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The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, June 4th, 1886.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

The Crofters Bill passed the Committee stage in the House of Lords, several amendments being made to the measure. Their Lordships also altered their Standing Order which prevented the payment of interest out of capital during the construction of railways.

In the House of Commons, the chief business was the Committee stage of the Arms Bill. On the Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the second reading of the Government of Ireland Bill. Lord R. Churchill moved the adjournment of the House.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act was read a second time. Lord Vernon brought in a Bill for the regulation of the importation and manufacture of butter substitutes.

A great portion of the sitting of the House of Commons was occupied with a debate on a motion for the adjournment of the House. This was moved by Sir M. Hicks-Beach in order to mark his sense of the importance of the statement made by Mr Gladstone at the Foreign Office meeting, or to elicit from the Government a declaration as to whether they intended to prorogue Parliament after the second reading of the Home Rule Bill, and to reintroduce the bill in a new session, or to merely adjourn and take the committee stage at a later period of the year. Mr Gladstone stated that Ministers preferred prorogation. In the course of the debate Conservative speakers strongly denounced the course adopted by the Government, but laid themselves open to the retort from the Ministerial benches that their indignation was aroused by the success which they foresaw would attend Mr Gladstone's policy. Sir M. Hicks-Beach subsequently desired to withdraw his motion for the adjournment of the House, but the Irish members would not suffer this, and two of them acted as tellers for the motion, while a third was the only member who voted for it, the numbers being—For the adjournment, 1; against, 405. The House then resumed the debate on the Home Rule Bill.

MONDAY.

In the House of Lords Earl Spencer brought in the Arms (Ireland) Bill, which was read a first time. The Friendly Societies Act (1875) Amendment Bill was withdrawn. The report of amendments to the Croftors (Scotland) No 2 Bill was received. The Oxford University Justices Bill passed through Committee, and the Infants Bill was read a third time.

The House of Commons continued the debate on the second reading of the Home Rule Bill. Among the speakers were Lord J. Manners, Mr H. Fowler, Mr Storey, and Mr Macnaghten. On the motion of Mr Chamberlain, the debate was adjourned. The House went into committee on the Medical Acts Amendment Bill, and progress was reported.

TUESDAY.

The House of Lords debated the Arms Bill at considerable length, the opinion of the Conservatives and Whigs being strongly expressed that the measure was not sufficent to enable the Government to preserve order in Ireland. Their Lordships eventually passed the second reading of the bill.

In the House of Commons the discussion on the Home Rule Bill was continued, Mr Chamberlain, Mr Sexton, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer being the chief speakers

WEDNESDAY.

In the House of Commons, a Bill for the Registration of Irish Voters, brought forward by the Parnellite members, was the subject of discussion during the chief portion of the sitting. The measure was talked out by the Ulster Conservatives.

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.)*

DURHAM UNIVERSITY EVENING LECTURES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR. The following extract from the last issue of the *Durham University Journal* may be of interest to the readers of the *Guardian*:—"An important 'new departure' has been made by the University of Durham in the adoption of a resolution for the creation of evening classes and lectures in connection with the course of study for degrees. It is specially important to those who reside in centres of population within the county, and perhaps in Newcastle, where, we may presume, the Warden and senate will determine to establish classes. The new scheme amounts to this, that young men anxious to advance themselves in the world, may, though engaged in other occupations—in offices or in shops—during the day, attend these classes in the evening. Lectures, and such instruction as is given to students resident in Durham, will be given at these evening classes, and after having attended the classes for not less than two years, and passed such examinations as may be determined by the Warden and Senate, a student shall be admitted to the final year's course of study in the University; and after a residence of not less than three terms, shall be eligible for the final examination for the degree of B.A. or the L. Th. To pushing young men who have not a long purse to assist them this will constitute an enormous boon. Not merely to those who intend to go the full course will the lectures be useful; any young man anxious to acquire a smattering of classical education will be able to attend the classes, and the promising pupil, after having had to leave school to earn his living, may thus improve his education. The Senate of Durham University merit the warmest praise for the liberal spirit in which this scheme is conceived, and for the readiness they have shown to adopt it.

It has been represented to the Warden and Senate that it is desirable that lectures of this kind should be given in Sunderland.

A meeting for the purpose of promoting this object will be held in Sunderland, in the Library, on Friday, June 11, at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting will be addressed by the Lord Bishop of Durham, the Warden of the University, and others.

The fees will be £3 a term. There are three terms in the year; and attendance at lectures for six terms is necessary before candidates can present themselves for the first year examination or proceed to reside in Durham.

Any of these lectures are open, on payment of proportionate fees, to such persons as wish to attend the lectures but do not propose to present themselves for the first year examinations or proceed to reside in the University; and women are admissable to lectures whether with the intention of presenting themselves for first year examinations or not.

The following is the Scheme of Lectures:—

In the Arts Course:—

Monday: The Alcestis of Euripides (F. B. Jevons, M.A.)

Wednesday: Virgil: Æneid I.—VI. (Rev W. Hooper, M.A.)

Thursday: Arithmetic and Euclid (Rev J. Morris, M.A.)

In the Theological Course:—

Tuesday: Acts and Cicero (Rev H. Rashdall, M.A.)

Friday: Epistle; and Paley alternately with Introduction to Theology (Rev A. Robertson, M.A.)

In addition optional lectures may be given on Hebrew by the Professor of Hebrew and Mr Morris; and lectures on other subjects be also arranged."

Upon enquiry I have ascertained that persons who attend these classes must have a fair knowledge of Latin and Greek, and that the University is willing to entertain the question of establishing lectures only in places where there are not fewer than 12 candidates. I shall be very glad to give any of your readers any further information should they require it.

Yours &c.,

J. Robson, B.A.,

Durham Road, Leadgate, 31st May, 1886.

HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—In my letter of last week the name de Burgho was printed with an *s*, which is wrong. Amidst the clamour of party strife it is pleasant to notice that Irish wit is not extinct. Some short time ago an Irish gentleman wrote to the Rev Stephen Gladstone, finding fault with the man-worship which takes place at Hawarden Church. A person residing in Paris took offence at this letter, and wrote to say that but for the expense he would journey to Ireland and soundly horsewhip the writer. The Tipperary gentleman, in reply, says that he will pay the travelling expenses of the Parisian, and send his carriage to the station, and furthermore, after the interview, he will send his remains to any place he may direct beforehand. The very mention of Home Rule appears to have lowered the price of all Irish securities. Railways, banks, and other companies have fallen from ten to twenty per cent. All capitalists distrust the morality of the peasantry. The idea now is that if 50 men say a thing is right, and 49 say it is wrong, the majority must be infallible in their judgment. The Irish Unionists, though the real strength of the country are outnumbered; but though fewer in numbers they do not consider themselves over-matched in fighting power. Numbers do not always win the day. Perhaps, Mr Editor, you may not have heard of the result of a combat between one Mr Michael Cudmore, a Limerick solicitor, and the officers of a crack cavalry regiment. The man of law was also a man of war, and he had in some way or other offended the professional warriors. They determined to have some fun with the attorney, and invited him to dinner to meet an English gentleman, who was a disguised prize-fighter. Mr Cudmore having drunk, not wisely but too well, they made up a quarrel between the two. The lawyer threw the prize-fighter through the first-floor window of the dining-room, and then, warming to his work, pitched the officers one by one after him, and remained sole occupant of the festive chamber. If one Protestant Irishman could defeat a dozen cavalry officers and their ally, an English professor of the art of self-defence, how many Parnellites would tame him? Though they have a Biggar to save their bacon! numbers will not always win. People think the Irish should have Home Rule because they were at one time badly used. They are not badly treated now, and Home Rule would only give the Roman Catholics an opportunity to ill-use the Protestants if backed by English bayonets. The old song of widow Machree does not apply in this case:—

> "The rabbits and hares go together in pairs,
> And even the bears in couples agree."

Simply for this reason, that they are not in pairs or equal in numbers, and the minority will be forced to defend their rights with the sword. If all the Protestants were withdrawn from Ireland to-morrow there would not be peace. The labourers would attack the farmers. The American-Irish party would oppose the priest party. The country would become poorer and poorer, and twice as many Irish labourers would come here for employment as come at present. They would cheapen labour in this country more than ever. The way to make Ireland rich and prosperous is for the British Parliament to gather up the reins of government in a firm hand and give security for capital. Then manufactories will spring up in Ireland, and Irishmen will find work in their own land. Boycotting should be put down with a firm hand—an iron hand in a velvet glove. It would be excessively foolish for England to make enemies of the Irish Protestants. They could become much more dangerous than the less persevering Roman Catholics. It was the expatriated Irish Protestants who made the armies of Washington successful in the war of independence. Government had destroyed their industries in Ireland, and they fought with bitter hearts in America. If the Protestants had united with the Roman Catholics England would have lost Ireland long ago. If they took the side of the Fenians now, England could not hold Ireland for one day. The natural leaders of the people in the south and west of Ireland are the landed gentry—a warlike and high-spirited race. The Irish rebels did nothing, because they were so badly officered, because the men who were then natural chiefs were on the side of England, believing that it is good for Ireland to be a part of the great British Empire, on which the sun never sets. The man who desires to see Ireland degraded into a tributary province is no true patriot, but a knave or a fool.—Yours, &c.,

NORMAN-CELT.

CO-OPERATION AT LANGLEY PARK.

On Saturday, this branch of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society held their annual gathering in their long-room at Langley Park. The day being fine, a large number of people took part in the proceedings. The tea arrangements were carried out by the following:—Mr M. Pattison, boiler attendant; Mesdames Crabb, Agar, and Moreland prepared the tea, and Misses Moreland, Wright, Johnson, Agar, Cooper, Shotton, James, Crosemar, Bell, and Lovett presided over the tables; and nearly 600 persons partook of tea. The bread was supplied by the Wholesale Society at Crumpsall, and the teacakes by Mr Martin, Catchgate. After tea, a meeting was held under the presidency of Mr Wm. Logan, Langley Park. Music was supplied by Mr Urwin and his party from Shotley Bridge, at intervals during the evening, and the pieces, as follows, were much enjoyed:—Duet, Misses Seed and Smith; anthem, "Arise, shine;" song and chorus, "Children's voices," Miss Smith and choir; and part-songs, "May-day," and "Hail! smiling morn."

The CHAIRMAN expressed pleasure at being able to preside over such a gathering of the workmen on the anniversary of the society that day, and proceeded to give an encouraging and practical address on co-operation and its advantages. Though he was not a member of a co-operative store, yet he was in all other respects a true co-operator, as he was always willing to help forward all movements which tended to lift-up humanity to one common platform, and enable them to enjoy life in its true sense—to be happy, as intended by the Creator. He also thought it a matter for congratulation that the workmen of Langley Park were so constantly employed during the present depression, and though they might not be earning high wages, yet they had something regular—(applause)—and he hoped times would get better, because it was much more pleasant when there was plenty work for all. (Loud applause.)

Mr W. TELFORD, manager of the Derwent Flour Mill, addressed the meeting in a very homely way. He showed what co-operation had done for the people in the past, what it was doing in the present, and what, he trusted, it would do in the future—how that it made them comfortable and happy. They could be their own shopkeepers in all branches. Of late they had taken a farm of some 150 acres, and they would, to a certain extent, become their own producers; as they could consume their produce, it must be a success. (Applause.) He was sure farming would pay under good management. He had lately met with a gentleman who was paying £4 10s per acre, the land was good and he could make farming pay at that rent, as he did well to the land, and the land was honest and made good return for working it well. Let them take courage, and success will attend the labours of industry. (Applause.)

Mr P. REAY, president of the society, spoke of the advantages of co-operation. The society, though small in its beginning, had struggled bravely through all obstacles that had come in its way, and though they were only young, yet they could pay 3s 9d in the £—(applause)—and by the time they had reached their 21st year they might be able to pay even a larger dividend. He hoped they would have yet further success. (Applause.)

It was unanimously resolved, "That as co-operation had recently lost one of it founders in the late Mr Lloyd Jones, a letter of condolence be sent from this meeting to the widow and family of Mr Lloyd Jones."

The CHAIRMAN thought that if the letter was sent by the president of the society it would carry more weight with it.

This was agreed to, and votes of thanks brought a successful gathering to a close.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

THE MORNING ADVERTISER, of [illegible], says the following: Messrs. COX & CO., 41, Southampton Buildings, Holborn, London, have [illegible] instrumental in obtaining many large sums from the Chancery Paymasters. The prompt and cheap system adopted by Cox & Co. will greatly assist persons to obtain what legally belongs to them [illegible] accumulated hoards in Chancery. It is surprising that the Court of Chancery does not receive many more applications than are already made, and there is no doubt that when the [illegible] with which inquiries may be made, and [illegible], through Messrs. Cox & Co.'s agency, is known, the number of those who secure what only awaits application from the rightful owners will be greatly increased."

ENORMOUS FORTUNES LIE BURIED in the COURT of CHANCERY, amounting to £800,000,000, which really belongs to the people, including all classes of the community, from the peer to the peasant. WE EARNESTLY ENTREAT EVERYONE to send to Messrs. COX & CO., and obtain their list of Christian and Surnames in full of the 50,000 persons to whom all this vast wealth belongs. Price 1s. 6d.—postal order. And if they find their names, or those of any ancestors, they should [illegible]. A fortune may await them.

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

AN EDMONDBYERS ECCENTRICITY.

Within the past few days a familiar figure has disappeared from the haunts of men in the wild district near the sources of the Derwent. Mr Wm. Thompson, of Lamb Shield, was known far and wide through the singular eccentricities of character which during the last half-dozen years he had developed, and his death on Wednesday week at the early age of thirty-eight has excited much regret in the upper part of the lovely vale, whilst at the same time it has brought to the front numberless stories illustrating his solitary and penurious habits, and, it must also be said, his high intelligence and his taste for literary studies.

The story of Mr Thompson's life, as currently circulated in the district, is strange to a degree. About twenty-five years ago, the family of which he was a member came from the neighbourhood of Satley to Lamb Shield, a little upland farm of about sixty acres in extent, situate about two miles to the southward of Edmondbyers. Avoiding reference to family matters, which are of no interest to the public, it may be stated that Mr Thompson, who had inherited an interest in the land from his maternal uncle, was, about seven years ago, still living in the farm-house with his sister, Mrs Jonathan Lawson, and her husband. But, about that time, his habits became very peculiar, and, with the assistance of a local joiner, he commenced to build for himself a hut, in which he might live alone and regulate his doings according to his own ideas. The site chosen was about three hundred yards distant from the little farmstead, and upon the same bleak hillside. From the spot, the recluse could command far-reaching views of the loveliest vale in the North of England, whilst close at hand his eyes might be refreshed by the heathery expanse of Muggleswick Park and Edmondbyers Moor. A more charming retreat for a studious recluse could scarcely have been selected, provided always that the little matters necessary to man's physical well-being had been duly considered. But, in this regard, something was left to be desired. The hut was built of the loose stone of the country, without mortar, and though it was plastered inside, the neighbouring farmers, who now and then visited the dwelling, declared that "the wind swept through it," and that in winter it was "horribly cold." The little cot was lighted by two windows, and it was divided by joists into two rooms, one on the ground floor and one tea-fall garret approached by a step ladder. Originally, the solitary man slept in the upper apartment of his curious dwelling, and the old fashioned wooden bedstead on which he reposed was fastened by bolts through the flooring into the joists which ran across from wall to wall. But ultimately the cold of the winter nights was too much for him, and he made warmer sleeping quarters for himself on the ground floor room, in which he had put up a little fireplace and an equally diminutive oven. In the latter he baked what bread he consumed, but he was much given to the preparation of plain girdle cakes, at the making of which he was said to be an adept. Little was really known as to his mode of living, for he was not a very communicative man, and visitors to his lonely home were few. But, from the pile of empty preserved meat tins lying in the window recess of the lower room, it could be made out that he was not very cruel to himself in one respect, strict as he might be in others. The meat tins were kept in countenance by empty matchboxes, and that the apartment served many purposes was shown by the tools or implements, such as scythes, lying in one place, the heap of coals for his fire occupying another, the shot-gun placed in a third, the provisions elsewhere scattered about, and the large stock of books, which were carefully placed and looked after. In the midst of this miscellaneous collection of things Mr Thompson lived absolutely alone, and "did" for himself. Economical in his habits at all times, he used to boast that he had "never spent a penny on pleasure in his life." His costume plainly indicated this phase of his character, and his indifference to his personal appearance extended to his antiquated umbrella, which on windy days he would tie up with a length of twine. In stormy weather, when it was impossible for him to get on to the land, it was his pleasure to darn and patch his clothes, and his week-day suit was an abiding testimony to his industry and skill in that particular line. A visitor to the "hut" at such times was certain to find him either thus engaged or deeply buried in the perusal of a book. When bantered on his solitary mode of life, and asked why he did not take unto himself a wife, his invariable reply was to the effect that "he had seen enough of women, and wanted none of their company."

Thus for nearly seven years the solitary man pursued the even tenour of his way. He was a thinker, a student, a believer in the existence of "another and a better world," and, despite his parsimonious habits, the dalesmen liked him. He was clear-headed, sharp and decided in speech, and he wielded the pen of a ready writer. Thus in the troubles that have visited the farmers of the district, his counsel and aid were appreciated and valued, and the faith in his ability which everywhere prevailed caused his eccentricities to be cheerfully condoned. But at frequent intervals stories of his economical devices raised a laugh against him, and a feat long remembered was when he was stated to have wheeled in a barrow, with his own hands, a heavy metal oven, all the way from Consett to one of his houses at Castleside, in order to save the cost of cartage. Much cleverer than this was the manner in which he marketed his hay after the recent March storm. It should be mentioned that he kept no live stock worth naming, and that the principal product of the little farm was hay, which the deceased, with certain assistance, cut and stacked season by season. For three years past he had refrained from selling any of the well-cured stock, and his stacks had kept on increasing in number. But when the terrific snowstorm of the 1st and 2nd of March blocked up the roads to the neighbouring towns, the farmers of the neighbourhood who had live stock to feed were almost at their wits' end, as their supplies were in many cases entirely exhausted. This was the opportunity chosen by the economical man to place his hay upon price, and it may be mentioned that his terms were by no means so exorbitant as they might have been. But the farmers of the dale flocked to the little holding for the purpose of securing the much-needed food for their sheep, cattle, and horses, and for days the lonely spot, which was half buried in snow, resembled a fair. The hay was cut from the stacks and dragged down the snowy heights to accessible places where sledges, wains, and carts could receive it. The starving sheep from the adjacent hills scented the sweet bite from afar, and came plunging through the drifts in the track of the descending loads, eager to catch a few mouthfuls. Everybody in the neighbourhood benefited by the transaction, and it was said that when all the stacks were cleared out Mr Thompson found himself a richer man by over £100. Although suffering in health last winter from the intense inclemency of the season, the solitary man set himself the task of studying a modern language, under the guidance of one of the gentlemen connected with Muggleswick Church, the place of worship which he attended; and the circumstance throws some light upon the character of a being who was probably not very well understood by the people with whom he was brought into contact. But his bodily health became worse as the bleak spring progressed, and when visited by a friend on the 2nd May he was plainly very ill. The visitor, who could only find the edge of the bed for a seat, rated him for continuing his solitary mode of life under such circumstances, and advised him to leave the "hut" at once, so that he might obtain proper comforts and attendance. The answer he received from the sick man, who possessed house property both at Castleside and Blackhill, was that "money was bad to get just now," and that his "funds at command were so small that he didn't see how it was to be done." Nevertheless, it had to be "done" at last, as his friends interfered and removed him to comfortable quarters soon after the visit of the gentleman above referred to. "Dr Renton, of Shotley Bridge, attended the deceased, but he was absent on a business round when I called at his house the other day, and so I cannot state the actual cause of death. The people of the neighbourhood say that the unfortunate hermit, who was a man of spare habit of body, suffered from "decline," and if that was the case, the mode of life above sketched out was certainly calculated to put a period to his days.—*Newcastle Chronicle.*

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, May 31st. — Before JON. PRIESTMAN, Esq. (chairman), and GEO. G. TAYLOR SMITH, Esq.

DRUNK.

Robert Lawson, a hawker, who said that he was at present staying at Collierley Dykes, was brought up by P.C. Martin on a charge of having been found lying helplessly intoxicated in Medomsley Road, Consett, late on Saturday night.—Defendant confessed it was quite true what the police said. (Laughter.) He was not in a fit state to go all the way home, and when found he was on his road to a lodging-house. — Not being able to pay the usual penalty, Lawson was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment.

A ROW IN A LODGING-HOUSE.

Daniel Tooney (whose face was all cut and bruised) and *Michael Hanlon* were placed in the dock for being drunk and disorderly.—Sergt. Tate deposed that on Saturday night, he visited (accompanied by P.C. Raine) Matthews's lodging-house at Consett, and learnt that the prisoners and several others had been fighting in the house. Tooney had been forcibly ejected, having got the worst of the encounter.—Each offender was mulcted in 5s and costs; with the option of a week in gaol.

VAGRANCY.

Robert Daniels, a navvy, was brought up for an act of vagrancy. — P.C. Martin spoke to finding the prisoner, at three o'clock that (Monday) morning, sleeping in a cabin at the Consett Iron Works.—Sergt. Tate said that many complaints had been received from the managers, and tramps were prohibited from sleeping in any of the outbuildings at the Works.—Prisoner explained that he came with the intention of starting at the new "cutting" near the Works, and he obtained permission from one of the "gaffers" to sleep in the cabin.—The man was discharged with a caution.

ASSAULTING A WIFE WITH A HATCHET.

William Drake, miner, was summoned by his wife, Caroline Drake, for having brutally assaulted her at Blackhall Mill, on Sunday night, 23rd inst.—Defendant did not appear.—Mrs Drake, who desired to compromise the case, gave her evidence with great reluctance. She told the Magistrates that her husband and herself differed about their neighbours, when the defendant threw a pot of scalding tea over her. He next attacked her with a hatchet, dealing her a heavy blow upon the arm, which dislocated her shoulder. Her shoulder was put out when she applied for the summons a week ago, but it had since been adjusted by Mr Twentyman, an official of the Miners' Union.—The Chairman: Are you afraid of your husband?—Complainant: Yes, sir.—The Bench declined to allow the case to be withdrawn, but issued a warrant for the arrest of the defendant for disobeying of summons.

GAME TRESPASS.

Joseph Ledger, a notorious character, was summoned by P.C. Sanderson for trespassing in search of game on land in the occupation of the Consett Iron Co., near Low Bradley, Leadgate, on the 5th inst. Defendant was "necking" rabbits with a "hang."—Ledger, who did not respond, was fined 20s and costs; or 14 days' hard labour.

A PUBLIC-HOUSE ROW.

Charles Mullen, Robert Cooper, William Doran, and *Henry Donnolly*, four Consett youths, were brought up charged with causing damage to windows and a door, at the Traveller's Rest Inn, Delves Lane, to the amount of 15s.—All the prisoners pleaded guilty.—The landlord (Mr Wm. Thompson) stated that the defendants entered his house on the previous Thursday afternoon, and called for a quart of beer, which they said would be paid for by a party outside. He waited for some time, but as no one came to pay for the liquor, he told them he could not let them have the drink for nothing. The men started to kick up a row, and he had to eject them by force. On getting outside they created a disturbance, kicked in the door, and smashed 22 panes of glass in the house. The men were under the influence of drink.—Mr Smith: Then you supplied drunken men with liquour.—The landlord: They were not so very drunk.—Mullen, who figured in Court with several large pieces of plaster upon his head, said that he was the last to quit the house, and the landlord took the poker from one of his children and felled him over the head with the weapon, inflicting a serious wound. The poker was also hot and burnt his neck.—Complainant denied that he touched Mullen with the poker.—Defendants were fined 10s each and 9s damage and costs; or 14 days' in default.

THEFT OF WOOD AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Kate Grant, a girl of 12 years, was charged with stealing a quantity of firewood belonging the Derwent Flour Mill Co-operative Society.—The Magistrates considered that defendant was so young, the charge should be reduced to doing damage to wood to the extent of 3d.—P.C. Foster attested that on the 16th May, at 6·30 p.m., he noticed the defendant carrying away a bundle of firewood from the premises of the Derwent Flour Mill, and take it to her father's house in Wood Street.—The case was not pressed by Mr W. Telford, the manager.—A fine of 2s 6d, damage 3d, and costs was imposed.

Kate Brannigan, of Shotley Bridge, another girl, was similarly dealt with for being guilty of a like offence.

COAL-LIFTING AT LINTZ COLLIERY.

Mary McCoy, a married woman, hailing from Stanley, was charged with doing damage to coals to the amount of 1s, the property of the Lintz Colliery Company.—A watchman stated that he had seen the defendant filling a wheel-barrow with coals from off the "screens," while her two daughters were carrying coals away in buckets. The woman wheeled the barrow herself, and they carried about 2 cwts. of coal away. Her husband was not employed at the colliery. Defendant had since been caught in the act, and had previously been cautioned by the police.—The defendant denied that she was near the "screens," but was only taking some "brasses."—The Bench fined her 10s and 6s 6d costs, and also warned her as to her future conduct.

EMPLOYERS AND WORKMEN'S ACT.

In the case of Robert Armstrong against *George B. Kell*, quarry-owner, of Castleside, who was summoned at the last court for balance of wages due for working several days at Castleside and Stanhope, defendant now alleged that he had over-paid the plaintiff for his labour at Stanhope; but the Bench pointed out that this place was beyond their jurisdiction, therefore they could not go into the facts. The case resolved itself into the number of days plaintiff was actually employed at Castleside, he alleging that he was working 6½ days, which the defendant avowed he had paid for, at the rate of 3s per day.—Plaintiff declared that the bargain was that he was to have 3s 4d a day.—After hearing the evidence, the court made an order for the payment of 19s 6d, being 6½ days' wages at the rate of 3s per diem.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY: DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT IN COURT.

Annie Temple, a married woman well-known in the neighbourhood of Dipton, was charged with assaulting a girl, named Sarah Jane Herron, aged 15 years, at Dipton, on the 13th May. She was further charged with doing damage to certain articles, of the value of 4s 6d, the property of George Herron, miner.—Mr Welford (Consett) appeared in defence.—It transpired, from the evidence of Sarah Jane and Annie Herron, and their father, that between five and six o'clock on the evening named, defendant entered their house and accused Sarah Jane Herron of being in bed with her husband. Temple often came in to have his pipe with Herron. Defendant, after abusing the complainant, took hold of a rolling-pin, and hit her four or five times upon the back and head; and she afterwards swept a number of ornaments off the mantlepiece with a broom, besides breaking a glass jug.—Defendant declared that Herron was not worth 4s 6d. (Laughter.) She had helped to keep him for the past few months. He was a blackguard, and his daughter was——. —The Chairman: No, no. We cannot have that. You must be quiet.—Defendant: It is true what I am saying.—Mr Smith: I wish you would make your client keep quiet, Mr Welford. She is an insolent woman.—Mr Welford: If she does not be silent, I'll sit down.—In answer to Mr Welford, complainant denied that she went to the door, and called Mrs Temple names. The woman had been kind to her father. Temple and her father sometimes took glasses of whiskey together.—P.C. Murphy, who was sent for, described the disordered state of Herron's house after the defendant had broken the ornaments.—Mr Welford: Was there any furniture in the house at all?—Officer: Yes, there was a chair, a form, and a table. There were some pieces of broken pottery strewed upon the floor.—For the defence, another girl named Ellen Morris, aged 12, denied that Mrs Temple smashed anything in Herron's house, as there was nothing to demolish.—During the progress of the case, defendant gave vent to sundry ejaculations, distorted her face and made amusing grievances, and occasionally burst into fits of uncontrollable laughter. Her behaviour was so extraordinary that she was frequently reprimanded by the Bench.—For each offence defendant was fined 2s 6d and ordered to pay the damage and costs—in all, £1 2s.—Defendant: I did not break the things, sir.—Mr Welford: You deserve all you got.

OBSTRUCTING THE FOOTPATH.

Catherine Clark, a young woman of 16 years, was summoned for obstructing the footpath in Derwent Street, Blackhill.—P.C. Philipson deposed that on Sunday night, 16th May, he observed the defendant, along with other girls and a number of young men, congregated upon the footpath, at a place known as Oxley's Corner. The footway was narrow, and the street was thronged at the time, and about a dozen people who were leaving places of worship had to step off the footpath. They also jeered and scoffed at passers-by, and refused to go away until asked several times by the police.—Defendant's mother appeared, and the Magistrates decided that, as this was the first offence of the kind, to dismiss the defendant, and requested Mrs Clark to warn her daughter, and to remind her that future offences of this description would be punished.

SECOND COURT.

Before JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq. (in the chair), and Lieut.-Col. A. B. WILBRAHAM.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

Henry Chambers was charged by Sergeant Thornton with being drunk and disorderly at Dipton, on May 22nd, between eleven and twelve p.m.—As defendant did not appear, he was fined 10s and costs.

