Printed and Published at 65, Clayton Street, Newcastle on Tyne By the Proprietors

The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

No. 232 | CONSETT, SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1865. | [PRICE ONE PENNY.]

Wanted.

WANTED, a SERVANT GIRL, about 16 Years of Age, to make herself generally useful. Apply to Mrs. R. Scott, Shotley Bridge.

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the MILLINERY and STRAW BONNET BUSINESS.—Apply to Miss George, Medomsley Road, Consett.

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's Cast-off CLOTHES, CARPETS, and FURNITURE. The Best Price given.
Apply to Wm. Collinson, General Dealer, Blackhill.
If required, W. C. can attend personally.
Wedding Rings, Jewellery, Gold Guards, &c.
Furnishing Ironmongery.

Public Notices.

TO-NIGHT!!!

GRAND DRAMATIC and MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT in the South Pontop School Room, Annfield Plain, by the Consett Dramatic Society. See Bills.

COMPANY'S SCHOOL ROOM, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

MR. LIVINGSTONE will give his GRAND SCOTTISH LITERARY AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT, entitled "An Evening with Burns and the Bards of Caledonia," with ORATION on their Genius and Works; or, a Night's Entertainment from the Songs and Ballads of Scotland, in the above place, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 22nd of March, 1865; and in the TOWN HALL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, on FRIDAY, the 24th.
Chair to be taken each Evening at Eight o'clock.
See Programmes and Opinions of the Press.

WEST AUCKLAND AND ELISHAW TURNPIKE ROAD.

A PUBLIC MEETING of OWNERS of PROPERTY and RATEPAYERS will be held in the Social and Literary Institute, Tow Law, on Tuesday, March 21st, 1865, at Six o'Clock P.M., to take into consideration measures to improve the above Road, or adopt a Memorial to the Home Secretary for the Removal of the Toll Bars on the Road, or any other means of Improvement.
March 8, 1865.

OPENING OF THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST SCHOOL ROOM, SHIELD ROW.

THE Public are respectfully informed that on Saturday, March 25th, a LECTURE will be delivered by the Rev. Thos. Smith, of Newcastle—subject: "The King of Babylon's Dream of the Image." Major John Joicey, of Urpeth Hall, will preside.
Admission Sixpence. Chair to be taken at 7 o'Clock.

On Sunday, the 26th, SERMONS will be Preached, in the Morning at Half-past Ten; in the Evening at Six, by the Rev. Thos. Smith; and in the Afternoon at Two, by the Rev. W. Saul, of Shotley Bridge.
Collections after each Sermon in Aid of the Building Fund.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

TWO SERMONS will be P eached (D.V.) in the above Place of Worship, on Sunday, March 19, 1865, in the Morning at Half-past Ten, and in the Evening at Half-past Six, by the
REV. S. WILKINSON,
Of Newcastle. On the Thursday following, March 23rd, the
REV. J. RATTENBURY,
Of London, will Preach in the Chapel at Half-past Two, and in the Evening, in the TOWN HALL at Half-past Six. A Collection will be made at the close of each Service towards the liquidation of the debt upon the trust property.

A PUBLIC TEA
Will be provided in the Town Hall on the same day.
Tea on the Tables at half-past Four o'clock. Tickets, One Shilling Each.

Business Addresses.

WILLIAM RICHARDSON,
SLATER,
And Agent for BUILDING MATERIALS generally,
252, PLEASANT ROW, HIGH STREET,
GATESHEAD.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE FOR 21 DAYS!

PREVIOUS TO MAKING EXTENSIVE ALTERATIONS!!

GREAT BARGAINS IN LINEN AND WOOLLEN DRAPERIES, READY-MADE CLOTHING, &c.

THOMAS POTTS,
MIDDLE STREET, BERRY EDGE,
BEGS to inform his numerous Customers that he intends to make a Great CLEARANCE of his Extensive STOCK to pave the way for large additions to his premises. To effect this, great REDUCTIONS have been made in every Department.
Sale to Commence on Friday, March 3, 1865.
An Early Call will oblige, as the Alterations will commence at the expiration of 21 Days.

THOMAS POTTS,
CAMBRIDGE HOUSE, BERRY EDGE.

SEEDS, MANURES, &c.

JOHN HOPE, Jun., respectfully invites the attention of Farmers to his large and carefully-selected Stock of the very best
RED, WHITE, ALSIKE and HOP CLOVERS;
PERENNIAL and ANNUAL RYE GRASSES;
PACEY'S PERENNIAL RYE GRASS;
ENGLISH & FOREIGN DO. DO.
MIXED GRASSES for PERMANENT PASTURE;
SPRING and WINTER TARES.
All the best kinds of
SWEDES, YELLOWS, and GLOBE TURNIP SEEDS;
PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT GUANO;
BONE MANURE, HALF-INCH BONES, &c.
AGENT for the celebrated
BLAYDON CHEMICAL COMPANY'S MANURES.
LINSEED, RAPE and COTTON CAKE, &c., &c.
FIRST-CLASS QUALITY of GOODS ONLY SOLD, and on the very best Terms.

JOHN HOPE, JUNR.,
Wholesale Grocer and Provision Merchant, Candle Manufacturer and Field Seedsman,
FORE STREET AND PRIESTPOPPLE,
HEXHAM.

Public Notices.

LANCHESTER UNION.

CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS.

THE GUARDIANS of the LANCHESTER UNION are desirous of Contracting for Six Months, to commence on the 25th March Inst., for the supply of the following Articles, to be delivered at the Union Workhouse, in Lanchester, Carriage Free, at such times, and in such quantities, as may be required by the Guardians or the Master of the Workhouse, and in all cases to be accompanied by a Bill of Parcels. Parties whose Tender is accepted for the Contract for any of the Articles required shall enter into a Contract in Writing with the Guardians, or shall execute a Bond for the due performance of the Contract.
Butcher's Meat, per stone, to consist of Flanks, Necks, and Sloats, with the Knees fully cut off, of Best Ox or Heifer Beef, the proportion to be one-third fine and two-thirds coarse; also, Suet, per lb.

Best Flour, per sack of 20 stones.	Coffee, per lb.
Best Meal, do.	Butter, per lb.
Best Maslin Meal, do.	Cheese, per lb.
Best English Oatmeal, per cwt.	Black Tea, per lb.
Barley, per stone.	Black Pepper, per lb.
Treacle, do.	Rice, per stone.
Linseed Meal, per stone.	Soda, per cwt.
Pease, per bushel.	Starch, per lb.
Sugar, per cwt.	Soap, per cwt.
Salt, do.	Candles, per lb.
	Sago, per lb.

Tenders for the above, accompanied by Samples, will be received by the Guardians on Thursday, the 23rd Day of March, not later than Ten a.m., at the Board Room, Lanchester. Tenders also will be received at the same time for Milk, per quart; Coals, per set load; Clogs and Shoes for Men, Women, and Children, and Mending of same; also Making and Mending of Clothing for Men, Women, and Children; Coffins for Union; also, a Hearse; also the Leading of Limestone from Anfield Plain Depot to the Workhouse.
The Guardians do not bind themselves to accept the owest, or any Tender.
By Order of the Board,
W. W. THOMPSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.
Lanchester, March 9th, 1865.

Business Addresses.

BICKFORD'S PATENT SAFETY FUSE obtained the PRIZE MEDALS at the "Royal Exhibition" of 1851, at the "International Exhibition" of 1862, in London, and at the "Imperial Exposition" held in Paris in 1855.
Prize Medal, 1851.] [Prize Medal, 1862.
BIC-FORD, SMITH, AND CO.,
TUCKINGMILL, CORNWALL,
MANUFACTURERS OF PATENT SAFETY FUSE,
HAVING been informed that the Name of their Firm has been attached to Fuse not of their Manufacture, beg to call the attention of the Trade and Public to the following announcement:—
Every Coil of Fuse manufactured by them has TWO SEPARATE THREADS passing through the Column of Gunpowder, and Bickford, Smith, and Co. claim such TWO SEPARATE THREADS as their TRADE MARK.

TRAFALGAR STREET SALE ROOMS.

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
FURNITURE BROKER,
GENERAL DEALER AND COMMISSION AGENT,
FRONT STREET AND TRAFALGAR STREET,
CONSETT.

TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.

GEORGE HOBSON,
Wholesale and Retail
FLOUR DEALER, GROCER, DRAPER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
GARDEN AND FIELD SEEDSMAN,
HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS,
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.
Finest English Oil Cake, Linseed, and Feeding Meals of every description, on the most favourable Terms.

RICHARD MURRAY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
HIGH STREET, CONSETT,
HAS always on Hand a Large Stock of FIRST-CLASS TEAS, COFFEES, and General GROCERIES. Likewise Butter, Bacon, Cheese, Lard, Flour, &c., from the first Markets.
Pickles, British Wines, Orange Tonic, Sauces, &c.
Wholesale Dealer in Tobacco.

J. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER AND FURNITURE BROKER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
FEATHERS, FLOCKS, AND RABBIT DOWN.
COOPERY GOODS.
PAPER HANGINGS IN GREAT VARIETY.
PIANO-FORTES ON SALE AND TO ORDER.
A GENERAL ASSORTMENT OF HARDWARE GOODS, IRON BEDSTEADS, &c., &c.
PARAFFIN OF THE BEST QUALITY,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

THOMAS ROWE,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
BREAD AND BISCUIT BAKER,
CONFECTIONER,
GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
FRONT STREET, LEADGATE,
AND
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,
RESPECTFULLY tenders his sincere Thanks to his numerous Friends for past favours, and begs to assure them that no effort shall be wanting on his part to merit their future orders.
BRIDES' CAKES, Plain and Ornamental, made on the shortest notice.
FUNERALS SUPPLIED on reasonable terms.
PUBLIC and PRIVATE PARTIES supplied to any extent by means of a large Tea Apparatus kept for that purpose.
THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

GENERAL PRINTING WORKS.

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER, ENGRAVER, LITHOGRAPHER,
Bookseller, Stationer, Bookbinder, &c.,
CONSETT.
Cards, Circulars, Headings, Invoices, Cheques, Posting and Hand Bills neatly and expeditiously executed at moderate charges.

J. LAX,
(Successor to F. Snaith & Co.),
IRONMONGER & FURNISHING HARDWAREMAN,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
BEGS respectfully to tender his sincere thanks for past favours, and hopes by strict attention to all orders entrusted to him to merit a continuance of their esteemed orders.
A well-selected Stock of Goods always on hand.

To Let.

FURNISHED APARTMENTS TO LET, in a House pleasantly situated near the Iron Works.—Apply at the *Consett Guardian* Office.

FOR SALE, OR TO LET.

AN ENTIRE HORSE. The Stock got by this Horse have obtained several Prizes at Stanhope and Weardale Shows.
Apply to Robert Burdon, Newbiggen, near Lanchester.

