COAL & STONE MACHINES.
OSTON'S OAL BORING MACHINES, all Steel, from 25s. to 36s.
BOSTON'S RATCHET STONE BORING MACHINES, with 3 Drills complete, 35s.
THOS. BOSTON,
WHOLESALE IRONMONGER & TOOL MANUFACTURER,
NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

T. BOSTON received the highest award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1882. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 5ib

The Consett Guardian
DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,595 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. | FRIDAY EVENING, March 13th, 1891. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

ROBERT JACKSON
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK South Medomsley Cottages.

Money.

MONEY TO LEND on Freehold Security.—Apply to JOHN G. MURRAY, Solicitor, 42, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Consett.

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the ERECTION of HOUSE, TWO SHOPS, WAREHOUSES, &c., at Consett, for Mr JOSEPH MURRAY, Merchant.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed will be received at the above office on or before Tuesday, March 17th, 1891.

No pledge is given the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
February 25th, 1891. 93e

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE Committee of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, Limited, are desirous of receiving TENDERS. for proposed ADDITIONS and ALTERATIONS to their Business Premises at Annfield Plain.

Drawings, specifications, and conditions of contract may be seen at our office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed, will be received at the above office, on or before 4 p.m., March 17th, 1891.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
February 28th, 1891. 149

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are desired for Proposed ADDITIONS ALTERATIONS, PAINTING, PAPERING, &c., at Leazes House, near Burnopfield, for Mr W. J. Handcock.

Drawings, specifications, and conditions of contract may be seen at our office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed will be received at the above office on or before Monday, March 19th, 1891.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
February 28th, 1891. 148e

TO BUILDERS AND PLUMBERS.

TENDERS are invited for certain HOT WATER and other PLUMBING, with accessory Builder's Work, at The Firs, near Witton Gilbert, for W. LOGAN, Esq.

Drawings and Specification may be seen on application to the undersigned, who will receive Tenders up to Monday, 16th inst.

No pledge is given to accept any Tender.

J. W. ROUNTHWAITE, A.R.I.B.A.,
Architect,
13, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill.
5th March, 1891.

TO PAINTERS.

WANTED, Tenders for the PAINTING in connection with the Langley Park Branch Premises of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society. Specifications can be seen by applying to the Manager at Langley Park.

Tenders to be sent to the Committee on or before Monday, March 23rd, 1891. 205e

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET the several WORKS required to be done in the ERECTION of SMALL ADDITIONS to the Co-operative Stores, Langley Park, for the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, Limited.

Drawings, Specifications, &c., may be seen at the Co-operative Stores, Langley Park.

Tenders, sealed and endorsed, to be sent to the Architect's Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge, on or before 4 p.m. on Friday, March 20th.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
March 11th, 1891. 208e

TO CONTRACTORS, &c.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for the TEAM WORK required for the ensuing 12 Months. Conditions, &c., may be seen at the Local Board Offices, on and after Saturday, the 14th inst.

A form of tender will be supplied on applicat[illegible] and no tender will be considered unless it is [illegible] on the prescribed form.

Tenders marked "Team Work," and [illegible] the Consett Local Board will be receiv[illegible] addressed to o'clock, noon, on Wednesday, the 1[illegible] up till 12 [illegible] April.

By Order of the Board,
216e THOMAS WM. [illegible] WELFORD, Clerk.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the ERECTION of a HOUSE in Park Terrace, Consett, for [illegible] T. J. JACKSON.

Plans and Specifications may be seen, and forms of tender obtained, at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders to be delivered to us, on or before Four p.m., on Wednesday, the 25th day of March, 1891.

No pledge is given that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted.

JOHN SMITH AND SON, Architects.
March 12th, 1891. 214e

LANCHESTER UNION RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

SOUTH MOOR SEWERAGE.

TENDERS are invited for the above WORKS, which include the Construction of about 450 Yards of 10 and 15 inch Earthenware and Cast Iron Pipe Sewers, and the Preparation of Land for Filtration Purposes.

Plans and Specifications can be seen, and quantities obtained, on application to Mr J. E. PARKER, A.M.I.C.E., Union Offices, Lanchester, after the 19th inst.

Sealed and enclosed Tenders should be sent to the undersigned on or before April 1st.

W. H. RITSON, Clerk.
Lanchester, Durham, March 12th, 1891.

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union invite TENDERS for supplying the Workhouse at Lanchester with Flour, Groceries; Butcher Meat, Preserved Meat, Coal, Coke, Coffins, &c., for twenty-six weeks from the 26th instant, and also for the CARTAGE of LIMESTONE from the Railway Station to the Workhouse for twelve months from the same date.

Forms of Tenders specifying the quantities of the various articles required may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom sealed Tenders with samples, so far as practicable, should be sent not later than Wednesday, the 18th inst.

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

WM. H. RITSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.
Lanchester, March 5th, 1891.

Lost.

EITHER STOLEN or STRAYED, a Black and Tan CUR DOG; lame in right fore leg; answers to name of "Bronze."—Anyone returning the same to Park Lodge, Shotley Bridge, will be rewarded. 221e

Wanted.

SHOOTING.—Wanted, within easy distance of a station on the Consett line, Mixed Shooting on one or two farms.—Apply by letter Box "C," Guardian Office. 96c

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

Wanted.

WANTED, Two APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply, Miss ROBSON, 15, Cort Street, Blackhill. 210e

WANTED, a Good Strong BOY as an Apprentice to Joiner and Carpenter Business.—Applications, in writing, to *Guardian* Office. 211e

WANTED, a Self-Contained HOUSE of 5 or 6 Rooms; possession at once; Consett or Blackhill.—Apply, *Guardian* Office. 218e

WANTED, a Good GENERAL SERVANT; one not under 20 preferred.—Apply to the *Guardian Office.* 217e

WANTED, at May Term, by Farmer's Daughter, age 22, situation as HOUSEKEEPER.—Apply, B.S., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 199e

WANTED, Good MILLINER to take own Orders, and assist in Sales; permanent to suitable hand.—Apply to J. H. OSBORNE, Shotley Bridge.

WANTED, at the Consett Co-operative Store, a Journeyman GROCER.—Written applications to be sent in, enclosing testimonials, age, and wages expected. Applications received up to noon on the 17th inst. 219e

TO CARETAKERS.—WANTED, at the Consett Co-operative Store, a Man and Wife, as CARETAKER and LIBRARIAN, to reside on the Premises.—Applicants to meet the Committee on March 10th, at 7·30 p.m.

LANCHESTER UNION.
NURSE.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR of the LANCHESTER UNION require the services of a FEMALE NURSE for the Infirmary at Lanchester Workhouse. Salary £30 per annum, with rations and residence.—Applications in own handwriting, stating age, not exceeding 40 years, experience, with three testimonials, to be sent to me on or before the 18th instant.

W. H. RITSON, Clerk to the Guardians.
Lanchester, March 5th, 1891.

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE.—WANTED, SERVANTS able to Milk, Bake, Wash, and do General Work.—Apply at SERVANTS' REGISTRY, 13, Front Street, Consett. 86d

MRS WHELAN'S REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS.—Newmarket Street, Consett. MISTRESSES supplied with SERVANTS of every kind, on the shortest notice, and all information obtained.

SERVANTS of all classes suited with situations promptly and without any trouble. Communications by letter or otherwise carefully attended to. 514a

To Let.

TO BE LET, from May-day, 1891, in portions, WEST CONSETT FARM.—Offers will be received up to March 24th, by N. CLARK, Beamish Park, Chester-le-Street. 215e

For Sale.

FOR SALE, excellent COW, time up; and two CALVES.—A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 140e

HAY FOR SALE.—Apply to GEORGE WADE, Butcher, Front Street, Consett. 990d

FOR SALE, Cheap, a few WELSH BIBLES and TESTAMENTS, at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 843d

FOR SALE, a Clever Brown FILLY, 2 years old, about 14 h.h., by "Even."—Apply, PORTER, Boundary House, Lintz Green. 204e

FOR SALE, Good Strong TRAP.—Apply, M PEARS, Stanley Bank Head, Stanley, R.S[illegible]

3 ROAN BULLS FOR SALE; one [illegible] one 1½; and one year old,—[illegible] 2½ years; HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett [illegible]pply to Mr

£300 APPROPR[illegible] Start-P[illegible]ATION FOR SALE in Subscriptions on [illegible] Bowkett Building Society; (Harrogate). [illegible]ook, £18 10s; what offers in cash, Bridge, C[illegible] Apply, JOHN GIBBINSON, Shotley [illegible] Dinham.

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, 1d. per lb., at the *Guardian* Office.

AMERICAN ORGAN FOR SALE, 12 Stops and Couplers. Will be sold very cheap.—Apply, 2, Poplar Street, South Moor Colliery. 152e

FOR SALE a Large Assortment of CART, GIG, and SPRING CART HARNESS, WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, CART COVERS &c.—The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North, THOS. OWEN, 67, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. T. OWEN has a consignment of Second-hand HARNESS, &c., for Sale.

Business Announcements.

A BIG DIVIDEND.

THE GREATEST DISPLAY OF TWEEDS & WORSTED PATTERNS in the North of England. ☞ See Windows.

OVERCOATS.

☞ My Leading Overcoat, 35s. Scotch and Irish Tweed Suits, £2 5s., splendid value. Special Fancy Worsted Trousers, 12s. 6d., unequalled. Black Worsted Suits, £2 15s., at desperate prices.

3s 6d. IS SAVED IN THE POUND BY BUYING YOUR SUITS AT J. HUTCHINSON'S, FOR CASH ONLY.

London Fashions Weekly.

J. HUTCHINSON,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

MUSICAL TUITION.

SILVER MEDALLIST OF THE MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON, FOR PIANOFORTE PLAYING.

GEORGE DRYDEN (late pupil of Mr. Hemy) Organist of Medomsley Church, having obtained First-class Honours in Pianoforte Playing, also Certificates in Theory and Harmony, at the Examinations (before Dr. E. M. Lott) in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and in THEORY.

Special Preparation for Examinations.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 1, EAST PARADE, CONSETT

MUSIC EMPORIUM.

T. JONES is now prepared to supply direct from the Manufacturers. PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS at the Lowest Possible Prices.

A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.
BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.
☞ MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.

PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

Note the Address:—
T. JONES,
5, CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office), CONSETT. 992a

OVERCOATINGS AND WINTER SUITINGS.

COMPLETE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK.

J. BRODIE,
FRONT STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
83, GRAINGER STREET, AND SCOTSWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

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

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

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, 1891.
SPRING SEASON.

GEORGE RICHARDSON,
IS DAILY RECEIVING DELIVERIES OF NEW GOODS FOR APPROACHING SEASON. INSPECTION INVITED.

TAILORS, DRESSMAKERS, AND MILLINERS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT.

ESTABLISHED 1830. 101e

MONEY SAVED IS MONEY EARNED.

ROBERT WILLEY

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that his carefully-selected STOCK OF GOODS IS OF THE FINEST QUALITY PROCURABLE.

5/- IN THE POUND
Can be saved by Purchasing Goods at this Establishment.
NOTED FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS.
BOTTLER OF BASS & CO.'S INDIAN PALE ALE, AND GUINNESS'S DUBLIN STOUT.
MILD and BITTER ALES ON DRAUGHT.

R. WILLEY,
CONSETT TEA HOUSE,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.
Give the BEST VALUE in
GROCERIES,
PROVISIONS,
FLOUR, AND FEEDING STUFFS,
WHISKEYS,
BRANDIES,
AND OLD PORTS.
200 PAIRS OF BOOTS TO BE CLEARED OUT CHEAP FOR STOCK-TAKING.
NOTE THE ADDRESS—
T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

☞ TAKE NOTICE.—EVERY SATURDAY

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN
SINGLE TOOTH, from 2s. 6d. A COMPLETE UPPER or LOWER SET, from 20s.
EQUAL TO NATURE IN APPEARANCE.
THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT
(OPPOSITE MOUNT PLEASANT HOTEL).
ATTENDANCE: EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 P.M. TILL 6 P.M.
N.B.—Country Patients visited at their own homes by appointment—without extra charge. 858a

ALL OUR CELEBRATED TEAS REDUCED 2d. PER LB.
TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.
ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.

JOHN HUME & SON,
BAKERS AND MILLERS, TEA AND TOBACCO MERCHANTS,
8, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

Having recently added the Tea Trade to their Business at Consett for the benefit of their numerous Customers, offer the above Brand—the best and Cheapest Tea in the Market—try it.

"PURE" CEYLON TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.
PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.
GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d

TOBACCO.
ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST AND ROUGH CUT, 3d. PER OZ.

Flour & Feeding Stuffs of every description delivered to any part of the District at the lowest possible prices. Sole Makers of the Celebrated "Optimus" Horse Mixture and "Germ Meal."
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

ESTABLISHED 1817.

GEORGE HOBSON,
MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HARPERLEY & CATCHGATE STEAM & WATER CORN MILLS,

NOTED
FOR THE BEST AND CLEANEST HORSE FEED.

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

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

TRY G. H'S PURE WHITE WHEAT MEAL, MANUFACTURED BY HIMSELF, AND CANNOT BE SURPASSED.

LINSEED AND COTTON CAKES, BEST QUALITY, WHOLE AND BROKEN, FINEST LINSEED, &c.

Boxings, Sharps, Bran, and all Kinds of Feeding Stuffs at the Lowest Market Prices.

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

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

NOTE ADDRESS:—GEORGE HOBSON, HARPERLEY MILLS, LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,
AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the cause of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or the ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificial Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

DOBSON GRADON,
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN,
BLACKHILL.

HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH LEVER WATCHES, £3 6s. 0d.

OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.

WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

The "RALEIGH" CYCLES, surpassed by none, equalled by few.
The "BROOKES" is a deservedly World-renowned Machine.
The "DON," a Perfect Frame, Strength combined with Lightness.
Also, the "MOHAWK" and "RIVAL" Machines.

ALL MACHINES FITTED WITH PNEUMATIC AND CUSHION TYRES.

Excellent Workshops, on the Premises, and reliable Workmen, who execute all Repairs

PNEUMATIC CUSHION TYRES FITTED TO ANY MACHINE.

WRITE FOR PRICE LISTS TO THE SOLE DISTRICT AGENT:—

J. DUNCAN HODGSON,
SINGLETON HOUSE, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

PIANOFORTES. HARMONIUMS.
AMERICAN ORGANS.
LARGEST STOCK IN THE NORTH. SUPPLIED ON THE EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM AND DELIVERED AT ONCE.

	FROM		FROM
PIANOS	£18 18 0	HARMONIUMS	£4 4
AMERICAN ORGANS	6 6 0	CONCERTINAS (LACHENALS)	1
CELESTINAS	5 15 0	CONCERTINAS Do. (ENGLISH)	2 12
MUSICAL BOXES	2 2 0	MELODEONS	0 10 6
AUREPHONES	2 2 0	ORGAN ACCORDIONS	3 15 6

EVERY INSTRUMENT NEW AND GUARANTEED FOR TEN YEARS.
LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.
BE SURE AND SEE OUR STOCK IF IN WANT OF A REALLY RELIABLE INSTRUMENT, OR WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

JOHN G. MURDOCH & CO., LD., 47, PILGRIM STREET
NEWCASTLE.
AND BRANCHES THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN AND THE COLONIES.

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER & VALUER, Land, House, Insurance, and Emigration Agent, Share Broker, &c. Intending Emigrants can be Booked in the finest Ships to America and all our Colonies. Valuations and Auction Sales of Agricultural Stock, Contractors' Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

BLUE BANNER TEA
IS THE TEA FOR STRENGTH,
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.

BLUE BANNER TEA
IS THE TEA FOR FLAVOUR,
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.

BLUE BANNER TEA
IS THE TEA FOR PURITY,
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.

BLUE BANNER TEA
IS THE TEA FOR EVERYBODY,
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.

BLUE BANNER TEA
IS THE TEA FOR YOU,
AND DON'T YOU FORGET IT.

IN HALF AND QUARTER-POUND PACKETS ONLY, OF ALL GROCERS AND CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

BRADY & MARTIN, Scientific Instrument Makers
SPECTACLES.—Best Glass, from 3s. 6d.; Pebbles, from 8s. 6d.
OPERA GLASSES, MICROSCOPES.
Price Lists on application.
27, 29, and 31, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 141d

THE
MISSES HARKER
BLACKHILL,
TEACHERS OF PIANOFORTE & VIOLIN.

PUPILS carefully Trained for Theoretical and Practical Examinations. Violins, Bows, and Strings from the best Makers. Tutors, Sheet Music, obtained on the Shortest Notice.

☞ TERMS ON APPLICATION. ☜ 974d

DON'T FORGET!

GEORGE McNEAL,
BILL-POSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HANDBILLS delivered at [illegible] 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Pit Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton, East Castle, &c.

£1 TO £10 MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Parts in time to return same day. RAIL FARE ALLOWED.

TAILORING (*PAR EXCELLENCE*).

S. SWALWELL,
TAILOR AND DRAPER, DIPTON,

BEGS to INTIMATE that his PRODUCTIONS in CLOTHING are giving unbounded satisfaction to the numerous Customers who entrust him with their Orders.

OVERCOATINGS, COATINGS, SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS in the Newest Patterns, AT LOWEST PRICES, consistent with quality.

A TRIAL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

MANCHESTER CORPORATION CONCENTRATED MANURE.

MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT.
BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c.
ANALYSING ABOUT

38·66 per Cent.	of ORGANIC MATTER containing
3·60 ,,	of AMMONIA.
5·08 ,,	of ALKALINE SALTS containing
0·90 ,,	of POTASH.
8·57 ,,	of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.
2·50 ,,	of SULPHATE OF LIME.

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 50 miles of Manchester in not less than Two Ton Lots, and within 150 miles in not less than Four Ton Lots.—Special quotation beyond 150 miles.

£3 PER TON.

Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made

HY WHILEY, SUPERINTENDENT,
Cleansing Department, Town Hall,
Manchester.
680d

Football.

_ Secretaries of football clubs would greatly oblige us by despatching their reports so that they may reach our office not later than *Wednesday* morning.

ASSOCIATION.

Wylam beat Horsley, on the former's ground, by one goal to nil.

Darlington St. Hilda's Reserve beat Tow Law Reserve by one goal to nil.

Sacriston Heroes beat Edmondsley Strangers by five goals to two on the ground of the latter.

High Row Strangers v Streetgate Rising Star.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by one goal to nil.

Medomsley Juniors v Esh Excelsiors.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by four goals to nil.

Dipton Wanderers Reserve v Ebchester Swifts Reserve.—Played at Ebchester, and after a close and exciting game the Wanderers proved victorious by one goal to nil.

Cornsay Wanderers 2nd v Hedley Hill Fell Harriers 2nd.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the Harriers by five goals to one.

Barcus Close Juniors v High Row Rising Stars.—Played on the former's ground, and resulted in an easy win for the home team by six goals and three disputed goals to one.

Hobson Rovers v Kip Hill Wanderers.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a pleasant game the result was a win for the Rovers by three goals to two.

Kip Hill Wanderers v Oakey's Lilywhites.—Played on the ground of the former, before a good number of spectators, the Wanderers winning by two goals to nil.

Leadgate Park v Cornforth Church Institute.—Played at Cornforth, the home team winning by four goals to nil. The Park were very weakly represented.

Leadgate East End Rovers v Crookhall Wanderers 2nd.—Played on the ground of the latter, a very even game resulting in a win for the Rovers by one goal to nil.

Spen Heroes v Lintz Merry Rovers.—Played on the former's ground. The Merry Rovers turned up a few men short, but obtained efficient substitutes on the field. A good game resulted in a draw—one goal each.

Dipton Wanderers v Cornsay Rovers.—Played at Dipton before a good attendance. Cornsay commenced with great dash, and scored a goal soon after the start. This put the Wanderers on their mettle, and shortly afterwards they equalised, and before half-time they scored No. 2. In the second half, the Wanderers still maintained their superiority, but only managed to score another goal. Final result:—Wanderers, three goals; Cornsay, one goal.

Tantobie Royal Stars v Flint Hill Albion.—This return match was played on the former's ground, and resulted in a victory for the Stars by four goals to one. The following team represented the winners:—Goal, T. Burns; backs, J. Hunter and J. Dawson; half-backs, W. Pile, J. Aitchinson, and J. Pile; forwards, J. Harrison and M. Trewick, right wing; R. Moslom, centre; E. Arkless and T. Beck, left wing.

Quebec St. Michael's v Cornsay Wanderers.—Played on the ground of the former in two thirties, and resulted in a victory for the "Saints" by four goals to nil. Waugh played well for the winners, one of whose men was hurt and had to leave the field. The following team did duty for the "Saints":—Goal, T. Cagill; backs, M. Boyle and B. Suddes; half-backs, E. Price, E. Connell, and J. Laidler; forwards, J. Fineran (capt.) and P. Cavander, right wing; T. Waugh, centre; T. Welsh and J. Burke, left wing.

Towneley Wanderers v Shield Row Rovers.—Played on the ground of the former, and after an exciting game ended in favour of the Wanderers by two goals to nil. The home team was as follows:—Goal, J. Surtees; backs, Smith and Grundy; half-backs, Paley, Forster, and Hockety; forwards, Towler and Hutchinson, right wing; Middleton, centre; Sheely and Bates, left wing.

Consett Albion v Bishop Auckland Forge Rovers.—The Albion journeyed to Bishop Auckland to play the latter, the game being in two forty-fives. Consett won the toss, and elected to play with a slight breeze in their favour. Auckland started the game, and after some give-and-take play the visitors carried the leather into the home goal, and Watson headed through, scoring the first goal for the Albion. The interval arrived without any more scoring being done. Shortly after commencing the first half, W. Atkinson, the Albion inside right, received an ugly kick in the eye whilst heading a ball, and had to retire until the second half. The Albion re-started, and despite playing against the wind, Atkinson scored a second goal for the visitors. Nothing further resulted, and when the whistle sounded the Albion were victorious by two goals to nil.

Quebec St. Michael's 2nd v. Esh Winning Rovers.—Played on the ground of the former in two thirties. The Rovers won the toss, and elected to play with the wind, and at half-time the score stood—Rovers, two goals; Quebec, nil. On commencing the second half the home team quickly rushed through a goal. After some give-and-take play Quebec scored a second goal from a free kick. Final score—Quebec, three goals; Rovers, two goals. Garr, Finegan, and H. Cagill played a splendid game for the "Saints." The following team represented the winners:—Goal, F. Belton; backs, P. Murray and G. Kurtler; half-backs, W. Dixon, M. Gorman, and T. Goundry; forwards, H. Cagill and T. Garr, right wing; T. Cagill, centre; C. Flynn and M. Finegan, left wing.

Leadgate Park Reserve v Newcastle Olympic.—Played on the Park ground, before a good number of spectators. The visitors won the toss, and Snowdon commenced the game. Immediately after the start the visitors began to press, a goal kick resulting. After the kick was taken, the home right wing transferred play to the other end. From a pass by Snowdon, "Carr" scored the first goal for the Park. The remaining portion of the first half was of an even character, the ball travelling quickly from end to end. Before half-time the Park registered two more goals, and at the interval the score stood—

Park ....Three goals
Olympic ....Nil

After a few minutes' rest, the ball was set in motion again, and the Park, with a slight wind blowing in their favour, kept up a continual attack on the visitors' goal. The halves tackled and kicked with great judgment, but the forwards made poor attempts to score. However, before the call of time three more goals were obtained, and when the whistle sounded the final score stood as under—

Park ....Six goals
Olympic ....Nil

Park team:—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, T. Hewitt and A. Graham; half-backs, S. Rayner, J. Gedling, and T. Stephenson; forwards, J. Todd and "Carr," right wing; J. Snowdon, centre; C. Foreman and T. Reed, left wing. Umpire, Mr W. Brears. Referee, Mr J. Robson.

Tow Law v Darlington St. Hilda's.—These teams met at Tow Law to play their return fixture. The first game between the two teams was played in November, when Tow Law proved victorious after a hard struggle by one goal to nil. The "Saints" contended that the result of the previous game was a fluke, and made no secret of their intentions to turn the tables on this occasion. The home team were able to place their full strength on the field, and the game was watched with great interest by a large crowd of spectators. St. Hilda's won the toss, and elected to play with the wind. Tow Law kicked off, and at once the visitors began to press. The pressure was maintained for the first quarter-of-an-hour, but the defence of the home team was excellent. Tow Law now warmed to their work, and began to test the Darlington defence very severely. At length Coulson gained possession, and made a splendid run down the field. When near the corner flag he centred, and Graham headed through one of the finest goals ever obtained on the Tow Law ground. This success was hailed with deafening cheers, and encouraged by the shouts of their supporters, the home team kept pegging away at the visitors' goal, but the defence was fine. Half-time was called shortly after, the score standing—

Tow Law ....One goal
St. Hilda's ....Nil

On resuming, the game was again finely contested. The Tow Law forwards worked like Trojans, and after a piece of pretty combination Coulson headed into the goalkeeper's hands. He fumbled with it, and Coulson banged it through; but the referee ruled him off-side, and the score was disallowed. However, the home team played up harder than ever, and shortly after Graham got possession and scored with a lightning shot. Nothing further was done, and a finely-contested game resulted in a win for the home team, the final score being—

Tow Law................................Two goals
St. Hilda's ....Nil

Tow Law were represented by the following team:—Goal, Hildreth; backs, Temperley and Potts; half-backs, Wilson, Ward, and Beckwith; forwards, Coulson, Conroy, Keogan, Graham, and Watson. Referee, Mr P. McCabe.

Leadgate Exiles v Langley Park Rovers.—Played at Leadgate in two thirties. The visitors won the toss, and elected to play down the incline, with a slight wind in their favour. The home team had to defend their goal in the first five minutes, but danger was averted, and the Exiles paid a visit to the other end, and a scrimmage took place in the Rovers' goal. The ball was claimed to be through, but the point was too near, and the visitors got the benefit of the doubt. Play was pretty even for a time, when the home team played up better, and soon showed to advantage, and after making several attempts succeeded in scoring. Upon the ball being set in motion again, the Rovers played more determinedly, but could not break down the defence. Half-time arrived with the score one to nil in favour of the home team. Play was very quiet for a time after resuming, but the Exiles soon settled down, and by some good play added four more goals. Final score—

Exiles ....Five goals
Rovers ....Nil

Kepier School (Houghton) v Houghton Wednesday.—Played on the school ground before a good number of spectators. In the first half play was of a give-and-take nature, no scoring being done. Changing ends, the Wednesday, who are a very strong team, scored No. 1. The school shortly afterwards equalised by a shot from McConnell (1). The Wednesday again ran the ball up, and scored No. 2. The school having the best of the game, two minutes from time Harrison equalised, the game ending in a draw. Final score—

Kepier School ....Two goals
Wednesday................................Two goals

Mr Bookey and Rowell played a splendid game at back, the halves also assisting the forwards very well. The following team represented the school:—Goal, F. West; backs, Mr Bookey and Rowell; half-backs, Todd, Snaith, and McConnell (3); forwards, Harrison and McConnell (2), right wing; Aynsley and Veitch, left wing; McConnell (1), centre.

Hedley Harriers v St. Anthony's (Walker).—This match was played on the Harriers' ground before a large number of spectators. The home team won the toss, and elected to play up the hill. Tambridge kicked off for the visitors, and play was very even for about ten minutes, when Jas. Harrison put in a shot a trifle too high. The Harriers were now having the best of matters, and the full backs being well up the field, Rowell put in a shot which just rolled past the post. The home team seemed determined to score, and Brydon put in a shot from the left which was well saved by the visitors' goalkeeper, who also saved a capital attempt of Tipple's. The Harriers were then awarded a corner, which Harrison placed splendidly, and Brydon headed through. Nothing further was done up to half-time, which found the score standing as under—

Harriers................................One goal
St. Anthony's....................................Nil

On re-starting, the visitors tried hard to score, and put in a shot which Potts saved well. The Harriers now made a splendid run, and Brown scored No. 2. The home team still continued to press, Brown putting in a shot a little too high. Although both sides made good attempts to score, nothing further was added, and when the whistle sounded the final score was as follows—

Harriers ....Two goals
St. Anthony's....................................Nil

Castleside Rovers v Castleside Bottle Warmers.—The above match, which was for a supper, was brought off at Castleside before a good company of enthusiastic supporters, the Bottle Warmers being a team of old exponents of football. The Rovers commenced the game, and for the first ten minutes give-and-take play ensued, after which the Bottle Warmers played up brilliantly and scored their first goal. The Rovers then had a turn of luck, and shortly after equalised from a bit of neat play on the part of Ripley, Byers, and Jackson. From now until half-time play ruled pretty even. Watson for the Rovers, and Wilkinson, for the Bottle Warmers, shone conspicuously, the whistle sounding half-time with the score—

Rovers ....One goal
Bottle Warmers ....One goal

Lee commenced the second half, and the Bottle Warmers soon began to press, but were just as soon repulsed by the lads, who playing with the wind and renewed energy, soon began to wear down the Bottle Warmers. Play raged very even until the Rovers were allowed a free kick in front of the goal. Watson took the kick, passed to Byers, who notched the second goal for the Rovers. This seemed to encourage the "young uns," who took advantage of the lead and continued to press with great vigour, they soon managed to break the combination of the scratch team. The Rovers again got a free kick for hands. Watson landed the ball into the goal mouth, and Raine, who had more than once saved his charge splendidly, fisted out grandly, and play was taken to the half-way. The Rovers, by good combination, took the ball right down and Lee shot well. Raine fisted out, but was beaten by Lee, who headed through. The whistle shortly afterwards sounded time, with the score

Rovers ....Three goals
Bottle Warmers ....One goal

RUGBY.

Rockcliff Juniors beat Ryton Juniors, at Ryton, by one goal and one try to nil. Lister and Jefferson were the scorers. The visitors played two men short throughout.