James and *John Riley* (brothers) who were summoned under the names of "James Stewart" and "John Cooper," miners, also failed to respond to charges of having been drunk and creating a disturbance at Burnopfield, on the 21st May.—P.C. Rogerson proved the cases, and the defendants were mulcted in penalties of 10s each and expenses.

Samuel Turley, John Graham, and *John Lookey*, all of Dipton, were summoned by P.C. Murphy for drunkenness at that place on May 15th, and were each ordered to pay fines of 5s and costs.

Joseph McWilliams and *Nicholas Athey*, both of Tantobie, for having been drunk and guilty of disorderly conduct at South Medomsley, on May 23rd, were also fined in similar amounts.—P.C. Lindsay stated the facts.

The same officer also accused *Thomas Walton* of committing a like offence at South Medomsley on the 15th inst., and he was fined in 5s and costs.

Upon the evidence of P.C. Bain, the following defendants were fined 5s each for drunkenness at Tantobie and White-le-Head:—*John Armstrong*, on the 8th May; *Anthony Gladders*, on the 23rd; and *James Gafney*, on the 22nd.

Mary Ellensworth, of Hanging Stones, an old offender, was charged by P.C. Newton with being drunk and disorderly at Rodwell Hills, on May 23rd, and was let off with a fine of 2s 6d and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

Nicholas Boyle and *John Hagan* were summoned by P.C. Lawson for being drunk and refusing to leave the North-Eastern Hotel, Blackhill, on the night of May 10th.—Defendants were ordered to pay 5s fine and expenses.

A "PRIZE FIGHT" AT TEMPLETOWN!

Two Consett men, named *George Batey* and *James Dryden*, were charged with committing a breach of the peace.—The statement of Sergt. Tate was to the effect that on the 15th May, the defendants made a small wager in a public-house in Front Street, Consett, and adjourned to a plot of ground near to the railway cabin on the Templetown Road. The officer found the combatants stripped to the waist, and engaged in a fierce pugilistic encounter, being "backed" by their "seconds." There was a large crowd standing about, and some "scientific boxing" was displayed.—Defendants were bound over in the sum of £5 a-piece for their good conduct for the next three months, and ordered to defray the court fees—8s 6d each.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Ann Thompson, of Medomsley, and *John Robson*, of Leadgate, were summoned at the instance of Mr W. Ward, acting for the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee, for breach of the Elementary Education Act.—The case against Mrs Thompson was withdrawn, while the other defendant was fined 5s, inclusive of costs.

ASSAULTING A "BLACKLEG."

John Breckons, pitman, Catchgate, was charged with having assaulted James McCue, a miner employed at South Medomsley Colliery, on the 9th May. Mr Welford (Consett) prosecuted; while the defence was conducted by Mr J. T. Proud (Bishop Auckland).—The case had been adjourned from the previous court.—Complainant testified that about 7·30 on Sunday night, he was in Mr M. Handy's public-house, Catchgate, when defendant and several other men entered. Breckons stood with his back to the fire, and said to him as well as to others, "You are a dirty lot of rotten blackleg b——s." Complainant made no rejoinder, and the defendant again asserted that he would "fight any b—— blackleg amongst them." Defendant afterwards came and struck at him behind the shoulder, and they commenced to struggle upon the floor, Breckons kicking his antagonist on the side and neck whilst down on the ground. Complainant was ejected by the landlord because he was a "blackleg." He was proceeding home, when the defendant followed and again struck at him, and the crowd began shout, "Kick the b—— blackleg."—Cross-examined by Mr Proud: The landlord put out seven other "blacklegs" from Dipton. He was not fighting, and had no rounds with the defendant, nor did he strike him. Bell and Whalley were in the house at the time.—Michael Smith, Thomas Carr, James Conway, and William Mullen corroborated the complainant's story. Mullen was the first to go to McCue's assistance, and stopped Breckons from kicking him.—For the defence, Mr Proud called John Bell, miner, Annfield Plain, who stated that when Breckons came in, he merely asked complainant how he was, and he replied "No better for you asking." Breckons then stepped up to complainant, when the latter struck at him. They had had a meeting. He saw the "blacklegs" go out. McCue went 50 yards along the road, and came back and declared "there was not a b—— could fight him."—By Mr Welford: They fought three rounds. He did not see the landlord touch Breckons.—Wm. Whalley also deposed to McCue hitting Breckons below the right eye, which became swollen. They both fell down, and the landlord put them out. They were fighting five minutes outside, when Breckons gave over.—Wm. Middlemiss observed the landlord put both the men out of the house. He "shoved" them out. They had hold of each other. In the open air, they had a "set-out" battle, until some one shouted, "The police are coming," and the crowd ran away.—The magistrates, after a short private consultation, fined the defendant 2s 6d and costs, amounting to £1 15s 6d.

GATESHEAD COUNTY POLICE.

TUESDAY, June 1st.—Before Alderman NEWALL, (chairman), W. W. PATTINSON, Esq., and R. FORSTER, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Thomas Bushly, of Crawcrook, was charged by P.C. Farrar with having being drunk and disorderly on the 22nd May.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

Leonard Dowson, of Emma Villa, was charged by P.C. Farrar for being drunk and disorderly at Crawcrook, on the 22nd May, was mulcted in a penalty of 2s 6d and costs.

Joseph Graham, of the Folly, was charged with being drunk and disorderly at Crawcrook, on the 22nd May.—P.C. Farrar proved the case.—Defendant was fined 1s and costs.

James Molloy, of Woodside, was summoned by P.C. Farrar for having being drunk and disorderly at Crawcrook, on the 22nd May.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

John Moulding, hawker, of Greenside, was charged with having being drunk and disorderly at Greenside, on the 22nd May.—P.C. Farrar stated that he was called into the Black Horse Inn, where the defendant was making a disturbance, to put him out, when he caused an uproar outside.—Defendant was fined 2s 6d and costs.

Robert Stark, of Ryton, and *Matthew Best*, of Winlaton, who have numerous convictions standing against them, and both failed to appear, were charged by P.C. Reynolds with having being drunk and disorderly at Ryton, on the 22nd May.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.

John Connolly, of The Spen, and *James Whitfield*, of Victoria Garesfield, were charged with having being drunk and disorderly at Ryton, on the 22nd May.—P.C. Reynolds proved the charge.—Defendants were fined 2s 6d each and costs.

Luke Bell, of Greenside, was charged with being drunk and riotous at Ryton, on May 22nd.—Fined 1s and costs.

George Hunter, of Emma Villa (whose mother appeared) was charged with being drunk and causing a disturbance at Ryton, on May 22nd.—Fined 2s 6d and costs.—P.C. Reynolds stated the case.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Thomas Tiplady, Joseph Armstrong, and *John Snowdon*, of Greenside, was charged with playing at pitch and toss at Greenside, on May 15th.—Fined 1s each and costs.—P.C. Farrar proved the case.

Cricket.

FIXTURES.

June 5.—Consett 2nd v. Medomsley 2nd, at Medomsley.
" 5.—Consett Juniors C. C. v. St. Ives, at Leadgate.
" 5.—Consett v. Newcastle City, at Consett.
" 5.—Medomsley v West Denton, at West Denton
" 5.—Tanfield v. Felling, at Felling.
" 5.—Marley Hill v. Whickham, at Marley Hill.
" 5.—Cornsay v. Ushaw Moor, at Cornsay.
" 5.—Crook v. North Bitchburn, at Bitchburn.
" 5.—Corbridge v. Haydon Bridge, at Corbridge.
" 5.—Crook 2nd v. Sunnybrow, at Crook.
" 5.—Burnopfield v. Blaydon, at Blaydon.
" 5.—Ouston v. New Errington, at Ouston.
" 5.—Walker v. Dunston, at Dunston.

NEWBROUGH v. CORBRIDGE.—Played at Corbridge on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. Score:—Newbrough, 78; Corbridge, [illegible].

TYNE DOCK v. DUNSTON.—Played at Dunston on Saturday, victory resting with the home team, the bowling of W. Watts (five wickets for seven runs) being very creditable. Score:—Tyne Dock, 48; Dunston (for four wickets only), 56.

MOUNT PLEASANT v. OUSTON B TEAM.—Played on Saturday at Mount Pleasant, and resulted in a win for the Ouston B team by 7 runs. Score:—Mount Pleasant, 35; Ouston B team, 42.

WHICKHAM v. BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS.—Played at Whickham on Saturday afternoon, and resulted in a win for the home team by 4 runs after an exciting finish. The bowling on both sides was excellent. Score:—South Shields, 30; Whickham, 34.

GREENSIDE v. PRUDHOE HALL.—Played on the ground of the latter on Saturday, when the Prudhoe proved victorious by 15 runs. For the home team W. Barnes, a very young player, batted in good form, compiling 20. A. Benson bowled well. Score:—Prudhoe, 49; Greenside, 34.

CROOK v. WEST HARTLEPOOL CLARENCE.—Played at Crook on Saturday, and resulted in a draw in favour of Crook. For the home team, C. Turnbull, L. Dowson, and S. Carr played good cricket for their respective scores, and W. Harding, who is a fast left-hand bowler, bowled well. He sent up six overs, five maidens, and took three wickets for one run. H. Wilson batted well for the visitors. Score:—Crook, 93; West Hartlepool (for five wickets), 9.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 2ND v. LANGLEY PARK.

Played at Consett on Saturday, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team by 32 runs, chiefly owing to the excellent batting of Messrs Jacob Siddell, Thomas H. Kirkup, and Ridley Heymer. Score:—

CONSETT.		LANGLEY PARK.	
J. Siddell c Smith b Clark	28	M. Moss c Askew b Kirkup	6
R. Heymer b M. Moss	14	J. Clark c T. Gibson b Askew	7
T. Gibson b M. Moss	5	H. Fairclough b Kirkp	0
J. Askew b M. Moss	0	R. Angus b R. Heymr	7
T. Kirkup b Clark	16	— Lee b Kirkup	11
M. Gibson b Clark	6	F. Moss c Russell b Kirkup	0
F. Heymer hit wkt b Clark	0	G. Moss run out	6
W. Gibson b M. Moss	0	J. Lowes c Willey b Kirkup	6
A. Russell not out	6	E. Fairclough b R. Heymer	1
J. G. Willey run out	1	J. Smith not out	0
T. Jackson st Lee b Clark	4	G. Ridley c Siddell b R. Heymer	2
Extras	6	Extras	8
Total	86	Total	54

CONSETT JUNIORS v. CADETS OF TEMPERANCE, BLACKHILL.

The return match between these clubs was played on Saturday, on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by 10 runs. Score:—

JUNIORS.		CADETS.	
T. Longworth b Kempster	0	W. Richardson b Stanton	4
T. Charlton run out	3	A. Turnbull b Stanton	0
T. Williams c Sayers b Kempster	4	J. Sayers c Robson b Stanton	0
H. Stanton b Kempsrr	8	R. Watson b Surtees	0
J. Milburn b Watson	1	J. Robson b Surtees	1
J. Smith b Watson	0	J. T. Little c Robson b Stanton	1
W. H. Surtees b Kempster	0	J. Brown run out	1
W. Brown c Richardson b Watson	0	G. Hewitson run out	2
E. Robson c Robson b Kempster	3	R. Stobbs b Stanton	3
T. Perry b Kempster	3	J. M. Williams b Stanton	2
C. Harrison not out	0	A. Kempster not out	1
Extras	9	Extras	6
Total	31	Total	21

BURNOPFIELD v. MEDOMSLEY.

Played at Medomsley on Saturday. The visitors were the first to bat; but owing to the splendid bowling of Messrs Murphy and Milburn the innings closed for the small total of 23. The first-named bowler took six wickets for 9 runs. The home team, in going in to bat, lost the two first wickets without adding very much to the score, but on Messrs T. Murphy and A. Little getting together a determined stand was made, and before being separated changed the aspect of the game. G. Milburn and G. Walton also played well for their respective scores, the latter showing good cricket for his 13 not out. Lamb bowled in rare form for the losers. Score:—

BURNOPFIELD.		MEDOMSLEY.	
T. Southern b J. Murphy	1	J. Murphy b Lamb	1
R. Dent st Walton b J. Muryhy	7	M. T. Milburn b Hogarth	1
W. Hogarth c T. Murphy b Milburn	5	T. D. Dales b Lamb	8
G. Cooper b J Murphy	1	T. Murphy b Finlay	16
R. Armstrong hit wkt b J. Murphy	2	F. B. Robinson b Lmb	0
G. Purdy b J Murphy	0	A. Little b Hogarth	14
H. C. Wood b Milbrn	2	G. E. Milburn b Lamb	13
G. Lamb b J. Murphy	0	W. E. Charlton b Hogarth	0
G. Finlay c Dales b Milburn	0	G. Walton not out	13
W. Charlton b Milburn	0	J. Snowdon c and b Hogarth	4
T. Johnson not out	0	R. Campbell b Southern	1
Extras	5	Extras	12
Total	23	Total	83

DIPTON S.S. v. CATCHGATE.

Played on Saturday, on the ground of the former, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team. Score:—

DIPTON.	
Murray c Gardiner b A. Batey	8
Beck b Batey	0
Turnbull b Batey	9
Maude c Batey b Davison	34
Chapman b Batey	8
Turpin b Batey	11
Prevell b Davison	0
Shannon not out	11
Thompson b Batey	0
Darling b Batey	3
Morpeth b Brown	0
Extras	10
Total	94

CATCHGATE.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Richley b Beck	2	b Maude	2
Burton c Turpin b Beck	0	run out	2
Gardiner b Maude	2	b Beck	1
Batey st Murray b Beck	0	run out	1
Wood run out	0	not out	7
A. Batey b Maude	2	b Maude	2
Roberts b Maude	2	b Beck	0
Davison b Beck	3	c Beck b Maude	3
W. Brown not out	8	b Beck	1
Williams c & b Maude	0	b Beck	0
J. Brown b Beck	0	b Beck	6
Extras	2	Extras	1
Total	21	Total	26

HAMSTERLEY v. WEST STANLEY.

Played at Blackhall Mill on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the latter by one run only. Score:—

WEST STANLEY.		HAMSTERLEY.	
P. Harkness c Richrdson b Wood	2	F. Richardson b Mann	11
R. Knox b Wood	11	M. Goodwin st Gibson	0
J. G. Mann l b w b Richardson	4	G. Greener b Dixon	19
R. Gibson b Richardson	11	J. Holden b Waugh	24
E. Hughes c Greener b Richardson	2	J. Wood b Mann	8
J. Waugh b Wood	0	J. Brown not out	3
E. Dunweedie b Richardson	5	R. Chaytor b P. Harkness	1
I. Harkness b Walton	1	J. Ward c Mann	0
J. Dixon not out	12	W. Walton b P. Harkness	0
E. Jackson b Richardson	11	W. Wood st Gibson	2
J. Shaw st Greener	4	W. Cousins b Harkns	0
Extras	8	Extras	7
Total	71	Total	70

CRAGHEAD v. TANFIELD.

Played at Tanfield on Saturday, the visitors winning easily. Mr Gair bowled in fine form, taking six wickets in 13 overs at a cost of 13 runs only, doing the "hat trick" in the ninth over. Score:—

TANFIELD.		CRAGHEAD.	
E. Reay c Hunter	0	H. Young run out	12
W. T. Brown b Gair	1	J. Hunter b E. Bowes	9
Rev C. H. Newman b Gair	0	C. Cummins c Newmn	8
J. Laidler c Maughan	1	W. Dyson b Laidler	9
T. Jewitt c Wardle	2	T. Brown b Laidler	5
F. Thompson b Gair	1	J. Gair c Brown	9
J. Bowes b Gair	8	R. Young c Reay	4
G. Jones b Gair	0	P. Stephenson b Robsn	0
E. Bowes b Gair	0	W. Maughan b Robson	3
J. Robson c Gair	12	J. Stephenson b Jewitt	2
R. Holmes not out	10	G. A. Wright not out	1
		E. Wardle absent	
Extras	6	Extras	0
Total	41	Total	85

NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

MR. ATHERLEY-JONES, M.P., ON HOME RULE.

In the House of Commons, on Friday night, Mr Atherley-Jones said he had followed the debate on Home Rule with some attention, and he had come to the conclusion that probably no bill was ever exposed to such varied and merciless criticism. It was impossible even for an advanced Liberal to deny that he viewed some points of the measure with very mixed feelings. But the bill must be regarded in its general scope, and so regarded it must be admitted to fulfil the aspirations of the Liberal party, and looking to the bitter experience of eight centuries they were convinced that this measure was the only one which would satisfy the aspirations and desires of the Irish people. Had the bill been fairly dealt with? They had heard speeches in which every possible calamity, vice, and folly had been attributed to those who would, under this bill, be responsible for self-government in Ireland. If the people of Ireland indeed were lunatics or criminals, the acts which it was said they were likely to commit in the future could not be more absurd or wicked than those which the right hon. member for the Border Burghs predicted that they were likely to commit. (Hear.) He should like to deal briefly with the principal arguments against the measure. The first serious argument against the bill was that raised by the noble lord, the member for the Rossendale division, who urged that the House should not pass the bill because it had not received a popular mandate to deal with the subject. The doctrine thus propounded by the noble lord was, however, absolutely unconstitutional, and had been denounced as such, and as likely to lead to the greatest dangers by no less an authority than Mr William Pitt. In what cases had this alleged popular mandate ever been applied? Take the cases granting representation to the Principality of Wales, or to the counties palatine of England, take the union with Scotland and Ireland, or the settlement of the succession to the Throne. In all these cases there was nothing like a popular mandate. The first Minister would, therefore, be acting strictly in accordance with constitutional precedent if he had introduced this bill into a Parliament which had not received any popular mandate to deal with the question. But had not the constituencies given their mandate? It had been said the Prime Minister sprung the question with the country, but in the course of the Midlothian contest he stated in effect that now, for the first time in the history of England, was it open to the people of Ireland by constitutional means to declare what their will was as to the future government of Ireland; and the right hon. gentleman then stated that it would be competent for the English people to be guided by the decision of the Irish people. There was not a single member through the length and breadth of Great Britain who, either in his election address or in his speeches during the contest, did not refer to the question of Home Rule for Ireland as one of the most momentuous questions that could engage the attention of the country. (Hear.) In his own constituency—if he might be permitted to refer to that—the matter was laid expressly before the electorate, and his views expressed in favour of Home Rule received from them a clear response and approval. (Hear.) He passed on to consider the second material objection to the bill. The first form the objection took was that the measure menaced the integrity of the Empire. That argument had been abandoned, and it was now said that the bill amounted to a repeal of the union. The speech which Lord Clare made in 1802 had been much criticised, and it had been quoted very largely against the Liberal party and against the Prime Minister. Speaking of what was called the unity of the two kingdoms, Lord Clare enumerated a certain number of matters which go to constitute legislative independence. He said that all legislative authority in either country was denied to the other not only in municipal regulations, but in every branch of Imperial policy, whether of trade and navigation, of peace and war, or revenue, or of Executive Government. The points Lord Clare mentioned to prove that Ireland was separate from England were precisely the points which the Prime Minister had in this bill reserved for the exclusive control of the Imperial Parliament. He (Mr Jones), therefore, submitted to the House that the repeal of the Union had gone to the same limbo as the original accusation about the integrity of the Empire. The last foothold of the opponents of the bill was that the present proposals would impair the supremacy of Parliament. He did not hesitate to say that the arguments addressed to the House by Sir Henry James and Mr Finlay upon this point were absolutely fallacious. (Home Rule cheers.) He insisted upon the first fundamental proposition that unless they absolutely took away or abdicated the whole sovereignty of Queen, Lords, and Commons, they could not destroy the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament. It was laid down in the most elementary constitutional works that Parliament was absolutely unable to divest itself of its supremacy. When his observations in respect to the supremacy of Parliament were challenged by the Chancellor of the Exchequer the right hon. and learned gentleman, the member for Bury, said, "I won't purusue the subject any further;" and the hon. member for the Inverness Burghs, when challenged, remarked, "Well, I don't care to argue it any further." He (Mr Jones) was, as a lawyer, used to those phrases, which meant nothing more than that the point was absolutely untenable. (Hear.) Mr Dicey, in his work upon the English Constitution, precisely bore out his (Mr Jones's) contention. The supremacy of the Imperial Parliament could not be parted with unless by the surrender of the whole sovereignity of Parliament. Mr Dicey, in page 103 of his book said, "When English statesmen gave Parliamentary government to the Colonies, they, almost as a matter of course, bestowed upon the Colonies legislative authority to deal with every law, whether constitutional or not, which affected the Colonies, subject, of course, to the proviso, rather implied than expressed, that this power should not be used in a way inconsistent with the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament." It was quite clear that the supremacy of Parliament was something which was inherent in Parliament and could not be parted with. Mr Dicey also spoke of the right of veto. That right was reserved in the bill of the Prime Minister. He (Mr Jones) was not so foolish as to suppose that they did not intend practically to give to the people of Ireland exclusive control over their own affairs; but although they so intended to do they did so from moral considerations founded on the principles of good faith. (Hear.) They gave this power to the Irish people, believing that they would use it to the advantage of their race, and they did so in the conviction that if, unhappily, circumstances should arise hereafter that might render it unnecessary for the Imperial Parliament to intervene, in no wise should it be deprived of the full exercise of its power. Before concluding, he desired to say a few words with regard to the position in which he and his friends stood. There could be no doubt whatever that those who sat on the Ministerial side of the House, with a few exceptions, were agreed upon the point that autonomy should be conceded to Ireland. That being so, he asked what were the alternative schemes? What were the proposals which were made by hon. gentlemen who sat on the opposite benches, and by the noble Lord the member for Rossendale, and the right hon. gentlemen the members for West Birmingham and the Border Burghs? All these hon. gentlemen had tried their hands at what the scheme should be, but they had all failed most grievously. He was satisfied in his own mind that there was not a gentleman in the House who did not believe that the measures suggested by the noble marquis and the right hon. gentleman the member for West Birmingham were totally inadequate to meet the requirements of the Irish people, or in any way to bring the Irish question to a close. (Hear.) He, as an advanced Liberal, had always regarded Mr Chamberlain with feelings of regard and respect; but there were times when such feelings received a rude shock. His feelings towards the right hon. gentleman had upon this occasion received a rude shock. (Home Rule cheers.) The right hon. gentleman, who would reap the full harvest of democracy in England, would deny the first germ of it to Ireland. (Hear.) The people of England would consider this fact. They asked themselves why it was they now found the right hon. gentleman deserting, and even reprobating, the Prime Minister? He feared the answer in this case was that the democracy knew no limits beyond the limits of the human race. Mr Chamberlain condemned the policy and scheme of the Prime Minister, and said he felt it his duty as an ex-Cabinet Minister to unfold his scheme. The right hon. gentleman said he objected to the scheme because it was tantamount to the repeal of the union, but the very next day stated his readiness to go in for federation. One single elector of Birmingham was found sufficiently bold to ask the right hon. gentleman what he meant by federation, and what did the right hon. gentleman say in reply? Why, that the system which obtained in the United States of America was the system which most commended itself to him. Now he (Mr Jones) was of opinion that the amount of power which was vested in each individual State of America was far larger than that which was proposed to be granted to the people of Ireland by this bill. Besides he reminded the right hon. gentleman that if they had federation they must have something to federate. For his part he felt that he should be acting in accordance with the sentiments of the people who had elected him when he said that he was in favour of the bill, and he should vote for it in that belief in his heart, that it would satisfy the just aspirations of the Irish people and conciliate that country to England, so that she would still remain an integral part of the British Empire. (Cheers.)

FORMATION OF A PRIMROSE LEAGUE AT EBCHESTER.

A public meeting was held last Friday night in the school-room, Ebchester, to formally open the Ebchester and Medomsley Habitation of the Primrose League. Col. Wilbraham presided, and amongst those present were: Mrs Wilbraham, Mr and Mrs John Booth, Shotley Bridge; Mr and Mrs C D. W. Balleny, Ebchester; Rev J. W. and the Misses Mitchell, Leadgate; Rev H. N., Mrs, and the Misses Linthwaite, Ebchester; Mr G C. Barker, Derwent Cote; Mr W. Shell (ruling councillor, Consett Habitation); Mr W. J. Shell, jun., (hon. sec., Consett Habitation); Mr John Allison, Hamsterly Mill; Mr John and the Misses Smith, Medomsley; Mr S. Scott, Medomsley; Mr John Ballantyne, Medomsley; Mr Thomas Trotter, Ebchester; Mr J. W. Walton-Wilson, J.P., Shotley Hall; and a goodly gathering of other residents of the district.

The Chairman, who was received with loud applause, said they were gathered together for the purpose of inaugurating and opening the Ebchester and Medomsley Habitation of the Primrose League; and after he had said a few words they would have the pleasure of being addressed by a lady on the subject. (Applause.) It was a great pleasure to him to find ladies taking the interest they did in the matters of the Primrose League. (Applause.) The League was filling up a great gap, and tending to the preservation of the integrity of the Empire, the cause of religion, and the Constitution of our kingdom. (Applause.) On the 18th of May there were 35,000 knights, 26,000 dames, and 230,000 associates, or an increase of 50,000 since the 19th April. (Applause.) Besides that there were in Scotland 8,653 members with 70 habitations. Between two Saturdays recently 15,000 had joined and members were joining at the rate of 2,500 a day. (Applause.) That showed the enormous progress that was being made in the movement. One reason for the great success of the Primrose League was that it was not a party movement. (Hear.) It was open to all who agreed with its three principles, and to his mind a Liberal could fall in with those principles as much as a Conservative. (Applause.) But the success was largely due to the interest the ladies had taken in it. The Primrose looked upon Christianity as religion—it embraced all denominations of Christianity. (Hear.) Turning to the great question of the hour, he asked what the Home Rule measures were brought in for? For the benefit of the Irish nation? He thought that was not so. For the benefit of the English nation? No, that could not be. Was it for the benefit of the empire at large? He believed it was brought in for the sole object of keeping Mr Gladstone at the head of affairs, or rather of putting Mr Gladstone at the head of affairs by winning the Nationalist vote. Mr Gladstone was bound to carry on the Home Rule Bill in order to retain that Nationalist vote. It was a bill utterly unworkable, and it certainly was a bill which nobody had been able to explain. (Hear.) Argument after argument had been advanced against it in the House of Commons and elsewhere, and not Mr Gladstone, Mr Morley, or Sir Wm. Harcourt, or anybody else had ever been able to answer the objections raised. Mr Gladstone wished to get the Nationalist vote by promising them that they should be free from control, and in order to retain the English Radical vote he promised them that we should still have our hand on Ireland. Separation and dismemberment were an unmixed evil, against which, amongst other evils, the Primrose League was organised to fight. (Applause.) He trusted that the Primrose League, and that Habitation would meet with every success, and he called upon Mrs Balleny to formally open their Habitation. (Loud applause.)

Mrs Balleny, who was favourably received, said: Let me in the first place thank you for your attendance here to-night. It is a strong proof of the interest you take in the welfare of your country. I assure you I am very glad to meet you, and to have the pleasure and privilige of declaring open this Habitation of the Primrose League. It is always gratifying to find oneself associated with friends and neighbours in promoting Constitutional principles. At this momentuous period of our national history we are led to approach political questions on lines far removed from party differences. The revolutionary schemes now before the country, involving as they do the disintegration of the British Empire, and threatening moreover the most cherished and vital interests of our fellow-subjects, render it imperative upon us, as Christian men and women, to unite together to maintain and defend the Constitution of the country. I thank you for the kind reception you have given me, and I now declare the Habitation open. (Applause.)

The election of the officers of the newly-formed Habitation was then proceeded with. Mr C. D. W. Balleny was elected Ruling Councillor, Mr G. C. Barker treasurer, Mr Jno. Booth legal adviser, and Mr Thomas Trotter hon. secretary.

On the motion of Mr Walton-Wilson, seconded by the Chairman, a vote of thanks was given to Mrs Balleny for her work in connection with the Habitation, and a similar compliment to the chairman and Mrs Wilbraham for their presence terminated the proceedings.

STORMY MEETING AT CASTLESIDE.

One of the liveliest and most exciting political gatherings ever held in this district took place in the Board Schools, at Castleside, on Friday evening, under the auspices of the Polling District Conservative Association. Mr W. J. Scott, Rowley, presided over a pretty large audience, being supported by Messrs J. Lyons (from the Central Conservative Offices, London), John Sherlock (Gold's Hill), Jos. Leybourne, J. Carruthers, and W. Thompson (Castleside), and S. D. Cooper (agent to the North West Durham Conservative Association).

The Chairman observed that the last meeting had accomplished some good in the village. He thought the House of Commons was at present in a muddle; nothing was being done. Mr Gladstone was desirous of carrying his Home Rule Bill, notwithstanding that many of his supporters had left him, and the people of the country had not confidence in him (laughter). Mr Gladstone, instead of withdrawing his scheme, threatened his timid followers with a dissolution of Parliament, in case his measures were rejected. He (the chairman) thought it a great pity that members of Parliament—especially the labour candidates in their county—should be put to the trouble and expense of another election. The speaker believed Mr Gladstone was in his dotage, and compared him to a molehill which looked very nice at the surface, but was all undermined. (Applause).