TO BE SOLD OR LET,

A COMMON BRICK and DRAINING TILE MANUFACTORY, where a Good and Profitable Business is being done.
For Particulars, apply to Mr. William Raw, Auctioneer, Blackhill, near Shotley Bridge.

Sales by Auction.

TO BE SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION,
At Derwent Cote Farm, near Ebchester, on Monday, April 3rd, 1865, a First-Class
THRASHING MACHINE,
NEARLY NEW,
To be Worked by Three Horses; also a very good
WINNOWING MACHINE,
Belonging to Mr. Joseph Bell, Retired Farmer.
MR. WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer.
Sale to commence at Three o'clock, p.m.
Raw's Auction Mart, Blackhill, March 13th, 1865.

LOW BROOMS AND STONEY HEAP FARMS, NEAR LEADGATE.

MR. PYE
Respectfully announces that he is honoured with Instructions from the "Consett Iron Company," who are declining Farming, to
SELL BY AUCTION,
On the "Low Brooms Farm," on Wednesday, March 29th, 1865,
THE Whole of the FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS of HUSBANDRY, &c., upon the Two above-named Farms, consisting of—
HORSES.
Brown Horse, 6 Years old.
Bay Horse, 5 Years old.
Bay Mare, 3 Years old.
Grey Horse, 7 Years old.
Bay Horse, aged.
Grey Horse, aged.
One 2-Year-old Filly.
One Yearling Colt.
CATTLE.
Six Milk Cows, Calved and in Calf.
Three 2-Years-old Short-Horned Heifers.
Two 2-Years-old Do. Steers.
Four Yearling Do. Steers.
SHEEP.
20 Hogs (Mules.)
20 Ewes (Do.)
20 Cheviot Ewes.
38 Black-Faced Hogs (Mules.)
30 Do. Do. Ewes in Lamb.
1 Leicester Tup.
2 Cheviot Tups.
PIGS.
Sow, with 9 Pigs (6 weeks old.)
Two Sows in Pig.
IMPLEMENTS, &c.
5 Long Carts, 4 Coup Carts, 1 Coup (without Wheels), 2 Water Carts, 3 Swing Ploughs, 1 Wheel Plough, 1 Ribbing Plough, 1 Scuffler, 2 Clod Crushers, 1 Wood Roller, 3 Pair Harrows, 1 Heavy Harrow, Wheelbarrow, Turnip Drill, 2 Turnip Cutters, 2 Chaff Cutters, an American Hay Rake, Winnowing Machine, Ransome's Pulping Machine, 3 Sets Cart Harness, 4 Sets Plough Gears, Hacks, Forks, Gripes, Shovels, Cow Kits, Cow Bands, Pig Troughs, Fold Hecks, Liquid Manure Pump, &c.
Also, a Three-Horse THRASHING MACHINE, nearly new.
Sale to commence at Twelve for One o'Clock.—Cash.
Sale Offices, 28, Groat Market, Newcastle, and 26, Spring Terrace, North Shields,
March 15th, 1865.

Business Addresses.

SIXTY-EIGHT THOUSAND A-YEAR.

68,209 POUNDS of TEA have been Sold by STEWART, the Tea Dealer, during 1864, showing an Increase on last Year's Sales of 3,164 Pounds. It is a mystery to many that in the strife for business and whipping competition of the times, this amazing Tea Dealer should maintain such power, and gather within his spell-bound circle such crowds of customers. He says he glories in competition, it is the life of his business, and declares there is no mystery about his continued success. He wills it, works for it, and it is done. He assures us the charm is in the Tea, and the spell is in the price. He says he offers no inducement except quality and price. The experience of the past gives him the assurance that at the end of 1865, his Grainger Street and Sandhill Tea Establishments will stand still higher in the estimation of the Tea consuming public.

CONSETT FIRE BRICK WORKS, BERRYEDGE, GATESHEAD.
ALWAYS ON HAND, A LARGE STOCK OF

GLAZED PIPES.	TRUSSES.
CHIMNEY TOP.	FERNERY STANDS.
CHIMNEY VENT LINING.	ORNAMENTAL VASES.
RIDGE TILES, PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL.	GARDEN BORDERS.
GLAZED SINK STONES.	GAS RETORTS.
DO. WATER CLOSET PANS AND TRAPS.	FIRE-BRICKS, COMMON BRICKS, QUARLS, &c.

AND EVERY OTHER ARTICLE IN THE TRADE EXECUTED TO ORDER.
R. DICKINSON & CO., Proprietors.

Sales by Private Contract.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.
A PUBLIC HOUSE, containing Eight Rooms and Cellar, with Twenty Acres of Land on Lease for Twenty-one Years.
The House is situated at Burnhope Colliery, and may be entered upon immediately.
For further particulars apply to William Mordue, Burnhope Colliery.

BUILDING SITES FOR SALE.

ON the BUNKER'S HILL ESTATE.—Apply to Mr. John Smith, Architect, Medomsley.
September 13th, 1864.

BUILDING SITES FOR SALE.

A BUILDING SITE for a COTTAGE, with good Streets, in a good situation, for £9. Apply to Richard Murray, Grocer, Consett.

FREEHOLD BUILDING SITES for SALE, on Bar House Estate. Apply to John Calvert.

BUILDING SITES for Sale at Leadgate. Apply to Mr. John Smith, Architect, Medomsley, or to Mr. C. H. Hines, Solicitor, Sunderland.

ON SALE.
SPRING TARES and GARDEN SEEDS.
OIL CAKE, RAPE CAKE.
LINSEED and LINSEED MEAL.
BEACH'S HORSE and CATTLE FOOD.
PATENT FELT for ROOFING, ONE PENNY PER FOOT.
ROBERT BELL,
6 and 8, TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, NEWCASTLE.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.
AN Excellent DWELLING HOUSE, containing Eight Rooms, Yard, and Other Conveniences, situate at Blackhill, and now in the occupation of Mr. Chambers as tenant thereof.—For further Particulars apply to Mr. Henry Brown, Auctioneer, Consett.
New Market Sale-room, Feb. 15, 1865.

Public Notices.

THE REVEREND JOSHUA ELLIOTT, Deceased.

PURSUANT to an Act of Parliament of the 22nd and 23rd of Victoria, cap. 35, intituled "An Act to further amend the Law of Property and to relieve Trustees," *Notice is hereby given*, that the Creditors and other persons claiming debts and liabilities affecting the estate of the Reverend Joshua Elliott, late of Tow Law, in the County of Durham, clerk, who died on the 16th day of February, 1865, and of whose Will probate was granted by the District Registry attached to Her Majesty's Court of Probate at Durham, on the 9th day of March, 1865, to the Executors, the Rev. Robert Maughan and William Burrell, and the Testator's widow, who had a life estate, having died on the 8th day of January last, are to send in to George Smith, the Solicitor to the said Executors, at 40, Sadler Street, Durham, in the County of Durham, the particulars of their debts and claims against the estate of the said Testator on or before the 24th day of August, 1865. *And notice is hereby further given*, that after the said 24th day of August, the Executors will distribute the whole of the Assets of the said Testator among the parties entitled thereto, having regard only to the debts and claims of which the said Executors shall then have notice, and the said Executors will not be liable for the Assets, or any part thereof, so distributed to any person of whose claim they shall not then have had notice.
Dated this 23rd day of February, 1865.
GEO. SMITH,
Solicitor, Durham.

Business Addresses

ADVERTISEMENTS
IN THE
CONSETT GUARDIAN
ARE INSERTED AT THE
LOWEST RATE.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF BURNOPFIELD AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

MR. JOHN FENWICK, of Burnopfield, has been appointed AGENT for the *Consett Guardian* in that neighbourhood; where all orders received will have due attention.

NO ONE CAN DENY IT!!!



WILL Purify the Blood, Heal all Sores, and Diseases of the Skin, and remove all Complaints of the Throat, Chest, and Lungs. They never fail.—Give them a trial, and prove for yourself.
Prepared only by HENRY DOWNIE & CO., Wholesale Chemists, 43 and 44, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Sold by Peter Brown, Druggist, Shotley Bridge; D. Imrie, Druggist; Guardian Office, Consett; John Reed, Lanchester; Watson Smith, Leadgate; H. Snowball, Druggist; W. Smith, J. Robinson, and J. Hillary, Grocers, Tow Law; and may be had of all Chemists and Dealers in Patent Medicines, in Boxes, Pots, and Bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each.
Extraordinary CURES by DOWNIE'S MEDICINES.
Mr. Robert Dixon, Chester-le-Street, Durham, says Downie's Pills and Balsam completely cured his wife of asthma and difficulty of breathing of many years' standing.—Nov. 14th, 1864.
Mrs. Jane Harburn, and her Son, 38, Green-street, South Shields, were cured of a cough, of 5 years' standing, by taking only two small boxes of the pills.—Sept. 1, 1864.
Denton Chare, Newcastle, November 18th, 1864.—Mr. Downie, Dear Sir,—Your Life Preserving Pills and Universal Healing Ointment have made a complete cure of my bad leg, after ten months of intense suffering. The large sore on the ancle is now quite healed by a short use of your invaluable medicine, and after a physician had failed in doing me any good. I would highly recommend all sufferers to try them.—Yours respectfully, John Robson.
Mr. Alexander Wishart, Ballast Hills, Newcastle, was cured in three days of violent cough, with spit, and pain in the chest, by the use of only one small box of pills, and one small bottle of balsam.—Dec. 1st, 1864.
Mr. Thomas Spencer, North Shore, Newcastle, was cured in ten days of a leg of 15 years' standing.
Mrs. Mary Elliott, Skinners' Burn, Newcastle, was cured in three days of bronchitis and a cough of 13 years' standing. Dec., 1863.
Mr. Wm. Purvis, 51 years old, Teams, Gateshead, was cured in a few days of dropsy, liver complaint, and nervous debility.—Aug. 8th, 1863.
Mrs. Brown, 70 years old, Gateshead, was cured in four days of a cough with spit, soreness in the chest, &c., of two and a half years' standing.—Feb. 6th, 1864.

BUCHAN'S SUGAR-COATED SARSAPARILLA PILLS.

IT is a WELL-KNOWN FACT that SARSAPARILLA is the greatest purifier of the blood in the world. KEEP YOUR BLOOD PURE!—The Bowels regular!!—And DEFY the DOCTOR!!!—These Pills strike at the root of each disease, they are particularly beneficial where Mercury has been employed—and are for the cure of every element incidental to Men, Women, and Child, such as all eruptions on the Skin, Indigestion, Bilious, Liver, and Stomach Complaints, General Weakness, Gout, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Pains in the Limbs, Headaches, sore Throat, and every complaint caused by irregularities of the bowels, obstructed perspiration, and deteriorated and unhealthy blood. Patent Medicine Warehouse, 19, Berners-street, Oxford-street London.
Wholesale Agents:—Barclay & Co., 75, Farringdon-street; and for the Proprietors. Sold in Boxes, 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s.—Agent:—D. Imrie, Consett.

