Auction.

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

ADAM BRODIE and ROBERT J. BRODIE, Members of the Institute of Auctioneers and Surveyors, and of the Institute of Estate Agents, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the Management and Collection of Rents of every description of real Property, and are prepared also to conduct Sales of Farming Stock and Produce, Houses and Land, Household Furniture, Merchandise, and Effects of every description, in the best manner, and on the most Reasonable Terms. Their well-known Sale Rooms in Victoria Street, Consett, are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale, where removal is considered necessary by the owners; and, as a rule, Sales are held there Fortnightly. Instructions by letter or otherwise receive prompt attention.

☞ Sole Agents in Consett for the principal Lines of Steamers to the United States, Canada, and Australia; and also for the Queensland Government.
ADDRESS:—Victoria Sale Rooms. Office: Town Hall, Consett. 662y

Saturday, June 23rd, 1888.—Newmarket Street, Consett.—Sale of Superior Grocery Goods and Sundry Effects, under Distress for Rent.

MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on the Premises in Newmarket Street, Consett, on Saturday, June 23rd, 1888, the Superior STOCK-IN-TRADE of GROCERIES and PROVISIONS (under Distress for Rent), comprising—Fine Teas and Coffees; Sugars; Pale and Mottled Soaps; Fancy Soaps; Cheese; Butter; Bacon; Lard; Green and Split Peas; Currants; Raisins; Lemon Peel; Biscuits; Jams; Tinned Salmon; Tinned Rabbit; Pickles and Sauces; Black Lead; Starch and Blue; 2 Stones of Rice; Sago; Tapioca; Condensed Milk; 8 Gross of Matches; 12 Jugs of Jam; 2 Boxes of Gregory's Powder; 1 Box of Sulphur; Blacking; Baking Powders; Whole and Ground Ginger; Pot and Pearl Barley; Tobacco; Mustard and Pepper; Paper and Paper Bags; Twine; and other Grocer's Sundries and Miscellaneous Effects.
Sale to commence at Two o'clock p.m.
No Reserve. 756z

Monday, June 25th, 1888.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Special Notice.—Important Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture and Effects, including—Handsome Walnut Drawing-room Suite, in Green Repp; Best Mahogany Couch, in Hair-Seating, beautifully Carved; Good Mahogany Couch, in Hair; Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase; Bookcase and Desk; 6 Best Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-Seating, Spring Stuffed; 2 Mahogany Easy Chairs; 8 Bedroom Chairs; 2 Arm Chairs; 3 Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses; Iron Bedstead; Chest and Frame; Wringing Machine; 2 Best Feather Beds; Bolsters and Pillows; 2 Carpets; 6 Door Mats; 3 Clothes Baskets; Fender and Fire-irons; Pictures: together with the Kitchen Utensils and Sundry Effects. Also, the remainder of the Superior Stock of Clothing and Drapery Goods, 20 Pounds of Indian Tea, and Splendid Iron-Framed Trichord Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, and in perfect order, Best Medium Domestic Sewing Machine, by Singer, nearly new, &c., &c.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed by a Gentleman, removed, to SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, June 25th, 1888, the whole of the Superior Household FURNITURE and Effects, as above, without reserve.
Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock p.m.

Thursday, June 28th, 1888.—Sale of Substantial and Well-Situate Freehold Property, in the centre of Consett.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE, Members of the Institute of Auctioneers and Surveyors, are instructed to offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mrs. BROWN, Railway Hotel, Consett, on Thursday, June 28th, at Half-past Seven o'clock, subject to conditions to be then and there produced and read, the Valuable and Substantial FREEHOLD PROPERTY, Situate and being No. 12, Raglan Street, Consett, and comprising—Superior DWELLING-HOUSE, of Five Rooms, with Three-Stalled Stable and good Warehouse behind, with Lofts over same, and Large Self-contained Yard, as at present occupied by Mrs. EVANS.

This Property, being well-situate in the centre of Consett, with extensive Yard and Out-buildings, can easily be converted into good Business Premises, suitable for any trade requiring room.

Particulars may be had on application to Mr. T. W. WELFORD, Jun., Solicitor, Parliament Street, or the AUCTIONEERS, Town Hall, Consett. 720z

Saturday, June 30th, 1888.—Reading and Recreation Rooms, Consett.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by the Committee, to SELL BY AUCTION, in the above Rooms, on Saturday, June 30th, at Seven o'clock in the Evening, the MAGAZINES, REVIEWS, and NEWSPAPERS, to be taken in for the Half-year Ending December 31st, 1888. 740z

HURY RESERVOIR, Barnard Castle.—TO BE SOLD, by Private Treaty, the Current-going GROCERY and PROVISION TRADE successfully carried on for the last four years by T. D. Dryden & Co., at Hury Reservoir, near Barnard Castle, and where a good Business is now being done. Satisfactory reasons given for leaving.—Apply, ADAM BRODIE, Incorporated Accountant, Town Hall, Consett. 772z

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

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

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

All Emigrants and Luggage taken to the Railway Station Free of Charge; and for the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply at once to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, and Emigration Agent, Dipton 485z

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

MONDAY, JUNE 25th, 1888.

Present Entries.
11 Fat Cattle
80 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
3 Veal Calves
Pork and Store Pigs, including 3 Litters of Country Pigs, good sorts.
12 to 18 Calving Cows and Heifers.
A number of Store Heifers and Bullocks, 1½ to 2½ years old.
Poultry, Harness, Ropes, Chains, &c.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
770z JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

A QUANTITY of Household FURNITURE will be SOLD at the conclusion of the Stock Sale, comprising—Eight-days' Clock; Longsettle; Iron Bedstead; Flock Bed; Dining Table; Small Table; Washstand and Dressing Table; Pictures; Poss-stick; Looking Glass, &c.
770z J. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

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

By Mr. John Crawford.

25, Victoria Street Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday First, June 25th, 1888 (brought to his Sale-rooms for convenience of Sale), a large quantity of New and Second-hand Mahogany FURNITURE, a lot of READY-MADE CLOTHING, BOOTS, SHOES, &c.
Sale to commence at Two o'clock. 765z

Short Notice.—Mount Pleasant, Consett.—Seizure for Queen's Taxes of R. Von Dix's Furniture and Effects.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, To-night (Friday) the FURNITURE, &c.
Sale to commence at Six o'clock.
Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 764z

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT
Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

A WEEKLY SALE every Monday for Fat and Store Cattle and Sheep, Dairy Cows, Horses, Conveyances, Farm Produce, &c., commencing at 12 o'clock with Cows, Fat and Store Stock to follow. Entries should be sent on Wednesday each week.
JOSEPH VICKERS Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 597z

JOHN LOWES,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.

Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC. 653y

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed periods.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

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

What a beautiful carriage!
Where did you get it?
Form ALFRED BOAG,
St. Mary's Place, Newcastle.
I was perfectly astonished to see his Stock of New and Second-hand Carriages and Harness, and more so when I heard his prices. Thanks for his address. I want my carriage repaired and painted. Good morning. 716z

LIEBIG'S
EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE
(GLENDENNING'S).
MADE FROM GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT, LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF, AND KEPLER MALT EXTRACT.

THIS valuable preparation is composed of a stimulative, a nutritive, and a digestive.
Thus the invalid has here "tissue formers" and "force producers" in a form ready for and easy of assimilation into the system.
Those in the enjoyment of good health need at times a concentrated nutritive digestive food, and in no other preparation will they obtain these requisite qualities in so large a degree.
Recommended by the Medical Profession, who have found it to be a valuable aid in their dietic treatment.

Prepared only by WILLIAM GLENDENNING, Wine Merchant, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Established 1867.
PRICE 3/9 PER BOTTLE, or 45/- PER DOZEN.

FOR THE
BLOOD!
Have you tried the "IRON AND MAGNESIA MIXTURE!"
This Tonic Aperient is prepared and dispensed in enormous quantities by MR ROBERTS, the Chemist, whose several addresses in Newcastle are so familiar to the majority of north-country folk. The Iron and Magnesia Mixture is an invaluable Spring Medicine.
Bottles—1s 6d, 2s 9d, and 4s 6d each.
ROBERTS, Newcastle. 647z

TO ADVERTISERS.

ALL Orders for Advertisements for insertion in the *Consett Guardian* must be WRITTEN, and sent in not later then NINE o'clock on Friday mornings to ensure publication.

WE use great care to secure the correct printing of advertisements; but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies nor from any consequences arising therefrom.

PARTIES making inquiries by letter respecting advertisements must enclose an addressed stamped envelope.

IT is contrary to Post-office Regulations for letters to be addressed to initials or fictitious names at any Post-office. Advertisers are desired to bear this in mind.

APPLICANTS for situations and others who reply to advertisements are recommended to forward copies of their testimonials, and not the original documents.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22ND, 1888.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

MORE "CAWD WETTER."

Comparatively few of my readers, I trust, have realised in their experience the full significance of the phrase—"adding insult to injury." Happily for mankind the men and women whose bent of mind lead them to distil "cawd wetter" and shower it down the back of those whom the tide of circumstance has for the time being placed in their power, form but an infinitesimal part of the human race. The old-fashioned method of obtaining information was to seek to acquire it in the same manner in which Burns counsels a young friend to save money, viz—"by every means that's justified by honour." These are the lines upon which I have hitherto proceeded, not being clever enough to discover a by-way into the rich domains of knowledge. Full two decades have gone to swell the record of departed years since I first set out in quest of knowledge, having about that time been suddenly thrilled by the melodious tones of a mystic voice echoing in dulcet whispers: "Waken, drowsy slumber, waken." I could not choose but follow, and from that day to the present I walked no more in the purposeless paths of life. I followed my new-born ideal in season and out of season, frequently depriving Nature of her just dues by roaming in my new world for two live-long nights in succession. But perfect bliss is not to be found even in the most lofty and enobling of earthly pursuits, and the necessarily restricted sphere of my experience did not furnish the sparsely sown exception to the rule. Great was my delight in the treasures which I gathered in a humble way on the borders of a domain whose riches were until that time a sealed book to me; but in keeping with the stereotyped usages of the world the pleasures of the passing hour were not unfrequently diluted with the unwelcome voices of envy and her twin and ill-starred associate contumely. Between them, with many a shower of "cawd wetter," they favoured me. It is very strange, but true all the same, that permanent good should spring out of what is without question the emanation of minds if not absolutely shrivelled at least much below par in expansion. But so it is, "Cawd wetter" down the back of an anxious inquirer is calculated to make the plodder pause, and depend upon it that man resumes his journey with a mind widened in its functions, as knowing what the poet in a strong figure of speech calls:—"Lions, wolves, and dragons . . . . . storms of hail, the world's contempt or hate, have in turn to be encountered and overcome." For my part I rathe relish an occasional shower bath, so strong within me is the force of habit. Hence, the unkindly letter from the pen of the author of the second version—if, indeed, it differs from the original—of "Cawd wetter down yer back" did not in the least degree discomfit me. I wanted information, and I took what seemed to me to be the most direct means to obtain it.

AN UNGENEROUS POET.

A poet, says the dictionary, is a writer of poems, and as Mr William Ross, of Catchgate, says he is the author of a poem, then it follows that Mr Ross is a poet. I am glad to learn that North-Western Durham has within its borders more poets than I had any idea of. My readers will have observed that I have a decided favour for the tribe. I never yet lost an opportunity of speaking their praise, and often has my heart been gladdened by reading their home-spun lays. I refer to local poets, and I use the term home-spun lays because there crossed my mind at this moment the recollection of a beautiful passage in Longfellow, in which a friend is requested to read:—(I quote from memory)

"Not from the grand old masters,
Not from the bards sublime,
Whose mighty voices echo
Through the corridors of time.
Read from some humbler poet
Whose songs gushed from his heart,
As rain from the clouds in summer,
Or tears from the eyelids start.

I refer to this passage to show that the minor poet is as much an essential as the master minds, which as Professor Blackie observes:—the great Architect of the universe sends forth from time to time to rouse, to stimulate, and to lead into the right way, the erring sons of men. Irrespective, however, of the particular standing to which poets may have risen by dint of energy or natives gifts I have hitherto believed them to be the most kindly-disposed and generous of men. This opinion has been strengthened by contact with the few with whom it has been my lot to meet. Let them imagine then with what feelings of mingled horror and dismay I read the letter written by Mr William Ross. I never yet met with a man who could write verses who was not more anxious to read his lays than people were willing to listen to them. Mr Ross is the much-talked about exception. That gentleman desires to barter his verses—a stroke of worldly wisdom no doubt, and although such a proposal may be perfectly in keeping with the ways of the world, it is certainly very much out of touch with the ways of poets. As a matter of fact, there is hardly an editor of a newspaper who is not pestered with political lucubrations, and the waste basket has in too many instances been the sepulchre of many a worthy piece. Then, who will pay for poetry? Echo answers: "Who? and Mr Ross will want for a long time before he gets an answer. His generosity in offering to sell "Cawd wettor" to me is so marked an expression of kindness on his part that I know not well how to express my indebtedness for so magnanimous an offer; but I have seen enough of the author in his letter of last week to break the spell and effectually extinguish any longings for a more extended acquaintance with the children of his brain.

RETRIBUTION.

I cannot tell exactly how it comes about, but the poet to whom I have had occasion to refer seems to be impressed with the idea that the duty of punishing me—of meting retributive justice for the sin of having used my pen unmercifully on some unrecorded occasion—has by some strange turn of events devolved on him. Be it so, and let Mr Ross quote scripture to give point to his darts, if he has any. Should he be favoured with a passing puff of the divine afflatus, let him husband the nectar for it is precious, albeit that it may turn to clay in hands whose aim is barter. No sword suspended by a hair hangs over my head. Thanks all the same for his expression of regard, such as they are. They have furnished me with a text which on some future occasion may be turned to account.

GREAT BATTLE AT WOLSINGHAM.

THE ROYAL STANDBACKS UNDER FIRE.

Wolsingham is one of the queerest places in creation. Some of the funniest things occur there that occur anywhere. From time immemorial it was always reckoned a queer place. All the queer characters in the county seem to congregate there and have done for generations, until now the real native is as queer as any that can come. For a long time there was only two classes located there. The two extremes of society. The rich and affluent, and the poor and needy. There were no public works at that place for ages, and anyone who did not like work could locate there among his own class, and be little thought about. It was the asses in the desert to men of this class, many of whom were drawn there and to each other on the elective affinity principle. During late years, however, it has been transformed into a little Sheffield, and the working class element has been imported into it from all parts of England, until now the conglomerate is complete. Nearly all nations and all creeds are represented there now, and men can be found in the old town who will qualify and graduate into anything or everything as may be required. That it posesses men of talent and sterling worth, no one who knows it will ever doubt, but for it to possess men of the military class, men who can be drilled in a few hours marched about the street, and yield obedience to their superior officers with the exactness of the real British soldier, is somewhat surprising, and it is no less surprising that men can be found in the old town, who, without previous practice, can muster any army, drill them properly, and infuse courage, pluck, and daring into them in little more than an hour. Yet such is the case, as was demonstrated beyond a doubt last Friday night, when all Wolsingham turned out to see the Royal Standbacks receive their baptism of fire. Some candyman from the city of old maids and mustard had taken possession of a house and its contents, in the old town. Their right of possession was disputed by Rip Van Winkle and Don Quixote, the latter of whom was absent from the old town at the time when the bums gained access to the dwelling, but was expected home again with the evening train. During Don's absence Rip was on the alert and gave the bailiffs an intimation of what was in store for them on the arrival of Don, by letting daylight into the place with his ponderous battering ram, causing an aperture in the piece of furniture known as the door. Crowds gathered about in the expectency of seeing a farce on the arrival of Don, and there were indications of a mob and riot in the old town. Men in blue, were telegraphed for from adjacent villages, and were ready in the event of a riot or disturbance on the arrival of Don. By-and-bye the screech of the steam-engine was heard down the valley, and the white line of clouds of smoke could be discried west of Harperley. In a little time Don would be in Wolsingham, and operations that would eclipse, Tel-el-Kebir would be commenced forthwith. By-and-bye the great pioneer of civilisation steamed into Wolsingham station where Rip met Don and told him the state of affairs, when Don declared he would raise an army and storm the place. True to his word, a born leader of men, he very soon had men to lead. Genius is never at a loss how to do, and our hero soon got recruits whom he primed for action by a short and spirited drill, and marched them up and down, and in loud, stentorian, and commanding tones gave orders right and left, and never did a few British soldiers yield a readier or more exact obedience to their officers than did these few men of the "First Division of the Awkward Squad," who felt, under their redoubtable leader, fit for a Balaclava charge. Halt! Right about face! and similar commands were given, and obeyed by these soldier-like men, and at the command—"Bolt and clear them out"—they darted through the broken panels of the door and made a vigorous dash at the enemy amid the vociferous cheers of the crowd, which by this time was immense, as our informer said, "Wey, man, Stanhope fair was now't te'd for a crowd." The men of the Royal Standbacks eclipsed in valour the heroes of the Tel-el-Kebir charge, while Don, their leader, who led them, equalled General Wolseley himself as a commander. In face of the guns of the enemy they scaled the embattlements, rushed upon the gunners, jumped into the trenches, spiked the guns, boycotted those who did not seek safety in flight, and soon the enemy were in full retreat, pursued by the cavalry of the Wolsingham commander-in-chief, which divided, the right wing flanking the enemy, and the left wing pressing in their rear. A flag of truce was hoisted, but the blood of the British was up, and they continued in hot pursuit, and spared neither the wounded nor the aged. The enemy were routed with great slaughter, until the clarion trumpet voice of Don recalled them from their ghastly work. On re-marshalling his forces and reading the *role* call, few of his heroes were missing (these brave warriors, the illustrious descendants of Wolsingham's defenders in 1743, of which signal mention is made in Fordyce's "History of Durham," and *Wolsingham Parochial Magazine*, and their gallant ride when 200 black kyloes pursued them from Bollihope Fell to the old town in hot pursuit). So he gathered them together and congratulated them on the splendid victory they had achieved, and, as a reward for their bravery, he ordered a barrel of beer to be borne into the street, and commissioned them to tap it. They regaled themselves with its contents to their hearts' content. Never was a command from a British officer more readily obeyed. No sooner said than done. But the difficulty of these brave men of the Awkward Squad was that those who liked it couldn't get at it for those that didn't like it. So it ever is on all similar occasions. The soldier who bleeds for his Queen and country goes unrewarded, and the undeserving step in and share the emoluments of pension and reward. If ever Old England is invaded, Wolsingham will furnish its contingent of warriors, all brave men and true, and, with such leaders as Rip and Don, should the enemy land on British shores, they would never be allowed to leave them more. But the greater part of them would bite the dust, and be buried in the old town of Wolsingham.

Mr John B. Walton, son of the late Mr Thomas Walton, and nephew of Mr Robert Walton, Stanhope House, has passed the theological portion of the final examination for B.A. degree.