Mr Lyons then delivered an address on "Politics for the people." He said that the question of Home Rule was an important one, but it was not for them or for him to be led here, there, or anywhere at the direction of any statesman or political party. At the last general election, Home Rule played no part at all in that struggle in comparison to another great question—that of trade and commercial depression. The main object they had to keep in view was to adopt measures by which the government of the country was to be cheap and secure, by which capital and labour should go hand-in-hand with prosperity, and by which labour should reap the advantage of the capital which it helps to make. (Cheers.) These chimerical theories such as free trade, free education, cheap land, &c., were not practical questions. The present stagnation in trade was of far greater importance to the working classes than the granting of a separate Parliament to Ireland; for if Home Rule was passed, what advantage would it be to the masses of the people, a great many of whom were seeking employment? (Cheers.) The Conservative party had proposed a remedy for the present commercial depression, by which it was hoped to benefit the wage-earners. (Cheers.) Conservatism was a living force, and recognised national interest and character. It deserved the confidence of the majority of men who disapproved of revolutionary schemes, falsely dubbed "Reform;" and preferred that things should progress and steadily prosper. The speaker next dealt with the extension of the franchise, according the Liberals the credit of passing the last Reform Act, but said that Lord Beaconsfield set them an example by granting the franchise to the boroughs in 1867. He also reviewed the various beneficial measures passed by the Salisbury Government during its few months of office—viz., the formation of a Royal Commission for enquiring into the present depression in trade; the Housing of the Poor Bill; and the annexation of Burmah, which will open out a magnificent emporium for the productions of this country; in addition to other useful Acts. At the last general election, the Radicals raised a number of "cock-and-bull" stories about the Conservatives, and made rather too much of the alleged "Tory-Parnellite alliance." (Laughter.) Lord Salisbury, in his Newport speech, anticipated even Mr Gladstone's Midlothian manifesto, the noble Marquis offering to carry almost the same measures as Mr Gladstone, and advocated a comprehensive scheme of County Government. Well, Parliament was elected, and Lord Salisbury was still in office. The Grand Old Parliamentary Hand was eager to be in power, accordingly Mr Collings makes his proposition for giving "three-acres-and-a-cow" to the labourers. (Laughter.) Lord Salisbury's Government were thrown out of office by a majority of 79 votes. (Voice: "And they'll never get in again"—cheers and laughter.) His friend's wish was father to the thought—but probably at the next general election he might be grievously disappointed. (Cheers.) Taking the vote of England, the division showed that Lord Salisbury had to remain in office by a majority of 39 votes, in spite of the "three-acres-and-a-cow" bribe. (Laughter.) It was the Parnellite vote that overthrew the Conservative Government. In order to obtain the support of the Nationalist party, they now found Gladstone in league with the people he so hotly denounced at the last election, when the "Tory-Parnellite" cry was raised. The action of the present Liberal Government had given a deadly blow at political honesty in this country. He then contrasted the attitude of Lord Hartington, Mr Chamberlain, and several leading Liberals, with the inconsistency of Mr Gladstone, Sir W. Harcourt, and other members of the present Government, in regard to the Irish question. He pointed out that Mr Gladstone had said a great many things about Ireland. It was a sort of floating nonentity in his head, which did not form itself into an idea until Mr Parnell was returned with 86 followers behind him, when Mr Gladstone's views became as it were chrystallized. (Laughter.) Mr Gladstone was now negociating with men whom he had described as being ready to "march through rapine and bloodshed for the disintegration of the empire," and had sold his birth-right for a mess of pottage. The country was retrogressing to the times of the one-man dictatorship. (Voice: "Oliver Cromwell was a grand man." Cheers and laughter.) Well, Mr Gladstone recently described Cromwell as a "military tyrant." (Cheers.) Mr Lyons urged upon the electors to weigh this question carefully in their own minds before recording their votes at the next election, and not be led astray by party agitators to uphold Mr Gladstone in his old age. He besought them to remove all party names and shibboleths; let them look at things impartially and fairly, and vote the right way. Commenting upon the fact that many Liberal members were sent to the House of Commons to vote for Mr Gladstone upon every question, the lecturer enquired if they sent members to vote as dummies, or to form their opinions according to their own views and intelligence, discerning between right and wrong? In order to save expense, Mr Lyons suggested that mechanical or automatical figures should be sent to the House of Commons, from each caucus constituency, and whatever Mr Gladstone or any member of the Government thought fit to propose, these dummies could bow their heads and that sign should be taken as a vote of approval. (Loud laughter, and a voice: "That's a very good thing.") This system would be worked ecomically. (Cheers and interruption.) The action of Mr Gladstone and his band of followers reminded him very much of a little scene in "Hamlet." (Laughter and interruption.) The Home Rule proposals of Mr Gladstone seemed "very like a whale." (More laughter.) Mr Lyons also pointed out that even if concessions were to be made to Ireland neither Mr Gladstone nor his Ministers—looking at their previous failures in regard to Ireland legislation—were competent to grant them. Mr Gladstone's plans embodied the seeds of disintegration; but he (the speaker) would much rather that he proposed entire separation at once. The schemes were impracticable, and did not find favour amongst the people. (Cheers.)

Questions were invited at the close of the address, and immediately Messrs J. Oliver and T. Featherstone, of Waskerley, and W. Pattinson, of Castleside, ascended the platform, and were greeted with deafening applause. The subsequent proceedings were of a most animated character. A number of youths provided themselves with wooden clappers, with which they made a terrible noise, and in addition the stamping of feet and the uproar made by the audience was at times unbearable.

Mr Oliver, as soon as the noise had subsided somewhat, asked permission to reply to the lecturer, but the chairman ruled that questions should only be put. (Disorder).

Mr Oliver understood that he would have had the privilege of answering the lecturer. However, he would put questions to Mr Lyons in the form of a speech. He avowed that the Irish problem, and not the trade depression, was the principal question raised at the last election. The Irish difficulty had been brought to the forefront by reason of the Nationalists returning 86 members to the Commons in favour of Home Rule, and they did not care whether it was granted by the Liberal or the Tory party. He further asserted, amidst repeated cheering, that Mr Gladstone frequently touched upon the Irish question, and even alluded to it in his manifesto issued to the electors in 1885. If Mr Gladstone had not fulfilled his promises, why did Midlothian again return him?

Mr Lyons said he was not answerable for the electors of Midlothian. He could give some idea why they re-elected Mr Gladstone, but in deference to Mr Oliver he would not mention it. He inquired of Mr Oliver what particular measure the Parnellites desired to pass in their own Parliament which they could not obtain from the Imperial Parliament by constitutional and persistent agitation? (Cheers and counter-cheers.)

Mr Oliver confessed his inability to answer that question; but Mr Pattinson said they wanted to do their own business. (Loud cheering.)

Mr Lyons (to Mr Pattinson): I did not ask you the question. Please be quiet. (Ironical cheers.)

Mr Oliver supposed that the Irish members did not want to be put to the trouble and expense of coming to Westminster. ("Pooh.")

Mr Lyons having repeated his question, and not receiving an answer, said that Mr Oliver had no right to pose on that platform and advocate a separate Parliament for Ireland, when he had no grounds for making such a proposal. (Disorder.)

Mr Oliver: It comes to this: Ireland will have to have Home Rule or she will have to be re-conquered. Ireland will never submit to be governed at the point of the sword. (Cheers.) She has been crushed and trampled upon for long years.

Mr Lyons: Give us dates, please!

Mr Oliver: I cannot. You admitted yourself in your speech that Ireland suffered grievances. There has not been an Irish secretary in the Cabinet.

Mr Lyons: Give me dates. There have been Irish Secretaries. I want to test how far your knowledge extends. If you cannot answer the question, you have no reason for advocating a separate Parliament for Ireland.

Mr Oliver said there might be a number of important measures that the Irish people desired. There was local government—who would pass that? (Cries of "The Liberals," and loud cheering.)

Mr Lyons: Why don't the Liberals pass them then? (More cheering.) (A voice: "Because they cannot.")

Mr Lyons: Who stops them?

Mr Oliver: Who stopped the Sunday Closing Bill? (Chorus of voices: "Lord Salisbury," and great cheering.)

Mr Lyons: Is there a majority here in favour of Sunday Closing? (Cries of "Yes.") I very much doubt it.

Mr Pattinson (stepping to the front of the platform): Hold up your hands those in favour of Sunday Closing? (Almost instantly a large numbers of hands were held up, the result being received with a tremendous outburst of applause.)

Mr Lyons beseeched Mr Pattinson to sit down, and behave himself like a gentleman. He was only upon that platform on sufferance, and ought to treat his opponents with courtesy. If Mr Pattinson wanted to conduct the meeting, Mr Scott would vacate his his seat, and he could take the chairman's place. (At this point the uproar was so great that the chairman appealed for order several times before quietude was restored.)

Mr Oliver inquired, supposing the Home Rule schemes failed, what measures had the Conservatives to offer for the amelioration of the condition of Ireland? (Cheers.)

Mr Lyons rejoined, amid some laughter, that he was there to criticise, and not to formulate bills. He was only a humble member of the Conservative party, and as soon as he asked the electors for their suffrages it was time enough to put such a question to him. (Cheers and renewed disorder.)

Mr Featherstone, in interrogating the lecturer, informed Mr Lyons that the land question was a sore grievance in Ireland, and the only remedy was the Home Rule schemes propounded by Mr Gladstone. (Loud cheers.) The Liberal party had a policy, but the Tory party hadn't one. (More cheering.) Coercion had been tried and failed, and the Government felt that they must do something. (Cheers.)

Mr Pattinson next rose, and explained that because he tested the meeting on Sunday Closing, his presence had been objected to on the platform. (Cheers and hisses.)

Mr Lyons (interposing) pointed out that he merely told Mr Pattinson that he was only allowed on that platform by courtesy, and that he had no right to put such a proposal before the meeting. (Cheers, counter-cheers, and disorder.)

Mr Pattinson: I intend proposing a resolution of confidence in the "Grand Old Man." (Cheers, followed by a prolonged uproar.)

The Chairman explained that they did not propose submitting a resolution to the meeting. (Voices: "You dare not.")

Mr Pattinson: But I intend to put mine. (Cheers and counter-cheers.)

Mr Lyons: You shall not, sir. (Uproar.)

Mr Pattinson: If you'll not allow me now, I shall do so at the close of the meeting. (More cheers.)

Mr Lyons: You will not have a chance. We don't want your mechanical caucus here. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr Pattinson: I'll go off the platform if it is necessary.

Messrs Oliver and Featherstone hereupon quitted the platform, while Mr Pattinson seated himself upon the steps of it.

Mr Lyons, amid the tumult, commented upon Mr Pattinson's conduct in trying to confuse the audience by stealing a march upon them and putting a resolution.

Mr Pattinson (to the Chairman): Supposing you submit a resolution, and I'll put mine?

The Chairman (emphatically): No.

Mr Pattinson still persisted in proposing his resolution; when Mr S. D. Cooper got on to his legs, and another uproarious scene ensued, lasting for several moments.

Mr Pattinson: You had better let me put this motion, Mr Chairman, and then you'll have peace. (Cheers.)

The Chairman: No, sir. We'll have no coercion here. (Renewed disturbance.)

Mr Cooper advised the young men to hammer away at the clappers for another half-hour. He could wait until they were done, and he was sure they would tire out before him. He appealed for a little Radical fairplay.

The noise continued to be deafening, till Mr T. Duckworth (village schoolmaster) came to the rescue, and silence soon reigned. He said the Liberals would gain nothing by that sort of tactics, and he hoped they would desist. At the same time he deprecated the attitude of Mr Lyons, and the language he used in speaking of his opponents. He regretted that there was not greater freedom and liberty in asking questions.

The disorder was resumed, and Mr Cooper said it was a pity their Radical friends did not prepare an agenda beforehand, and then the chairman would know how to act. (Uproar.) Mr Scott had stated that questions could be openly asked and answered. He had yet to learn that anybody had been denied that privilege. It was not the custom for opponents to spring a resolution upon a meeting. If a motion had been proposed by them, it would then have been competent for those opposing to submit an amendment. (Further disorder.)

The Chairman stated that all the noise was caused by half-a-dozen youths, and if they did not behave themselves he would take good care that they were not admitted to a future meeting. (Cries of "The School Board will take us in," and laughter.)

Mr Pattinson (to the chairman): It's some of your own friends that make the noise.

The Chairman said he entirely disapproved of interruption of any sort at political gatherings.

Mr Duckworth enquired of the lecturer if it was not the late Mr W. E. Forster who took the most active part in obtaining the confederation of nations? He was sorry Mr Lyons had called Mr Herbert Gladstone a "sneak" for alleged caves-dropping—he having asserted that Lord Salisbury held a conference with Mr Parnell in one of the smoke-rooms of the House of Commons—when it was shown that such an event never took place. (Cheers.)

Mr Lyons: Mr Herbert Gladstone used the words. If he was not an caves-dropper, then he must be a liar. (Cheers and uproar.)

Mr Duckworth concluded by remarking that there was too much Radicalism or Toryism just now. He thought they should all strive to uphold the honour of their country. (Cheers.)

After further interrogations, Mr Lyons characterised the proceedings as most extraordinary. One individual in putting questions made a speech. Another gentleman, acting under the disguise of asking questions, springs a resolution suddenly upon the meeting. (Disorder, and cries of "Answer the questions.")

Mr Pattinson (interrupting): Just allow me to speak. (Cries of "No.") May I ask you a question, Mr Lyons? (Cries of "Sit down.")

Mr Lyons: No, the time has passed for asking questions. I am going to reply in my own fashion. (Cheers.) It is not fair to spring a resolution upon a meeting without some intimation.

Mr Pattinson (again rising): Allow me to explain. ("No, no.") Your remarks apply to me. (Disturbance.)

Mr Lyons: No doubt. Your remarks also applied to me; but I sat quietly without interrupting you. (Cheers and exclamations of "Answer the questions.")

Mr Lyons: I'll come to them just now.

Mr Lyons, amid frequent interruptions, charged Messrs Oliver and Featherstone with being unable to hold their position upon the platform, and they had sneaked back amongst the audience before they had given him an opportunity to reply.

Mr Pattinson: We want to go to bed to-night.

Mr Lyons: You can go, sir. Perhaps a good night's sleep will sweeten your temper. (Roars of laughter.)

Mr Oliver indignantly repudiated the charge brought against him by Mr Lyons, and declared that he was not frightened to stand up. (Cheers.)

Mr Lyons: I never said you were. I shall be glad if Mr Oliver will take these schools for any night he likes, and I challenge to debate the Home Rule question with him. (Cheers.)

Mr Oliver accepted the challenge. (Cheers.)

Mr Lyons remarked that doubtless Mr Oliver was paid by the organisation he represented to go about the country.

Mr Oliver: I am not a paid agent. I am simply here as a private individual. (Cheers, and a voice: "You are paid for coming here," laughter.)

Mr Lyons: I am not paid. I do not get a single farthing for coming to Castleside. I merely come here for the love of the cause. (Ironical cheers and laughter.) If Mr Oliver accepts the challenge, the only *sine qua non* I make is that the audience shall be composed equally of friends and opponents.

Mr Oliver: You will not find a dozen Conservatives in Castleside. (Laughter.)

Mr Lyons: I'll bring them with me. (Loud laughter.)

Mr Oliver objected to such an arrangement.

Mr Lyons: Well, I am not going out of my way to meet an obscure individual like you, to be howled down by a noisy mob. (Uproar.) I have too much respect for Mr Oliver.

Proceeding to deal with the questions, Mr Lyons explained that according to Mr Oliver's theory, the 600 odd members of Parliament were to be ruled by 80 Nationalists. He was under the impression that the majority always ruled. His friend would object to a minority of the Tories in Durham dictating to the Liberal members what they should do. ("Yes.")

Mr Oliver: You are wrong. If the Liberal and Tory party combine together they can overthrow the Nationalists.

Mr Lyons: That is just what the Liberal party are doing to-day. (Shouts of "No.") Are not Lord Hartington, Mr Chamberlain, and others joining with the Tories?

Mr Pattinson: They are the Whigs. (Cheers.)

Mr Lyons (to Mr Pattinson): You are there again, sir.

Mr Oliver: But Mr Chamberlain and Mr Collings voted for the "Three-acres-and-a-cow," and turned out the Tory party. (Cheers and interruption.)

Mr Lyons proceeded to argue that on the same lines, then, the Protestants in Ulster had a right to say what should be done for the Irish race, and could decline being governed by an Irish Parliament. He was sorry that in the Grand Old Parliamentary Hand they had not a thorough, upright Statesman. He could not tell the reason why "Scotty" returned Mr Gladstone for Midlothian, and he counselled Mr Oliver to send the query to the editor of *Tit-Bits*. (Laughter.) Mr Gladstone, in order to have his Home Rule Bill passed the second reading, had promised to withdraw the measure, and allow it to die a natural death. He did not think it right for the Conservatives to prescribe a remedy for Ireland when the Liberals, who were in office, could take up the scheme as their own, and claim the credit for passing it. What was wanted for Ireland was conciliatory legislation, and if the Irish party objected to Coercion, why not pass a Coercion Act to apply to the whole of the United Kingdom? (Cheers and dissent.)

At the close, Mr Pattinson again desired to submit his resolution, but was not allowed to do so.

Mr Sherlock proposed, and Mr Leybourne briefly seconded, a vote of thanks to the lecturer. Owing to the noise prevailing, the audience took it to be a resolution protesting against Home Rule or of confidence in Lord Salisbury, and there were consequently impatient cries of "What's the resolution?" "Let's hear it," &c., but the Chairman explained the resolution and it was carried without opposition.

Mr Lyons thanked the audience for the courteous reception they had accorded him.

Mr Pattinson again rose, and desired to ask the chairman a question with reference to the last meeting at Castleside——

The Chairman: It was not announced on the bills that I was to be questioned. Were you at the meeting?

Mr Pattinson: No, but I simply wished to ask, for the honour of the village of Castleside, why you allowed it to go forth to Lord Salisbury and the public, that a resolution in favour of Home Rule had been carried, seeing that the meeting only consisted of 30 persons, and you imported 10 into—— (Cries of "shut up.")

The Chairman: We cannot go into the matter to-night.

Mr Lyons proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman.

Mr Oliver, in seconding, said this was the first time he had ever stood on a Conservative platform (cheers), and he complimented Mr Scott upon the impartial manner in which he had conducted the proceedings.

The resolution was carried.

After the Conservatives had left the platform, Mr Pattinson mounted a form, and submitted a resolution of confidence in Mr Gladstone, and of approval of his Home Rule schemes. Although there was disorder and confusion, a large number of hands were held up in favour of the motion. The lights were suddenly shut off, and the company hastily took their departure.

Mr Oliver afterwards intimated that he declined to accept the challenge of Mr Lyons.

Mr Scott, of Rowley, has received a formal acknowledgement from Sir Michael Hicks-Beach of the resolution protesting against Home Rule approved of at a meeting held a month ago.

MEETING AT WEST STANLEY.

On Thursday se'nnight, Mr Lyons lectured in the long-room of the Commercial Inn, West Stanley. Mr J. Clarkson occupied the chair, and Mr S. D. Cooper was also present.

The Lecturer, who had a favourable reception, thought the phrase—"Politics for the people"—fully expressed what every public lecturer ought to go in for, and consider their immediate wants and necessities. What is it that they want? It is all very well to talk about Home Rule, land Nationalisation, and the rest, but he took it that the requirement of every working man and woman in this country is that they may live comfortable, contented lives in healthy dwellings, and receive fair wages for a fair day's work. (Hear.) During the last election there were all sorts of fine quack nostrums propagated by Radical lecturers. Free education, free land, free church, free everything for everybody at everybody else's expense, and in expectation of seeing these promises realised the people returned a majority of that particular party to the House of Parliament. (Laughter.) Referring to the Home Rule question, he said: I ask you in the name of honesty and common-sense was this question, which is agitating the minds of us all, ever mentioned or placed in the fore-front by any statesman of any political party? No; the question of Home Rule so-called was not in our minds at the last election, and that election, judging from the manifesto of the Liberal Premier, was not fought on questions of domestic policy. Instead of our attention being directed to some rational reform we have thrust upon us without warning, or the nation being consulted in a constitutional manner, Home Rule. If we are the governors of this country by our votes, surely we have a right to say by our votes whether a particular policy shall be carried out in Parliament. The people ought to have an opportunity of saying whether they are in favour of Home Rule, and if the majority are in favour of it, then the minority will bow to it as expressed in a constitutional fashion. (Applause.) The lecturer proceeded to point out how Mr Gladstone had all along opposed Home Rule. A question had been put to Irish members, "What particular measure do you propose to carry in an Irish Parliament that the Imperial Parliament is not prepared to grant you." Not an Irish member has replied to that challenge. They dare not, because they know that if they desired something that was opposed to our best institution that no assembly of Englishmen would grant them a Parliament in order that they might do wrong or injustice to any body of Irishmen or anyone else. (Applause.) If they have no measure to propose, why should we have ourselves set at sixes and sevens, and why should the great Liberal party be shattered to atoms in order to satisfy the ambitious cravings of an old man nearly at the end of his career, and the wishes of men in Parliament to benefit themselves and not the wishes of the people they represent? (Applause.) Why should they have an Irish House if there is no necessity for it? Why doesn't Scotland and Wales want one? As Lord Beaconsfield pointed out in 1880, if you once begin to apply a principle of this character you cannot tell where it will end. The lecturer dwelt at great length upon the Home Rule question, pointing out how disorganised the Liberal party were over it, and the blind folly of some who were supporting the measure just because Mr Gladstone had brought it forward. Now that Mr Gladstone spoke of the urgency of the matter, and now when he finds that he is going to lose his Liberal majority he can postpone the measure just to keep himself in favour. Mr Gladstone cannot be active much longer, and whether Home Rule is right or wrong it is in his opinion unworthy of his position for him to introduce a measure whose effects he will not see, or responsibilities he will not have to undergo, and the effects of which he will not have to bear. (Applause.) With regard to coercion, he said instead of having a coercion bill for Ireland pass the bill for all of us, the law-abiding people would never be aware of the existence of a Coercion Act at all. (Applause.) It simply means preventing a man from doing wrong to his neighbour. (Hear.) If the Irish people have any grievance, let them formulate them. Mr Parnell has never done so yet, but Mr Gladstone has greedily anticipated anything. Mr Parnell might say and offer something he has never asked for, and Mr Parnell will take as the minimum and may seek greater concessions. If we go in for federalisation England will be able to play the part she ought to play as founder of the empire. If we have an Imperial Federal Parliament at Westminster it will have to be founded on the principal of taxation, and not on population. After further enlarging upon the subject, a vote of thanks was accorded to the lecturer, moved by Mr J. Bates, and seconded by Mr R. Johnson, and a like vote to the chairman concluded the meeting.

ACTION AGAINST THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

AN INJUNCTION REFUSED.

In the High Court of Justice (Queen's Bench Divison) on Thursday se'nnight—before the Lord Chief Justice of England (Lord Colridge) and Mr Justice Bowen—the action by Messrs John Annandale and Sons, paper manufacturers, Shotley Bridge, v. the Consett Local Board was heard. Mr Cowey, Q.C., and Mr Walton (instructed by Mr John Booth, Shotley Bridge) appeared for the plaintiffs; and Sir Henry Matthews, Q.C., with Mr Godard (instructed by Mr T. W. Welford, Consett, Clerk to the Local Board) for the defendants.—This was an application for an *interim* injunction to restrain the Local Board from discharging the sewage from the town of Consett into the Howdon Burn, and thus polluting a stream which flows into the River Derwent.—Without reading the affidavits, or calling any evidence, the Lord Chief Justice stated that the Court could not grant an injunction in this case. The costs are to be the costs of the cause.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY.

On Saturday, an extraordinary general meeting of the Consett Iron Company was held at the Assembly Rooms, Newcastle, to consider the scheme for the increase of capital which has already appeared in the *Guardian*. The following is an extract from the circular issued to the shareholders:—

The directors are led to ask the shareholders to increase the capital of the company by £264,000, divided into 26,400 shares at £10 each, in order to provide the means for:—

1. Considerably extending the Company's capacity for making steel plates, which are now superseding iron plates, and putting down a mill for making steel angles for shipbuilding purposes.
2. Bringing into operation, when the right time for so doing seems to have arrived, the company's considerable coal-field, on the north side of the river Derwent, now entirely undeveloped.

Mr David Dale (managing director) presided; and, after the reading of the memorandum of the scheme, said that the change in the demand for plates from iron to steel had caused the directors to consider how the productive capacity of the Works should be made to more adequately meet the demand in its altered form. He stated at some length the amount of the present production of steel plates and that of the diminished output of iron plates, adding, however, that the lessened demand for iron was partly due to the depression in trade as well as to the preference for steel. He then stated the intentions of the directorate, which, when carried fully out, would allow of the production of double the quantity of steel plates now made at the Works—if the whole product of the Siemens furnaces were so applied. The directors, however, desired to put down an angle mill, as some shipbuilders desired to buy the steel angles of the same makers as the plates. Since the capital account would be increased for the raising of the sums needed for this extension of the Steel Works, the directors deemed it desirable to take powers to create capital at the same time for the opening out of the coal-field of the company on the north side of the river Derwent, where they had royalties of good coal in reserve. Having explained the method of distribution of the new shares and the periods of payment of the calls, Mr Dale moved a resolution approving the increase of capital to the extent stated. This was carried unanimously. The following is the resolution:—

That the capital of the company be increased by a sum of £264,000, divided into 26,400 shares of £10 each, to be issued in the manner and on the terms following, that is to say—

- (a) That the directors be authorised to allot 24,533 of such new shares, *pro rata*, amongst the members, according to the numbers of shares for which they may on the 21st day of June, 1886, be registered, in the proportion of one new share for every three then existing shares held by each member, or as near thereto as may be, and to make such arrangements for allotting or otherwise disposing of the 1,867 shares not so allotted, and of any shares or fractional parts of shares of which the allotment may not be accepted by any member within the time to be appointed by the directors as the directors may think fit.
- (b) That the shares so allotted, shall be allotted on the terms that 10s per share be paid on allotment, £1 per share on the 23rd day of August next, and the remaining £8 10s per share by such amounts and at such times as the directors shall from time to time determine.
- (c) That the shares so allotted shall be entitled to dividend on the amount from time to time paid up thereon.

The resolution will be submitted for confirmation as a special resolution to an extraordinary general meeting, to be held on Saturday, June 19th.

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.

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

The most wholesome and nutritious of confections 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.

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

Towle Pennyroyal and Steel Pills for Females quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere for 15 or 34 Stamps by the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln.—Beware of Imitations.

Business Announcements.

FOURTEENTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends at Miss Williams', No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from 11 a.m., to 3 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

FRATER'S MAHOGANY VARNISH.

Moses! bring me a Bottle of Frater's Mahogany Varnish. We are going to CLEAN THE FURNITURE, and there is no other any use. For quantity, quality, and popularity, there is nothing like it in the Market.

George Frater
179, PILGRIM STREET, NEWCASTLE.
JOSEPH SIDDLE, NEWMARKET STREET, LOCAL AGENT.

THE COVENTRY CYCLE CO., LIMITED,

WHITEFRIARS 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

J. W. DAVISON,

FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

HAS ON SALE, CHEAP,

SEVERAL

THREE AND FOUR-LEAF SCREENS.

VIOLIN.

WANTED PUPILS (Young Ladies preferred). Terms moderate.—Apply, Miss Nixon, Old Police Station, Consett, late of Newcastle. 632v

JAMES NIXON, CARRIAGE PAINTER.

WANTED, CONVEYANCES TO PAINT. Best work guaranteed. Terms moderate.—Address, Old Police Station, Consett. 633v

YE QUEEN MARY

BOOK OF HOUSEHOLD RECEIPES,

Containing Fifty Ancient and Valuable Receipes of our Ancestors (over Three Hundred Years old). Every Housekeeper in the United Kingdom should have a copy who believes in the good old Remedies of our ancestors. Post Free One Shilling, direct from the Publisher and Proprietor, J. Maguire, St. John's Cottage Partridge Green, Sussex. 560v

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.

QUEENSLAND.

This young and promising Colony offers Special Advantages to all classes, and the QUEENSLAND ROYAL MAIL LINE convey Passengers

☞ BY STEAMER FOR £7.

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

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

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

For further particulars regarding Passages, Land Laws, and Resources of the Colony, apply to Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, & Co., 109, Leadenhall Street, London, and 12, Renfield Street, Glasgow; or to William J. Johnson, Queensland Emigration Office, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; or to the Local Agent,

Adam Brodie,
529v Town Hall, Consett.