Business Addresses.

ONE BOX of CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs in either sex, whether acquired or constitutional. Sold in boxes 4s. 6d. each, by F. J. Clarke, Chemist, Apothecaries' Hall, 35, Newland, Lincoln. Sent to any address on receipt of sixty stamps.

GOUT and RHEUMATISM.—The excruciating pain of Gout or Rheumatism is quickly relieved and cured in a few days by that celebrated Medicine, BLAIR'S GOUT and RHEUMATIC PILLS.
They require no restraint of diet or confinement during their use, and are certain to prevent the disease attacking any vital part.
Sold at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per Box, by all Medicine Vendors.

COMPARISON THE SURE TEST.
WM. POLSON & CO. respectfully request Laundresses who do not at present use their IMPERIAL PATENT STARCH to give it a trial, and compare the finish of their Goods with that produced by any other Starch. This test will at once show the superiority of the "Imperial Starch," which is manufactured under the superintendence of one of the Inventors of the "Patent Starch," whose long experience and high position in the trade is a guarantee against any inferior or second quality.
To prevent disappointment and make sure of getting the "Real Original," the trade and public should be careful to note the prefix "Polson's Imperial," and the name WM. POLSON & CO., Paisley, on every packet.

ELUCIDATION OF THE GREAT SOCIAL MYSTERY.

Just Published, Price 1s., Post-free from the Author for Twelve Stamps

A MEDICAL ESSAY on the CAUSE and CURE of PREMATURE DECLINE, with Plain Directions for perfect Restoration to Health and Vigour. The result of Thirty-five Years successful Practice in the Treatment of those peculiar Nervous and Mental Diseases, which tend to embitter and shorten Life. By Dr. Jacques, 27, New Bridge-street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who may be consulted daily, as usual.
The above Work may be had of France, Side; Barlow, Grainger-street; Crowther, Clayton-street; Mordue, 44, Pilgrim-street; Watson, Bottle Bank; and all Booksellers.

HEALTH AND MANLY VIGOUR.—A Medical Man of 20 years' experience in the Treatment of NERVOUS DEBILITY, Spermatorrhoea, and other affections which are often acquired in early life, and unfit sufferers for marriage and other social duties has published a Book giving the full benefit of his long experience, gratis, with plain directions for the recovery of Health and Strength. A single copy sent to any address on receipt of six Stamps. Address to the Secretary, Institute of Anatomy, Birmingham.

MASCULINE VIGOUR GUARANTEED in FOURTEEN DAYS, without the possibility of failure by the use of DR. BRIGHT'S REMEDY, prepared in the form of a Lozenge, to insure secrecy (invaluable in all cases of Generative and Physical Debility, Spermatorrhoea, &c. Sent carefully packed, on receipt of 11s., free by post, 12s. for stamps or post-office order, or on application.
Address, Dr. Bright, 29, George Street, Hanover Square, London, W.

VITA VITALIS.

A "New Medical Work," by a PHYSICIAN, &c., &c., &c., price 1s., by post, 13 stamps, sealed 20 stamps,
SHOWING how Manhood may be secured with renewed health, increased strength, and perfect muscular development for the performance of the most sacred duties so necessary for the happiness of married life—The author's method of procedure, founded on a life's experience and study devoted to the physiology and philosophy of the Generative Organs—How to attain the true glory of manhood, to ensure moral and physical happiness. Consultations daily from 11 till 2, and from 5 till 8. Sunday till 1 o'clock. Address the Secretary, 29, George Street, Hanover Square, London W.

A Lecture, by post, two stamps; sealed 12. Address Secretary, London Anatomical Museum, 44, Maddox Street, Regent Street, W.

ON MARRIAGE; its Physical Duties and Obligations, with an Essay on sterility in Man and Woman; its Cause and Cure. By a PHYSICIAN. To which is appended a catalogue of the contents of the Museum, which is open, for Gentlemen only, from ten till ten.
Admission 1s.

DENTAL SURGERY.

MESSRS. PARKER, SURGEON-DENTISTS.
One of the Firm attends in SHOTLEY BRIDGE on the Fourth Monday in every Month, at the Commercial Inn, April 27.

MESSRS. PARKER may be consulted DAILY, at their Residence, 61, BLACKETT-STREET, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and beg to announce that, owing to their recent improvements, they are enabled to reduce their charges to considerably as to place their services within reach of all who may require Artificial Teeth.
Messrs. Parker have introduced an entirely NEW DESCRIPTION of ARTIFICIAL TEETH, fixed without springs, wires, or ligatures. They are so perfectly resemble Nature as not to be distinguished from the originals by the closest observer; they will NEVER CHANGE COLOUR or DECAY, and will be found superior to any teeth ever before used. This method does not require the extraction of roots, or any painful operation; will support and preserve teeth that are loose, and is guaranteed to restore articulation and mastication.
Messrs. Parker beg to call attention to their CORALITE VULCANIZED SUCTION PALATE, protected by Royal Letters Patent, adapted to their Incorruptible Artificial Teeth; for beauty, lightness, imperviousness to the acids of the stomach, render it the most successful Masticating Appliance hitherto adopted. By this material and method, perfect self-adhesion is attained; it can be supplied with certain success to the most tender or deformed mouth, is perfectly free from TASTE or SMELL, keeps itself clean. In durability is warranted; supplied from a single tooth to a complete set.
First-class references can be given to the superiority of this new method for increasing the powers of Mastication and Articulation.
Messrs. Parker's PEARL ENAMEL for FILLING DECAYED TEETH, is superior to any Composition hitherto used. It is applied in a soft state like a paste in the cavity of the decayed tooth; hardens into an Enamel, and becomes incorporated with the outer shell, thereby arresting the progress of Decay, converting a decayed tooth into a sound one, and preventing the approach of that dreadful malady, the Tooth Ache.
Loose teeth fastened; Extracting, Scaling, Children's Teeth Regulated, and every operation in Dental Surgery.
All Consultations free.
Badly applied Teeth remodelled.
Messrs Parker, Surgeon Dentists; Attendance daily at their Residence, 61, Blackett-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

ATTENDANCE FOR 1864-5.
One of the Firm attends,
Sunderland—Every Thursday, at 23, Frederick-street.
Stockton—First and Third Wednesday in every Month, at Mrs Crosby's, 106, High Street, Feb. 15, and March 1st and 15th.
West Hartlepool—The First and Third Tuesday in every Month, at Mr Russell's, Draper, Church-street, Feb. 21st, and March 7th and 21st.
Hexham—The First Tuesday in every Month, at Mr. Stafford's, Market-place. March 7th.
Morpeth—The Second Wednesday in every Month, at Mr. Lewin's, Chemist, Newgate-street, March 8th.
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CORONERS' INQUESTS.

The Death of a Mendicant in Newcastle.—On Monday night, Mr. J. T. Hoyle, coroner, held an inquest at the Wellington Hotel, Collingwood Street, Newcastle, on the body of a hawker of boot laces and other small articles, named William Downey, aged 50, who died somewhat suddenly on Sunday morning last. It appeared from the evidence of John Henry, lodging house keeper, that at eleven o'clock on Sunday morning deceased got out of bed and went down stairs to the kitchen, where, after sitting a few minutes, he suddenly complained of a severe pain in his back, and had to be assisted to his bed again. A surgeon was immediately sent for, but the man had expired before he arrived. It would seem that the deceased had come out of Durham goal about a fortnight ago, where he had been imprisoned for three months for an assault upon a servant girl at South Shields, and he had not been in his usual heath since his liberation. A verdict of "Death from natural causes" was returned.

A Horrible Death.—A fire occurred on Sunday morning, about eight o'clock, on board the schooner *Forester*, of Grimsby, now lying at the Quay at Newcastle. The damage done to the vessel will amount to only £15 or £20, but a man sleeping on board unfortunately lost his life. It seems that an apprentice on board the schooner had deserted the vessel on Friday, and had taken with him some clothing belonging to the mate. This exasperated the mate, and he left the vessel on Saturday. The master, Captain Sarell, then engaged a man to do odd jobs on board for a day or two, and allowed the man to sleep on board. It is supposed that this man, while sleeping in the forecastle, had allowed the fire from his pipe to ignite the bed on which he slept, and that the flames spread while the sleeper was unconscious of what was going on around him, so that he was burnt to death. The crew of the schooner *W. S. Kay* saw the fire, and immediately went on board the *Forester* to put it out, which they soon succeeded in doing, and they then found the charred body of the man. On Tuesday an inquest was held at the Dead House, Newcastle, by Mr. J. T. Hoyle, coroner, on the body. The jury returned a unanimous verdict that the "deceased had come to his death by suffocation caused by fire created by himself." The deceased was married but was living apart from his wife.

Fatal Accident.—An inquest was held at the Infirmary, on Wednesday evening, before the coroner, J. T. Hoyle, Esq., on the body of Thomas Kelly, 18 years of age, who died in that institution on Monday night. Deceased was employed at the shipbuilding yard of Messrs. Wigham Richardson & Co., Low Walker, as a labourer. About nine o'clock on the morning of Monday, the 6th ult., the deceased and several others were engaged in hoisting an iron plate to its proper place in the side of a vessel in the course of erection, when the ring of the chain, by some means or other, got jerked out of the hook. All the men thereupon ran back, but the deceased was thrown down, and the plate fell upon his left leg, and broke it. He was brought to the Infirmary, and died on Monday night from the injury he had had received. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidentally killed."

[Advertisement.]—Holloway's Pills.—These Pills are more efficacious in strengthening a debilitated constitution than any other medicine in the world. Persons of a nervous habit of body, and all who are suffering from weak digestive organs, or whose health has become deranged by bilious affections, disordered stomach, or liver complaints, should lose no time in giving these admirable Pills a fair trial. Coughs, colds, asthma, or shortness of breath are also within the range of the sanative powers of this very remarkable medicine. The cures effected by these Pills are not superficial or temporary, but complete and permanent. They are as mild as they are efficacious, and may be given with confidence to delicate females and young children.

Foreign Intelligence.

AMERICA.

CAPTURE OF WILMINGTON.
600 PRISONERS AND 20 GUNS TAKEN.
IMPORTANT SUCCESS OF SHERMAN.
EVACUATION OF MOBILE.
EXECUTION OF CAPTAIN BEALL.