Barnes Rovers and Stargate Juniors played on the ground of the former, and after a very exciting game, the match ended in a draw in favour of the visitors by four minors to one.

South Shields Y.M.C.A. 2nd v Blaydon 2nd.—These teams met at Westoe, and a very pleasant game resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—South Shields, one try and two minors; Blaydon, one minor. Swainston scored for the home side, who played 14 men.

1st D.V.R.E. (Jarrow) v Shotley Bridge St. Cuthbert's.—Played on the ground of the former, a pleasant game resulting in a win for the home team by one goal, six tries, and two minors to nothing. H. Corbett 3, J. Cuthbert 2, W. Nixon 1, and J. Mills 1, obtained the tries, and J. Lamb kicked the goal. Shotley Bridge played four short, and Jarrow two short.

Consett 2nd v Blaydon Stars.—Played at Blaydon, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by two goals, one try, and one minor to one try and a minor. The game was an exceptionally good one. At the commencement the home team had the wind in their favour, and got a try within the space of five minutes, but it was not improved upon. The Consett men now pulled themselves together, and rushed the leather to the half-way flag, where it remained for about five minutes, some give-and-take play ensuing. At half-time the score stood—

Blaydon ....One try
Consett....................................Nil

In the second period, the visitors again sent the ball down the field, and after some good play John Askew registered a try, which J. Brown converted into a goal in splendid fashion. From the kick-off, play was confined to midfield for some time till the Consett forwards, by combined dribbles, again reached the Blaydon territory, and L. McTaggart obtained a try. By good combination the visitors' forwards once more rushed the ball into the home "25," where J. Brown dropped a capital goal. No further points were registered, and the final result was—

Consett ...Two goals, one try, one minor
Blaydon ....One try, one minor

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "Off-side."]

HEDLEY HARRIERS GET A GAME AT LAST.

The Harriers have been disappointed no less than eight times this season, but they managed to get a game at last on Saturday, when they were visited by St. Anthony's (Walker). The home team played a grand game, Potts never handling the ball in the first half, and only doing so twice in the second period. Both backs played a splendid game, and the halves were all in grand form. The forwards played a nice combined game, their passing being very good, and the whole team showed much different form to what they displayed at Tow Law in the recent cup-tie. Play up, the Harriers!

—o—

TOW LAW SCORE A GOOD VICTORY.

There was a capital "gate" at Tow Law on Saturday last to witness the game between the home team and Darlington St. Hilda's. The visitors came with a great reputation, and only the week previous, with a weakened team, they had beaten West Hartlepool N.E.R. on the latter's ground. On the other hand, Tow Law had never been beaten since November 8th, and they were confident of their ability to administer to the "Saints" the "order of the knock." When the teams appeared, it was noticed that the visitors were fine athletic-looking fellows, and their appearance was greeted with cheers. The game is fully reported in another column, and resulted in a win for Tow Law by two goals to nil.

—o—

Upon the whole, it was a splendid performance, and Tow Law deserve to be congratulated for it. The home team played well to a man. Hildreth, in goal, showed that he had lost none of his cunning, and Temperley and Potts were a pair of sterling backs. The halves were a capital trio, and tackled and kicked with great judgment, the old veteran (Frank Ward) treating the spectators to a piece of his best play. The forwards are very little off being the best quintette in the district. Their combination is of a very high order, and quite surprised the visitors. One thing I like about the Tow Law forwards is this—they don't forget to shoot at goal. This they showed St. Hilda's on Saturday, and it was a perfect treat to see Graham put in his lightning shots. If the team pull together for a few more weeks, I quite expect to see them in the final for the Junior Cup.

—o—

A DESERVING CASE.

To-morrow (Saturday) Tow Law entertain Shildon, who are coming to play a benefit match for Sowerby. This young man, who plays full back for Shildon, had his collar-bone broken a month ago in the cup-tie—Tow Law v Shildon. He has lost a month's work, and the Tow Law team generously offered to play a benefit match for him. Shildon intend bringing a real good team, and I trust that the football-loving public of Tow Law and neighbourhood will make a point of attending the match, and give Sowerby a bumping benefit.

—o—

"HALF-BACK'S" ATTACK.

With regard to the above subject, which appeared in my notes last week, I am in a position to state that the gentleman who supplied me with the information disputed by "Half-back," has written me entirely confirming his previous statement. My informant avers that the back in question (J. Walker) admitted to some of the Exiles that he had been guilty of the unfair act alluded to, and further that a member of the visiting team (W. Costello) accused Walker, after the game, in the presence of a number of the Wanderers, of knocking the ball out, and none of them denied it.

—o—

I may state that I have been favoured with another letter from "Half-back," containing a long tirade of abuse. He challenges me to give the name of my informant, and offers in return to allow me to do—what do you think?—actually disclose *his* illustrious name to an admiring world! Ma conscience! As if anybody cared two straws for him or his name. Should my informant be willing, I am quite agreeable to furnish "Half-back" with his name. In reply to my query as to why he did not allow the proper official (the Wanderers' secretary) to take this matter up, this self-appointed censor retorts that as a member of the team he holds that right, and means to keep it, however much it may displease "Off-side." Was he afraid that the secretary was too much of a gentleman to join "Half-back"—or those who inspired him—in his dirty work? He further states that nobody who has ever been on a football field will credit me with much truth in my comments on the match Tow Law v St. Helen's. (Will the Tow Law secretary please note?) "Half-back" also charges me with not publishing a letter from Mr Tuson last December. But thereby hangs a tale. At the time mentioned the Wanderers were engaged in a paper warfare with the Park, and I received numerous communications on the subject—enough, in fact, to fill up the space devoted to football notes in each issue. My custom was to publish a letter from each side on alternate weeks. Why, some weeks I received four or five letters from the Park and their supporters, but never under any circumstances inserted more than one. I acted in the same manner towards the Wanderers, and allowed each side to publish an equal number of communications before closing the correspondence. The letter first received was usually the one inserted, and so very possibly Mr Tuson's was omitted. Anything else, "Half-back?"

—o—

FORMATION OF A NEW FOOTBALL CLUB.

I understand that a new club is about to be formed in Consett under Association rules, and named the Celtic. Most of the players belong to Leadgate, and were members of the well-known Leadgate Exiles Reserve. A good field has been secured, and the first meeting will be held at their headquarters, Mr Wm. Quinn's, Grey Horse Inn, Consett, to-night (Friday). It is the intention of the club to enter for one of the Easter medal competitions.

—o—

A PLEASANT GAME AT LEADGATE.

Saturday's game at Leadgate between the Exiles and Langley Park Rovers was of the pleasantest description. The Rovers showed better form than on their last visit, and played a nice game, but the home team have improved considerably of late. P. Hughes was absent through injuries received at Jarrow, but his place was ably filled by a very old friend—Jack McGuire, who has again joined the Exiles' ranks. With such men as Thompson and McGuire, together Hughes, Monaghan, and the genial skipper (McGee), the Exiles should present a very stubborn defence. The forwards were in good form on Saturday, but missed several good chances in front of goal by not passing across and being too eager to score. Hebburn Argyle are due at Leadgate to-morrow (Saturday) to play their return fixture with the Exiles. Seeing the good form the latter are now showing, they should be able to turn the tables on the visitors.

—o—

THE COMPLAINT AGAINST THE LEAGUE.

Sir,—In looking through the "Jottings" of your valuable paper, I noticed the League secretary's reply to the letter I sent about their conduct. Now, in the first instance, he comments on the November date, but this date I strongly deny ever having fixed with the League for the 1st teams, and I enclose you a post-card from Mr J. Smith, Tanfield Lea, fixing the November date perhaps before the League club was formed. Then by his letter I understand this so-called "humble servant" was secretary when he tore the leaf out of his pocket-book and took the dates from me for a return game, and then to say W. Shorten cancelled the game—if that is not self-contradiction, I don't know what is. Then he says he replied to my post-cards, which he did not. As for coming to the *Guardian* office, he must bear in mind I am not secretary for a professional team and paid for it; but to close, if he will give me my expenses, I am willing to meet him or any other secretary I ever had correspondence with. He must also bear in mind that the members have not elected me secretary for the last five seasons to publish untruths, nor yet do I intend to do so. By inserting this it will suffice for me, and I think for your readers also.—Yours, &c.,

J. Agar,
Hon. sec. Langley Park Rovers A.F.C.

—o—

WANDERERS V. ROVERS.

Cornsay Rovers visited Dipton on Saturday with a strong team, and a large company assembled on the Wanderers' ground to witness the game. The visitors surprised the home team by scoring from a free kick for hands in the first two minutes. The Wanderers, however, had the best of the play after this, and were finally victorious by three goals to one. For Cornsay, who played a very plucky game, the goalkeeper was in splendid form, and fully deserved the applause that frequently greeted him. Some of his saves were almost miraculous. The right full back and the right half-back played a rattling game, especially the latter. The forwards were a long way short of the opposing front rank. All things considered, the Rovers made a very favourable impression.

—o—

For the Wanderers, Freek did what little work fell to his share in good style. The full backs did well, but had not much to do in the second half. Among the halves, Press played the best game he has done this season, and was always conspicuous. I hope he will keep it up. Buck, as usual, played a splendid game right through. Bowes was slightly off-colour. The forwards all put in some capital work. Turner and Gilliard made some good passing runs which rather puzzled their opponents, and the other three were very effective. The game was a very quiet and pleasant one, there not being a single dispute during the afternoon.

—o—

MATCHES WANTED.

Ebchester Swifts (A) have a few vacant dates, and would like to have them filled up with first teams. Dates vacant—March 28th, April 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th. Apply to T. Bell, hon. sec., 4, Westwood, Lintz Green.

—o—

The following items were unavoidably left over from last week:—

HONOUR TO WHOM HONOUR IS DUE.

The Langley Park Rovers, having no match on Saturday, Feb. 28th, arranged a game between their 1st and 2nd teams, after which they adjourned to headquarters, the Langley Park Hotel, where they sat down to a ham supper. After supper, Mr T. Rutherford, on behalf of the members, presented to Mr J. Agar, hon. sec., a costume bag with silver plate and inscription; also a silver seal for his watch-guard. Mr Agar, in responding, thanked the members very much for the present, and said he had always striven to do his best for the club, and would continue to do so. There were but nine members when he took office, and now there were 42; and not only had the membership increased, but the play had improved as well, and he hoped that it would improve in the future as it had done in the past. After the presentation was over, a "smoking concert" was held, at which Mr T. Rutherford and Mr G. Hibbinson presided. Songs were rendered by members and friends, and after a very pleasant evening the proceedings closed with the usual votes of thanks. Mr Agar well deserves the honour conferred upon him by the Rovers, as he has worked indefatigably to make the club the success it now undoubtedly is.

MORE DISAPPOINTMENTS.

Sir,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in your valuable paper to say a word or two? As we see the secretary of the Consett Royal Oaks complaining of the Consett Albion, we think he has no room to say anything, as we had two dates arranged with the Royal Oaks, and their secretary wrote to me saying they would be sure to come; but we met with a disappointment on Jan. 31st from them, without them sending word about not coming. We have been disappointed on our own ground six times this season. I think it's time something was done to prevent these disappointments before next season, by the formation of leagues in the district.—Yours, &c.,

G. Grey,
Sec. Marley Hill St. Cuthbert's A.F.C.

—o—

A DISCLAIMER.

Sir,—In looking through your football notes, I perceived that the secretary of the Langley Park Rovers had a note in about the behaviour of Tantobie for not playing their return match. I think that they did nothing out of the way when the Rovers disappointed them, for when they were at Tantobie, and also the season before, they behaved very badly. I might say that the secretary for Tantobie did not want to arrange any games this season on account of their roughness. I might just say a few words in reference to a Football League for this district. I think that it is high time that there should be one, in order that roughness, vulgarity, and also disappointments with local clubs should be put a stop to. Hoping to hear nothing more of the above.—Yours, &c.,

A Lover of the Game.

—o—

J. McDermott and R. Pearson.—Will appear next week.

A WEAR VALLEY GENTLEMAN IN NEW ZEALAND.

ADVICE TO DALES' FARMERS AND GRAZIERS.

Mr Robert Chapman, formerly chief agent at Pease's quarries in Wear Valley, a member of the Weardale Highway Board, &c., has written to the Highway Board for a testimonial as to the bridges and jetties he engineered for them on the Wear; and the waywardens on Saturday had no hesitation in complying with their ex-colleague's request. Dating from Askeaton, Kaiapoi, New Zealand, Mr Chapman says:—"In this colony it is lamentable to see the quantity of land which has been and is being

DESTROYED BY RIVER ENCROACHMENT,

and I hope to introduce something better than the old systems of protection." The writer goes on to say that he had an interview with the Avon River Board, with encouraging results, respecting flood dilapidations. He is a member of the Avon Road Board, and defeated a city magistrate for the seat. His farming neighbours "carried him in." "I am glad" (Mr Chapman continues) "to find the quarries and the farmers and graziers are doing well. Allow me to assure the farmers and graziers that they are

VERY MUCH BETTER OFF IN WEARDALE

than they would be here. We have had two dry winters, succeeded by droughty summers; and not only is the grass burnt up in the Canterbury Plains, but at least one-half the grain and root crops have been 'droughted off' or have not grown at all. I anticipate such distress the coming winter (June, July, August) as there has not been in the colony before. You can rent land at as cheap a rate in Weardale as land within thirty miles of a town can be rented here; and your prices are far and away better than those ruling here. So be content.

STRIKES ARE DOING HARM

in the United Kingdom, as they have done here recently. Here they do no good whatever, but only harm, and that to all classes."

THE CHARGE AGAINST SUPT. OLIVER, OF CONSETT.

At the Sunderland Petty Sessions on Saturday—before Col. Briggs (presiding), Messrs H. C. Abbs, S. P. Austin, A. Fenwick, J. Nicholson, R. H. Gayner, John Scott, John Dickinson, S. Richardson, R. Thompson, R. M. Hudson, jun., and Colonel J. J. Allison.

Mr James Oliver, Superintendent of Police for the Consett Division of the Durham County Constabulary, and *Mr Isaac Burrell*, Superintendent of the Police for the Durham Division of the Durham County Constabulary, were summoned on a charge of having assaulted Mr Samuel Storey, M.P., in connection with the strike at Silksworth, on the 20th of February. The interior of the court was filled to its utmost capacity, even the prisoners' dock being crammed, singular to note, with police. The Mayor (Councillor R. Shadforth, J.P.), occupied a seat on the bench during the proceedings. Outside, cheers proclaimed the arrival of the complainant, but greetings of a different kind were meted out to some of the colliery officials, who had come down to the court on another errand. The defendants in the summons passed into the court without any demonstration. The miners' committee at Silksworth were present in full force. Mr C. M. Dix, of Newcastle, appeared on behalf of the complainant, and Mr J. Strachan, barrister, of Newcastle, instructed by Mr E. Bell, appeared for the defendants.

The charge against Supt. Burrell was gone into at great length, and the magistrates retired from court, and in almost five minutes returned, and said their decision was a dismissal of the charge, complainant to pay the costs.

The charge against Supt. Oliver was then withdrawn.

Supt. Oliver, in the course of his evidence on behalf of Supt. Burrell, stated that he visited Newport Farm about half-past seven, and on being told by the policeman at the gate that some gentlemen were at the house he at once entered. He saw Supt. Burrell asking Mr Storey to leave the premises, and assisted the officer in quietly removing him outside. Mr Storey had repeatedly refused to go, and on the way to the turnpike was walking backwards, moving his hands excitedly, and shouting out all the while, "I protest; I protest; I won't go." Witness had given Mr Storey his name, and Mr Burrell also gave his name on arriving at the gate. Mr Storey then addressed witness, and said, "I know what you are doing this for. You wish your name brought forward in order to gain promotion." Witness answered, "Do not talk such consummate nonsense. I am the oldest member of the force, have attained to the highest position I am able, and can leave to-morrow if I wish."

Mr Dix here interposed with a remark that the witness did not look much like a young man, at which Mr Storey commenced to laugh.

Witness (looking at Mr Storey): Don't laugh like that. You know exactly what I said. I am old, it is true, but I feel myself as young as ever. Continuing, he said it was not a fact that he had said he was entitled to his pension in three months.

Mr Dix here rose, and said that Mr Storey had never said that, but, on referring to the notes of the clerk, it was found that he had, and the witness continued. He said that he had not the slightest reason to say anything at all about his pension. He had seen 37 years' service, and could have had his pension years ago. He did not at all regret the incident. His only regret now was that he had not taken Mr Storey into custody for being found on the premises. (Sensation.) Mr Burrell knew what he was in the house for. Not the slightest violence was used when Mr Storey was led out of the house. His clothing was not even disarranged. He heard Marshall say to a reporter in the railway station, that he had got £2 from Mr Storey to leave the "dirty work." He denied emphatically that any of the bailiffs were ever in a state of intoxication when at the farm. The men had perfect liberty to leave the place if they wished, but, so far as he knew, they never made any complaints.

Cross-examined by Mr Dix: He received his orders with respect to the management of the police and bailiffs from Col. White. He gave positive instructions to the police that no one was to be permitted to enter without his permission. He would not have objected to Marshall seeing Mr Storey, but he decidedly objected to Mr Storey being in the house. He did so because of Mr Storey's general bearing and feeling with regard to the affairs at Silksworth. He believed that the bailiffs were being offered money to break their engagements, and he believed that this was being done by Mr Storey and a clique. It was because he thought that that he had an idea that Mr Storey would be better out of house than in. He meant that Mr Storey had gone to the place to tamper with the bailiffs. He afterwards thought that he should have taken Mr Storey into custody for being there for the purpose of intimidation and bribery. He had any amount of secondary evidence that would have justified that course.

Human Life.—Fifty years' record of Facts, Principles, and Discoveries relating to the Origin and True Treatment of Disease, and the preservation of Human Life on Earth. By Dr Samuel Birley, M.D., Ph.D.; author of "Patriarchal Longevity Reattainable," "Earth-Life," &c., &c. A series of most valuable articles in 52-paged books, containing Diet Rules—what to eat and what to avoid in various complaints, together with other useful and valuable information. Invaluable to every Sufferer. Sound and Practical. Write to-day for presentation copy from the publishers, Messrs Gordon, Murray, and Co., 48, Theobald's Road Holborn, London, W.C.

Trade Notes.

The deputy overmen at South Medomsley Colliery have just joined the Durham Deputies' Association.

NATIONAL LABOUR FEDERATION: MEETING AT CONSETT.

On Saturday evening, a public meeting, under the auspices of the Consett branch of the above Federation, was held in the Co-operative Hall. There was a capital attendance. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Summerbell, of the Engine and Cranemen's Association, Consett, and he was supported by Councillor Ford, president of the E.C., N.L.F., South Shields; Mr McGregor, West Hartlepool; Mr J. J. Harris, secretary to the Newcastle Trades' Council; Mr Beale, chairman of the Consett branch of the N.L.F., and others.

The following resolution was proposed by Mr Beale, and seconded by Mr Cerby:—"That this meeting of workmen considers it desirable, in the interests of Trades' Unionism, that a National Labour Federation has now become

AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY

as an auxiliary society to the already existing Trades Unions."

The resolution was carried unanimously.

Councillor Ford spoke of the advantages to be derived by becoming members of the National Labour Federation. He stated that they did not come before them and say that their organisation was the only one in existence. He was in sympathy with all other Trade Unions, but he would say that the Labour Federation was

A GRAND AUXILIARY

if they were in another trade society, which helped them considerably in case of a strike. Their organisation was based on a sound basis, and treated all men alike. (Applause).

Mr McGregor said they were not there as an antagonist to any other trade society. Their mission was to try to persuade all men to join some trade union, in order that they might be combind together. They could do nothing without combination and organisation. He urged upon all present to

BECOME TRADES' UNIONISTS,

in order that their interests might be more fully looked after.

Mr Harris also spoke on the advantages of the organisation.

At the close, several questions were asked and answered by Mr Harris.

Votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

NATIONAL UNION OF PAPER MILL WORKERS OF GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND.

MEETING AT EBCHESTER.

A meeting of day-shift workers at the mills at Shotley Bridge and Lintzford, was held in the Temperance Hotel, Ebchester, on Thursday se'nnight. Mr Johnston (Lintzford) presided.

The Chairman said that all present desired the reduction of the hours, and had met with that object in view. He called upon their general secretary, Mr Wm. V. Jackson, to address them.

Mr Jackson stated that the conditions under which paper-making were conducted were peculiar, and had a peculiar history. Only by reviewing this could their position, as compared with that of most other industries, be properly understood, and the path of improvement be made plain. Paper-making had always been

A RURAL INDUSTRY,

carried on in sequestered valleys where water suitable to the purpose abounded, and ever since the introduction of steam power these situations and circumstances had been maintained. They were therefore scattered, isolated, and individualised. Families and generations were often connected by local interests and ties to that one employment, and lived in cottages beside the mill, which belonged also to the owners. Communication between the producers, therefore, for common protection of the interests of capital and labour had been long in taking place, and was

DIFFICULT OF ACCOMPLISHMENT.

More than most other industries also, they had been exposed to foreign competition in all their markets, and had suffered from the restrictions imposed upon their exports by foreign competition. The merchant, therefore, had worked upon the competitive jealousies and fears of the different manufacturing firms, and these firms had drifted into the same policy towards workmen—a policy of over-working and of underselling, of glutting the markets and of slaughtering value, of piece-work, tonnage premiums, high speed, excessive work, and even

SUNDAY WORK

had crept into the trade. Apprenticeships had been abolished, the craft had been destroyed, and the workman degraded into a machine and an unskilled labourer in ordinary cases. (Hear). Quantity more than quality, and work more than art, and toil more than life, were fast becoming the characteristics of their position. (Cheers). In these circumstances, it was fair to say that had they all, as masters, managers, and workmen, been more united, or united at all in a trade or guild spirit, these results could not have taken place. Unity had now to take the place of individualism, and conservation to replace

SUICIDAL COMPETITION.

(Cheers). But, in urging on the workmen and workwomen the duty and necessity of combining, for a variety of reasons, he wished to point out that it was absolutely necessary now on account of the movements of late years, of capital. Capital had combined as such, and was combining in huge and giant operations. It was displacing the private employer by the joint stock and limited liability company, and it was legislating more and more in its own interests through the blind franchise of the workmen. At the same time, the workmen were being taught from

THE PRESS, THE PLATFORM, AND THE PULPIT,

that they should neither combine nor legislate. While capital, and the profession, and the classes conserved and expressed their operations in corporations, the workers were to remain scattered, individualised, and competing units, separate faggots easily breakable and of no account. All this too in the blessed name of freedom. They were not to combine, and they were not to legislate. (Laughter). They were to leave all things affecting life and labour to the inexorable and mysterious law of supply and demand. Well, the other classes used their brains, and rightly too, as a factor in affecting the relations of demand and supply, and they combined and then

LEGISLATED FOR THESE ENDS,

and so would the workmen. The Commonwealth demanded that the co-ordinate and mutually independent powers of labour and capital should be equally yoked together in this respect, and the highest considerations demanded that life, human life, should still be held in higher estimation than property. Life with its pathos and its affectiveness, and the

DIGNITY OF MANHOOD AND OF LABOUR

were of more consequence than dividends and percentages. (Cheers). The speaker urged the workers to carry onward their organisation and their work with resolution and moderation. They had mighty forces of sympathy on their side, often where they least knew it. They were not the enemies of their employers—far from it; and in few cases were employers willingly and wantonly the

OPPRESSORS OF LABOUR.

But systems of oppressions had been established which must be, by their united efforts, overthrown for the sake of the lives and happiness, if not of every one of themselves, yet of those who were to come after them. (Applause).

It was decided to endeavour, in concert with the other paper mills in the North of England, to secure the concession of reduction of hours at the week end.

On Friday morning, Mr Jackson addressed a meeting of the night-shift workers. Mr S. Warzell was in the chair.

Mr Jackson said that paper mill workers when they met together, and at any other time, had very clear ideas with regard to a number of things that they did not like. These things could not be got rid of at an hour's notice. They had been of gradual growth, and no intelligent or proper effort had been made to check or to prevent their growth, and they now constituted conditions of their competition in the several mills with each other. They

DID NOT LIKE THE NIGHT-SHIFT,

and did not see any reason why night work and continuous productions should go on in paper mills any more than in cotton mills or in joiner's shops. It went on in coal mines, but at the bottom of a coal mine the distinction between day and night was not very marked, and was probably not in favour of the night; but, now that the steady motive power of steam was what was relied upon for paper-making, the old reason for night shifts was done away with, and there was no reason for it but custom and competition. They did not like

TONNAGE PREMIUMS ON QUANTITY PRODUCED

and piece work system, which led to increased quantity at the expense of quality of work and value. If wages were to be made out of profits, a system of wages that in the end degraded value and destroyed profit was a false and a suicidal system. (Cheers). They did not also approve of the abolition of apprenticeships. The neglect of

DUE TECHNICAL INSTRUCTION,

and the destiny of unskilled and merely departmental labour to which the trade had now come. They wanted men to be bred thorough and efficient paper makers and not that the paper mills should be parish unions and casual wards for all the frozen out tramps that were abroad. It was an expensive thing in the end for capital, even under circumstances of extreme competition to seek temporary relief in this way for the sake of

BREAKING THE SPIRIT AND INDEPENDENCE

of the workmen. A mill crew of competent men who were familiar with every detail of the work in their mill, and were working with good will, were just like a perfect and well-oiled machine. A crew of coming-and-going, hands and nondescript was just one perpetual break-down. (Hear). But above all the things that they did not like was to be working on till

11 O'CLOCK OF A SATURDAY NIGHT

when their acquaintances in other trades were getting away at mid-day or at two o'clock. They did not like looking over the paper mill wall at the road-side alive with excursionists and pleasure-seekers, and being condemned to a perpetual drudgery of this kind, alleurated only by the alternations of the other shift. They were endeavouring now by combination to put a spoke in the wheel of competition and to secure better terms for the trade. Of course, they would have to consider the peculiar circumstances of their trade. They must deal with one-sided

FREE IMPORTS AND FOREIGN COMPETITION.

They must insist on fairplay and fair accounting in English commerce and a fiscal policy which will admit of their industry being carried on in this country. There was a process going on at present, of paper-manufacturers giving up employing workmen, in a hopless struggle against "unfair competition, and becoming simply merchants. This process might go on much further. Probably many of their employers could still carry on the commercial part of their business in this way, and let their workmen shift for themselves. In uniting and legislating, as they had every right to do in the future, this element should not escape their attention, but much good could be done by pursuing their

MODERATE AND REASONABLE DEMANDS

with reason and moderation, and at the same time with unity and resolution.

The meeting agreed to the resolution of the previous evening.

A cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Mr Jackson at the close.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE & CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

The annual general meeting of the above Company was held at the Gas Offices, Shotley Bridge, on Tuesday, Mr George Peile being chairman. The report for the past half-year was adopted, of which the following is a copy:—

"In presenting the financial statement for the past half-year, your directors have to report a considerable improvement in the sale of gas, the increase being 1,603,000 cubic feet which, together with the higher value of residual products, have produced an increased revenue of £467. More than this amount, however, has been absorbed by the exceptionally high prices of coals and labour.

"The total receipts for the half-year amount to £4,094 16s 5d, and the expenditure is £2,870 17s, leaving a profit of £1,223 19s 2d; this sum falls short of meeting the half-year's maximum dividends by £51 0s 5d. Your directors recommend that the usual dividends be paid for the half-year, viz:—

5 per cent on consolidated stock.
5 " capital A.
3½ " capital C.

the deficiency being drawn from the reserve fund.

"In view of the increasing demand for gas, it has been decided to telescope the large gas-holder during the present year, and special attention is being given by the directors to some further extensions of the works which may become necessary. A resolution will be submitted to the proprietors to give the directors authority to raise a further sum of £2,000 loan capital, to be applied to the purposes aforesaid in such manner as may be deemed advisable.

"The retiring directors are Messrs Geo. Richardson and Matthew Couplet; and the retiring auditor, Mr T. L. Gledstone, all of whom are eligible and offer themselves for re-election.

"George Peile, Chairman."

The retiring directors were re-elected, as was also the retiring auditor.

The directors were empowered to raise a further loan of capital to the extent of £2,000.

FUNERAL OF MR THOS. WILLIAMS, OF CONSETT.

On Thursday week, the remains of Mr Thomas Williams, of West Victoria Street, Consett, the well-known representative and advocate of working men throughout the north, and vice-president of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the North of England Manufactured Iron and Steel Trade, whose death we recorded in last week's issue, were interred in the Benfieldside Cemetery,

TOKENS OF REGRET AND SYMPATHY

being observable on all hands. The funeral was not so largely attended as might have been anticipated, but as many of the workpeople as could possibly be spared from the post of duty were present. Had the interment taken place on a Saturday or Sunday, there would undoubtedly have been a vast concourse to witness the obsequies, inasmuch as the deceased, by his general conduct in life, made himself extremely popular with all classes—employer and employed alike. Mr Williams was connected with the Primitive Methodist body, and the ceremony at the grave-side was conducted by Rev T. J. Watson, Primitive Methodist Minister, of Consett, Rev F. Steggall, vicar of Consett, assisting at the impressive service. There were two mourning coaches, and the Consett Iron Company and Ald. Jenkins, J.P., sent their private carriages. The

PRINCIPAL MOURNERS

were—Mrs Williams, wife of the deceased gentleman; her brother (Mr W. Clark, of Sheffield); a brother-in-law (Mr H. Christer, Doncaster); and her sister (Mrs Coy, Blackburn, Lancashire). The coffin was of plain oak, with brass mountings, and bore a brief description. Amongst the

EMPLOYERS PRESENT

were:—Ald. Wm. Jenkins, J.P., Consett Hall; Mr Spencer, West Stockton; Mr Cheeseman (Messrs J. Abbott, and Co.), Gateshead; and Mr J. W. Winpenny (secretary of the Board of Arbitration and Conciliation), Middlesbrough; Mr James, Rise Carr, Darlington; Mr Thackeray (Messrs Tyzack and Co), Monkwearmouth, Sunderland). The last-named gentleman forwarded a beautiful wreath. Amongst the

OPERATIVES' REPRESENTATIVES

in attendance were the following:—Messrs E. Brannen, Carr Rise, Darlington; R. Pringle, Rail Mill, Stockton; W. Gentles, Malleable Iron Company, Stockton; O. Duffy, West Stockton; T. Watson, Jarrow; A. Smith, Jarrow; G. Gardnes (Messrs J. Abbott and Co.), Gateshead; S. Hunter, Westbourne, South Stockton; H. Lodge, Consett Tinmill; J. Wildsmith, Consett; R. H. Peacock, treasurer of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration, Stockton; and Ed. Trow, general secretary, Darlington.