THOMAS MILNER,

DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,

☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT

MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

"A Consett Gentleman says:—I have found your New Season's Cod Liver Oil to be most beneficial in preventing hoarseness and relieving the strain on the chest, consequent on prolonged speaking in the open air, whilst the administration of it is not accompanied by the nausea resulting from many oils I have tried, and I can confidently recommend it."

1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle.

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.

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.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS. TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr Lamont's Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c., &c.

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS

T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the

TAR ELIXIR 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.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

MILNER, Chemist,
Opposite the Post-Office Consett. 721v

STALLIONS.

AT Lintz Green, near Newcastle-upon-Tyne.—Thoroughbred Entire Colt.—"EVEN," by Quits, dam Evelyn II, by Carnival; grandam Evelyn, by Bradalbane. Even is a dark brown colt, 3 years old, 15·3 hands high, with great power, and sound. His sire, Quits, was Mr. Drake's celebrated hunter by Restitution. A limited number of mares at 3 guineas. Groom's fee, 5s. *Bona-fide* tenant farmers' mares half-price.—Owner, Robert Clark.

"CLAREMONT" (Second in Derby) by Blair Athol from Coimbra by Kingston—Claremont is 16·1 h.h., immense bone and fine quality, is sire of several winners both on the Turf and in the Showyard.—Apply to Mr Haansbergen, Woodlands, Consett. 871v

"JACK'S DELIGHT" (Scotch Pony Sire), Prize-winner at Glasgow, &c., 14 h.h., Black, very powerful, beautiful action, very fast trotter.—Apply to Mr. Haansbergen, Woodlands, Consett. 32w

WATERBURY WATCH CLUBS.

Three PRIZES of the respective value of £10, £5, and £2, will be given to the parties forming the greatest number of Clubs for the Waterbury Watch, price 10s. 6d., up to Christmas, 1886.—Apply for terms to the Manager, the Waterbury Watch, 32, Mosley Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 195w

H. GUTTERIDGE,

SCALE, BEAM, AND WEIGHING MACHINE MANUFACTURER, BUTCHERS' STEELYARDS, MINCING MACHINES, &c.

Repairs done on the Shortest Notice.

Note Address:—33, WESTGATE ROAD (near Central Railway Station), NEWCASTLE. 450v

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, 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.
Gas Office, Shotley Bridge. 148v

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

M. FAWELL, Grocer and Provision Dealer, in thanking his numerous friends and patrons and the public in general for the cordial support given to him during the five years which he has been in business, begs to inform them he has REMOVED to the more COMMODIOUS PREMISES at the TOP OF THE STREET (being No. 40, Front Street, Consett), where, by strict attention to business, low prices and first-class quality, he hopes to merit a still greater share of patronage.

Note the Address—
No. 40, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

YOU ARE INVITED
TO
BUY YOUR BOOTS AND SHOES
AT
John Gibson's New Shop
CORNER OF
FOUNDRY ROW AND BESSEMER STREET, BLACKHILL (near the Railway Station).

As they are unsurpassed for Fitting and Durability.

☞ A Well-selected Stock always on hand.

All Goods marked in plain figures, at Lowest Ready-Money Prices.

BOOTS MADE TO MEASURE, AND REPAIRS OF ALL KINDS DONE AS USUAL. 530u

British Wines!

PORT, SHERRY, AND ALL OTHER KINDS,
AND OF
SUPERIOR QUUALITY,
ALWAYS IN STOCK,
AT

C. F. COOKE'S,

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Agent for Messrs. J. Gillon & Co., and other Celebrated Makers.

ALSO, UNFERMENTED FRUIT WINE AND CORDIALS, AT 1s. PER BOTTLE.

Also, Peek, Frean, & Co., and Huntley & Palmer's Fancy Biscuits, &c. 219w

LOOK OUT for BURNHOPE READING ROOM SPORTS June 26th, 1886. 1Cw

LOOK OUT for ANNFIELD PLAIN BRASS BAND CONTEST, which will be held June 12th, 1886, when £30 will be given in Prizes. 860v

LOOK OUT FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOLS' PROCESSION and FIELD-DAY, at Consett, on Whit-Monday. 118w

I. U. O. OF MECHANICS, Dipton, will hold their ANNUAL PROCESSION, TEA, and a GRAND CONCERT, on July 3rd, 1886. 199w

LOOK OUT! Look out for GREENHEAD PIC-NIC and SPORTS, on Saturday, June 26th, 1886. The Spen Excelsior Reed Band engaged.

THE Milkwell Burn School ANNIVERSARY will be held on June 12th. A PUBLIC TEA, Meeting, and Children's Service, conducted by the Rev. FOSTER RAINE. 225w

Business Announcements.

BLUE BANNER TEA

PRIZE COMPETITION.

SPELLING BEE.

£5 : 0 : 0 IN PRIZES.

1st PRIZE	......	£2	0s. 0d.
2nd Do.	......	1	0s. 0d.
3rd Do.	......	0	10s. 0d.
4th Do.	......	0	10s. 0d.
5th Do.	......	0	10s. 0d.
6th Do.	......	0	10s. 0d.

The above-named Prizes will be awarded, according to merit, to six competitors obtaining largest number of correctly spelt English words (proper names and names of places excepted) from the letters contained in the three words.

"BLUE BANNER TEAS."

CONDITIONS.

In the event of there being more than six competitors, each giving the same number of words, the total amount of prizes will be divided equally.

The names of successful competitors will be published in the *Northern Weekly Leader*, *Hexham Courant*, and *Consett Guardian*, on Saturday, July 17th.

Chamber's Dictionary to be regarded as the Standard.

The Awards published to be accepted as final and beyond appeal. For obvious reasons no correspondence with reference to the same can be entertained.

The competitive lists (the words being arranged in Alphabetical order), signed with the competitor's full name and address to be forwarded by post (prepaid), not later than Saturday, July 3rd, addressed:—

"Blue Banner Tea Depôt,
30, Cloth Market,
Newcastle-on-Tyne."

Each competitor must enclose with his list the outside wrapper of a packet of Blue Banner Tea, on which he must write his name in full.

BLUE BANNER TEA can be obtained through any grocer.

BLUE BANNER TEA

2s. 6d. per lb. is 2s 6d per lb.

UNSURPASSED.

IN QUARTER-POUND PACKETS ONLY.

THE USE OF
BLUE BANNER TEA
PROMOTES ECONOMY.

BLUE BANNER TEA
ENCOURAGES THRIFT.

BLUE BANNER TEA
CONFERS HAPPINESS.

BLUE BANNER TEA
IS THE POPULAR
TEMPERANCE BEVERAGE.

BLUE BANNER TEA
SHOULD BE USED IN EVERY HOME.

BLUE BANNER TEA
MAY BE OBTAINED IN
EVERY VILLAGE.

BLUE BANNER TEA
CAN BE HAD OF ANY GROCER

BLUE BANNER TEA

2s. 6d. Per Lb. FOR 2s. 6d. Per Lb.

QUALITY,
STRENGTH,
FLAVOUR,
IS

MATCHLESS.

SOLD IN QUARTER-POUND PACKETS ONLY.

THE TRADE ONLY SUPPLIED
AT
BLUE BANNER TEA
WHOLESALE DEPOT,
30, CLOTH MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Public Notices.

1 IS the WINNING NUMBER for the Violin, drawn at Shotley Bridge, May 31st. 214w

335 WINNING NUMBER for the American Clock, Drawn for on June 1st, at Allendale Cottages. 230w

A CONSERVATIVE MEETING will be held in the Cricket Field, Medomsley, on June 5th, at Four p.m. 237w

A SPECIAL MEETING of the "John Wesley" Division of the Sons of Temperance will be held in the Gibson Street School-room, Consett, on Saturday, June 12th, at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

LOOK OUT for MANOR HOUSE (near Shotley Bridge) PIC-NIC and SPORTS, on June 19th. Two Handicaps, Wrestling, Quoiting, Football Match, and other Sports. 238w

STAGSHAW WHITSUN FAIR.

A BRAKE will leave Mr. T. C. Rawes' Livery Stables, Consett, on Saturday, the 12th of June, at 6 a.m., for the above, by way of Allansford and Greenhead. 217w

STAGSHAWBANK FAIR.

A BRAKE will leave Mr. R. Christopher's Livery Stables, Delves Lane, Consett, for Stagshawbank Fair, on Saturday, June 12th, at 6 o'clock a.m. 220w

I, MATTHIAS GIBSON, Newbiggen, Hereby GIVE NOTICE, that no person is to BUY ANY STOCK or GOODS, off Low Meadows Farm, without my consent, after this notice, or they will be answerable to me for the same.

227w (Signed), MATTHIAS GIBSON.

STANLEY RACES on Whit-Monday. Large PRIZES given for LEAPING, STEEPLECHASE, and FLAT RACING. Also, a SILVER CUP, valued £6, with money added, for FOOTBALL PLAYING.

Entries taken up to day of Sports.

235w R. JOHNSON, Secretary.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

MUSICAL FESTIVAL AT THE TYNEMOUTH AQUARIUM.

ON TUESDAY, June 8th, an Excursion Train will leave CONSETT at 1·40 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, &c.), for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH.

See Bills. 215w

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CASTLESIDE.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY SERVICES will be held in the above Church, on Whit-Sunday, June 13th 1886. Morning, 10.30, Rev. W. FARRAR, M.A.; Evening, 6.30, Rev F. W. GLYN, M.A. Special Hymns will be Sung at both Services. Collections in aid of the Sunday School.

TANTOBIE READING-ROOM, LIBRARY, AND ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION will hold their ANNUAL GALA and SPORTS on Saturday, July 17th, when upwards of £20 will be given.

120 Yards Handicap, £6 10s. 0d. Entrance 1s.
½ Mile Handicap, £2 5s. 0d. Entrance 6d.
15 Minutes Go-as-you-Please Handicap, £2 0s. 0d. Entrance 6d.
Wrestling for 11½ Stone Men, £3. Entrance 1s.
Quoiting, 10 yards, £1 10s. 0d.

For further particulars see Bills.

Entries for the 120 Yards and ½ Mile closed on the 13th July to

216w M. SNOWDON, Tantobie, Lintz Green.

WHITSUNTIDE HOLIDAYS.

VISIT THE BEAUTIFUL GROUNDS AT SHOTLEY SPA.

CRICKET Matches, Tugs of War, Music, Dancing, Games, &c.

SPECIAL ATTRACTION.

TUG OF WAR Competition. Open to all. Entrance Free, for which 6 Silk Handkerchiefs will be given to the winners of the final Names of Teams, consisting of 6 men, to be handed in to the Lesees on the Grounds before 4 o'clock each day.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED.

229w Wilson Brothers, Lesees.

GALA AND

Amateur Athletic Sports,

WILL BE HELD IN THE
GROUNDS OF SHOTLEY SPA,
ON
SATURDAY, JUNE 26th, 1886,

(Under distinguished Patronage), in aid of the Bell Fund of St. Cuthbert's Church, Benfieldside.

LIST OF EVENTS.

1.—Bowling at the Wicket.
2.—St. Cuthbert's Choir Boys' Race (Handicap).
3.—100 Yards Flat Race (Handicap).
4.—Throwing the Weight (12 lbs).
5.—Throwing the Cricket Ball.
6.—150 Yards Flat Race Handicap (for Boys under 16).
7.—Running High Jump.
8.—Quarter Mile Handicap (confined to a radius of 7 miles from Shotley Bridge).
9.—Sack Race.
10.—Place Kick.
11.—Half-Mile Handicap.
12.—Tug of War (Teams of 5.)
13.—Obstacle Race.
14.—Hurdle Race, 100 Yards (6 flights).
15.—Three-Legged Race.
16.—Donkey Race.
17.—Quarter-Mile Flat Race Handicap.
18.—Consolation Race.

Entries Close June 19th.

For Entry Forms, &c., apply
W. RAMSAY, Hon. Sec.
6, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside. 241w

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.

WARDEN.
Very Rev. W. C. LAKE, D.D., Dean of Durham.
PROFESSOR OF DIVINITY.
Rev. A. S. FARRAR, D.D., Canon of Durham.
PROFESSOR OF GREEK AND CLASSICAL LITERATURE.
Rev. T. S. EVANS, M.A., Canon of Durham.
PROFESSOR OF MATHEMATICS.
Rev. R. J. PEARCE, D.C.L.
PROFESSOR OF HEBREW.
Ven. H. W. WATKINS, D.D., Canon of Durham.
PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE.
GEO. H. PHILIPSON, M.A., M.D., D.C.L., F.R.C.R.
MASTER OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE.
Rev. A. PLUMMER, D.D.
PRINCIPAL OF BISHOP HATFIELD HALL.
Rev. A. ROBERTSON, M.A.
TUTORS.
Rev. A. PLUMMER, D.D.
Rev. A. ROBERTSON, M.A.
F. B. JEVONS, Esq., M.A.
Rev. H. RASHDALL, M.A.
LECTURERS.
Rev. J. T. FOWLER, M.A., Hebrew.
Rev. W. HOOPER, M.A., Classical.
Rev. J. MORRIS, M.A., Mathematical.
REGISTRAR.
W. K. HILTON, Esq., M.A.

MICHALMAS TERM will COMMENCE on OCTOBER 12th, 1886. The following Scholarships and Exhibitions will be awarded by Examination, commencing at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, October 13th.

(1). To Candidates for admission as Students in Art, Two Foundation Scholarships of £70, and One of £40 per annum, tenable for two years. Also an Exhibition of £20 per annum, tenable for two years, restricted to Students of limited means.

The Newby Scholarship of £25 per annum, open to Candidates for Admission, as well as Students who have not resided more than five terms.

To Students in Arts who have resided during three, and not more than four terms, One Foundation Scholarship of £30, tenable for one year.

Also a Scholarship of £30, tenable for one year, open to Candidates for the First Year Examination in Art, holding no other Scholarship or Exhibition, and to Students admitted from the Theological Colleges in connection with the University.

(2). To Students in Theology—

On admission, Two Scholarships of £60 and one of £30 per annum, tenable for two years. Also Two Exhibitions of £20 per annum, tenable for two years, restricted to Students of limited means.

After One Year's Residence, Exhibitions of the aggregate value of £60, awarded at the discretion of the examiners, tenable for one year.

Open to Graduates, One Exhibition of £40.

The successful candidates will not be required to commence their residence immediately.

The annual value of the Scholarships and Exhibitions open to Students in Arts is nearly £1,000, an equal amount being available for Theological Students.

Applications for further information must be addressed to The Registrar, University of Durham. 224w

Public Notices.

AGRICULTURAL HALL, BLACKHILL.

Miss Watson and Miss Wilson (D.V.) WILL CONDUCT SPECIAL SERVICES ON WHIT-TUESDAY, and Six following days.

A PUBLIC TEA on Whit-Tuesday. 6d. each. See Bills. 222w

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION.

J. T. MILLS, Esq., National Union Conservative Association, London, will ADDRESS the following PUBLIC MEETINGS—

Saturday, June 5th, MEDOMSLEY, 4·0 p.m.
Monday, June 7th, CATCHGATE, 7·30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 8th, STANLEY, 7·30 p.m.
Wednesday, June 9th, DIPTON, 7·30 p.m.
Thursday, June 10th, LEADGATE, 7·30 p.m.
Friday, June 11th, SOUTH MOOR, 7·0 p.m.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

Triumphant and Brilliant Reception of
POOLE'S GRAND COLOSSAL DIORAMA,
ENTITLED—

TRIPS ABROAD!

In consequence of the enormous success attending this Marvel of Dioramic Art, the Messrs. Poole have decided to prolong their stay

ONE WEEK LONGER,

Positively CLOSING SATURDAY, June 12th,

☞ Tuesday Evening will be set apart for the Benefit of Mr. Harry Stewart, Great American Protean Change Artiste and Vocalist; Wednesday, Benefit of Mr. Bob Desmond, the Celebrated Negro Comedian; Thursday, Benefit of Mr. Charles W. Wilmot, Buffo and Character Vocalist and Guide; Friday, Benefit of Miss Keturah Evans, the charming Soprano Vocalist. The above Talented Artistes appear nightly in a Grand Change of Programme.

No matter how great the Success, the Exhibition will positively close Saturday, June 12th.

Nightly at 8; Doors open at 7·30. The Last Day Performance on Saturday at 3 o'clock, open at 2·30.

Admission as usual. Manager, Mr. J. Poole.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Monday, June 7th, 1886.—East Parade, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture and Miscellaneous Effects, including Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Fine Full-toned Pianoforte, in Walnut Case; Handsome Mahogany Wardrobe, with Plate Glass Front; Brass Picture Rods; Painted Drawers; Mahogany Couch; Mahogany Easy and other Chairs; 2 Rocking Chairs, in Hair; Large Gilt Mirror; Cheffioneer Bedstead; Desk Bedstead; Walnut Whatnot; Brass-Mounted Half-Tester Bedstead, with Brass Foot and Hangings; French Bedstead; 1 First-class Spring Mattress, nearly new; Square Dining Table; Washstand and Dressing Table; Noble Gilt Cornice and Hangings; Tapestry and other Carpets and Hearthrugs; Oil Cloths; Superior Stair Carpet; Fenders and Fireirons; and Kitchen requisites and sundries.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mrs. Atkinson, who is removing, to SELL BY AUCTION, on the premises, East Parade, Consett, the Superior Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, on Monday, June 7th, 1886. Particulars in Bills.

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt. 158w

Preliminary Advertisement.—Monday, June 28th, 1886.—Front Street, Leadgate.—Important Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture and Feather Beds, Stock-in-Trade of General Merchandise, Useful Horse, Good Waggon, and Sundry Effects.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by Mr. E. Worley, General Dealer, who is about to emigrate, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on the premises, Front Street, Leadgate, on Monday, June 28, 1886, the whole of the Household FURNITURE, STOCK-IN-TRADE of GENERAL MERCHANDISE, Useful Horse and Waggon, and Miscellaneous Effects.—Sale to commence at One o'clock.—Particulars in future advertisments and posters. 213w

Important Sale of Property and Shares.

MR. ADAM BRODIE (Member of the Institute of Estate Agents) is instructed to SELL BY PRIVATE TREATY as follows:—

1. Well-Built and pleasantly situate FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE, in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, containing five Rooms, Attic, and Dormer Window, Good Yard, and every convenience.

2. FIFTY FULLY PAID SHARES in the Consett Water Company.

For particulars apply Town Hall, Consett. 219w

ADAM BRODIE & ROBERT JOHN BRODIE, Auctioneers, Valuers, and Estate Agents, Consett, undertake the Sale by Public Auction or otherwise, of Houses and Land, Farming Stocks, Household Furniture, Merchandise, or other Effects, on reasonable terms. Valuations for Probate, Dissolution of Partnership, and Settlement of Claims under Fire Insurances, or in disputes. Fire, Life, and Accident Assurances arranged without delay. Shares of every description Bought and Sold on Commission. The Victoria Sale-Rooms are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale.

Postal address—Adam Brodie & Robert John Brodie, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. Joseph Oley.

Valuable Freehold Property in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, for Sale.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY instructed by the owner, Mr. John Bell, will OFFER FOR SALE BY AUCTION, at Mr. G. Brown's, Railway Hotel, Middle Street, Consett, on Wednesday, 16th June, 1886, at 7 o'clock in the Evening (subject to such conditions as will be read at the time of Sale), all the following Valuable

BLOCK OF FREEHOLD PROPERTY, Containing on Ground Flat, Two Large FRONT SHOPS with spacious Parlour, Kitchen, and Large Pantry behind; the Upper Flat contains One Sitting-Room and Four Bedrooms, Gas being laid into all the Rooms of House and Shops, a self-contained Yard with W.C., and Water laid into Yard and Pantry. Also an excellent Two-stalled STABLE with HAY-LOFT above, and COACH-HOUSE.

The Frontage of the Property is 54ft.; depth from front to back, 54ft.

The above Property is substantially built, in good repair, and in respect to Sanitary arrangements every thing that can be desired.

The Owner of the Property will show the Premises and will give any information required: application can also be made to the Auctioneer Wood Street, Shotley Bridge. 222w

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

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

South Causey Farm, near Shield Row.

MR. G. R. HOBSON, commissioned by Mr. James Eales, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Saturday, June 12th, 1886, the whole of his Valuable Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS. Full particulars in Posters.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Sale Offices, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 221w

George R. Hobson,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER.
Offices:—
CATCHGATE, VIA LINTZ GREEN. 220v

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Burnopfield.—Saturday, June 5th, 1886.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. John Eilles, who is Emigrating, will SELL BY AUCTION, on the above date, all his very Valuable Household FURNITURE, SINGER SEWING MACHINE, and EFFECTS, at Mr. William Cawthorn's, Black Horse Inn, Burnopfield, removed for the convenience of Sale. See Bills.

Sale to begin at Two o'clock. 195w

TO PARTIES EMIGRATING.

FREE AND ASSISTED PASSAGES TO QUEENSLAND.

CHEAP FARES TO AMERICA.

AND lowest possible fares to New South Wales, Victoria, New Zealand, Africa, China, and any other part of the world.

For the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply to

832v A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. Nicholson and Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, JUNE 7th, 1886.

13 Fat Cattle.
75 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
14 Store Cattle, 1½ to 2½ years old.
3 Veal Calves.
Several Geld Cows.
Dairy Cows, Calved and to Calve.
Finger Calves, Pigs, Poultry, &c.
1 Two-year-old Draught Colt, 16 h.h., broken, and quiet in all gears.
1 Greengrocer's Spring Flat.
Harness, Riding Bridles, and Sundries.

Sale at One o'clock.

239w NICHOLSON & MURRAY, Auctioneers.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

To Hack Horse Proprietors, Farmers, and Others.—Important Sale of Horses, Harness, Conveyances, Coup Carts, &c.

JOHN S. MURRAY, honoured with instructions from Mr. William Turner, Whitehall Lodge, Blackhill, who is declining the Posting Business, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of his HORSES, CONVEYANCES, &c., on Wednesday, June 9th, 1886. Inventory—

1 Very Superior Black Mare, 6 years old, 15·2 h.h., quiet, and good in all yokes, and a capital hack.
1 Stylish Grey Mare, 10 years old, 15·1 h.h., good in single and double harness, and a capital huntress.
1 Black Yearling Filly, by "Cleverlegs," Dam Lot 1.
1 Dark Grey Colt, by "Cleverlegs," Dam Lot 2.
Bay Mare, 8 years old, 14·2 h.h., good in all yokes.
3 Cows.

Strong, useful Dog Cart.

1 Very Superior Waggonette, Moveable Top, with Shafts, Pole, Apron, Lamps, &c., complete; 1 Strong Useful Waggonette, in good condition, for Single and Double, all complete with Pole, Shafts, &c.; 1 Very Superior Whitechapel Dog Cart, nearly new; 1 Grocer's or Wine Merchant's Spring Cart, light, strong, and good; 1 Stanhope Gig. The whole of the Traps are by Angus and Co., and all complete with Aprons, Lamps, Cushions, &c., and are in first-class order. 1 Superior Set of Double Harness, Silver-Mounted; 1 Superior Set of Double Harness, Brass-Mountings; 2 Sets of Silver-Mounted Gig Harness; 1 Set of Coup Cart Harness; a quantity of Odd Harness, Neck Collars, Hames, Back Bands, Belly Bands, Shoulder Chains, &c.; 1 Excellent Gentleman's Riding Saddle; 3 Riding Bridles; Martingales; Girths; and Sundry Lots; Horse Rugs; Horse Clothing; Waterproof Cart Sheet; 2 Wheel Sets; 2 Large Garden Seats, with Metal Frames; 4 Forms; 1 Coup Cart, with Patent Axle and Shelvings; 1 Do. with Shelvings and additional Coup for Stones; 1 Liquid Manure Cart, in good condition; 1 Strong Metal Roller; 1 Horse Hay Rake; 1 Grass Cutting Machine, in first-class condition, by Samuelson; 1 Pair Chain Harrows, with Swingletrees, &c.; 1 Sheep Hay Rack; 2 Large New Doors, 8ft. by 3ft. 3in. each; 1 Gantry; 6 Hens and Cock; Hen Cot; Gripes, Shovels, Forks, Rakes, Hacks, and Stable Utensils. No Reserve.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside. 240w

John Swinburn Murray,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

LIVE STOCK SALES WEEKLY.

THERE WILL BE SOLD, at the above Mart every Monday, a Choice Collection of DAIRY COWS, FAT AND STORE CATTLE, AND SHEEP. Sale at 12·30.

Trucks at Station.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 187w

Messrs. W. Easton & Co.

NOTICE.

THE following Lots not having been sold at the Public Auction, the Vendors are open to PRIVATE TREATY:—

Lot 1. SHOTLEY HOUSE and LAND.
Lot 3. BURNHILL FARM.
Lot 5. 6 COTTAGES at Stannifordam.
Lot 6. BRADLEY LODGE & 2 COTTAGES.
Lot 11. HOUSE in Frenchgate, Richmond.
Lot 12. TANKERVILLE HOUSE, Jesmond.

Apply to Messrs Mather, Cockcroft, and Co., Solicitors, Bank Chambers, Mosley Street; or the Auctioneers, W. Easten and Co., at their Sale Offices, 14, Market Street, Newcastle. 218w

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25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

Important Notice.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to John Crawford, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

Business Announcements.

DETECTION

IMPOSSIBLE!

Mr. G. RICHARDSON, SURGEON DENTIST, 6, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE, Inserts Artificial Teeth (by a New Painless Process) which for durability, natural appearance, and moderate prices, are unsurpassed by any in the Profession. Consultation Free. Railway Fare Paid for Country Patients.

6—BLACKETT STREET—6 163w

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.

428u ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

HOW TO GET STRONG AGAIN!
BY USING
Glendenning's Invalid Port

☞ 36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Bottle. Carriage Paid on 6 Bottles and upwards.

W. GLENDENNING,

IMPORTER OF PURE WINES,
9, GRAINGER STREET (between Nun Street and Newgate Street), NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

MOST MONEY LENT

On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, Guns, &c., &c., at

J. & E. WILSON'S,

The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Businessin 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.

Business Announcements.

HIGH CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL
SURGEON DENTIST,
8, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH AT REASONABLE PRICES.

COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET
From 30s. to £4 10s.

PARTIAL SETS OR SINGLE TEETH
From 3s. to 10s. per Tooth.

Every Set is adapted to the mouth on the most improved principles, without extraction of Stumps or other painful operation, guaranteed to fit perfectly and warranted.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide Gas.

Operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed, and all charges strictly moderate.

Country Patients visiting Mr. CAMPBELL's Establishment in Newcastle will have all the advantages of a most complete Dental Apparatus, and, whenever possible, will be allowed their railway fare

J. K. L.—We do not usually answer such questions. You had better call upon Mr. ROBERTS, The Newcastle Chemist, who Publishes a most remarkable PRICE LIST OF DRUGS & PATENT MEDICINES. Read.

IN reply to "Celia," we can only repeat that the information required can only be obtained from Mr. ROBERTS, Chemist, 1, New Bridge Street, and 97, Clayton Street, Newcastle. Read.

DEAR Harry, return home at once, but be sure and bring one of Mr. ROBERTS' PRICE LISTS OF PATENT MEDICINES. It will save us many a sovereign! Read. 164w

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.

EDITORIAL NOTICES.

"PETER PUZZLEPATE."—The insertion of your letter would do no good. The savage yells of "blacklegs" when "Tommy Keuk" was shot was as disgraceful as the scene described by a correspondent in last week's paper, but it was no justification of such inhuman conduct.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, JUNE 4TH, 1886.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

The present is a reading age, and the introduction of school boards and railways has done much to sweep away cobweb beliefs and customs. Superstition has almost ceased to exert an influence on the minds of the people who live, move, and have their being on this quarter of the globe; but incidental cases come to the surface occasionally, which tend to show that the germs of the upas still remain. Two young girls were passing along a respectable street the other afternoon, when the elder of the twain drew attention to a black cat, which sat on an adjacent door-step. A black puss was, she said, very unlucky. It appears that her parents had the misfortune to rear a kitten of that particular colour, and so long as the representative of the feline family continued to sojourn in the household, so long did tribulation darken their dwelling. Her father was out of employment; her elder sisters were unable to obtain situations; and the affairs of the family had begun to assume a serious aspect when suspicion fell upon the cat! The unconscious victim was duly placed in an old sack, together with a few stones to bear her company, and the mouth of the bag being securely fastened, she was pitched into the nearest pond. Alas! poor puss. The disease which wrought thy ruin did not spring up in a day, but has been handed down from generation to generation; and many a nobler victim has been offered up as a sacrifice to appease the offended gods.