[Per *Etna.*]

NEW YORK, Feb. 24.—The capture of Fort Anderson is confirmed by despatches from Admiral Porter and General Schofield, and the killed and wounded are said to be small on either side. The combined forces immediately advanced upon Wilmington, and Admiral Porter announces that he took possession of that city on the 22nd inst. Confederate accounts of the 21st repeat the statement that a Federal column is advancing westward from Newbern, and another from Knoxville, eastward, to reinforce or co-operate with General Sherman, who is believed to be marching directly upon the rear of Richmond. Papers report from Petersburg that Grant's left has abandoned its new entrenchment beyond Hatcher's Run, and retreated to a position previously held to the late advance. The muddy conditions of the road render military movements impossible. Both branches of the Kentucky legislature have refused by a large majority to ratify the constitutional abolition of slavery, even though it should be coupled with compensation to the owners.

The Richmond papers infer that Sherman is consummating a plan to sever Lee's communications, and, finally, combining his forces with Grant, compel the evacuation of Richmond, or capture it by overwhelming numbers.

NEW YORK, 25th February.—Wilmington captured. Hoke retreating northwards, pursued by Terry.

Latest accounts state that the Confederates evacuated Wilmington on the night of the 21st, after burning the bridge across Cape Fear River, 1,000 bales of cotton, and 15,000 barrels of resin. The Federals occupied the city on the following morning, and report the capture of 600 prisoners and twenty cannon.

Sherman near Winsburg, 30 miles north of Columbia, on the 19th. Beauregard retreating before him.

Fessenden has anticipated the payments of March coupons of the 10-40 bonds.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25, evening.—The *New York Times* says the capture of Wilmington is now of incalculably greater importance than ever, on account of its relations with Sherman's advance. The *Tribune* thinks daily events demonstrate sufficiently that the rebels are not only in desperate straits, but are aware of it.

Cincinnatti despatches say that if Lee evacuate Richmond he will fall back on Lynchburg and march through the mountains to East Tennessee or Kentucky.

Lincoln's son has left for the front.

The new bill for arming the slaves passed the House of Representatives on the 20th February, but consolidation was indefinitely postponed by the Senate on the following day.

Captain Beall, the Confederate raider, given up by the Canadian Government, was executed at Governor's Island on the 25th February, at 1·20.

The following is Admiral Porter's official despatch announcing the capture of Fort Anderson:—

United States Flagship *Malvern*, Cape Fear River, February 19, 1865.

Sir,—I have the honour to report the surrender or evacuation of Fort Anderson. General Schofield advanced from Smithville with 8,000 men on the 17th inst. At the same time I attacked the works by water, placing the monitor Montauk close to the works, and enfilading them with the Pawtucket, Lenape, Unadilla, and Pequot, the tide and wind not allowing more vessels to get under fire. The fort answered pretty briskly, but quieted down by sunset. On the 18th, at eight o'clock, I moved up closer, with the Montauk leading, followed by the Mackinaw, Huron, Sassacus, Pontusuck, Maratanza, Lenape, Unadilla, Pawtucket, Osceola, Shawmut, Seneca, Nyack, Chippewa, and Little Ada, and kept up a heavy fire through the day until late in the afternoon. The enemies were silenced by three o'clock, though we kept up the fire till dark. We also fired through the night. In the meantime, General Schofield was working in the rear of the rebels to cut them off. The latter did not wait for the army to surround them, but left in the night, taking five or six pieces of light artillery with them, and everything else of any value. At daylight this morning some of our troops that were near by went in and hoisted the flag on the ramparts, when the firing ceased from the monitors. There were ten heavy guns in Fort Anderson and a quantity of ammunition. We lost but three killed and five wounded.—I am, &c.,

DAVID D. PORTER, Rear-Admiral.

Mr. Gideon Welles, Secretary to the Navy.

The capture of Fort Anderson was speedily followed by the evacuation of Wilmington by the Confederates, and its occupation by the Federals. In regard to these events, we have little beyond the statement embraced in the official accounts received *via* Queenstown, and already published.

A special despatch from Cincinnati to the *Philadelphia Bulletin* had been published, with the qualified heading of "Very important news, if true:"—Advices from below indicate grand preparations for a threefold movement to occupy Alabama and Mississippi—Thomas from the north, with a strong mounted force of infantry from Vicksburg, *via* Jackson; and Canby from Pensacola. It is apprehended that, if Lee is compelled to relinquish Richmond, he will fall back on Lynchburg, and thence make his way through the mountains to East Tennessee or Kentucky. Efforts are making to repair the Virginia and Tennessee Railroad to Bristol. It was rumoured in Knoxville last week that a division of his (Lee's) army had already appeared in East Tennessee. The expedition now moving from Knoxville is to defeat this movement, and, by again destroying the railroad, render the transfer of Lee's army west of the mountains impossible. Another despatch from Nashville says that intense excitement existed at Knoxville, from a report that Longstreet's command was moving on that place.

Advices from Petersburg report heavy firing before that city on the afternoon of the 21st, but the cause had not transpired. A Washington despatch of the 24th says:—A despatch received here to-night from General Grant's head-quarters, states that extraordinary activity is displayed along the rebel line near Petersburg, to-day. Extensive changes of location of divisions have been made, and, on some parts of the line the pickets have been doubled, and other indications of some important movement are given. It is the opinion of veteran officers at the front, that they are about to evacuate Petersburg, and fall back across the Appomattox.

The Confederate Senate on the 21st was as usual in secret session on the negro question, and the *Richmond Despatch* says of its action:—Yesterday, during the consideration in secret session by the Confederate Senate of the bill to raise 200,000 negro soldiers, a motion was made for its indefinite postponement, and which was agreed to by a majority of one. This is equivalent to laying the bill upon the table, but it can be called up at any time, and we have reason to know that it will be again taken up within the next few days, when it will be passed. The measure is delayed not because of a want of strength on the part of its advocates, but for a specific purpose.

[Per the *Europa.*]

The *New York Herald* of the 27th ult. has the following on the situation of affairs at that date:—

The important report comes to us in our James River despatches that General Lee has gone southward to conduct the operations of opposing Sherman, leaving General Joe Johnstone in command at Richmond and Petersburg; and we have additional particulars regarding the commotion and movements of troops which have been observed within the lines of the rebels around their capital during the past week, giving evidence that something of moment is in process of preparation by them. A large party of their army had on Saturday last been under marching orders for several days, and a considerable number of rebel troops are believed to have been dispatched to act against Sherman. The report of Lee's designs to shortly abandon Petersburg and Richmond are repeated, and deserters now add that notice has been given by him to the people of the former place to have their tobacco and other stores removed within four days. They say that nearly all the artillery has been taken from the Petersburg batteries, only sufficient being left to keep up appearances. Heavy artillery practice, continuing for several hours, was indulged in on Thursday and Friday last by the opening guns in front of Petersburg. The casualties, however, were few, and the firing appears to have had no result of importance. Of the stream of rebel deserters pouring into the Union lines, averaging at least 100 daily, a large proportion now bring with them their arms and equipments, the cavalrymen bringing in their horses. Since the fall of Charleston South Carolina troops in large numbers have joined the deserting throng.

Nothing later regarding General Sherman's progress has been received. The Richmond journals are very boastful in their tone and confident in their prophecies of his overwhelming defeat ere long. They say that the next and only news from Sherman that the Yankees will get from them will be that his army has been met, defeated and probably destroyed. The *Whig* says "Sherman's doom may be looked upon as sealed." Evidently great preparations are being made by the rebels to check him, and the mysterious hints thrown out and exultation of spirits indulged in by these newspaper men give weight to the report mentioned in our despatches from the Army of the Potomac, that Lee has left Richmond and gone to superintend affairs in General Sherman's front.

Confederate journals continue to assert that the evacuation of Charleston was decided upon as a strategic movement, and was not the result of any inability to hold it.

Statements had been made that Sheridan occupied Columbia after very little fighting; but in opposition to these reports, the *Richmond Whig*, of the 25th February, say:—"The contest for the possession of Columbia seems to have been a most obstinate one, and the result can only be attributed to sheer numerical superiority, the fighting, according to accounts, having been carried on within the very streets of the city. We are informed that all or nearly all the Government property was safely removed, and that whatever was destroyed by our authorities consisted of such materials as could be easily procured or replaced elsewhere."

Mobile advices to the 6th February indicate that there was no intention on the part of the Confederates to evacuate that city. The garrison was being strengthened. The force was said to be much larger than was generally supposed. Gen. Beauregard was in Mobile on the 4th, and inspected the defences. In a speech to the people he expressed confidence that the city would be successfully defended.

Preparations are being made for a spring campaign at New Orleans. Some said the intended expedition there fitting out is destined for Galveston, at which point there was a very extensive blockade running business going on with Havanna, the British West Indies, and Mexico.

The Wilmington correspondent of the *New York Herald* gives the following details of the capture of Wilmington:—

General Bragg in person left the city on the morning of the 21st. The troops began to move out in the evening, the last leaving before daylight of the 22nd. About 40 pieces of heavy artillery were left in the works around the city and in the batteries on the river, and 500 stand of rifles were found at the City Hall, and one Whitworth gun at the depot. Some 5,000 dollars' worth of commissary stores were also abandoned. Three locomotives and a dozen cars fell into our hands. 700 bales of cotton were burned in the Government sheds, and about 300 belonging to private individuals. A rebel ram partly finished, three steam mills, three large turpentine works and adjacent wharves, and the railroad and pontoon bridges, were destroyed. The railroad depot, car houses, machine shop, and most of the warehouses were uninjured. The extensive Government stables were set on fire, but extinguished by the citizens. The ram Chickamauga and two transports escaped up the river.

General Schofield was most heartily congratulated on all sides for this most flattering result of his combinations. It must be remembered, in this connection, that only one division—the Third, and one brigade, Moore's, of the Second—of the army of the Ohio were engaged, the remainder of the 23rd corps not having arrived. The total loss on both sides of the river after General Schofield took command, will fall a trifle below 200. This was owing to the fact that no position was assaulted which could be turned. But few citizens left the city, except such as the enemy forced to enter the ranks and follow. All able-bodied men hid themselves, and thronged the streets as soon as our forces entered. The ladies were also out in force, and the negroes crowded all the avenues. Not a symptom of animosity was displayed by man, woman, or child throughout the day. Early in the morning a large class of citizens began to help themselves to the goods in the stores, but a provost guard soon stopped this traffic so peculiar to rebel towns.

The *New York Tribune's* Washington despatch says:—"The only intended change in the Cabinet is the substitution of McCulloch for Fessenden. Governor Denison and Attorney-General Speed were both informed, when appointed, that they were to remain through the second term. Judge Usher will remain for the present, and Mr. Lincoln will testify his appreciation of the services of the chiefs of the Navy, War, and State Departments, by tendering them positions in his Cabinet for four years more. This cast gives general satisfaction amongst those whom Mr. Lincoln has consulted upon the matter."

The *New York Commercial Advertiser's* Washington despatch says:—"The Committee of Conference have agreed to make the Freedmen's Relief Bureau a branch of the War Department. Abandoned and confiscated lands are to be assigned to freedmen and white Union refugees."