LETTERS OF SYMPATHY

were received from several other prominent leaders of iron and steel workers' organisations, including Ald. David Dale, J.P., Darlington (managing director of the Consett Iron Company); Messrs W. Aucott, of Wednesbury, Staffordshire (president of the Associated Iron and Steelworkers of Great Britain); T. Mallins (vice-president), and T. Ray (auditor of the same organisation). The Primitive Methodists of the Shotley Bridge and Consett Circuit at their quarter-day meeting also passed

A RESOLUTION OF CONDOLENCE

with the widow. The Consett Mechanics' Association were represented by Messrs Geo. Lowes, president, and W. M'Ivor, secretary; the Associated Iron and Steelworkers (Consett Branch) by Mr Wm. Maund (president), Mr J. Wildsmith (secretary), and Mr Jas. Marshall (secretary of the Consett Tinmill Branch), and Mr Hy. Lodge (delegate from the Consett Tinmill Lodge). The "Rose of Derwent" Lodge of the M.U. of Oddfellows, of which deceased was a prominent member, was marshalled by Bros. W. S. Davies, secretary, and A. Struthers, P.G.M. Amongst those who joined the *cortege* were Messrs C. Parnaby, manager of Consett Mills; J. Heymer, chief clerk at Consett Offices; Thompson Siddell, sub-manager of the Consett Tinmill Works; Alex. Russell, puddling mill manager, Consett; Thomas Hull, Daniel Williams, and Joseph Collings, mill foremen, Consett; T. Harrison, Templetown; Dr Geo. Renton, Consett; and Supt. James Oliver, Consett. The underbearers were:—Messrs J. Wildsmith, H. Lodge, J. Marshall, A. Smith, S. Gardner, and Ed. Brannen. There were several pretty wreaths on the coffin. We may add that the sudden and unexpected demise of Mr Williams is generally lamented by all sections of people throughout the North, and doubtless his local *confreres* will take immediate steps to

PERPETUTATE THE MEMORY

of the deceased gentleman, for few leaders of the working people have accomplished more lasting good on behalf of their fellow men, and guarded their interests more closely than our departed friend.

We may add that Messrs T. C. Rawes and Co., of Consett, carried out the funeral arrangements.

It is proposed to get up a subscription for the relief of the widow and child of Mr Williams. Mr Wm. Aynsley acting as chairman of the committee, and Mr Adam Brodie as hon. secretary *pro tem.*

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held on Wednesday afternoon, Councillor George Nicholson presiding, in the absence of Mr W. H. Hedley (chairman). The members present were Messrs J. H. Hudson, J. Davison, Henry White, M. D. Greener, J. Parker, E. Todd, Luke Nicholson, the clerk (Mr M. Coupland), and the surveyor (Mr T. Longstaff).

THE MEDICAL OFFICER AND HIS SALARY.

Dr George Renton reported that there had not been a single case of zymotic disease notified to him in the district in the month of Feb.

The CHAIRMAN stated that Dr Renton had told him that Leadgate, compared with other districts as regards the health of the population, was altogether quite exceptional. He complained very bitterly, however, of having to send in these monthly reports, and said the clerical work in connection with compiling those reports was worth the remuneration he received, without any other duties. The doctor therefore wished the Board to re-consider the question of his salary. He (the chairman) suggested that the Board should apply to the Local Government Board to have one-half of the salary refunded through the County Council. He thought they might increase the salary from £15 to £20 a year, and have one-half paid by the county, and the Board would therefore be able to put £5 into its pocket.

Mr HUDSON observed that he brought the same idea forward some time ago, but it was not entertained by the Board.

Mr ROBSON argued that under the circumstances, the Board would lose all control over the medical officer.

Mr HUDSON declared that practically the Board would possess as much power as they did at present.

Mr ROBSON explained that they could not dismiss their inspector without consulting the Local Government Board.

Mr PARKER: But we make the appointments as usual.

Mr HUDSON pointed out that if the Board preferred any serious allegation against that official, and the Local Government Board ascertained that the accusation was justified and substantiated, the Board would be allowed to have its own way in getting rid of the inspector. If, on the other hand, the Board "hickled" the inspector, and made frivolous complaints against him, then the Local Government Board would set them about their business.

Mr PARKER assumed that, if one-half of the medical officer's salary was recoverable through the Local Government Board, the Board could not compel Dr Renton to send in his monthly reports.

Mr HUDSON: Oh, yes.

The CHAIRMAN: The doctor would then be in a better position. They demanded more work than the other Boards which were paying Dr Renton a bigger salary. There were inspections which the medical officer ought to make, and which he did not feel justified in carrying out just at present.

Mr HUDSON and other members asserted that the Board had been remiss in its duty in not getting one-half of the money from the Government Board in the past.

Ultimately, Mr ROBSON gave notice to propose at the annual meeting of the Board that Dr Renton's stipend be advanced from £15 to £20 per annum, and that one-half of the salary be recovered from the County Council.

TEAM AND SANITARY WORK.

GENTLEMEN,—Your special Highway and Sanitary Committee beg to report that they ordered the Surveyor to prepare bills of specifications for team and sanitary work for the ensuing year from March 25th, 1891, to March 25th, 1892, the said works to be let as one contract. Tenders, we trust, will be before you to-day, and we recommended the following approximate quantities for the year:—

Annfield Plain Lane........	50 yards of slag
Burn House Lane............	20 yards ,,
Brooms Lane................	30 yards ,,
Iveston Street and Bank...	30 yards ,,
Pontop Pike Lane...........	20 yards ,,
Pont Lane..................	60 yards ,,
Redwell Hills Road.........	50 yards ,,
Ditto limestone from Carr House...	50 yards of limestone
Stockerley Lane	20 yards of slag
Street in North and South side in Leadgate.........	80 yards ,,
Watling Street.............	20 yards ,,
Durham Road	50 yards ,,
Durham Road limestone for Carr House..............	150 yards limestone
General horse work............	(say 80 days)
Street watering...............	(say 600 barrels)
General scavengers work—the whole of the Streets in Leadgate in the hands of the Local Board.	

A STEAM ROLLER WANTED.

The CHAIRMAN was inclined to think that too much material had been deposited on the roads this last winter. There was a vast number of loose stones lying about, not only at Leadgate, but in other districts.

Mr HUDSON: There is a lot of loose stones on the road between the railway bridge in Delves Lane, Consett, and Mr Balleny's corner-end.

Mr PARKER said there was also a piece of bad road at Iveston. He thought the Surveyor had failed in his duty in not picking off the loose stones.

Mr HUDSON recommended the Board to purchase a heavy roller wherewith to macadamise the roads.

The CHAIRMAN considered a steam roller would be much more effective.

Mr HUDSON believed that a roller, two feet wide, and three tons weight, drain by two horses, would be sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN: A steam roller makes a grand job.

Mr HUDSON: But a steam roller is very expensive to keep up.

Mr WHITE: You could have a traction engine.

The CHAIRMAN stated that a steam roller was a traction engine in itself. It had often been talked about the combination of the Leadgate, Consett, and Benfieldside Local Boards, with a view of acquiring a steam roller to travel all over the district.

Messrs HUDSON and ROBSON averred that this was what ought to be done.

The CHAIRMAN: I for one would willingly join the Consett people in getting a steam roller, and paying for its maintenance according to our respective rateable values.

Mr PARKER thought the cost should be borne according to the mileage. They had as much traffic upon their highways as there was upon the roads in the Consett district.

Mr HUDSON: Oh no. There are some places in Consett where metal has to be put on twice every year. It will be better for us to pay according to our rateable value. The rateable value of Consett is £30,000, while Leadgate only stands at £10,000. We have as much length of road as they possess at Consett. It will be to our advantage, however, to have the basis of payment according to rateable values.

Mr PARKER admitted that Mr Hudson was right, and the subject dropped.

WHAT IS EXTRAORDINARY TRAFFIC?

The Clerk said he had written, as requested, to Messrs Taylor, contractors, drawing their attention to the culvert near the quarry at Redwell Hills.

The Surveyor replied that Messrs Taylor had cleared away the rubbish. They had, however, done a great deal of damage to Pont Road, and it would cost the Board the matter of £20 to repair the same. It was for the Board to determine whether Messrs Taylor should not compensate them for cutting up the road by carting stones from the quarry for building purposes.

The Clerk pointed out that in this instance the Board were not reaping any pecunnary benefit, as the dwellings were being built outside the Board's boundary, in the Lanchester Highway District.

Mr ROBSON: The houses are being built in Iveston township.

The Clerk: Yes, but in the Rural Sanitary Authority's district.

Mr HUDSON declared that the Board could come on Messrs Taylor, inasmuch as the carting of such a quantity of material for a few months constituted extraordinary traffic, and if the roads were damaged by the work being done by "fits and starts," then the firm must be made to defray the cost of remedying the same.

Mr ROBSON denied that this work came under the category of extraordinary traffic. There had not been any excessive weights carried, nor were there any engines or machinery traversing over the road. Messrs Taylor had simply been leading ordinary loads of stones.

The CHAIRMAN enquired if the same argument did not apply to a tradesman who delivered his goods by a light spring trap, and the Co-operative Stores who sent their commodities out in heavy-ladened waggons?

The Clerk read the Act bearing on the point, and it appeared that the Board could legally claim a composition for damage caused to highways by reason of excessive weights or extraordinary traffic.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that if their Surveyor could prove that wood waggons or flour waggons did any damage to their roads, he could lawfully call upon the owners to pay for such injury by the extraordinary traffic, he suggested, however, that the Board should not call upon Messrs Taylor to contribute anything towards the repair of this particular road.

Mr HUDSON asserted that if they overlooked this instance the Board would not be doing its duty. He therefore proposed that the Surveyor make a report and valuation of the damage done by Messrs Taylor, and lay the matter before the next meeting.

Mr WHITE seconded, and the proposal was carried.

THE TELEPHONE POLES.

The Clerk mentioned that since last month Mr Ward, a tradesman, had written complaining—as well as Mr R. Robson, whose letter was read at the previous meeting—about the National Telephone Co. erecting posts in front of his shop premises in Front Street.

Mr HUDSON said they should not take any notice of these communications. Some people were always grumbling. Were not the high roads a nuisance to them?

Mr PARKER (jocularly): A green field to look upon would perhaps be better. (Laughter).

Mr ROBSON expressed his astonishment at the manner in which the Board treated these complaints of ratepayers. (Mr Hudson: We are all ratepayers). They had a grievance, which ought to have been remedied by that Board, instead of the members tossing their letters to one side. They were sent there to look after the interests of the ratepayers, and not to assist an enterprising Telephone Company. If the Telephone Company had been courteously written to, in the first instance, he believed they would have removed the objectionable poles without any further bother. Now, however, the Company knew they had champions on the Board.

Mr PARKER maintained that that discussion was out of order. The Board granted permission to the Telephone Company to erect the poles in November last, and the minutes were confirmed in December Before any further action could be taken, notice must be given to rescind that particular resolution.

Mr HUDSON stated that the Telephone Company entered into an arrangement that six months' notice must be given by either party before the posts were to be removed.

The Clerk said there had no such agreement; but the Board were charging 1s per annum for each pole erected in their district.

Mr HUDSON said that if some people only saw a telegraph or telephone pole, or a lamp-post in front of their premises, they deemed it to be a nuisance, and straightway wanted the obstruction removed. They could not please everybody. There was nothing done for the benefit of the population at large, but they found one or two people were so low as to object to the scheme. If these poles were actually a nuisance, no member of the Board would more earnestly insist upon their removal than himself.

Mr ROBSON: What do you mean by people "being so low?"

Mr HUDSON: I mean that there are people that cannot bear to see their neighbours do anything.

Mr ROBSON: You mean to say that Messrs Robson and Waud are "low people" because they have a grievance, and make complaint to this Board.

Mr HUDSON: I don't mean that. I say that you always meet with those fellows who are so "low" as to object to anything that may be done. We cannot order the Telephone Company to remove the poles because a couple of ratepayers object to what will be advantageous to the general public.

Mr ROBSON: But there are some others who have grumbled, but have not written to the Board.

Mr HUDSON: Still the majority of the inhabitants think otherwise. If I found there was a majority of one householder in Front Street who objected to the poles, I would certainly support your proposal to have them removed. I know, however, that it is not so. Mr Kinleyside has a post almost in front of his premises, yet he does not object to it. When the Bray's lamp was erected at the corner of Watling Street, it was originally suggested that it should be fixed in front of the shop of Mr Luke Nicholson, who is a member of this Board, but he protested against it being placed there. I would have thought the lamp would have been to his advantage, because it would have helped him to display his goods. Mr Aynsley had put up a Bray's lamp opposite his shop at his own expense.

Mr ROBSON said he would bring a memorial at the next meeting asking for the poles to be taken away, and he would likewise give notice that the Board's minutes conceding the necessary permission to the Telephone Company should be rescinded forthwith.

FINANCIAL.

It was reported that the Board's balance in the bank stood at £274 0s 8d. Cheques were required in settlement of accounts amounting to £37 15s 10d. There had been received from the County Council £20, being one-half of the salary of the Inspector of Nuisances.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor reported the execution of the following manual and team labour during February:—

Durham Main Road—At the beginning of the month, part raking and levelling done, and afterwards some guttering carried out, ashes carted upon the footpaths, and scrapings led off.

Other Roads—Annfield Plain and Redwell Hills Road: Part raking-in and levelling done. I have had the roughest portion of the metal raked off Redwell Hills Road, Watling Street, and the streets in Leadgate, and had the metal carted and laid on Pont Lane, which I reported last month as being much cut up. It is now in a better state than it has been.

Annexed are the monthly paybills:—

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Durham Main Road—		
Manual labour	4 12 0	
Team labour	2 15 8	
Materials	1 5 0	
		8 12 8
Other Roads—		
Manual labour	4 12 0	
Team labour	1 8 0	
Materials	7 1 0	
		13 1 0
		21 13 8
Park expenses..................		1 10 0
Total......		£23 3 8

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector, in his report, stated that during February there had been a great improvement in the state of the ashpits, &c. The Consett Iron Company had carted a large quantity of ashes and privy manure away, but the farmers did not seem to get ashes and other manure out as readily as they used to do. He believed it was in consequence of the ashes being so rough and so much rubbish put into the ashpits. At present some parties at the rented cottages had some trouble to get their refuse carted away. Gas burnt in February, 171 hours. Both the gas and Iveston oil lamps had burnt well. He had to order another cask of oil for Iveston from Mr W. Shield.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The Collector reported having paid over to the treasurer, on account of general district rate, £1 9s 4d. The last rate had been gathered in, and no balance remained outstanding. (Applause.)

The reports were adopted.

THE COMING ELECTION.

Councillor Nicholson was chosen to act as returning officer at the next election, the retiring members being Messrs White, Todd, Parker, and Keenleyside.

CHANGE OF TENANCY.

A letter was read from Mr T. W. Welford, solicitor, Consett, intimating that the premises occupied by the Board for offices, &c., had been transferred from Mr Smith to Mrs M. Shaw, to whom the rents would have to be paid in future.

TENDERS FOR CARTING, &C.

Several tenders were opened for executing the Board's team work, street-watering, scavenging, &c., but the subject was referred to a special committee to compare the prices of the different contracts, and lay a tabulated statement before the Board at the adjourned meeting.

It was resolved to hold an adjourned meeting at six o'clock on Tuesday, 24th inst.

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

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

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional), Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY Lincoln.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

On Thursday week, the fortnightly meeting was held under the chairmanship of Mr Wm. Logan, there being present:—Revs C. F. D. Hodge, and P. C. Fortin, Messrs W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P., G. Hobson, C. D. W. Balleny, J. Collinson, T. J. Muse, W. Aynsley, J. Lax, W. J. Handcock, W. Gray, R. Robson, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

TENDERS FOR PROVISIONS, &C.

The Clerk was instructed to advertise for tenders for provisions for the workhouse for the next six months, and leading coals for the ensuing twelve months.

INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

Week ending Feb. 11th	150
Corresponding week last year	151
Week ending March 4th	150
Corresponding week last year	153
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight...	6
Corresponding period last year	11

THE LATE VICAR OF SATLEY.

A letter was read from Mr Cecil F. De Pedge, thanking the Board for its expression of sympathy and condolence on the occasion of the death of his father (Rev J. P. De Pledge, J.P.).

ORPHAN CHILDREN.

A communication was received from Miss Rye, of the Emigration Homes, drawing attention to the fact that she had sent children away from about 20 different workhouses, and enquiring if the Guardians would care to send any Protestant children, between the age of nine and thirteen years, to Canada, in the spring of the year

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that there were no orphans in the workhouse about that age, and he did not think it expedient to send out boys or girls who had parents or guardians.

It was decided to acknowledge the receipt of the letter.

RESIGNATION OF THE NURSE.

Miss Margaret Richardson, nurse of the Workhouse Infirmary, tendered her resignation, to take effect from that day month. No reason was assigned for the step.

It was resolved, on the motion of Mr BALLENY, that the Clerk advertise for a successor, that the scope of advertising be extended; that the salary be increased from £25 to £30 per annum, with free board and lodgings, and that the age of applicants be advanced from 25 to 40 years of age.

Rev C. F. D. HODGE suggested that application should be made to the superintendents of hospitals, who might be able to recommend some suitable person.

MEDOMSLEY TOWNSHIP.

Mr J. H. Morris, one of the overseers of the parish of Medomsley, wrote, on behalf of his co-overseer, to the effect that Mr Matthew Coupland, of Ebchester, having resigned the office of collector of the poor rates for that parish, his duties ceasing on the 25th inst., the Guardians were asked to appoint a collector of rates. Mr Coupland would still continue to act as assistant overseer in the preparation of the rates, &c., and the overseers suggested that the present salary of £70 should be divided as follows:—£45 for assistant-overseer, and £25 for collecter. Mr R. Moffatt, one of the present officers, was mentioned as a suitable person for the office, and if appointed, would resign the post of overseership, and his colleagues were prepared to fill up the vacancy. Of course, it was left entirely to the discretion of the Board who should be appointed as collector.

The CHAIRMAN stated that the division of the salary suggested was not a proper or equitable one for the amount of work to be done. The person who was to do the most work would get the least salary.

Mr AYNSLEY enquired how it came within the province of the Guardians to appoint a collector? He thought the overseers could select their assistant-overseer.

The CHAIRMAN explained that it was the intention of the overseers of Medomsley to divide the two offices, and have the assistant-overseer and collector of rates separate individuals. Now, the Guardians could only appoint a collector, after obtaining the necessary order from the Local Government Board. In that Union it was only in Tanfield township where the offices were distinct, and he must say that the rates could not be better collected than they were in that particular parish. He (the chairman) always contended that the collector of the rates should be under the direct control of the Guardians, and not overseers.

Mr BALLENY observed that it was not proposed to increase the salary for the combined offices.

The CHAIRMAN: But they offer the man who does least work the most salary. (Laughter).

Mr COLLINSON supposed that the Guardians could determine the salary of the collector, while the overseers could fix the remuneration of the assistant overseer.

The CHAIRMAN: Just so.

Mr AYNSLEY: Is Tanfield the only township in the Union where this system is in operation?

The CHAIRMAN: Yes.

Mr AYNSLEY stated that at Consett, the township elected the assistant overseer and collector of rates.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, in cases where the same individual holds both offices.

After some further conversation, the CHAIRMAN proposed that the Board apply to the Local Government Board for an order for permission to appoint a collector of poor rates for the parish of Medomsley.

Mr BALLENY seconded, and after some discussion the proposition was carried.

A RELIEVING OFFICER'S APPLICATION.

Mr BALLENY gave notice of motion that at the next meeting of the Board the salary of Mr Ralph Walton, relieving officer, be increased from £120 to £130 per annum.

CONNOLLY'S FAMILY.

The Master (Mr W. Brotherhood) reported that he had admitted to the Workhouse, Michael Connolly, aged 11 years, the lad having been sent by the Magistrates for fourteen days prior to his committal to an Industrial School.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

SOUTH MOOR SEWERAGE WORKS.

The agreement entered into with Mr Parmella for acquiring the necessay land for the sewerage works at South Moor was signed and sealed on behalf of the Authority.

The Inspector produced amended plans of the contemplated scheme, which were considered and finally approved of.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr Parker submitted the following monthly report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report I have been engaged in the preparation of a specification and further plans for the South Moor sewerage and sewage disposal works, likewise in obtaining information in relation to an alternative scheme for the water supply of Wilks Hill, Esh, &c.

In conjunction with your sub-committee, I visited the Templetown sewage disposal plot and we found it would be necessary to immediately supplement in some way or other the existing filter bed, and your sub-committee recommend that works be executed whereby the sewage from the present outfall may be conveyed on to the fields occupied by Mr Cant and that he be permitted to irrigate his land with the same, and have the the use of the filter bed, upon condition that he gives such attention to the works as to ensure a satisfactory effluent, and deal with the sludge in such a manner as not to become a nuisance, or detrimental to the works. I have taken steps to put this recommendation into execution.

On Saturday last, the nuisance at Templetown became blocked and I have had it taken up for a short length, cleansed and relaid.

The Craghead sewerage extension is being proceeded with and is now nearly finished.

The Esh outfall sewer has been extended in pursuance of your resolution, dated, February, 13th, 1890.

The following houses will shortly be ready for habitation:—

1,076—Six houses at Lintz Colliery for Mr John Shiel.

1,098—One house at Cornsay Colliery for Messrs Ferens and Love.

Monthly Summary.

Number of visits to villages.........................	52
Number of visits to buildings........................	23
Formal notices *re* nuisances and water supply.....................	3
Letters *re* nuisances and bye-laws	21

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

J. E. PARKER.

March 4th, 1891.

TEMPLETOWN SEWAGE WORKS.

The Authority signed the agreement with Mr Cant for the use of his fields for irrigation purposes; 14 days' notice to terminate the tenancy to be given on either side.

It was agreed that the Inspector should interview the Consett Iron Company, the owners of the property, and ascertain if they were willing that such plans should be carried into effect.

ESH AND WILKS HILL WATER SUPPLY.

The Inspector submitted a long report of an alternative scheme for supplying Wilks Hill and Esh with water. He suggested that the supply be obtained from a large reservoir at Tow Law, belonging to the Weardale and Shildon Water Company, and *en route* the colliery villages of Hedleyhope, Hedley Fell, Old Cornsay, and other places could be furnished with water. The cost of carrying out this scheme would be about £3,020.

The CHAIRMAN pointed out that in that case Lanchester would be missed out. He recommended the Authority to adopt the scheme which would be the most beneficial and durable.

Rev C. F. D. HODGE urged the Authority to do something towards providing a proper supply for this village this next summer, as the whole district was threatened with a water famine, some of the existing sources being almost dry by reason of the absence of rainfall.

The Inspector was empowered to again consult Mr Asquith, engineer to the Consett Waterworks Company, respecting the matter.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

The Medical Officers submitted the following reports:—

Lanchester District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

MR CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report, the following are the fresh cases of catching diseases in this district:—7 cases of scarlet fever, 36 of whooping cough, and 3 of measles at Langley Park; 1 case of continued fever and 9 of whooping cough at Ushaw Moor; 2 cases of scarlet fever at Esh Winning, and 2 at Esh; 5 cases of scarlet fever, 24 of whooping cough, and 1 of erysipelas at Quebec; 10 cases of whooping cough at Hamsteels Colliery; 1 case of scarlet fever at Railway Terrace; 1 case of scarlet fever, 32 of whooping cough, 4 of measles, and 1 of continued fever at Cornsay Colliery; 3 cases of whooping cough at Partridge Close Mill; 1 case of continued fever at Lanchester; 1 case of scarlet fever at Greencroft Cottages; 8 cases of whooping cough at Malton Colliery; 3 cases of whooping cough at East Hedleyhope, and 3 at Hedley Fell; and 2 cases of scarlet fever at Old Hedleyhope; and 1 case of erysipelas at South Moor.—I am, Mr Chairman and gentlemen, your obedient servant,

JOHN WILSON.

Lanchester, March 5th, 1891.

Medomsley District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The following cases of zymotic diseases have come under my notice for the month ending March 4th:—Two cases of enteric fever at Allendale Cottages; 1 case of scarlatina at Westwood; 1 case of scarlatina at Medomsley; 1 case of scarlatina at Ebchester; 1 case of erysipelas at Hamsterley Colliery; 1 case of scarlatina at Blackhall Mill; 1 case of scarlatina, 1 case of diptheria, and 1 case of erysipelas at Milkwell Burn.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. T. BOLTON.

Ebchester Hill, March 4th, 1891.

Eastern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The number of cases of infectious diseases notified to me during the month was as follows, viz:—Scarlatina, 20; whooping cough, 6; measles, 6. The whole of the above appear simply to be related to preceding cases already reported. The month's mortality was rather below the average. Twenty-seven deaths were registered, equivalent to an annual ratio of 18 per 1,000. Scarlatina was the cause of one death.—I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

T. BENSON, Medical Officer.

March 3rd, 1891.

MORE SEWERAGE SCHEMES.

The CHAIRMAN intimated that that day month he should bring forward a proposition to obtain some assistance for the Inspector, in order to push forward with the sewering of Castleside, Medomsley, Tantobie, White-le-Head, and other villages.

WEARDALE PUBLIC BODIES.

HIGHWAY BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held at Stanhope on Friday—Mr C. J. Backhouse, J.P., presiding. There were present: Messrs W. Vickers, T. Walton, J. Muschamp, G. Curry, W. N. Featherstone, M. Ridley, W. Snowball, M. Pattinson, and G. R. Wooler.

CONTRACTS.

The year's contracts for road material and labour were settled, showing, generally speaking, higher terms. Out of 16 lengths of roads, Messrs Fairless Bros. were successful in securing 12 lots or lengths. The other four were let as follows:—No. 2 to Messrs Pattinson and Peart; No. 6 to Messrs J. Emerson and Sons; No. 7 to Mr J. Kidd; No. 8 to Messrs Garthwaite and Raine.

FINANCIAL.

The paybill for the month was £73 15s. The balance in hand is £749 4s 11d.

FENCES AT THORNLEY AND WESTGATE.

Mr Joseph Walton, of Thornley, applied to the Board to fence in a piece of land on the roadside.

The matter was referred to a committee of inspection, who have to report to the next meeting.

A similar application was made by Messrs Bainbridge and Dalkin to fence in a piece of land at Park House, near Westgate.

Applicants were requested to send in a plan to the next meeting.

A DRINKING TROUGH.

On the motion of Mr VICKERS, a drinking trough is to be placed on the roadside between Stanhope and Rookhope at a placed called Greenhead.

SIGN POSTS IN THE DALE.

Mr MUSCHAMP pointed out that a finger-post had not yet been erected at the four lane-ends at Westgate, on the south side of the river.

It was ordered to be done.

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Mr FEATHERSTONE asked leave to cross the road at Ireshope Burn for sanitary purposes.

Permission was granted.

A TESTIMONIAL.

The Board were also asked to sign a testimonial for Mr Chapman, late of Frosterley, now of New Zealand, a former member of the Board, in reference to a patent break-water invention of his.

It was signed by the Chairman and Vice-chairman.

BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The ordinary meeting was held on Friday in the Board-room, Stanhope—Dr Livingstone, C.C., presiding.

A VACANT SEAT.

The Local Government Board wrote asking that Mr James Blenkiron, now of Middlesbrough, who left Weardale recently, and on that account resigned his seat on the Weardale Board of Guardians, should sign a form signifying the same.

RATING OF MACHINERY BILL.

Sir J. W. Pease, M.P., also wrote acknowledging the receipt of the petitions against the bills relating to the Rating of Machinery, and since thrown out of the House of Commons.

THE ASYLUM FULL.

A note was read from the asylum authorities at Sedgefield intimating that the Female Lunatic Asylum was full, and that no female lunatics can be admitted until further notice.

The Clerk (Mr Lee) was directed to ask Mr R. Simey, Clerk of the Peace, what must be done in case a female lunatic required detention.

INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

The Workhouse Master (Mr Hodgson) intimated that there were only 37 inmates in the Workhouse, against 52 at the same period a year ago. The number of vagrants relieved during the fortnight was 42, against 36 last year.

The Board commented on the great outlay in building and officialism for so small a body of poor.

Mr V. RIPPON: Let part of the House. (Loud laughter.)

PARISH SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held on Friday at the Board-room, under the presidency of Dr Livingstone. The attendance was only small.

NEW RATE.

A 2½d rate was levied for the ensuing six months.

FEVER PREVALENT.

The attendance returns showed fever prevalent at Wearhead, Ireshopeburn, and West Black Dean.

Other business was purely routine.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Good Digestion.—Holloway's Pills are universally acknowledged to be the safest, speediest, and best corrective for indigestion; loss of appetite, acidity, flatulency, and nausea are a few of the inconveniences which are remedied with ease by these purifying Pills. They strike at the root of all abdominal ailments, they excite in the stomach a proper secretion of gastric juice, and regulate the action of the liver, promoting in that organ a copius supply of pure, wholesome bile, so necessary for digestion. These Pills remove all distention and obstruction, and from their harmless composition are peculiarly well adapted for delicate persons and young children; whilst casting out impurities these excellent Pills strengthen the system and give muscular tone.