Whether it is true that a good name is rather to be desired than riches, I am not in a position exactly to determine; but certain it is that a bad one is so far from being a recommendation that its possessor is not unfrequently the butt of many a baseless aspersion. The connection between cause and effect is not at all times perceptible to the ken; and rather than be foiled in the attempt to trace the footprints of the motive power, men will go out of their way to square accounts with a cat! The above illustration is not the only instance that might be given to show how prone are mankind to decide, without pausing to exercise the grandest and best of all heaven-sent gifts—reflection. Some years ago, an accident occurred at the local Iron Works, whereby a man employed on the night-shift lost his life. There was nothing very remarkable about that, it is true, had it ended there; but your humble servant, reader, heard it told in sober earnest that the evil was foreshadowed for three nights in succession, by a stranger who was seen to steal into one of the foremen's cabin at the proverbial witching hour. The disturbing spirit was, in this instance, a black cat, which nobody knew, and for which, one would have thought, nobody cared.

The general newspaper reader cannot be other than astonished at the way in which punishment is meted out to those who have the misfortune to render themselves subject to the law's correcting arm. Two noteable cases came under my notice this week in which the force of the observation was strikingly set forth. A ruthless, drunken, fellow felled his wife, and five minutes afterwards she had ceased to breathe. A term of hard labour, not extending over one year or so, was all that justice craved; but in the other case, albeit that the crime was much less weighty, the poor "unfortunate" was sentenced to twenty years' penal servitude. She had been seduced, and cast upon the world without money or friends, and in an evil hour she fell to a yet greater depth of degradation by lifting her hand against the unconscious proof of her shame. No one would for a moment think of winking at so heartless an act: but why there should be so great a discrepancy between the ruling of the judges is not so easily explained away.

That was a rather singular master and servant case dealt with by the magistrates who sit periodically at Lanchester. The youth evidently knew nothing whatever about the laws which bind society together, preferring rather to devote his time and attention to the law of marriage. A very good thing in its way no doubt, but rather out of place at the boyish age of seventeen. There are parents who think it a good thing to see their boys posting after girls in short petticoats, believing that to be a good way of keeping them steady; but it is very questionable whether the means justifies tne end. A fellow cannot be expected to be very discriminating at that time of life, especially when it is remembered that even with the wisdom of many more years on his head, a man cannot be too careful in making a choice. A forgotten poet says:—

"Wedlock, indeed, hath oft compared been
To public feasts, where meet a public rout,
Where they that are without would fain go in
And they that are within would fain go out."

The ancient poets were wont to wax eloquent when they sang the praises of "leafy June," but had they lived in these eventful days, they might have had occasion to change their tune, if not, indeed, to quite remodel their song. Compare the subjoined picture of a day in June with present cloudy, cold, and sunless hours:—

"What is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days;
Then heaven tries the earth if it be in tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays."

We will be in the midst of the holiday season presently, and should the weather still remain uncongenial, it will damp the spirits as well as the mantles of pleasure-seekers.

We are told in Holy Writ that "the fashions of this world passeth away," and he would be a bold man who said nay to so well-established a truism; but there are exceptions, which prove that certain usages, like stray individuals, live long beyond the common measure of days granted to men and things. To this highly-favoured class belongs the custom known as Barge Day on the Tyne. Kissing a pretty woman is, I understand, a feature in the programme, and a very interesting one it undoubtedly is; although one can hardly refrain from observing that he must forsooth have been an amorous soul who introduced it. I witnessed the said procession, to use a legal phrase, but old Tynesiders tell me that it was nothing this year to what it used to be in the days of other years. All told, there would be about sixteen barges, and altogether the procession had a pleasing, if not an imposing, effect. There was a band in the first craft, and the crews looked smart in their white hats and breeches, relieved by the dark blue of their jackets. I am told that when they cross the bar one of them will sing out, "Oh, yez! Oh, yez!" Methinks if I were there I could do the "Oh!" part of the sentence without an effort. I am a sorry hand on the "ocean wave."

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Mr Balleny, of Little Greencroft Hall, Consett, has, with his accustomed generosity, made an abatement of 15 per cent. upon the rents of his tenants at the half-yearly audit.

In the House of Commons, on Monday night, petitions were presented against the opening of museums, &c., on Sunday by Mr Atherley Jones from Wesleyan congregations in North-West Durham.

TRIPLE BIRTH.—On Monday night, Mrs Quinn, the wife of Mr Wm. Quinn, landlord of the Grey Horse Inn, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, was safely delivered of three children—two sons and a daughter. The babes are described as being strong and healthy, and the mother is reported to be progressing favourably.

A STRANGE DISCOVERY.—One day last week, as Inspector Benzies was proceeding through Middle Street, Consett, he found a portion of a man's big toe, apparently clean cut off from the first joint, lying on the road, the nail, &c., being all complete. The toe was conveyed to Dr Renton's surgery, where it can be restored to the owner.

We are glad to observe, from the *Land Agents' Record*, that our worthy townsman, Mr Adam Brodie, of the Town Hall Chambers, Consett, has been admitted a member of the Institute of Estate Agents, which embraces a large number of the principal gentlemen in that profession in the three kingdoms.

PROPERTY.—In connection with the sale of property belonging to the estate of Mr J. T. Curry, Consett—reported in our columns last week—we are informed that the house No. 1, East Parade, Delves Lane, has since been sold for £390; and No. 3, Mount Pleasant, for £205.

In connection with the chapel anniversary of the Primitive Methodists of Ingo, in the Hexham circuit, a lecture was delivered on Saturday night, by the Rev H. Yooll, of Consett, on the subject, "The age we live in." There was a large audience, presided over by Mr John Hall, of Harrington. On the afternoon and evening of Sunday, Mr Yooll preached to good congregations. The whole of the services were eminently successful.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A CHILD.—On Tuesday evening, about seven o'clock, a child two years of age, named Rebecca Milburn, the daughter of Mr Wm. Milburn, carrying on the business of a pork butcher in Havelock Street, Consett, expired very suddenly while in bed. The deceased had been in excellent health up to Monday last, when she commenced to take convulsive fits, and died on the succeeding day before she was seen by a doctor. No inquest was held.

THE EXTENSION OF THE STEEL WORKS.—An important step was taken by the Consett Iron Company at the meeting of shareholders on Saturday. They are now prepared to expend a sum of about £100,000 in enlarging their steel works. This, we understand, will be devoted chiefly to the building of additional Siemens' furnaces, with the necessary steel plate plant, and a mill for rolling steel-angles. The Consett Company, so far as we know, have not hitherto produced angles; and it is probable that this change is with the intention of supplying the needs of shipbuilders, to have the materials for vessels—whether plates or angles—made by one firm.—*Evening Chronicle*.

UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM.—On Friday, the annual competition for the "Long reading prize," took place in one of the large examination rooms of the University. The prize, which amounts to £6, and is bestowed either in money or books, was left by a lady of the name of Long, and is open to all under-graduates of the University. Four pieces, two of poetry, and two of prose, from the best English authors, have to be read by each of the competitors, and the best reader receives the prize. The Professors of the University are the judges, and the trial is open to all the members of the University. There were 38 competitors on Friday last, and the prize was conferred on A. R. Steggall, M.A., of Consett. Although Mr Steggall is an M.A., he is still an undergraduate, as he is about to take the degree of Licentiate in Theology, in view of his ordination at Christmas next.

DEPARTURE OF A MISSIONARY.—On Sunday night, Mr Thomas McIlroy, an evangelist, who has accomplished a noble work, by purely voluntary means, in promoting Christianity in Consett and surrounding district, and has succeeded in establishing a band of followers of his own, not identified with any particular sect, but worshipping after the manner of the Plymouth Brethren, preached his farewell sermon in the Assembly Rooms, Trafalgar Street, Consett, where he has regularly conducted religious services for some years past. The place was crammed to excess, the congregation being composed of adherents of all religious creeds. Mr McIlroy delivered a most pathetic and touching address, and many present were moved to tears at the idea of parting with one who was respected and admired by all who knew him. Mr McIlroy was formerly employed at the Consett Iron Works, but latterly he has devoted himself entirely to evangelistic work, and there is no means of guaging the vast amount of good he has achieved in this locality. Mr McIlroy and his family took their departure by the 8·20 train from Consett on Sunday night, their destination being Brisbane, Australia. A crowd of several hundreds of people assembled at the railway station and its approaches, to witness the departure of Mr McIlroy, who was widely known and highly respected in the district, and the farewell scene was a solemn and touching one. Many persons, in order to gain admission to the platform, purchased tickets for Shotley Bridge. As the train started on its journey, a few cheers were given.

BLACKHILL.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE.—It has been reported to the police authorities that last (Thursday) night, a determined attempt to end his existence by suicide was committed by William Lamb, beerhouse-keeper, Durham Road, Blackhill. He had hung himself with a rope in a stable at the rear of his premises, but luckily he was discovered and cut down before life was extinct.

RABBI ALDER.—Mr Jon. C. Wyle, schoolmaster, Blackhill, writes to the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*:—"SIR,—Your instructive article of Friday on Dr Alder may not be less effective in its *resumé* of his greatness by the following trait of his kindliness and humility. About a month ago, a clever young student of Hebrew of mine, simply upon a venture, wrote to the Rabbi soliciting a Bible such as used by Jewish families. The Rabbi kindly sent him a note accompanied by a neat copy of the Scriptures. To any of your well-pursed readers and Hebrew students I may be allowed to state that there is now a very excellent Hebrew and English Family Bible, the translation by Rabbi Adler. The Hebrew text, large and beautiful, is the best that I have seen."

BENFIELDSIDE STOCK AUCTION MART SALE.—Messrs Nicholson and Murray held their weekly sale on Monday of fat cattle and sheep, cows, store cattle, &c., but, on account of the cold state of the weather, many consignments of clipped sheep which were entered did not get forward, and also a quantity of lambs and black faced ewes did not turn up. Ten fat cattle, £10 5s to £16 10s; 35 fat sheep 29s to 68s; top, Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esq., Woodlands Hall, bought by George Harrison, Consett. 30 lambs, 21s to 56s 6d; top, Mr Wm. Dixon, Hollands, bought by Mr M. Adamson, Leazes, Burnopfield. 6 geld cows, £6 10s to £9 10s. Stirks, to £5 5s. 40 heads of poultry, 1s 3d to 2s 3d. A quantity of potatoes, harness, &c. A large company present, and prices considerably in advance of late sales throughout. Beef, 8s 6d per stone; mutton, 10d per lb; lamb, 1s.

LEADGATE.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—For the twenty-second year in succession, Mr Thomas Elliott, of Swalwell, conducted the services at the Leadgate Wesleyan Sunday-school anniversary on Sunday. The chapel was filled both in the afternoon and evening, many persons being unable to obtain admission at night. The usual collections were made, and the choir and scholars sang a choice selection of hymns, besides rendering dialogues, recitations, &c.

MEDOMSLEY.

SHOCKING COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday, a man named Jos. Dunn, whilst employed in the Busty Pit at Medomsley, was caught amongst the machinery and was terribly injured. The man was removed to the Consett Infirmary, but he was so badly mutilated that it was found necessary by Dr Geo. Renton and his assistant to amputate his left arm, as well as cut a piece of flesh or tumor out of his side. The operation took place yesterday (Thursday). At first, it was not expected that the unfortunate man would recover, but latest accounts show that he is progressing favourably. Dunn was an engine attendant, and was in the act of oiling the locomotive whilst in motion, when his foot slipped, and he was caught amongst the wheels.

EBCHESTER.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—In celebration of the Sunday-school anniversary at Ebchester, a public tea was provided on Saturday afternoon, followed by a well-attended meeting in the evening, presided over by Mr Wm. Hogg, of Westwood. Addresses were made by Messrs E. Carr, Consett; W. A. Hoe, Blackhill; Thos. Cowey, Annfield Plain, and others.—The services on Sunday afternoon and evening were ably conducted by Mr Cowey. The children and choir sang and recited suitable pieces. The collections were in aid of the school funds.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Wednesday the shop assistants at Chester-le-Street had their annual pic-nic to Finchale Abbey.

CARRIAGE ACCIDENT.—On Monday afternoon, as Mr W. Branfoot and Mr W. Branfoot, jun., of Sunderland, were driving from Edmondsley Colliery to Chester-le-Street station, their horse was frightened by a passing engine, and the two gentlemen were thrown out of there trap. Both were severely shaken, and Mr Branfoot, sen., had his left wrist broken.

COCK FIGHTING AT EIGHTON BANKS.—On Wednesday at the Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions, *Robert Dobson*, was charged with cruelty to fowls by allowing them to fight, on the 16th ult., at Eighton Banks.—P.C. Dodds said he saw the defendant standing watching the birds fighting. Sergt. Christie saw the birds next day, and they were disfigured as if from fighting.—Dobson said he kept one for another person and could not prevent them from fighting.—Fined 5s. and costs.

CHESTER-LE-STREET RIFLE CLUB.—A handicap competition in connection with this Club was shot off at the range of the corps on Saturday. There was a large attendance, and some good scores were made. The conditions were five shots at 200, 500, and 600 yards, Wimbledon targets and scoring. Leading scores:—Priv. G. Fish (11 start) 69; Priv. J. Thompson (19), 56; Priv. J. Bonsall (5), 64; Sergt J. Usher (5), 64; Col-Sergt I. Smiles (9), 64; Priv. M. Brown (9), 60; Priv. W. Robson (10), 58; Lieut. J. Turnbull (11), 56.

BREACH OF THE LICENSING ACT.—On Wednesday at Chester-le-Street Petty Sessions, *Peter Anderson*, landlord of the Engine Inn, Eighton Banks, was charged with allowing his house to be open during prohibited hours.—Mr J. Turnbull, jun., appeared on behalf of the Chester-le-Street Brewery Company, the owners of the property, and expressed a wish that the licence would not be endorsed, as the defendant was leaving it on the 16th inst.—The Bench said they would not endorse on that account, although the defendant had previously been proceeded against for a similar offence. Defendnat was fined 20s. and costs.

IMPORTANT TRESPASS CASE.—At the Chester-le-Street Police Court, on Wednesday, *Ralph Armstrong* was charged with trespassing and doing damage to the grass in a field belonging to Mr J. Barker to the extent of 1d.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Mr John Turnbull appeared for the Chester-le-Street Rifle Corps, and said that the defendant had interfered with the shooting of recruits during their class-firing on the 22nd May. Although the corps had not the necessary bye-laws approved of by the Secretary of State, he asked the Bench to mark their disapproval of the conduct of defendant by imposing as heavy a fine upon him as lay in their power.—Defendant, who is a well-known ex-volunteer and crack shot, said that as long as he was in the corps—a matter of fourteen or fifteen years—it had been customary for members, in the absence of bye-laws, to invite their friends to the range during firing, and it was upon an invitation of this sort that he was present.—The Bench ordered defendant to pay a fine of 5s, the costs and damages, and recommended the corps to have their bye-laws drawn up and submitted for approval as soon as possible to prevent a repetition of such cases as this.

WINLATON.

C.E.T.S.—A meeting of the Winlaton branch of this society was held on Thursday week. Songs and readings were given by the Rev A. Jones, vicar, and Rev W. Wykes, curate, and the members of the society, and an address was delivered by the Rev T. Callinan, vicar of Bearpark.

WEARDALE.

The police have failed to indentify the man they arrested on suspicion of being concerned in the attempted burglary at Cowshill (Weardale) Post-office, and he has been discharged.

On Saturday night, Mr Joseph Hewitson, of Westfold House, Wearhead, Weardale, fell whilst descending the attic stairs, breaking three of his ribs, and putting his shoulder out.

CORBRIDGE.

THE NEW TOWN HALL.—As the result of a competition of plans for the erection of the new Town Hall at Corbridge, many of the principal architects in Newcastle and district competing, the plans of Mr E. Emley, Newcastle, Mr G. Caris, Gateshead, have been selected from which to make a final choice.

BEAMISH.

Master Adam Kerr, Beamish Colliery Offices, pupil of Mr T. Bowman, Gateshead Low Fell, has obtained Mr Pitman's certificate for having gained a sound knowledge of shorthand.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

In the list of engagements entered into between local Wesleyan Circuits and ministers for filling-up vacancies caused by changes to be made at the approaching Wesleyan Conference, in the Shotley Bridge and Consett Circuit, the Rev J. Wesley Keyworth, of Thornley, replaces the Rev William Douglas, of Shotley Bridge.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday, the Rev Thomas Southron, South Shields, preached the anniversary sermons of this chapel at Shotley Bridge, in the afternoon and evening, to large congregations. On Monday night, Mr Jonathan Wardle, of Gateshead, delivered his interesting lecture entitled "A wonderful house occupied by a number of remarkable tenants." Mr J. Lax presided, and the attendance was very good at all the services. The choir under the skilful directions of Mr L. Urwin, rendered choice selections of music. The collections were for the trust fund. The chapel which was built in 1852, is too small for the requirements of the Primitives in Shotley Bridge, and the erection of a larger place of worship has for some time been under consideration.

ROWLANDS GILL.

NO MAY FOR MAY.—"Robert Buckstone" observes the unprecedented absence of the popular May or hawthorn blossoms in the picturesque Derwent Valley, Gibside Park, and across the woods of Ravensworth, the display of bright green tints of the leaves being in rich profusion. The month of May retires without her pretty wild flowers on the hedgerows or the sprig of the hawthorn from its bushes.

BREAKING INTO THE RAILWAY STATION.—The railway station at Rowland's Gill, on the Consett Railway, was broken into during Friday night. The thieves effected an entrance by breaking into the booking office with an iron bar used by platelayers and ransacked the drawers. Fortunately, but little money is kept on the premises when they are locked up, and the robbers succeeded in carrying away only about eight shillings in silver. They made their exit by placing a crowbar against the office-door, so that as soon as they were out the door closed itself.

GREENCROFT COTTAGES.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday, two sermons were preached in the Primitive Methodist Preaching-room, Greencroft Cottages—in the afternoon by Mrs Bertram, of Iveston, who dwelt for some length on the riches of Christ previous to His great condescention for fallen humanity. In the evening Miss Agnes Brand, of Consett, (who is going to emigrate to Australia), preached her farewell sermon to a large number of friends who have hitherto highly esteemed her labours amongst them in the past. Her departure from their midst is greatly felt, and their united prayer to Almighty God is that He may smile upon her journey by her devotedness to God's service. Collections were made at the close of each servise in aid of the circuit demonstration.

MINSTERACRES.

A DILAPIDATED HOUSE.—At the Hexham Rural Sanitary Authority, on Tuesday, Mr R. Thompson, Inspector of Nuisances, reported that on the farm occupied by Mr Bell, on the Ministeracres estate, there was an old thatched house so dilapidated that in wet weather the rain poured through the roof. The roof couples were broken, the walls were coming out, and in his indgemnt, the house might collapse at any time.—The Clerk (Mr Baty) was directed to write to the agent for the property on the subject.

STOCKSFIELD.

NEWTON HALL ESTATE.—On Monday, the half-yearly rent audit of the Newton Hall estate was held, when Mr Clark, agent to the executors of the late Col. Joicey, reduced all the farm rentals 15 per cent., from May-day, 1885.

TOW LAW.

Mr G. W. Goulden, assistant master in the Wesleyan day-school, Tow Law, and late assistant organist at Leadgate Wesleyan Chapel, has been appointed organist at Wolsingham Wesleyan Chapel.

FLOWER SHOW.—The annual meeting in connection with the Tow Law Flower Show was held on Monday last in the Mechanics' Hall. The balance sheet showed the society to be, in a satisfactory financial position, and the committee for the next show was elected. The show will be held on September 4th. Mr W. Atkinson presided over the meeting.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.—At the ordinary weekly sale for fat cattle, cows, fat sheep, &c., held on Monday, Mr Vickers had forward 10 cows, to £19 2s 6d; 26 store cattle, £4 5s to £7 17s 6d; 5 fat cattle, to £13 17s 6d; 30 sheep and lambs—fat, to 48s; keepers, half-bred ewes, and lambs, to 45s. There was a good company present. Trade was good, cows having an improved demand.

EVANGELISTIC MISSION.—Miss Wilson, the well-known and popular lady missioner, is now conducting a mission, which has already produced valuable results, in connection with the Wesleyan Chapel, Tow Law. One pleasing feature is the way in which most of the other denominations unite to help the movement along, and on Sunday especially there was a most stirring time. Miss Wilson had the assistance of a band from Consett, the scene of such a mighty revival some time ago, and the members added to the interest both by their playing and speaking. On Sunday night, what was probably the largest open-air meeting ever known in Tow Law, was held opposite the Tow Law Hotel, and the chapel was crowded at the night meeting, and large numbers of converts made. There is every prospect of the mission being a source of great good to the place.

WOLSINGHAM.

Chancellor Espin, rector of Wolsingham, made his first appearance on the local Bench on Tuesday.

CROOK.

CROOK AND DISTRICT TRADERS' ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting was held in the Sale rooms, Market Place, Crook, on Tuesday evening—Rev. J. King, M.A., rector presiding. A code of rules for the guidance of members was drawn up and passed, and the following gentlemen were elected officers for the ensuing year:—Rev. J. King M.A., president; Messrs. R. S. Fell and Ralph Dixon, vice-presidents; Mr W. Miller, treasurer; Mr G. Emmersen, secretary.

DURHAM.

DURHAM MINERS AND THE LATE MR LLOYD JONES.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Durham Miners' Association held on Friday in the Miners' Hall, Durham, the following resolution was passed:—"That we, the committee of the Durham Miners' Association, deeply sympathise with the family of the late Mr Lloyd Jones, and appoint Messrs Wm. Crawford, John Wilson, and Samuel Hill, to attend the funeral on Saturday as representatives of the Association."

DIPTON.

A REMARKABLE EWE.—On the 26th March last, a ewe on the South Medomsley Farm, Dipton, dropped a pair of lambs, and on Sunday last, she dropped another lamb. Such an occurence has hitherto been unknown. The ewe has forsaken the first pair and has taken to the youngest.

COLLIERLEY SCHOOL BOARD.—The monthly meeting, held at the Dipton Board Schools, on Wednesday afternoon, was attended by Messrs J. A. Curry (chairman), W. Robson, M. Martin, and W. W. Thompson (clerk).—The attendance, it was reported, keeps about the same last month. The figures were considered, and awards will be offered for the best attendance.—The results of the recent examination by Her Majesty's Inspector were stated to have been very satisfactory, the percentage of passes being about equal to last year.—There was no important business.

WEST STANLEY.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—On Sunday, the West Stanley Primitive Methodists celebrated the 23rd anniversary of their Sunday-school, when three special services were conducted by Mr Thos. Armstrong, The Spen. At each of the services the children recited scripture pieces, and sang sacred songs much to the gratification of the large congregations. The addresses by Mr Armstrong were very impressive. The morning subject was specially adapted for the scholars, and the afternoon and evening for parents and teachers. The choirmaster (Mr R. Pearson) deserves every credit for the efficient state of the music.—On Saturday, the children were entertained to tea in the school-room, many of the parents and friends also being present. Games were indulged in, in a field kindly granted by Mr Wylam, Shield Row; whilst owing to the kindness of Mr T. Wright and Mr R. Summerbell, the children were provided with sweets, and an enjoyable day was spent.

TANFIELD.

SINGULAR ACCIDENT: A WARNING TO BOYS.—On Saturday afternoon, a singular accident happened to a boy named Hennessy, some nine or ten years of age, in the Tanfield Cricket Field.—Previous to a match that was about to be played between Tanfield and Craghead teams, the roller which is supposed to be about two tons weight, was used in levelling the wicket, and was being returned to its place, when the lad who was pushing the roller hands was carried over the top by the revolution, and the roller getting partly on him broke his collar bone and injured his jaw. The unfortunate circumstance cast quite a gloom over the game, and put many of the players off their mettle. It is not surprising to hear of this accident; the great wonder is that there are not more of them, for on almost every cricket ground as soon as the roller is moved to the wicket the boys rush at it, pushing and pulling irrespective of all danger. We trust that boys and those in charge of affairs will profit by this warning.

BURNHOPE.

A man named Hallsworth died suddenly at Burhope last week.

LANCHESTER.

Under the auspices of the North-West Durham Conservative Association, Mr J. T. Mills of Oldham (who visited this district last summer), delivered a lecture on "Current politics," in the National Schools, Lanchester. The chair was filled by Mr J. J. Thompson, of Lanchester. About 60 persons were present.

DURHAM DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION.—A meeting of schoolmasters of the diocese of Durham was held on Saturday in Bishop Cosins' Library, to elect four head masters of elementary diocesan inspected schools, who will form part of the Durham Diocesan Board of Education. The Bishop presided. There was a good attendance. Under the new scheme decided upon by the diocesan conference the Diocesan Board of Education will be composed of one clerical and one lay member from each rural deanery, four head masters of schools inspected by the Board, and several *ex-officio* members, amongst whom are the Bishop and the Archdeacon of Durham, the Chairman of Quarter Sessions, and the Principals of the Training Colleges for Schoolmasters and Schoolmistresses. After a short discussion, in which the advantages of the new scheme were favourably commented on, the following gentlemen were elected to form a part of the Board:—Messrs T. Dunn, Lanchester; Hammond, Bishop Auckland; Robinson, Hetton; and Carr, Sunderland.

JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.—The monthly meeting, held at Lanchester yesterday (Thursday), was presided over by Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P.—The special committee superintending the new infectious hospital at Leadgate recommended (through Mr W. H. Hedley) that the services of the resident medical man be retained to attend to any cases which might be admitted to the institution, except in those instances where the patients might desire to have a doctor of their own. The gentleman so retained could advise the Committee in all matters relating to the management of the hospital, and be allowed a specified sum for this portion of the work, besides having his usual fees for looking after the patients. It was thought that Dr Geo. Renton would be the most suitable and handiest doctor in cases of emergency.—The Board accepted the recommendations, and directed the Clerk (Mr Ritson) to write to Dr Renton asking him to state his terms for discharging these duties.

WITTON GILBERT.

Sermons on behalf of the London Society for the Promotion of Christianity among the Jews were preached in Witton Gilbert Church on Sunday, in the morning by the Rev T. Callinan, vicar of Bearpark, and in the evening by the Rev E. Flecker, curate of St. Cuthbert's, Durham.

ODDFELLOWSHIP.—The half-yearly meeting of the Queen Bee Lodge, M.U., was held on Saturday evening, at Mr W. Hunter's, Three Tuns Inn, Witton Gilbert. P.G. J. Wilson was appointed delegate to attend the district meeting. Afterwards, there was a long discussion upon the appointment of a lodge surgeon, Dr Clarke, Durham, having previously been the doctor to the lodge. There was two gentlemen nominated for the appointment—Drs Mackay, Esh, and O'Brien, Sacriston, The latter gentleman having a majority of supporters, he was consequently elected.

COUNTY INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, EARL'S HOUSE.—The first annual report of Her Majesty's Inspector of Reformatories and Industrial Schools respecting this school is as follows:—"I find all in good order; good progress has been made, with a steady advance towards complete efficiency. The boys seem to have settled quickly down. I have found them in good order, very willing and obedient, giving comparatively very little trouble, and apt to take advantage of the good training and instruction afforded them here. I have been much pleased with their manner and cheerful air. The material generally is excellent, readily responding to the efforts made on their behalf. The building is a most commodious and convenient one. It seems to supply all that is necessary. I examined the classes in the class-room, and was pleased to find satisfactory progress there also and systematic work. I was perfectly satisfied with what has been effected in the time in that department. I went through the workshops also, and found good promise of future usefulness. I saw the boys at their mid-day meal. It was wholesome, and sufficient. The boys looked well and cheerful."

PELTON FELL.

PRESENTATIONS.—On Saturday evening, the members of the North Senate, 124, Ancient Order of Romans, held a grand evening dinner at Pelton Fell, presenting some of their members with the emblem of the order. The dinner was served up by Mrs Emmerson, Black Horse Inn, Newfield. Mr G. Hall occupied the chair, and Mr John Dunn the vice. The services of Mrs Emmerson, John Robinson, Thos. P. Oliver, Thomas W. Dunn, and John Brown were very highly commended, and each was presented with a beautiful framed emblem of the order. The remainder of the evening was spent in a harmonious manner.

EDMONDSLEY.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The choir of Edmondsley chapel on Saturday night gave an entertainment for the benefit of an old member, who has been unable to follow his employment for a considerable time. An excellent programme was rendered by the choir, but unfortunately, there was a very small audience. Mr J. Todd was leader, and Mr W. Wearmouth harmoniumist.

BLAYDON.

THE HOME RULE MEETING.—Mr R. Carr has received acknowledgments of copies of the resolution approving of the Home Rule Bill, passed at Blaydon recently, from Mr Gladstone and Mr Jas. Joicey. The latter expresses his pleasure that his constituents in the Blaydon district so heartily approve of Mr Gladstone's Irish policy, and hopes that the principle of Home Rule may be affirmed by the passing of the second reading.

HEDLEY HILL.

WESLEYAN METHODISM.—On Saturday, Mr Jon. Wardle, Gateshead, delivered his popular lecture, entitled "A wonderful house, occupied by a number of remarkable tenants," in the Wesleyan Chapel, Hedley Hill Terrace. Mr Allison, viewer of the colliery, occupied the chair. After the lecture, a coffee supper was provided, when about 150 sat down to enjoy the good things provided. The tables were presided over by the Misses Johnson, Miss Stobbart, Miss Fulton, and Miss Jackson.—On Sunday, Mr Wardle preached in the afternoon and evening to large congregations, when good collections were taken for the trust fund.