A LARGE EGG.—A hen belonging to Mr Joseph Priestman, West End, Stanhope, laid a very large egg on Sunday last. It measured 7¾ inches around the thickest part of it, and 8¼ inches around it endways, and weighed 4¼oz.; but the most curious thing in connection with it was it contained another perfect average egg inside, the shell, of which was even harder than the one around the outside. The outer egg was full of white, but the hen had pecked it, and thus broke the shell and disclosed the other one inside. It is a great curiosity, and has been visited by many. It was laid by a blue spanish hen which had been crossed.

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Not a single case was brought forward at the Consett Petty Sessions, on Monday, to be disposed of.

The marriage arranged between Mr David Dale and Miss Millbank will take place at the Parish Church of Well, near Thorp Perrow, Yorkshire, on Thursday, August 2nd.

The vicar of Consett (Rev Fredk. Steggall) has returned home this week, after a three-months' sojourn in the South of England for the purpose of recruiting his health and strength.

Theatre Royal.—Miss Rose Moncrieff's company closed a month's engagement at the Consett Theatre Royal on Saturday evening. There was a very good audience present on the occasion of Miss Moncrieff's and Mr Newman Maurice's benefit on Friday night.

BLACKHILL.

On Sunday evening last, Rev T. J. Storey preached a funeral sermon on the late Mr Joel. At the end of the service the organist (Mr Jon. Stephenson) played the "Dead March" in Saul.

Nathan Raw, of Blackhill, after a successful University course for the medical profession, has now passed his final examinations and obtained at the same time the Durham University degrees M.B., and B.S.

Railway Servants Religious Association. Consett and Blackhill District.—The above association held their annual camp meeting at Blackhill, in front of Bessemer Street, on Sunday last. Commencing with a prayer meeting which was held in the Gospel Mission Room, Foundry Row, at 8·30 a m., and conducted by Mr Shotton. At 9·30 the railway servants and Christian friends formed a procession through the streets, accompanied by the Blackhill Mission Band. Making a stop at several centres, to give a word of invitation to the camp ground, to hear the blessed Gospel. At 10·30 Bro. Wm. Milne, Gateshead, and Mr J. Armstrong, Shildon, addressed a large company, conducted by Mr Summerbell, Consett. A procession was formed at Consett in the afternoon, and proceeded by way of Victoria Street, Middle Street, and thence to the camp ground Blackhill. At 2 o'clock some stirring addresses were given by Messrs T. Dent, Shildon, W. Milne, and J. Armstrong, while Mr J. Scott, Newcastle, conducted the service. A large crowd of listeners thronged the platform from Consett, Leadgate, Annfield Plain, Lanchester, and Newcastle, who also nobly assisted in the work. An experience meeting was held in the Wesleyan Chapel at six o'clock, presided over by Mr Dent, and which proved to be the best ever held under the above auspices.

CASTLESIDE.

Primitive Methodist Sabbath School Anniversary.—The anniversary services in connection with the above school were held on Saturday and Sunday last. On Saturday, a public tea was held in the school-room. Mrs Lister, Mrs Pattinson, and Mrs Wilson acted as tea infusers, while the Misses Bainbridge, Proud, Ripley, Harker, and Lister presided at the tables. The weather being fine, a great number of persons availed themselves of the opportunity, and partook of the good things provided for them. After the tables had been cleared, a public meeting was held in the chapel, presided over by Mr Robert Brown, Consett, in his usual earnest and pleasant manner. The Secretary (Mr Proud) read his report for the past year, which showed the school to be in a flourishing condition. Eloquent and stirring addresses were delivered by Mr J. J. Potts (Waskerley), Mrs Phillipson, and the Revs J. Alderson and J. Moffatt (circuit ministers), to a large and intelligent audience.—On Sunday, three services were conducted by the Rev J. Moffatt, who preached in his usually attractive and earnest manner to overflowing congregations, many, we understand, being unable to gain admittance. The scholars, as usual, recited portions of scripture, dialogues, &c., in their most effective style, which reflects great credit upon those who have had the oversight of them. The choir, under the able leadership of Mr Raine, sang some beautiful hymns and anthems in a manner highly creditable to all concerned, which were well received and appreciated by the audience. The choir has lately been augmented by a number of young men and women, which is one result of the successful mission, which closed only a few weeks ago. Mr W. Harker ably officiated at the harmonium. Financially, the anniversary was a complete success, the proceeds being £5 in advance of last year.

GATESHEAD.

At the Gateshead County Police Court, on Tuesday, before Mr John Hall and Mr J. B. Leathart, several tradesmen were fined, under the Food and Drugs Act, for selling adulterated goods.

STANHOPE.

Stanhope Band won the third prize at the Allendale Town band contest on Saturday, Acomb being first, and Pelton Fell second. Mr De Lacy was judge.

The Bishop at Penrith.—The Rector of Stanhope preached at Penrith on Wednesday, in behalf of the Association for the Improvement of Church Music. We shall publish further intelligence of his Lordship's visit in our next issue.

A Treasurer of 43 Years' Standing.—Mr Wm. Raine, West End, Stanhope, was presented on Saturday with a purse of gold by the Rev C. F. Jaggs, on behalf of the Stanhope Oddfellows' Lodge, in recognition of his valued services as treasurer for 43 years, during which period he had only missed two monthly meetings.

Stanhope Local Board.—The monthly meeting of the above Board was held on Monday night—Dr Arnison, J.P., presiding. A petition, numerously signed, was presented by Mr Watson, of the West End, asking the Board to place two or three urinals in the village, the want of which is much felt. The petition was favourably received by the Board, and it is probable that steps will be taken towards their erection at no distant date.

TOW LAW.

Durham Cathedral.—A trial of boys' voices took place in the Cloisters, on Monday, to select for a vacancy in the Cathedral choir.—Master Jno. A. Hughes, Tow Law, was appointed. There were 53 candidates. Master Hughes is the son of Mr John Hughes, Tow Law, organist of Wolsingham Church.

DIPTON.

The presentation of prizes to the Board School children took place on Monday evening. A pleasing re-union of the Board members, teachers, parents, and children was held, with Mr Rutherford (Chairman of the Board) presiding. The proceedings consisted of action songs by the infants, and songs, rounds, recitation, &c., by the elder scholars. Addresses were given by the chairman and Messrs Curry and Wilkinson (members of the Board). About 180 prizes were distributed to the most regular attendants during the past year. A conspicuous object of attraction in the meeting was the exhibition of a massive silver shield, the property of the National Union of Teachers, and which is held this year by the local branch of the Union—the Vale of Derwent Teachers' Association—as being the largest contributors per member to the funds of the Benevolent Institution in connection with the Union.

CATCHGATE

St. John's Ambulance Association.—A public meeting was held in the Greencroft Board School, Catchgate, on Wednesday evening last, when the successful candidates of the Annfield Plain class were presented with certificates by Mr Wm. Rutherford, after which the lecturer, Dr O'Brien, was presented with a splendid marble timepiece, and the secretary, Mr F. G. Hooper, with a beautiful rosewood inkstand, by the members of the class, which were suitably acknowledged, and a very profitable and enjoyable evening was spent. A choice selection of music was supplied by the Annfield Plain String Band. Forty-seven candidates sat for examination, and 46 received certificates.

WHICKHAM.

Burglary.—Between Saturday night and Sunday morning the Co-operative Store at Dunston was broken into, the safe forced open, and about £21 stolen. The place was left safely locked up on Saturday night by the manager. The store is situated on the main road, and it is evident from the marks on the doors that pincers and wedges had been used, and considerable time must have been spent before the thieves gained admittance.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

GRAND NEW STORY.

The proprietor of the *Consett Guardian* has great pleasure in announcing that he has made arrangements for the appearance in our next issue of the opening chapters of that

THRILLING SERIAL STORY.

MR BARNES. OF NEW YORK

Mr Clavering Gunter's New Story, "Mr Barnes of New York" is an entire novelty in fiction, breaking altogether new ground.

"Mr Barnes of New York" is the current topic in all society circles, and no book has been asked for so clamorously since Hugh Conway's "Called Back" was published, or Rider Haggard wrote "She."

The story opens with a duel in Corsica, in which one of the combatants is slain; and the course of a loving sister's "*vendetta*," or vow of revenge, is traced by the Author through unnumbered surprises, the scenes of which are laid in widely divergent spots.

The reader is shown with vivid dramatic effect the conflict between affection and a strong woman's sacred vow; and when the bold plot is seemingly most hopelessly involved, the Author, by a master-stroke of literary skill, lets love become triumphant over circumstance, and gives his remarkable novel a happy ending.

So enthralling is the attactiveness of "Mr Barnes of New York" that therefrom has been constructed a play which critical theatre-goers in London, as well as in America, are voting a tremendous success.

WEARDALE.

Long-needed milestones, registering the distances to distant markets, have been placed in Weardale.

Angling.—Mr Jno. Moore, of Eastgate, when on the Coquet recently, had excellent sport, capturing in two-and-a-half days 48, 96, and 45 trout respectively.

Angling in Upper Weardale.—It is years since trout were so plentiful in the upper reaches of the Wear and its tributaries, and some good baskets have been made, despite the increased number of anglers.

The Weardale Water Supply.—The Surveyor was on Friday instructed by the Sanitary Authority to take tenders for the Holmehouse scheme for supplying Eastgate with water. The estimate is £55; the Butcherfield project approximates to £60.

Mr Robert Milburn, of the Oldham police force, is at present visiting his relatives with his wife, who is sister to Mr J. Walton, postmaster, Corn Riggs, Weardale. Mr J. Longstaff, from Australia, cousin of the celebrated painter, is also amongst the friends at home in the valley.

A Touching Episode.—A repetition of the sad incident which witnessed the close of a late agent's earthly career took place at Middlesborough the other day, when the wife of a well-known and respected ex-Weardalian host (Mr Featherstone, New House) was being interred. While the remains of Mrs Featherstone were being sung over in the street, her husband fell down, and was removed within doors, where he also died in a few hours, and both were buried in one grave. Mr Featherstone was 73 years of age.

Pic-nic at St. John's Chapel.—On Saturday afternoon, the annual pic-nic of the Primitive Methodist Sabbath-school took place in the pasture of Mr Walton, above the village, and was largely attended. After the children were regaled with tea, &c., games were indulged in by both young and old.

Lead Mining.—The mines of the Lead Company are fairly productive, and the men earning wages silencing complaint, and all are fully employed. The directors come in relays from London, and are actively pushing forward operations. No opportunity is withheld in encouraging the mining sagacity of the miners. Ironstone goes but moderately, the leaders being on three-quarter time.

Serious Accident.—On Tuesday, a driver, named Ralph Walton, was caught betwixt a wall and the waggons at Grove Head Iron Mine, by the horse moving off unawares, and was seriously injured.—Mr George Moffatt, the respected host of the Hare and Hounds Inn, Westgate, had his wrist broken while assisting a traveller to lift a large hamper from his trap, against which the limb was jammed owing to it slipping.

Weardale Guardians.—On Friday, the ordinary meeting was held, presided over by Dr Livingstone.—Rev J. Coesby, late chaplain to the Workhouse, who has removed to Kendal, wrote resigning his office.—The Clerk pointed out that of fifteen Unions in the county only four had chaplains.—The Chairman: It is only giving them a shilling a-year. It is a farce, but I am quite willing either way.—Mr Curry (Wolsingham) pointed out that it was customary to have a chaplain at Stanhope.—Mr Maddison said if the chaplain was only paid one shilling per year for his services, it would be as well to appoint a successor to Mr Coesby.—The Chairman pointed out that there was no resident minister at present in Stanhope whom they could appoint to the office. There was the Bishop, but they could not very well appoint him. (Laughter.)—Eventually the appointment was postponed until a further meeting.—The Local Government Board have assented to the proposed alterations in the Workhouse dietary table.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Discovery of an Old Watch.—Early on Tuesday morning Mr Jos. Henderson, late of Shield Row, was out for a walk, and while against some old buildings he found a very old watch. On getting it open it proved to be very valuable. The date on it was 930. It is still in the hands of Mr Henderson, and has been viewed by a great number of people.

Accident to a Carrier at Lamesley.—Last (Thursday) night, Samuel Skelton, 23 years of age, carrier, residing at Beamish Square, West Pelton, was admitted to the Newcastle Infirmary, suffering from severe injuries to the head. He was unconscious, and unable to state how the accident, which occurred at Lamesley, had happened. It is supposed that he had fallen from the driving-box of his cart, and that the horse had kicked him on the head.

LANCHESTER.

A petition in bankruptcy has been filed in the Durham Court by Mr Wm. Nicholson, of Lanchester, auctioneer. The usual order has been made constituting Mr J. A. Logden receiver of the estate.

BLANCHLAND.

Longevity.—One day last week, at the Temperance Hotel, Blanchland, Mrs Bell entertained to tea four ladies, living in Blanchland and Hunstanworth, whose united ages amounted to 335 years, or an average of nearly 84 years each, viz., Mrs Mary Roddom, 80; Mrs Hannah Oliver, 82 Mrs Phoebe Keenleyside, 83; and Mrs Jane Jameson, 90. The ladies are all widows, were exceedingly well and talkative, and spent a pleasant afternoon at the hotel, the proprietress being a daughter of the above-named Mrs Hannah Oliver.

GREENCROFT COTTAGES.

United Methodist Free Church Sunday-school Anniversary.—On Saturday afternoon, the teachers and members of the above school held their annual tea in a field gratuitously granted by Mr John T. Mitchinson, of Park Head Farm. After the children had regaled themselves with tea, &c., a public tea was provided, when a good number of friends assembled. After tea, the children indulged in harmless games. The tables were presided over by two young ladies—Misses H. R. Ward and A. White. The preparation of the bread was performed in an admirable manner by Mrs M. Elliott and Mrs A. Reynoldson.—On Sunday, two services were held in a plantation kindly granted for the occasion by Mr G. Milburn. The service in the afternoon was conducted by Mr A. McPherson, Blackhill, and in the evening by Mr J. G. Ward, superintendent of the school. There were large congregations on each occasion, particularly in the evening. The children rendered their recitations, dialogues, &c., in a highly-appreciative manner, reflecting credit on themselves and on the teachers. The scholars, assisted by the choir (under the able leadership of Mr John Humble, of West Kyo) contributed hymns suitable for the occasion in first-class style. Mr H. Blachford, of Catchgate, officiated at the organ.—The proceedings throughout were a marked success.

ANNFIELD PLAIN

Primitive Methodist Sunday-School Anniversary.—The anniversary services of the above school were celebrated at Annfield Plain on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, last. On the Saturday the teachers and scholars assembled at the Chapel, and marched in procession, headed by the Mission Brass Band, by way of Pontop Rows, Catchgate, Annfield Place, Lizzie Colliery, and Annfield Plain, to a field kindly granted by Mr Joseph Lumley. On arriving at the field the children engaged in games until 3 p.m., when they were regaled with tea, cakes, and bread. After tea the children again entered heartily into their games, nuts and sweets were freely distributed in the afternoon. The public tea then commenced, when the tables were presided over by Misses J. Smith, H. Iceton, H. Pallister, E. Harland, and Mrs E. Purvis, Mrs A. Mordue, and Mrs H. Murray, attended to preparing the bread and making the tea. The Mission Band played selections of music during the afternoon. The band has attained a high degree of proficiency, and highly delighted the company with the sweet chords of music, under the leadership of Mr A. Forster. The young people, together with many of the older ones, freely engaged in harmless games, until nine o'clock, when the field was cleared, and the party returned home highly delighted with the days enjoyment and outing.—On Sunday three services were held in the Co-operative Hall, being ably conducted by Mr J. L. Surtees, of Consett. At each service the children recited portions of scripture, poetry, and dialogues. A choice selection of hymns and music were rendered by the children, assisted by chapel choir, under the able leadership of Mr T. Pearson.—On Monday evening a floral service was given in the chapel by the children and choir, with great effect. By the kindness of many friends who gave and decorated the chapel with flowers of various kinds, there was a splendid array of evergreens and flowers, and the children who took part in the service spoke effectively from under an arch, formed and leaded with ferns and flowers. The chapel presented an imposing appearance. Mr Philip Reay conducted the service, and delived a short address bearing on the flowers we were training in the garden of the Lord. A hearty vote of thanks was given to all who had in any way contributed towards the success of the anniversary. The proceeds were in advance of last year.

WOLSINGHAM.

On Saturday, Mr Stephenson (Stanhope), and Miss Johnson (Farm Lees), were married at the Wesleyan Chapel, Wolsingham. Rev S. Miles officiated. A number of friends were present as spectators.

Funeral of an Old Inhabitant.—Last Saturday, the interment of Mrs Mitchell took place in the old churchyard, at Wolsingham. The deceased was one of, if not the oldest inhabitants in the town, being in her 91st year. She was well known and much respected. Her death was rather sudden, as she was out on the previous Sunday. She leaves a son (Mr Amos Mitchell), who carries on the business.

Wesleyan Loyalty.—On Sunday, the preacher Rev S. Miles, at Wolsingham Chapel, most feelingly and opportunely expressed, on behalf of himself and congregation, kindly sympathy with the bereaved Royal Households of Germany and Great Britain, in recognition of the death of the lamented Emperor. The pulpit was draped in black cloth. At the close of the service, the organist (Mr G. W. Goulden) played the "Dead March" in Saul.

British and Foreign Bible Society.—A meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight, in the Town Hall, Wolsingham, in the interest of the British and Foreign Bible Society.—Mr T. E. Fenwick in the chair. Rev E. S. Prout, M.A., attended as deputation from the parent society. A hymn having being sung, a portion of Scripture was read by Rev R. Scott, and prayer offered by Rev S. Miles.—The local secretary (Rev R. Scott) then gave his report, after which the Chairman gave an interesting and racy speech, and introduced Mr Prout to the meeting. The address he delivered was one of great interest, bristling with interesting points illustrating the splendid work of the society and showing its widespread ramifications—all indicating that it merits the hearty sympathy and material support of every section of the Christian church.—A collection was then taken on behalf of the funds of the society.—On the motion of Rev S. Miles, seconded by Rev R. Scott, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the deputation for his address, and the Chairman for presiding.—A second meeting was held for the conduct of business.—A new committee was appointed. Rev R. Scott was re-elected secretary, and Mr A. Pickard was appointed treasurer and depository of the society's Bibles.—It was also agreed to endeavour to secure a collector for each of the churches in the town.

WEST STANLEY.

Conservative Meeting.—On Thursday se'nnight, under the auspices of the West Stanley Conservative Association, Mr F. W. Deacon of Manchester gave an address on the "General political situation," in Mr James Forster's field, kindly granted for the occasion. Mr T. Colquhoun, West Stanley, was chairman, and there was a large gathering of working men present.