TOW LAW PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

The above society met on Monday night in the Mission Room. The deputy-speaker (member for Mid-Lothian) presided. Messrs F. McIntosh and R Middes were proposed and accepted as members and constituencies allotted. The committee reported that a large room had been secured, and the terms being satisfactory, the report was adopted. The matter of contributions was laid over till next meeting. Questions were answered by sec for War (Hartlepool) and Postmaster-General (Dublin) relating to the recent battle in the Soudan and the Sunday duties of postmen. Among others the following questions were asked:—"Whether the charges (made in a pamphlet on "National Righteousness") against the Indian Government regarding the opium trade, are founded on fact, and if so, whether the Government will take immediate steps to legislate with a view to putting an end to the grave scandal that has arisen in consequence of the traffic in opium?" "Whether the law giving discretionary power to a coroner to hold an inquest or not is satisfactory, and if not satisfactory, whether a Bill will be introduced to amend it?"—Whether, as it is the avowed intention of the Irish party to turn Ireland into a republic, the Government still persist in giving them facilities for doing so by bringing in a Home Rule Bill?"—"Seeing that the Local Board holds a sanitary inspection at an early date, would the Government see that they add to their programme the byre in Wesley Street, which is unsanitary, and only about 13 or 14 feet from a dwelling-house."—The debate on the settlement of Labour Disputes Bill was then resumed at clause 8, and after a good deal of discussion, the clause was amended (on the motion of the member for Thornley) so as to read. The court shall have power to summon any witness, ask any questions, or otherwise elicit information to get at the truth, and that the costs of the witness so summoned shall be charged upon the parties to the dispute, who appeal in equal terms. The remaining clauses were passed after a hearty discussion. The House will at the next meeting deal with a motion to reduce the standing army, to which an amendment will be made as follows:—"That in the opinion of this House, any proposals to reduce the strength of the national forces, which does not at the same time provide for an engagement with the powers of Europe for a like reduction of the forces of other nations will prove disastrous, and is likely to precipate war." There was a good attendance, and the House adjourned at 10 15 to meet at the Mechanics' Institute in future.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[BY THE "OLD CROW."]

THE MOUNTSETT LEVEL CROSSING *is*, in its present condition, decidedly dangerous. It is not a question as to whether a man was or was not killed, or nearly killed, yesterday, or the day before, or a month ago. It is a matter of possible accident *to-day* that has to be faced, and there are few who know the position of the crossing in question who will not recognise that there was pressing need for the step first taken by the Highway Board, and who will not readily, if need be, support the action of the members of this body in the matter.

NOW, YE RUGBYITES, TREMBLE? What think ye of Dr Clarke Newton's idea of your game? Read, mark, and learn. Here is the substance of the doctor's opinion:—He would not say it was a game that ought not to be played, but its practice required complete revision. In his practice as a medical man he saw more persons injured by football than by all the other games or forms of exercise put together. Since the present season began there had been five deaths already on the football field in actual play. But this gave little or no indication of the numbers that had been actually injured, and who died in their beds, or of the enormous number who found themselves permanently disabled. Football was more likely to be injurious than any other game, inasmuch as it was a rough-and-tumble sport that called for sudden and enthusiastic effort, so that they had pressure on heart and lungs with the risk of heart disease and lung disease, as well as broken shins, arms, legs, heads, and sudden deaths. The doctor admitted that the danger of the Association game was far less than that attached to Rugby; but it was significant that he placed cricket and lawn tennis as forms of exercise far and away in front of either, and without one-tenth of the danger.

BLACKHALL MILL BRIDGE.—At the meeting of the Lanchester Highway Board, of which a report appeared in the *Guardian* recently, the discussion on the Blackhall Mill Bridge commenced in a very hopeful manner. As I read it, now, "says I to myself, says I," something is going to be done at last, and I rejoiced with an exceeding great joy. Alas! it was but a transitory joy after all. It was all too fleeting. The close of the discussion disgusted me far more than the opening had pleased me. Now, let us be serious on this matter. With all due deference to the chairman of the meeting, we have by no means had enough of the subject. Let us look at the figures. The estimated total cost of the structure is £1,500. Of this, it is quite clear Blackhall Mill will contribute £200, or, say £250. This leaves £1,250 to be advanced between the Highway Board and the Blaydon Board in a temporary way. The bridge completed, the County Council will refund £750, representing half the total cost. It will thus be seen that the liability of the two Boards together will be £500. Reduced to figures, the matter looks scarcely worth all the fuss that is being made on a point of expenditure. But wait and watch in patience. There will be a further move ere long.

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN RAILWAY has *not* been abandoned after all, and the rumour to that effect, given expression to at the Consett Local Board meeting some weeks ago, proves, as was surmised in this column at the time, altogether groundless. "Far from the railway being abandoned," writes Mr Charles A. Harrison, of the North-Eastern Company, "I have instructions to get plans prepared for it at once." This is all very reassuring.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY is just ahead of us again, but as usual has been anticipated at Consett in the usual way. I am desired to call my readers' attention to the concert fixed for Tuesday next at the New Town Hall, Consett, and I have much pleasure in doing so. On more than one occasion I have congratulated the committee of this annual concert on the capital programmes they arrange, and the one for rendition on Tuesday is equal in attractiveness to its predecessors, and should be received with general favour. The artistes engaged are thoroughly well-known, and include Madame Hall-Atkin, always a favourite at Consett, Madame Sutherland, Mr T. L. Campion, who was but recently before us, the clever Master Robert Smith, of clarionet fame, Mr F. B. Mullen, a gentleman whose name in Newcastle is veritably a household word, and last, though not least, Mr John Sloane, of Blackhill. Mr E. J. Sloane will accompany.

"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 you IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

"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

DRUNKENESS CURED.—A Wealthy American Lady whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression and Exhausted Vitality, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying all knowing remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Anyone suffering or desiring to help others in this worthy cause, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr James Holland, 25, Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this information, free of charge. Mention this paper.

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

COLLIERLEY SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of the above Board was held at the Board Schools, Dipton, on Wednesday se'nnight. There were present: Councillor J. A. Curry (chairman), Messrs J. W. Taylor, T. Clark, Wm. Young, J. Errington, and the clerk (Mr Wm. Dickinson).

MASTER'S REPORT.

Mr H. Prevell reported:—The attendance since last month has not made much progress, and this week is lower than that for the past month. Friday being the day fixed for audit, the school will be closed.

	Boys.	Girls.	Infants.	Total.
No. on register	214 ...	213 ...	174 ...	601
Average attendance	194 ...	177 ...	137 ...	503
No. admitted	5 ...	1 ...	6 ...	12
Fees,	£10 3s 4d,	£10 2s 3d,	£3 2s 2d,	£23 7s 9d.

ATTENDANCE OFFICER'S REPORT: A FOOTBALL NUISANCE.

GENTLEMEN,—I am pleased to be able to report a considerable improvement in the attendance at your school during the past month, although there are still a few schools who are erratic in their attendances. The following parents have been proceeded against during the past month:—James Moor and George Robson each fined 2s 6d; Mary Ann Mandlin, dismissed; Patrick McAloon, adjourned for a fortnight; John Whitney, fined 5s. Will your Board take some steps to stay the depredations of the South Medomsley Football Club, who play at all times in a field adjoining your schools? Several panes have been broken, some of them during school hours; and besides the danger to the scholars through splinters of glass, the boundary wall has suffered through so much climbing upon it. Remonstrance from either Mr Prevell or myself is of no avail.—Yours, &c.,

DAVID MOLE.

In reference to the annoyance caused by the football players, it was resolved that the Clerk write to the secretary of the club informing him that legal proceedings will be taken against further annoyers.

MORE REMUNERATION WANTED.

An application was received from the female ex-P.T.'s for an advance of salary from £35 to £40 per annum, on the grounds of being lowest paid in the district. Also an application from Mr D. Mole (attendance officer) for an advance of salary, on the grounds of being in the service of the Board for eight years, during which time the population had considerably increased, and that Flint Hill and East Castle had been added to his district, whereby his labours had increased accordingly.

As the above applications were just handed in to the Board, they were ordered to be held over until next meeting.

AN EXTRA GRANT.

The Clerk was instructed to apply to the Education Department for the extra grant under sect 97 of the Elementary Act of 1870.

DRAWING EXAMINATION.

The Master stated that a large number of scholars will be examined in drawing in April.

NEW RATE.

A school rate of 6d in the £ will be required.

SCHOOL ALTERATIONS.

Mr Mordue's tender for the completion of the wood ceiling for the infant department was accepted.

After signing cheques, the Board adjourned.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

Despite the almost impassable state of the roads consequent on the heavy snowstorm, the attendance at Monday night's meeting in Stanley National School was a fair one; and without question those who made the venture were well repaid for their trouble. The programme was pleasantly varied, and was well adapted to sustain the interest, which never flagged throughout. It consisted of duets, (piano and violin) by Miss F. Robinson and Mr Witty; recitations by Miss Trueman, Master J. Surtees, and Mr J. Reay; a humorous but edifying dialogue, entitled "Paul Pry," in which Messrs J. Lumley, R. Grundy, J. Ramshaw, J. Surtees, and Misses S. Smith and J. Lumley took part; and several songs by Misses H. F. Storey, M. Reay, A. Williamson, and Mr R. Grundy; and a reading by Master J. Surtees. All the contributions were well received, and several were *encored*. Two pledges were taken at the close.

RIDING MILL AND BYWELL.

Sermons were preached and offertories made at St. James's, Riding Mill, and Bywell St. Andrew, on Sunday. In spite of the severe snowstorm the offertories amounted to £3 4s 8d. In the afternoon, a temperance meeting, which was fairly attended, was held in the school-room, Riding Mill. Rev F. E. Powell preached the sermons and addressed the meeting.

BURNOPFIELD BRANCH.

On Monday, there was held another successful entertainment in connection with the above in the Temperance Hall, and although the weather was very unpropitious the hall was filled with a very attentive audience, who thoroughly enjoyed the programme. The Rev J. Madill was in the chair, and after the opening prayers, Miss Soutar played a piano solo. Master Harry Appleby then recited "The teetotal mill," and Mr Lowery sang "Bubbling spring," which was *encored*. Mrs Jackson came next, and sang with a very sweet voice "The beautiful star." Mr Thirkell in a recitation described how he spent the washing day, and was loudly *encored*. Mr Hogarth then sang "Nancy Lee," which was followed by a recitation by Mr Appleby, "The quack doctor," and was *encored*. Messrs Lowery, Hogarth, and Mrs Jackson each sang again. A reading was given by Rev J. Madill. A recitation was also given by Mr Thirkell, which was *encored*, and he responded with a song. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the performers, and an invitation by the chairman to those who had not already joined the temperance ranks to give in their names to the secretary.

TANFIELD BRANCH.

On Tuesday evening, another successful meeting rewarded the efforts of the above society. The usual opening of singing and prayer was succeeded by a short but appropriate speech by the chairman, Mr J. Gilchrist. He reminded the audience of the chequered career incident to every man. Societies of men are subject to this same law of ups and downs, and Tanfield branch is certainly not an exception. He had known the society from its commencement, and had been a witness of its cloudy days and of its sunshine. He rejoiced to see such a company, as it foretold a yet brighter future. A better assembly both in numbers and kind, *i.e.*, a larger proportion of upgrown people, had been secured. The Church Temperance Society is established upon a very wide basis; it embraces the total abstainer and the moderate drinker of alcoholic liquors; it stretches forth the right hand of fellowship to any who will unite with her in this crusade against intemperance and vice. Differences of religious tenets are laid aside for a union of efforts in battling against one sin—drunkenness—and the fostering of one grand virtue—moderation. To advance this object these monthly meetings are held; here we furnish an escape valve for the superabundant energy of youth, legitimate, wholesome pleasures to hear and to be heard are indulged in apart from hurtful excess, and energy of youth is diverted into channels of peace and rectitude. (Applause.) The programme embraced recitations, singing, musical solos, and Tanfield handbell ringers. Miss Taylor, Marley Hill, first delighted the audience with a pianoforte solo, which was *encored*. Master Gough favoured the company with "Bruce and the spider." Miss Bartle's recitations, "The lips that touch liquor shall never touch mine" and "The brother and sister, or Billy's rose," were listened to with great interest. The first piece was pre-eminently the chief of the evening in its advocacy of the society's main object—temperance. Miss Davison, who has been a staunch supporter of Tanfield branch from its outset, sang and played with her usual ability, and received an *encore*. Mr E. Keskey's, conductor of Tanfield Lea Brass Band, played two solos on the euphonium, and as an *encore*, replayed "March of the Cameron men." Rev J. Bridges, upon whom mainly depends the labour of securing a programme, increased the enjoyment by his various humorous pieces, for which he received a well-merited *encore*. A very great attraction to the villagers was the first public appearance of Tanfield handbell ringers. The efforts of the ringers were rewarded with usual tokens of applause, and expressions of the hope of a speedy re-appearance. The usual forms closed the entertainment.

Business Announcements.

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CONSETT FURNISHING CO.,
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CONSETT.

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VIVIFIC
CATTLE MEDICINE and SANATIVE EMBROCATION.
For Horses, Cows, Sheep, Pigs, Dogs.
VIVIFIC for Inflammation, Influenza, Colds, Coughs, Indigestion, &c.
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SANATIVE EMBROCATION, FOR EXTERNAL USE.
For Influenza, Pink-eye, Sprains, Swellings, Sprung Tendons, or to Blister.
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THE LONDON & COUNTIES CATTLE MEDICINE CO.
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And Chemists and Grocers everywhere. 912a

ESTABLISHED 1869.
J. J. EGDELL AND CO.
Being the Oldest Established Manufacturers and Agents in the North of England offer the most reliable CYCLES, having acquired through long experience the requirements of the District.
Our Sole Agencies comprise:—
THE ROVER, WORLD'S RECORD MACHINE,
EXCELSIOR,
IRWELL,
RAGLAN,
REFORM, AND
The celebrated KINETIC HUMBER, the most perfect Non-Vibrating Cushion Tyre in the market; also
OUR SPECIAL DIAMOND Ball Socket Head and Ball Bearings and Cushion Tyres, for value and price the Talk of Newcastle. } £9 12s 6d CASH.
TO CYCLISTS we offer the benefit of our long experience and sound judgment a Free Trial of any Machine, and the best Value and Cash Discounts it is possible to give.
TO AGENTS—Where not represented a range of the most reliable makes with best terms. If you want a good Agency and to make money give us a call.
EASY PAYMENTS—REPAIRS—CUSHION TYRES FITTED.
LIBERAL DISCOUNTS FOR CASH.
J. J. EGDELL, & CO.,
19, NEWGATE STREET AND 116, & 132, NORTHUMBERLAND ST., } NEWCASTLE.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT.

IMPORTERS OF CHOICEST DANISH BUTTERS.

PERFECT QUALITY DIRECT FROM THE FARMERS,

ONLY 1s. 2d. PER LB.

MARGARINES, QUALITY AND PRICES ONLY TO BE HAD AT THE ABOVE.

TIP-TOP MARGARINE, 6D. PER LB.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

Public Notices.

A PRIZE BRAWN, from Strickland, of Thirsk kept by W. MILBURN, butcher, Consett, at 3s if paid for when served, or 4s if not. 137e

LANCHESTER FLOWER SHOW.

THE 41st EXHIBITION and SPORTS will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 2nd, 1891.
Schedules now ready.
G. W. WILSON, Hon Secretary.

LOOK HERE! The members of the Annfield Plain and Lintzie Cricket Club intend to give a CONCERT on March 14th, 1891, when Mr Jno. NEVINS, of Newcastle, will appear, also Miss EMMA SMITH, from the Empire Theatre. Chair to be taken by Councillor CURRY at 7·30. Tickets to be had from Committee. 144e

Public Notices.

BAPTIST CHAPEL, CONSETT.

EVANGELISTIC SERVICES from Monday First to Thursday Evening, at 7·30, conducted by Rev J. CHARTER, of Middleton-in-Teesdale. All are invited 266e

PHOTOGRAPHY, PHRENOLOGY, &c.

MR A. RAMSDEN is now at Home (Consett). Call and have your Photograph taken. Also, your Character read. PORTRAIT SALOON near the PARK. MAGNETIC APPLIANCES kept in Stock. 167e

ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

AT the SERVICES on next Sunday, March 15th, SERMONS will be preached on behalf of the above Society by the Rev G. DALE COPELAND, B.D., Rector of Rainton. Morning prayer, 10·45 a.m.; Evening prayer, 6 p.m. 207e

FOOTBALLERS GET READY!

F. McCURLEY, 3, Shakespeare Street, Consett, being encouraged by the manner in which the Public patronised his Amateur Competition, intends to give ELEVEN CHAMPIONSHIP GOLD MEDALS, open to all. To commence on Good Friday. Entrance 5s. each Team, taken until March 23rd, 1891. Draw to take place on March 24th, 1891. 202e

MUSICAL TUITION.

JANE ANNIE HEWITSON (Pupil of Mis Sloane), having obtained First-class Honours also Certificates in Pianoforte Playing, and Theory, at the Examination held before Dr E. M. Lott, in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS in Pianoforte Playing, Harmonium, and also in Theory.

☞ Terms on Application.

ADDRESS: 26, CORT STREET, BLACKHILL.

TANFIELD FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING, in connection with the above Society, will be held at the house of Mr. R. JOHNSON, Peacock Inn, Tanfield, on Monday, March 16th, 1891, at 7 p.m.

This Show will be held on Saturday, September 5th, 1891.

156e GEO. WATSON, Chairman.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741ST STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

NOTICE.

THE 6TH ANNUAL MEETING will be held in the Small Hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, on THURSDAY, March 19th, 1891, at 7·30.

An APPROPRIATION will be made at the close, Any joining on or before Monday, March 16th, and paying four weeks' Subscriptions will participate.

CHAS. W. ALMOND, Chairman.
WILL. ELLIOTT, Secretary.
5, Mount Pleasant, Consett, February 12th, 1891.

Mr John Chaytor will take the Subscriptions in the Stanley District. 984d

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

SOLE LESSEE & MANAGER - - - R. J. BRODIE.
ACTING MANAGER - - - - Mr R. BROWN.

FRIDAY and SATURDAY, March 13th and 14th.—Last Two Nights of the Beresford-Innes Shakespearean Company, when they will appear in "LADY OF LYONS," & "GREEN BUSHES," March 16th.—Closed for Cleaning.—Re-opening on March 23rd, 1891.

THE MRS MOIR SUBSCRIPTION FUND.

A MEETING will be held at Mr A. BRODIE'S Office, Town Hall, Consett, on Monday first, March 16th, at 7·30 p.m. All interested are kindly invited to attend.

DAYS' MENAGERIE, CIRCUS, AND LION HUNTER'S ENCAMPMENT,
Will EXHIBIT in CONSETT, on FRIDAY and SATURDAY, 13th and 14th March.

8 NOBLE LIONS.

Bears, Wolves, Hyenas, Performing Camels, Aviary and Monkey Houses.

All should see the Daring Lion Tamer MACCOMO, and MISS DAY, England's only Lion Queen.

This is the Working Men's Show.

Just added, Funny Clowns, Tight-Rope Dancers, Trapese Performers, and many other Novelties.

ONE CHARGE ADMITS TO ALL.

Proprietors, Messrs. Day. Agent, R. Carlisle.

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.
(Lessees, Messrs. WILSON BROS.)

EASTERTIDE HOLIDAYS.

☞ SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS.

MONDAY.

1.—FOOTBALL MATCH.
2.—PONY RACE, for Ponies 13 h.h. and under.
3.—HURDLE RACE, for Ponies not exceeding 14 h.h.

TUESDAY.

1.—FOOTBALL MATCH.
2.—PONY RACE, for Ponies not exceeding 13 h.h
3.—CONSOLATION RACE, for Beaten Ponies.

MUSIC WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE.

For Entry Forms and other particulars apply to W. RAMSAY, Blackhill. 203e

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mr. John Crawford's Sale-Rooms, 6, 12, and 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by a Gentleman to remove and SELL BY AUCTION at the above Rooms, on Monday first, March 16th, 1891, the whole of his Valuable Household FURNITURE, BEDS and BEDDING, MASON'S TOOLS, &c.

Anyone disposing of their Furniture can have it sold on reasonable terms at any time.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

Sale Office, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr THOMAS CARTER, Elm Park, near Shotley Bridge Station, who is declining Farming, to SELL the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, &c., at an early date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK, PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. 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. 903a

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, MARCH 16TH, 1891.—50 to 60 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 12 Fat Cattle; 70 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 5 Store Cattle; 8 Finger Calves; Black Draught Horse, 16½ h.h., quiet, and good worker in all yokes; suitable for heavy carting work. Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10·30 a.m.

Special Sale of Horses, Store Cattle, and Sheep, Thursday, March 26th. Early entries invited.

Ballot drawn Monday evening previous.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

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

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

VALUATION EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC.

Sales by Auction.

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

Monday, March 16th, 1891.—Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett.—Re-James Stansfield, Deceased.—Important Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture, including Handsome Walnut Sideboard, with 6 Bevilled Plates, Mahogany Dining Table, Mahogany Drawers, Mahogany Couch, in Hair, 6Hair-seated Chairs, 3 Windsor Chairs, Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses, Feather and Down Beds, Bolster and Pillows, Fenders and Fire Irons, Earthenware, Leather Couch, Perambulator, and Kitchen Utensils.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed by the Representatives to remove from Darlington, and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, March 16th, 1891, the Superior Household FURNITURE and Effects. Also, Fine-toned Trichord Pianoforte, in perfect order, Grand Pianoforte, &c.

Sale at Half-past One o'clock exact time. 164e

FOR SALE, Cheap, best quality, Iron Framed Over-strung PIANOFORTE, in perfect order. Another Fine INSTRUMENT, with Brass Pin Plate, Repeater Action, and all the latest improvements. Also, good HARMONIUM, with 9 Stops, by Symes, suitable for a small Chapel or otherwise. —Apply, BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—A. & R. J. BRODIE Auctioneers and Valuers, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the SALE OF PROPERTY of every description either by PUBLIC AUCTION or otherwise, on reasonable terms. FORTNIGHTLY SALES held every Pay Monday, at the Victoria Sale-Rooms, in which Furniture or other Goods can be included, or if preferred, will be Purchased for Cash. Bailiffs under the Agricultural Holdings Act, and under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

ACCIDENT ASSURANCE.—Assurance against Accidents of every kind in the following Offices, noted for prompt settlement of claims—Scottish Accident Assurance Company, Imperial Union Accident Assurance Company.

By Mr. William Nicholson

LANCHESTER AUCTION MART.

Thursday, March 19th, 1891.

Present Entries:—
A number of Calving Cows.
Fat, Keeping, and Grazing Cattle.
Young Bull.
Fat Sheep, Pigs.
Poultry, and other Farm Produce.
Entries to day of sale.
Sale at Two o'clock.
WILLIAM NICHOLSON, Auctioneer.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, MARCH 16TH, 1891.

7 Fat Cattle.
65 Fat Sheep.
Bacon, Pork and Store Pigs.
A number of Cows.
Calves, Poultry.
Dog Cart, Set Harness, Seed, Barley, Hay, &c.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
J. S. MURRAY.

A SPECIAL SALE of STORE STOCK on Monday, March 23rd. Early entries solicited.
J. S. MURRAY.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
Appointed by His Honour JUDGE MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888,
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE, &c.

A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station. AUCTION SALES will be conducted in the best style, and upon most reasonable terms. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., can be bought right out for Cash. 34e

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

Business Announcements

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. In erest, repayable at Three Months' notice.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Public (Incorporated) Accountant, Secretary

STRENGTHENING AND ENERGIZING

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE.

This valuable preparation is composed of Old Port Wine, Kepler's Extract of Malt, and the Liebig Company's Extract of Beef.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is strengthening, flesh-forming, and nourishing.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE, in small quantities, is especially valuable for sick children

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE being easily digested and readily assimilated, is "a tissue former," and "a force producer" of the utmost importance to those who require strength.

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is recommended by hundreds of medical men and hospital nurses to their patients, and the Proprietor holds a large number of testimonials in its favour.

PRICES: 3s 9d PER BOTTLE; 45s DOZ. BOTTLES 2s PER HALF-BOTTLE, 23s 6d DOZ. HALF-BOTTLES.

Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

SOLE AGENTS:—
RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. BENFIELDSIDE.
MESSRS T. D. DRYDEN & Co., WINE MERCHANTS, &c., FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST, &c., SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.
ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT DIPTON.
WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL, STANLEY.
WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL, ANN FIELD PLAIN.
RICHARD BROWELL, MINERS' ARMS, THE SPEN,
AND
WILLIAM STONES, BURTON HOUSE, BURNOPFIELD. 463c

"EASY IS THE HEAD THAT WEARS A CROWN"
SUPPLIED BY
E. BROOKS,
HATTER TO TRADE,
57, GREY, and 59, CLAYTON STREETS, NEWCASTLE.

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Outlery, Gems &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stockof New and Second-hand WATCHES Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices!
☞ SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 789

TO ADVERTISERS AND CORRESPONDENTS

COMMUNICATIONS should reach us *not later* than Thursday morning.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, MARCH 27TH, 1891.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCEDO."]

OBSTRUCTION.

This subject formed the topic of conversation at the last meeting of the Consett Local Board, and I was astonished beyond measure that the members present did not rise to their feet in a body and protest to a man against the utter abuse of comparison, in a man likening the obstruction caused by idle lads, with heads about as empty as their pockets, hanging at street corners, to bales of merchandise placed on the kerb-stones in front of the shops for which the occupiers pay rent and taxes on such a scale that the force of circumstances naturally lead them to devise ways and means of making the most of their business. Displaying draperies at the doors of the respective establishments, and adorning the kerb-stones with choice samples fresh from the great centres of production, are among the most popular of modern methods of attracting the notice of the public, and while it is the business of the local authorities to see to it that the privilege is not abused, it is also within their right to grant special privileges to the tradespeople in a country town like Consett. It should be remembered that there are two classes of buyers in the world—those who buy because they must, and those who are tempted to buy. It is with the view of attracting the attention of the last-named order of purchasers that tradesmen display their goods outside the doors of their premises; but the thing is managed so judiciously at Consett that none but the most fastidious would for a moment think of regarding the practice as a public nuisance. But the live stock that spend an aimless existence at street corners are, on the other hand, one of the chief sources of annoyance in village, town, and city, and ought consequently to be removed without ceremony as "cumberers of the ground."

BUILDING OPERATIONS AT CONSETT.

The building committee in connection with the Consett Local Board has had its hands full of late, the Consett Iron Company having submitted plans for the construction of upwards 100 houses, and several local gentlemen also speculating in the same direction. The sign is of course a very hopeful one, despite the presence on the horizon—so it is said—of the dark cloud from which issue periodically currents of trade depression. It may be that the chief actors in connection with the proposed new buildings have dreamed dreams or seen visions, and distance lending the proverbial measure of enchantment to the view, they have been induced to sow expecting to reap in due season. However that may be, there is no over-looking the fact that a few months hence when the angle rolling mills are started at Consett, additional house accommodation will be required, for it may reasonably be assumed that men and officials accustomed to that particular class of work will be induced to settle in the district. It is no doubt in view of the requirements which the change will bring about that the Iron Company are taking time by the forelock and building their houses not on the sand, but on the uplands upon which the thriving town of Consett is founded.

DEATH OF A LOCAL VETERAN.

The death was announced the other week of a William Pollock, an ironworker, of West Street, Blackhill, from the result of an accident said to have been sustained whilst following his employment at the Tinmill Works of the Consett Iron Company. The announcement awakened my curiosity at the time, because I knew that living in the street named, and engaged in the employment referred to, was an old veteran bearing the name of James Pollock. My fears have since been confirmed, having learned on inquiry that the deceased man is no other than the Crimean veteran above. James Pollock belonged to the Edinburgh district, and when quite a young man he enlisted in the 92nd, or Gordon Highlanders. The Russian War shortly afterwards broke out, and as only three Highland regiments—then afterwards known in history as the famous Highland Brigade—the 79th, the 93rd, and 42nd (Black Watch) were ordered to the seat of war, James Pollock, together with upwards of 300 of the 92rd, obtained leave to volunteer into the ranks of regiments ordered to the Crimea. Pollock joined the 33rd regiment, laying aside the plumed bonnet and kilt and plaid which forms the picturesque garb of the Highland corps to fight the Russians in the plain red coat and breeches. The deceased ironworker was present at the battle of Alma, in which action he escaped without a scratch; but he was not so fortunate at subsequent engagements, being shot through the leg at Inkermann and receiving a bayonet thrust in the hand at the storming of the Redan. From the wound in his leg Pollock never wholly recovered. Our troops wore long boots in the Crimea, and the veteran always insisted that the bullet, which entered his leg between the ankle and the knee, carried with it into the interior of the bone a portion of the leather. Like many an old soldier, Pollock was wont to recount his experiences of war with terrible reality, and the day on which the battle of Inkerman was fought proved one of the most momentous in his chequered life. Pollock fell from the loss of blood early in the fight and lay mid-way between the cross-fire of friends and foes until the French came into action and drove the Russian hordes back to Sebastopol. The student of history knows that it was touch-and-go with us at Inkermann, our troops being greatly outnumbered by the grey-coated columns of Russian infantry, our men being driven back again and again. Pollock told me that although weak and dizzy, he never for a moment lost his senses. Sometimes his countrymen charged over him, and sometimes they retired out of sight and the Russian artillery came so close to him that he could see as he lay on the wet ground the expression on the faces of the gunners as they sent the missiles of death into the ranks of the British Army.

FACE TO FACE WITH DEATH.