It is stated that the Western members defeated the bill granting 190,000 dollars to the officers and crew of the *Kearsarge*, for sinking the *Alabama*.

In an address to the people of Goldsboro, Governor Vance, of North Carolina, drew a touching picture of General Lee kneeling at the feet of President Lincoln, "bowing at the footstool of a low blackguard, Illinois crossroads lawyer, to beg his life for the sake of his wife and children," and characterised the man who could do so unmoved as one "of base brutality of soul." The prospects of the Confederacy, the governor asserted, were not gloomy; but, he added, that unless the people were unanimously in favour of fighting to the last, the land that they last year raised such large crops from, would, this year, be ploughed by the foe.

FRANCE.

M. Rouland delivered a speech in the French Senate, on Saturday, of great importance and interest. It was delivered by him as a private senator, but everyone will see in the remarks of the former Minister of Public Worship a forecast of the Imperial policy. His speech was a powerful attack upon the supremacy of the Pope, and contained a plea for the independence of the Gallican church, which is evidently intended to create a patriotic feeling that may counterbalance the ultramontane sentiment. He drew a pitiful picture of the condition of the French episcopacy. The bishops, he said, are surrounded by a cordon of Jesuitical spies; their clergy are allowed to hold direct communication with Rome, and to despise the authority of their diocesans; and when the bishops have themselves occasion to appeal to the Holy See every obstacle is thrown in their way. The "regular orders," who are free from episcopal jurisdiction, and submit only to Rome, are the actual rulers of the French church. The Cardinals protested against this statement of their case, and said they did not want M. Rouland as their defender. M. Rouland said he was not there to defend them, but he could not help pitying them. The Cardinals did not want his pity any more than his defence, but M. Rouland would persist in giving the injured bishops his tearful condolence.

On Tuesday Cardinal de Bonnechose defended the clergy from the charge of violence contained in M. Rouland's speech, and rendered justice to the congregation who had given their devoted support to the clergy. The Cardinal also defended the seminaries, and stated that it was incorrect that instruction was given in those establishments contrary to the institutions of the country. His Eminence recognised the benefits which the Emperor had conferred upon the country and his Majesty's zeal for religion. He endeavoured to prove that there was no contradiction between the conclusion of the Encyclical and the syllabus to the principal points of the French constitution. The Cardinal expressed a wish that negociations might be commenced between the Holy See and France, in order to bring about a new legal state of affairs which would satisfy the interests of religion, the consciences of the faithful, and the interests of the State. His Eminence said in conclusion he did not wish to qualify the speech of M. Rouland, which its author would one day deeply regret. M. Rouland, in reply, maintained his right to make the statements contained in his speech, and M. de Lavalette vouched for the accuracy of his information.

The funeral obsequies of the late Duke de Morny were performed on Monday with great pomp at the Cemetery of Père la Chaise. An immense crowd accompanied the *cortege*. Eloquent orations in honour of the deceased were delivered at the grave by M.M. Rouher and Schneider, and M. Rouher reverted in his speech to the words of the deceased, that liberty could only be established peacefully by a sincere harmony between the Sovereign and a moderate Assembly.

PRUSSIA.

Prussia, like England and France, is growing extravagant in her national expenditure. Her incomings increase as well as her outgoings. The preliminary report of the committee on the Budget for 1865, which has just been distributed to the members of the Chambers states that the revenue in 1849 amounted to 94,174,380 thalers. For 1865 it is estimated at 150,714,031 thalers, showing an increase in fifteen years of 56,539,651 thalers, equal to above fifty-nine per cent., while the population, amounting in 1849 to 16,331,187 souls, has now reached the sum of about nineteen millions, or rather less than seventeen per cent., within the same period. "Herein," continues the report, "it is requisite to point out that a considerable part of the accession of revenue is brought about by the increase of receipts from State property—railways, forests, mines, &c.—that a considerable part of the increase of the expenditure is occasioned by the corresponding rise in the cost of working, and that therefore these figures, although they may awake apprehension—cannot afford a reliable basis until a more detailed examination has been made."

It is said that the King of Prussia, accompanied by M. von Bismarck, will proceed on a visit to the Duchies in the course of this month. Orders have already been sent to the municipalities of the principal towns to prepare for his reception. It is believed that the object of this journey is to furnish the party of annexation with an opportunity to make demonstrations in that sense. The Austrian Commissioner has received instructions regulating the course he is to pursue on the arrival of the King.

In Monday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies a debate took place on the position of religious dissenters in Prussia. The Minister of Public Worship said that Article 12 of the Constitution protected the dissenters, and that the report of the committee acknowledged that they had not been subjected to any oppression. "The creed of the dissenters is," the Minister said, "an aberration which must be left to its natural course. The national welfare is based upon the belief in God, as revealed in the Old and New Testaments, and this is the principle which guides the Government."

AUSTRIA.

The contents of the Austrian note in reply to the Prussian proposals on the Schleswig-Holstein question, have not yet transpired; but it is generally believed that Count Mensdorff has not made any counter-proposals, nor claimed the co-operation of the Federal Diet for the solution of the question. It is asserted that the Austrian Minister in his reply refers to Article 3 of the treaty of peace signed at Vienna on the 30th of October of last year, and claims the privileges to which Austria is entitled as co-possessor of the Duchies. The only point which Austria is said to be willing to concede to Prussia is the conclusion of a military convention between the future sovereigns of Schleswig-Holstein and the King of Prussia; but she energetically protests against any positive amalgamation of the two armies.

The Austrian members of the committee entrusted with the negotiations preliminary to the conclusion of an Anglo-Austrian Treaty of Commerce, are Count Kinsky, MM. Skene, Winterstein Haardt, and von Reyer; to whom will be added Counts Barkoczy and Dessefofy, from Hungary. The sittings of the conference will commence immediately.

ITALY.

THE ITALIAN BUDGET.

The question of capital punishment formed a topic of discussion in the Chamber of Deputies on Monday, and the articles of the bill for the abolition of the penalty of death for crimes committed under the common law were agreed to by 150 against 91 votes. Three members abstained from voting. Capital punishment is maintained in the military and naval codes, and in the laws against brigandage.

The King has taken a generous and just course in granting a full amnesty for political offences and for conventions of the press law, as well as to all those persons who were compromised in the Aspromonte affair. Such acts as these will do much to restore the faded popularity of the King

Signor Sella, the Finance Minister, made his annual report on Tuesday. The Minister states the deficit for 1862 at 262 millions, that for 1863 at 22 millions, and for 1864 at 34 million francs; thus making the total deficit for the three years 318 millions—adding to this amount the deficit for 1865, stated at 207 millions, and that for 1866, stated at 100 millions, for the Minister formally undertakes to reduce the deficit for 1866 to within this amount. The total deficit for the financial year 1866-7, ending 30th September, 1867, is 625 million francs. From this amount has to be deducted 200 millions, the proceeds of the sale of the State railways, thus reducing the deficit to 425 million francs. The Minister requests authority to contract a loan of 425 millions. Jointly with the loan he also requests the sanction of the Chamber to bills imposing house and property taxes, producing the sum of 60 millions annually, and the bills abolishing free ports and modifying the registration and stamp laws.

ROME.

General Montebello has sent a despatch to the French Government requesting it not to withdraw at present any division of the French army now stationed in Rome, as otherwise it would be impossible to guarantee the maintenance of public order.

A statement of the revenue and expenditure of the Pontifical States during the year 1864 has been published. It shows a deficit of four millions of Roman dollars. The revenue is stated at four and a half, and the expenditure at ten millions. The Peter's Pence yielded during the year one and a half millions.

SPAIN.

The Finance Committee of the Congress have decided that 25 per cent. of the proceeds of the sale of the Crown domains shall be remitted to the Queen immediately after the passing of the bill.

JAPAN.

A despatch from Shanghai, dated the 26th January, says that the report of the rebuilding of the Simonasaki fort is incorrect. Six Japanese steamers have been found in the straits, forming part of the expedition to punish the Prince of Nagato.

MEXICO.

The tenor of the Mexican news is rather more favourable to the French arms than that received by the last mail. It is stated that the garrison of Oajaca, numbering 7,000 men, surrendered unconditionally to General Bazaine on the 9th of February. Diaz attempted to escape, but was arrested and shot. The French troops are also said to have annihilated the guerillas commanded by Romera and Roga, and to have given no quarter. Romera is reported to have been shot.

NEW ZEALAND.

A despatch from Melbourne, dated the 26th January, says the advices from New Zealand state that affairs there were less peaceable. The defection of the Tauranga natives is announced, and the Waikatoes are said to be preparing to assist the Taranaki tribes in resisting General Cameron.

(*From the Melbourne Argus, Jan. 25.*)

Affairs in New Zealand continue to wear an ominous aspect. Sir George Grey's lenient proclamation, which led to the resignation of his then responsible advisers, has not induced the hostile tribes to make the slightest sign of submission. William Thompson certainly forwarded a letter to the Governor, stating that if an extension of time were allowed he would communicate with his people, but he commits himself to nothing, and no one regards the affair as aught beyond another attempt at delay on the part of the wily and astute Tamihana. On the other hand, the East Coast tribes grow still more turbulent. The Waikatos, notwithstanding their severe defeats, are preparing to assist the Taranaki tribes in resisting General Cameron's progress, and the defection of the Tauganga natives, who had been received back to allegiance, and kindly and liberally dealt with, is reported. Not only this, but no attempt whatever has been made to arrest the escaped prisoners. They are still at large on the north of the island, and the effect of their presence there has been already made evident by a number of the Kaipara natives, hitherto a quiet tribe, plundering the homestead of a European settler, on the ground that some time back he injured a portion of the rebel pa at Omaho. A deputation of the English residents of the district has waited upon the Colonial Secretary, and requested the government to repress further violence, or they would take the necessary steps to protect themselves. They declared it is not tolerable to live in a state of bondage to lawless savages, and that if the Government cannot avert the law and punish felonies, the sooner the settlers are left to adjust their difficulties themselves the better.

Governor Grey's first proclamation having failed, he has issued one, bearing date the 17th of December, of a very different tone. In this he fully "declares his mind" with regard to the confiscation of the land of the rebel natives. He defines clearly the bounds within which confiscation is to be carried out, so that now there is nothing to prevent the blocks for the military settlers being thrown open at once, and he announces that the Government will allow no interference in the making of roads throughout the country. The proclamation is an important document, committing Sir George Grey, at the eleventh hour, to the vigorous policy the settlers have so long proposed, and it may be regarded as an immense step towards the settlement of New Zealand troubles.