Entertainment.—On Wednesday evening in last week, a grand entertainment was given in the Wesleyan Chapel, West Stanley, by the members of the West Stanley Primitive Methodist Sunday-school Band of Hope. Mr Luke Reay presided in his usual able manner. He showed the evils in the land through drink, believing that if professing Christians band themselves together for the spread of temperance and truth, success would be the result. Touching upon the Compensation Bill, the Sunday closing, and closing earlier on week nights, he (the speaker) pressed upon all temperance men to let their voice ring in the land until they be heard at St. Stephen's. The following programme was gone through:—Solo, "There's light in the window," Miss S. Coxon; singing piece, company; "The temperance pic-nic"; recitation, "Nancy in the barrow," Miss Cockburn; solo, "See that my grave's kept green," Mr M. Brown; duet, "Country courtship," Miss S. Coxon and Mr R. Harvey; dialogue, "Miss Diddle's lodgings," six characters; solo, "'Tis for me that mother's weeping," Miss E. A. Bailey; recitation, "Market basket," Miss J. A. Stephenson; solo, "Send me a message from over the sea," Mr R. Harvey; recitation, "Death in the houses, or trick for trick," Mr M. Thompson; solo, "Under the willow she's sleeping," Miss E. A. Bailey; glee, "Tramp in the drunkard's way." Mr H. Pearson presided at the harmonium. A vote of thanks, proposed by Mr R. Oliver, seconded by Mr T. Taylor, closed the proceedings.

Dinner.—On Thursday se'nnight, the members of the West Stanley (Whit-Monday) Race Meeting held their annual dinner at the house of Mr W. Charlton, Stanley Hotel, West Stanley. About 40 members and their friends sat down to an excellent repast, served up in splendid style by Mr and Mrs Charlton and an efficient staff of waiters. Great credit is due to the host and hostess for the splendid *menu* they had prepared for their company, as was evinced by the manner in which the assemblage enjoyed it. Ample justice having been done, and the cloths removed, Mr Joseph Lumley was voted to the chair, whilst the vice-chair was occupied by Mr W. Indian.—The Chairman, in calling upon the secretary (Mr J. Toes) to read his annual report, complimented the members on the success that had attended the race meeting this year.—The report, which was in every way satisfactory, showed a balance on the right side of £30 in the treasurer's hands.—The Chairman next proposed "The health of the Queen," while the vice-chairman gave "The Prince of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family."—Other toasts followed, including "The Clergy," "Tradesmen of the district," and the toast of the evening, "Success to the West Stanley (Whit-Monday) Race Meeting," which was drunk in a bumper.—The "Host and hostess, which was drunk with musical honours, was responded to by Mr Charlton, who in a few words thanked the members, and assured the members that he and his better-half would always be willing to do their utmost to welcome them at their annual gatherings.—Songs were sung by a few present, and altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, the company dispersing after singing the "National Anthem" and "Auld Lang Syne."

DURHAM.

Shabby Conduct at the Offertory.—At a recent Congregational gathering in the vicinity of Durham, when the money bags were emptied after a collection there turned up a piece of hoop iron, a piece of bell wire, and a French penny.

Aldermanic Vacancy.—A special meeting of the Durham Town Council has been called for Monday next, for the purpose of filling the vacancy on the alderman bench, caused by the death of Mr Herbert Robson. It is stated hat the new alderman would be Mr Boyd.

Sudden Death.—An inquest was held yesterday (Thursday) morning at the house of Mrs Lewins, the Railway Tavern, Durham, on the body of Hannah Dobbinson, aged 77, who died suddenly, yesterday afternoon, at the house of her son-in-law, Mr Robinson, Tenter Terrace, Durham.—After hearing evidence, the jury returned a verdict to the effect that "Death was due to natural causes."

Rate Arrears.—At Durham City Police Court, yesterday (Thursday), several summonses against various persons for non-payment of the general district rate were set down for hearing, but in all cases except one it was announced that a settlement had taken place.—An order was granted for the excepted case.

The Sunday Closing Clause.—Action by the C.E.T.S.—The Executive Committee of the Durham Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society held a meeting at Durham on Friday, when it was unanimously decided that action should be taken at once throughout the diocese to secure the retention of Clause 9 of the licensing clauses of the Local Government Bill, which confers on County Councils the power of closing public-houses entirely on Sundays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday.

Death of a Farmer.—We have to announce the death of Mr George Hepworth, farmer, of Old Brandon, near Durham, at the age of 72. The deceased gentleman was one of the widest known farmers in the county of Durham. At the time of his death he was the oldest tenant under Lord Boyne on the Brancepeth estate, and was the last survivor of three generations. In his early days he was a most ardent cricketer, and in his more mature years one of the foremost breeders of sheep and hunters. He was also a keen courser, and was one, if not the oldest supporter of the Brandon tenants' coursing meetings. For many years he has represented the Brandon and Byshottles parish on the Durham Board of Guardians, and was a most painstaking and attentive member. He was also a member of the Durham and Chester-le-Street Highway Board. Mr Hepworth had been ailing for some time, and was attended at the time of his death by Dr Binney.

Alleged Trespass on a Private Estate.—At the Durham County Court, on Monday, Wm. Turner, farmer, Hetton-le-Hill North Farm, and James Tindale, Broomside, were sued by Mr R. L. Pemberton, of Hawthorn Tower, for £14 damage for wrongfully entering the plaintiff's land, and pulling down his fence. Mr Strachan, barrister, for the plaintiff, and Mr H. Forrest for the defendants.—The plaintiff was the owner of land in Broomside Lane, which was protected from the footpath by a fence. Some time ago, this fence was pulled down by plaintiff, and a new one erected. Some waste land was enclosed in the erection of the new fence, but the footpath was not interfered with. The two defendants had pulled down about 140 yards of the fencing, and for this damage was claimed.—Mr Strachan contended that, if those persons could have got past with reasonable convenience, it was no excuse for them to pull it down.—The hearing of the case was adjourned till Monday.—At the same court Mr Tindale, the defendant in the above case, was sued by Mr Pemberton, the plaintiff in the previous case, for £1 damage by trespass, and an injunction to restrain the defendant from further trespassing. The defendant occupied a cottage adjoining plaintiff's land, and had been in the habit of throwing ashes over the wall into a field belonging to the plaintiff and in the occupation of Mr Thomas Turner, at Pancake Hall Farm.—Defendant claimed that he had thrown ashes over for fifty years, and had a right to do so.—In support of this, Mr W. Turner, a previous occupant of the farm, said he had thrown the ashes over the wall for forty-two years, and he (witness) had used them, and been glad to get them.—Mr Strachan, who was for the plaintiff, contended that, the defendant having acted in concert with the tenant, the reversioner could not be held to have consented to this arrangement.—His Honour found for the plaintiff for 15s, and granted the injunction.

SAD FATALITY AT THE CENTRAL STATION.

Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, at half-past two o'clock, a railway accident occurred at the Central Station, by which Mrs Leech, residing at 6, Hall Terrace, Gateshead, lost her life. Mrs Leech and her husband, with a number of friends, were on the western platform waiting to take the train to Rowlands Gill to join the annual pic-nic connected with Durham Road (Gateshead) Baptist Sunday School. As the train was slowly backed into the siding, and before it had quite stopped, Mr and Mrs Leech endeavoured to secure a seat and in stepping on the footboard, the unfortunate lady slipped and fell between the footboard and the platform. Her husband tried to catch her as she fell, but in a moment she was carried beyond his reach by the moving train and dragged along between the footboard and the platform. The train was stopped as speedily as possible, but not before the deceased lady had been frightfully crushed and mangled. She was extricated with some difficulty and placed upon a stretcher. Dr J. A. Dixon, who happened to be in the Station at the time, was soon in attendance, and deceased was removed to the Infirmary, where she was attended to by Dr Arnison, but within a short time after being admitted she succumbed to her injuries. The deceased lady was 51 years of age, and had lived in Gateshead during the greater part of her life. Great sympathy is felt for Mr Leech and his family, to whom the disaster has been a heavy blow.

LATE CRICKET.

Consett 1st v Jarrow 1st.—The following team will represent Consett against Jarrow to-morrow (Saturday), the wickets to be pitched at three o'clock:—Thos. Jameson (captain), Jas. R. Richards, W. Turnbull, W. A. Leadbitter, Frank Richardson, W. Foggon, P. Gibson, R. Parkes, J. McTaggart, J. Askew, and R. Heymer.

Consett 2nd v Jarrow 2nd.—Consett will be represented by the following team at Jarrow to-morrow (Saturday):—T. T. Gray (captain), J. Siddell, A. Wood, R. Watson, R. Johnson, J. Maddison, M. Williamson, J. Fiddes, J. Willey, T. Turner, and T. H. Kirkup.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the above society, took place on Monday evening, in the West Stanley National Schools, before a fairly large attendance. The curate of the parish (Rev L. M. Chesters) presided. Subjoined is the following varied and entertaining programme, which was ably rendered and enthusiastically received. Opening hymn 210, "Sound the battle cry," audience; devotional exercise; recitation, "Only sixteen," Miss Thompson; song, "The gates of the west," Miss Chaytor; reading, "Tis buts," Mr J. Robson; melody, "No surrender," choir; recitation, "The right way," Miss Thompson; song, "The teetotal car," Mr Greener; reading (part 1) "The squire's hat," Rev L. M. Chesters; song, "The owl," Mr R. D. Grundy; reading (part 11), "The squire's hat," Rev L. M. Chesters; song, "Tramp, tramp, tramp," Mr Greener. Mr Chaytor officiated at the harmonium with usual ability.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The usual fortnightly meeting of this Board was held yesterday (Thursday), Mr Thomas Robson presiding. There were also present H. W. Kerrich-Walker, Esq., J.P. (*ex-officio*), Messrs J. Kirkup, George Ridley (vice-Chairmen), John Crawford, William Ironsides, E. Nicholson, J. Snowball, Joseph Witherspoon, J. Hodgson, Peter Oswald, Peter Hay, George Swinburne, J. Stephenson, P. W. Bell, J. Lisle, John Chrystal, Geo. E. Steele, R. W. Jackson, J. Cook, and T. Hepple.

APPOINTMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICER.

The Clerk (Mr Robt. Dickinson) read a letter from the Local Government Board approving of the appointment of Dr Walter Galloway as Medical Officer for the Birtley sub-district. Dr Galloway also wrote stating that he had appointed Dr Taylor, of Chester-le-Street, as his deputy.

RELIEF STATISTICS.

Cheques for out-door relief were signed from Messrs Armstrong and Turnbull, relieving-officers for Chester-le-Street and Harraton districts, for £61 7s 0d and £64 19s 3d respectively, for the 11th and 12th weeks of the quarter.

MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The Master reported that the number of inmates in the House that day was 128, as against 114 at the same time last year, showing an increase of 14; during the fortnight 114 vagrants had been relieved, as against 117 for the same period last year—a decrease of 3.

THE WORKHOUSE NURSE.

Mr Hodgson reported that the Workhouse Committee had interviewed Miss Horn, the nurse, who sent in her resignation to the last meeting of the Board, and that she had withdrawn it.

The Board accepted the withdrawal.

This concluded the business of the Guardians.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The members then sat as the Rural Sanitary Authority—Mr T. Robson presiding.

BIRTLEY HALL WATER SUPPLY.

The Birtley water-rate collector reported that Mr Newall, of Birtley Hall, objected to pay his water rate. A discussion elicited the facts that the water was supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and that they charged the Authority 1s per 1000 gallons, and the Authority now asked Mr Newall to pay £2 17s 9d more than they were paying to the Water Company. The matter was ordered to stand over until the next meeting of the Authority.

CLEANSING THE ASHPITS.

The following tenders for cleansing the ashpits of Chester-le-Street were received and read:—John S. Barker, Red Rose Hall, £114; Robert Ryle, High Flatts, £105; Wm. Witherspoon, Chester-le-Street, £105; Thos. Beveridge, Chester-le-Street, £99 10s; H. Thompson, Chester-le-Street, £99.

On the motion of Mr Hay, it was resolved that the contract be let to Mr Thompson.

TYPHOID FEVER AT USWORTH.

In answer to a letter from the Local Government Board respecting seven deaths certified as having occurred at Usworth from typhoid fever, the Medical Officer (Dr Duncan) sent in a lengthy report, in which he attributed the outbreak to the water supply; and the difficulty he had experienced in getting the colliery officials to attend to the cleansing of the ashpits. That difficulty was now removed, but he recommended a better water supply.

On the suggestion of the Chairman the report was ordered to stand over for a fortnight before being sent to the Local Government Board.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Medical Officer also reported that there had been, during the fortnight, 31 deaths and 74 births registered; giving a death-rate of 16·6 and a birth-rate of 39·2 per 1000. Thirteen of the deaths were of children under one year of age. There were still some cases of scarlet fever in Chester-le-Street, but he had given printed and verbal instructions for the prevention of the spread of the disease.

SALE OF WORK AND AMATEUR SPORTS AT EBCHESTER.

The Ebchester School and Church held a sale of work and sports, in a field adjoining the school, on Wednesday and yesterday (Thursday). The object of these was to try and clear off a debt of £120 on the school. It was decided that a great effort should be made, and although not altogether realising the above sum, the whole affair was a decided success. There is the greatest good feeling among the parishioners, and all worked hard to attain their object. The following are the names of the ladies who gave stalls, together with their helpers:—Mrs Carr, Mrs Peile, Mrs F. Priestman, (Derwent Hill), Mrs and Miss Linthwaite, the Misses Dixon (Broadoak), Miss Hunter (Ebchester), and Miss Hunter (Westwood).

On Wednesday, the weather was very stormy, and thus interfered considerably with the sports, as well as making the attendance much smaller than it otherwise would have been. The attendance on Thursday was greatly in excess of that of the preceding day. The sports were finished about 8·30 p.m. on Thursday, and afterwards a ball was held in the school-room. About 30 couples attended, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The total receipts for the two days amounted to upwards of £80. Where all worked so hard and well, it is hardly fair to particularise. Yet we think too much praise cannot be given to Miss Linthwaite for the admirable manner in which she discharged her arduous task. During the whole of the two days this energetic young lady was busy looking after the visitors, and the pleasant and kindly manner in which she did her work contributed greatly to the general success. The whole of the officials are to be congratulated on the admirable way in which the different departments were conducted, and on the successful ending to their "labour of love." The varied programme of music was supplied by the Leadgate Saxhorn Brass Band. Mr Middleton was secretary for the sports. He also acted as starter, while Mr W. Forster handicapped the competitors. Results of the sports:—

Bowling at the Wicket.—J. T. Middleton, 1; T. Simpson, 2.

Skipping.—Miss Liddle, doing 326 turns in two minutes, 1; Miss A. A. Leith, 288, 2.

Place-kick.—A. Bolton, kicking 44 yards.

Three-legged Race.—Won by M. Milburn and W. Carson.

100 Yards Handicap.—G. E. Milburn, 1; J. Grant, 2. 11 entries.

Wrestling (for boys).—J. Moody.

Running High Jump.—Won by A. Bolton, 4ft. 3in.

Tug of War.—Won by G. E. Milburn's team.

Skipping (for girls, under 16, and residing in the parish).—Won by M. Angus, who did 297 turns in two minutes.

Flat Race (for boys under 15).—E. Dixon, 1; J. Vasey, 2.

Flat Race for boys under 17).—J. Vasey, 1; W. Downs, 2.

Sack Race.—J. Milburn, 1; J. Surtees, 2.

Throwing the Cricket Ball.—Won by J. Hunter, who threw 100 yards.

Putting the Weight.—J. Barron, 18ft. 8in.

Pole Leaping.—J. Phillips.

Ladies' Race.—Mrs Liddle, 1; Miss Parker, 2.

Late Correspondence.

THE GUARDIANS ELECTION AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Your correspondent "M" is either a fool or a knave. He either does not know what Mr Mitchell did, when a Guardian, and thereby shews his ignorance, or he knows all about it, and thus shews his knavery by attributing want of vigour as a public man to that gentleman.

The personal dispute between "M" and Mr Mitchell does not concern me, and I have neither time nor patience to waste over such matters. But when a public charge is made against a public man, respecting his public conduct, we have a perfect right to have our say in the matter.

Your correspondent says that Mr Mitchell "in a moment of unusual but candid humility" suggested that he had served the ratepayers "feebly." Just so. Here are his words:—"Humbly and feebly it may be; but honestly and faithfully I am sure." Now when Mr Mitchell was first sent to the Board of Guardians, Chester-le-Street had a most lamentable supply of water. He got up an agitation—in the face of an organised opposition—and succeeded in getting a first-rate service of water supply laid down. He got that service extended to Chester Moor: he also got Edmondsley and Waldridge Collieries supplied with water at a cost to the respective owners of £300 and £200. He also got Witton Gilbert, Sacriston, Findon Hill, Nettlesworth, and Plawsworth supplied with water. All this required work, and work too of an arduous character. No wonder then, with so much to do, that Mr Mitchell "candidly" and "humbly" feels and says that he has not accomplished all that he would liked to have done. But who, I would like to ask "M," has done anything like so much? Besides all this, Mr Mitchell has been a public benefactor in many ways. He has bought up a lot of old tumble-down property, and rebuilt it at a time when work was scarce in the town. He is also waywarden for the township, and during his eighteen months office in that capacity, he has been able to carry out more improvements than any other waywarden did in as many years.

But it is perfectly useless to waste my time and your space, accounting the multifarious ways in which Mr Mitchell has so ably and dutifully discharged his public duties. "M," however, might be recommended to be a little more careful, or a little more candid, when he next meddles and muddles with the character of a public man.—Yours respectfully,

Quill.

Chester-le-Street, The Longest Day, June 21st, 1888.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT AT RYTON,

On Wednesday afternoon, a boy named Stephen Donnelley, belonging to Addison Colliery, whilst riding a pony at Ryton Willows, accidentally fell. His foot being retained in the stirrup, he was dragged a considerable distance on the ground. He received an ugly scalp wound from the pony's foot. He was conveyed to a tent close by, and Dr Smith, of Ryton, was sent for. At night he was found to be still in a rather serious condition.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By Wearsider.]

The first performance of music, given on the Burn Greens by the Pelton Fell Band, on Wednesday night last week, turned out a bit of a failure. Not, however, on the part of the band, which performed in a very meritorious manner; nor on the part of a large and appreciative audience. The night (Wednesday) selected for the weekly concerts, is that on which the bellringers at the Parish Church have their weekly practice, and as the band plays well within the sound of the bells, which clang out their horrid noise in a way that is anything but pleasant or attractive, the music of the band was completely drowned. Of course it would be quite out of the question to ask the bellringers to change their practice night; but it has been suggested that instead of Wednesday nights—the best in the week for all people in the town—the band should, if convenient to themselves, play on the Sunday nights, after the bells have rung for service!

An amusing story is being told in the town anent the summoning of the jurymen to the Quarter Sessions. One of the managers of the Co-operative Society was summoned on the jury, and nearly went into hysterics over the matter. He blew up the Assistant-Overseer for putting him on the list; he growled and fumed about the inconvenience and serious loss if he missed Turnbull's mart on the Monday, and the Newcastle Market on the Tuesday, and abused the whole matter generally. Finally, he went to Durham to get himself excused; but failed to do so. Then he brought the Assistant Overseer to help him out of the difficulty. This that official kindly consented to do, as far as he had power, and one day last week informed the worthy butcher that he had been at Durham respecting the business, and had succeeded in getting him excused. Needless to say the butcher was quite jubilant, and in the exuberance of his gratitude rewarded his kindly friend.