Reference was made above to the fact that the late James Pollock was wounded at the storming of the Redan, and as Byron said truly that truth is always strange, stranger than fiction, I have no doubt whatever but a succinct account of how the deceased veteran came by his wound will be read with interest. It is an open secret that the French were too smart for us by carrying the Malakhoff by storm, with the result that when our men went into action they were confronted by the fugitives from the first-named fort, who had been driven from their lair by the sharp bayonets of the French. The sequel was that our troops were defeated and shot down by the hundred; but not before many a Russian had bitten the dust. James Pollock took part in that duel, and during the retreat of the British troops he found himself alone and face to face with a burly grey-coated Russian. It was a duel to the death, and Pollock, come of a warlike race, fixed his sword bayonet—worn only by sergeants, for James Pollock had by this epoch in his history attained to the rank of sergeant—and manfully met the eye of his foe. The ground was uneven, the Russian towering above his youthful foe, for Pollock was not at that time out of his teens. The Russian was the first to thrust, which he did with such force that Pollock, parrying the lounge with his fixed bayonet, the man fell headforemost under the feet of his foe. His bayonet, however, became entangled in the side-belt of the Scot, running clean through the left hand of his adversary. I have often looked at the wound in Pollock's hand, and it was so natural that there was no mistaking the genuineness of the thrust. The impression of the triangular bayonet was as plain as if photographed.

"SINCERITY."

I trust the Editor will do as I have done, and put this note last in order, because I have the most consummate dislike to exchange opinions with men of the stamp of the Tow Law worthy posing under the *nom de plume* of "Sincerity." Personally, I have very lofty conceptions of the natural goodness in human nature, believing, as I do, that earth might be almost as bright a place as heaven above were means taken to educate the hearts of men instead of their heads. "Sincerity," on the other hand, struts at Tow Law in all the flimsy glory of self-conceit, regarding honest innkeepers as unpardonable sinners, and his fellowmen as ungovernable asses, capable only of being controlled by muzzles. Such, in substance, is his antidote for the evils which crowd in the train of intemperance. The only sensible utterance to which he has in this matter given expression was when he said I had honoured him by referring to his crack-brained lucubrations. That was true; but then I am sorry for my sins, and will, therefore, honour him no more for ever.

REV A. T. GUTTERY will PREACH in the LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, on Easter Monday, March 31st, 1891. See Bills. 166e

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

On Wednesday se'nnight, Rev F. R. Smith, Annfield Plain, gave a lecture in the Wesleyan Chapel, Consett, on "A canny cobbler."

We learn that Mr R. Routledge, late of Consett, who for many years was with the North-Eastern Banking Company has obtained a good appointment in the head office of the National Bank of Australasia at Melbourne.

At Consett Police Court on Monday—Councillor Jas. Annandale on the bench—*Francis Gallagher* and *George Lewis*, both tramping labourers, were fined 5s and expenses with the alternative of seven days' hard labour for being intoxicated at Consett, on Saturday evening.

We beg to remind our readers of the high-class concert arranged to be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Tuesday evening next, in commemoration of St. Patrick's festival. An exceptionally good array of talent has been engaged.

THE SNOWFALL.—An exceptionally severe fall of snow—the severest this winter—commenced in West Durham on Saturday evening, about six o'clock, and continued for upwards of 24 hours without cessation. Snow consequently lay on the ground to a depth of about two feet, and drifted six or seven feet in places. On Monday, two engines had to be attached to the passenger trains travelling on the Consett Branch. Some of the Consett Iron Company's and other railways were blocked, and men had to be set to work to clear off the snow.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN BECKWITH.—Yesterday (Thursday) morning, there passed away, at his residence in Delves Lane, Consett, Mr John Beckwith, at the age of 71 years, after a little over a weeks illness. Deceased was considered to be a member of one of the oldest families in the district, and lived for a vast number of years at Shotley Bridge, and was well-known and held in general esteem in the Derwent Valley. Mr Beckwith pursued, for a lengthened period, the business of a contractor, and formerly used to lead the coal required by the Shotley Bridge and Consett Gas Company at their works. He leaves a widow, but there is no family. The funeral is arranged to take place at Benfieldside Cemetery on Saturday afternoon.

THEATRE ROYAL.—So successful has been the engagement of the Beresford-Innes Legitimate Co., that they have been induced to prolong their visit over another week with most gratifying results, the audiences being exceedingly large almost every night. On Monday evening, they produced *East Lynne* in a satisfactory manner; on Tuesday, a repetition of *Othello*; on Wednesday, *Richelieu*, in which Madame Beresford Mr Mat Robson, Mr G. W. Innes and Mr Forsyth appeared to great advantage. On Thursday, *Macbeth* was given, and for to-night (Friday) by special request the *Lady of Lyons* will be reproduced, and to-morrow (Saturday), the last night of the company's stay *The Green Bushes* is announced. The Theatre will be closed next week for cleaning, and will re-open on March 23rd.

Y.M.C.A. DEBATING SOCIETY.—A meeting in connection with the above was held in the Y.M.C.A. Rooms, Consett, last Friday evening. The chair was occupied by Mr Ritson, who introduced the subject for discussion—"Has theatre going a moral or an immoral tendency."—Mr H. Watson introduced the subject with a nice and showy paper, at the close of which he moved that "Theatre going has not an immoral tendency."—Mr Christer followed with an amendment that "Theatre going has an immoral tendency," and he was ably supported by Rev C. S. Wilson, who in a very powerful speech exposed some of the evils of theatre going.—The debate was then left open and some genuine excitement followed. Speech after speech was given for and against. The supporters of the amendment doing their utmost to outdo the supporters of the motion. Never has there been a more exciting one than that of last Friday evening, since its formation, and had the chairman not declared that the time was up for the room closing, the debate might have gone on until the early hours of the morning, so with votes of thanks the proceedings terminated.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

At the Shotley Bridge Occasional Court, on Tuesday, before Councillor James Annandale, *Thomas McAllister*, on tramp, and *Peter Rafferty*, ironworker, of Consett, were fined 5s and costs or seven days' imprisonment for being drunk and incapable at Consett, on Monday night.

On Wednesday night, a fire broke out at the house of Mr Geo. Richardson, Shotley Bridge. It was discovered in the library, the beams and floor around the hearth stone being in a blaze. Happily it was discovered at seven in the evening, but had it not be seen until the family had retired, undoubtedly the premises would have been destroyed, as it was not extinguished until nine o'clock.

GREENCROFT.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The anniversary services of this place of worship were celebrated as follows:—On Saturday evening, Mr J. Southern, of Crook, delivered his popular lecture on "Sammy Hick" to a good company. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Mackay, Catchgate. After the lecture, a ham and coffee supper was provided, and well patronised.—On Sunday, three sermons were preached, morning and evening, by Mr J. Southern, and in the afternoon by Mr J. Sasbury, Annfield Plain. A collection was taken at the close of each service in aid of the trust fund.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

On Wednesday week, a conversazione was held in the Primitive Methodist School-room, Allendale Cottages, Mr R. Hetherington, Medomsley, presiding. Various games were indulged in both by young and old.—On Monday night, a similar entertainment was given in the same place. The proceeds were in aid of the school funds.

EBCHESTER.

ASSAULT AT A PLOUGHING-DAY.—At Hexham Petty Sessions—before R. Wallis, Esq. (chairman), Capt. Atkinson, J. Oswald Head, Esq., and J. J. Kirsopp, Esq.—*James Glendinning*, farm servant, was summoned by Thomas Thompson, farmer, Fairle, for assault.—Mr W. Pruddah prosecuted, and there was no defence.—Thomas Thompson said he was the son of Mr Thompson, farmer, Fairle, and James Glendinning was a farmer at Mellowfield. On Wednesday, 25th February, there was a ploughing-day for the incoming tenant at Newlands Farm, and witness and Glendinning both had draughts. When three or four of them had finished the set they were on they went to help defendant, who had a large set all to himself. The latter commenced cursing and swearing, and without any provocation, struck witness with both fists, and knocked him against the plough.—John Cowen, farmer at the Grey Mare Hill, gave corroborative evidence.—Fined 5s and costs.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday evening, several of the members of the Ryton Conservative Association assembled in the long-room of the Joiners' Arms Hotel, Lane Head, for the purpose of presenting a testimonial to Mr Joseph Tolson, Conservative agent for Chester-le-Street, on the occasion of his marriage, and in recognition of his past services. The chair was occupied by Mr St. Ledger Parsons (president of the association), and amongst those present were Mr Smith (hon. sec.), Mr Bullock (treasurer), Mr Maughan, Mr Slater, Mr Gladstone, Mr Bailey, and others. The testimonial took the form of a short address, and an elegant set of silver salt-cellers beautifully encased.—Mr Parsons made the presentation.

LOOK OUT for DR. LUNN, on EASTER WEDNESDAY, in the Town Hall, Consett.

FROSTERLEY.

Messrs Pease and Partner's steam navvy has commenced work in the Old Broadwood Quarry, Frosterley.

Trade is very poor in the Weardale quarries at the present time. The men in many cases are only working four or five days per week.

On Saturday night, a sewing meeting tea was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Frosterley. Tea was provided by Mrs Wm. Maddison, and the proceeds amounted to over £8.

VISIT OF REV J. ODELL.—The members of the Primitive Methodist Society at Frosterley, succeeded in obtaining the services of Rev Jos. Odell while on a visit to Weardale.—On Friday night, Mr Odell preached to a very large congregation. It was a great treat to all who heard him. Mr Odell has at Birmingham an Evangelistic Home in which are a number of young men who are entirely given up to evangelical work. Numbers flocked from Stanhope and Wolsingham to hear this popular minister.

LEADGATE.

WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE.—The fortnightly meeting in connection with the above was held on Saturday night, a good company being present. As usual, the president (Mr N. Parker) opened the meeting with hymn and prayer. Readings and recitations were given by the following—Messrs B. Moyle, J. Eddy, J. J. Hunter, J. Hickford, of Leadgate, and Miss Egglestone, Consett. A temperance melody was sung by E. Parker, Blackhill, and a solo by Miss Egglestone. An earnest temperance address was delivered by Mr Marrs, of Derwent Cottages, in which he appealed strongly to temperance workers to do their duty. A cornet solo was excellently rendered by L. Harker, for which he was *encored*. The Band of Hope choir did their part well, as did the Mission Band which was in attendance during the evening. A collection was made at the close, after which three pledges were taken.

PRUDHOE.

BAZAAR.—On Friday afternoon, a bazaar was opened at the Prudhoe U.M.F. Church with the special object of reducing the debt of £480 at present resting on the Sunday School attached to the church. There was a capital attendance at the opening ceremony, which was performed by Mr M. MacInnes, M.P., who was introduced by Rev S Prater, minister of the church.—On the motion of Mr S. Little, of Mickley, seconded by Mr John Aiston, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr MacInnes.—The stalls were well filled with a great variety of useful articles, and were presided over by Mesdames Prater, Aiston, Phillipson, Riddle, Crowe, and Wilson, and Misses Batey and Walton.

SPEN COLLIERY.

CONCERT.—On Saturday evening, a successful and interesting concert was given at Spen Colliery, before a large attendance. All the artistes acquitted themselves in good style; the songs of Miss Tebb being particularly admired. The programme was as follows:—Part 1—Chorus, "Wake the song of Jubilee," choir; song, "Friend of the brave," Mr Bright; violin duet, Messrs Rippeth and Johnson; song, "Daddy," Miss Tebb; duet, "Albion," Messrs Whitfield and Scott; part song, "Those Sabbath bells," choir; violin solo, Mr Johnson; glee, "Hark, the lark," choir. Part 2—Glee, "Where art thou, beam of light?" choir; song, "Father O' Flynn," Mr Bright; violin duet, Messrs Rippeth and Johnson; song, "Woman's way," Miss Tebb; duet, "The battle eve, Messrs Whitfield and Scott; quartette, choir; violin solo, Mr Rippeth; chorus, "The bridal chorus," choir.

RATEPAYERS' MEETING.—A meeting of the ratepayers of the township of Chopwell, was held in the Primitive Methodist School-room, Spen, on Monday evening—Dr Colquhoun, Guardian, in the chair—for the purpose of electing an assistant-overseer for the township, in the place of Mr Robt. Jewitt, resigned—Mr Thomas Armstrong, teacher, High Spen, and Mr Cheeseman, farmer, Chopwell, were nominated. On a vote being taken, Mr Armstrong had a large majority, but a poll was demanded on behalf of Mr Cheeseman, which was fixed by the chairman to take place on Friday, 13th inst., between the hours of one and seven p.m., polling booths at High Spen School, and Blackhall Mill.

TOW LAW.

On Friday and Saturday nights, Mr Harry Clifford and a good company of artistes, visited Tow Law, and gave capital entertainments in the Mechanics' Hall, which was crowded to excess, especially on Saturday night.

"BEACON OF HOPE" LODGE I.O.G.T.—On Wednesday, the 4th inst., a capital session of the above lodge was held. The occasion being a visit from the Rev M. Cuthbert and the Primitive Methodist choir (under the leadership of Mr H. Hobson). The choir gave a good selection of music, and a splendid address was given by Mr Cuthbert. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the visitors and a pleasant and profitable session was closed by the singing of the doxology.

ENTERTAINMENT.—A capital entertainment was given by the Tow Law "Star" Minstrels, in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law. In addition to two good sketches, a number of songs, recitations, &c., were given in an efficient manner Quite a new feature was introduced in the shape of some cartoons of animals, done in a very rapid manner by Mr T. Babarie. The whole entertainment was very creditable for such a young company, and if they keep together, we may expect greater things from them in the future. There was a very good attendance.

USHAW MOOR.

THE IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE.—The monthly meeting of the Sleetburn and Ushaw Moor Branch of the above league was held on Monday evening. There was a good attendance of members, and Mr J. Gallagher occupied the chair. The secretary, Mr Dickinson, submitted the quarterly statement of accounts, which showed the branch to be in a flourishing and most satisfactory financial condition. It was proposed by Mr M. Fallon, seconded by Mr J. O. Carroll, and agreed to, that the sum of £2 be sent to the Irish Tenants' Defence Fund.

CORNSAY COLLIERY.

IRISH NATIONAL LEAGUE.—At a meeting of the Cornsoy branch of this organisation, held this week, under the presidency of Mr John Lovell, a resolution was adopted condemning the tactics of Mr Parnell and some of his party in circulating the report that the majority of the Irish party are paid by English Liberals. Confidence was also expressed in the Irish members led by Mr Justin McCarthy.

AN AMUSING INCIDENT occurred just recently in a village "pub," in the vicinity of Cornsay. A number of men were engaged in conversation about the Silksworth dispute, when one of those present affirmed that "they" were coming out on strike in support of the men at Silksworth. One of the company enquired the name of the colliery to which he referred, when, to his surprise, he exclaimed "Browney Bank," near Satley, though unfortunately there is but one man and a boy employed. "What," said the stranger in astonishment, "it will be but a midget taking its flight in the airy elements, and consequently will never be missed." "Let that be as it may," replied the man, "they are determined to restrict the output of coal."

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

LECTURE.—Last (Thursday) evening, a lecture was given in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain, by Mrs Coates, of Hull, subject, "The battle of trumpets, pitchers, and lamps." There was a good company present.

During the week the special services at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain, have been continued, conducted by Mrs Coates, of Hull.

On Wednesday night, the teachers and elder scholars of the Wesleyan Sunday school, Annfield Plain, had a most enjoyable evening and supper in the school room of the above. Afterwards a conversation was indulged in, on "The Sunday school and how to conduct it to the best advantage."—A collection was taken to defray expenses.

LANCHESTER.

Yesterday (Thursday), Mr Ed. Balleny, of Little Greencroft, had an exciting chase with a gun after an infuriated dog, which it is alleged had worried some of the sheep and lambs on his estate. The animal was pursued to the King's Head Hotel yard, at Lanchester, where it received its *coup de grace*.

WOLSINGHAM.

CLERGY AND POLICE.—The Wolsingham clergy in their parish magazine pay a high tribute to Police-Inspector (late Sergeant) Rispin on his departure for Jarrow. "He has done what he was forced to do with good temper and forbearance, not without firmness too when it was required," say the rev. editors.

STANHOPE.

CO-OPERATIVE STORES.—The report and balance sheet of the Stanhope and Weardale Industrial and Provident Society for the half-year ending December last has just been issued. The report shows a membership of 684, being an increase of 32. A tabulated statement shows that the share capital stands at £7,075; sales, £8,337; net profit, £889 10s. The dividend will be 2s 8d on general groceries, and 1s 10d on flour. The society has branches at St. John's Chapel and Frosterley.

LARGE FUNERAL.—A large funeral took place at Stanhope Church—that of the late Ralph Bainbridge, for many years a well-known resident at Stanhope. He removed to Consett two or three years ago. His remains were carried by rail to Stanhope Station, from whence he was taken to the Primitive Methodist Chapel, where the funeral service was conducted by Rev. G. Chunn, after which he was interred in the churchyard. After the close of the service a hymn was sung over his open grave. Deceased was for a number of years an *employé* of the London Lead Company, at Bollihope Lead Mines, and was well-known in Stanhope, and highly respected. Being connected with one of the Friendly Societies, the members attended his funeral in large numbers. He was for years a consistent member of the Primitive Methodist Society at Stanhope.

FREE TEA TO THE AGED AND POOR.—Mr R. Tweddle, a working man, of Stanhope, gave a free tea and entertainment in the Bank Room, on Wednesday afternoon and evening, to the aged and poor people and widows of Stanhope. A large number partook of the generous donor's hospitality. The tea was served up in excellent style by Miss and Mrs Tweddle, assisted by Mrs Smooker, Mrs Vasey, Mrs Gowland, Mrs Alderson, Miss Alderson, and Miss Ritson. A capital entertainment was afterwards given, presided over by Mr George Tweddle. Miss E. Spark presided at the piano. The artistes were Messrs Woodhall and Ripon, Cail, Gowland, Harrison, Thompson, Spark, Misses Cail, Fairless, Elliott, Ritson, Alderson, and Harrison. A most enjoyable evening was spent.

WEARDALE.

Miss Bulmer, of the Stanhope Evangelical Mission, has been conducting special services for the Primitives, at Wearhead and Lanehead, for about 11 weeks, with good success, having had over 100 cases of conversion.

MARRIAGE.—Mr Fred Martindale, of West Ferry Field Farm, led to the altar at Stanhope Church on Saturday, Miss Martin, daughter of Mr Robert Martin, Stanhope. A merry peal of bells from the old church tower announced the joyous event. The happy couple left, amid showers of rice, *en route* for Saltburn, to spend their honeymoon.

THE SNOWSTORM.—A heavy fall of snow took place in Weardale on Saturday evening and all day on Sunday, accompanied with a biting frost as severe and more severe than any experienced during December. The month of February was the dryest and finest on record, but March entered with boisterous winds which blew violently for a whole week, amounting at times to gales, ending on Sunday with a blinding snowstorm.

TANFIELD LEA.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST SOCIETY.—A NOBLE EFFORT WELL SUPPORTED.—About nine months ago, the members of the above society at Tanfield Lea, put forth an effort to raise funds in order to enable them to purchase a new pipe organ for their place of worship, the cost of the instrument to be £100. As soon as it became known what the members intended to do, a good number of people came forward and gave a number of social teas, &c., which were well patronised by the inhabitants of the village, six teas raising £43. The organ was opened by Mr J. M. Preston, Gateshead, on February 22nd, before a very large audience, who highly applauded his playing. A grand concert was given the same evening by the chapel choir, conducted by Mr H. Fawcett, to whom great credit is due for the way in which the choir rendered their pieces. Mr Preston accompanied the choir, and gave several organ recitals, which were much appreciated by the audience. The concert realised over £10. At the close of the entertainment, Mr Preston gave his verdict, which affords great satisfaction to all. The organ was built by Mr W. C. Blackett, of Newcastle, and is a noble instrument. The organ is paid for, all the money having been raised excepting £2.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

TO-MORROW'S FIXTURES (SATURDAY, MARCH 14TH).

Consett Rugby 2nd v Stockton 2nd, at Stockton (First round Durham Second Eleven Competition).
Leadgate Exiles v Hebburn Argyle, at Leadgate.
Leadgate Park v Portland (Newcastle), at Leadgate.
Leadgate Park Reserve v Portland Reserve, at Newcastle.
Dipton Wanderers v Byer Moor, at Byer Moor.
Dipton Wanderers Reserve v Ebchester Swifts Reserve, at Dipton.
Langley Park Rovers v Pelton Fell Harriers, at Pelton Fell.
Consett Albion v Langley Park Rovers Reserve, at Langley Park.
Hedley Harriers v Washington Iron Works, at Washington.
Tow Law v Shildon, at Tow Law.
Leadgate Exiles 3rd v Quebec St. Michael's 2nd, at Leadgate.
Consett Albion v Elswick Wesley, at Consett.
Blaydon 2nd v Tyne Dock 2nd, at Tyne Dock.
Tow Law Reserve v Etherley Reserve, at Tow Law.
Final tie of Mr W. Knaggs's Junior Competition, at Consett.

DIPTON WANDERERS v BYER MOOR.—These teams will meet at Byer Moor to-morrow (Saturday), when a good game is looked forward to. The following team will represent the Wanderers:—Goal, R. Freek; backs, J. Walker and T. Turpin; half-backs, R. Press, E. Buck, and W. Bowes; forwards, W. Turner and I. Gilliard, right wing; W. Smith, centre; J. Leadbitter and T. Walker, left wing. Kick-off at 3 o'clock.

DIPTON WANDERERS RESERVE v EBCHESTER SWIFTS RESERVE.—The above teams will play their return match to-morrow (Saturday), at Dipton, when a close and exciting game is sure to be witnessed. The following will do duty for the Wanderers:—Goal, T. Mann; backs, J. Richardson and R. Brewis; half-backs, J. Bell, W. Richardson, and W. Parker; forwards, J. Knotts and J. Sanderson, right wing; M. Temple, centre; H. Maude and J. Jardine, left wing. Kick-off at 3 prompt.

LANGLEY PARK ROVERS v PELTON FELL HARRIERS.—These well-known teams will meet to-morrow (Saturday), at Pelton Fell, wheer a fast and even game should result. The following team will represent the Rovers:—Goal, T. Dixon; backs, G. Foster and C. Jackson (capt.); half-backs, J. Pickering, R. Rutter, and E. Shorten; forwards, J. Gott and J. Iveson, right wing; J. Agar, centre; H. Monsey and T. Newton, left wing. Umpire, Mr Thos. Rutherford. Kick-off at 2-15.

LANGLEY PARK ROVERS' RESERVE v. CONSETT ALBION.—The above teams will play their first fixture at Langley Park to-morrow (Saturday). The Rovers will rely on the following:—Goal, W. Potter; backs, J. Plews and Jos. Vickers; half-backs, J. Moss, J. Lowes, and J. Shorten; forwards, T. Ardley and H. Ardley, right wing; G. Jackson, centre; J. Shorten and J. Abbs, left wing. Umpire, Mr W. Shorten. Kick-off at 2-30.

MR W. KNAGGS'S JUNIOR COMPETITION.

The final tie of the above competition will be played to-morrow (Saturday), the clubs left in being Blackhill Park and Blackhill St. Mary's. The following team will represent the Park:—Goal, H. Tindle; backs, F. Kempster and J. Brown; half-backs, J. Maughan, E. Tindle, and J. Fiddess; forwards, A. Lindsay, J. Butler, A. Atkinson, T. Robinson, and W. Leybourne.

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.

DISTRESSING SUICIDE AT TOW LAW.

A MINISTER'S WIFE HANGS HERSELF.

A painful sensation was created in Tow Law, on Saturday, when it became known that Mrs Esther Cuthbert, wife of Rev M. Cuthbert, Primitive Methodist Minister, stationed at Tow Law, had committed suicide by hanging. It seems that for some time past the deceased had been

SUFFERING FROM MELANCHOLIA,

and for eight month was attended by Dr Wild. She was missed, and on a search being made, was found suspended by a rope round her neck, hanging from a hook behind a bed-room door, life being extinct. She was 45 years of age. No suspicion was entertained about her attempting to commit such a rash act. Deceased and her husband lived on most affectionate terms.

On Tuesday afternoon, Mr Coroner Dean held an inquiry in the Mechanics' Institute, Tow Law, relative to the death of Mrs Cuthbert, of Thornley Grove.

Rev M. Cuthbert, husband of the deceased, said he left deceased in bed about half-past eight on Saturday morning when he went down-stairs. She had not spoken to him, but he noticed

NOTHING UNUSUAL IN HER MANNER.

He went upstairs again about ten o'clock, but he could not open the door as there was a chair standing against it. He pushed the door open and entered the room, when he saw Mrs Cuthbert lying across the floor with

A ROPE ROUND HER NECK.

which he slackened, but she was apparently dead. She had been for twelve months in a very depressed condition, suffering from a low form of mania, and had been attended for eight months by Dr Wild. He never had had any suspicion that she would do away with herself. The doctor had expressed an opinion that the illness might take an acute form at any time.

Sarah Robinson, a servant of Mr Cuthbert's, and Elizabeth Gowland, a married woman, gave corroborative evidence.

A verdict was returned of "Suicide by hanging whilst in an unsound state of mind."

At the suggestion of Rev Rd. Garbutt (Wesleyan minister), the jury expressed their sympathy with Mr Cuthbert in his sorrow.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

Shotley Bridge Circuit.—The quarterley meeting of this circuit was held at Consett, on Saturday. The number of members reported is the same as last year. Chapels and schools were found to be in a satisfactory state, the debt on the former having been reduced by £213. Permission was given to Blackhill to take the necessary steps to build a new school, and like permission was given to Bradley Cottages for a new chapel. Mr George Hawdon was elected circuit steward, and Mr Jos Kirk vice. Messrs William Pattinson and Thomas Mackay were elected delegates to the District Meeting. The ministers, Revs. J. Elliott and T. J. Watson, remain another year.

White-le-Head Circuit. — At the Primitive Methodist quarterly meeting held here on Saturday—the Rev M. Johnson presiding, the steward reported the largest quarterly income that had been received within the history of the circuit. The yearly reports showed the same number of members as last year, and an increase of 23 Sunday scholars. Rev M. Johnson was appointed delegate to the district meeting, and Mr Thos. Brabban vice-delegate. The debts on chapels in the district had been reduced 6 per cent. during the year, and £50 had been paid off the debt upon the minister's house. Mr Thos. Brabban was appointed circuit steward, and it was arranged to hold a circuit demonstration in the summer.

Stanley Primitive Methodist Circuit.—On Saturday, the quarterly meeting was held in the school-room, West Stanley—Rev J. Magee presiding. There was a good attendance of delegates. The number of members reported to the district meeting at conference was 540, an increase of 10 on the year. The income for the quarter was £53, and with balance from last quarter made a total of £91. After meeting all expenses there remained a balance of £37. It was reported that there had been raised during the year £1,400 towards the chapel trusts.—The meeting unanimously voted against the connexional evangelistic scheme. The Sunday-school report showed an increase of 77 scholars, and a decrease of 5 teachers for the year. Mr Philip Reay, Annfield Plain, was appointed delegate to the district meeting, and Mr Wm. Atkinson, South Moor, vice. During the year £30 had been removed off the debt on the minister's house. The officers were all reappointed. It was agreed to hold the usual circuit demonstration in the summer.

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT AT CONSETT.

On Monday evening, the musical community of the district were provided with another treat in the shape of a popular entertainment, in the Co-operative Hall, Consett. The object, to aid the Consett Mission Brass Band, was a most deserving one, and enlisted the sympathy of all classes. In the first place, we were somewhat disappointed at the manner in which the various religious bodies attended to render what assistance they possibly could by their patronage, as a recompense for the many good turns this body of rising instrumentalists have favoured the various places of worship with since the band was established. Perhaps the wintry state of the weather had something to do with marring the attendance, which was a very good one taking all things into consideration. Those present were amply repaid for their trouble, and were provided with a rich programme of music. The arrangements were ably carried out by Mr A. Russell, Templetown. The artistes were:—Miss C. Bellas, Newcastle; Mrs Emerson, Consett; Misses Harker, Blackhill; Mr Wm. Bell, Newcastle; Messrs T. D. Dryden, P. E. Surtees, J. Symington, and J. Siddle, Consett. Dealing with the programme, we may remark that Mr Symington did full justice to his song "The fog bell," and was the recipient of rounds of applause. Miss Bellas, who has become quite a favourite in Consett, was enthusiastically cheered on making her appearance. Her rendition of "The worker" was all that could be desired, and her vocal effort was greatly admired. The recitation "The lifeboat," was given by Mr Bell in capital style, and proved that he was a clever elocutionist. In response to a hearty *encore*, he favoured with "The Frenchmen's experience," with equal success. Mrs Emerson, who possesses a very good voice, sang most exquisitely "Give me my Arab steed," and was rewarded by an enrapturous re-call. In acknowledgement, she gave "The Scottish blue bell." The Misses Harker, on the piano and violin, gave a skilful and brilliant performance of "Maritana," and enchanted their listeners to such an extent that they won for themselves a well-merited *encore*. In response they played a selection of "Scottish Airs." The capabilities of these two talented young ladies are already well-known. Every time they appear in public, they seem to become more proficient in their accomplished and finished handling of their respective instruments, and a great deal of credit is due to these young artistes for their perseverance. The playing of the violin was a superb treat, and one need not wonder that their services are in so great request, and their endeavours so well appreciated. Mr Bell again fairly convulsed the company with laughter, when he gave his popular recitation, "The pitman's glass-eye." For a re-demand he gave "Mr Forster" to the satisfaction of all present. The song "In Old Madrid" was capitally sung by Mr Dryden, who was succeeded by Mr Surtees, in the favourite song "The Quaker." This gentleman's singing was greatly appreciated. Part two was opened by Mrs Emerson singing "Caller Herrin," in character, which pleased the audience immensely. For an *encore* she contributed "Within a mile of Edinbro' Toon." The song "The white squall" was ably rendered by Mr Surtees. Miss Bellas sang very sweetly that beautiful song "Daddy" in a manner that provoked an enthusiastic *encore*. To satisfy the assembly, she rendered most splendidly "Kathleen Mavourneen." This lady was in capital trim, and did ample justice to her different pieces. Mr Dryden next gave "The song that reached my heart," in a faultless manner. The Misses Harker once more favoured with a "Souvenir of Welsh airs" and were again *encored*. "The sailor's grave," by Mr J. Siddle was admirably sung, the applause culminating in a unanimous *encore*. Miss Bellas next rendered "My boy Tammy," and was followed by Mr Symington, who concluded the programme with "The old brigade," sung in capital style. The National Anthem concluded the proceedings. Mr Geo. Dryden, Consett, efficiently acted as accompanist.