STANHOPE.

BOLLIHOPE LEAD MINES.—The Bollihope Lead Mines of the London Lead Company just now are very promising, and augur well for the future. Under the management of Mr C. Bainbridge more employment is likely to be afforded.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

At the fortnightly meeting, which took place yesterday (Thursday) morning, the following Guardians were present:—Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P. (in the chair), Monsignor C. Gillow, Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P., Messrs J. Wilkinson, Wm. Logan, G. Hobson, W. H. Hedley, R. Clark, Wm. Shell, J. Buckham, J. Collinson, J. Eltringham, J. Lax, J. A. Curry, R. Robson, Thos. Taylor Smith, W. Cumming, and the Clerk (Mr Ritson).

THE WORKHOUSE CHAPLAIN.

The CHAIRMAN stated that that day fortnight, Mr W. E. Knollys (Government Inspector) insisted upon the Guardians appointing a chaplain to the Workhouse, and that that official should keep a book to be properly entered up week by week. The question as to the necessity of having a chaplain had been discussed at that Board time after time, and although many of the members were adverse to the proposal, still he (Mr Smith) saw the necessity for a chaplain. After adverting to what the consolidated orders set forth as the functions of chaplains, the Chairman observed that he promised Mr Knollys that he would introduce the question at the next meeting in order to have it again decided. On the 8th November last, the Guardians however saw no reason for appointing a paid chaplain, and resolved to allow the Rev F. W. Glynn (vicar of Lanchester) to attend to the spiritual needs of the inmates of the House without remuneration, until they received further orders from the Local Government Board. They had not had any intimation from the Imperial body, but they had been told by the highest officer in that district that the present arrangement was not satisfactory. Therefore, he begged to give notice that he would propose at the ensuing meeting that the foregoing minute be rescinded, and that the Rev F. W. Glyn be appointed chaplain at a salary of £10 a-year.

Mr WILKINSON said he never remembered the chaplain laying a book before the Board.

The Clerk said that a book had been kept nevertheless.

THE VACANCY ON THE BOARD.

The Clerk explained that a month ago a communication was received from the Chairman of a vestry meeting at Tanfield, informing the Board that a vacancy had arisen in the representation of that township by reason of the non-qualification of Mr W. Johnson, colliery manager, and requesting the Board to make application to the Local Government Board to issue an order for a special election. Before adopting this course, however, Mr Rutherford, as a friend of Mr Johnson, voluntarily offered to see that gentleman, and ask him to formally tender his resignation to the Clerk. Mr Johnson did so, accordingly he wrote to the Local Government Board informing them that Mr Johnson was not qualified to sit as a Guardian.

Mr HOBSON: Mr Johnson tells me that he resigned because he was requested by the Board to do so.

The CHAIRMAN: No, not by us offically.

Mr HOBSON: Well, he said we should hear more about it yet

The CHAIRMAN stated that Mr Johnson had been elected for three years.

Mr HOBSON: What about Mr Humble then?

The Clerk said he was still qualified to act. He had received a letter from the Local Government Board, dated the 19th May, enclosing an extract from a communication sent to their Lordships by Mr Johnson, and asking if a rate had been levied since Mr Johnson removed to Burnopfield, and whether he was not rated or qualified for any other property in the Union. The extract from Mr Johnson's epistle was to the effect that he was elected a Guardian for the parish of Tanfield for three years in 1885, but in January last he was obliged to remove into another house at Burnopfield, owing to resigning his situation as colliery viewer at West Stanley. He had been requested by the Board of Guardians to resign his seat, which he reluctantly consented to do. Houses were very difficult to obtain, but it was his intention to remove into a larger house, therefore he was only temporarily disqualified.

Mr LOGAN said there was a mis-statement in the letter. Mr Johnson was never requested by the Guardians to resign. He might be asked by an individual member to do so.

Mr CLARK: Has he got a rateable qualification now?

The Clerk: No.

Mr CLARK: Can he sit on the Board?

The Clerk: No.

Mr HOBSON: If Mr Humble still retains his qualification is he not obliged to attend here within a certain period?

The Clerk: No. So long as he has his qualification, he can keep his seat.

The Board eventually instructed the Clerk to reply to the Local Government Board informing them that Mr Johnson was not requested by the Guardians to resign, and that he was not duly qualified to act as a Guardian.

OVERSEERS IN ARREARS.

The financial statement showed that the overseers of several townships were greatly in arrears in payment of their calls.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that in order to conform with the regulations laid down by the auditor, it was absolutely necessary that the calls should be paid in as promptly as possible. He suggested that the Clerk should write a strong letter to the defaulting overseers.

Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE thought the Board should not be too severe upon the overseers these hard times, as the rates were exceedingly difficult to get in.

Mr LOGAN said this was not a solitary instance, but was a chronic condition of affairs which cropped up every three months, and ought to be settled at once. He proposed that the Clerk write to the overseers in arrears and acquaint them that if the calls were not paid by the next fortnight, proceedings would be instituted for the recovery of the money.

Mr LAX considered the time too short.

Mr ELTRINGHAM: A fortnight is quite long enough.

Mr BUCKHAM seconded the proposal, which was adopted.

Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE mentioned, as an illustration of the difficulty experienced by overseers in collecting the rates, that one gentleman, who was £15 in arrears, offered to pay £5. He sent postal orders for 10s once a month, and the assistant-overseer had to bear the cost of these orders. (Laughter.)

Mr ELTRINGHAM: The overseer was to blame for allowing it. He had his remedy.

THE HOUSE.

Mr LOGAN reported that the Visiting Committee went through the Workhouse that day, and they recommended that two ventilators be put in in the pantry of the kitchen.

The report was adopted.

Permission was given to the Master to dispose of some of his pigs.

The other business consisted of the relief applications.

WEST DURHAM AND TYNE RAILWAY BILL.—The West Durham Railway Bill was further considered by Lord Belmore's committee on Tuesday. Mr Tennant, general manager, pointed out the means by which the North-Eastern Railway could meet the traffic of the district by one or two junction lines, involving only a small outlay of capital, and Mr Pember, Q.C., contended that the proposed line was unnecessary, and was intended to act as a screw on the North-Eastern to obtain a reduction of rates.—The Committee, having heard counsel, rejected the bill, accepting the pledge given from the North-Eastern Company, that junctions would be laid down giving to the district additional access to the sea, as sufficient to meet the trading necessities of the district.

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MARK MAIN, MINER.

A TALE OF DIXON'S ROW.

By WILLIAM M'QUEEN,

Author of "Peter Bannox," "Gipsy Nell," &c.

CHAPTER V.—Students of Divinity.

As the missionary to whom one of the miners casually referred in the previous chapter is destined to play an important part in this story, it may be well to let him make his bow to the reader in suitable circumstances. Here he comes out of St. Kilda's Church, in the West End of Glasgow, along with the crowd, and joins a friend standing on the street opposite the door.

"What did you think of the Rev. William this afternoon, Tom?" asked his friend.

"Middling; do you know who that girl is with the mauve feather?"

"No; a stranger, I fancy."

"Rather good-looking!"

"Middling—as you remarked about the sermon."

"And yet your eye has followed her to the corner, eh, my boy," said the missionary. He was a tall, dark-haired young man, frank and off-hand in his manner—a young fellow with a fine flow of spirits and a most engaging address. His companion was a little stout man, older by a year or two than Tom, fair complexioned, but withal of a shrewd cast of countenance and with a sharp piercing blue eye. It was quite true, as Tom said, that this man's glance had followed the little lady with the mauve feather till she disappeared round an adjacent corner of the street, but it was true also that Master Tom's own eyes had scarcely ever left her face during the service in church, which was just over. But there was not much in that, for there was scarcely a Sunday upon which Tom Smith did not fall into raptures over some new face in church—raptures which Monday morning's University classes never failed to dissipate.

"Well, if my eye did follow her," said Tom's companion, "that's surely a compliment to your taste in this instance. Your inamoratas are not often to my liking, you know."

"That's like you, Davie Morton," cried Smith, "putting your egotism as a compliment to me. See here, Scott," he added, as another young fellow joined them, "if you want an opinion upon beauty at any time, you have only to apply to Morton; he has just been advertising himself the ultimate judge of appeal in the Court of Beauty."

"Quite in keeping with his well-known modesty," said Scott, who, like Smith, was a divinity student.

"It's well for St. Kilda's that she can point to one young man among her members whose utterances are consistent with his popularly estimated character," retorted Morton, as they sauntered slowly up the little street that by and bye took them to Sauchiehall-street.

"Oh! hang all reference to professions," said Smith, "fellows must have their fling, you know."

"So I have been tempted to suspect sometimes," was the rejoinder.

"Morton does not mean anything personal, Tom," said Scott, with a sly laugh.

"Oh, not at all," said Morton.

"By jove, Scott, I didn't, in the least, take it to myself," said Smith, laughing good naturedly. "Upon my word, Morton, Scott and I are the two most exemplary divinities in the University."

"I have your word for it," said Morton.

"Which puts the matter beyond doubt, of course," put in Scott, jocularly.

"Well, it's a fact, Morton," said Smith, tilting back his hat till the brim touched the collar of his coat, and then sticking his hands in his pockets, "of course there are some duffers who would think it a sin to wink to a pretty girl under the strongest temptation, but I don't reckon them at all."

"Of course they're muffs and of no account," interjected Morton.

"Precisely," said Scott, "pray proceed, Smith, you are doing very well indeed."

"Applause is dear even to the enlightened mind," said Smith, bowing to Scott with a ridiculous sweep, "but I am afraid you have fatally interrupted the thread of my discourse."

"You were talking of duffers," remarked Scott.

"Yes, but I had said a little more which opened up a natural path back to our noble selves," replied Smith. "Oh, yes, I remember I was at the duffers—excellent young men in their way, but not in our way, for even you, Morton, would think meanly of us if we did not show a natural, manly, and becoming homage to beauty."

"Preachy, that, a little, isn't it, Tom?" said Morton.

"Gad, I believe I ran into the regulation roll a little there," rejoined Smith, joining in the laugh in which the others were indulging. "But, as I was saying, Scott and I, by our conduct, reflect credit upon the divinities. I wonder, Scott, what Morton would say if he knew Fotheringham?"

"Saw him, for instance, at the bar of a pub. on a Monday morning half screwed, eh?" said Scott, interrogatively.

"Or trying to raise the wind by selling a painted pipe to a freshman for half a sov. on the strength of its being a seasoned meerschaum, the beggar," added Smith.

"He was to be preaching to-day," said Scott.

"Do you mean to say, Scott, that a man of that character is allowed to occupy a pulpit?" asked Morton, incredulously.

"Fact, I assure you," said Smith; "why, what else can he do?"

"Is he licensed?" was Morton's next question.

"No, but he's in his third year in the Hall," returned Scott. "And a very clever fellow, I assure you, if he does not drink himself to death before he gets out."

"By-the-bye, Morton," said Smith, "I've often thought you ought to come up to the University; I am sure you should; oughtn't he, Scott?"

"No doubt about it, Morton, you'd make your mark there," acquiesced the other divinity. It may be mentioned that Morton had gained some little reputation for ability in the Congregational Literary Society.

"And what good would it do me?" he asked.

"Why, you could go in for the ministry like the rest of us," said Scott.

"And what is to support me during the eight years of my curriculum?" inquired Morton, "for of course I would require to give up my situation."

"Oh! you'd get a mission the first year," said Smith; "would he not, Scott?"

"Easily," replied that hope of the Church.

"A mission!" said Morton, inquiringly as if he scarcely understood the allusion.

"Yes, an appointment as missionary, you know," said Smith in explanation.

"Be appointed to a missionary's place the first year of my attendance at college!" exclaimed Morton, with something like amazement in his tone.

"Of course," said Scott, surprised that such an announcement should cause the least astonishment. "Lots of fellows do it."

"Do they indeed," returned Morton. "And what would my valuable services, considering my experience, be reckoned worth?"

"Well, that depends on what sort of appointment you got," answered Smith. "It's with missionaries as with some other situations, the less work the greater the pay. If you got into favour with a nice high-class congregation you would probably get from £80 to £120 a year, and the supply is not equal to the demand. But even if you should need to take a city mission, you would get £50, which would be sufficient to enable you to rub through."

"Hardly, I'm afraid, if all that I hear be true," responded Morton, with a drawing down of the corners of his lips which, the others knew, meant that there was something beyond the words.

"What's that?" they both exclaimed, in one breath.

"Well, I've heard of a well got up back parlour near a certain seat of learning in which the shutters are sometimes closed through the day to make an artificial light: the ongoings being of such a character that they are more in keeping with gaslight than the sunshine," said Morton. "Now, habits of that kind are, to say the least of it, expensive and scarcely to be kept up on £50 a year."

"Was it you that was peaching, Scott?" asked Smith turning towards his fellow student.

"That was an innocent admission, Tom," exclaimed Morton, with a laugh, in which the others joined, though they had turned somewhat red.

"Well, well, Morton, you've had your shy at us and your laugh, and I allow it's a fair enough hit," remarked Tom Smith after a pause, "but we're not so very bad after all. Gaslight and drink and our rattle are more in keeping with the back parlour of a pub. than after dinner teddy and bouncing about big subscriptions to funds, and queer remarks about brethren, are in a minister's dining room. But, see here, Morton, joking aside, won't you come up to the lodge at any rate?"

"With the mission in prospect," put in Scott, slyly.

By this time they had reached the gate of the West End Park, where they joined a little group of young men belonging to the same congregation who had gone off from the church door before them. One of this party caught the word "mission" in Scott's remark, and he said—

"Oh! here are the boys now. What's that you were saying about missions?"

"We were advising Morton to turn student and support himself by a mission appointment," said Smith.

"Oh, that was it, was it?" said the other, "I was hearing that Scott and you were down practising at a prayer meeting in the hall the other night."

It was rather a singular coincidence that the very same phrase occurred to both students as the proper answer to this serious accusation for they simultaneously exclaimed—

"It's a d——l of a lie."

The terms in which the denial was conveyed seemed to startle the group a little and for a moment no one seemed very well to know what to say. The man had put the question was looked upon somewhat in the light of a wag and he was the first to find his tongue. So when with a droll shake of his head he said in broad Scotch—

"Tam, Tam, yer an awfu' laddie; what'll we dae wi' ye," the group was ready to shake off the awkwardness in a little laugh; and after a general hand-shaking it dispersed.

Although his own home lay in a different direction, Morton still kept by Tom Smith, and after they found themselves alone there was not a word spoken by either of them for a short time. Smith knew that he had offended his companion, and Morton wished him to feel that he had done so. There were very few people on the road, and at last Morton, turning sharply upon his companion, said—

"See here, Tom, why did you use such an expression at the corner just now?"

"There, I knew it was coming," exclaimed the other, with a laugh that was somewhat forced. "But it was just a slip, I assure you."

"That's the worst of it," said Morton.

"What is the worst of it?" cried Tom in genuine surprise.

"That it is a thing likely to come out when you are taken by surprise," replied Morton steadily. "It ought to be an impossibility with you, Tom Smith, for it ought never to be in your mind to come out."

"Why did not you go with Scott and give him the benefit of your lecture!" said Smith, scarcely decided whether to take his companion's wigging in good part or otherwise.

"I thought you might perhaps have guessed," replied his companion a little sadly. The appeal went right home to Smith's better nature.

"I beg your pardon, old fellow, and I believe you have spoken out of pure regard for a certain scapegrace of your acquaintance," he said frankly. "I'm heartily ashamed of myself, and——"

"Ah! Tom, my boy, you don't know what an inheritance you've got," said Morton, soberly, yet with a smile. "With your frank, affable, nature, and the share of talent you have got you might win the hearts of everybody you came in contact with. Don't sell your birthright for a mess of pottage that will leave you ravenous the day after you eat it."

"Never fear, old man," said Smith, warmly, "and to show you that I've really resolved to do the correct thing, I'll tell what even Scott does not know. I've taken an appointment as missionary among the miners over beside Dixon's Blazes, and I mean to work it conscientiously."

"Have you, indeed! Then I hope you'll be successful," said Morton. "But my dinner will be growing cold; good-bye, Tom," and as they shook hands he added, "for my sake, don't have anything to do with Fotheringham."

Smith was hurt. Instead of the congratulation and praise he had expected for his voluntary goodness in going in for a mission, his communication had been somewhat coldly received and held as of much less consequence than his little faults. Morton's warning against Fotheringham would have been more effectual had he—even at the expense of a cold dinner—taken time to speak with Tom about his new appointment. As it was, Smith went off with the impression that he had been hardly treated—a feeling which was not likely to increase his respect for the advice of the person who had so used him.

(*To be continued.*)

Trade Notes.

A Weardale Wages Arbitration.—His Honour Judge Turner sat at the Zetland Hotel, Saltburn, last week, as arbitrator in a wages dispute from the Newlandside Quarries of Messrs Bolckow, Vaughan, & Co. at Stanhope, which had been referred to his arbitration by mutual consent of the employers and men. Mr C. E. Bell and Mr Henry Maddison sat as referees for the employers, and Messrs J. Emmerson and T. Watson for the men, whilst Mr J. Toyn conducted the men's case. The men suffered a reduction of one penny per ton in their wages in the latter part of last year, and have lately been endeavouring to obtain a return to the former rate of wages, but without success, and both sides agreed, to invite Judge Turner to arbitrate upon it. His Honour will give his award shortly.

Colliery Dispute at Framwellgate Moor.—At Durham County Police Court, on Wednesday, the Framwellgate Coal Company summoned forty-nine of their workmen for absenting themselves from work on the 29th and 30th April without giving fourteen days' notice, as required by their contract of service. The company claimed damages to the amount of 10s and costs from each man. Mr A. W. Granger appeared for the company, and Mr Skidmore, barrister, for defendants.—It appeared that for a long time past the men have been complaining about the deficiency in quantity and quality of the house coals with which they were supplied. Several conferences have taken place between them and the management in respect to this subject, and on the 29th April last, after some conversation with the Manager (Mr Shiel), the men refused to go to work, and absented themselves for two days.—After a prolonged hearing, the Bench said they were of opinion that the men had no justification for absenting themselves from work, and they considered the damages claimed reasonable, and therefore they made an order that each man pay 10s and the expenses.

"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), Picadilly, London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell an imitation of our Moc-Main. J. White and Co. have not any Agents.

Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road London

"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.

A WORD TO THE WISE

Being Warnings and Counsel to Young Men on Marriage, the Cause and Cure of Consumption, Loss of Flesh, Spitting of Blood, Weakness, Local Debility, Loss of Memory, Lassitude, Lowness of Spirits, Languidness, Incapacity for Exertion, Study, or Business, the Mind Irritable and Desponding, Palpitation of the Heart upon the least excitement, want of Vital Energy, Nervous Debility, Dimness of Sight, Premature Decay, and other fatal Diseases, which generally result from unskilful treatment and ignorance of nature's laws, with clear instructions to regain robust health and vigorous manhood. Sent free on receipt of 4 stamps. Address, Messrs. Wilkinson & Co., 8, Baker's Hill, Fitzalan Square, Sheffield, Eng.

1830. ESTABLISHED 1830.

Business Announcements.

TO THE WEARY.

"Throw Physic to the dogs,
I'll none of it."—*Shakespeare*

DO

TRUTH. READ THIS. TRUTH

No Person Need Despair

A SPEEDY RESTORATION TO HEALTH AND STRENGTH,

If he or she will carefully peruse the following, and learn that the great

SELF-RESTORER,

OR

DR. BELL

PATENT VOLTAIC BELT

IS the safest, grandest, and most certain discovery ever known for the cure of all bodily ailments arising from indiscretion and other causes. To those afflicted with Nervousness, Nervous Debility, Loss of Physical Power, Weakness of Body and Mind, &c., this invention presents a means of cure of so unfailing a character that the greatest sufferers from any of the above distressing complaints may, with confidence, rely upon being quickly restored to a sound state of health and strength. In fact, the many marvellous cures performed by the "Self-Restorer" (undeniable proof of which can be given) at once places these extraordinary Instruments far beyond anything of the kind hitherto offered to the public. In order to prove that these Belts are all they claim to be, it would be as well to mention the following circumstance:—

"IN the High Court of Justice (Queen's Bench Division) an injunction was granted on January 24th, 1884, restraining several unprincipled persons from selling any colourable imitations of the 'Self-Restorer' Belt, the Jury giving the proprietor a verdict with costs and damage, for such infringement." The belt was also explained, and its Electrical powers fully tested in open Court, both before Mr. Justice Hawkins and the Jury, upon the same occasion.

CAN *any other Manufacturer of Electric Belt produce evidence of* so severe a test. Surely, after such a proof as this, the most sceptical will believe that it really possesses the great restorative powers ascribed to it.

IT may be as well to mention that the action of the "Self-Restorer" is gentle but exceeding effective. The mild, but beneficial current generated by its use, braces the system, and by its benign influence gradually builds up the frame until the mind begins to get brighter, the natural functions become stronger, the elastic spirit of youth once more apparent, and so the progress towards recovery steadily goes on until the patient ultimately realises the fact that he is *once more young*. In cases of weakness, arising from any of the before-mentioned causes, these Belts are at once the most simple and at the same time the most certain remedy ever invented or discovered. They are entirely self-acting, and no acids being required, can be worn at any time without any wetting process or inconvenience to the patient, the salt contained in the insensible perspiration being sufficient to keep it in action.

THE Cures performed are not of a fleeting character, but permanent, providing the instructions sent with each instrument are carefully adhered to. It speedily removes the most miserable feeling, "lowness of spirits," so often experienced; and, after being worn a short time, enables a man to look at the future in a more hopeful light, as the certainty of a rapid cure relieve the mind of a great burthen.

HOW many persons who, by living too generously, have become prematurely old, and consequently have these wretched, morbid feelings? They have an idea that nature is decaying, and the pleasures of life have departed. In nine cases out of ten this is far from being the fact. Nature has not decayed: it is simply lying dormant, and needs but a little assistance to once more assert its presence. "The creaking gate requires oil, or it will continue to creak." So it is with the human frame. Assist it where weak, put it in a position to recover itself, and you will find that after all life has its pleasures, and you the restored inclination to partake of them.

THE beneficial action of these truly life-giving Belts upon the human frame has been proved so conclusively, by thousands of unsolicited testimonials, that no shadow of doubt remains as to their extraordinary efficacy. They can be worn by either sex with the greatest ease and comfort, without fear of discovery, and by a delicate arrangement can be adjusted to act directly upon the weakened parts, so that immediately upon contact with the body an electric current is at once produced of a mild, but withal of so efficacious a character, that an almost instantaneous improvement becomes noticeable. The heavy hanging feeling wears off, the eye becomes brighter, the brain clearer, until at last the patient feels in his own mind that he is once more in the possession of the greatest blessing upon earth, viz, Health, Strength, Energy, and Manly Vigour.

IN cases of Gout, Rheumatism, Paralysis, &c., there is no cure in the world to be compared to these Belts. Nature requires assistance in all these complaints, and that assistance to be thoroughly effective, must be obtained from Nature herself—thus, by calling into operation Electricity, a natural ally, congenial to all constitutions, is obtained, and the result is, in almost every case, permanent cures are effected. Again in case of Consumption, these belts have been the sole means of restoring thousands of both sexes to a healthy and vigorous existence when that fell disease "Consumption" had in the opinion of many eminent medical men, marked them as its victims. These are facts which can be proved to be absolutely true.

TO persons desirous of further information, instructions will be given away, in 130 pp. pamphlet, showing sufferers how they may be restored to Health, Strength, and Manly Vigour, without the *Aid of Medicine*, or will be sent, post free, together with all particulars as to regimen, diet, &c. Address—W. WRIGHT, Esq., Secretary, Volta House, 175, Wardour Street, Oxford Street, London W.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS MAY BE SEEN AT THE ESTABLISHMENT.

The Prices of Dr. BELL'S MEDICO-MAGNETIC or VOLTA BELTS are

£2 2s., £3 3s., and £5 5s each,

According to Power.

The instrument can be sent to any part of the known world, through the Post, securely packed, upon receipt of remittance. P.O.O made payable to Mr W. Wright, at the Charing Cross Post Office, London.

Measurement round the body, just below the hips, must in all cases be sent.

Note the Address:—

VOLTA HOUSE,
175, WARDOUR STREET, OXFORD STREET, LONDON, W.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

"Having been asked upon many occasions how it is that our Belts are higher priced than those now being advertised by new firms (with whom we have no connection whatever) we beg to call attention to following:

This Appliance is POSITIVELY WHAT IT PROFESSES TO BE—an "ELECTRIC BELT," which may be proved before purchasing by the Galvanometer, &c. It was explained and fully tested before Mr Justice Hawkins and a Jury in the Court of Queen's Bench, January the 24th, 1884. Moreover, it ENTIRELY DIFFERS from anything of the kind advertised.

A perusal of which will at once show the most dubious that our Belts are without doubt, infinitely superior to anything of a like character extant, and are as beneficial to exhausted nature as represented. They having stood the test for 30 years, as still further guarantee of their genuineness. 03

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE.

"TUBBING" UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

It seems to be part of an Englishman's creed that he ought to have a good splash with cold water every morning, but in foreign countries where the people do not take to "tubbing," he often finds it difficult to carry out his idea of personal cleanliness.

An English attaché at the court of Hanover searched the town for a portable bath-tub, and was forced to take up with two butcher's trays. The next morning he stood like the Colossus of Rhodes, with one leg in each, and sponged himself. The water ran over and through the floor; the tenant below was indignant, and the angry landlord ordered the Englishman to quit, saying:—

"I will never have another Englishman in my house. They are so dirty that they require a great deal of water, and it is nothing but vash, vash, splash, splash, every morning, to the injury of my furniture and the disturbance of the tenants beneath them.

"Besides, they will hang the enormous bath sponges out of the window to dry, and the passers-by make unpleasant remarks at the unseemly sight."

The English clergyman who tells this story was formerly chaplain to King Ernest of Hanover. In narrating his personal experience of the German indifference to water, he says: "I travelled once off the beaten track up a valley in a mountainous district, and the first morning after I left the high road, I had for my toilette a pie-dish for a basin and a quart pot of water.

"The second morning, further up the valley, I had for my ablutions a plate with a half pint glass of water; and the third morning, further still, there was no apparatus whatever for my toilet. When I asked for water to wash with, the landlord led me to the pump and gave me a table-napkin, as fine and small as a lady's handkerchief."

A friend of this clergyman, who asked his landlady for a tub, was answered that she had no bath-tub, but "would do her best for him." After several days during which he had pressed his demand, a blue and white dish with two handles, was placed in his room. Though it was the largest dish in the house, he could hardly get one of his feet in it. To his horror, at his first Sunday dinner, this utensil appeared on the table as the soup-tureen.

A baroness of Hanover once told the clergyman's wife that she never used anything but snow-water to wash in, as it was better for her complexion than pump-water. She bottled the snow in March, and used a little of the water in a cup, every morning, and so made it last through the whole summer.

VERY LONG WAITS.

Children sometimes find it hard at the dinner-table to sit quiet during the slight interval between the courses, while one dish is being removed and another brought in. A break of ten minutes in the middle of a concert or entertainment we endure with patience—perhaps, even with a sense of relief. A pause of a week in an interesting story—especially when the words "To be continued in our next" come in the middle of a thrilling incident—is aggravating, but even this one becomes accustomed to in time. Such pauses, however, as a year and six years are really too long for mortal endurance, while to expect anybody to wait eighteen hundred years for the issue of the next "bill of the play" is certainly quite unreasonable.

A story is told of a man of a very silent disposition who, riding in his gig over a bridge, turned about and asked his servant if he liked eggs. The man replied, "Yes, sir." Nothing more was said on the subject till the following year, when driving over the same bridge again the master suddenly turned again to his servant and said, "How?" to which the man promptly responded, "Poached, sir!"

This, however, as an instance of long intermission of discourse, sinks into insignificance beside an anecdote of a minister of Campsie, near Glasgow. It is related that the worthy pastor, one Archibald Denniston, was deprived of his ministerial office in 1655 and not replaced till after the Restoration. He had before leaving his charge begun a discourse, and finished the first head. At his return in 1661 he took up the second division of his interrupted sermon, calmly introducing it with the remark that "the times were altered, but the doctrines of the Gospel were always the same."

But in July, 1862, a paragraph appeared in the newspapers which throws even the minister of Campsie's interrupted discourse into the shade. It alluded, first of all, to the fact that at the moment of the destruction of Pompeii by an eruption of Mount Vesuvius, in A.D. 79, a theatrical representation was being given in the Amphitheatre, and then it went on to state that a man named Langini, taking advantage of that historical reminiscence, had just constructed a theatre on the ruins of Pompeii, the opening of which new theatre he had announced in the following terms: "After a lapse of 1,800 years, the theatre of the city will be re-opened with 'The Daughter of the Regiment.' I solicit from the nobility and gentry a continuance of the favour constantly bestowed on my predecessor, Marcus Quintus Martius; and beg to assure them that I shall make every effort to equal the rare qualities he displayed during his management."