The remainder of the Chester-le-Street jurors, composed mostly of tradesmen, are now inquiring why the Co-operative Society with all its immense wealth, or one of its highly paid servants, should have such consideration extended to them, when they, who have to neglect their businesses for a week together, and have also to pay all their due proportion of imperial and local taxes—which the society does not—should be so hardly treated. Certainly the matter is worthy of some consideration.

P.C. Smallwood who was sent to jail for six weeks hard labour, by the magistrates at the last sitting of the justices, was liberated on bail, the next day, pending an appeal to Quarter Sessions. As the case is *sub judice*, comment here would be out of place. But it is no breach of confidence to say that the officer's release and return to his police duties gave the greatest possible satisfaction in the town, where popular opinion has it that the sentence was extremely harsh.

A hen, the property of Mr Thomas Carss, tinsmith, Chester-le-Street, performed a novel and interesting feat, last week. She had been, for a few days suspected of "laying away," and on Saturday morning last week, when Mr Carss was examing his out-houses, he found a jam-pot, about the size of a tumbler glass, laid on its side against the wall, and partly covered up with straw. Upon a close examination he found an egg lying beside it, also partially hidden with straw. Further investigation showed that the wily hen had been laying there, and that she had carefully packed two eggs into the jar, with straw, a third was partly in, and partly out, and was also nearly covered up, while a fourth was laid as closely up to the third as it could conveniently be. There does not appear to be any reason why the hen should resort to such a freak as hiding her eggs in this careful and methodical manner.

A revolver, or a pistol, or a firearm of any description, is not a toy, and should not therefore be played with as such. Examples of the utter absurbity of playing with firearms are continually being brought before the public notice, it is not to be wondered at then, that when one young gentleman, in a Chester-le-Street office suddenly pointed a pistol at his office chum the other day, he gave that nervous individual a terrible fright. And it was only after being chased into almost every room in the building with the article still pointing at his head, that the affrighted party could be persuaded that the "pistol" was only a wooden imitation, and was in reality a pencil case.

The members of the "Laurels of Chester" lodge of Oddfellows had an exciting contest on Monday night, over the election of their Medical Officer. Dr Duncan has for over six years been doctor for the lodge, and was at this election opposed by Dr W. M. Renton, who obtained 41 votes, Dr Duncan securing 42, and being re-elected for the fourteenth successive term of six months.

What connection is there between billiards and pugilism? Two Chester-le-Street boys were the other night heard loudly announcing their ability to "punch the heads" of two Front Street tradesmen. And it all arose out of a game at billiards!

A FATEFUL NIGHT:

A TALE OF A BERRYEDGE METHODIST MAID AND HER TANFIELD PITMAN LOVER.

By RALPH FAIRLEY.

CHAPTER XXI.

AT LUCERNE.

One section of her education had had much to do with the broadening effect upon Alice's religious ideas and feelings. Her own personal beliefs in cardinal doctrines were little changed. In several non-essentials there was indeed a great change, but in fundamentals there was really none. Jamie Reay had claimed that whatever was pure, and good, and true in music, poetry, sculpture, painting—in fact, in any branch of art or literature—was his to enjoy as much as anyone else's, and, in truth, was the common property of every Christian man and woman. His only reason for not attending the theatre was because he deferred to the opinion of his brethren, and because of its associations. When the man she loved had made this declaration to her, she was deeply pained; but she could now accept this position as her own without any qualms of conscience whatever. Life to her was so much bigger now than it was, and at the same time so much more inextricable. As it grew in volume and area it also grew in complexity; religion, the while, looking fuller, stronger, more regal, and entering into human lives by so many more doors than she had thought it possible.

Such was the developing power that music had had on Alice's mind. It needs not be said that her nature was poetic, and that sacred poetry and sacred song had always occupied a large space in her life. Sing she must. In the bright day she would break out into songs of gladness; and in the dark day into strains of sadness.

It was the singing of Jamie Reay that first called her attention to him. His notes sped above all the others, high and clear and melodious into the still air on that first night when she saw him and heard him. It was his soul-stirring notes in the chapel services that thrilled and elevated her, that incited the melody in her own heart, and reproduced in years to come feelings of joy or sorrow—songs in major or minor. She praised and prayed and wept and laughed in song—that is how she was a typical Methodist. She went to God, and God went to her in song. She sang in the light in the fulness of her soul, because she would burst did she not sing. She sang in the night, and her inspiring strains spirited the darkness away.

Her supreme subjects of song were Jesus and Jamie Reay. Who dare say that in the case of Alice there was the slightest approach to blasphemy in this association. She had no difficulty in joining the two. She believed she was exalting the former by exalting the latter. They were one. The Word had said it, and there must be no cavil. This was the fruit of a dominant despotic faith.

Notwithstanding the excessively plain and unostentatious way in which her own meetings were conducted, Alice always attended the church on festive occasions that had the most elaborate ritual. Many of her evangelical friends could not understand this, and some of them were offended and withdrew from fellowship with her. Her obeisance to the Scarlet Lady was much too disgraceful for them. It was dishonouring to God, they said, and a departure from the plain teachings of Scripture. But not only did Miss Bolton publicly submit to the idolatry of Rome, but in private life she met Papist priests and organists, Lutheran parsons, and even Rationalists; while it was common gossip that she actually enjoyed the company of infidels who visited her father.

It was positively shocking to the "small tea-party fraternity," whose souls were deeply troubled thereby. They must talk to her about it. She was young, and perhaps when the evil of her doings was pointed out to her she would desist. Alice was greatly surprised at her censors taking offence, but she remembered that she herself had sat in judgment upon Jamie Reay. In her defence, she took up precisely the same line of argument that her lover had used to her. She was immediately told with much unction—which the dear souls supposed to be actuated by fidelity to their Master—that her opinions were dangerously lax, and that they could have no communion with her. Alice did not withdraw from them, however, and her proceedings continued to perplex the straight-laced few more and more; but she succeeded in overcoming those of them who had not parted with all their common sense in the same way as Jamie Reay had overcome her prejudices—by the life.

At the Grand Hotel at Lucerne, the inmates often lingered on the corridors, or on the stairs, or in the spacious entrance hall, or passers-by loitered on the avenue in front, while Alice sang and played, which was very often. Her mission, her passion, never allowed her to be long silent. The sweetness and purity of her tone, the lightness and delicacy of her touch while handling the piano, and her expression both by voice and instrument, speedily became known, and musical enthusiasts eagerly sought her acquaintance. Alice had excellent taste in the selection of her compositions. Poetry and music had to have something in them, or she would lay them aside; and whenever she got hold of a living thing she laboured until she had made it all her own, and made her fingers and the keys as well as her voice speak out the hidden meaning of the composer.

She had no patience with mechanical work; however finely executed, it was to her a soulless skeleton, merely galvanised by art, and nothing more. The semblance of life, and not life itself, is the curse of professionalism everywhere, and nowhere more especially than in the pulpit, which is thronged with men who have nothing to say, and they prate it like parrots, or who, having something to say, are such slaves to conventionalism that they smother the voice of life in their own souls, and deal out to famishing men and women the husks and dry bones of musty theologies. Ah, heaven! what a dreary profitless work galvanising skeletons is, and what crowds of men and women give time and wealth and genius to it!

Alice found that music spoke all languages, interpreted all moods, and expressed all emotions. She loved it in all its phases. The wild and wierd, the passionate and pathetic, the peaceful and profound, the playful and pleasant, the whimsical and witty. She raved with the tempest, prayed with the penitent, adored with the worshipper, scampered with the romping child, and quipped and laughed with the wits. She did it all in song. No wonder that she was the centre of attraction.

Alice had awakened the tender passion in many a young man's breast in various places where she and her father had sojourned, but only a few had made bold to declare themselves. They all received the same reply, given with such decision that they never attempted to approach her a second time. Their wooing was in vain. "She was the bride of one whom God had highly honoured. She was the sole possession of her noble and glorified pit lad, and he was hers, for ever." This was, in effect, her definite and only answer to all her suitors, however tenderly and persuasively they might plead, or however much in themselves or in their station they might have to offer her. Equally with Jamie Reay as with her Lord—

> "No changes of season or place
> Could make any change in her mind."

In this respect her father coincided in all she did, for she kept nothing from him. In point of fact he was the greatest idolator she had, and he secretly resented the attentions of anyone that he suspected might in any way impress his daughter. It was always a relief to him to hear her declare her unchanging and unchangeable fidelity to the memory of Jamie Reay and of her unalterable attachment to himself. What did she want with any other? Her bridegroom-lover was serving in the Presence Chamber of the King, and her father-lover was continually beside her. And her duty lay with her father, for he had told her that he held his life on a very precarious tenure, and she was not to be surprised at any sudden change that might take place, or of the serious consequences which might ensue.

As may be readily supposed, Dr Bolton was greatly gratified at his daughter's accomplishments, though he avoided the folly of many fond parents in parading them before his friends and numerous circle of acquaintances. He never was required to do so, for, indeed, the numerous congratulations he received on that account made him more reserved than otherwise in society as to Alice's powers. Father and daughter, when their engagements permitted, spent much of their time in each other's company; and he spoke his best, and she played and sang her best when they were thus together.

During the early days of their second visit to Lucerne, Alice had received a long lesson one afternoon from the doctor, and then took her seat at the piano. She was very happy, and notes of gladness filled the room and wandered without. Weary men and burdened women — gladsome youths and blithe maidens—drew within range of the sound and lingered there. Dr Bolton sat near the window, completely lost in the reveries awakened by the delicious spell.

The music ceased, and Alice was standing by her father's side before he knew it. She had not been thus standing many seconds when she said in a quick tone—

"Father, who is that young man on the grass plot?" referring to an athletic youth who had just risen from a lounging position. On getting upon his feet he had turned his face to the window, but catching sight of Alice, he had immediately averted his gaze.

"I don't know."

"Have you seen him before?"

"Yes, I have observed him; and I know why you are asking me these questions."

"Do you? Why am I asking them?"

"Because he resembles Jamie Reay so much."

"You have read my thoughts aright. I wondered if it was only conjecture on my part. I am glad you have seen the likeness."

"When I first saw him two days ago, I thought I had seen someone like him. I had a better look at him yesterday, however, and thought the resemblance, so far as I could remember Reay, was very strong."

"It is almost perfect," said Alice, suppressing her excitement, and her eyes followed the receding figure. She had taken hold of her father's arm, and he felt her arm giving nervous twitches. He looked into her face and saw that her eyes were full of tears.

"What! My brave dawtie, giving way to weakness!" exclaimed the doctor in surprise, but yet pleasantly spoken.

The emotion had rather surprised Alice herself, but it was only momentary, and she smiled through her tears.

"Your brave dawtie, as you call her, is only a woman. 'Weaker than a bruised reed.' . . . But I am all right again," she added presently.

In a short time the doctor left the room. Another thought had struck him, and he hurried off to look at the visitors' book, where he found these two entries among the latest arrivals:—

"*Martha Lindsay Hastings, of Heighton Demesne, Mereshire, Scotland.*"

"*Harry Linday Hastings.*"

"Under one roof," muttered the doctor, as he stood looking at the signatures. "My suspicion is confirmed. Was *he* this young man's uncle, and how comes Jamie Reay to be mixed up with it?"

Suddenly he remembered the dying ravings of Capt. Lindsay Hastings in the Crimean Hospital, on that memorable night, when revenge had been taken out of his hands, and he had been saved from imbruing his hands in human blood. He remembered Hastings saying—and his remembrance of it was now so clear—"I have a son. He will be living in the Tanfield district, in Durham county, with his mother and her people. We were legally married."

"Can it be possible that Jamie Reay was James Lindsay Hastings' son? How is it that that never struck me before? I suppose I would never dream of such a possibility. But it does not seem improbable now."

The doctor's thoughts ran on:—"If Jamie Reay had lived, and if he had married my Alice, and if he had turned out out to be Lindsay Hasting's son, what a marvellous sequel it would have been to my life's story. It is certain that they would have married each other, and when I come to think of it, I have a strong presentiment that Jamie Reay was heir to Heighton Demesne. Life is assuredly a strangely tangled skein. I would have been as powerless to have prevented the union of Jamie and Alice as I was to wreak my sinful revenge upon the man who did me such a terrible wrong But that also would have been well. Yes, it would have been well."

Dr Bolton had got thus far in his soliloquy when a widow lady and the young man who had been the unknown cause of his ruminations passed by him. She turned round, and their eyes met. It was a pleasant face that confronted Dr Bolton. He lifted his hat; she bowed, and passed on.

"Mother and son," Dr Bolton said to himself. "A fine woman, I should say, and a noble-looking son." After which reflection the doctor went out of the hotel and had a long walk.

CHAPTER XXII.

THE LIKENESS IS VERY STRIKING.

Alice felt somewhat annoyed and crest-fallen, as well as conscience-stricken, at having given way to her momentary emotion. She was annoyed because she had shown such weakness, and conscience-stricken that she had seemed to mourn at God's way of conferring honour upon Jamie and upon herself. Ever since she had viewed the Jollywell Tragedy in the light of God's plan of honouring Jamie she had been exalted in mind.

On this evening the exaltation had come back to her in a degree, after the fit of humiliation had passed away; but from that hour her state of feeling in relation to the tragic event was never precisely the same. Her repose of soul was less perfect, her faith was less strong, and her heart less submissive. Clouds and darkness, rebellion and tempest, lay before her.

When the weeping had ceased, which was very speedily after her father left her, Alice sat long on a stool, with her clasped hands resting on her lap. She was dreaming of what might have been, and she found Jack Stenhope's delusion, as she called it, always obtruding itself. At length she pulled herself up—chided herself for heart-wanderings, which always exposed her to the assaults of the enemy—and upbraided herself most severely for having behaved so unfaithfully, just because she had for a minute or two seen a face and form like Jamie Reay's.

Alice involuntarily turned to her friend, and her fingers lingered, or meandered, or rushed, or danced over the keys until the grey shadows crept into the room. For long she sat before the instrument completely absorbed, heedless of the flight of time or of what was going on around. This absorption, however, became interfered with, and she began to feel that she was not alone. At this moment she looked in the direction of the door, and the playing instantly stopped.

"Who are you?" demanded the trembling girl, as she grasped the piano case.

There in the shadows before her stood the young man she had seen in front of the hotel that afternoon. If the resemblance to Jamie Reay had seemed to her in the afternoon to be so striking, it was now more complete and remarkable. The beautiful, glossy, curly hair; the handsome and noble-looking face, bearing, and physique; the open countenance, which, when she first saw it, beamed with admiration, then quickly changed to confusion and contrition—attitude, expression, everything, as he stood in the room, with hat in hand, spoke to her of Jamie Reay.

"Who are you?" she cried, as her heart beat loudly, and a choking sensation seized her throat.

"I beg your pardon, lady. I did not mean to startle you; but the door was open, and your playing and singing had charmed me. I did not mean to come in, but I could not help it. I hope I have not done you any harm. I really must apologise; it was very indiscreet. Please, say you forgive me."

The young man's speech helped to restore Alice's equanimity. In manner their was not so much difference, but in tone and accent there was a disparity between her pit lad's speech and this young man's. She felt that to be so at once, and the discovery did not please her by any means.

"You did startle me, but I am better now."

"I am so sorry that I startled you, and hope I will not be so indiscreet again. I must have walked into the room without thinking what I was doing. Believe me, I would not willingly have harmed you."

The young man looked as contrite as he felt, and that was so like Jamie, for he could not if he tried disguise his feelings.

"I believe what you say to be true," said Alice, who was feeling more at ease now.

"I am glad to hear you say that, and I hope you do forgive me," he said with emphasis.

"I do," she replied, and then immediately added—"But we are strangers yet."

"Pardon me, my name is Harry Lindsay Hastings, of Heighton Demesne, on the borders of Scotland."

"Oh!" cried Alice on hearing the name.

"Are you ill?" anxiously asked the youth as he made a forward movement.

"No, no; it was only a shooting pain I felt." It was, indeed, a shooting pain she felt, for when she heard the name of Lindsay Hastings—the name of her father's enemy and her mother's betrayer—it was as if a dart had struck her heart, and she could not refrain from giving vent to the cry. "I seem to be easily excited to-day, somehow," she continued.

"The weather is somewhat electrical," observed Harry, anxious to find an excuse for her. "I was going to say that my mother and I live at the castle."

"Is your father not alive?"

"My father has been dead for some time. My mother and I have been travelling; but as my majority is drawing near, we shall have to be going home soon. May I know your name, lady?"

"Certainly," she answered. "My name is Alice Bolton. My father is a medical man, and we are travelling, but we will shortly be going back to the borders of Scotland."

"Indeed! How lucky. What part, may I ask?"

"Starchouse Meadows, I think."

"Well, well."

"Do you know the place?"

"Perfectly. It is just a few miles from our own place at Heighton; in fact, we will be neighbours."

"That is very strange," said Alice, as she fell into thought, and the young man took his leave.

In this abrupt and singular way were these two young people introduced to each other. Both were already much affected by each other, but it was as nothing compared with what they experienced in after days.

Again Alice fell to dreaming when she was alone, and thus she sat until her father arrived.

"Come, Ailie," said Dr Bolton in a cheery tone; "have you been asleep, or have you sunk into a long day dream since I left you? That is very unlike my practical, busy maid. Here you are sitting moping in the darkness."

"Not moping, I hope, dada," replied Alice, as she sprang to her feet, and speedily had the room filled with light.

"Well, if you have not been moping, you have been wasting a lot of time in day dreams."

"You do quite right to scold me."

"I have found out who your young friend is; at least, I feel sure I have."

"Harry Lindsay Hastings, of Heighton Demesne," said Alice, as steadily as she could.

"How do you know?"

"He has been here."

"In this room, do you mean?" asked the doctor with some sharpness.

"Yes."

"Alone?"

"Yes."

"How did he come here? What did he want?" Dr Bolton was feeling some warmth, and Alice observed this.

"It was another tribute to your daughter's power," she said as gaily as she could, at the same time giving him back a favourite expression of his own.

"And how did it come about, Miss Vanity?" he asked in the same humour.

When Alice had related the incident, the conversation flagged. Dr Bolton took up a book; but his reading was only a pretence. Alice applied herself to her knitting, and she was thinking hard the while. On looking up she caught her father gazing steadfastly at her.

"What is it?" she said, with a smile and a look of enquiry mixing themselves up in her face. "What have you got to tell me? Come, dada; there's a darling?"

Dr Bolton had been fairly caught. He felt he could not withdraw, and his daughter's coaxing led him on to reveal what he had been thinking.

"Would you have married Jamie Reay, if you knew he was the son of the man who had wrecked the lives of your father and mother?"

"Why do you ask such a question as that, father?" The abruptness and strangeness of the question had taken her by surprise, and she could not answer it.