It is now probable that field operations will be shortly resumed. At our latest dates, General Cameron was about proceeding from Auckland by sea with upwards of 1,000 men of the 18th and 50th Regiments, for service at Wanganui and Taranaki. The men take with them a large supply of road-making implements, and are in the first instance to be employed constructing a road between the two places named. It is announced that both the Taranaki and the Waikato natives have determined upon the spot beyond which they will not allow the road to be formed without fighting.

It is stated that Mr. Guinness, the Dublin brewer, who has so nobly restored St. Patrick's Cathedral, is to be made a baronet.

The number of Polish refugees in France amounts now to 10,000, of whom 2,800 only were engaged in the late insurrection, the remainder having sought refuge after the insurrection of 1830.

Le Sport, the organ of the French Jockey Club, announces that at the present moment, when the season of 1865 is about to open, "*les sportsmen Francais se preoccupent d'une question importante, l'adoption d'un 'race-coat' special.*" M. Dusautoy, the Emperor's tailor, is stated by *Le Sport* to have been employed to carry out the views of the members of the Jockey Club on this grave point. The details of the dress have not yet transpired.

A woman, named Martin, was charged at Westminster Police Court, on Monday, with throwing her infant on to a fire. In a state of intoxication she went into the parlour of a public-house in Pimlico and threw her child on to the fire. It rolled off, and was instantly taken up by some persons who were present. It was very much cut and burned, and is now in the hospital. The woman seemed to have no regret for what she had done. She was remanded.

Mr. Villiers' bill on Union Settlement and Chargeability has been printed. One of the clauses provides that a pauper may be removed to his place of settlement without an order of removal if the Guardians consent under their common seal to receive the pauper. A pauper returning to a union and becoming again chargeable to it within twelve months of his removal from it under an order of removal, is to be liable to punishment as an idle and disorderly person.

THE DRESSING OF LADIES HAIR.—I have consulted a great Parisian hairdresser of the sublime school, who says that this winter he has often commenced work at one p.m., so that the lady must remain some ten hours in full toilet, with her hair pinned, bound, stretched, flowered, jewelled—painfully uncomfortable. It is only as a great favour that these famed hair-artists can be had at all; ladies during the season are obliged to implore them to attend. Well, he declares that you may wear your hair in any fantastic fashion; some ladies at Court have adopted the classical Grecian style; the hair dragged off the face, and a bunch of clustering ringlets at the back of the head. Others have gone in for a series of small curls all over the forehead, and little impertinent twisting locks round about the ears—baby curls, just beginning life—whilst the mass of hair is gathered upon the top of the head, and then studded with flowers, or butterflies, or even gaudy insects. "And what," asked I of this proud despot and disposer of the human hair, "what has become of the hair in nets which made but yesterday such a sensation on the male youth?" The indignation of the French *artiste* about these bosses was something painfully serious. "It was an ugly English fashion from the first, now quite abandoned."—*Paris correspondent of the Morning Post.*

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—FRIDAY.

The LORD CHANCELLOR laid on the table the report of the Commission of Inquiry into the accounts of the Patent Office, and other documents connected with the case of Mr. Edmunds, for the use of the Select Committee.

The LORD CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the Attorneys and Solicitors' Remuneration Bill.

Lord ST. LEONARDS opposed the bill as most mischievous.

The LORD CHANCELLOR said that the bill was in substance the same as that of last year, when it was read a second time after a debate.

Lord CHELMSFORD considered the bill to be most vicious in principle.

On a division, the bill was thrown out by a majority of 23 to 21.

The lordships adjourned at 7·30 p.m.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—FRIDAY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL, in reply to a question by Mr. Hibbert, said, that it was the intention of the Government to introduce a bill during the present session to carry out the recommendations of the Commission for inquiring into the working of the laws relating to letters patent for inventions.

Mr. J. B. SMITH asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether it was his intention to rectify the singular anomaly in our tariff, that while wooden ships and all articles manufactured of wood were allowed to enter British ports free, the raw material, wood, is subjected to a duty.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said the Government were aware of the anomaly, and one mode of removing it would be to impose a duty on wooden ships; but he did not intend to make such a proposition at present. It would be inconvenient to state what the Government intended to do in reference to taxation; and he begged the hon. member to exercise self-denial and patience until the time arrived for making the annual financial statement.

On the order of the day for going into Committee of Supply,

Mr. A. MILLS called the attention of the House to the state of affairs in New Zealand, and moved an address to the Crown on the subject of the war in that country. The hon. member observed that we had by no means got out of our difficulties in New Zealand.

Lord STANLEY thought that, in the natural course of things, the Maori race must disappear, as all other aboriginal tribes had done that had ever come into contact with Europeans.

Mr. CARDWELL observed that New Zealand was a country in which there were millions of acres of waste land, and a population of only one hundred thousand, equally divided between the European and Maori races, and there was ample room for the extension of civilisation without dispossessing the natives of the property they held.

The motion was then withdrawn, and the House adjourned at half-past nine p.m.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Their lordships met at five o'clock.

The Earl of CLARENDON laid on the table a bill in reference to the management of public schools, which was read a first time. He stated that in order to afford time for a full consideration of the bill, he should postpone the second reading for a fortnight.

The Duke of ARGYLE moved the second reading of the British Kaffraria Bill, the object of which is to annex British Kaffraria to the Cape of Good Hope.

After some observations from Lords Lyveden and Taunton the bill was read a second time.

The Election Petition Act, 1848, Amendment Bill was read a second time; and the House adjourned at twenty-five minutes before six.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

HARBOURS OF REFUGE.

Sir F. SMITH gave notice that after Easter he should move a resolution calling upon the Government to carry out the recommendations of the Royal Commission of 1859, with respect to the harbours of refuge.

THE BUDGET.

In reply to Mr. White, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that it would not be possible to make the financial statement before Easter, but he would do so as soon as convenient afterwards, probably on Thursday, the 27th of April.

MARY RYAN.

Mr. SCULLY asked whether Government intended to require the Irish nun, Miss Mary Ryan, called Sister Theresa, to be delivered up by the Belgian authorities, and removed from the very well conducted asylum at Bruges, where *she* was treated with great kindness and consideration, as stated by Lord Howard de Welder and the British Consuls; and further to require that, if she is still insane when she arrives in this country, she must be dealt with as a pauper lunatic?

Sir G. GREY said it had been the intention of Government to have required the delivery of Mary Ryan, and the Belgian authorities were quite willing to accede to the demand, on the ground that she had been illegally removed from this country, but under the circumstances of the case they did not now intend to do so.

CAPTAIN BEALL.

In reply to Mr. Peacocke, Mr. LAYARD stated that Capt. Beale, the Confederate officer, had not been surrendered to the United States Government by the Canadian authorities. He was arrested in the State of New York.

THE ST. ALBAN'S RAIDERS.

Lord R. CECIL asked if the persons now on trial in Canada would be surrendered without the facts of the case having been submitted to the Imperial Government?

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said these questions could not be considered in the abstract, but each case must be dealt with on its own merits. He apprehended that the judges of the Canadian Courts would execute the law within their own jurisdiction, and that, except in a very extraordinary case, the Imperial Government had no right of interference within Canadian territory.

MAJOR-GENERAL HUTT.

Mr. ROEBUCK asked for an explanation of a letter purporting to be written by Major-General Hutt, dated the 26th of February, denying that he had been appointed to be secretary and registrar of Chelsea Hospital, on the ground that as he was an Indian officer, and could not be intimately acquainted with the duties of the office, it would be a violation of the Queen's warrant.

Mr. HUTT said the letter was a fraud, and the signature to it a forgery. It was the work of some scoundrel, if he might call him so, for as he must be connected with the public service, he was supposed to be a gentleman. Major-General Hutt was a most gallant officer, and during his forty years' service had received the approbation of Sir Charles Napier. He was intimately acquainted with the duties of the office. Hopes were entertained of being able to trace the writer of the letter.

THE DEFENCES OF CANADA.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. S. FITZGERALD called attention to the report of Colonel Jervois, with reference to the defences of Canada. He expressed his regret that the American Government had felt it necessary to terminate the agreement for the neutrality of the lakes, but under the circumstances they were justified in doing so. However, he believed that her Majesty's Government might have entered into negociations and have averted the complete abrogation of that useful agreement. He pointed out that, in the opinion of the highest authorities, the defences of Canada ought to be naval rather than military, and that, looking at the present attitude of the United States, the Government was incurring a most heavy responsibility in not taking measures at once to place Canada in a state of defence. He wished to know what the Government was doing in regard to placing gunboats on the lakes and the St. Lawrence, to throw up earthworks for the defence of the important points, and, above all, to facilitate communication with Canada when the St. Lawrence was closed in winter. He believed that on the best authority the American Government was already strongly fortifying New York, Boston, and its other ports with earthworks and the heaviest guns, in anticipation of the more permanent defences; and an officer had told him that New York was more formidable than Sebastopol. The American Government was already preparing to place a large force of gunboats on the lakes. They had taken the measures whilst her Majesty's Government was blindly trusting to a chapter of accidents. He believed that an American firm in England had received an order for forty steam launches with double screws, of light draught, each carrying one rifled gun. Her Majesty's Government were aware of this, and he wished to know if they were preparing to meet this fleet of wasps, as they were called, five of which had already been forwarded to America. Unless the Government acted at once with energy, the troops in Canada would be engaged in a hopeless struggle, and the name of England and the character of the British army would encounter inevitable disgrace and disaster.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER ridiculed the idea of fortifying the whole extent of the Canadian border. He regarded the mother country and the colonies as her allies with a defensive treaty, and the former had a right to call on the latter to take a fair share of the cost. He repudiated the idea that peace in America would be followed by an attack on Canada. He knew that the fear of this was very prevalent, but it was as utterly groundless as the French panic a few years ago, of which every one was now heartily ashamed.

Mr. CARDWELL said that he could give the hon. member for Bradford the assurance that he desired that the relations between the two countries were perfectly friendly, and with equal confidence he could state that no demand had been made in the case of the Alabama. In anticipation of the notice for the termination of the Convention relating to the Lakes, a proposition had already been made for a small armed force to be maintained by each Government, and as soon as notice was received for the termination of the Reciprocity Treaty, Her Majesty's Government would propose negotiations for a modification of it. For the last few years they had been urging the Canadians to place themselves in an efficient state of defence, and had promised to give them every reasonable assistance. Of late a very much better spirit had prevailed in Canada. The Imperial Government would undertake the defence of Quebec, and if the Canadians would fortify Montreal this would arm both places. In conclusion, he deprecated a war between England and the United States as worse than civil war, and expressed his hopes that nothing would be done in either country to render such a calamity probable.