THE ELEPHANT AND THE RAT.

Everyone knows the story of the mouse which, having been spared by a lion, afterwards repaid the king of beasts for his generosity by gnawing through the meshes of a net in which the noble animal had been caught, and thus enabling him to escape. A somewhat similar fable is told in Siam about an elephant and a rat.

"Once an elephant found the king of the rats had fallen into a large jar from which he could not escape. The elephant broke the jar with one blow of his trunk, and the grateful rat promised to repay him for the service if he ever had an opportunity. Years afterwards the elephant fell into a pit; a parrot flew over the spot, and the elephant asked her to go and tell the king of the rats, which she did.

In the night the rat came with millions of his subjects. They began scratching at the edge of the pit, and so quietly did they work, that the keeper, who was asleep within a few yards of them, was not disturbed. Long before morning they had thrown down sufficient earth to fill the pit, and enable the elephant to walk away and join his companions."

NUTS TO CRACK.

1.—She bloomed in solitude,
  A sweet and primal flower,
  And such a one as next would like to cull.
  She mourned a toss—proof of Nature's power—
  But he was lost, and now her life is dull.

2.—My whole is to make a noise; beheaded, a liquid; again, a measure; curtail and transpose, and I am part of the verb to be.

3.—In meat, not in fish.
In plate, not in dish.
In bake, not in roast.
In cape, not in coast.
In chin, not in eyes.
In cakes, not in pies.
In neat, not in tidy.
In Thursday, not in Friday.
Whole is an animal.

4.—Hidden Painters.—Meet me at Leigh to-night. Oh, do repeat those lines again. You could not help loving that little angel of mine. You had better rub Ensleigh's ointment on the sprained ankle. I hope the deer will turn ere it is too late. When you are in Scotland see Robert Burns's tomb.

5.—I am a word of eleven letters. My 4, 5, 6 is a number; my 1, 7, 8, 4 is a vehicle; my 11, 2, 7, 8 is close by; my 7, 3, 4 is an insect; my 4, 9, 11, 6, 2, 8 is an artisan; my 10, 1, 4 is to do; and my whole is one hundred.

6.—In hair, not in eye.
In crawl, not in die.
In pork, not in veal.
In hand, not in feel.
In air, not in ice.
In box, not in vice.
In fine, not in bad.
In true, not in glad.
My whole contains eight letters, and yet has twenty-six.

7.—My first is a city; my second is required in building; and my whole is an article of domestic use.

8.—My first is to spoil; my second is a number; my whole is an animal.

LAST WEEK'S KERNELS.

1. Mild. 2. Mum-pish. 3. Time, emit. 4. Able, Elba. 5. Water-loo. 6. Pilgrimage. 7. Lever, revel.

In the gallery of the Louvres, before the statue of the Venus de Milo. Little boy: "What did they cut her arms off for?" Mother: "Because she put her fingers in the sugar basin."

"Bobby," said the school teacher, "why did you take Frank's slate?" "Didn't take it," said Bobby, doggedly. "Bobby," said the teacher severely, "I saw you." "No you didn't!" yelled Bobby, "cause you were downstairs when I took it!" The teacher saw that Bobby had caught her fibbing, so she did not punish him for the same thing.

Hymns for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rate, by Robert Jackson, Consett.

Business Announcements.

GORDON'S EXTRACT

Is as much a Curative for Dyspepsia (Indigestion), Liver Complaint, and Kidney Diseases, as Bread for Hunger, or Water for Thirst.

Cures Coated Tongue, Dizzy Head, Bilious Vomit, Stomach Miseries, Agonies after Food, Accidental Indigestion, Chronic Dyspepsia, and a Hundred other Disagreeable and Painful Symptoms. "Gordon's Extract," Two Shillings, at all Chemists.

"GORDON'S EXTRACT" saved her children from being motherless as well as fatherless.

November 29, 1885.

Dear Sir,—I write to thank you for the two bottles of "Gordon's Extract" you so kindly gave me, and I am happy to say I am much better. I was suffering from a dreadful form of indigestion. I could not drink a drop of tea or coffee for months, if I did I suffered dreadful with the wind. At times I have been almost choked, continually belching up wind until my throat swelled so much I have had to struggle for my breath. Then I was seized with a dreadful trembling in my inside and all my limbs, with an awful sensation as though I was going out of my mind, and kept bursting into tears. I felt afraid to be left alone. No one but the Lord and myself knows what I have suffered; I also got very irritable. I am happy to say the above symptoms I have described have nearly all disappeared, and I have only taken one bottle and half the second bottle, and I do hope by the time I have finished taking that I shall be quite well, but if I had the means, I should always keep some by me, for this is the second attack I have had and the second time your valuable medicine, "Gordon's Extract," has saved my life. I can now take a cup of tea and enjoy it without feeling any pain. I have given all your books away, and have and shall continue to recommend it to every one I know. You are quite welcome to make what use you like of this letter, or anyone can come and see me or write to me, and I will tell them that your "Gordon's Extract" has twice saved my life, and my poor children from being left motherless as well as fatherless.

Yours truly grateful,
MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREYS
2, Briggs Row, Lower Richmond Road, Putney.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A SONG.

When the summer sun was shining
  In the lovely azure sky,
And the flowers were blooming brightly,
  Then they took me home to die.

Thinking ere the flowers were faded,
  Or the summer on the wane,
Quiet and for ever silent
  I should be released from pain.

Little knowing "Gordon's Extract"
  Would renew my life once more.
And the boy they loved and cherished,
  Should be merry as of yore.

Thanking God for every mercy,
  And the heaven-sent cure renowned,
Which restored the life fast waning,
  Making me both strong and sound.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

What a Ladies' Fashion Journal, of large circulation, says:—

"'Gordon's Extract' has been highly commended to me by a friend who appears to have derived great benefit from it, and who, having arrived at the last hour of despair of ever curing a long course of sick headache, took the 'Extract' without any faith in its efficacy at first. This opinion, however, was speedily changed, as a gradual but steady return to health testified to the genuine good done by a regular course of the medicine. At present my friend cannot speak too highly of the excellence of 'Gordon's Extract' in curing sick headache and biliousness. It also appears to be beneficial for many of the complaints to which flesh is heir, but which are not so serious as to need the doctor's aid. The 'Extract' is sold by all chemists at 2s. per bottle, and is by no means disagreeable to the taste."—*Myra's Journal* (*The Silkworm*), August, 1885.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

A CASE.

They said that he was dying.
  I watched him day and night.
I fancied every moment
  The spirit would take flight.

His life was hanging merely
  Upon the faintest breath,
Physicians told me sadly
  It was the approach of death.

But a dear friend I cherish
  A medicine famed did bring!
He soon began to flourish,
  To bloom as flowers in spring.

'Twas "Gordon's splendid Extract,"
  Which I now gladly bless,
Restoring life and health to him,
  To me true happiness.

GORDON'S EXTRACT.

LUMPS AS LARGE AS A MUSSEL-SHELL.

84, King George Street, Greenwich, S.E.
November 11th, 1885.

Dear Sirs,—May I be allowed to add humble testimony in praise of your valuable "Extract," which by God's blessing did me more good than all the medicine I got from two hospitals and three other doctors. I was suffering from extreme weakness, which brought on skin eruption, and on some parts of my body rose up in lumps as large as a great mussel-shell, that I could not bear myself for irritation. After suffering some months I read of a man who had suffered from a similar complaint. I had not taken half of one bottle before I found great relief. Before I had the "Extract" I was constantly rubbing myself with ointment, but since taking it have not wanted to use it. I have since bought and taken two bottles, and am happy to say I am so far well to be able to work.—I am, dear sirs, Yours respectfully,

CHAS. PARKES.

LADIES' COLUMN.

The weather last week was not favourable for the Indian and Colonial Exhibition, especially in the evenings, but during the day the crowds of visitors who could inspect the wonders under cover from rain and wind took their pleasure daily. Still there is the same controversy as to a portable name for the show, and while scholars are arguing the question the general public have quietly settled down into calling this year's "The Colonies," as being concise and comprehensive. The comic paper that called it "The Prince of Walesseries," was very nearly happy in its version, but the name is too long, and not sufficiently portable. The Colonials wandering about their respective courts are beginning to feel it a little lonely, and look as if their spirits drooped not a little. Evidently they want home faces and miss companionship. On every railway line we see the bronzed faces—the varieties of flesh tones the sun can give are very remarkable—travelling, not round London, but far from it. At railway stations the mere strangers are to be found alighting from carriages and inquiring their way to all manner of out-of-the-way places, as if they sought some home roof, or eagerly desired to find welcome from somebody.

What wonderful clothes' chests are the ladies' travelling trunks, big and heavy, and of unknown and unconventional types. The American trunk is a familiar sight in all European hotels, with its castor feet, metal clamps, and double locks. Private houses abhor and anathematise these coffers; especially do London suburban householders rage furiously at the monsters. There is no such thing as getting them up narrow staircases, and even when this feat has been accomplished, and the united efforts of the cabman and the most able-bodied member of the family have dragged the ark upstairs, there is no room to stow it away. As to the staircase walls, they tell the story of the Colonial invasion in a series of scratches, paper torn off in patches, and an occasional balluster driven from its place. But some of these great trunks are really beautifully mounted and got up. Instead of the plain iron-clamping at the corners, striking open work wrought metal, like Brobdingnagian book-clasps, finishes off the sides and ends. A few are brass, the greater number a white metal, presumably steel.

We hear a great deal from time to time of Boys' Homes; of the necessity for providing club-rooms and reading-rooms for young men in which to spend the leisure left them after the day's work is done. There are gymnasiums to promote vigour of body, and evening lectures to stimulate growth of mind. Until very recently no one ever admitted that girls required any recreation. A club-room for women suggested all manner of wickedness to good people, who were wont to declare that a woman's place was at home, and her evening should be spent by the fireside. But modern commercial life takes no account of these excellent but vague theories. Thousands and tens of thousands of working women in large towns have no homes, or no place worthy of the name. They have bedrooms, or half a room, or a quarter of one, to which they return at night to sleep from shops and warerooms, where there is neither light nor fire, and not a face to welcome, nor a voice to cheer them. Yet these girls are expected to lead virtuous lives, and practise industry and thrift when perhaps their wages do little but keep soul and a frail body together. A movement to provide Recreation Rooms for working girls in the East of London has found friends among wealthy ladies, the most active being the Duchess of Leeds; and Her Royal Highness Princess Mary of Teck has taken the society under her patronage. Nothing, no matter how good the work may be, can be done without money, and an amateur performance of Lady Arthur Hill's operetta, "The Lost Husband," described last week, will be given at St. George's Hall, Regent-street, on the 24th inst. The Duchess of Leeds, who is the moving spirit of the undertaking, has secured for the part of Rita, Mrs. Godfrey Pearse, the accomplished daughter of Mario and Grisi, a lady who has inherited the genius and vocal gifts of both parents. Mrs. Pearse may be said to have been the original "Rita," as on the first performance of the operetta at Downshire House, she created the part of the coquettish, shrewish little landlady. Mr. Cotsford Dick and Mr. P. Colnaghi will take the other parts, and Lady Arthur Hill will herself accompany. Afternoon performances suit so many people better than the evening, that there is sure to be a generous response to this scheme.

Christie's sale-room is one of the most remarkable places in London. It is closed during the autumn and early winter months, when buyers of costly pictures and other works of art, which are veritable *articles de luxe*, are out of town. To say that millions of money have exchanged hands in Christie's sale-rooms is not by any means to exaggerate. There have been many sales there realising a quarter of a million, like the Duke of Hamilton's pictures and furniture two years ago, and it is not necessary to go back very many years to tot up a sum of eight or nine figures. The actual buyers on these occasions, who appear in the rooms, are the agents of the real purchasers. Some gentlemen occasionally do their own bidding, but private people are likely to over-value or under estimate what they particularly desire to have, and feel safer under the guidance of an expert, who will see a flaw, or detect an imitation, almost at a glance. Besides the buyers at the Hope sale a crowd of curious people came to see the dispersion of the collection, and have a reflection of the excitement. The first 19 lots consisted of small stones set as rings and pendants, of comparative unimportance, at prices rising to £10 or £12. Then came the great sapphire, known as *le saphir merveilleux*, of which so much has been said, written, and read. Sapphires, unlike rubies, do not rise in value as they do in size. Stones larger than *le saphir merveilleux* have fetched lower prices, but this one was exceedingly well cut, well set, and had a history. To appearance it is merely a very large blue stone, facet cut, of octagon shape, surrounded by very small diamonds, mounted on a slight gold ring large enough for a scarf, if any-one would be so rash as to wear so valuable a jewel. The remarkable feature of this stone is its amethystine colour by night, and on this speciality the famous authoress, Madame de Genlis, founded a story. The first bid was for £100, the price rising by fifties until it reached £550, and then there was a pause, a silence of several seconds which seemed hours long. Some one then courageously added yet another £50, and competition carried on the figures up to 700 guineas, at which price the hammer fell. The King of Candy's cat's-eye, the largest known, is a large hemispherical stone, 1½ inches in diameter, and is mounted in massive pure gold, set with rubies, the original setting. The rubies are *en cabochon*, that is, not faceted, but slightly convex, the centre of the stone being carefully kept, so that the light sparkles as if the stone were cut. The cat's-eye sold for 840 guineas, a large price, part of which must have been for sake of its illustrious owners in times back. The unset cat's-eyes sold for small sums from two to five guineas. One, mounted as a gold ring, and a grotesque head carved in cameo on it, brought 24 guineas.

To speak of the largest pearl in the world, weighing three ounces, measuring in circumference 4in., and 2in. in length, is to raise the most magnificent expectations in the mind. Extraordinary this pearl certainly is, but not beautiful. It is pearshaped, at one side straight, at the other widening out, and in colour a sort of smoky grey. The big pearl is mounted as a pendant, having for its top an arched crown of five bars set with brilliants, and a gold border of emeralds, sapphires, and rubies. For this monster 600 guineas were given. This gem has been historically known since the 16th century. Another historical curiosity was an aqua-marine sword hilt made for Murat, King of Naples. Most people know that the different parts of a sword hilt have their own names, the handle, the pommel, the collar, and the cross-piece. Of these the first was aqua-marine, cut in facets of a beautiful delicate liquid colour; the second was jacinth, mounted in coloured gold leaf ornaments; the third, the collar, was of turquoise and jacinths; and the fourth, the cross-piece, of gold set with diamonds. As a specimen of the work of the jeweller and the lapidary this was an unique treasure, but it was never made for £280. One diamond cross sold for £375; a large brilliant, faultless, weighing 12 carats, for £400.

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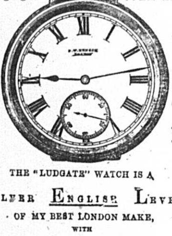

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"You want something to eat, do you?" inquired a man of a lame tramp at the back-door of his residence.—"Ay you plese, sor."—"What made you lame?"—"It was the earthquake, sor."—"An earthquake!"—"Yis, sir. Ye see, I'm an Italian from the island of Ischia, an' when the earthquake shuk up the surface av the planet it sprank me knee, an' I'm unable to wurk, which the same I'd be plased to do if I was able." The gentleman called his bulldog, and when that animal made a rapid exit through the gate, he was preceded by the Italian earthquake sufferer.

THE commercial traveller of a Manchester house, while in Cumberland, approached a stranger as the train was about to start, and said, "Are you going by this train?"—"I am."—"Have you any luggage?"—"No."—"Well, my friend, can you do me a favour, and it won't cost you anything? You see, I've two big trunks, and they always make me pay extra for one of them. You can get one passed on your ticket, and we'll do them. See?"—"Yes, I see, but I haven't any ticket."—"But I thought you were going by this train?"—"So I am; I'm the guard."—"Oh." He paid extra, as usual.

"JAMES, did you divide your paper of chocolate with your brother?" "Yes, certainly, mamma; I ate the chocolate, and gave him the motto—he is fond of reading, you know."

WE have heard of an economical man who always takes his meals in front of a mirror. He does this to double the dishes. If this is not philosophy, we should like to know what is.

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Business Announcements.

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On November 3, at Mayo, Mr. Parnell, M.P., said:—

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SPOILS OF THE CHASE.

Mr. O'Brien, M.P., at Bansha, county Tipperary, on February 8, 1885, said:—

"Organise every parish in this county; cast out dissensions from amongst you; banish all local squabbles for the sake of our great cause; stand together shoulder to shoulder like comrades in a great campaign; remember that if our struggle is a long and hard one the rewards and prizes of victory are very great; prairie rents for the farmers; less than prairie rents, if possible, for the labourers—(cheers)—for all of us a free and happy Irish nation, disenthralled from the long sufferings of centuries, invigorated and illumined with the sacred energy of national independence." (Loud and prolonged applause.)—*United Ireland*, February 14, 1886.

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THE SHOOTING AFFRAY AT SOUTH MEDOMSLEY.

DISCHARGE OF THE PRISONER.

At the Consett Police Court on Monday—before Jon. Priestman, Esq. (chaiaman), and a full bench—*William Wilson*, a non-unionist, working at South Medomsley Colliery, surrendered to his recognisance to answer a charge of attempting to murder Thomas Cooke, a unionist out on strike, on the 10th May.

Mr H. Forrest (instructed by Mr T. Foreman, president of the Durham Miners' Association), appeared to prosecute; while Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) defended the prisoner. Complainant was still in a feeble condition, and was allowed to sit when giving his evidence.

Mr Forrest having narrated the circumstances of the affray, urged the magistrates, if a *prima facie* case was established, to commit the prisoner for trial.

Complainant deposed: I remember Monday night, 10th May, between eight and nine o'clock, standing at the bottom of the row in which I live with my brother, when some of the non-union men passed on their way to the pit. As the men came past, prisoner being amongst the number, they commenced to "chaff" me. I followed after the men, and at length overtook them. My brother was following behind. I put my hands up when near to Brown's Cottages, and wanted to give them the "chaff" they asked for. Prisoner did nothing to me then, but as I was turning round to go off home, I glanced back to look at the men. Prisoner came from the rear to the middle of the road, and I saw him cocking a pistol at me. At length he fired, and the bullet struck me on the left breast, and I was severely wounded. My brother came towards me, and I was immediately assisted home by my father and brothers. Dr Brown was sent for and examined the wound that night. I furnished the police with a description of my assailant. I am perfectly certain the prisener was the man. The shot penetrated through my coat, vest, shirt, and under-vest, and entered my left side just beneath the nipple.

By Mr Welford: I gave the first description of my assailant on the day following to Supt. Oliver. There was no description given, to my knowledge or in my presence, of any person to Sergt. Thornton or any of the police that night. Information of the occurrence was given to the police. There might be ten or eleven "blacklegs" going to work, all walking together. There was nothing said by me as they passed the row ends. They were walking singly following one another in scrambling fashion [illegible] two of them, named Wilson and [illegible]. The latter was close to Wilson when I [illegible] stepped to one side, about two yards away, behind the prisoner. My brother would be a couple of yards distant, standing on my side of the road. The shot was fired from the middle of the highway. I was standing on the right-hand side coming from Dipton to the pit. When I gave the description to Supt. Oliver, it was taken down in writing. I [illegible] describe the appearance of the man, [illegible] mentioned the clothes he wore. I could not say who was standing next to Wilson at the time the pistol went off.

Mr Welford: Would you add any other particulars of the description furnished to Supt. Oliver if you had to give it now?—Witness: No sir.

John Cooke, miner, living with his father at South Medomsley, said he was standing at the bottom of the row with his brother, when ten or a dozen non-union men passed in the direction of the pit. His brother was a bit "drunkey," and some of the men "chaffed" him. He escorted his brother home as far as his father's house, when he got away from him, and went after the "blacklegs." Witness pursued his brother, who went round to the front of the non-union men, and "chaffed" them to fight. Witness saw Wilson step from behind his companions, and walk just behind Anderson, who stepped out of the way, just as his brother was returning towards Dipton. Wilson then pointed a pistol at his brother for two seconds, and then fired it. Witness was standing three yards from Wilson at the time. Prisoner, he was positive, was the man who discharged the weapon. Witness was standing at the right side of Cooke when he fired. He immediately ran and "clicked" hold of his brother, and he was taken into Brown's Cottages. Another brother ran for the doctor, and witness went and sought P.C. Lawson. He gave a description of the man to the officer, and told him he could pick out the person that fired the shot. On the day following, he was sent for by Supt. Oliver, and requested to pick the man out——

Mr Welford: I object to this. The prisoner was not there. This is not evidence.

Mr Forrest: The prisoner is there. Did you not pick prisoner out from ten or twelve men?

Witness: Yes; I did so. Besides the men who witnessed the affray, there were two women called Brown standing outside their cottages.

By Mr Welford: His brother was not very drunk. He did not give any other description except that furnished to Lawson. He was not aware that another man had been taken into custody. No one was present except Lawson when the descrition was given. He did not know the other men, and was not aware that one of them had since left the colliery. He described his brother's assailant as wearing a brown cap, dark coat, and knee breeches. He could recognise the man again. Wilson was carrying a little lamp, but he did not see a pick shaft. His brother was in bed when witness identified the prisoner.

By the Bench: It was turning in dusk when the affray arose.

By Mr Welford: He had never tasted drink that night. Witness was standing amongst the non-unionists when the shot was fired.

Mrs Thomasina Brown, of Pontop Cottage, and Mrs Martha Brown, also attested that one of the "blacklegs" fired the revolver, but they could not swear to the indentity of the man.

Halbot Brown, surgeon, practising at Dipton, adduced that on the evening of the 10th May, he was called on to attend Thomas Cooke in his own home. He was suffering from a punctured wound on the left side, about 2½ inches below the nipple. He examined the clothing, and found it perferated by something small. Anything round would cause the holes. Complainant was bedfast until Friday last, and he was still suffering from the effects of the wound. He had not been able to trace the bullet. He did not consider the wound dangerous.

Mr Forrest: I think it is dangerous.

Sergt. Thornton, stationed at Dipton, said that the witness Cooke, in the presence of Supt. Oliver, picked the prisoner from ten men standing at the row ends ready to go to work, and said "That is the man that shot my brother." He took Wilson into custody, and charged him in the Police Barracks, at South Medomsley, with shooting Thomas Cooke with intent to murder him, on the night previous. He replied, "I did not do it." Witness searched the man, and found in his possession a six-chambered revolver, each chamber fully loaded. He drew the charges shortly afterwards. (The pistol and cartridges were handed to the Bench for inspection.) Sergeant Thornton also produced the clothes complainant had on at the time of the encounter. From the holes in the garments, he believed the shot had been fired in a slanting direction.

By Mr Welford: He first received information about ten o'clock at night from P.C's. Johnston and Lawson. They told him that they had got a man. He was described as being a short, dark man. Kemp was a man that might answer the description, and had left the colliery a week after the occurrence.

A warm argument hereupon ensued between Mr Welford and the Magistrates' Clerk (Mr Granger) relative to the description of the man as given by Cooke to Sergt. Thornton. Mr Welford objected to the statement being entered on the depositions, adding that Lawson was the officer who received the first information, and he ought to have been called. Mr Welford asked what was the statement given by that officer to witness?

The Chairman and Mr Annandale both thought that Mr Welford asked for the description given to him by Cooke, as well as the statement made by Lawson.

Mr Welford denied that he put such a question.

The Sergeant repeated the statement of Lawson, and also gave the description furnished him by Cooke.

By Mr Forrest: Kemp, the man who ran away, was standing next to Wilson when he was recognised by Cooke.

The case for the prosecution having concluded, the prisoner pleaded not guilty on being charged with shooting at Cooke with intent to do grievous bodily harm, and Mr Welford said he should call ten or a dozen witnesses who would absolutely prove that the shot was not fired by Wilson.

Samuel Wright, a miner, employed at South Medomsley, said he was in company of the prisoner and others proceeding to work at 8·30 on the night of 10th May. The prosecutor, with two or three other men, was standing at the row ends. Cooke followed them about 200 yards along the road. Witness was about a yard from Cooke and four yards from Wilson when the shot was fired. Wilson was carrying a pick shaft and two blades on his right shoulder, and both his hands clasped the shaft when the shot went off.

Mr Forrest: Who fired the shot, then?—Witness: A man named James Kemp fired the shot.

Why did you not give that information to the police when they were trying to discover Cooke's assailant?—I was not asked to do so.

When inquiries were being made, why did you not, as a peaceable citizen, give this information to Supt. Oliver or Sergt. Thornton?—Because they never asked me. (Laughter amongst a large number of strike hands in Court.)

You knew that Wilson had been apprehended?—Yes; but I did not know what for. (More laughter.)

Were you amongst the ten men when Wilson was picked out by Cooke?—Yes.

Was Kemp there?—Yes; he was standing next to Wilson.

Why did you not tell the police there and then that Cooke had picked out the wrong man, and that Kemp was the person who fired the shot?—Because Cooke swore that Wilson had done so.

Mr Forrest: It was you duty to have spoken out at the time. Why did you not do so?

Mr Welford: He has already answered the question. He has come forward now, at the proper time, to say who discharged the revolver.

The Magistrate's Clerk: Why did you allow an innocent man to be arrested?—Because I did not see the shot fired by Kemp. (Laughter.)

Mr Forrest: Then how do you know that Kemp fired the shot?—Because Kemp came to me immediately afterwards and said, "If the first shot has not taken effect, I'll let him have another."

George Wood an old man, working at South Medomsley, spoke to seeing Kemp with a revolver in his hand. He did not see a shot fired by him, but he heard a report, and saw smoke arising from the direction of Kemp's head. He could not say that the prosecutor was wounded, but he remarked to Kemp, "I believe you've shot that man." The latter replied, "If I had not hit him with the first shot, I would have hit him with the second."

By Mr Forrest: Wilson might have fired the shot. He would not like to swear that Wilson did not fire the shot. He had never told the police anything. He thought it was not his place to tell Sergt. Thornton that the police had got hold of the wrong man. There were plenty of men nearer Kemp who were capable of telleng the police better than he could. If Kemp had still been at South Medomsley, he would have got into that box and swore that it was him who fired at the man. Kemp himself would never have denied it. If any other man, besides Kemp, had left the colliery, he would not have sworn to any one of them instead, if Kemp did the deed. He did not come there to swear falsehoods.

John Anderson, another "blackleg," affirmed that he did not see anybody fire a shot.

In reply to Mr Forrest, witness admitted that he had expressed his belief that it was one of the strike men that fired the pistol, and that the shot was intended for him. (Loud laughter.)

Several other witnesses [illegible] Wilson that set off the revolver, [illegible] standing that it was a [illegible] Kemp.

Mr Welford [illegible] police [illegible] intimated that [illegible] heard sufficient.

After a [illegible] consideration, the Chairman said: The [illegible] there [illegible] we decline [illegible] Wilson was therefore discharged.

The investigation of the case occupied nearly four hours. Although two Courts were sitting all the day, the business was not got through until after five o'clock.

SERIOUS STREET DISTURBANCES.

On Saturday evening, a severe encounter took place at South Medomsley between the "blacklegs" and the men out on strike. It appears the non-unionists had been imbibing too freely during the day, and towards night became terribly noisy and quarrelsome. They managed to get themselves intermixed with the Unionists, with whom they commenced to fight, and the *melee* culminated in a regular set-too with the fists. On more than one occasion, there was a free fight, and the small force of police now stationed at the colliery were quite powerless to quell the disturbance. Happily, the scuffle resulted in nothing more serious than a few black eyes, broken noses, and damaged visages.

Football.

Tanfield Lea Football Club.—The annual meeting of this club was held on Monday last in the Library, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President, the Rev T. H. Archdale; vice-presidents, the Rev C. H. Newman, and Messrs J. Watson and J. Ramshaw; treasurer, Mr T. Morton; secretary, Mr J. Smith, 16, Allen Square, Tanfield Lea. Committee: J. McDonald, James McDonald, M. Webb, J. Robbs, J. Gailes, and E. Gailes.

Cricket.

South Moor v. Ouston.—Played at South Moor on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the visitors. Score:—South Moor, 35; Ouston, 46.

Late Cricket.—Saturday's matches:—Ushaw Moor, 30; Croxdale, 10.—Esh Winning Lillywhites, 17; Kimblesworth, 43.—Hamsteels Red Star, 46; Shotton, 25.—Cornsay Colliery, 81; Brandon, 72.—Newcastle Grammar School, 1st innings, 10; 2nd innings, 24; Chester-le-Street Resolvers, 56.

BURNHOPE 2ND v. CRAGHEAD 2ND.