"You have been thinking a lot about Jamie Reay this afternoon—more than usual, I mean?"

"I have."

"And that comes of having seen this young man?"

"Yes."

"The likeness is very striking."

"Very striking."

"Have you been thinking how it can be that that is so?"

"I have."

"And what conclusion have you arrived at?"

"None."

"None?"

"No; how can I? What is there to help me?"

"You were told—I told you—that Captain Lindsay Hastings was married to a poor woman, that he had a son, and that mother and child had gone to her people in the Stanley district."

"Well?"

"Well! You have to-day been face to face with a Lindsay Hastings; the heir, in fact, of Heighton Demesne. Do you know anybody belonging to the Stanley district that you would say from appearance — from build, carriage, complexion, expression—was likely to be his cousin?"

Alice hesitated.

"Do you know of any other than one? I am surprised at your hesitation, Ailie."

"I know that Jamie Reay and this Harry Lindsay Hastings might be taken for twin brothers, far less cousins, but I cannot speak as to there being any relationship. I never heard a hint or anything of the kind that would lead me to suppose that Jamie Reay was anything more than a pitman."

"That may be, and yet Jamie Reay may have been heir to the lands and mansion of Heighton."

"Why, father, you are actually turning romantic. I think the advent of this young man to Lucerne is going to upset us both."

"Romance or sober fact, I fully believe that Jamie Reay was the lawful son of Captain Lindsay Hastings, and that he was the lawful heir of Heighton."

"Dada, dada! How your imagination is running riot."

"I will find it out, though."

"What does it matter now? Jamie Reay has another inheritance," said Alice, reverently repeating the words which Jamie's aunt had used before she died.

"You never can tell what it might matter. But you have not yet answered my question—would you have married Jamie Reay, if you knew that he was the son of the man who had wrecked the lives of your father and mother?"

"A pit lad sought me, and the Lord gave him to me. The Lord took away what he gave. My bridegroom is serving in the Presence Chamber of the King. I am his bride for ever." Alice was looking far away as she said this. Years ago she had said precisely the same thing in the same words. She had never changed in that.

"That is no answer to my question, Alice," replied the doctor, lowering his voice.

"No; but your question never arose with us. He was Jamie Reay, pitman, Tanfield. I was Alice Hudson, domestic servant, Manor House. Nothing else was known by us. Nothing else might have been known—at least, not for years to come—except for the great event of that Sunday night."

"Well," said the father, after Alice had paused a moment.

"Oh! father, the great love of that noble man—one of heaven's elected ones—was given to me, and whatever changes had taken place in our names or circumstances, or whatever revelations these changes might have brought, they would have found us unchanged in affection to each other. I could have lived with him in the pit cottage, in the Long Row, at Tanfield, with the scantiest furniture, and a sanded brick floor; and I would have welcomed him with joy as he came black and grimy from the pit. I could have lived with him in a mansion, surrounded with comforts and luxuries; and would have heard his entrance into the hall without fear that my bonnie pit lad had in his intercourse with the world as a county squire done anything or said anything that was unworthy of a Christian gentleman, and the Christian is the highest style of man."

Dr Bolton looked with admiration upon his daughter, as he had often done before.

"You have great faith, Alice—great faith in God, great faith in Jamie Reay. I think you are right. Good night, lassie," said he, crossing over to her side of the table, and kissing her affectionately. "Go to bed soon."

(*To be continued.*)

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 STORY OF "A FATEFUL NIGHT."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—"A Fateful Night, or the tale of a Berryedge Methodist Maid and her Pitman Lover," which is continued in the columns of your paper is widely read by your numerous readers weekly, with much interest in our district, and it has become so popular a story that when you meet anyone who has a good capacity for reading and understanding about this very interesting tale, they are sure to have a chat on the merits of the same. The subject has gone to such a length until it has been settled to write and ask if this most instructive tale could not, when finished, be published in book form, as it would grace the table, or is worth a place in any gentleman's or lady's library for time to come. Will you kindly give this a place in your next issue, with an answer to the same, and you will oblige your numerous readers.—I am, yours truly,

A Reader from the Annfield Plain District.

June 19th, 1888.

COLLIERY ACCIDENT AT USHAW MOOR.

On Monday forenoon, Mr John Graham, coroner, held an inquiry at the Colliery Office, Ushaw Moor, into the circumstances attending the death of Thomas Lowery, aged 44 years, who died on Friday last. The deceased was engaged as a chock-drawer in the Ushaw Moor Colliery, and was crushed by a fall of stone on the 5th April last. He lingered for ever ten weeks, and was attended by Dr Alexander MacKay, of Esh.—A verdict of "Accidental death" was returned by the jury.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By "Kyoite."]

The foundations are cut for the erection of a new Christian Lay Church to be built at Catchgate this summer. I understand that it is intended that a neat edifice is to be constructed of white brick, with stone dressings, and will be well lighted, and afford ample sitting accommodation to its members and congregation worshipping in connection with this denomination. The structure will be situated in Kyo Lane; the cost of the same will be about £300, and will be quite an ornament in the district. Great credit is due to the members and congregation for the very agreeable and praiseworthy way in which they have, and are working to raise the funds to meet the expenses. It can truly be said of these people that they have a mind to work. The members of the society are composed of working men, and will deserve a comfortable sanctuary to worship in, and a good Sunday-school.

Signs and wonders never cease. A further development in the art and science of washing clothes is being fairly and freely demonstrated in the immediate district. The discovery is as follows:—The good housewife in her usual preparations on the day before the washing, steeps the dirty clothes in water, soaps them well, and the next morning commences to fill her copper or large pan, as the case may be, with a sufficient quantity of cold water, puts into the same her usual quantity of soap cut into small pieces, and then puts from *one to two table spoonfuls of paraffin oil* into the water. Placing the clothes therein, she allows them to boil together. When sufficiently boiled, the clothes are taken out, and it is marvellous how the dirt is steamed out. By this process washing day is made easy, and after the clothes are dried, there is said to be no smell of the paraffin oil left on the clothes.

THE RACE WEEK HOLIDAYS.

SCHOOL EXCURSIONS.

In accordance with the usual custom the principal number of Sunday-schools in Newcastle, Gateshead, and district had during Tuesday, Wednesday, and yesterday (Thursday), their annual excursions. The following is the local destination and list of schools:—

TUESDAY.

Chester-le-Street.—Christ Church (Gateshead).
Shotley Bridge.—Shipley Street Mission S.S.

WEDNESDAY.

Chester-le-Street. — Gloucester Street Christian Meeting House.
Chester-le-Street.—Alexandra Road Wesleyan S.S. (Gateshead.)
Durham.—Felling Wesleyan S.S.
Durham.—Harton Colliery Wesleyan Choir.
Rowlands Gill.—Bentinck Mission S.S.
Rowlands Gill.—Ellison Street Presbyterian S.S. (Gateshead.)
Rowlands Gill.—West Street Arthur's Hill S.S. (Gateshead)
Rowlands Gill.—Maple Street Primitive Methodist Sunday-school.
Lintz Green—Sunderland Road P.M.S.S.
Lintz Green.—Strickland Street P.M.S.S.
Swalwell. — Barras Bridge Presbyterian Sunday-school.
Stocksfield.—Erskine S.S.
Stocksfield.—Gloucester Street U.M.F.C.S.S.
Stocksfield.—Temple Street Mission S.S.
Stocksfield.—Prudhoe Street S.S.
Stocksfield.—Bath Lane Church S.S.
Stocksfield.—Friends' S.S.
Prudhoe.—Friar's Mission S.S.
Prudhoe.—Dunn Street Wesleyan S.S.
Wylam.—Snow Street M.N.C.S.S.
Wylam.—Unitarian S.S.
Wylam.—Trinity Presbyterian S.S.
North Wylam.—Hamsterley Road U.M.F.C.S.S.
North Wylam.—Pine Street Christian Lay Church Sunday-school.
North Wylam.—Park Road Wesleyan S.S. (Gateshead.)
Riding Mill. — High West Street Sunday-school (Gateshead).

THURSDAY.

Chester-le-Street.—Westgate Road Baptist S.S.
Durham.—Jarrow P.M. Choir.
Durham.—Jarrow M.N.C.S.S. teachers.
Durham.—Wallsend M.N.C.S.S teachers.
Durham.—St. Bede's Church party (Jarrow).
Lintz Green.—Durham Road U.M.F.C.S.S.
Rowlands Gill.—St. Augustine's S.S.
Rowlands Gill.—Durham Road P.M.S.S. teachers.
Rowlands Gill.—Baptist S.S.
Shotley Bridge.—St. Joseph's School, Newcastle.
Shotley Bridge.—Irish Literary Institute.
Shotley Bridge.—New Benwell Wesleyan Choir.
Shotley Bridge.—Walker Wesleyan S.S.
Ebchester.—Christ Church S.S. teachers.
Stocksfield.—West Clayton Street S.S.
Stocksfield.—Nelson Street P.M.S.S.
Stocksfield.—Westmoreland Road Presbyterian S.S.
Stocksfield.—Felling Shore M.N.C.S.S.
Stocksfield. — Jarrow Wesleyan Sunday - school teachers.
Stocksfield.—Orphan House S.S.
Corbridge.—Westgate Hill Mission S.S.
Corbridge.—Jarrow Free Methodist S.S.
Corbridge.—Strickland Street P.M. Choir.
Prudhoe.—Felling Congregational S.S.
Prudhoe.—Park Road Wesleyan S.S. teachers.
Prudhoe.—Shields Road U.M.F.C.S.S. teachers.
North Wylam.—Blenheim Street S.S.
North Wylam.—Clarence Street Wesleyan S.S.
North Wylam.—City Road Wesleyan S.S.
North Wylam.—Elswick Road S.S.

"BUCHU PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London.

STANHOPE URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

A meeting of the above Authority was held on Monday evening at the Board-room—Dr Arnison, J.P., presiding.—Dr Robinson, the medical officer, presented the following report, which was read at the meeting:—Gentlemen,—I have to report that the epidemic of measles which has been so prevalent for the last three months has now subsided. There was only one death from measles and bronchitis. There has been two cases of scarlet fever during the half-year, both of which have recovered. At present, so far as I am aware, there is no case of infectious disease. A block of houses in the East Lane, belonging to Mr Morpeth, of Blanchland, has no privy attached to them. The Inspector has written to him on the subject. The new system of drainage which the Board is now laying down is being carried out without any provision being made for the ventilation of sewers. With the old stone drains the gas found its way into the soil, but with the new sanitary pipes with their close joints and inadequate ventilation the gas will enforce its way through every grate that is insufficiently trapped into the houses. What is wanted is the erection of several ventilating pipes carried up the sides of houses and walls above the eaves. The drain from The Butts gates to the river is still in a most unsatisfactory state. The big flat covers taken off the old sewer in The Butts might be used to make it into a more satisfactory condition. The 10in. pipe drain from The Butts gates to the tank in Mr Walton's field is much too small to carry the sewerage and water discharged into it by the new 15-in. pipes laid down the The Butts gates, as was shown during the thunderstorm on the 9th inst., when the pressure of water in the 10-in. pipe was so great as to force the water up through the grates in The Butts, which was by this means inundated and rendered impassable. This drain is also not sufficiently low, so that all the houses from and including Mr Jos. Wallace's downwards, cannot drain into it. Moreover, in one place the main water pipe crossed right through the drain, partially and sometimes totally blocking it. Where the water-pipe crossed, a sanitary pipe had been left out and the drain made by a few stones. This has to-day been altered, but still the water does not flow away properly, as the drain is half-filled with sand. There is the greatest danger to drinking-water getting poisoned by sewerage should an accidental opening occur in this water-pipe. This 10-in. drain should be taken up entirely and relaid deeper down with the 15-in. pipes and all the house drains properly connected with the main sewer. Since the water pipe going into the house tenanted by Mr Thomas Watson in The Butts was repaired the pressure in the pipes has been nearly doubled. Roughly speaking, as much water has been wasted by that one leakage during the last four or five years as would have supplied the lower half of Stanhope.

AN AUSTRALIAN VISITOR IN WEARDALE.

There is at present staying in Weardale a gentleman who in the year 1856 left Low House, Westgate, for Australia. This is Mr Thomas Longstaff, son of Mr John Longstaff, of Low House, and grandson of the well-known old John Longstaff, a leading Wesleyan of this day, and for many years a Poor Law Guardian in Weardale. Mr Thos. Longstaff, a successful Ballarat chemist, arrived in England in April, having sailed in the *Victoria*, and after visiting his friends in London and his cousin, Mr Ralph Longstaff, the Australian gold medal artist, who is at present in Paris, arrived at Stanhope the other day, and Saturday found him at Westgate, the place of his boyhood. Having carried on business for some 28 years in Ballarat, and through tact and energy raised himself to a high social position, it is natural to suppose that when leaving for a tour to England his Australian friends rally around him. Ill-health has compelled rest, and we cannot do better than quote the farewell to Mr Longstaff from the *Ballarat Star* of March 7th last:—"Last night, a number of leading citizens assembled at Lester's Hotel to say farewell to Mr Thomas Longstaff, the well-known chemist and druggist, who is about to proceed to Europe to spend a well-earned holiday. Mr Longstaff has resided in Ballarat for many years, and his gentlemanly, unostentatious manner has won for him numerous friends in all quarters of this and surrounding districts. The meeting last night was one thoroughly representative of the district, and all present while regretting that the guest of the evening was leaving Ballarat, they at the same time hoped that a respite from the arduous duties of his profession would restore him to his wonted vigour and good health. Mr Thomas Walker, ex-Mayor of Ballarat East, presided, and among the other gentlemen present were Dr Gale, Mr Alex. Miller, and Mr Hutton, of Strut Street. During the evening, Mr Longstaff was presented with a beautiful diamond breast pin as a slight token of the esteem and appreciation in which he is held in Ballarat. Speeches complimentary to the recipient were made by the chairman and others, and his health was drunk with enthusiasm. Mr Longstaff feelingly replied to the kindly remarks made regarding himself, and he warmly thanked the company and subscribers generally for the elaborate pin with which he has been presented. He loved Ballarat, and ere long he hoped to be again in the city." Mr Longstaff intends to sojourn amongst his native Weardale hills during this summer, and in the autumn return to Ballarat, and his two sons whom he has left behind.

THE TEMPERANCE FESTIVAL AT NEWCASTLE.

The general midsummer holiday of the North began on Tuesday under the most auspicious circumstances. The weather was all that could be desired, and at an early hour excursionists commenced to arrive in Newcastle, not only from the surrounding district, but from towns as far as Birmingham, Manchester, Hull, Leeds, Keithley, and Sheffield, to visit the Temperance Festival on the Moor, or go to the races at Gosforth. With these visitors and the inhabitants of the city the principle streets were crowded, and vehicles of every description, in addition to the trams, were put into use to convey such as did not choose to walk to their destination, which for the most part was the Temperance Festival. For the races the North-Eastern Railway Company ran special trains from the Central Station to Killingworth, and by these there were about 2,400 passengers. For the convenience of such as were not attracted by either festival or races, the railway company provided excursions to Warkworth, Alnwick, Gilsland, and Durham, and of these trips a large number of holiday-makers availed themselves. There were also numerous Sunday-school trips to Monkseaton, Tynemouth, Shotley Bridge, and other places of interest. The great rendezvous, however, was, of course, the Temperance Festival—the only demonstration of its kind in the country. Since the commencement of the festival six years ago, two days have been deemed sufficient for the holding of the sports, but this year a new department was made, and Tuesday was devoted to Highland sports—the opening ceremony taking place at three o'clock on Tuesday afternoon instead of at one o'clock on Race Wednesday as in former years. In view of the enormous difficulties that must necessarily attend the management and successful inauguration of such a festival as that held on the Moor under the auspices of the temperance party, it may be said it required a considerable amount of courage on the part of the Executive to add to their responsibility and anxiety by making the festival extend over three days instead of two. This ste was all the more courageous as it appears that the amount of subscriptions is not quite so large as it was the first year of the movement. Last year there was a falling off in the donations, and this year there has been still further decrease. Such a circumstance will be regretted by many who take a deep interest in the festival, and it may only require to be made known to be remedied another year. The cost of the undertaking is very large, and far in excess of ground rents, the present donations, prizes. Notwithstanding this drawback the executive had undertaken additional responsibilities and their numerous friends have doubtless helped them to defray any additional expense they may have incurred, or make good any deficit there may be. It requires more than a small falling off in amount of subscriptions, however, to damp the ardour of the zealous president of the festival association, and at Tuesday's opening ceremony his Worship the Mayor was as cheerful as is his wont, and spoke of the movement in which he has taken the principal part in the most hopeful and encouraging terms. It appeared to be with feelings of gratification that he referred to the strength the temperance party had recently exhibited, and knowing that strength, he said he hoped the teetotalers would know how best to use it to achieve the objects they had at heart. The Mayor was followed in the opening addresses by the Vicar of Newcastle and Dr Rutherford, and the festival was then declared open amid loud cheers. In the addresses all the speakers strongly deprecated any betting or gambling at the sports, and the Mayor went so far as to declare that there would be no harriers' race next year, or any other year, because there had been some gambling at that sport held on the Moor some evenings previously in connection with the association. In referring to the work of the officials the Mayor paid a grateful tribute to Mr W. M. Richardson, the hon. secretary to the association, who had felt compelled to resign owing to his appointment as secretary to the Young Men's Christian Association, and other duties. Mr Richardson will be succeeded by Mr A. W. Wilkie, who has been acting as assistant hon. secretary. Owing to the Highland sports on Tuesday the attendance at the festival was very much larger than on the Tuesday in preceeding years, and the various shows, roundabouts, shuggyshoos, shooting galleries, refreshment tents, &c., were proportionately better patronised. Throughout the day excellent order prevailed, and the thousands of young and old who attended the gala appeared to enjoy themselves exceedingly, without mishap or serious accident of any kind. The usual precautions were taken for lost children—the secretary's tent, near the grand stand, being used as a temporary refuge, and in other respects the arrangements were much the same as in preceeding years.

The Festival was continued on Wednesday afternoon, but, unfortunately, the sports, and all enjoyment, was brought to an abrupt termination by unfavourable weather. This is only the second time that the Festival, during its seven years, has been marred by wet weather, the first being the second day of the first year's sports. Apart from the rain which fell heavily in the afternoon the weather, on both Tuesday and Wednesday, was not of a kind calculated to really make outdoor gatherings enjoyable; but despite cold winds and threatening rains an enormous crowd gathered together on the Moor. Compared with past Festivals held in fine sunny weather, the attendance seemed to show a falling off; but when, perhaps, 100,000 persons are attached to the Town Moor, sufficient proof is afforded that the Festival has got a secure hold upon the inhabitants of this city and the surrounding district. A great many excursion trains were run by the North-Eastern Railway Company from all the parts of the north of England to Newcastle, and the greater number of excursionists attended the Festival. The sports commenced at half-past one o'clock, and about half-an-hour later the first shower of rain fell. The weather cleared up again, and it was hoped that the day's programme would be carried out successfully; but in this the officials, competitors, and spectators were disappointed. About four o'clock rain began to fall heavily, and in the next half-hour the crowds around the various rings dwindled very much; and, at 4.30 all sports were stopped. Yesterday (Thursday), there was a great improvement in the state of the weather, and the Festival was brought to a most successful termination.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BURNOPFIELD BRANCH.