GREAT DECREASE OF DEATHS FROM CONSUMPTION.

The Government returns show a great decrease in this fatal malady since Handyside's Consumption Cure has been discovered, and anyone attending the meeting of Handyside's patients will not be surprised at the result. If Dr Koch surpasses this medicine it will be discontinued, but from appearances it will be as much wanted as ever to build up the constitution. Everyone should write for extracts from ten thousand testimonials.

Price 3s 10d per 2 bottles.

25, Tweed Street, Newcastle.

Mr G. Handyside,

I am glad to say my wife is now restored to health. She has been a sufferer from Rheumatism and Consumption for eight years. I have tried six doctors. She was ordered to the Convalescent Home, and went for three weeks, but it did her no good. Previous to taking your medicine she had been confined to child-bed for three weeks, and could not turn over in bed. The doctor attending to her confinement was very anxious about the state of her health, but could do nothing for her; but after taking your Consumption Cure for two days she was able to get out of bed and walk about, and in about eight days she felt herself well. I recommended it to my wife's sister, and it did her a great deal of good. I think it my duty to communicate to you, so that it may be widely known, as they are completely restored.

JOHN McQUINN.

[was asked to see this lady, it was a serious case. She was labouring under nearly all diseases that flesh is heir to, and, in addition had recently been confined. I asked her husband to feel her pulse, and he was scarcely able. Her heart was nearly motionless. She had been a martyr to Sciatica, the worst form of Rheumatics, for years, and at the time I saw the lady she could not turn over in bed. She told me she had been treated for Consumption for eight years. The lady appears to be delighted at the change, and I am sure if anyone calls she will be glad for the sake of other sufferers, to relate to them the wonderful change.]

25, Tamworth Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
August 8th.

I hereby certify that I have been ill for a year-and-a-half, and have been under four doctors; but I gradually got worse and worse, and the last doctor told me he could do nothing further except order me change of air. I went to the country for three weeks, and came home worse than when I left. I took a vomiting of blood, and lost about three gills. Hearing of your medicine I got two bottles, which in six days did me a great deal of good; and in sixteen days I was quite well.

JANE SNOWDON.

No one believed consumption was curable, and in order to show it was I gave about 200 of my patients a trip from Newcastle to Hexham, so that people could see for themselves. This produced great excitement and two large trains accompanied them. All expected to see a lot of pale-faced consumptives, but were astonished to see them all blooming in health. I gave prizes for dancing and the above lady strongly competed for the second prize. The lady came home to Newcastle in a carriage that was occupied by the reporters, and she looked as blooming and healthy as anyone.

Middle Bridge, near Durham,
July 6th. 1890

Dear Sir,

We send you the following lines to inform you of a wonderful cure your medicine has done to our son. He took very ill and was given up by our doctor, as being in a deep consumption over his whole body, and there was no hope of his life being spared to us. But thanks be to God and your medicine he is getting better every day. We see it is through your medicine that God has given you the knowledge to bring forward for suffering humanity, and we will praise God for you ever before the public. We have had ten bottles of your medicine and our son is now going about and we trust in our heavenly Father that he will be right in a week or two. He has recovered to the astonishment of all around us. May God grant you long life and happiness to make use of your medicine, and we trust in our Lord for all the blessings we have received from His hand. We lost a son 9 years ago, on the 13th November, and we have another son, that received a misfortune in the pit five years ago. He is 22 years of age and they deprived him of his benefit, and we have nothing coming in to keep him. Our kind and loving neighbours have been very good to us, else we could not have got your medicine. But God is good to His own. We think one or two more of your bottles will restore him to his usual health, for the cough and spitting has gone altogether. He has a good appetite for the food such as we can get him. We know that he that giveth to the poor will be rewarded in Heaven, bless His holy name, and may God ever bless you for being the means of saving our son. So no more at present from your loving but humble servants,

WM. and MARGARET TOWART.

The Editor of the *Durham Chronicle* investigated the case, and found that he was now working. The doctor says he will fall away again as a great portion of his lungs are gone; if this is the case, the consumption cure must be more than a miracle to bring a man out of bed with his lungs far gone, and sustain him to work regularly.

23, Tweed Street, Bentinck,
December 19th, 1888.

G. Handyside.

Dear Sir,—I was unfortunate to be crushed between two waggons at Sir William Armstrong's works. I went under medical treatment for about ten months. I was reduced in weight one stone ten pounds: I was fading away. I had neither life nor spirits, and saw no hope of recovery. When I went to the water-closet the pain was dreadful, and I could get no passage without taking heavily of opening medicine, and the pain of passing anything was most severe. I was induced to try your "Blood Purifier," and the effect is most wonderful. I have taken it for six weeks; my bowels are pretty regular, the pain is nearly gone, and I have gained seven-and-a-half pounds in six weeks. I feel now cheerful and happy; the doctors said I would never be able to work any more.

JAMES McNAMARA.

December 11th, 1888.

Knowing Mr McNamara very well, and having attended him during his illness, I have great pleasure in testifying to the immense benefit that he has received from the new medicine that he has been using, and which was supplied by Mr Handyside of Bentick. It is a pity that this medicine has not obtained greater notoriety it would be quite a boon to the public.

REV. FATHER DUNN,
St. Michael's Newcastle.

[After the testimony of the Rev. Father Dunn, I need say little; but it may arouse the curiosity of some to see how well a blood purifier could mend a great crush. It is simply the invigorating of the body by the purification of the blood. If a youth happens an accident, the vigour of his youthful blood brings him round; but if he is old, and his blood is poor he dies. Therefore, anything that will improve the blood, and thereby impart strength to the body, will assist greatly in the recovery as may be seen from the above. All delicate constitutions should take this medicine, it will invigorate the system.

146, Madeline Terrace, Newcastle,
December 10th, 1888.

Mr G. Handyside.

Dear Sir,—I have been for several months suffering from serious affection of the glands of the neck, and weakness of the eyes, for which I was under medical treatment, and also in the Infirmary, but without getting much relief. I at length tried Mr Handyside's medicines, and have found them of the greatest benefit. My eyesight is quite restored, the glandular swellings are much reduced in size, and have almost entirely ceased to give out discharges. I attribute the improvement in both cases to the medicines I got from Mr Handyside.

G. FAIRBAIRN.

54, Chaucer Street, Gateshead,
December 15th, 1888.

Mr G. Handyside,

Dear Sir,—Having been ailing for some time from weakness of the chest, I was induced by a friend to try your Blood Purifier. I am glad I did, for after taking the first two bottles I felt great benefit, and would advise all those who are suffering from the same to try it.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,
R. H. WARDLE.

1, Gladstone Terrace, Gateshead,
December 13th, 1888.

I have pleasure in certifying that the case of G. Fairbairn and R. H. Wardle referred to above, are well-known to me, and I can confirm both their statements as to the benefit received from Mr Handyside's medicines.

REV ROBERT STEWART,
Presbyterian Church, Gateshead.

[The above testimonials show what a wonderful blood purifier Handyside's Blood Purifier is. After the impure blood irritated the glands of the neck, the blood purifier put it into a proper state, and took away the irritating acidity that irritated them. They fell to their natural size and the discharge ceased, for the blood became so purified that there were no humours to pass away.] By purifying the blood it cures bronchitis asthma, indigestion, costiveness sleeplessness, general debility, a weak heart, fits, faintings, change of life, fevers, measles, smallpox, and all things arising from poor and impure blood. Price: 2s 6d per two bottles.

Handyside's Rheumatic Cures needs no testimonials, hundreds have presented themselves in treatment before large public audiences with only one failure. Poor people unable to work for their families, and who had tried all other remedies, I will be glad to pay a portion of their railway fare to Newcastle or London, and cure them free. The rubbing bottles at 1s will cure simple cases, but long standing cases require Handyside's Blood Purifier, price 2s 6d per two bottles.

Those who prefer to take Pills should take Handyside's No. 3 Pills which contain a great amount of Handyside's Blood Purifier. They do not purge the bowels and ruin the constitution like common pills. Anyone who has taken large quantities of purging and Mercurial Pills find to their sorrow that their constitution is gone and they will be compelled to take them as long as they live. They make people better for a short time, as all Mercurial Medicines do, then make them worse than ever. The victims then take more again, they find a temporary relief until their constitution is so much reduced they have to take them so long as they live. When we look at the construction of the stomach it cannot be otherwise. There are millions of small tubes in the stomach no larger than a fine hair to convey gastric juice amongst the food. Therefore, when the stomach is irritated by purging Mercurial Pills it has a tendency to close up these small tubes and prevent the natural flow of gastric juice into the stomach, which is the chief agent of digestion. Is it then surprising that those who have been great takers of purging pills should be troubled with broken constitutions? Handyside's No. 3 Pills will not purge or irritate the stomach, they increase the digestion, invigorate the system, and make people more happy and healthy. Those who take Handyside's No. 3 Pills will soon find out which pills are worth a guinea a box. If No. 3 Pills do not gently open the bowels once in three days one of No. 1 Pills amongst No. 3 Pills should be taken, but should be discontinued as soon as No. 3 will do their work. They will give health even to those whose health has been ruined by taking purging pills.

Old people are often costive in the bowels. Three thousand boxes will be given away to them. Those who are able to purchase them should not write for them, as they are by so doing depriving old people out of a medicine that is much needed for reviving their strength. This is a grand female pill, and the best pill for clearing away all obstructions; price 1s per box. Handyside above twelve months ago deposited £1,000, and challenged Sequah and all the doctors in the world combined, and the challenge is still open.

Beware of imitations; none are genuine that has not "Handyside, Bentinck," on the Government stamp. Many lives have been lost by unprincipled chemists recommending their own preparations for the sake of extra profit. Those who have not faith that they are getting the genuine article should write to G. Handyside, Newcastle. It will be supplied at the regular price, carriage paid, with the following guarantee sent with each lot.

GUARANTEE.

So certain am I of the marvellous effect of "Handyside's Consumption Cure," and also his "Blood Purifier," and "Rheumatic Cure," that I hereby certify that if this medicine does not do them more good than any other medicine I agree to return the money. The money, if claimed, will be paid not later than nine days after the goods are sent. Ask any chemist to give you the same guarantee, and this will put a stop to imposition.

679d **GEO. HANDYSIDE.**

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Benfieldside.—Mr Murray had forward on Monday, 10 fat cattle, which sold up to £21 17s 6d, top, Mr T. Bush, Hole Rowe. 95 fat sheep to 50s, top, Messrs Charlton, High Waskerley. Hoggs to 58s 6d, top, Mr R. Dixon, Broad Oak. Scotch wedders to 39s 6d, top, Mr T. Surtees, Blackhill. Cows to £20 10s. Calves to 53s. Pigs, 25s to 75s. There was a good company present, and trade was brisk for all classes of stock with the exception of cows, which were difficult to dispose of at any price.

Tow Law.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday, 45 dairy cows and heifers, 24 fat cattle, 45 store cattle, 11 calves, 55 fat sheep and hoggs. Calved cows made up to £20; cows to calve up to £21; fat cattle to £18; store cattle to £12 10s; calves to 48s; fat hoggs to 47s, top, Mr Nesbitt, Macneil Farm, Witton-le-Wear. Several consignments of cows, fat cattle, and sheep were unable to get forward owing to the heavy snowstorm, roads being blocked.

Chester-le-Street.—Mr James Turnbull had forward on Monday, 55 fat cattle, 140 fat sheep and hoggs, 1 calf, 20 young pigs, 10 pork pigs, brass-mounted harness, patent pulley blocks, horse sheets, &c. There was a large attendance of buyers, and trade for cattle and sheep was very good throughout. Owing to the severe storm there were about 18 cattle and 50 sheep short of the number booked, vendors being unable to travel on the road. Prices:—Cattle: Fat bullocks to £25, top, Mr H. Potts, Harbour House, who also topped the sale last fortnight with a bullock at £24 15s; fat heifers to £21 10s, top, Mr J. T. Heslop, Urpeth; cows to £19 10s, top, Mr Jas. Bradford, Vigo House. Fat hoggs to 54s, top, Mr T. Young, Broomyholme; fat shearlings to 61s 6d, top, Mr T. Young; fat ewes to 54s, top, Mr T. Young. Calf, 72s 6d. Pork pigs to 44s; young pigs to 30s.

BLAYDON LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held on Thursday se'nnight, at Blaydon, Mr Wm. Green presiding.—There were also present—Coun. W. Paxton, Rev. A. B. Tebb, Messrs T. Spotswood, F. Priestman, W. Douglass, George Bullerwell, T. Charlton, Browell, J. Jenkinson, and H. Dalton (Clerk.)

FINANCES AND ESTIMATE.

The Clerk read the financial statement, which showed that the expenditure for February had been £314 16s 3d, and the cheques required for the day amounted to £312 11s 9d. There was a balance in the bank of £417 8s 8d. The Clerk submitted the estimate for the half-year ending September next, amounting to £3,022 4s 0d. He said they had a tenpenny rate last time, but they had a £1,000 surplus. This half-year they would need 1s rate, as the surplus had gone down to £500 by making a tenpenny rate

NEW RATE.

It was agreed that a rate of 1s in the pound be imposed.

DOCTOR'S REPORT.

Dr Brown, medical officer, reported as follows:—Nothing has occurred in the district during the past month demanding special notice. Good health has been well maintained, and there was all but total absence of zymotic disease. Since the prevalence of influenza last year, the district has been entirely free from epidemic.—Mr W. Douglass: That is satisfactory.

THE COUNTY ELECTION.

The Clerk stated that the retiring members of the Board were for Blaydon—Messrs J. A. Cowen, Thos. Charlton, Thos. Spotswood, and the Rev. A. B. Tebb; and for Chopwell Ward, Mr F. Priestman. The last day for receiving nominations would be Monday, March 23rd. The voting papers would be delivered on Saturday, March 28th, collected on Thursday, April 2nd, and examined on Friday, April 3rd.

BLACKHALL MILL COUNTY BRIDGE.

It was stated that Mr H. Laws was at present engaged in preparing plans for the approaches to the proposed bridge at Blackhall Mill.—A number of tenders for about 2,000 yards of fencing near Blackhall Mill, were received, and the tender of Messrs Dawes and Hall, Blaydon, to do the work for £93 15s, was accepted.

NEW STREET AT BLAYDON.

A deputation from the owners of Mabel Street, Blaydon, waited on the Board, and asked the Board as they finished the paving of their street, to take the street over, and this the Board agreed to do.

BLAYDON AND WINLATON WATER SUPPLY.

The Clerk said he had been empowered by the Ryton Local Board to bring before the Blaydon Board a proposition with regard to the water supply that had been suggested by Mr Hubert Laws, and laid before the Ryton Board. Mr Laws pointed out that there was plenty of water to supply the district of Blaydon requiring it, and that a storage reservoir might be made close to the springs, the cost to be divided between the Boards. The Ryton Board would like to meet a committee of their Board to discuss the matter.

It was agreed that the Winlaton Water Committee meet the Ryton Board to discuss the matter.—The other business was routine.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, fleas bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 6d and 1s. boxes.

[NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.]

SLAVES OF FATE,

BY J. MONK FOSTER.

Author of "For Love of a Lancashire Lass or, Queen of the Factory," "A Miner's Million," "A Pit Brow Lassie," "Passion's Aftermath," &c.

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PART IV.—The Mills of God.

CHAPTER III.—Milwood Grant Confesses.

"Was my father the man whom you and Roger Fell ruined?" Chester asked again, for the man before whom he knelt was silent.

"It must have been the same. How long is it since your father was ruined?" the wounded man replied after a pause.

"It will be three years next February," Chester responded.

"What was the name of the mine in which he lost his fortune?"

"The Lladyllan Copper Mine, North Wales."

"It is the same, then. And you are Frank Chester's son? Where is your father now?"

"In a lunatic asylum. His ruin caused him to attempt suicide, and the bullet which he meant to end his life only destroyed his reason. But it killed my mother!" George cried hoarsely.

"My God!" the wretch groaned. "And to think that after helping to ruin the father I should have attempted to rob and murder the son. The hand of fate is surely in this."

"Who are you?" George asked. "What is your name?"

"Milwood Grant. I was secretary to the Lladyllan Copper Mining Company. You will remember me now. When the bubble burst I had to decamp, and the story was circulated that I had absconded with the funds of the company. But it was a lie. Roger Fell took care that the swag fell into his own hands. He paid me to bear the blame and to carry the burden away with me."

"Give him more whisky, George," Trevannion said, for Milwood Grant had closed his eyes again and seemed exhausted with speaking.

"Can you tell me how my father's ruin was contrived?" Chester asked presently. "Did Roger Fell deliberately set himself to effect that end?"

"He did!" Grant exclaimed with all the force he could muster. "It seems that he and your father were old foes, and when Frank Chester applied for and obtained ten thousand pounds worth of shares in the Lladyllan Copper Mining Company he placed himself absolutely in the power of Roger Fell."

"I understand now," George cried bitterly.

"The company was a hollow fraud from the beginning," Grant went on. "With the exception of your father only a few poor people subscribed for the shares, and before the crash came Roger Fell contrived to get out of the affair. He drew your father on at the commencement by telling him that he had sunk thirty or forty thousand pounds in the company, but it was a lie. I believe now if the company had had a prosperous future before it Fell would have done his utmost to ruin it in order to crush your father! When the crash came at last, and your father was utterly ruined, Roger Fell was in ecstacies. Had a great fortune been unexpectedly left to him, he could not have been more jubilant. So excited was he at the prospect of Chester's downfall that he could not control himself before me, and to enable me to quit the country he paid my passage to Rio de Janeiro and gave me a cheque for five hundred pounds."

"My God!" burst from Chester's lips as he rose to his feet and paced about the narrow tent. "The —— scoundrel! I would give every diamond I possess to save this man's life that I might confront Roger Fell with his accomplice's evidence!"

"I don't see why you shouldn't do that yet, George," Trevannion said quietly.

"How am I to do it? In which way, Luke?"

"If this man has spoken the truth, and I suppose he has done so, what is to prevent you from putting his statement upon paper and getting his signature to it?"

"Your suggestion is a good one," George replied. Then turning to Grant he added: "Did you hear my friend's suggestion, that I should take down your confession and get you to sign it?"

"Yes," was the dying man's faint response, "I heard what he suggested."

He was clearly sinking, and all would soon be over with him.

"If I write it out will you sign it?"

"Yes; but you must be quick. Let me drink again."

Once more the whisky bottle was held to the man's lips, and again the liquor seemed to stay the hand of death. Then George Chester tore a leaf from his pocket-book and upon it commenced to write as follows with his pencil:—

"The Dying Confession of Milwood Grant who met his death while attempting to rob and murder George Chester and Luke Trevannion in Brazil.

"I, Milwood Grant, solemnly testify that Roger Cumberland Fell, of Cressingham Park, Liverpool, England, deliberately planned the ruin of Frank Chester, who then resided at Tudor House, Brynlhidoch, North Wales, by inducing him to invest the whole of his fortune in a business called the Lladyllan Copper Mining Company. As floater of the company the said Roger Fell knew the business to be a fraud from the beginning; and when the crash came he bribed me with five hundred pounds to quit England and return no more.

"Before God, whom I shall soon meet, I most solemnly swear that every word of this is true.

"Signed,
"Milwood Grant.
"Witnesses. {Luke Trevannion, George Chester."

Chester read the foregoing statement to the dying man, who, with trembling fingers, appended his name in the place wherein it appears, and then George and his comrade signed it also.

"You will forgive me now?" Millwood Grant cried faintly, his fast glazing eyes fixed upon Chester's face.

"From my heart!" George answered, "for, after all, you were only Fell's tool."

For nearly an hour longer the unfortunate wretch lingered, and then he passed painfully away. An hour later he was sleeping peacefully under the trees in a hole the young fellows had scooped out for him.

When Milwood Grant was laid in his last resting place, and the bodies of the two dead natives had been cast into the river to feed the fishes, Luke and George untethered their horses, which were lazily munching the succulent melocactus close by, and then, each with his belt full of precious stones closely clasped next to his skin, they mounted, and taking a last long look at the slowly rolling river, the rough dredge which lay upon the bank, the washing pan that had revealed so many gems, and tents, they set their faces towards the south and rode off in the direction of Diamantina.

They had little fear now for either themselves or their precious girdle of gems. The lives they had taken had been taken in self-defence, and save the native who had escaped no one knew of the riverside tragedy, and it was not probable that the runaway would make the affair known.

Still the two Englishmen would feel all the more comfortable when the wilds of Western Brazil were left leagues behind them, and in making their way as swiftly as possible to Diamantina they were careful to give the Fazienda at the head of the Rio Pardo a wide berth.

The two natives who at that moment were lying at the bottom of the river hailed from the village referred to, and their relatives might have asked awkward questions of George and Luke had they passed that way. And to avoid this they took a more westerly route.

There is no need to chronicle in detail their inland journey from Diamantina to the port of Rio de Janeiro. Let it be sufficient to say that they arrived there safely with their belts of jewels still intact around them, and that a few days later they were aboard a magnificent steamer, *en route* for New York, where they intended to dispose of a portion of their gems.

CHAPTER IV.—The First Turn of the Wheel.

Paris, "The Capital of Europe," as Frenchmen love to call that famous city, was at the noontide of its gaiety: the summer season was in full swing; the boulevards, cafés, and other resorts of the gay citizens and citoyennes were filled to overflowing, and among the visitors to the great metropolis of France were our two friends George Chester and Luke Trevannion.

But it was business and not pleasure that had taken the young fellows to Paris. After disposing of only a moiety of their gems in New York they had crossed the Atlantic to Amsterdam, where they contrived to change a considerable number of their gems for gold, and they next proceeded to Paris with a similar object in view.

They had now been in the gay city a week or more, and only a couple of days ago the great jewel they had found in the little stream in the Brazilian wilds had changed hands.

Its purchaser was a Russian Prince, and the beautiful stone was already sparkling upon the white neck of a prima donna whose great beauty and complete lack of virtue had made her the talk of every great town and city in Europe.

Having completed the sale of the finest gem in their collection there was no occasion for them to tarry longer in Paris, and George was desirous of reaching England as speedily as possible, for his mind was filled with anxious thoughts concerning the parent whom he had left in the lunatic asylum when he went away.

But Trevannion was quite in love with the gay city, and he urged his companion to prolong their stay for a few days longer, and somewhat reluctantly Chester complied with this request.

One night, on the very evening prior to the day they had fixed upon for quitting France, George and Luke found themselves in one of the fashionable clubs or "cercles," in which the capital then, as now, abounded.

One of the great jewellers of the city, with whom they had done business, had given them the *entree* to the place, thinking, probably, that two such wealthy men as they evidently were would be welcomed by his fellow-clubites, who were gamblers almost to a man.

When the two Englishmen arrived at the cercle in question the night was well advanced, the theatres had just closed, and the aristocratic, the fashionable and wealthy members were beginning to assemble therein.

The club was somewhat notorious for the high play usually indulged in there, and rumour had it that many a flight, duel, bankruptcy, and suicide was attributable to losses sustained at the card tables of the *Cercle Intime*.

At the time Chester and Trevannion arrived in the company of their introducer, the great and luxuriously furnished card-room was fast filling, and at the different tables various groups of gamblers were already pursuing their favourite games.

The tables at which baccarat and vingt-un were being played were surrounded each by a crowd of players and bystanders, and the progress of the games was being watched with great interest, for the play was quickly becoming fast and high.

"Do you see our friend, Zullassoff?" Trevannion whispered to Chester as they seated themselves at a little distance from the ring of men interested in the game of vingt-un.

Glancing in the direction indicated by his friend George saw the Russian Prince who had spent a small fortune in acquiring the great jewel in order to bestow it upon the fair opera singer.

The Prince was a good-looking fellow of forty, heavily and blackly bearded, with glittering dark eyes, and a tripping tongue that never seemed to cease wagging for more than a moment. Being "banker" for the nonce at the vingt-un table the Prince was dealing the cards, and as he distributed the bits of pasteboard to each player he had something to say to each in turn. The pile of counters at his elbow, and his good humour, attested that the Russian was winning.

As the Englishmen and their companion sipped their wine and looked about them the latter pointed out the notable men present. The company comprised men of many nationalities. Frenchmen, of course, preponderated largely, but there was a fair sprinkling of Italians, Russians, Americans, and here and there a Britisher.

That fat, oily-visaged gentleman who was seated at Zullassoff's right hand was, the jeweller stated, a member of the French Government, whilst his other neighbour was the notorious Gallic journalist and duellist, Paul Cassogna. That dark-faced Spaniard with the waxed moustachoes was an intimate friend of Don Carlos, and had been a prime mover in the Carlist rising, while the dissipated looking man beside him was a countryman of their own, an English Milord, who had come into a title and a fortune a year ago, and was killing himself with drinking, and wasting his fortune at the card table.

Thus the garrulous Frenchman rambled on, and Chester and Trevannion listened with some interest to his spicy tattle. Presently they all three moved towards the card-table to watch more closely the gamblers and the game.

The Russian had still possession of the cards, which he continued to deal in his own dexterous fashion, throwing to each player a word or two as he distributed the cards.

Zullassoff was having an extraordinary run of luck, and the bystanders were already commenting upon his extreme good fortune. Again and again he bade the players double their stakes, and again and again he laughingly cried "Vingt-un!" as he turned up his cards and displayed an ace and a court card to his fellow-players. Then he coolly raked in his gains and proceeded to deal out the cards afresh.

The pale-faced and light-haired man, whom the jeweller had called an English Milord, was apparently one of the heaviest losers, but his ill-luck had never drawn an oath from his lips or a frown upon his face as yet. He sat there quietly watching the Russian manipulate the cards pulling his dry, straw-coloured moustache with a nervous finger and thumb, but paying his losses without comment.

Chester felt interested in the quiet, dissipated young Englishman, who bore his bad luck with such imperturbability, and he asked the Frenchman beside him—

"Who is the Englishman?"

"Lord Ellenbrooke," was the answer.

Still the game went on; the Russian winning as before with the same good humour and banter: the Englishman losing with the same stoicism, and never taking his eyes from Zullassoff.

Suddenly, the great room was in an uproar. Without a word Ellenbrooke had sprung from his seat and dashed his cards in the Russian's face. There was a loud jingle as the glittering counters rolled from the jostled table to the floor, and all eyes were bent upon the white-faced irate Englishman.

"You —— swindler! Thief! Sharper!" Ellenbrooke hissed. "You ought to be in gaol among your fellow thieves, not here among gentlemen!"

Zullassoff's face had turned pale, but he was still cool enough. His assailant's words had aroused the suspicions of every player, and their frowning faces warned him of the danger he was in.

"What is the matter, my lord?" he said calmly—sarcastically. "Have your losses made you as mad as you are foolish and insolent?"

"I say you are a thief! A card sharper!" Ellenbrooke thundered. "I saw you take the bottom card instead of the top one. You have deliberately swindled us all!"

The men from the other tables had now abandoned their several games, and were standing in a thick ring around the vingt-un players, and ominous whispers anent the Russian's play were floating from lip to ear. Still Zullassoff remained apparently cool and unconcerned. He said:—

"You mean, Ellenbrooke, that you thought you saw me do so. You were mistaken. Is not my word enough?"

"Your word!" the Englishman sneered. "Who are you? A thing—a sharper, as I have said before. Shall I tell these gentlemen something more, *Prince* Zullassoff?"

Ellenbrooke emphasised the word italicised in such a way as to cause the Russian to start perceptibly and the bystanders to exchange meaning glances.

"Sacre! Don't go too far!" Zullassoff exclaimed. "Recall your words! Tell these gentlemen you are mistaken or by — I'll make you eat your words!"

"I am not mistaken, and I will not say so," the other retorted firmly. "I saw you do the trick before, but I could not trust myself to speak then, and I watched you until I caught you again. Gentlemen," turning to those about him, "what I say is the truth. This mock Prince is only a Russian gaol bird! Is it not so, Ivan Lobefsky?"

"Liar! You English liar!" the Russian cried vehemently. "I'll have your life for what you have said!"

The next moment he was sent sprawling among the bystanders, his mouth filled with blood. In a moment of ungovernable passion the English nobleman had sprung forward, shot out his fist, and before his sudden attack the other had fallen like a child.

For a few moments all was confusion. The men standing near rushed in between the infuriated disputants and dragged them apart, the Russian crying out for the life of the English brute who had struck him, the Englishman calm again now, and looking half ashamed of his act of violence.

The great majority of those present seemed to side with Ellenbrooke, but the other had his coterie of friends also, and they agreed with him in his demand for full and immediate satisfaction.

The denizens of the card-room had now arranged themselves into two groups: one grouped about the blaspheming Russian and endeavouring to pacify him; the other expressing their pleasure at Ellenbrooke's exposure of the thief and pseudo Prince.

Presently Zullassoff, or Lobefsky, whichever he might be, crossed the room and stood in front of the man who had denounced and then beaten him.

"If you are a brute and a liar," said the Russian, his bloodstained handkerchief in his hand, and his dark eyes aglow with a vindictive fire, "I suppose you are not a coward also?"

"What is it you require?" Ellenbrooke asked, without even rising from his seat. "Do you want money for the blow or satisfaction for the insult?"

"Satisfaction! Satisfaction! I shall kill you for this!" placing his hand to his bruised mouth.

"You know my address. Send your friends to me in the morning."

"And let you run away from Paris to-night! No! I will have satisfaction now. To-night, before we part."