Mr. DISRAELI did not impugn the credit of the Government of the United States, which had conducted itself, in the midst of great irritation, with great energy and discretion. The people of the United States were an eminently sagacious people, and although liable to the passions which actuated mankind, would hardly seize the moment of exhaustion to commence an enterprise with a power equal to themselves in resources. He was also willing to regard the violence of language in America as mere expressions of rowdyism. The democracy of America was not like that of Europe. It was a territorial democracy, and had an interest in the soil, and was not so excitable as a middle class, which speculated in shares and considered it progress. He believed that the democracy in America would be more willing to welcome its armies to useful labour than to send them on dangerous enterprises. He believed that the civil war would produce a complete revolution in the spirit of American institutions, political and social. If the North subdued the South, it would have to deal with a discontented and a sullen population. It would have several millions of slaves, free indeed and equal in law, but with no sympathies with the white population. With these elements of discontent at home, which would require a strong and central Government, the United States would have enough to do without proposing foreign wars. He was glad that after the loss of the valuable lives, the Government had at last come to an opinion that the integrity of the British empire was worth maintaining, and that steps, although not very energetic ones, were being taken to place Canada in that state of defence which every state ought to be in.

Mr. LOWE pointed out that it was impossible to defend Canada from an attack by the overwhelming forces which the Americans could bring against it. The only way to do so was to withdraw all the troops and concentrate the whole force of the empire on some point which would compel them to relinquish their designs on that country. This being the case, the presence of a small British force in Canada, in time of peace, was worse than useless. It was only a temptation now to the Americans, for nothing would give them greater satisfaction than to defeat or capture it.

After some remarks from Sir J. Fergusson, Mr. C. Fortescue, Sir F. Smith, Mr. Watkin, Mr. B. Stanhope, Lord Elcho, and Mr. Ayrton,

Lord ROBERT CECIL said that the protests of every speaker, that he had not the slightest idea that the United States would attack Canada, was not reconcileable with the debate itself, and would occasion the belief in Europe that we could not defend the colony. He believed that this country would not consent to refer, even to arbitration, the outrageous demand of the American Minister with regard to the *Alabama*, for it was not a question of facts, but of principles. He felt that the results of the debate would be prejudicial to our interests. So many views were expressed, that the Canadians had a right to know on what definite terms they would be assisted, but he was afraid that unless this was done, and if they had nothing better to rely upon than the vague and sentimental promises of the Secretary of State, they would meet the same fate as Denmark.

Mr. BRIGHT said it was well known to American statesmen that England could not successfully defend Canada. There was a party in the United States who desired to attack Canada for the sake of inflicting humiliation on England, but he did not believe that there was any one who desired to attack Canada for the sake of retaining it. The Government was responsible for raising this question at a most inopportune moment, when British America was about to become a great nationality, for it proposed to take money for fortifications. He protested against our money being spent for any nationality but our own. Canada had been made the scene of the operations of a number of Southern ruffians, but both the Imperial and Colonial Government had treated these cases with great negligence, until the United States showed that they would put up with it no longer. Since then more active steps had been taken by the Canadian Government, and all was quiet along the whole frontier. He did not believe that there was anyone in this country, or in Canada, or in the United States who desired a war, and complimented Mr. Lincoln and his Ministers on their conduct. There was certainly a panic or something like it got up in the city, which had overspeculated, and was always wrong, or by some newspapers, most of which had been telling lies about America for the last four years, until they had lost all influence. What was the reason that all of us were now so anxious about America? Now, was it not the feeling that we had not done justice to our neighbours? ("No, no.") Was it not a pricking of the conscience? ("No.") No generous or highminded Englishman could look back on all the events of the last four years without a feeling of shame. The acknowledgment of belligerent rights to the South was made in a most unfortunate manner, and one certain to cause great irritation. In the next place, a demand for the restoration of Southern commissioners seized in the *Trent* was accomplished with needless and unstatesmanlike preparation and menaces, although the Government must have felt that the American Government must have acceded to it, and a despatch which had never been published had been sent to Mr. Adams to say that the act was unauthorised. Again, the fitting out of the *Alabama* from this country was a most illegal act, for which he blamed Mr. Laird with great severity. The slowness of Earl Russell in this case was a strong contrast with his haste to acknowledge the South as belligerents. The firm at Birkenhead, although it saw the danger to the country from the *Alabama*, proceeded to build the rams, which the Government could not seize until a war was imminent. He also blamed the Opposition for espousing the cause of the South, and said that many who felt with them that they had great complaints against the Government, would not last session bring them into office on that account. He then rebuked Mr. Gladstone and Earl Russell for their speeches at Newcastle, whilst the unfortunate writers in the press were every night trying to back out of their position, and he could only hope that their influence in the world was not destroyed by their stupendous ignorance and folly. Fortunately all England was not included in these charges, for the population of Yorkshire and Lancashire, whose industry was the support of the national power, had shown greater generosity and magnanimity, and if friendly relations were maintained, it would be owing to these toiling millions, and not to the statesmen or the wealthy classes, who were so jealous of them. In conclusion, he expressed his firm belief that the intelligence of the people of the United States would not allow them to attack Canada, although it was a most tempting bait, with a view to humiliate England, for it was admitted that it could not be defended by any force that we could spare. He rested, however, in the most perfect security, that as the war drew to a close we should become more generous to them, and they would be less irritated towards us, and that all claims would be easily settled between the two Governments.

Lord PALMERSTON said he did not regret a discussion which had elicited so fully the opinions of the House on the question. He said the relations between the two Governments were most friendly, and each admitted that the other had fulfilled every obligation incumbent upon it. There were no claims between the two Governments, he said, which were incapable of friendly adjustment.

The subject then dropped, and the House shortly afterwards adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Their Lordships met at five o'clock.

On the motion of the Earl ST. GERMANS, the Bankruptcy and Insolvency (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill was referred to a select committee.

MARY RYAN.

The Marquis of WESTMEATH called attention to the case of the nun Mary Ryan, who was forcibly carried away from Dover to a convent, and who is now an inmate of a lunatic asylum in Belgium. He said he was in a position to prove the abduction of the nun was the result of a conspiracy got up by a person calling himself the Vicar-General of Westminster. He read voluminous extracts from the papers which have been laid before Parliament, and censured the Home-office for not having interfered more actively in the matter.

Earl RUSSELL said the law officers of the Crown had been consulted, and they were of opinion that the forcible removal of any person out of this country was an illegal act. It was a practice unknown to the law, and open to great abuse. With regard to the case of Mary Ryan, Her Majesty's Minister at Brussels had inquired into it, and reported that she was at present an inmate of a very well conducted asylum at Bruges, and that she was suffering under an acute attack of mania, which at one time threatened her life. As her parents were dead, and as it appeared that she was at present well provided for, it was not considered advisable to remove her.

The Earl of MALMESBURY thought there was no doubt that Mary Ryan was insane, but that was not justification for the indifference with which the case had been treated by the Home Secretary. It was not impossible that persons like the superior of a convent were ignorant, owing to their seclusion from the world, of the law, but it was the duty of the Secretary of State to teach them what the law really was.

The subject then dropped, and the House adjourned at a quarter before seven o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at four o'clock.

THE GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY SCHEME.

On the order of the day for the second reading of the Lancashire and Yorkshire and Great Eastern Junction Railway Bill.

Lord GALWAY moved that the bill be read a second time that day six months, on the ground that it was introduced in competition with a scheme of the Great Northern Railway, which had been sanctioned by Parliament, and which had not yet had a fair trial.

After considerable discussion the House divided—for the second reading, 121; against, 162; majority against, 41.

The bill was accordingly rejected.

SOUTH AMERICAN BEEF.

In reply to Mr. J. Ewart, Sir G. GREY said that no orders had been issued for the seizure of south American beef when exposed for sale to the public either in London or Liverpool.

CAPT. COLES'S CUPOLA.

In reply to Mr. Damer, Lord C. PAGET stated that experiments had been made with Capt. Coles's cupola by firing at it with 40 and 68 pound shot, and although several indentations had been made in it, its working had not been disturbed.

VOLUNTEER OFFICERS.

In reply to Mr. Watkin the Marquis of HARTINGTON stated that the volunteers had memorialized the War Office on the subject of relieving volunteer officers from liability to serve on juries, and the subject was now under consideration.

AZEEM JAH.

Sir F. KELLY moved for a select committee to inquire into the claim of His Highness Prince Azeem Jah to the title and dignity of Nawab of the Carnatic, and the claims of His Highness under a treaty entered into in 1861 between the East India Company and His Highness Azeem ul Dowlah. Having set forth the circumstances under which the treaty had been concluded, the hon. and learned gentleman observed that it was not until 1855 that the East India Government had put upon it the construction that the title, dignity, and revenues of the Carnatic were conferred only for the life of Azeem ul Dowlah, the ancestor of the present claimant; up to that time the terms of the treaty itself, and all that had been done under it, were favourable to the opinion that the true meaning of the document was that the sovereignty was hereditary, and secured to the Nawab, his heirs and successors, for ever.

Mr. SMOLLETT seconded the motion.

Sir E. DERING opposed the motion.

Mr. NEATE thought that a case for inquiry had been made out.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said the Nawabs of the Carnatic, while they owed everything to us, had been guilty of the deepest treachery in entering into a conspiracy with Tippo Saib for making war upon us prior to 1801; we discovered the treason of the Nawabs, and all former treaties became abrogated by acts of hostility on their part. Indeed, if the former treaties were to be observed, the claimant was not the rightful heir, having been passed over in 1801. By the treaty of 1801, Azeem ul Dowah consented to hold his title and dignity from the East India Company, and not by right of hereditary succession. Upon his death his successor was not recognised as a matter of right, but also consented to hold the title as a title derived from the East India Company, all Her Majesty's Government had done in the matter was to decline to reverse the decision arrived at by Lord Dalhousie, and confirmed by Lord Harris, after a careful consideration of all the circumstances of the case. No good could result from the appointment of a committee, and its only effect would be to overwhelm the Government with claims from other mock sovereigns in India.

Mr. HENNESSY, in supporting the motion, denied that the treaty was a personal treaty, and said that we were bound by solemn obligations to regard Prince Azeem Jah as the rightful heir to the title and dignity of Nawab of the Carnatic.

Mr. DUNLOP said the arguments advanced by the Solicitor-General convinced him that gross injustice had been done to this unfortunate family.

Mr. H. H. SEYMOUR opposed the motion.

Sir C. WOOD observed that the whole of the documents with the case had already been produced and no additional light could be thrown upon the matter by further inquiry. He maintained that the treaty of 1801 gave no hereditary right to the title of Nawab, and said that Lord Clive, Lord Wellesley, Sir J. Malcolm, Sir Thomas Munroe, Lord Dalhousie, and the best informed and most competent authorities, had given it as their opinion that there was no foundation in justice or equity for the claims now set up.

After some remarks from Mr. Ingram, Col. Dickson, and Col. Sykes, the House divided, when the numbers were—For the motion, 38; against, 53; majority, 15. The motion was accordingly lost.