On Saturday last, the members of the above society held their seventh anniversary by a public tea in the Temperance Hall, at which, considering the various sports in the district, a fair number attended. After the tea, a public meeting was held—the chairman being Mr James Gilchrist, of Marley Hill. After the opening hymn had been sung, and prayer, the Chairman called upon Mr Hogarth for a pianoforte solo, which was well rendered, after which Mr W. Palmerly was called upon for the song, "Three jolly Britons." Next on the programme was a violin solo by Master J. G. Allan, who performed in a very creditable manner. A song by Rev R. Tuson, "The anchor's weighed," was followed by a very eloquent address on temperance by Rev H. Robertson, of Durham. Mr Saunders next sung "The three beggars," and was much applauded. After a sacred song by Miss Teasdale, of Newcastle, "He wipes the tear," which was very well sung, Dr Johnson, of Stanley, was called upon, when he sang "Killaloe," and being *encored*, gave "Mary's gone with a coon." A pianoforte solo by Miss Gilchrist, was followed by a song from Mr J. Benfold, after which Rev R. Tuson sang "Johnny Sands." A violin duet by Mr J. Lawson and Miss E. Smailes was very well given, to which they had to give an *encore*. Mr Palmerly sang "Fanny fancied a fancy fan" with much spirit; being followed by Mr Saunders with "The careless man." Dr Johnson again appeared by singing "The awful little scrub," and was *encored* twice. Mr Benfold again sang, when Miss Teasdale was called upon to sing "Who'll have me, to which she responded with an *encore*, "Somebody whispered so sweetly." A very enjoyable meeting was brought to a termination by the singing of the doxology.

DEATH OF THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

We deeply regret to announce the melancholy intelligence that the Emperor Frederick William died at Potsdam, at eleven o'clock on Friday morning last. His death had been anticipated, and during his last hours he was surrounded by members of his family. The Emperor was perfectly resigned, and met his end with calmness.

He was able to recognise the Empress as she took her place by the bedside, but relapsed into a state of stupor during the morning.

An official attestation of death and the cause was made in the afternoon.

It is rumoured that Sir Morell McKenzie informed the Empress on the preceding Wednesday that all hope must be abandoned.

THE FUNERAL.

On Monday the ceremony of removing the late Emperor's remains from Friedrichskon was carried out strictly in accordance with the published programme. After the last strains of the chorale "Jesus meine Zuversicht" had died away, the Court Chaplain, Dr Koegel, offered up prayer, in which he alluded in feeling terms to the grievous double visitation by which the Imperial house and the German nation had been visited. He thanked God for all that he had done for the departed monarch, and implored consulation from on high for the sorely tried Imperial house and the nation. While the choir was singing the chorale "I know that my Redeemer liveth," the coffin was placed upon the funeral car, and the procession then formed in the order prescribed in the official programme, the Prince of Wales walking with the Emperor William and King of Saxony. The sacred rite consisted of the burial service, followed by the benediction, which was pronounced by Dr Koegel, there being no sermon. After the firing of volleys and minute guns, the mourners left the church. Empress Victoria, before departing, approached the coffin, and bending over it, took a solemn farewell of her deceased consort. Chief Court Chaplain, Dr Persius, repeated the closing prayer, and the choir intoned the final dirge.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

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

LADIES'

Ascot week always shews a diminution in the number of gay people rushing to and fro in London from luncheons to afternoon calls, from afternoon calls to 5 o'clock teas, from tea home to dress for dinners, and from dinners on to balls until the small hours of the morning, with the sky shewing broad patches of day-dawn. It is not so much that the West-end of London is really deserted from Monday morning till Saturday evening as that the absence of the Prince and Princess from town makes many postponements of social events desirable, and many other people who have friends at Ascot prefer to wait until the wheel of fashion begins to turn round once more. The change is most to be noted in the mornings and afternoons in the Row, when the riders are fewer in number, and the rows of carriages shew spaces between every two vehicles, a scantiness not usual when the Lady's Mile is the centre of attraction.

Last week was a gay one, as if every moment were precious, and to be utilised for the pursuit of pleasure. Dinners are now at so late an hour and the function is so long drawn out that very little time remains for evening parties afterwards, though ladies persist in accepting a number of cards of invitation for the same evening, in hopes of being able to look in at several drawing-rooms, one after another. When Madame D'Arblay wrote her diary, or rather Miss Fanny Burney, for she was then unmarried, in the latter part of the eighteenth century, she commented on the dreadful habits of rich people who dined so late as 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Supper was probably a very substantial meal in those days, and was eaten earlier than even the usual light refreshments which are served in the present day. The issue of dinner invitations for a quarter before eight or a quarter-past the hour seems a needless division of the sixty minutes that go to make up an hour, but it ensures punctuality in the arrival of the guests, giving a quarter of an hour for assembling, the real time for dinner being fifteen minutes later.

Among the most brilliant entertainments of last week was that given by a literary, artistic, and scientific society, "The Salon." For the first time in the social history of our times an attempt has been made to form brain workers of every kind into a species of guild for friendly intercourse on stated occasions. The qualification for membership is the intellectuality of the person applying to be received, that he or she be an undoubted worker in some field of literature, science, art, &c., &c.; in fact, a person whose life has a definite purpose. The meetings take place about once a month from October to July, and so great has been the recent increase in the number of members that it has been found necessary to take large picture galleries or public rooms to accommodate the members at the evening meetings. People who are noteworthy, either as authors or artists, are rarely seen where crowds of people meet. Life is short and art is long; workers have no time to lounge about, but the Salon meetings are quite a different matter, as work is then laid aside and everyone comes out to be sociable and exchange ideas on the topics of the day. In this republic of letters the great question is not so much who are you, and what is your income? as what have you done? Produce your prose work, or your poem; point to your picture; mention your contribution to science; are you devoted to a philanthropic work demanding life devotion and excellence? Then the Salon opens its doors to membership. At the evening meetings a fortunate guest, who is only a curious outsider, has quite an exciting evening watching the muster of guests, and hearing the names announced, for most of them are names famous to the world by reason of good work done. Then for a few hours novelists and poets, dramatists and journalists, editors, painters, musicians, inventors, travellers, &c., all meet and mingle, listening to music, vocal and instrumental, or talking to each other.

On the subject of this summer's weather it seems to be accepted by every one that no extreme heat must be looked for. If tropical weather should be developed later on it will shorten the winter, but cannot prolong our summer. In the middle of June we are still wearing those intermediate season dresses meant for the days of April showers. Yet the tourist season is at hand, and travelling dresses are subjects of careful consideration. Good advice cannot too often be repeated, even though it should be tedious; the recommendation to ladies to use no textile for a travelling dress that is mixed with cotton, nor even with silk, comes under this head. Sun and shower are alike fatal to the beauty of a dress chosen for temporary effect in a drawing-room, rather than permanent excellence indoors and out of doors. Among the new textiles which are being made up for this year's wear the Lanuras are likely to be the most popular. Dress-making has now become such a serious consideration as to cost that ladies have become much more careful in choosing dresses which will be suitable for several occasions. The Lanura materials have three characteristics in which they have decided advantages over many familiar textiles. They are of pure wool in warp and weft; they are of self-coloured wools, as nature intended them to remain; and they are of different weights, according to taste of the wearer or the purposes for which they are designed. Success in the production of a very fine woollen material, perfectly yielding and pliant, no hardness or resistance against draping artistically, yet enduring in quality, is of recent date. For the present style of dress a material that takes flowing lines is of all importance. For seaside wear the material made of self-coloured wools interwoven, some plain, some striped, producing a pretty neutral tone of colour, is of priceless value.

What woman is there who has not noted on herself, or friend, the dress from which one day's seaside wear has extracted all the colour, the outer folds bleached, and the inner preserving the traditions of its pristine beauty? The self-coloured flannel alone will defy experiences of this nature. To choose blankets by weight is familiar to every housekeeper. Why not also be enabled to select our dress materials upon the same system? For children's clothes it is absolutely cruel to select a heavy material that weighs down their poor little frames and impedes the movement of their limbs. The substitution of flannel for cotton for children's nightgowns is now universal, and for winter wear gives immunity from cold when restless young people shake off their bedclothes at night. From nightgowns to flannel sheets is a natural progression, and a Lanura flannel for this purpose, woven 80 inches wide, offers the same advantages to grown people hitherto enjoyed by children. The wide flannel answers admirably for dress skirts, which can be made of it without a seam in the draperies, an economy of labour and time. As a fashionable contrast of colours, Lanura dresses are made up with vests, collars, cuffs, large satchel pockets and skirt panels of watercress faille. Maroon velvet looks equally well for those who like to have the materials shaded in tone, rather than contrasted in colour.

AURORA.

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SOMETHING FOR YOUNG FOLKS.

ADVENTURES WITH LIONS.

Most boys like to read accounts of perilous adventures, though they would not perhaps relish being called upon to take part in such adventures themselves. Suppose then that we listen, by permission of Lieutenant-Colonel Drayson, to the yarns spun by two of a party of Boer hunters, as they sit chatting together in their tent after the labours of the day.

"I never found," said Hofman, "in any battle I have been in with the Kaffirs such nervous work as the first time I shot a lion. I was little more than a boy then, and lived under the Winterberg (a mountain on the north of the eastern frontier of the Cape of Good Hope). I had been over to our neighbours, who lived 25 miles from us, and I rode an old horse that was almost past work. It was near sundown when I started for home, and I had a good three hours' ride before me. This I did not think much of, though I had to pass a place called Lions' Fountain where lions were usually seen, and if they were not seen their footprints always were, showing that they lived in the neighbourhood. I rode on, however, and as it got darker I rode quicker, but before long I found the old horse was knocked up, and could not go beyond a walk. I knew my father was fond of the old horse, so I determined to dismount and lead him. I did so, and walked slowly enough, for the horse would not hurry himself. Presently I found him snorting, as from fear, and getting quite lively, for which I could not account at first; but noting that the old horse kept turning his head as though looking at something, I strained my eyes to see what it was. I was, as I said, young at the time, and so you may not be surprised when I tell you my heart beat quickly when I saw, not a single lion—for that I think I might have felt a match for—but no less than four lions trotting along about sixty yards from the side of the waggon-track I was following. I could scarcely believe my eyes at first, but the night was clear and starlight, and there was light enough for me to see that. What was most strange, too, was that one lion seemed to be afraid that the others should take his prey from him, for every now and then he would turn on them, and with a smothered growl rush at them, sending them scampering away like cur dogs; then he would hop up again within forty yards, and go along in the same direction. This he did once or twice, till I began to think he was taking care of me, and didn't mean to eat me or the horse. I was armed with only a single-barrelled gun and that not a very large bore; so I did not feel at all a match for four lions, and began to try and remember some prayers; but I couldn't well call to mind anything suitable, and was beginning to think I had better leave the old horse and run for it, when the big lion, having driven off the others to some distance, came up within thirty yards of me and right in my path. If I led the horse on, I should be nearest the lion, and I believed he would kill me first, and the horse afterwards. I hesitated what to do, and had I been more experienced, I believe I should not have done what I did; for a wounded lion is a terrible creature, even worse than a hungry one. However, I determined to fire at him. Aiming at his forehead, I pulled the trigger, and instantly bolted behind the old horse. Before I could see what happened, I waited a moment expecting to hear the monster roar; but there was no sound except of creatures scampering away in the distance; and when I looked to see where the lion was, there he lay dead. My little bullet had struck him between the eyes and had killed him on the spot. I remember it now as if it had just happened, and I think I never was more alarmed than on that night. You were once carried off by a lion, were you not, Hans?"

"Yes, I was carried a hundred yards or more, and scarcely had my skin broken. A lion is like a cat in that; he can hold a live creature in his mouth and not damage it. I was out after porcupines, and was lying down one night near a porcupine's hole waiting for him to come out. I had no gun, but only my hunting-knife, and a large knob-kerrie, with which to knock the porcupine on the nose; for that, as you know, kills him at once. I did not hear a sound until I found the grass near me move, and a lion put his paw on me, and holding me down by it, gripped my back and lifted me up. The brute pressed his claws into me, but luckily my leather belt prevented his teeth from damaging me, and he carried me by holding on to my belt and coat. If either of these had given way, I should have soon been laid hold of in a far more rough manner. I knew the nature of a lion well enough to know that if I struggled I should have my neck broken or my head smashed in an instant, so I did not struggle, but quietly drew my knife, and thought what was best to do. I thought at first of trying to stab him in the heart, but I could not reach that part of him, and his skin looked so loose that I feared I could not strike deep enough, carried as I was. I knew it would be life or death with me in an instant, so turning myself a bit, I gashed the lion's nose, and cut it through. The lion dropped me as I would drop a poisonous snake, and jumped away roaring with pain. He stood for an instant looking at me, but I did not move, and he did not seem to care to carry me again. More than once he came up to within a few yards, licking the blood as it poured from his nose; but there I remained like a stone, and he was fairly afraid to tackle me again. I know a buffalo and an ox are very sensitive about the nose, and a cat if just tapped on the nose, can't stand it; so I thought a lion might be the same, and so it proved, or I should not be here to tell you the story."

REALLY TOO EASY.

You will all agree that the following does not deserve to be called a riddle; it is really too easy. Still it may serve to amuse the "children." The editor does not mean you, of course not! but your little brothers and sisters.

We have tongues, yet seldom talk;
We have legs, but rarely walk.
We build houses without a roof,
Because our clothes are waterproof.

Our robes are made of many bits,
Yet all are smooth and perfect fits;
And each part fastened neatly in
With a smooth and hollow taper-pin.

Our food is varied as can be,
From each of Nature's kingdoms three;
We float, we dive, we sail, and steer
In thinner seas than water clear.

Land does not convey the notion
Of our sphere of locomotion;
We m[illegible] music without words,
So yo[illegible] know our name is . . . . .

THE TRAP-DOOR SPIDER'S NEST.

Did you ever hear of the trap door spider, and the wonderful nest it makes? Here is a description of this strange habitation.

Some few years ago I was spending a winter in the South of France at that favourite watering place, Cannes, and there I first saw a trap-door spider's nest. It is very difficult to find, and requires keen sight to discover the trap-door. The nest is always in a mudbank, that is, a bank upon which mud out of a ditch has been thrown, which may be, and generally is, partly covered with small weeds and moss. If by looking very closely you see a ring even with the ground, about the size of a sixpence, that will be the trap-door to the nest, which is from four to five inches deep in the ground. By taking half that depth, you will have all that is interesting to examine, and may leave the spider the lower part of its home, and it will quickly replace the loss it has sustained by making another entrance a little distance from the one you have taken. Were you to only lift up the door, and not take the nest, the next day you would find that door tightly fastened down, and another entrance made.

The most wonderful part is the door, which is perfectly round, the outside of which looks like the ground from which it is taken, but open it with a needle or pin, and you will find the inside, which is slightly convex, most exquisitely made of the finest silken fibres interwoven in perfect order. There is a beautiful raised rim all round the door which fits upon a corresponding rim on the top of the nest, to which it is fastened by a hinge at the back, so well and strongly made that it opens easily, and shuts down closely. You may keep a nest for years, and often open and shut the door without causing the slightest injury to the hinge.

The remainder of the nest is simply a round hole in the soil, the depth I have mentioned. I have seen nests with doors not larger than a threepenny bit, made, I suppose, by smaller spiders.

The trap-door spider is, in my opinion, quite the ugliest of its species; it has a large, thick, rather long, black body, and short legs; but no one, I think, could examine that exquisitely-made nest without acknowledging that God has endowed even the lowest of His creatures with wonderful instinct.

An American mother travelling in France offered a half-fare ticket for her son, who lacked several months of the full-fare age. The collector looked suspiciously at the child and at her. "Your son, is he under seven, madame?" "He is, monsieur." "Your son is very big for his age, madame." "He is, monsieur." "Your son is altogether too big for his age, madame," snapped the man, exasperated by the American's coolness. "*Oui, monsieur*, that may be," retorted the mother, calmly; "he is not French, you see."

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The directors offer also a trade discount of 10 per cent. to all shareholders on ledger accounts.
It is the intention of the directors to open a show room at the West-end of London. Messrs. Cox, Edgley, and Co. have already agents with a stock of goods at Sydney and Melbourne, Australia, and at Barcelona, Spain.
Prospectuses and forms of application can be had from the Sec., Mr. Samuel Britton, at the offices, 24, Gray's Inn-road, W.C.

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The directors of that stately place of entertainment, the Alhambra Theatre, in Leicester Square, London, which has just been so beautifully restored, and is so gorgeous in its scheme of decorative colouring, must have experienced some difficulty in selecting a subject for a new ballet which, as a spectacle, would be harmonious with the glittering background. If the house be magnificent, the entertainment must be more magnificent still. The new Grand Spectacular Ballet, "Antiope," invented and arranged by Signor E. Casati, fulfils these conditions. The scene is laid in some Grecian city at an imaginary period; the story is so clearly marked out that anyone can follow it, and if it were not it would be impossible to go very far wrong, since M. Jacobi, the talented director of the orchestra, has in this instance surpassed himself in the difficult art of writing descriptive music and dramatic movements, whilst never forgetting the melody, of which he is a master. The tale that is unfolded as the ballet proceeds has its proper complement of love, jealousy, despair, and forgiveness. It is a difficult matter to gild refined gold, even at the Alhambra, but it is quite certain that the theatre never looked more beautiful than it does now, and there is to be seen a ballet that even on this stage is unrivalled in musical charm and technical skill. The popular acting manager, Mr. C. Morton, together with the indefatigable and inventive M. Jacobi, have been summoned and congratulated, whilst Signor Casati has been called on after almost every tableau. "Antiope" is certainly one of the artistic sights of London.

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BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

The usual meeting of the Benfieldside Local Board was held in the Board-room on Wednesday. Mr Jas. Annandale was in the chair, and the following gentlemen were present:—Messrs T. Siddell, J. Dowson, J. Eltringham, Surtees, and Wilson; Mr Booth (Clerk), and Mr J. Dixon (Surveyor).

The minutes of last meeting were read and signed.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

Appended is the Surveyor's (Mr Dixon) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the past month, your workmen have been employed on the several highways and streets in your district, water-tabling, gathering loose stones, and dressing-up. The footpaths in St. Mary's Street and Dale Street have been repaired during the month.

Your Highway Committee have had their annual inspection. They will report on several matters that were laid before them.

I have collected and paid to the treasurer during the month the following sum—General district rate, £213 7s 11d.

The audit took place on the 18th of this month, for the year ending 25th March, 1888.