"To-night or to morrow is all the same to me," the Englishman rejoined. Then turning to a companion he added, "Legrange and Maral, will you kindly arrange this business for me?"

The gentlemen bowed their acquiescence, and in conjunction with the Russian's seconds, speedily arranged the preliminaries of the duel. The weapons were to be pistols, and the fight was to take place in an hour.

Then the word went round that the affair was to be kept a profound secret, for the present, and the principals, their friends, and those who felt inclined to see the duel stole out of the club in twos and threes and made their way by different routes to the spot appointed for the meeting.

"Which way now?" said Trevannion, as he and his companions stood at the entrance of the nearly deserted club. "Shall we go to our hotel, or follow the rest and go to the Park Royale to see the fun?"

"To the Park! To the Park!" cried the Frenchman with great animation. "As we have seen the first act of the comedy let us see the last one also."

"Yes, let us see the end of it," Chester remarked. "I feel interested, somehow, in that countryman of ours, Trevannion, and should like to see him safely out of this affair. But I am afraid that what Pouligne calls a comedy may terminate in a tragic fashion. There was murder, most assuredly, in that Russian's eyes."

"Quick, then, Messieurs," Pouligne said, "or we may be too late. This way; we shall obtain a cabriolet at the corner."

In the next street a vehicle was found, and taking their seats the Frenchman told the driver to convey them, as speedily as possible, to the south entrance of the Park Royale. Then the cabman jumped into his seat, away they went at a dashing pace through the silent and deserted streets, and in about ten minutes Chester, Trevannion and their companion, Pouligne, were walking through the wood in the direction of the fountain.

It was a lovely night in early autumn. The full yellow moon was poised high in mid heaven, and over its broad disc again and again there slowly drifted ragged patches of fleecy clouds.

Inside the wood all was still as death. Not a soul was to be seen as our friends hurried along under the dark trees, and the Englishmen intimated that Pouligne must have led them astray.

But the Frenchman assured them that he was not mistaken, as they would see presently, as they did, for coming to the end of the avenue of trees and into the broad open space in the midst of which the tall marble fountain stood, its ever rising and falling waters gleaming and flashing in the moonlight, they perceived that the combatants had already arrived and were just being placed in position by their seconds.

The distance selected was fifteen paces, and it was agreed that the signal for firing should be the dropping of a handkerchief.

The principals took up their places, each with his coat buttoned up to the chin, so as to offer no white spot as a target for his opponent's bullet. The spectators formed a wide alley on each side of them; the man who was to give the signal stationed himself midway between the duellists, but well out of the line of fire.

There was a hush of breathless excitement as the white cambric was lifted in the air; then it fell and slowly fluttered to the ground, but ere it touched the gravelled path, before it had left the man's hands, there was a flash, a report, and Lord Ellenbrooke was seen to stagger backward; then he sank to the earth, with his unexploded weapon still clutched in his hand.

Then the two walls of spectators closed in and commingled, and angry murmurs against the Russian rose from the crowd.

"The Tartar dog fired too soon!" one cried.

"The thief and mock Prince is a murderer now!" exclaimed another.

Almost everyone present seemed aware that Zullassoff had taken a cowardly and deadly advantage of his foe by firing ere the moment agreed upon.

The Russian had premeditated the whole thing thinking that in the hurry and excitement of the business his trick would pass undetected, and when he perceived that his despicable device was discovered, and that the temper of those assembled was becoming dangerously aggressive he and his friends slunk away from the scene and quickly disappeared down one of the adjacent paths.

"Is he badly hurt?" Chester asked as he forced his way through the circle of men who stood round the wounded man.

"I cannot tell yet," the gentleman bent over Ellenbrooke replied in French; "but I fear he is. The bullet has entered his right lung, I fear. I must get him to his hotel as quickly as possible."

"Come, Messieurs," Pouligne whispered to Chester and Trevannion, "let us go home. The play is over now, and the police may turn up any moment."

So George and Luke returned forthwith to their hotel, and on the following afternoon they left Paris for Calais, whence they took the night boat to Dover.

(To be continued.)

"How to Behave," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

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Volunteer Intelligence

WINLATON RIFLE CLUB.

The members of the above club held a competition on the Bues Hill range, near Blaydon, on Saturday. The shoot consisted of seven rounds at 200 yards kneeling, and at 500 yards prone, one sighting shot at the longest range. The winners were:—Priv W. Bennett (13 start), 33, 28—total, 74; Corp. G. Hall (3), 30, 30—63; Priv. J. McPherson (4), 28, 26—58; Priv. T. H. Fiddle (15), 20, 21—56; Priv. F. Richardson (15), 25, 15—55; Priv. J. W. Robson (12), 21, 21—54; Corp R. Archbold (9), 27, 17—53; Sergt. V. Shotton (scratch), 24, 28—52.

Cricket.

The secretary of the Shotley Bridge Red Rose Cricket Club would like to arrange a few matches for the ensuing season with any junior clubs—ages 14 to 18—in the district. Address, John Nixon, The Bothy, Shotley Bridge.

Esh Winning Church Institute C.C.—A meeting has just been held in the Mission Room at Esh Winning for the purpose of re-establishing the above-named club. The subjoined office-bearers were approved for the ensuing season:—President, Mr J. G. Crofton, Esh Villas; vice-president, Rev C. F. D. Hodge, vicar of the parish; captain, Mr T. Buttery; vice-captain, Mr S. Hopper; committee, Rev A. Glenda, Messrs Gray, Quinn, and Tonsdale; hon. treasurer and secretary, M. W. Rawstherne.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE CRICKET CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of this club was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Friday evening. Mr J. Lax presided, and there was a large attendance of members. The treasurer's report showed a balance in hand of £3 14s. The election of officers for the ensuing year resulted as follows:—President, Mr John Booth; vice-presidents, Messrs J. Dixon, W. Wilson, sen., — McIvor, P. M. Brutton, Major Lee, J. Lax, Councillor J. Annandale, R. Town, Dr Richards, G. Piele, J. Eltringham, G. Richardson, L. Priestman, Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, F. Priestman, Rev W. Hermitage, M. Richley, A. Annandale, J. A. K. Falconar, and W. Robinson; captain, Mr J. T. Middleton; vice-captain, Mr F. Cole; second team captain, Mr John Seed; Wednesday team captain, Mr Wm. Wilson, jun.; treasurer, Mr Wm. Wilson, jun.; secretary, Mr J. W. Forster; committee, Messrs L. Urwin, J. Bruce, M. Gibson, J. Grant, A. Charlton, F. Richardson, T. B. Wilson, G. Hall, R. Smailes, E. Bell, M. Lancaster, and T. H. Surtees. The meeting decided that the club become subscribers to the county of 21s per annum. The occasion was taken advantage of to make a presentation to the treasurer, Mr Wm. Wilson jun., who has just returned from his honeymoon. Mr Lax made the presentation in a most appropriate speech, and Mr Wilson responded, thanking the members for their useful present. The present consisted of a writing desk made of dark polished oak, and bore the inscription:—"To Mr W. Wilson, jun., on the occasion of his marriage, from the Shotley Bridge Cricket Club, March 6th, 1891."—Votes of thanks brought a most successful meeting to a close.

Sporting Items

Angling in the Wear.—Mr Charles Tinkler killed 18 trout and Mr William Tweddle 14, on Friday afternoon, with worm fishing in the Wear and tributaries at Stanhope. The Wear trout were in fair condition. Those of the tributaries were only poor. An angler at Wolsingham, who figured conspicuously in the angling contests there, is said to have killed 35 in the Wear one day last week.

Billiards: Wolsingham v. High Grange (Wear Valley) Mechanics' Institute.—Fourteen picked players on each side played at Wolsingham, High Grange winning by 157 points. High Grange won 9 games, scoring 1,312, and Wolsingham secured 5 games with a total score of 1,155. The visitors were entertained to tea by the Wolsingham players. A return match is fixed at High Grange.

Chester-le-Street Rowing Club.—This club held one of their smoking concerts on Tuesday night, at their headquarters, Crown Inn. There was a capital attendance of members and friends. Mr Joseph Russell, one of the secretaries, presided, and announced that the committee had completed the negotiation for a lease of a piece of ground for the site of their new boathouse, and in the course of a few days the agreements would be signed, and building would at once commence. The committee had also purchased a four-oared boat, and expected as soon as their new house was ready to procure a pair of open boats and other craft. It was hoped that they would be able to open the season on Easter Monday.

Rabbit Coursing at Burnopfield.—A greyhound sweep, promoted by Mr Richard Pace, Queen's Head Inn, Burnopfield, best of three courses, resulted as under:—First round—Gibson's Beggar Wife beat Hall's High Gate, Cranston's Silly for Trying beat Armstrong's Tub Wheel, Hall's Just for Beer beat Walker's Jimmy Dobie, Walker's Tibby beat Hay's Sir Arthur, Ashburn's Plunger beat Brown's Oddfellow, Hall's High Gate, 2nd lot, beat Brown's Oddfellow, 2nd lot. Second round—Beggar Wife beat Silly for Trying, Tibby beat Just for Beer, High Gate beat Plunger. Third round—High Gate beat Tibby. Stake divided between Beggar Wife and High Gate.—£2 a-side has been placed in the hands of R. Paterson to bind a greyhound match at rabbits between Cranston's Silly for Trying and Gibson's Beggar's Wife for £20, best of eleven, near the above house.

Hunting in Weardale.—The Wear Valley Harriers had a successful day's sport on Saturday, on the Stanhope Hall estate. About 400 or 500 people were present on foot, besides a number of horsemen and a few ladies. Several good and exciting runs took place. Mr Devey, Wolsingham, was huntsman.

Foot Handicap at Dipton.—The running grounds situate in close proximity to the house of Mr Robert Brown, Bute Arms Hotel, Dipton, which have been closed for about twelve months, were re-opened on Saturday afternoon with the preliminary heats of a £10 120 yards footrace handicap, which was promoted by Mr Roger McCurley, of Leadgate. There was a good muster of spectators. Details:—Heat 1—J. Keenan, Marley Hill, 19 yards, 1; A. Prince, Leadgate, 22, 2; H. McGee, Leadgate, 22, 3; Frank McCurley, Leadgate, 13, 0. Won by a yard. Heat 2—S. Ward, Allendale Cottages, 18, 1; A. Cain, Leadgate, 22, 2; E. Ashman, Castleside, 15½, 0; W. James, Durham, 20, 0. Won by a foot. Heat 3—G. Wake, Whickham, 19, w.o. Heat 4—J. Haggerstone (No. 1), Leadgate, 21, 1; M. Troy, Leadgate, 18½, 2; J. McCurley, Leadgate, 13, 0; C. Burns, Bishop Auckland, 13, 0. Won by one yard. Heat 5—H. Applegarth, Leadgate, 16, 1; B. Small, Leadgate, 22, 2; W. Swainston, Bishop Auckland, 13, 0; J. Hughes, Leadgate, 18, 0. Won by a couple of feet. Heat 6—A. Coulthard, Byermoor, 18, 1; J. Wrangham, Hill Top, 15, 2; A. Watson, Tantobie, 17, 3; G. Teasdale, Consett, 13, 0. Won by a yard. Heat 7—G. Wilson, Stockton-on-Tees, 17, 1; J. H. Dickinson, Winlaton, 18, 2; J. Milburn, Ebchester, 16, 3; F. Thompson, Newcastle, 13, 0. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 8—W. Robson, Corbridge, 13, 1; H. Hunter, Greencroft, 18, 2; J. Eltringham, Dipton, 13, 3; A. Turner, Leadgate, 22, 0. Won by a yard. Heat 9—J. Teasdale, Dipton, 17, w.o. Heat 10—T. Brown, Dipton, 18½, 1; G. Willie, Gateshead, 16, 2; T. Cairns, Hawick, 17, 0; G. Iley, Leadgate, 22, 0. Won by a foot. Heat 11—F. Archer, Shotley Bridge, 20, 1; J. Day, Leadgate, 20, 2; J. McAlister, Burnopfield, 20, 3; T. Harrison, Leadgate, 14½, 0. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 12—T. Murray, Dipton, 18½, 1; D. Minnie, Jarrow, 13, 2; J. Haggerstone (No. 2), Leadgate, 15, 3; R. Brown, Newcastle, 12, 0. Won by a couple of yards. Heat 13—Void. Heat 14—J. W. Wilson, Blackhill, 22, 1; M. Atkinson, Winlaton, 19, 2; M. Grant, Leadgate, 22, 0; S. Hodgson, Consett, 13, 0. Won by a yard. Heat 15—J. Black, Leadgate, 19½, 1; R. Davies, Winlaton, 21, 2; J. Forster, Ryton, 8½, 0. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 16—F. Swinburne, Blackhill, 16, 1; W. Bewick, Blaydon, 14½, 2; R. Henderson, Winlaton, 16, 3. Won by one yard. R. McCurley officiated as handicapper, J. Haggerstone was referee, and P. Small, pistol-firer.—The draw for the final heats resulted as follows:—Heat 1—Robson, Wilson (Blackhill), Black, and Teasdale. Heat 2—Archer, Keenan, Wake, and Brown. Heat 3—Wilson (Stockton), Ward, Murray, and Coulthard. Heat 4—Swinburne, Applegarth, and Haggerstone.

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Business Announcements.

PROFESSOR CURRIE'S

SOUTH AMERICAN MIXTURES and PILLS
ARE THE
GREATEST REMEDIES of the NINETEENTH CENTURY.
WHEN ALL OTHER MEDICINES FAIL THEY ARE SURE TO CURE.

THEY

Are made from the choicest gums, herbs, and balsams that South America can produce. These Mixtures were known to the South American Indians hundreds of years before the white man placed his foot upon their shores. These are the remedies which Professor CURRIE offers to you for the cure of disease—and when properly used, they never fail. He tells you through the Press, by his bills, and from the platform in public lecture halls throughout the country, that these testimonials are genuine.

And he stands alone to-day in this Country as being the only manufacturer of medicine who

OFFERS £100 REWARD
TO ANYONE FINDING HIS TESTIMONIALS NOT GENUINE.

Do not be fooled and deceived with accounts of sympathetic yarns, and overdrawn tall talk, but read the Testimonials of honest men living in your district, many of whom have been suffering for years, and judge for yourselves.

TESTIMONIALS.

Rev. Father Toner, D.D., Hebburn-on-Tyne, September 20th, 1890, says:—I know of no medicines which have performed such miraculous cures as your famous South American Mixtures and Pills.

A MINISTER'S TESTIMONY.

The Manse, Wallsend, May 28th.

DEAR SIR,—I am able to testify that James Kennedy was suffering from long-continued Rheumatic Pains, and that through your South American Embrocation, as he informs me, he is now feeling better, and is able to attend to his ordinary duties.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM STUART,
Minister of the Presbyterian Church of England Wallsend-on-Tyne.

Rev Father Rafferty, Felling-on-Tyne, September 27th, 1890, says—It is astounding the wonderful amount of good done in my parish through the medium of your South American Mixtures and Pills. You are rightly termed the public benefactor.

DYSPEPSIA.

Mr Patrick Carling, Secretary Miners' Association, Blaydon, June 17th, 1890, writing, says:—Kindly allow me to add a word or two more in praise of your wonderful South American Mixtures and Pills. I have recommended them to a great number of people since last writing to you, and with the very best result. They ought to be in every house throughout the country. They are worth their weight in gold.

DYSPEPSIA.

Mr Lancelot Slowther, Royal William Hotel, Cox Green, County Durham, August 6th, 1890, says:—After being unable to follow my employment for three years, during which time I suffered most severely from Dyspepsia, Pain, and Weakness at the Stomach and Heart, Nervousness, and Sleeplessness. I tried doctors in Newcastle and Sunderland, and various other remedies, but all to no purpose; I seemed to get worse every day. At last, my mother, who had been bedfast for about 5 years with Chronic Rheumatism, and whom your South American Embrocation cured in four months, advised me to try your Medicine. I obtained a bottle and a box of your South American Cuyuni Mixture and Pills from Chester-le-Street Store, and felt relief from it. I continued taking it for sometime, and I now feel a new man. I am well-known here, having lived all my life in this neighbourhood, and the people marvel at the change which they see in me. You can make what use you wish of my name, and I shall be glad to answer enquiries, for I firmly believe that I would have been dead long ago, had it not been for your wonderful South American Cuyuni Mixture and Pills.

SCIATICA PAINS.

Mr. William Millar, No. 9, Hedley Hill, near Tow Law, June 16th, 1890, says:—I was off work for five weeks from Sciatica Pains and could obtain no relief from any medicine until I received a bottle of your South American Embrocation. I only used it three days, when I was able to go to work. All the pains have entirely left, but I shall never be without a bottle of it in the house. It is the best remedy in the world.

LUMBAGO AND SCIATICA.

16, Low Westwood, by Ebchester,
County of Durham.

DEAR SIR,—I have suffered (more or less) for 20 years from Lumbago and Sciatica Pains. Many remedies I have tried in that time, and some have remedied the pains, but my legs were always quite dead and numb. But after using one of your 4s bottles of South American Embrocation and Pills the pains and deadness were quite removed. I have praised your Pills and Embrocation to others, and I will ever praise them.—From your well-wisher,
WILLIAM TWENTYMAN.
Professor Currie.
P.S.—You can make use of my name as you like.

ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.

82, Argyle Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne,
February 23rd, 1889.

DEAR SIR,—Having being a life long suffer from Asthma and Bronchitis, I can testify to the fact, that your South American Mixture and Pills is the best remedy I have ever used, and I shall never be without them. I know many others who have derived the same amount of benefit from their use.—Yours gratefully,
WM. HARPIN.

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THE SOUTH AMERICAN MIXTURE AND PILLS

Are a specific remedy for all diseases of the chest and lungs, bronchitis, asthma, consumption, tightness of the chest, difficult breathing, wheezing, etc., etc.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN EMBROCATION

Is a specific remedy for all manner of pains and aches, rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, tic-doloureux, sprains, bruises, stiff and swollen joints, also for sore throats, etc.

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Bottles, 2s and 4s. Pills, 1s and 2s per box. Ointment, 1s and 2s per box. By post three stamps extra.

Delay is dangerous. All suffering from NERVOUS DISORDERS, from whatever cause arising, should consult Prof CURRIE at once.

May be obtained from the Wholesale Co-operative Society, Newcastle; also from Blaydon, Prudhoe, Tantobie, Burnopfield, West Pelton, Birtley and Chester-le-Street, Consett, Tow Law, Westwood and Stanhope Co-operative Societies; Mr Hall, Drug Store, Annfield Plain; Mr G. Murray, Drug Store, Dipton; Mr James Daly, Merchant, Consett, Blackhill, and Leadgate; Mr Milner, Chemists, Consett and from all Co-operative Stores, Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the Country

DEATH FROM EXPOSURE NEAR WEST STANLEY.

On Saturday, a woman called Rose Harold, aged 60 years, widow of Patrick Harold, formerly belonging to Lintz Colliery, was found dead on the highway between Shield Row and East Stanley forthead. She had been lodging for some time at East Stanley. The body was removed, and an inquest was held on Monday by Mr Coroner Graham, after hearing the evidence, the jury returned a verdict that death had resulted from exposure to the cold and the effects of drink.

CHESTER-LE-STREET PETTY SESSIONS.

WEDNESDAY, March 11th. — Before H. W. KERRICH-WALKER (chairman), and GEORGE DUBERLEY, Esqrs.

DRUNKENNESS.

Upwards of a dozen persons were fined for being drunk and disorderly.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

James Hartley, *Francis Robinson*, *Geo. Bewick*, *James Morgan*, and *Robert* and *Roger Bell* pleaded guilty to a charge of being disorderly and refusing to quit the premises of John W. Lee, Swan Inn, Waldridge.—The landlord gave formal evidence, and defendants were each fined 2s 6d and costs, Robinson being fined 5s and costs.

ANOTHER UNRULY CUSTOMER.

Thomas Cant did not appear in answer to a charge of refusing to quit the Shepherd and Shepherdess Inn, and was fined 5s and costs.

EXTRAORDINARY CONDUCT.

Lawrence Smith pleaded guilty to a charge of refusing to quit the Hanlan Hotel at Birtley, and also with breaking 25 panes of glass, and certain pots and glasses, to the value of 25s 6d.—Mr McAvoy, the landlord, having given evidence, defendant said when a man was drunk he was not able to take care of himself, and he did not suppose that they could make a law to enable him to do so.—Fined 10s and costs for disorderly conduct; 2s 6d and costs for refusing to quit; and ordered to pay the damage.

FIGHTERS.

Lawrence Smith and *Peter Grimes* denied that they were fighting at Birtley on the 28th ult.—P.C. Dodds said he saw defendants fighting.—Bound over to keep the peace for three months.

A NEIGHBOUR'S QUARREL.

Thomas Dunn was charged with threatening to kill Jessie Taylor at Daisy Hill, on the 2nd inst. Mr John Turnbull (Chester-le-Street and Durham) defended; Mr Fred. Harle (Chester-le-Street and Newcastle) prosecuted.—Complainant said she was standing near her own door when defendant passed her, and said he would kill her, he would finish her, and he would watch her. She was afraid of him. She had not spoken to him at all. She spoke to her neighbour as defendant was passing, but what she said had no reference to defendant. After defendant threatened her, she dared him to do so. He pushed his fist into her face, and threatened that he would split her face.—Dinah Bell, the neighbour to whom complainant was talking, corroborated. — Robert Donkin, brother-in-law of complainant, also supported the testimony of prosecutrix.—Ann Cumming, mother of complainant, also gave evidence, and said she saw defendant with his fist in complainant's face.—Defendant was sworn, and gave a complete denial to the statement of complainant, and said that complainant made an offensive remark to him as he passed, and told him to go to h——. He therefore went back to her, and told her that if she said that again he would knock her head off. That was the only threat he used. Complainant made very offensive remarks about his sister, and that vexed him.—Mary Lawson said she heard complainant tell Dunn to go to h——. She also saw complainant cheek him up after he threatened her.—Mrs Carr, a neighbour, and Mrs Dunn, mother of defendant, corroborated.—Ordered to pay the costs.

BIRTLEY AMENITIES.

George and *Ellen Patterson*, husband and wife, were charged with assaulting Annie Pigford at Birtley, on the 22nd ult.—Complainant said she was going on the road past where defendants where. She was singing, and defendants thought she was scoffing them. George seized hold of her, and slapped her twice on the face.—Defendants denied that they touched her until she spit in Mrs Patterson's face, and threw a stone at her.—Mrs Oyston and Mrs Chisholm both said they saw complainant behave in a very indecent manner as she passed defendants, and afterwards threw a brick at Mrs Patterson.—Dismissed on payment of costs.

A VIRAGO.

Bridget McAvoy was charged with assaulting James Hardy at Plawsworth, on the 28th ult.—Complainant said that he gave evidence against defendant's husband in a police-court case at Durham, and at that time defendant threatened what she would do if ever she had the opportunity. On Saturday, the 28th, he was coming from Plawsworth station, when she struck at him and split his lip.—James Fell corroborated.—The defendant denied having struck at the complainant.—Fined 5s and costs.

FOUND OR STOLEN?

William Burnside, hawker, Chester-le-Street, was charged with stealing a pair of wheels and an axle tree, value £2, the property of the Consett Water Company, at Chester-le-Street, on the 6th December. Mr Fred Harle defended.—Henry Sowerby, plumber for the company at Chester-le-Street, said he saw the hand-cart of the company in his yard all right on the 5th Dec.; on the 6th he missed the wheels and axle. He had no doubt that the wheels produced were the property of the company.—John Curry, a cartwright at Lumley, said he was in defendant's house on the 8th January, and saw the wheels. Defendant offered to sell them to witness, and he ultimately bought them for 22s. He afterwards gave them up to the police.—P.C. McKay deposed to arresting prisoner, who said he found the wheels in Pelaw Wood.—Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and elected to have his case disposed of by the Justices.—James Stewart, called for the defence, said that as he came from his work at Pelton Fell, he found the wheels under a bush in Pelaw Wood. He left the wheels there, in such a position that they could be seen from the road. He subsequently told Burnside about the wheels being in the wood.—David Burnside, brother of prisoner, said that after his brother was arrested, a man named "Tom" came to prisoner's house, and made a statement. He said that he had sold the wheels for 20s, and had received 8s, having the other 12s to get. He would assist in defending prisoner. "Tom" had since then absconded.—The Bench considered that whether Burnside stole the wheels from the Water Company or not, he took them from private ground in Pelaw Wood, which was the same thing. Defendant would be fined 40s and costs.

PIGEONS.

James Murphy, *William Lowden*, *James Tinion*, and *Peter Levitt* were charged with stealing seven pigeons, value 14s, the property of Henry Barras, at Chester-le-Street, on the 28th ult.—Isaac Barras said that on the night of the 27th he attended to the pigeons; they were then all right. The next morning the dovecote door was open, and seven pigeons gone. He went to Urpeth on the 4th inst., and saw two pigeons at Lowden's house which he identified as his.—A lad named Hind said that he bought two pigeons from the defendants for 2s.—Joseph Peart also bought pigeons from Tinion.—Defendants all pleaded guilty, and were each fined 10s and costs.

GAME TRESPASS.

Walter Stewart, *John Laverick*, *William Ridley*, and *John Feary* pleaded not guilty to a charge of trespassing in pursuit of game, on Mr Lindsay Wood's estate at Chester-le-Street, on the 22nd ult.—P.C. Lindsay said he saw defendants leave the footpath, and range the ground with a dog. They afterwards put the dog into a set of rabbit holes, and sat and watched.—Stewart was fined 10s and costs; the remainder 5s each and costs.

THEIR MOTHER.

Joseph, *Edward*, and *Robert Ramshaw* were charged with neglecting to maintain their mother, and allowing her to become chargeable to the Chester-le-Street Union.—Mr Armstrong, relieving officer, asked for an order for 2s per week against the three defendants. Robert had agreed to pay the eightpence a week; the other two refused. Joseph was earning an average wage of £1 8s per [illegible] similar wages.—The order asked for was made.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, March 12th. — Before Lieut.-Col. LEADBITTER-SMITH (presiding), W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, and W. GREEN, Esqs.

AN UNDESIRABLE TENANT.

Mr S. Salkeld, solicitor, of Durham, made application, on behalf of the Lanchester Highway Board, for a warrant for the ejectment of *Wm. Warrington*, a labourer, from a dwelling-house at Maiden Law, near Lanchester.—William Dixon, district surveyor, said that about three years ago, Warrington was permitted to enter the house on condition that he started work for the Board, the rental being 2s 6d a fortnight. As soon as the man got possession, he declined to do any work for the Board, or pay any rent, there being £9 15s due.—Witness had to serve Warrington with a notice to quit before the rent was forthcoming. He proved the service of the statutory notices on defendant, who offered 10s rent since he received notice to quit, but defendant declined to accept the money.—The Magistrates issued an order for the man to be evicted within 21 days.

FIRING OFF A GUN ON THE HIGHWAY.

Thomas Hogg, of Greencroft, was summoned for firing a gun off within 50 yards of the public highway, called Hare Law Bank, to the danger of passers-by.—Arthur Speed, a farm steward, said that on the 7th February, he was proceeding from Dipton to Catchgate, accompanied by his wife, and in passing over the Hare Law crossing he heard a shot fired at the Three Lane Ends. This was at 10.30 on the Saturday night, and there were a good many people travelling up and down the lane. Soon afterwards, he came upon Hogg, carrying a gun, and he fired off another shot. Witness and his wife were very much frightened, and went off towards Catchgate. A farm labourer and his wife and daughter seemed to be afraid.—In answer to defendant, witness could not say whether the shots were fired up in the air or straight across the country.—A lad called Brunskill said he met defendant at Annfield Plain that night, and he pointed a gun at witness.—Cross-examined by defendant, Brunskill denied that P.C. Phillipson called to persuade him to swear that he saw him (Hogg) fire off a shot at Cornwall.—P.C. Phillipson mentioned that there was a trace of some shot-corns on an outhouse door, and a lad was nearly killed.—Defendant: I'll give £100 to him that proves that against me.—Defendant utterly denied discharging a gun on the highway in question.—The Magistrates regarded this as a very dangerous practice, and imposed a fine of 10s, and 20s court expenses.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following offenders were before the court—*Robert Welsh*, Lanchester, 28th February, 5s and cost; *William Agar*, Langley Park, 14th ult., 5s; *James Austen*, *John White*, and *Robert Walker*, Quebec, 22nd ult, 5s each; *John Gray*, Quebec, 22nd ult., 7s 6d and costs, or seven days' imprisonment; *John Reay*, West Stanley, 14th February, 7s 6d; *Chas. Turnbull*, South Moor, 21st ult., 5s; *Frank McDonald*, Annfield Plain, 21st ult., 5s; and *Andrew Higgins* and *Mark Wall*, 22nd Feb. and 1st March, 7s 6d each.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

Thomas Cassidy and *Llewellyn Jones* were accused by P.C. Newton of fighting at Cornsay Colliery, on 21st February.—Cassidy was bound over to keep the peace and pay the costs; while a warrant was issued against Jones, who was only represented by his wife.

Thomas Laxton and *George Johnson* were proceeded against by P.C. Readman for being guilty of a like offence at Langley Park, on March 2nd.—Bound over to keep the peace and defray costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

John Atthey, *James Mason*, *Frederick Gardener*, *William Melia*, *Wilson Parkinson*, *John Graham*, *Miles Shields*, *Thomas Forster*, *Robert Elliott*, *John Mason*, *Joseph Swainston*, *Joseph Whitfield*, *Joseph Evans*, *John Akers*, and *John Sweeney*, pitmen, were prosecuted at the instance of P.C. Hudson for playing at pitch and toss on the high road at South Moor, on the 1st March (Sunday afternoon). Gardener, Parkinson, Shields, Forster, and Evans utterly denied the charge; the rest of the culprits confessed their guilt.—After P.C. Eland had adduced corroborative testimony, Melia and Swainston (who were unrepresented) were fined 7s 6d apiece and the costs, the remaining defendants being mulcted in a penalty of 5s each and expenses.