Played at Burnhope on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the home team. Score:—

CRAGHEAD.		BURNHOPE.	
J. Mills b Robinson	0	W. Lumley b Prudhoe	0
J. Prudhoe b Robinsn	1	J. Mason not out	18
S. Craggs c Lumley b Mason	4	W. Greathead run out	7
J. Dobson b Mason	2	W. Elliott b Craggs	0
D. Logan c Lumley b Robinson	2	A. Heckels b Dobson	13
J. Stephenson b Robinson	2	W. Winter b Craggs	8
G. Mains b Mason	0	J. Robinson not out	
J. Mills b Mason	0	T. Burnett	to bat.
R. Read b Robinson	1	J. Hobkirk	
J. Cummins run out	0	H. Burnett	
A. Galley c Lumley b Mason	0	H. Knowles	
Extras	1	Extras	17
Total	13	Total	63

Sporting Items.

The Oaks.—Miss Jummy, 1st; Argo Navis, 2nd; Braw Lass, 3rd. Time by Benson's Chronograph: 2 mins. 54 2-5 secs. Time last year: 2 mins. 43 2-5 secs.

Salmon Fishing at Corbridge.—Mr Urwin, of the Gas Works, Corbridge, caught a nice salmon of 10lbs weight in the river Tyne last week.

Gala at Hamsterley Colliery.—In splendid weather, the Hamsterley Lodge of the Durham Miners' Association held their 14th annual gala on Saturday afternoon, in a field at Blackhall Mill, under most favourable circumstances. The day being fine, hundreds of spectators assembled to witness the various events, some of which caused considerable excitement, especially the cricket and foot race. Appended are the results:—Quoits, 43 entries—Thomas Caine, Dipton, 1; Robert Wilson, The Spen, 2; Robert Armstrong, Dipton, 3. 120 yards foot handicap, 21 entries—William Brigg, 1; Thomas White, 2; Robert Fairlamb, 3. Skipping, 21 entries—Mary Liddell, 1; Elizabeth Charlton, 2. Football prizes—The following teams entered, and the prizes were taken by the two first-named:—Milkwell Burn A Team, Milkwell Burn B Team, Medomsley, and Hamsterley. There was also a cricket match between West Stanley and Hamsterley, which the former won by one run. The Spen Excelsior Reed Band was in attendance and played choice selections of music at intervals. Refreshments were provided in a large marquee by Mr T. Armstrong, Blackhall Mill.

Printing of every Description at the *lowest* possible prices by Robert Jackson "Guardian" Office, Consett Estimates furnished.

Hexham Police Items.—On Tuesday, at Hexham Petty Sessions, *Joseph Dodd*, brickmaker, employed at Walker's Brickworks, Corbridge, was charged with having assaulted George Freeborn, on the 26th ult. Mr J. H. Nicholson appeared for the complainant, and Mr Pruddah defended. For the prosecution it was stated that the chief reason for pressing the case was that the practice of men ill-using boys at the brickworks might be stopped. The Bench considered that the defendant had no right to take the law into his own hands, and a fine of 5s and costs was imposed.—*John Middleton*, labourer, Hexham, pleaded guilty to having had in his possession on the highway at the Bridge End, on the 16th ult., three rabbits and three rabbit nets and a penalty of £2 10s and costs was imposed, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment.—*Mary Moulding* and *Ann Salkeld*, married women, mother and daughter, were fined 2s 6d and costs each for assaulting Maria Watson on the 22nd ult. A cross-summons was taken out, but the charge was dismissed.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary meeting of the Board was held on Tuesday night, under the chairmanship of Mr Jos. Ridley. Present: Messrs W. Ridley, Hy. White, L. P. Wherly, W. Atkinson, W. R. Teasdale, W. Campbell, R. Sproats, and the Clerk (Mr Edward Milburn).

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Tow Law Local Board.

Gentlemen,—As it is the usual time for your Medical Officer and myself making our general quarterly inspection of the whole of your Board's district, it is not necessary to give you any particulars, as you will have the report of your Medical Officer at your next Board meeting. During the month, the ashpits and privies have been well attended to, and the principal portions of defective spouting remedied.—Remaining, your obedient servant,

W. Garraway, Inspector.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr J. Hillary), in his usual report, stated that he had flushed the sewers during the month, in accordance with instructions at the previous meeting; and the holes of the sewer at Inkermann and Ridley Terrace were also cleared out last week. He would like to have accompanied the Board when they inspected the flagging in the town had he known beforehand. He had deposited with the Board's treasurer £7 17s for residual products.

Monthly Paybill:

		£	s	d
Main roads:	Manual labour	2	19	6
Other roads:	Manual labour	1	4	6
Gas works:	Foreman's wages (including 5s 6d quarterly bonus)	6	1	6
Street watering and sewer flushing		0	10	1
Cementery:	Manual labour	1	15	0
	Team labour	0	13	0
Office cleaning		0	6	0
	Making a [illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	L[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

C[illegible] in their [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the stone from Mr [illegible] was rough and exceedingly hard [illegible], and in order to try an experiment, Mr Teasdale proposed that an order for 100 tons of limestone be given to Messrs Ord and Maddison, to be delivered at the Gas Works and the *depots*.

The Chairman seconded.

As an amendment, Mr W. Ridley proposed that the 100 tons be divided equally between the three parties—Ord and Maddison, Walton, and Spencer—and then they could see which stone gave the greatest satisfaction.

This was seconded by Mr Sproats.

The amendment was lost by three votes against five.

ST. ALBAN'S STREET.

It was intimated that Mr J. Calvert, of Consett, objected to pay his portion towards the kerbing, channelling, and making of St. Alban's Street, seeing that only one side of the thoroughfare is constructed, unless the Board give him an assurance that he would not be called to defray any further expense towards repairing the said street.

The Chairman said that the Board could not give such a guarantee until they took over the street, and they could not do so in its present condition.

Mr Teasdale: The only question is to compel the proprietor on the other side to complete his portion of the street.

The Clerk said all the parties had paid their quota towards making the street except Mrs Elliott's trustees and Mr Calvert. Two months notice was given to the agent of the Countess of Coventry to kerb, channel, and make the other side of the street in May, 1884, but it had not been attended to.

It was decided to give another notice to the Countess's agent to carry out the necessary works within a month.

CAMPBELL STREET.

On the motion of Mr Sproats, seconded by Mr Atkinson, it was resolved to accept the tender of Mr Joseph Ridley, jun., for relaying the footpath on the east side of Campbell Street, the Surveyor being directed to supervise the work as it progresses.

The Chairman was also deputed to engage a man to take up the flags at one end of the street and replace them elsewhere.

NEW RATE.

A general district rate of 6d in the pound was, on the proposal of Mr Wherly, seconded by Mr Atkinson, ordered to be sealed and passed.

THE BOARD'S MANUAL LABOUR.

The Clerk, acting upon instructions, read over the following statistics which he had compiled from the Surveyor's books regarding the cost of the Board's manual labour during the past six years, and the wages received by the roadman:—

	£	s	d	£	s	d
Ending March, 1881	46	15	8			
Additional labour	13	5	6			
				59	1	2
Ending March, 1882	48	14	6			
Additional labour	3	18	0			
				52	12	6
Ending March, 1883	44	16	6			
Additional labour	3	0	5			
				47	16	11
Ending March, 1884	45	4	6			
Additional labour	8	4	6			
				53	9	0
Ending March, 1885	48	7	9			
Additional labour	8	4	6			
				65	12	3
Ending March, 1886	40	10	3			
Additional labour	18	13	1			
				59	3	4

The average for the six years is £67 14s 11d.

For lamp lighting, the man had been in receipt of £9 2s 6d.

Quantity of road metal used:—

1882	304 tons.	1884	107 tons.
1883	616 tons.	1885	334 tons.

Mr Teasdale remarked that he thought there would be an increase in the extra labour.

Mr Atkinson understood that in Mr John Emmerson's time, the roadman was in the habit of leaving his work to do some hay-making. (Laughter.)

The Chairman: Yes, and he executed some channelling. He also does something at the Gas Works.

The Clerk pointed out that, taking all things into consideration, the man was engaged rather more than full time.

Mr Ridley: We did not expect he would lose any time.

Mr Wherly suggested that the question of offering the manual labour to public competition be delayed for another month, to give the members an opportunity of considering the statistics presented.

The Chairman advised those desirous of making a change to prepare specifications for performing the work by next meeting.

Mr Teasdale believed that if the work was let publicly, it could now be done for much cheaper.

Mr Ridley ridiculed the idea of letting the manual labour by contract.

Mr Wherly explained that in the years 1881 and 1882 the man did more work for less money.

Mr Ridley said that the roads were considerably better now than they were at that period. He moved that the Surveyor be not empowered to employ extra manual labour without the consent of the Board or the Streets Committee. He remarked that first one member and another fancied some job he wanted carrying out, and instead of waiting or pushing on their roadman, another extra man was put on, and this consequently increased the expenditure. If any of the members had anything to say against the present roadman, let them speak out.

Mr Wherly seconded the proposition, which was eventually carried.

Further consideration of this subject was left over.

FINANCIAL.

The Clerk reported the balance in hand to be £63 4s 9d. Cheques amounting to £28 10s 9d were presented for payment, which would leave the Board with £34 14s in the bank.

On the motion of Mr Ridley, seconded by Mr Atkinson, cheques were drawn in favour of the several amounts.

THE CEMETERY: WHERE THE PARSON DONS HIS SURPLICE.

Mr Atkinson, speaking as a Churchwarden, said he was not satisfied with the decision of the Board relative to the dilapidated house in the Churchyard.

The Chairman explained that if the Churchwardens repaired the house, the Board would pay the expense as a year's rent, and the Vicar promised to hand it over to the Board.

Mr Sproats: What use is the house to us?

Mr Atkinson: It is utilised as a tool-house by the cemetery keeper, and for keeping the barrow therein.

Mr White: Do not the clergy meet at the house, and put on their surplices there? (Laughter.)

Mr Atkinson: No, not now.

Mr White: Where do they put on their surplices?

Mr Teasdale: On the road. (Laughter.)

Mr White: They'll not do that.

Mr Atkinson: I have seen Mr Hughes leave a house and put his surplice on when entering the cemetery gates. (Laughter.)

Mr Ridley: The clergy can go to the cemetery and come home with their surplices on. (Laughter.)

Mr Sproates suggested that the police be requested to keep the children out of the cemetery whenever there was a funeral.

The Chairman thought it best to lay the matter before the sergeant, as the children were a nuisance, especially on Sundays.

This course was agreed to, Mr Wherly remarking that this was another point in favour of the County Government Bill.

After dealing with other matters, it was agreed to hold a special private meeting that day week, to take into consideration various items in connection with the new cemetery.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

On Wednesday night, the ordinary meeting was held in the Parliament Street Buildings, Consett. In the absence of the chairman (Mr Wm. Jenkins, [illegible]), Mr J. Collinson was voted to preside. There were also present: Messrs W. Shell, W. Aynsley, [illegible], J. W. Davison, J. Calvert, T. Dunne, [illegible], J. Palliser, G. Ainsworth, the clerk (Mr T. W. Welford), and the surveyor and inspector (Mr W. Rippon).

A COVERED-IN GOODS STATION.

Touching this matter, the annexed letter was read:—

North-Eastern Railway,
Goods Manager's Office, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
May 26th, 1886.

Dear Sir,—Your letter of the 21st inst. respecting Consett Goods Station, addressed to our secretary, has been handed to me.

When the question of accommodation at Consett and Blackhill was raised by you in November last, the matter was fully considered, and arrangements made for traffic in loads of not less than one ton, being dealt with at the Old Carr House S. and D. siding, and at the Leadgate siding, at an extra charge of threepence and sixpence per ton, according to the nature of the goods. This arrangement has been in force from the 1st January, and evidently appears to give satisfaction, as a great many of the inhabitants of the district avail themselves of the privilege, and we have had no complaints from any one. Trusting this will be satisfactory to your Board, I am, dear sir, yours truly,

[illegible] p.pro. W. Fraser.
J. J. Dewar.

Mr Davison said the reply was not satisfactory.

Mr Aynsley pointed out that a petition, signed by 100 tradesmen in the town, which had been forwarded to headquarters, indicated that they were not satisfied, and that they wanted warehouse accommodation. It was very inconvenient, and they incurred great risk in having such articles as flour, potatoes, &c., exposed to the wind and weather; without any shelter or protection from the wet at the Carr House sidings.

The Chairman, while regarding the present arrangement as unsatisfactory, said they must infer from the letter that the railway authorities had no direct complaint from a single individual.

Mr Shell: The petition, signed by a large body of tradesmen, ought to have some weight.

Mr Aynsley considered that, when they paid an extra 6d per ton for conveying their goods up to Carrhouse, they ought to be provided with some sort of accommodation.

Mr Shell proposed that the Clerk write again to the Railway Company, drawing their attention to the memorial previously forwarded from the tradespeople of Consett, pointing out the existing arrangements were not satisfactory, also urging the absolute necessity there was for a covered-in station or warehouse accommodation at Carrhouse, and stating that considerable losses were liable to occur to the goods from exposure.

This was seconded and agreed to.

THE NEW PARK.

A letter was read from Mr Philipson, solicitor acting for the Consett Iron Company, intimating that the leases were duly signed, and suggesting that the Board request Mr Robert Clark (the Company's agent) to formally transfer the recreation ground to the Surveyor, on behalf of the Board.

Mr Siddell said that Mr Murray had received authority from Mr Clark to take over the land.

Mr Murray said it was only a verbal order; and the members thought such authority was not an official declaration.

Mr Murray proposed that the Surveyor write to Mr Clark, asking him to fix a day when he could meet him, and formally hand over the recreation ground to the custody of the Board.

This was seconded by Mr Shell.

Mr Siddell moved, as an amendment, that the Clerk write to Mr Clark asking him to meet the Park Committee of the joint Boards, and arrange for the ground to be handed over to their possession.

Mr Davison, in seconding, considered the latter proposal more business like.

Mr Ainsworth and Mr Palliser thought there should be an opening ceremonial.

Five members voted for the motion and five for the amendment, which was lost, the Chairman giving his casting vote in favour of the former.

The Park Committee recommended that the Surveyor be directed to carry out the instructions approved of last month; that a working Park-keeper be engaged at a wage not exceeding 21s per week, to carry out the instructions he may receive from the Surveyors of the two Local Boards; also, that the Surveyors be instructed to have all pigstyes and buildings removed from off the Park grounds.

Mr Davison: Why do you require a man at 21s a-week?

Mr Aynsley: Because we want somebody to look after the ground. It has to be a real working man, not to go about with his hands in his pockets, to do odd jobs, and prevent the great destruction to property going on at present.

Mr Shell expected that the labourer engaged would not find a permanent situation, but could be discharged at any time when his services were not needed.

Mr Siddell: Is he to be under the control of the two Surveyors?

Mr Aynsley: Yes.

Mr Siddell: No person can serve two masters. Never a' one. (Laughter.)

Mr Dunne: I know a person that sits on two Local Boards. (Loud laughter.)

Mr Aynsley proposed, and Mr Palliser seconded that the minutes of the Park Committee be confirmed.

Mr Siddell said they were going to send for a man, and when he came they would kick him downstairs. (Laughter.)

APPOINTMENT OF MEDICAL OFFICER.

Only one application—that of Dr Geo. Renton, of Blackhill—was received in response to the advertisement in the *Guardian* for a Medical Officer of Health, rendered vacant by the resignation of Dr W. M. Renton, who has removed to Chester-le-Street.

On the motion of Mr Aynsley, seconded by Mr Shell, Dr Renton was appointed, at a salary of £15 per annum, the appointment being terminable by a month's notice on either side.

The Clerk was ordered to notify the Local Government Board of the appointment.

THE SCARLET FEVER OUTBREAK.

Owing to the operation of special regulations drawn up by the Local Board, with the co-operation of the school teachers and managers, and medical gentlemen, for dealing with the scarlet fever epidemic, it was stated that the disease was being abated at Consett, but was increasing at Blackhill.

Mr Siddell: Is the Joint Hospital Board prepared to receive patients of this kind in their new building at Leadgate?

The Chairman: Yes, there are twelve beds and a nurse there.

THE CHURCH BOUNDARY WALL.

The Vicar of Consett (Rev F. Steggall) wrote, on the 2nd inst., stating that owing to the bad and dangerous state of the church boundary wall in Church Street, the churchwardens found it necessary to take part of it down and re-build it. In doing so, he wished to remove the present entrance for carts opposite to Mr McNally's, and doing away with an existing nuisance; and would require a ~~little~~ repair to the footpath. They would also be glad of the Board's permission to make the necessary alterations, and would feel obliged if the footpath was likewise repaired.

Mr Murray proposed, and Mr Shell seconded, that the Vicar's request be attended to.

THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

A letter was read from the Rev Thomas Durant, pastor of the Baptist Church, asking the Board to reconsider the question of cementing the footpath in front of that place of worship, which it was decided to carry out last back-end.

Mr Shell proposed, and it was seconded by Mr Dunne, that the footpath be cemented.

This was agreed to.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT

Subjoined is the Surveyor's (Mr Rippon) monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Consett Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the past month your workmen have been chiefly engaged in maintaining the roads in your district, several of which have been scraped and made uniform, and dressed up for the summer. Your streets also have been properly scavenged and watered when required.

I have received from Messrs Ord and Maddison 103 tons of rough limestone, which is being broken for the ensuing season.

As directed by you, I have put in the main sewer behind Aynsley Terrace, up to a point opposite Mr Daly's new buildings. Also the kerbing on that portion of Foundry Row opposite to Mr Gibson's new house has been rectified.

I have repeatedly inspected your district, and report the majority of the ashpits with only a small quantity of refuse in them, there being several, however, which required immediate attention. I have served 24 notices for the abatement of nuisances, the most of which have been properly attended to.

I have received and paid to treasurer the following amounts:—

	£	s.	d.
General District Rate	189	3	5
Market tolls	2	0	0
Removing house refuse	1	3	6

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
William Rippon.

Consett, June 2nd, 1886.

THE FIRE AT DIPTON.

The Board agreed to accept the sum of £3 17s offered by the Insurance Company for the Consett brigade preparing to attend the fire which broke out on the premises of Mr Maddison at Dipton in February last.

It was also resolved, on the motion of Mr Ainsworth, that in all cases where the brigade is despatched to extinguish fires outside the Board's district, a reasonable amount shall be paid by the owner of the property for the use of the hose and reel.

After signing the cheques, the Board adjourned.

POOLE'S DIORAMA AT CONSETT.

During the present week, commencing on Monday night, Mr Joseph Poole has been exhibiting his well-known and highly-popular diorama, known as "Trips abroad," in the New Town Hall, before crowded and delighted audiences each evening. This is the only occasion that this exhibition has been in the North of England, and the present is the first visit to this town. The diorama is an entirely new, original, and successful enterprise. Commencing with notable views of London and other places in the south, the visitor is carried in imagination across the Atlantic to New York. Then he goes at a bound to the Arctic regions, passes through St. Petersburg, and eventually arrives in Egypt, by way of Tirnova and Varna. The bombardment of Alexandria is vividly illustrated, and the terrible fire in that city is reproduced with marvellous power. The charge of the Guards at Kassassin; the rush upon the entrenchments at Tel-el-Kebir, and the grand review at Cairo after the Egyptian war came next, and all alike evoke loud applause. The last-named is a particularly clever production, and never fails to arouse enthusiasm. The Soudan war is the next to come under illustration, the defeats of Hicks and Baker naturally coming first and the fall of Khartoum last. Indian and other views follow, but we need not pretend to enumerate them. They are all wonderfully good, and the effects of different lights upon scenes—daylight, moonlight, gas-light, &c.—are shown with the skill which has made the name of Poole famous in connection with dioramas. The shipping scenes are simply marvellous. This is, in fact, a special feature of the diorama, and the realism with which it is produced evokes the heartiest approbation. The various scenes are tersely described, and by way of affording agreeable changes several vocalists appear as the entertainment progresses, and considerably enlivens the proceedings. The entertainment has been such a brilliant success this week that Mr Poole has decided to remain at Consett another week. Those who have not availed themselves of an opportunity of visiting this excellent entertainment are strongly urged not to miss this favourable chance of spending a few hours' instructive enjoyment.

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

DRUNKENNESS.

Thomas Walton was convicted of being intoxicated at Westgate, and was fined 7s 6d and costs.

A KICK-UP AT CRAWLEYSIDE.

Isabella Greenwell, who seemed to be deeply affected at the provocation she had received, was charged, at the instance of Wm. Slack, with breaking a window-pane in a cottage belonging to the Weardale Iron and Coal Co.—The story as told was neither very good to understand nor very interesting, and defendant offered no defence.—A fine of 6d and 11s 6d costs was imposed.

DISORDER AT A SALE.

Three men named *Featherston*, *Jackson*, and *Wm. Roddam* were summoned for being drunk on the premises of Mr Wearmouth, St. John's Chapel; and the landlord was charged with allowing drunkenness.—Mr Maw, for him, said it was the custom in the North for solicitors and auctioneers to provide punch, &c., at sales, and one was taking place at Mr Wearmouth's house, at the instance of his (Mr Maw's) friend, the Magistrates' Clerk. The prospect of cheap drink drew persons to the place for drink's sake, and hence this unpleasantness.—It transpired that two of the men, but not Roddam, were fighting.—Roddam and the landlord were fined 10s each; the other 15s each.—P.C. Thompson and Sergt. Hann (who came from Jarrow to give evidence) furnished the testimony.—Roddam made a long and somewhat extraordinary statement, and called witnesses to support it. He complained that he was the victim of ill-usage, and had been starved in the cells at St. John's Chapel. He went to the inn to do business. So far from being ordered to pay a fine which he could not pay, he ought to get damages for the ill-treatment he had received. He had not employed a solicitor to defend him, because he was unable to afford it.—It was contended for the landlord that, out of humanity, he allowed Roddam to remain in the house till some members of his family should arrive with a trap, which was expected.—The license was not endorsed.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Thomas Coleman was charged on two summonses with neglecting to send his children regularly to school.—Mrs Coleman's defence was poverty; but it transpired that she ought to have applied for fees remission earlier. She had only done so that day. A month had elapsed since the expiry of the first order entitling her to the remission of school fees.—She was fined 5s on the first charge, and the other was dismissed.—She said her children would have to be pinched to pay the fine. Being strangers in the place, they could not get credit. The children had been starved enough through the winter.

"Rough on Rats."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, flies, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 4d. and 1s. boxes.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

Tuesday, June 1st. — Before the Rev G. P. Wilkinson (chairman), Rev Chancellor T. E. Espin, and C. E. Backhouse, Esq.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLIES.

William Moore, miner, for being drunk at Tow Law, 15th ult., was fined 7s 6d, including costs.

Robert Horsley, wool manufacturer, drunk on the highway at Wolsingham, was fined 10s, including costs.

THROWING STONES.

Joseph French, aged 10 years, was charged under the Town Police Clauses Act, with throwing stones at pigeons in the street at Tow Law, on the 23rd ult.—The charge was proved by P.C. Colling, and defendant was fined 7s, including costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

Isaac Batey, *James Thompson*, and *John Dyer*, all of Tow Law, were charged by Wm. Garraway, school attendance officer, with not sending their children regularly to school at Tow Law.—They were each fined 5s, including costs.

Matthew Elwood, Whitekirkey, was charged by M. Hallmond, school-attendance officer, with not sending his children regularly to school at Frosterley, and was fined 10s, including costs.

THEFT AT TOW LAW.

A respectable-looking man, named *Ralph Marley*, blacksmith, in the employ of the Weardale Iron and Coal Co. at Tow Law, was charged with stealing from his employers five hammers, six punches, six chisels, and four swages, of the value of 13s 10d.—For the defence it was contended that the goods were bought as scrap from the plaintiff's by defendant eleven years ago, and had since been remodelled by him.—The Bench considered the charge proved, but owing to prisoner's good character, decided to fine him £2.

THE GOVERNMENT AUDITOR AND UNPAID GAS BILLS.

The Tow Law Local Board proceeded against *Jos. Walworth*, innkeeper, and *John Rispin*, coke-drawer, to recover unpaid gas accounts.—Walworth, it was stated, had gone to America, and the Bench made an order for the amount due (£1 13s 5½d).—Mrs Rispin said sickness and absence from work made her husband poor.—Mr John Hillary, collector, asked the Chairman if he could make terms with defendant. He said that the Government Auditor had called attention to these unpaid balances, and had threatened if he had further complaint to make to surcharge either the collector or the Board.—The case was withdrawn on condition that defendant, who is paying by instalments already, clears off the balance with all speed before the next audit in July.—The sum due is £1 14s 10½d.

DEATH OF MR. ROBERT TAYLOR, OF CONSETT.

It is with deep regret we have to announce that Mr Robert Taylor, one of the oldest and most respected inhabitants of the district, has died at his residence at Consett Grove, in the 81st year of his age. Deceased, who spent his lifetime in the Consett neighbourhood, has been in ailing health for about six months. He was originally a farmer, and acquired, through the death of an uncle named Selby, the Consett Grove Estate, and with the establishment of the Iron Works at Consett, the value of this property was considerably enhanced, as the ground was speedily disposed of for leasehold building sites. The whole of the south end portion of Consett belonged to the deceased, who was, with the exception of the Consett Iron Company, the largest property-owner in Consett. Although Mr Taylor never in his career took any active part in public affairs, being of a somewhat reserved and retiring disposition, he was a staunch Conservative, and a consistent Churchman. He was a bachelor, and had a sister living with him, who is over 91 years of age. He was widely known throughout the North of England, and was universally respected by all classes. Latterly, he has lived in retirement. His death resulted from natural decay. The whole of his numerous properties and estate fall into the hands of Mr W. R. Taylor, of Selby Lodge, Consett. The remains of the deceased gentleman were laid in their last resting place this (Friday) afternoon, in the Churchyard at Castleside, the funeral being one of the largest that has been witnessed for a considerable time.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills will be found the best friend to persons afflicted with ulcerations, bad legs, sores, abscesses, fistulas, and other painful and complicated complaints. Printed and very plain directions for the application of the Ointment are wrapped round each pot. Holloway's alternative Pills should be taken throughout the progress of the cure, to maintain the blood in a state of perfect purity, and to prevent the health of the whole body being jeopardised by the local ailments; bad legs, old age's great grievances, are thus readily cured, without confining the patient to bed, or withdrawing from him or her the nutritious diet and generous support so imperatively demanded, when weakening diseases attack advanced years or constitutions evincing premature decrepitude.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Crookhall.—14, Red Row, 31st ult., the wife of R. Nimmins, of a daughter.

Winlaton.—Rectory Lane, 3rd inst., the wife of J. R. Bagnall, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

Durham.—St. Oswald's Church, 3rd inst., Mr Geo. Wm. Procter, of Consett, to Miss Mary Ellen Brown, of Brandon.

Bishop Auckland.—Register Office, 22nd ult., John Varley, Mount Pleasant, Crook, to Sarah Jane Rowell, East Hedleyhope.

DEATHS.

Consett.—22, Constance Street, 30th ult., aged 12½ years, Percy George, son of Geo. and Mary Ann Hillman.

Consett Grove, 1st inst., aged 81, Robert Taylor.

3, Furnace Row, 3rd inst., infant daughter of Geo. and Eliza Farnsworth.

Blackhill.—84 Durham Road, 19th ult., James William, aged 8 months; 30th ult., aged 3 years and 8 months, Henrietta; also, 2nd inst., aged 8 years and 9 months, Margaret, children of Wm. and Margaret Clark.

Croniwell.—(At the residence of her son), 2nd inst., aged 65, Elizabeth, widow of the late Thomas Heppell, of Shildon.

Dipton.—30th ult., aged 70, Mrs Mason.

Kyo.—29th ult., aged 51, Ralph, husband of Isabella Johnson.

Burnopfield.—28th ult., aged 69, Ann, wife of Thos. Cuthbertson.

Oxhill.—South Tanfield Colliery, 27th ult., aged 3 months, James, son of Robert and the late Catherine Ray.

Muggleswick.—Spring House, 3rd inst., aged 25 years, William Pattinson. To be interred at Muggleswick, on Sunday, 6th inst. To leave residence at Three o'clock. Friends, please accept this intimation.

Langley Moor.—25th ult., Thomas Sewell Hill, railway platelayer, aged 53.

2nd inst., aged 2 years, Maud, daughter of John Hamer, fireman.

Swalwell.—Schoolhouse, 1st inst., James Wilfrid, infant son of Wm. Spiers.

Eighton Banks.—28th ult., aged 4 months, Jane Agnes, daughter of W. Galloway.

MOURNING GOODS.—HUGH MORTON and CO., 55, Grainger Street, Newcastle, directs attention to their Immense Stock for Men, Youths and Boys, ready for immediate wear, in all the Newest Materials and Latest Styles. Men's Black Worsted Suits, from 21s. to 49s. 6d.; Youths' Suits, from 16s. 11d.; Boys' Suits, from 6s. 11d. Single Garments at proportionate prices. Suits made to order in a few hours. 94w

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MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN MARBLE, STONE, AND GRANITE,
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Inscriptions neatly executed in Town or Country.
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