During the month I have received from Messrs Ord and Maddison 100 tons of limestone, and about 30 tons of whinstone from Mr Pearson. Your stonebreakers are preparing the same for the ensuing season.

Durham Road was very much damaged by the heavy storm on the 9th June.

Plans for out-offices for St. Mary's School have been stamped during the month.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Benfieldside Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—During the month I have inspected your district several times. I find it on the whole in fairly good condition. Your district is in a good sanitary state.

As instructed at last meeting, I gave notice to the several parties to put their cow-byres in order. Part of this work has been done, and I expect the other will be done shortly.

The alterations to Dale Street are now completed. They have also cemented the yards, the work having been carried out satisfactorily. Your Building Committee have had before them plans for two houses for the Co-operative Flour Mill; also plan for butcher's shop to be built at Highgate for Mr Barrass. They will report on these plans.—Yours &c.,

JOHN DIXON.

Shotley Bridge, June, 1888.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The meeting of the Highway, Lighting, and Finance Committees was held in the Board-room on June 18th. Vouchers for last month's accounts were examined and found in order. The following accounts are recommended to be paid:—

	£	s.	d
Surveyor's monthly paybill	77	6	2
Gas Co.'s account	67	0	10
Lighting Committee's account		4	0
Mr J. J. Thompson's account		2	1
Mr J. Booth	4	0	0
Total	£148	13	1

Your Committee had an inspection of the whole of the roads and streets in your district on Friday, May 25th, and found them in excellent order. We would advise the Board to give the Surveyor authority to execute the following improvements:

(1).—Repairing the flagging in Front Street and Wood Street, Shotley Bridge, and also Messenger Bank.

(2).—Cementing the footpath on the east side of Durham Road, above Highgate.

(3).—Pointing the retaining wall on the Derwent and Shotley Bridge Road (opposite the Wheat Sheaf Inn, Shotley Bridge).

(4).—Repairing the flags in Durham Road footpath, Blackhill.

(5).—Improving the footpath in Durham Road from the Station gates to the Cemetery gates.

WM. WILSON convener.

Mr ELTRINGHAM asked how it was proposed to do the repairs in Wood Street, &c?

Mr SIDDELL: It was proposed that all the flags should be taken up at one side of the street, and that the whole of that side should be cemented, and the good flags taken up used in flagging the other side.

It was proposed by Mr ELTRINGHAM, and seconded by Mr WILSON, that the works recommended by the Highway Committee be carried out by the Surveyor, and that he obtain tenders for the cementing work.

Carried.

THE APPROACH TO THE RAILWAY STATION.

The following letter had been received by the Board from the Company on the subject:—

Newcastle-on-Tyne, June 1st, 1888.

DEAR SIR,—The question of making a new approach road to the Consett and Blackhill Station from Derwent Street having been considered by our directors at their last meeting, they decided to make the road as shown on the accompanying tracing. I shall be glad to know for what sum your Board will be willing to undertake to make the road to the satisfaction of their inspector and take it over when completed.—Yours truly,

A. R. C. HARRISON.

The CHAIRMAN: There are two things here for our consideration. (1). Are we willing to make the road for the N.E.R. Company, and what our charge for it will be? and (2). Do we approve of this plan?

The Clerk: I look upon it as an invitation to the Board to tender for the making of the road. If our estimate was not as small as the Company could make it themselves, we shall probably hear no more about it. The Board would, in this case, be contracting to do the work over private property, as part of the land through which the road is drawn on the plan belongs to a private individual. It would not be right and proper for the Board to tender for the work.

Mr SIDDELL: If the Company pay for the work, I do not see why we should not make the road. We have asked for new accommodation, and they are willing to make the road if the estimate be proper and reasonable.

The CHAIRMAN: The Clerk says that it would not be right and proper for us to tender for the work, as the road is partly over private property.

The Clerk: The Local Board is not going to make the road. It would only invite some contractors to tender for it, and what the Local Board would do in this matter the Company can do themselves. If the Board should, at the expense of the Railway Company, advertise for tenders the Company would have to first submit their requirements to the Board so that the road can be made in accordance with the bye-laws of the Board. It would only be a question of some contractor getting the work from us instead of the Company.

Mr SIDDELL: That is all very well; but I think it is rather a compliment to the Board to be asked by the Company to make the road.

Mr DOWSON: Was not another road made for the Company by the Board?

The Clerk: Yes; but this is not the same sort of case at all.

Mr SIDDELL: But they are doing it at the special request of this Board, and now when they are giving us every facility we are going to run back.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: The question arises whether this Board can make for the North-Eastern Railway Company, or whether the Company can make for itself?

The Clerk: I think all that requires to be done is a communication to be sent to the engineer saying that the Board would have to obtain tenders for it, and suggesting that that be done by the Company itself. And that if the road be made in accordance with the bye-laws, the Board will take it over when it is finished.

The CHAIRMAN: Will the Consett Iron Company not make the road as it is over their land?

Mr SIDDELL: No; they will not.

Mr ELTRINGHAM proposed, and it was seconded by Mr WILSON, that the Surveyor be asked to prepare specifications necessary for making a new road to the station at Blackhill, and that the clerk forward the same to the engineer of the N.E.R. Company, with an intimation that the Board will be willing to take it over when completed in accordance with such specifications, but that the Board have no power to contract for the work.

This was carried.

Mr SIDDELL: At the last meeting of the Consett Local Board they agreed to memorialise the Company to prepare better accommodation for their passengers. I do not think it will do any harm if this Board take the same course. For it is a most wretched Station, and about the worst on the line.

REPORT OF SANITARY COMMITTEE.

The Building and Sanitary Committee meeting was held in the Board Room, on June 15th. Present: Messrs Wheatley, Robinson, Surtees, Jos. Eltringham, and the Surveyor. Before the Board were laid the plans of two houses intended to be built on the Newcastle Road near Co-operative Terrace. The plans show the drain to deliver on the Newcastle Road, and marked new drain required. No levels of the road are given, and your Committee wish the instructions of the Board as to how the drainage has to be carried out. Your Committee have instructed the Surveyor to ascertain the depth of the sewer at the end of the terrace, and the levels of the road for the Board meeting. Plan for butcher's shop and out-offices at Highgate, for Mr A. Barras. We recommend the same to be passed. The whole of these plans will require duplicates, and the usual forms prepared and deposited before they are stamped. The Medical Officer's annual and quarterly reports received our attention. They are satisfactory, and do not require any comment. The plan for back Derwent Street drain received our approval, and we recommend the work to be done as now shown when the drain requires to be opened again; but recommend it to stand over for the present, as the drain is now working satisfactorily.

(Signed) JOSEPH ELTRINGHAM, Convener.

PLANS.

It was proposed by Mr ELTRINGHAM, and seconded by Mr WILSON, that the plans of Mr Barras be passed and stamped.

Carried.

After some discussion, it was proposed, and seconded, that the plans for the two houses belonging to the Co-operative Flour Mill Society be passed, providing they could arrange with the owners of Co-operative Terrace to drain into their drain at the back side of the cottages, or if not, to provide a cesspool for the drainage of the two new houses, as the Board could not provide a sewer at the front end, as shown in the plan.

Carried.

THE RATING OF MACHINERY BILL.

The Clerk: At the May meeting I was requested to send a letter to Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P., about a bill before Parliament for the rating of machinery. I have received a reply from the hon. member, in which he says he will endeavour to further the views of those on whose behalf I wrote.

THE PARK BYE-LAWS.

The following letter was received from the Local Government Board:—

SIR,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to return herewith the draft of the bye-laws proposed by the Local Boards for the districts of Consett and Benfieldside with respect to the Consett and Benfieldside Park, and to state that the Board's instructions in their letter to Mr T. W. Welford, jun., for 26th Sept. last should now be carried out.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

S. B. PROVIS.

Mr J. Booth.

A FLOODED CELLAR.

Mr Geo. Eltringham wrote to the Board informing them that his cellar had been flooded on the 9th inst., and asking that measures might be taken to prevent the occurrence of this in future.

The Surveyor was requested to examine the place, and take whatever measures he thought necessary for the better draining of the water at this portion of the road.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Mr Dixon obtained leave of absence for a fortnight.

Mr Joseph Eltringham acting as substitute in his absence.

The Board adjourned.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, June 21st.—Before Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE (chairman), GEO G. TAYLOR SMITH, Esq., W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq., WM. HEDLEY, Esq., and H. HARTLEY, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

P.C. Keppleworth charged *William Grayson, John Taylorson, Ellis Williams* and *John Williams* with being drunk on June 1st. The prisoners, with the exception of Grayson, pleaded guilty, and were fined 5s and costs.—Grayson pleaded not guilty.—P.C. Keppleworth said that on the 1st inst., he saw the prisoner, along with some others, drunk and fighting, and went in among them to rescue the man they were assaulting. — Prisoner to officer: When you came up, did you not hear a man charging me with being a rogue? — Officer: No. — Prisoner to magistrates: The day after (on the 2nd inst) this fighting occurred I went into a public-house, which is called the "Monkey's Nest," and the policeman came in and ordered me out, although I was perfectly sober.—The Chairman: But that has nothing to do with this charge.—Officer: Your worships, the time of which he speaks I ordered him, and others, out of the public-house because Mrs. Lakey sent for me to turn them out, as they were quarrelling with the servant girl.—Prisoner: I was not drunk on the night of the 1st inst., and this is the second time he has brought me up for being drunk when I have not been guilty. I think it is very hard lines if I cannot go out of my house.—He was fined 10s and costs, or seven days' imprisonment.

The same officer also charged *John Barras* and *John White* with being drunk on the 2nd inst.—Prisoners pleaded guilty, and were each fined 5s and costs.

P.C. Robinson charged *John Hepplewerth, John Young, George Reay, Matthew Watson, William Richardson*, and *William Cozon* with being drunk on the 9th inst.—They all pleaded guilty, and were fined 5s and costs.

P.C. Lambert charged *Alfred Richardson* with being drunk and disorderly on May 26th.—Fined 5s and costs.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

The above-named defendant was charged by Mr Robert Wood with doing wilful damage to plants, &c., valued at 2s 6d, on the same date.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was imposed in the penalty of 1s and costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Mark Greathead was summoned for not sending his two children to school regularly.—The defendant produced a certificate from the doctor stating that the children were not in a fit state of health to allow them being sent regularly to school. The case was dismissed.

ALL FOR THE CHANGE.

Eliza Wilkinson summoned *Joseph McKenna* for assault, on June 9th.—Complainant said that this young man came into our house on the day in question, and asked for a small whiskey. I gave it to him, and he gave me a 1s to pay for it. I returned him 10½d change. After receiving his change he sat for some time. Then some other people came in, and the defendant let his change fall on the floor. These people helped him to look for it, but they could only find 4d. He then said that I had never given him the change, and followed me about the house demanding it. I refused to give him any more money, so he struck me, first on the back, and then on the eye, giving me a black eye.—Prisoner (to complainant): You did not give me the change.—Complainant: Yes I did.—Defendant: Did I not ask you to fill me some beer?—Complainant: No; you asked for nothing but a small whiskey. — A witness corroborated complainant's evidence, and the prisoner was sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

P.C. Robinson charged *Daniel Secomb* and *William Smith* with committing a breach of the peace, on the 9th inst., at West Stanley.—On the above date Secomb and Smith fought a prize fight. After 20 rounds had been fought, the fight was stopped.—Secomb did not appear to answer the charge, so a warrant was issued for his arrest.—The Bench (to Smith: You are charged with committing a breach of the peace, are you guilty or not guilty?—Smith: I am guilty of fighting, sir.—Mr Littletown said he was driving some cattle through the field, and saw several men going along the road which passes through his field. One of them asked him for some water.—Magistrate (to witness): Is the prisoner the one who asked you for the water?—Witness: No, sir; I did not see this young man there at all.—The Bench (to prisoner): The papers say you fought 75 rounds.—Prisoner: The papers sometimes tell lies, sir.—Magistrate: Then how many rounds did you fight?—Prisoner: As far as I can tell about 20.—Magistrate: Was there any damage done?—Prisoner: Not much to me.—Magistrate: Who won the fight?—Prisoner: It was a draw.—Magistrate: You will have to be bound over to keep the peace for six months. Yourself for £10, and find two sureties for £5 each.

LARCENY.

Anthony Gladders was summoned for larceny, but the case was dismissed.

ASSAULT.

Mary Fiddes summoned *John Ellensworth* for an assault.—They were both bound over to keep the peace for six months.

The North-Eastern Railway Company announce some alterations in the train service on the Consett branch, commencing with the beginning of the month of July.

SHOCKING DEATH OF A CHESTER-LE-STREET MAN ON THE RAILWAY.

Between twelve and one o'clock on Sunday morning the dead body of a man was found in the Newton Hall cutting about a mile from Durham Station. He had been knocked down by the midnight express. Although his name had not been reported at the Durham Station or at the County Police Office, the body has been identified as one of the under gamekeepers at Mr Hunter's, Southill, Chester-le-Street.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

The Misses Pulleine, of Stanhope Rectory, in a ramble around part of the outskirts of Stanhope, discovered 56 botanical specimens the other day.

Excellent reports are to hand respecting the numerous and healthy state of the young grouse on Stanhope Moor. The broods are large, and the birds healthy.

Reference was made at Stanhope Church, on Sunday, by the Rev Canon Pulleine, to the death of the German Emperor. The "Dead March" was also played on the organ at both services by Mr B. Probert, of Newcastle.

Stanhope Burial Board are not to be congratulated on the shabby old hearse which they possess. It seems to belong to another century. It has done duty almost ever since the memory of Stanhope's oldest inhabitants. It is quite time it was replaced by one more respectable and in keeping with the character of the times and the occasion for which it is used. The same remarks apply even with more force to that of Wolsingham, which seems to be a relic of antedeluvian type handed down since Noah's time, if not from Adam's.

Wolsingham football team took the shine out of Stanhope on Saturday, when they beat them by five goals to nil. All through the game the home team were sloggered, and the Wolsingham men displayed superior skill, were much quicker in their movements, and could easily beat the Stanhope men.

One thing might be said in favour of the Stanhope team—they were out of practice, having played only one game this season. And even more, the Stanhope team are principally limestone quarrymen, and their work is much heavier than that of the steelworkers of the old town, and consequently they are not so nimble as their opponents. Stanhope and Wolsingham football teams have often played before, but this is the first time they have beaten Stanhope, and may be allowed a little pardonable pride for so doing.

Wolsingham also figured well both in wrestling and in the handicap footrace at Stanhope Oddfellows' jubilee sports. The representatives of the old town, although little in stature, proved themselves men, and even formidable rivals to some of Weardale's crack sportsmen.

Rookhope Band did very well at Stanhope on Saturday. There were two or three excellent players from the Weardale Band with them, and their efforts were very creditable and praiseworthy. They had with them some of the best musicians in the dale, and the music they discoursed was very good. Some would have liked Frosterley Band to have been there in the absence of Stanhope. Perhaps at another time matters may be arranged so as they may have the privilege of displaying their abilities at a similar gathering.

Stanhope Band chalked at the Allendale Town band contest, and brought away the third prize, which, considering the youthfulness of the bandsmen, was very good. They are all, with one exception, young blood, and have not the experience of old crackamen. But if they progress as quickly in the future as they have done in the past, such bands as Acomb and Pelton Fell will find them very formidable rivals in a year or two. The cheers which greeted Stanhope Band from the populace, nevertheless, indicated their popularity up among these heather-clad hills and dales of the west.

It is the general opinion of competent men that Weardale young men of the present day are behind their predecessors in literary attainments, consequent upon the fast rate at which we live, the worry and battle of life for its necessities being much greater now than in the palmy days of leadmining. There is not the amount of leisure time on hand now that there was, nor the disposition for reading and thought among the young, and even among readers light literature is the order of the day.

Wolsingham is the place for law, whatever may be said about justice. The old town frequently witnesses some wonderful law-suits. The one now pending is exciting much attention among the public. Four solicitors are engaged in it, and much ability and knowledge of law will be displayed, and the case will be one of peculiar interest.

A Naturalist Field Club for Weardale would be a boon to many amateurs in botany, and would help and encourage the study of this delightful science among the young and rising generation.

A much-needed reform in Weardale is that of funeral reform. Many of the funerals in the dale seem more like a festive season than one of mourning. Why should poor people thus run themselves into unnecessary expense at a time when they can so ill afford it by making a feast? To have tea for friends from a distance would not be objected to, but to tea all the neighbours with rich cake and cheese is too bad. It is high-time the thing was dispersed with, and poor people go in for funeral reform, not only in feasting, but in wearing black. Can a man or woman not pay as much respect in a light suit as in a dark one? The light suit they may have of their own, but the dark one may be to borrow, or to buy at a time when it can be ill afforded, just to appear as other folks do in a black suit because it is fashionable. Many people run into debt at a funeral because they lack the courage of their convictions. If you have a light suit, and it is decent, why not go in it and break through the custom, and it will not be long before the custom is changed into one that is cheaper and better in all respects for working people.

If every Friendly Society in the North of England would be wise and act upon the proposition made on Saturday, the 50th anniversary of the Stanhope branch of the Oddfellows' Club, that day would soon become a red-letter day in the history of Friendly Societies. The proposition emenated from Dr Robinson, and was founded upon the recognition of two facts—viz., the great prevalence of rheumatic and chest affections and the unsuitableness of the East Coast Homes for the treatment of the latter disease. He proposed that the Stanhope Oddfellows and Mechanics' Clubs should become governors of the Harrogate Bath Hospital by subscribing to that institution in order to send their bad cases of rheumatism there for treatment during the summer 1½d per head of the 210 members of the Stanhope branch of Oddfellows would send one patient for three weeks to Harrogate. Dr Robinson would have all the various branches of each Friendly Society to combine and erect a sanitorium on the West Coast at Grange-over-Sands to receive patients who were suffering from chronic bronchitis, the early stages of consumption, and allied diseases, as he had experienced the greatest difficulty in finding a suitable change of residence for such patients, as these do badly on the exposed East Coast. The Oddfellows Society (M.U.) numbers about 620,000 members, and if each of these subscribed 2d per head a sum of over £5,100 would be raised, sufficient to build the proposed Home. The doctor thinks a further yearly subscription of 1d per head, which would raise £2,550, would defray the necessary yearly expenditure. The Coatham Home at Redcar kept 654 patients in 1886 for a month each for less than £2,000. We earnestly commend his proposition to every friend of working men and the working man himself, which, if carried out, would bring health and happiness to many a disease-stricken brother.

METHODIST QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

CROOK WESLEYAN CIRCUIT. — The quarterly meeting of the above circuit was held at Crook on Tuesday—Rev Joshua Fielden presiding. The numerical statement by the chairman showed an increase of 65 members for the quarter; the financial statement by Mr David Grieves again showed a balance in hand. It was agreed to pay off £90 of the debt on the Crook minister's house. The school statistics by Rev W. H. Farrell gave 19 Sunday schools, 385 teachers, and 2,627 scholars, and libraries containing 1,469 volumes. — The Chairman gave an account of his visit to the recent Stockport Convention.