A ROW AT LANCHESTER.

Mary Maddison and *Elizabeth Bentley* were brought up charged with being drunk and very disorderly at Lanchester on the previous afternoon. Maddison was further charged with breaking a window in the house of John Mace, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester, on the same occasion. The cases were proved by Inspector Mitham and P.C. Thubron.—Defendants were committed to seven days' hard labour in default of payment of a penalty of 5s and costs.

ACTING THE "OLD SOLDIER."

John Moore, an Irishman, was put forward for refusing to perform his allotted task at the Workhouse, on the 12th inst.—W. Wilkinson, the porter, spoke to prisoner being admitted to the casual ward the preceding night. That morning he was set to work to pick the usual quantity of oakum, but the man positively refused to do the task.—Moore pleaded that he was in such a weak and feeble state that he was not able to do the task.—Wilkinson stated that the man was examined by Dr Wilson, who pronounced prisoner to be able-bodied.—Their Worships sentenced him to seven days' imprisonment with hard labour.

EDUCATION ACT.

William Routledge, South Moor, was summoned by Mr John Gibson for not making his grandchild attend school.—Defendant said the boy was beyond his control, and the Magistrates could do what they liked with him.—Order made to attend Helmside National School.

Michael Connolly (14), of Shotley Bridge, was, at the instigation of the Benfieldside School Board, sent to an Industrial School till he had attained the age of 16 years, his mother having refused to send him to school.

MARRIED WOMEN'S MAINTENANCE ACT.

William Thompson (who did not appear) was summoned by his wife, Mary Thompson, for having deserted her at Hedley Hill.—Prosecutor stated that they were now living together, and the Justices accordingly dismissed the case, 3s 6d costs having to be paid by complainant.

REFUSING TO QUIT AND ASSAULT.

George Hadman, miner, was placed in the dock charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr J. Allison, Hedley Hill, on Saturday night, February 28th, and also with assaulting the landlord at the same time and place.—According to the evidence of prosecutor and P.C. Feasey, it seems that defendant stayed in the house till the liquor began to take effect upon him, when he became very noisy indeed. He was ordered out, but declined to go. Hardman then attacked the landlord, and dealt him a blow on the cheek. He had to be ejected by force.—Defendant, who denied both charges, and said he hod been a customer of Allison's for six years, was fined 10s and costs for the assault, and 5s and expenses for the other charge—£1 17s 6d in all.—Hardman asked for "time."—Mr Van Haansbergen: If you can afford to spend 10s in drink in a single afternoon, you can surely pay your fine. (Laughter.)

A VIOLENT WOMAN.

Mary Carr, a married person, was charged with causing damage to the door of the dwelling-house occupied by Henry Joyce, miner, Shield Row, to the extent of 1s. Defendant did not admit the offence, except in so far as it was the result of a family quarrel.—Prosecutor told a long story of the constant annoyance he had been subjected to at the hands of defendant, who was their next-door neighbour. On the 20th February, between eleven and one o'clock p.m., defendant rushed out of her house, and called them offensive names, besides threatening to murder his son. She struck at prosecutor's son, and flung some big stones at the door, breaking off the sneck, and damaging the panel. Mrs Carr had a son, but she was disgracing him. (Laughter).—A witness gave substantiative testimony.—Defendant asserted that the Joyces' threw stones at her, and also badly used her. A fortnight ago, they could not have seen her face for scars and bruises.—The magistrates ordered her to pay the damage (1s) and 11s 6d costs.

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest [illegible] dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion [illegible] physical decline. At Chemists.

A GRAND
EVENING CONCERT
Will be given in the
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17th, 1891,
When the following Artistes will appear:—
Madame HALL-ATKIN, Soprano.
Madame SUTHERLAND, Contralto.
Mr. J. SLOANE, Tenor.
Mr. T. L. CAMPION, Basso.
Master R. SMITH, Clarionet Soloist.
Mr. FRANK B. MULLEN, Humorist.
Mr. E. J. SLOANE, Pianist.

Doors open at 7, to commence at 7·30 prompt.
FRONT SEATS, 1s. 6d.; SECOND SEATS, 1s.
BACK SEATS, 6d.

A few Reserved Seats at 2s. each may booked up to March 16th, on applying to Mr E. Sloane, Music Establishment, Blackhill. 1636

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY WEARSIDER.]

Mrs D. Francis has been appointed mistress of the Burns' Infant School, in the place of Miss Richardson, resigned. Mrs Francis brings with her the highest credentials, and is highly fitted for the post to which she has been appointed.

At the Victoria Boys' School Mr Francis has obtained the excellent merit grant for drawing, one of the special subjects which he teaches.

The backs of the ratepayers are properly up over the proposal of the Rural Sanitary Authority to spend £700 in extending the existing sewage areas. It is contended that no further expenditure should be incurred in extensions until it is shewn that the present areas will do the work which they were originally intended to perform. This is no doubt a very wise policy to adopt. The present areas are lamentably inadequate in point of efficiency, and have never since their formation come up to expectations of either the deviser or the ratepayers. Such a state of things ought to have been made known long before this by the Authority. That body, however, have never once lifted up their voice in the way of protesting against the inefficiency of the things; but now come openly to the front and ask the ratepayers for other £700 to further perpetuate what is obviously a huge blunder. In spite, however, of the reticence of the Authority anent the failure of the works, the ratepayers themselves are now speaking with no uncertain voices, and demand that their rights and privileges should be protected—if not by the Authority, then by themselves.

All this arises out of the lack of unanimity among the representatives of Chester-le-Street on the Board. I do know that Mr Witherspoon is anxious to work in harmony with his colleagues for the benefit of the old city; but this cannot unfortunately be done. But in less than a month we shall have had, besides the census, a guardian election—and for three years. It, therefore, behoves those interested to take such steps as they may think necessary, to send such representatives to the Board as will work in harmony with each other, in such a way as to bring about the best results to those that send them there; instead of talking at each other like a parcel of angry dogs. Numbers of gentlemen are spoken of as probable candidates for the four seats. There are four Guardians wanted this time instead of three, as heretofore. How many of them will go to the poll remains to be seen. But this I know, that a great effort will be made to change the representation. So mote it be.

The members of the Rowing Club had one of their enjoyable smoking concerts, at the Crown Inn, on Tuesday night, genial Mr Russell presiding. There was a capital attendance of members and friends, and a most enjoyable evening was as usual spent. Messrs Cooke, Huntley, Thompson, Brown, Dawson, Gladstone, and others were all in good form, and of course Mr Finlay, universal favourite, was to the fore with his excellent accompaniments and humorous songs.

They are plucky fellows these rowists. They have secured a lease of a site for their new boathouse, and expect to commence building in a few days; after which they hope to commence the season on Easter Monday. A four-oared boat has already been purchased, and a pair of open boats are to be procured as soon as the house is ready to receive them. Well-rowed city!

By the way, one of the members, I won't mention his name lest I should be accused of giving a gratuitous advertisement, has an original song respecting the Rowing Club, which he sings to the tune of that time-honoured song "Cappy."

At a late hour Mr "Clementine" Hall turned in and convulsed the company—as he usually does—with his "Clementine." There is a great future for this promising basso.

Mr Matthew Reid, jun., of Tudwell, East Gate, Weardale, has joined the Durham County Police force.

CONCERT.—On Wednesday se'nnight, the members of the Annfield Plain Orchestral Band gave a concert in the Iveston village school-room. A capital programme of music was rendered, Mr A. Foster conducting. After the concert, a supper was provided, and was partaken of by a large number of people. The proceeds were in aid of new vestry, &c., for the Wesleyan Chapel.

FIRE.—About 3·30 on Wednesday week, a fire broke out among the underwood on the Langley Moor Farm, near South Moor, belonging to and in the occupation of the Earl of Durham. It was supposed to have been ignited by a spark emitted from one of the South Moor Coal Company's engines, which had been carried away by the violence of the gale. Assistance was immediately to hand, and luckily the fire was extinguished before it spread to any considerable extent. About ten acres of underwood and herbage were destroyed.

PROPERTY SALE.—Mr G. R. Hobson, auctioneer, Catchgate, near Annfield Plain, offered for sale by auction on Monday at Mr R. Wheatley's, Catchgate, a house of five rooms and about half-an-acre of land, situated at Hare Law, in the parish of Collierley. There was a good and respectable company present, and the bidding was spirited from the first. Mr G. Hobson, Harperley Mills, made the first offer of £200, and the bidding ran quickly up to £280 at £10 per offer. The last bid was made by Mr R. Wheatley (on behalf of Mr W. H. Maddison). The reserve price not being reached, the property was withdrawn, but was afterwards sold privately.

CONCERT.—The members of the Tanfield Lea Prize Band gave a grand concert in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield, on Saturday night, when the place was filled by a highly respectable audience. Mr George Watson (Hobson) presided. The band opened the programme with an overture; Messrs Thirlwell and Cotton gave a duet; Mr Thirlwell sang "The Arab's farewell to his steed," and was loudly applauded; Mr Carl Wright sang "On guard," which was a rich treat, and merited a well-deserved *encore*. His next effort was "That's love," for which he received another *encore*. Rev J. A. Bridges, curate of Tanfield, favoured with a recitation, "An old Irish story of '98," receiving an *encore*, and on reappearing gave another, for which he was compelled to return again. Mr Keskey's solos on the euphonium were well executed. Mr John Hall's trombone solo was also well done. Mr Cotton sang "The village blacksmith," which was thoroughly appreciated. The band playing "The heavens are telling" and "Hallelujah chorus" in excellent style brought the concert to a close. All present were highly satisfied that this had been the best treat they have had for some time.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

I think it was Washington Irving who said that "Honest good humour is the oil and wine of a merry meeting, and there is no jovial companionship equal to that where the jokes are rather small and the laughter abundant." This seemed to be the case at the concert, in Stanhope Town Hall, on Saturday evening last; the jokes were small, but the laughter was abundant.

The concert was in aid of a poor afflicted working man with a wife and family who had lost his health and been off work a considerable time. The Stanhope public responded right loyally to the call for help, and trouped to the Town Hall by the score, with the result that there was a packed house realizing about £11 for the benefit of the poor fellow. For once I felt a little proud of the Stanhope democracy in responding to the cry for help so loyally, and this I believe is the third or fourth benefit concert which has been held there this winter with similar results. The milk of human kindness is not (as some croakers would have us believe) all dried up. There are still good Samaritans in the world who respond to the call of distress from their more unfortunate fellow creatures when occasion demands their services, proving the truthfulness of the fact that "Kind hearts are more than coronets, and simple faith than Norman blood."

Most of the local artistes gave their services freely and gratuitously. Especial mention ought to be made of Messrs Peter Walton, G. T. Moore, and Miss Walton, of Westgate, who came six miles on a stormy winter night to give their services for such a laudable object. Mr Tom Moore, of Eastgate, and Mr Thompson, of Shittlehope Burn, as humourists, fairly brought down the house, while Mr F. Batute and Mr Denham also pleased immensely. Willie Fairless, of Westgate, also highly amused the audience with his grotesque antics and peculiar style, and his rendering of "Piggie wiggie" pleased well. A meed of praise is also due to Mr Bell, the Stanhope Church organist, who is ever ready and willing to lend his services on all such occasions by presiding at the piano. Mrs John Crawhall also exerted herself on behalf of the poor fellow, for whom the concert was got up, by getting him into the Convalescent Home at Walmsley, in Lancashire.

Last week they were celebrating the centenary of John Wesley in various parts of the land. There are few places where his labours have been more blessed than in Weardale. Although it is 100 years since he unfurled the blood-stained banner of the cross beside that historic spot in Weardale—High House Chapel—yet the influence of his life, character, and work are apparent today. Everywhere in the dale Methodist Chapels stud the dale, and are in every village, and they are not small chapels either, nor are they badly attended. Most of them are large and commodious, and are well attended. His teachings have permeated the whole dale. Since the day when he stood under the thorn tree—which still marks the spot—hundreds through his teachings have left this world full of hope and are in glory, and hundreds more are on their way. I often picture out in imagination Wesley as a peerless old man, with a giant's energy, and a seraph's fire embodied in a human form of the lithest and subtlest mould instinct with life. His eye kindling in the light of God and renewing his strength daily at the fount of Divine life, with the world for his parish and preaching upon the fatherhood of God, the brotherhood of man, and salvation as the one great penacea for the human race.

The fault of most of the Convalescent Homes is that they are not open in winter. That at Grange has the advantage in this respect. It is open both summer and winter, but is chiefly restricted to members of Friendly Societies. A Convalescent Home without these drawbacks would be a boon.

Another clergyman has been elevated to the Bench. This time one from Tow Law. As a man of genius and science I respect him, and consider Tow Law singularly fortunate in having such talent in her midst; yet I think it a mistake of the powers that be to make clergymen into magistrates. A man that is set apart to minister to the spiritual wants of the people should never be a magistrate, for reasons which most people will see without the aid of a horoscope.

A Newlandside limestone quarryman has again surprised the public, and set the *elite* of Stanhope an example worthy of emulation by giving a free tea and entertainment to the aged and poor of Stanhope. He did the same thing last year, when he invited all the old widows and aged persons in the place to a free tea. There are many in Butler's village who could easily do this out of their abundance, and who might often contribute to the enjoyment of others. "Handsome is that handsome does," and this horny-handed son of toil is well-deserving of the praise bestowed upon him for an act so generous and unselfish, and who, although working in a quarry, is nevertheless one of nature's noblemen, of whom Burns said:

> "The rank is but the guinea stamp,
> The man's the gow'd for a' that."

The Weardale Highway Board are about to do a good thing, at the suggestion of Mr Wm. Vickers, of Pease Myres, by placing a drinking-trough for animals on the roadside at Greenhead, between Stanhope and Rookhope. It is greatly needed. They are also about to erect a finger-post at the four lane ends at Westgate, on the south side of the river. Another at Shaftwell Head would be very useful to travellers crossing that mountain pass.

A high compliment was paid by the Board, at their meeting on Friday, in the letting of the road contracts to the Fairless Brothers, as being excellent workmen; and the fact of their securing 12 contracts out of the 16 let attests the fact that the Board have confidence in them.

Mr Chapman, late of Frosterley, now of New Zealand, a late member of the Board, has patented an invention for breakwaters, and wrote the Board asking for a testimonial from them, which they readily granted, and which was signed on behalf of the meeting by both the chairman and vice-chairman.

The inmates of the Weardale Workhouse are fewer now than they have been for some time. There are only 37 inmates, whereas this time last year there were 52. It is to be hoped they will keep few, and the rates low accordingly.

The deaths of Thomas Archer and Ralph Bainbridge, two Stanhope men—the former at Darlington and the latter at Consett—show how the Weardale people are scattered all over the north. They were two lead-miners of the London Lead Company, and worked at the latter's Bollihope mines for years. Lead-mining now is but a spectre of what it once was in Weardale and Teesdale, and the lead-miners are now scattered all over the county of Durham. At one time it was the staple industry of both dales; now it is almost done. Foreign competition and high royalties have banished the trade into other lands.

The Weardale Highway Board seem to possess more voting power at the eastern part of the district than at the west, and yet the rates of the west are considerably more than those of the east. If the voting power be according to the rates, then the western part should have a few more members. If the voting power is not regulated by the amount of rates collected in the districts, then it ought to be. This is one of the questions of the near future which is sure to crop up, and efforts will be made to adjust the anomaly and place the western district on a fair and equitable basis with the eastern.

The reported tiger hunt in Wolsingham Park, and capture in a butcher's shop in the old town, are akin to the reported hunt and capture of the escaped animal at Gainford. Someone has Americanised journalism for once in this country. The Press has been properly hoaxed, as no tiger has ever escaped from Wombwell's menagerie of late, and could not therefore be caught at Wolsingham Park or elsewhere.

The weather since March came in has proved to be what the Americans say of our climate—"All samples and no bulk." We have had a little of snow so far.

MR GEORGE HOBSON'S ANNUAL DINNER AT CATCHGATE.

On Wednesday afternoon, Mr George Hobson, corn merchant, seedsman, miller, &c., of Harperley and Catchgate Steam and Water Corn Mills, held his 45th annual dinner and pay-day. A capital repast was served up in the spacious dining-room of the Crown and Thistle Inn, by the host and hostess (Mr and Mrs Wheatley), and was partaken of by upwards of sixty persons. Amongst those present were:—Mr George Hobson (chairman), Harperley Mills; Coun. Rd. Murray, Benfieldside House; Messrs — Robinson, Tanfield Lea; Wm. Swinburne, Waggon Hill; Jas. Cuthbertson (vice-chairman), Waggon Hill; R. Humphrey, The Loud; James Hall, Hare Law; Thomas Hunter, Medomsley; John Turnbull, Collins Green; L. Hunter, Esp Green; John Hunter, Medomsley; Geo. Christopher (vice-chairman), Blackhill; Geo. R. Hobson, Catchgate; George Bullerwell, Kyo; M. M. Hobson, Catchgate; J. Wigam, Byer Moor; Jos. Henderson, Catchgate; Jos. Henderson, Lintz Green; Jos. Nevin, Catchgate; George Jameson, Bushblades; D. Kirkup, Upper Lintz; M. Kirkpatrick, Humber Hill; Joseph Lumley, Annfield Plain; Hy. Oliver (vice-chairman), Hurbuck; W. S. Telford, Hare Law; S. Mann, Billingside; J. Jameson, Burnhope; Jas. Charlton, Pont House; Geo. Turnbull, Twizell Hall; John Bell, Medomsley; — Innes, Burnhopeside; W. Fawcett, Burnhopside; J. Gray, Burnopfield; G. Atkinson, Causey House; — Smith, Twizell Dykes; Wm. Bates, East Stanley; M. Clark, Iveston; Geo. Bell, Medomsley; — Ridley, New Hall; A. Parmella, Burnhope; M. Hornsby, Chapman's Woods; J. Wilkinson, New Acres; J. Robinson, Catchgate; D. Atkinson, West Leith; George Hardy, Knitsley; Geo. Willis, Oxhill; — Jewitt, Morrow Edge; — Clark, Billingside; — Thompson, South Field; Geo. Arkless, Catchgate; Ed. Simpson, Hare Law; M. Adamson, Leazes; James Humble (vice-chairman), Lanchester; Ed. Bowman, Riding Barns; and others.

After the cloths had been removed, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were duly honoured.

The CHAIRMAN said it was his duty to give them all a hearty welcome to his annual dinner. It was a pleasure to him to see so many of his customers once more. It was astonishing to witness such a grand assemblage in spite of the stormy weather. Everyone seemed to make an effort to be present, whether they had a little bit money to part with or not. His mind was taken back to three years ago, when they had such another snowstorm, and he was much afraid that his gathering was going to be a failure. However, when the time arrived his friends and customers turned up admirably, and they had a capital assembly. He trusted that the present gathering would be a successful one, and that they would all enjoy themselves. He had heard it said that a regiment of soldiers would not stop some of his customers from being present. (Laughter). He was glad to hear that, because he was always pleased to see them. He briefly alluded to the illness of Mr Geo. G. Taylor-Smith, Colepike Hall, and said if that gentleman had been in his usual health and strength he would in all probability have been present, because he was a gentleman that was well-known and esteemed in the district. He much regretted the loss of several of his customers during the year, who had passed away from this world. He would mention the names of Mr Richardson Smith, Mr Geo. Watson, and Mr Joseph Irwin, but still there were others whose names he could not recollect at that moment. Many of those gathered round him were present in the place of their fathers, and he hoped they would all be spared to meet again for years to come. He was getting up in years; but nevertheless he was delighted to see so many old faces present. He would once more say that he hoped they would all enjoy themselves. (Applause).

Mr OLIVER afterwards proposed "The health of the Chairman." He knew they would respond to the sentiment most heartily. Mr Hobson was a gentleman well-known and respected by all classes. The dinner which Mr Hobson gave every year was looked forward to with pleasure for months before the time. The reason of this was that they met so many old friends, and the gathering was always a most enthusiastic one. (Applause). He asked them to heartily pledge the toast.

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

The CHAIRMAN, in replying, said that he could not find language to express his thanks for the hearty manner in which they had honoured the toast. He knew the dinner was looked forward to, and his friends parted with their money most willingly. He thanked Mr Oliver for the kind remarks which he had uttered, and said that he could not help feeling the great respect that was shown towards him. His ambition was to do his duty towards his customers, and if he succeeded in that respect he was highly satisfied. (Applause). He felt proud when he thought of the manner in which his customers stood by him in his trade, considering the great amount of competition in the market. He did not go and beg over his friends to favour him with their orders. Far from that. The reason that his customers rallied round him could be easily explained. His seeds were the very best, and everything he sent out could be relied upon. (Applause). He had never been dispised in the past, and he trusted his friends would show him the same patronage in the future. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN remarked that he was about to propose the health of a gentleman whom they all respected. He was one of the most enterprising men in the North of England. Coun. Murray was an exceptionally industrious man. (Applause). They all knew the influence that he used in trying to get a substantial bridge built over the river Derwent at Blackhall Mill. He was a man that possessed a determination never to be beaten. Coun. Murray had built a bridge over the river at that place for the use of the inhabitants, which plainly showed the energy of the man. (Hear). He would ask them to join with him in wishing Coun. Murray long health and prosperity. (Applause).

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Councillor Murray thanked all for the kind way in which they had received his health. He did not think that he deserved all the good things that the chairman had said about him. He had always tried, and his motto was to do his duty as a true-born Englishman. (Applause.) His parents gave him a fairly good education, and they also taught him to work. He was not one of those men who rather than take a shovel into their hands would starve with hunger. (Laughter.) For something like 17 years he had been hammering away at the Lanchester Highway Board, for a bridge to be built over the Derwent at Blackhall Mill for the convenience of the public. They had succeeded in getting a good road made down to the river, and he (Councillor Murray) had built the inhabitants a bridge which would answer their purpose until they got something better. (Applause.) It was his aim, and he would still agitate to get a carriage-way over the river. He thought the chairman ought to be proud in the celebration of his 45th yearly dinner. When he looked round and saw so many gathered together, he thought his (Mr Hobson's) customers had not decreased, but were on the increase. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN proposed the "Health of Mr Christopher." He said the latter was a gentleman whom he had known for many years. He represented Coun. Murray in a great deal of his business, and was a true servant. (Applause.)

Mr CHRISTOPHER responded, and said that it was true that he was Councillor Murray's servant, and he always strove to do his duty in whatever he was engaged in. He had a great deal of respect for Mr Hobson, and wished him every success.

The CHAIRMAN next submitted "The Vice-Chairmen," and after the toast had been drunk, Messrs OLIVER, CUTHBERTSON, and HUMBLE returned thanks.

Mr ADAMSON proposed "The health of Messrs Arkless and Telford." He said these two gentlemen had done a great deal with their music in making the proceedings harmonious. (Hear.)

Mr ARKLESS acknowledged the tribute on behalf of Mr Telford and himself, and said they were very much gratified to hear that their efforts had been appreciated.

The CHAIRMAN proffered the toast, "Success to farming." He pointed out that it was only a very poor business at the best, but yet they managed to succeed. There was nothing paying better at present time than a good dairy farm. Farming was better at the present time than it had for some time. Year by year it was improving, and farmers came forward with a better heart to pay their bills. The day was not far distant when farming would undergo a great change, and it would be a success. (Applause.) He coupled to the toast the name of Coun. Murray.

Councillor MURRAY said that he was a little bit of an agriculturalist himself. He did not consider it was right that the British farmer should have to pay so much duty if he wanted to send any of his crops into a foreign country. British agriculture had been at a very low ebb in the past. They were a class of men that persevered and toiled on. He thanked them all, on behalf of the agriculturalists, for the kind manner in which they had received the toast.

Mr ADAMSON proposed, in a brief speech, "Success to Mr Hobson's business."

The CHAIRMAN, replying thereto, said that he only wished his sons might be as successful in catering for the farmers. It had been his personal duty to look after the interests of the farmers. He thought he had been successful. (Hear.) They had always placed the utmost confidence in him. He never attempted to put upon anyone, and had always had their respect and esteem.

Mr ADAMSON proposed "The health of Mr Geo. Bullerwell," who was their worthy chairman's agent, and was a man that worked hard to please his master and the public generally.

Mr BULLERWELL said that he had had a long connection with Mr. Hobson, and they had always been on the most cordial terms. With regard to the seeds that the firm supplied they were the very best. Some people said they were dear; but if they wanted a good article they must pay a fair price. They did not go in for great profits, but their aim was to try and please their customers at all times. (Applause.)

Coun. MURRAY favoured with the toast, "The health of Mr Geo. R. and Mr M. Hobson." He thought these two sons would give every satisfaction if they carried on the business as well as their father had done.

The toast was awarded musical honours.

Mr G. R. HOBSON responded, and said that he was quite sure they would try to follow in their father's footsteps, and do their duty towards his customers.

Mr M. HOBSON also spoke.

Other toasts were given, including "The host and hostess" and "Our next merry meeting."

Songs, &c., were contributed by Messrs Arkless, Telford, Christopher, Lumley, and others, and greatly enlivened the proceedings.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CROOKHALL—3rd inst., the wife of Thomas Finlay, of a son.

CASTLESIDE—11th inst., the wife of R. M. Wright, of a son.

LINTZ GREEN—3rd inst., the wife of John Potts, of a daughter.

EUREKA, U.S. America—3rd January, the wife of Thomas J. Franks, late of Victoria Garesfield Colliery, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BENFIELDSIDE—St. Cuthbert's Church, 5th inst., William Forster, of Medomsley, to Elizabeth Ann Hogg, of Benfieldside.

LANCHESTER—Register Office, 7th inst., P. Doolan, Bushblades, to J. A. Harrison, Tanfield Moor.

BURNOPFIELD—St James's Church, 11th inst., by Rev J. Madill, William, second son of John Newton, Marley Hill, to Elizabeth Ann Irwin, eldest daughter of John Irwin.

STANHOPE—Parish Church, 7th inst., Mr Frederic Martindale, West Ferry Field Farm, Stanhope, to Miss Martin, daughter of Mr Robert Martin, Stanhope.

WINLATON—St. Paul's, 9th inst., by license, by Rev Arthur Jones, Thomas, second son of Robert Rutherford, Blaydon, to Elizabeth, second daughter of James Forsyth, High Spen.

DARLINGTON—Bondgate Wesleyan Chapel, 10th inst., by Rev Campbell Jefferies, Joseph George Elliott, Gosforth, formerly of Whickham, to Dora M. Wilson, eldest daughter of Jas. Wilson, Esq., Montreal, Canada.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—14, Edith Street, 9th inst., aged 15, James Harper Thompson.

7, Delves Lane, 12th inst., aged 71 years, John Beckwith, beloved husband of Jane Beckwith, formerly of Blackhill. Interred at Benfieldside Cemetery to-morrow (Saturday). *Cortege* to leave at 2·30 prompt. Friends, please accept this, the only intimation.

BENFIELDSIDE—34, Cutler's Hall Road, 10th inst., aged 18, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Ann Hall. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery to-morrow (Saturday), at Three p.m. Friends, please accept this, the only intimation.

CASTLESIDE—10th inst., aged 11 years, Jane Ann, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Lister.

11th inst., Thomas, infant son of Mr and Mrs W. Davison.

WESTWOOD—6th inst., aged 64, John, husband of Dorothy Wigham.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES—4th inst., aged 12, Martha, daughter of Robert Bell.

HAMSTERLEY COLLIERY—10th inst., aged 18, Eleanor, daughter of Walter and Jane Parker.

PIT HILL—4th inst., aged 76, Mary Ann G[illegible]

OXHILL—8th inst., aged 20, Abr[illegible]ray. [illegible]aham, son of Abraham Ledger.

GREENCROFT COTTAGES.—11th inst., aged 37 years, William Reay. To be interred at Hare Law, on Sunday Afternoon, at Three p.m. Friends, please accept this intimation.

STANHOPE—Grey Bull Inn, 28th ult., aged 42, Elizabeth, daughter of Elizabeth and the late Nicholas Urwin.

RYTON—Dog Leap, 4th inst., aged 60, Jar[illegible]e, wife of John Forster.

RIDING MILL—9th inst., aged 34, A[illegible]a Burnett, second daughter of Robert Blacket[illegible] Charlton, of Newcastle.

STOCKSFIELD—4th inst., aged 73, Dor[illegible]othy, widow of the late William Arkle.

EAST HEDLEYHOPE—3rd inst., age[illegible] 6 months, Geo. Thomas Booth Myles.

WHICKHAM—10th inst., aged 29 [illegible], John, son of Ann and the late George Armstr[illegible]ong.

EAST EDMONDSLEY FARM—7th [illegible] inst., aged 39 years, Hannah, beloved wife [illegible] of John Brown, and daughter of William a[illegible]nd Margaret Haughan, Knitsley Grange.

2096

PELTON—Lane Ends, 7th [illegible] inst., aged 19, Jane Ann, wife of John McLea[illegible]
WINLATON MILL—1st i[illegible]
the late Thomas [illegible]st., aged 31, Thomas, son of
PRUDHOE—Half-Way [illegible]Bennett, formerly of Swalwell.
Edward Watso[illegible] Houses, 5th inst., aged 63,
6th inst., aged 6[illegible]
eldest daught[illegible] Ann, wife of John Robson, and
GREENSIDE—Sto[illegible]er of John Thompson.
wife of W[illegible]ey Waite, 6th inst., Margaret Ann,
SEDGEFIELD—[illegible]liam Willis.
Storey, f[illegible] Asylum, 27th ult., aged 35, Thomas
DARLINGTO[illegible]ormerly of Pelton.
late of [illegible]
MIDDLES[illegible]—4th inst., aged 64, Thomas Archer,
39, [illegible] Stanhope.
[illegible]BROUGH—Feversham Street, 6th inst., aged [illegible] Thomas Edward Blacklock, late of Tow Law.

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