WEARDALE WESLEYAN CIRCUIT. — The quarterly meeting of the Weardale Circuit was held at Stanhope on Saturday, Rev H. Beeson occupying the chair. The numerical returns showed the membership to be 738, an increase of 98 for the year. There are also 139 junior members. The financial statement was also satisfactory, there being in place of a debt last quarter a small balance in the hands of the stewards. At the local preachers' meeting two young men, Messrs R. Peart and O. Wearmouth, were received on full plan as local preachers after a satisfactory examination.

PRUDHOE U.M.F.C.—The quarterly meeting of the Free Methodist's Churches was held at Prudhoe on Saturday afternoon. Rev F. Raine presided, and there was a good attendance. On the motion of the chairman resolutions of sympathy with the friends of the late Messrs J. Snowball, Hexham, and W. Smith, of Eighton Banks, were carried. Both gentlemen had rendered good service to the circuit, and both died very suddenly since last quarter day. Rev F. Raine, who remains a fourth year in the circuit, was appointed representative to the Annual Assembly, which meets in Manchester next month.

VOLUNTEER ENCAMPMENT AT GIBSIDE.

On Saturday, the 5th V.B.D.L.I. went into camp at Gibside Park, on the same ground where they have encamped in previous years. The Derwent Valley affords by far the loveliest scenery that is to be found in this district, and its hills and valleys are now to be seen at their best. The trees on the hills which encircle the camp are covered with foliage, and with the white tents of the volunteers dotting the green valley a grand and wild aspect is imparted to the scene. The first move was made on Friday, when a fatigue party under Sergeant Major Leblique erected the tents, and Quarter-Master Morpeth, arriving at night, assumed command. A special train took the Gateshead men out at half-past four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, and on arriving at Rowlands Gill they were joined by the Blaydon and Winlaton men, who had marched out from their respective districts, and, headed by the Winlaton band they marched into camp. The South Shields detachment arrived by train shortly before six o'clock, and, all the men being now assembled, the bugle rang for tea, a call which was answered with promptitude. In all, about 460 men are encamped on the ground, the numbers being distributed as follows:—Gateshead detachment, 200; South Shields detachment, 130; and Blaydon and Winlaton detachments, 130; and the officers on the ground were Colonel Cowen, in command; Major Procter, Major Challoner, Captain Martin, of the Leinster Regiment, adjutant; Captains Scott, Romler, Bagnall, Guthrie, and Douglas, Lieutenants Caris, Tulley, Corbitt, Simpson, Hall, Quarter-Master Morpeth, and Surgeon Abraham. In the absence of Quarter-Master-Sergeant Horne, Sergeant-Instructor Adams will act as quarter-master-sergeant. About 150 tents have been erected for the accommodation of the men, and though some of the volunteers may complain of airy bedrooms during the week, the position of the camp protects it considerably from the night winds. The duties each day will consist of morning parade before breakfast, commanding officer's parade at 10 a.m., and adjutant's parade, 2-30 p.m. Afterwards the men are left to themselves for the remainder of the day, with the order of "lights out" at 10 p.m. The inspection will be held on Friday first, and on the following Monday the men will strike tents.

On Sunday morning, the corps attended divine service at Tanfield Parish Church. Colonel J. A. Cowen was in command, and the following officers were present:—Major W. B. Proctor, Major W. H. Challoner, Captain H. Martin, Leinster Regiment (the Adjutant), Captains J. A. Romler, J. Shotton, and T. Bagnall, Acting-Surgeon, A. Abraham, and Lieutenants F. R. Simpson, G. W. Caris, J. Corbitt, and W. T. Hall. The service, which was fully choral, was intoned by Rev Mr Dent, curate of Tanfield; and Rev T. Hewan Archdall, who is one of the acting chaplains of the corps, preached an impressive sermon from the text, "And quit you like men, be strong."—At tattoo last night there were 400 men of all ranks under canvas. The regular routine of drills was begun on Monday morning.

CONVOCATION AT DURHAM.

ROWDYISM BY STUDENTS.

A convocation to close the mid-summer term of Durham University, and to confer degrees and transact other business of the Senate, was held on Tuesday afternoon in the Castle Hall, Durham. The Warden of Durham University, the Very Rev. the Dean of Durham (Dr Lake), presided, and the other members of the Senate present were—Professor R. Plummer, D.D., Master of the University; the Sub-Warden, Prof. R. J. Pearce; Rev J. T. Fowler, Principal of Hatfield Hall; Dr Heath, Dr Philipson, Prof. Garnett, Mr W. K. Hilton, and others. In consequence of the noisy conduct of the under-graduates at recent convocations, the Senate at the end of the last term decided to exclude all students of the University from the Convocation proceedings other than those who were obliged to be present for the purpose of having degrees or licenses conferred. This decision on the part of the Warden and Senate had been adhered to, but some little difficulty was experienced in putting the authority of Convocation into execution, and from the frequent interruptions and noise manifested during the conferring of degrees it was evident that some of the students had gained admittance. On the Warden and other members of the Senate entering to take their seats, they were met with a perfect storm of hissing and cheering, and frequently during the proceedings the Dean was interrupted by such expressions as "Speak up," "Take that hat off," &c. On Convocation being dissolved it was found that the excluded students had securely fastened the large iron gates at the entrance to the Castle court, and exit was rendered impossible. The students, who were on the outer side of the gate, seeing the dilemma of those who were imprisoned in the Castle yard, sent up a hearty cheer. After waiting in vain for some minutes for the gate to be opened, the people were directed out of the courtyard by a side entrance, which evidently had escaped the attention of the students.

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STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, June 15th.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE, Esq. (chairman), and Dr ARNISON.

DRUNKENNESS.

William Gaddas, of Rookhope, was charged with being drunk at Stanhope, on the 17th ult.—Fined 10s and costs.

Thomas Porter, of Frosterley, was charged with being drunk at Frosterley, on May 9th.—Defendant pleaded not guilty, and the case was dismissed.—Mr Wooler represented the defendant.

BREACH OF THE LICENSING ACT.

Robert Rutter, publican, Queen's Head Inn, Stanhope, was charged with permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises, on the 17th ult.—Fined £1 and costs.—Mr Wooler defended.

INDECENT ASSAULT.

John Joseph Golightly, a youth of 15 or 16 years, was charged by Charity Ann Sanderson, daughter of Mr Thomas Sanderson, famer, Snows Field Farm, Stanhope, with committing an indecent assault upon her, on June 10th.—Fined £1 and costs.—Mr Wooler defended the accused.

ARREARS IN BASTARDY.

Thomas Wilkinson was summoned by Margaret Richardson, both of Stanhope, for the sum of £4 16s, arrears in bastardy.—Defendant paid £2 10s, and promised to pay the other within the month.

REFUSING TO GIVE UP THE PARISH BOOKS.

William Morley, late rate-collector, was summoned to show cause why he should not deliver up certain books belonging to the parish of Stanhope.—The case was adjourned.

ODDFELLOWS' DEMONSTRATION AND SPORTS AT STANHOPE.

The Stanhope Agricultural Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows', M.U., held a jubilee festival on Saturday in fine weather and in a pretty place—namely, on the Butts, Shittlehope Burn. The members, joined by the brethren of the local lodge of the Independent Order of United Mechanics, gathered in the Market-place in full regalia, and perambulated the town, and then walked preceded by the Rookhope Brass Band, to the appointed place of gathering, where speeches were delivered, special interest attaching to the chairmanship of the Right Rev J. J. Pulleine, Bishop Suffragen of Ripon, and Rector of Stanhope, with whom, on the platform, were Rev F. C. Jagg, vicar of Frosterley, in Oddfellow regalia; Mr James Smurthwaite, manager of Messrs Bolckow, Vaughan, & Co.'s Newlandside Quarries; Dr Robinson; Mr John Oliver, Waskerley; Bro. W. Waller, N.G.; Bro. T. Rutherford; Mr W. Raine, lodge treasurer. His Lordship was introduced to the meeting by Rev C. F. Jaggs and Bro. Waller, and in the course of a very felicitous speech said he was informed that there were 210 members in the Lodge, and the amount of money in the hands of the treasurer of the sick fund was £1069. Last year they had paid £207 to the sick and needy. He was extremely glad to find them in so healthy and flourishing a condition. It also gave him much pleasure to be among them on that occasion and to make the acquaintance of their esteemed treasurer, who, he was told had been their honoured treasurer for 43 years, and during all that time had only missed two monthly meetings. He was glad that they were going to recognise in a tangible form his valuable services extending as they had done over so long a period. He spoke very highly of the wisdom and forethought of the working men in becoming members of these benefit socities. He advocated thrift and care among them, and advised them to provide for a rainy day, and for old age, and spoke of the sense of independence and security in belonging to one of these great benefit societies, which he said was permanent and secure. Dr Robinson, medical officer of health for Stanhope was the next speaker. He said that these benefit societies were a saving, not only to themselves but to the ratepayers as well. Last year the Oddfellows' spent £200, and the Mechaics' a similar sum, in Stanhope, which had it not been, for these socities would have had to come from ratepayers. He said they were not only sick benefit societies, but were accident or assurance socities as well. He also strongly advocated the establishment of a convalescent home somewhere in the west coast for chest diseases.—Dr Robinson, in his address, mentioned the difficulty he had always experienced in treating certain forms of chest disease (chronic) in these parts, owing to the great prevalence of east and north winds, the excessive humility of the air, and the relative degree of cold dunrig the greater part of the year. He stated that chest disease, together with rheumatic affections, form a very large proportion of the sickness in these districts. Any proposition, therefore, likely to be of benefit to the sufferers demands our most serious attention. Dr Robinson suggested that the inveterate cases of rheumatism should be sent to the Harrogate Bath Hospital, and that the Oddfellows Society, as well as the Mechanics' Club, should become governors of that institution by becoming subscribers. He showed that if every member of the former, of which there were 210, subscribed 1½d a head, this sum would raise a guinea, which is sufficient to send one patient to Harrogate for three weeks. He further recommended that the various branches of these societies should combine to erect and carry out a Convalescent Home or Sanitorium for themselves on the west coast (say at Grange-over-Sands) for the treatment of chest affections in particular for such cases. This he declared was the desideratum of the North of England for working men. He would open such a home to the members of the subscribing clubs, their wives and families. If every member of the Oddfellows Society (Manchester Unity), of which there are over 620,000, subscribed 2d per head, it would furnish no less a sum than over £5,100, and this the doctor thought would suffice to build a sufficiently large home, which would be kept open during both winter and summer. The cost of maintaining 654 patients for one month in the Coatham (Redcar) Home in 1886 was under £2,000, so that for a similar number of patients, a penny per head subscribed by every oddfellow, would furnish all the money required to carry on the home. Here is an excellent example of the power of littles, and the value of contributions. God helps those who help themselves is a true and trite saying; let every member of every Friendly Society be up and doing, and never rest until he sees such a noble and glorious work accomplished.—The Rev C. F. Jaggs on rising, in a humurous manner informed the audience that they could not and must not expect as good a speech from him (a country vicar), as they found from their esteemed friend Bishop Pulleine, as there was a marked difference between a country vicar and a Bishop. (Laughter.) He said his duties that day were not only light but pleasing. He was called upon in the name of their Lodge, to present Mr Raine their esteemed treasurer with a purse of gold, subscribed for among the members of the Lodge. He was an old and faithful servant, and it gave him unfeigned pleasure to present him with this mark of esteem and respect, in recognition of his valuable services, so long and ungrudgingly rendered. Mr Wm. Raine in an appropriate little speech, feelingly thanked them for their mark of respect and esteem, and gave a brief but interesting history of his early days of the Oddfellows' Lodge in Stanhope. Mr John Oliver, of Burn Hill, was the next speaker, and in an eloquent and able manner eulogised the institutions of this great country which he said were Englands glory, and for which she might be excused a little pardonable pride. He made an excellent speech, which showed great intellectual ability and mental power, and was followed by Mr James Smurthwaite who also proposed a vote of thanks to the various speakers, which was heartily accorded. — A public tea in the flower show tent, an athletic programme, and a gala concluded a very pleasant celebration.—The sports were upon the whole, very good all round, with the following results:—Handicap footrace—Nelson, of Crook, 1; W. Williamson, Wolsingham, 2; J Taylor, Blackhill, 3. Heavyweight wrestling—Thomas Walton, Bollihope, 1; Joseph Walton, Bollihope, 2; William Foster, Stanhope, 3. Ten-and-a-half stone wrestling—James Patterson, Wearhead, Weardale, 1; W. Williamson, Wolsingham, 2; Wm. Fairless, Hill Top, 3. Skipping—Miss E. Henderson, 1; Miss E. Dowson, 2; Miss E. Mawson, 3. Football—Wolsingham team five goals to Stanhope team nil. Quoits—Slack, Crawleyside, 1; French, Tow Law, 2; Johnson, Wolsingham, 3.

VALE OF DERWENT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

The second field meeting for this season of the above society was held on Saturday last. The place selected was Chollerford. Through the kindness of John Chaytor, Esq., of The Chesters, the members were granted the privilege of inspecting the whole of the Roman antiquities which have been excavated from the station of Cilurnum. The first portion of the remains which occupied the attention of the party was the ruins of the north gateway of the camp. The grooves in which the parts worked on which the gates swing were pointed out and explained by Mr Tailford, the obliging and intelligent superintendent of the excavating operations. Mr Tailford showed the party a very interesting object which he has found lately. This seems to have been a medal or ornament in bronze of a circular form, having a raised centre, terminating in a point. It has been ornamented with exqisitively-finished small stars, either painted or inserted as mosaics in blue, the colours of which, as far as Mr Tailford has got it cleaned, are as brilliant as if they had just been put on. The margin is pierced with holes, as if for the purpose of attaching it to some cloak or garment. The object is about four inches in diameter. The western gateway was next examined with its curious arrangements for a supply of rain water to the guard-rooms. The forum, the courts of justice, and the praetorium were all inspected with great interest. The eastern gateway, with its walls embellished by the plants of the "Erinus Hispanicus," now in full bloom, was much admired by the visitors. Next was the recent excavations, to describe which would require a long article, were gone over. The magnificent foundations of the bridge with its mysterious covered way, of which no explanation has ever been attempted, were examined; after which the party repaired to the George Inn at Chollerford for dinner. In the afternoon, the altars and the other curiosities in the north porch of the Chesters mansion were inspected. Then the gardens, the tasteful antiquity house, with its interesting contents, the greenhouse, containing its monstre fuchsia plant, and an enjoyable walk by way of Walnick and Tower of Tye to Fourstones Station brought a delightfully-spent day to a close.

LATE SPORTING.

The Dipton Mechanics' sports were brought off on Saturday afternoon in a field near the village.

Manor House annual sports and gala were also held on Saturday afternoon.

OVINGHAM CRICKET CLUB.—The annual pic-nic and sports promoted by the Ovingham Cricket Club were held on Saturday, in the Ovingham Cricket Field. The day was fine, and there was a fairly good attendance. The Ovingham Brass Band was present during the day, and greatly enlivened the proceedings by playing choice selections of music. The following were the results of the sports:—120 yards three-legged race—W. Armstrong, Ovingham, and A. Adams, Prudhoe, 1; J. Dobson and C. J. Beck, Throckley, 2; W. Alder, Lemington, and T. Robson, Throckley, 3. A good race; won by half-a-yard. Boys' race—J. Liddle, Prudhoe Cottages, 4, 1; G. Tulip, Ovingham, 6, 2; J. Marsden, Ovingham, 6, 3. Won by a yard. 120 yards handicap foot-race—Heat 1—E. Liddle, Prudhoe Cottages, 19, 1; C. J. Beck, Throckley, 9, 2; A. Adams, Prudhoe, 9, 3. Won easily. Heat 2—M. Lennox, Ovingham, 12, 1; J. Alder, Lemington, 3, 2; T. Robson, Throckley, 7, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 3—J. Dobson, Throckley, 5, 1; W. Armstrong, Ovingham, 5, 2; J. Dunn, West Wylam, 12, 3. Won easily. Final heat—Liddle, 1; Lennox, 2; Dobson, 3; Armstrong, 4. 440 yards handicap flat race—C. J. Beck, Throckley, 15, 1; E. Liddle, West Wylam, 45, 2; T. Robson, Throckley, 15, 3. A grand race; won by a foot. The officials were:—Handicappers, Messrs T. Walker, B. Wright, and R. Hall; starter, Mr Geo. Forster; judges, Messrs H. A. Waugh and N. Drummond.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

HAMSTEELS.—Moor House, 14th inst., the wife of Charles E. Parkin, of a daughter.

RYTON.—2, Wallace Terrace, on the 15th inst., the wife of John Holmes, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—Wesleyan Chapel, on the 18th inst., by the Rev. J. W. Keyworth, Thomas, second son of the late Geo. Chatt, of Medomsley Edge, to Jane Ann (Jenny), youngest daughter of the late John Teasdale, of Medomsley.

EDMONDBYERS.—St. Edmund's Church, 9th inst., by the Rev W. Featherstonhaugh, J. T. Ripley, Consett, to M. A. Herdman, of Edmondbyers.

STELLA. — Church of St. Mary and St. Thomas Aquinas, 18th inst., Robert Bolam, of South Benwell, to Mary, only daughter of the late Wm. Snowdon, of Greenside.

BIRTLEY.—Parish Church, 20th inst., by Rev E. Day, George, eldest son of the late Robert Slasor, of Felling, to Isabella, youngest daughter of the late John Telford, of Swalwell.

On the 16th inst., Wm. Stephenson, Stanhope, to Miss Mary Johnson, Fawn Lee Farm, Wolsingham.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—At No. 3, Rippon's Lane, 19th inst., Francis Jackson.

BLACKHILL.—49, Derwent Street, on the 21st inst., aged 7 years, John Joseph Chapman, the beloved son of George and Elizabeth Chapman. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon, at Two o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—36, Front Street, 21st inst., aged 12, Ethel, the beloved daughter of George and Ann Brown. To be interred at Ebchester, on Sunday. Friends please accept this intimation.

DIPTON.—South Medomsley Row, 20th inst., aged 1 year, Margaret, the beloved daughter of Matthew and Barbara Mason.

LEADGATE FARM.—15th inst., aged 77, Edward Greener.

TANFIELD LEA.—14th inst., aged 22, Sarah, daughter of John Hall.

WINLATON. — 20th inst., aged 88 years, Ann Patterson.

SWALWELL.—17th inst., aged 85, Thomas Newton, waterman.

WHICKHAM.—On the 18th inst., aged 32, Agnes L., wife of J. G. Elliott.

STANHOPE.—14th inst., aged 82, Jane wife of Robert Gray.

BIRTLEY.—On the 15th inst., aged 49 years, Joseph Carr.

The Station, 20th inst., aged 83 years, Elizabeth Johnson.

PELTON.—17th inst., aged 7 years and 10 months, Leonard, son of Geo. Teasdale.

DURHAM.—Crook Hall, 19th inst., aged 64, John S. Fowler.

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