On the motion of Sir J. PAKINGTON, the Select Committee on Education was nominated.

The report on Ways and Means was brought up and agreed to.

The Perth Provisional Order Confirmation Bill passed through committee.

The House then adjourned, at twenty minutes to twelve o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The Speaker took the chair at twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock.

THE LATE RIOTS AT BELFAST.

Mr. D. GRIFFITH gave notice that to-morrow he would ask the Chief Secretary for Ireland whether it was true that in a case of recent riot in Ireland the Catholics were prosecuted and the Protestants allowed to go free, and whether a more even-handed system of justice would be adopted?

JURIES IN CRIMINAL CASES BILL.

Sir C. O'LOGHLEN moved the second reading of the Juries in Criminal Cases Bill, which, he said, was simply to provide for a digest of the criminal law. One of the provisions of the bill was to allow a judge to order refreshments to be given to a jury after they had been locked up for a certain time. He had seen in the local papers a report of a jury having been locked up for thirty hours without refreshment of any kind, which he considered to be the relict of a barbarous age. Other clauses of the bill provided that a jury might be discharged by a judge if he saw reason to do so. The clauses bearing on this point, however, he was willing to strike out in committee if considered necessary. Another clause provided that whenever a judge was unable to continue a trial he might discharge a jury.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL recommended the hon. member not to press the further progress of the bill. He denied that the bill was a digest of the present law, and said there were many points connected with it on which there was no occasion for a fresh declaration of the law. The clause empowering a judge to order refreshments to a jury when locked up was the only salutary provision of the bill, but it ought to be applied in civil as well as criminal cases. All the other provisions of the bill were in his opinion objectionable and unnecessary. The two Chief Justices had been consulted upon the bill, and were both of them adverse to its provisions.

After some remarks from Mr. D. Griffith and Mr. Longfield, the bill was withdrawn.

The Metropolitan Main Drainage Extension Bill was read a second time.

Sir J. SHELLEY obtained leave to bring in a bill to abolish the tolls taken for foot passengers passing over Chelsea Bridge.

The House then adjourned at half-past one o'clock.

Local and District News.

ROYAL RECOGNITION OF A NATIVE OF NEWCASTLE.—The King of the Belgians has just presented to Mr. Edward Charlton, engineer of the permanent way of the Great Luxembourg Railway, and son of the late Mr. Edward Charlton, of Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, a splendid scarf pin set in brilliants, in recognition of the services of that gentleman in the organisation of the Royal trains to the Ardennes.

DEATH OF MRS. GEORGE STEPHENSON.—Our obituary, records the death of the widow of the celebrated railway engineer, George Stephenson, Esq., of this town. The deceased lady, who died at Mineheads, in Somersetshire, on the 6th instant, was Mr. Stephenson's third wife, and was married to him only a few months before his death in August, 1848; she has thus survived her illustrious husband nearly seventeen years.

THE LATE CAPTAIN WOODS.—A beautiful stained glass window has just been placed in the chancel of St. Peter's Church, Oxford Street, in this town, to the memory of the above late highly-respected gentleman, by his widow and daughter, Mrs. and Miss Woods, of Eldon Square. The subject introduced in the window, which has been erected on the south side of the chancel, is that of the good "Centurion." The execution of the window was entrusted to Messrs. Hardman, of Birmingham, the celebrated stained glass manufacturers, and has been finished by that firm in the highest style of art. The figures in the window are carefully drawn, and the colours, which are rich in the extreme, are finely blended. St. Peter's Church has, by the introduction of this window, been still further enriched and beautified.

FATAL ACCIDENT AT SPRINGWELL QUARRY.—On Wednesday, an accident, which resulted in the death of a man named Robson, who keeps the Joiners' Arms public house, Wrekenton, and serious injury to another named John Kennedy, occurred at the Springwell Quarry, belonging to Mr. Foster, White House, Wrekenton, and situated on the road between the Felling and Pelaw Main. A number of men were engaged in "baring" away the earth from the top of the quarry previous to their commencing to work the stone. The two unfortunate men—Robson and Kennedy—being busy at their duties immediately under this place, a quantity of earth unexpectedly gave way, burying the men under it. Robson, who was killed on the spot, was immediately conveyed to his house at Wrekenton; Kennedy, who is an unmarried man, was also removed to his residence. Robson only started work at Springwell Quarry on Monday, and was but recently married. He leaves a wife, and seven children by his former marriage, to mourn his loss.

SUPPOSED FOUL PLAY AT MIDDLESBRO'.—The body of a man, name unknown, was discovered floating in the new cut, the dock entrance, on Tuesday morning. On being examined, the body was found to be that of a man apparently a little over 30 years of age, about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches in height. The body was in an advanced stage of decomposition, having evidently been in the water a considerable time. On the forehead were two very severe incised cuts, of great depth. One over the right eye was about two inches in length, and appeared to penetrate to the bone. The nose was also flattened as if the cartilage had been broken in by a heavy blow. The presence of blood about these wounds seemed to favour the supposition that deceased had met with foul play previous to being thrown or falling into the water. The pockets were, with the exception of a small square punch, quite empty. The police are instituting inquiries into the matter, with the view of having the body identified. A sailor was drowned, it is supposed, in the river, a short time ago, but the body of the man now lying in the dead house does not answer the description of the missing seaman. It is supposed, from the dress, that deceased was a miner.

THE SERIOUS CASE OF CUTTING AND WOUNDING AT SUNDERLAND.—At the Sunderland Police Court, on Monday, Charles Andersen, a Swedish sailor, was brought up on a charge of cutting and wounding Ellen Johnson, the wife of Frederic Johnson, the keeper of a boarding-house, sign of the Prussian Ship, in Barrack Street, on Saturday last. The prisoner was further charged with cutting and wounding John Lumberg, a foreign seaman, on the same night. The prisoner for his misconduct had been put out of the house by the landlord. Shortly after his wife went to the door, when the prisoner came running up to her from the street and struck her a blow with a knife on the hand, which she had lifted up to guard herself. A deep gash was inflicted between the thumb and the fore finger. The man Lumberg came out of the house to see what the prisoner had done to her and to get him away, when he struck him with the knife, inflicting a serious wound on his hand also. Mr. Gammage, surgeon, in a communication which was read by the clerk, said that Mrs. Johnson was not in a fit state to attend the court. Mr. William Bell, who appeared for the prosecution, asked for a remand for a week, which was granted.

CIVIL LIBERTY.—On Monday evening, Mr. G. J. Holyoake, at the request of a special lecture committee, delivered in the Lecture Room, Nelson-street, Newcastle, an exposition of Mr. John Stuart Mill's notable work on "Liberty," a protest against that "tyranny of society" which has in almost every free country taken the place of the tyranny of rulers, and is far more vexatious and omnipresent. Mr. Holyoake gave many amusing illustrations. When the late Mr. Muntz was a candidate for Birmingham, all the Parliamentary Coppecks shook their heads, as there was no instance of a member being elected without a beard. Military officers had been in the House of Commons with a moustache, but a beard was too much for the English constitution to stand—all London stared, and the House of Commons hardly suppressed its well-bred astonishment at Mr. Muntz's audacity. There was a strong disposition to shave the honourable member. The late W. J. Fox, M.P. for Oldham, nearly lost his seat through a peculiarity in parting his hair. As the eminent orator of the Anti-Corn Law League everybody would have held him in repute, but they never forgive him because he parted his hair down the middle. Oldham is a bold place, but it could hardly stand this. When the eminent author, dramatist, and critic, G. H. Lewes, ventured to wear a Kossuth hat he was stared at in the Strand; and Thomas Carlyle, who wears a wide-awake, is still the wonder of the people of Chelsea. The inhabitants of Freshwater thought the Poet Laureate, Mr. Tennyson, not quite right in his mind when he first began to discard the chimney-pot hat and wear a convenient and pleasant felt. The English people are the most intolerant in matters of civil liberty than any people on earth. Mr. Mill maintains that this pressure of impertinent censorship of what does not concern or harm others is destructive of wholesome individuality of character, and has reduced this country to the Chinese type of civilisation, and that it is the duty of the magistrate to permit, and of gentlemen to encourage, the greatest variety of thought and action. He lends the weight of his great name to that boldness which may make the nation manly and diversified in power. Mr. Holyoake's address was received with great interest and approval.

Viscountess Palmerston has quite recovered from her recent severe cold, and will soon resume her receptions at Cambridge House.—*Post.*

THE GREAT "LOCK-OUT."

During the past week the "lock-out" has been general throughout the country. In the north there has been but one exception, that of Messrs. Hawks, Crawshay, and Co., who disapproved of the step taken by the masters and have still kept their furnaces alight. The men who have been locked out have bitterly denounced the conduct of the masters, for they had, so they say, no communion or connection with the South Staffordshire strike, and have entirely discontinued their contributions to those out. The masters, on the other hand, contend that the contributions of these men have kept up the strike, and they are, therefore, justified in the course they have adopted. The leaders of the Executives of Gateshead and of Brierley Hill all now regard the struggle as one in which the existence of trade societies of every kind is threatened. They say that the question is no longer one of the resistance of the North Staffordshire puddlers to a drop in their wages, but a combined attack upon the rights of the men to form themselves into trade combinations, of which the course taken by the Butterley Company is an illustration. The men in the South, unlike many of their fellows in the North, live in dwellings over which their masters have no control, situated chiefly in one or other of the towns which occupy the whole of the 13 miles separating Birmingham from Wolverhampton, but which, being thus populated, become united, and impart to the people that feeling of independence which is so marked a characteristic of the populations of large towns. This feeling is strengthened by the expressions of sympathy and the offers of help which are being received by the officers of the Executive, daily, from the leading unionists of other trades. Even before the London meeting is held, steps are being taken throughout the kingdom to forward them help. But the information thus received leads to the conclusion that the unionists at large do not look upon the conduct of the North Staffordshire men in the light in which it is regarded by the ironworks unionists. The former seem to think that the North Staffordshire men are correct when they say they are fighting the battle of all. The latter, on the other hand, maintain that they are occasioning all the mischief, and ought not, therefore, to be supported. Since the delegates, who, at the last meeting at Brierley Hill ordered the North Staffordshire men in, have explained the circumstances to those who sent them, the views of the majority of the men have altered. At the present time, therefore, the conduct of the North Staffordshire men is approved only by a small minority, amongst whom scarcely any officers of the different branches are to be found. This want of sympathy has found a practical expression in the applications for relief from the North Staffordshire men being rejected by their fellow-ironworkers when those applications have been made to branches as such. Applications have been made to, and rejected by, branches in Manchester, and at Tipton and Tividale amongst other places in South Staffordshire. It is the opinion of the executive officers that when all the circumstances are laid before the Unionists out of the iron trade, they will entertain a different view of the conduct of the men in the north of Staffordshire than that which they seem now to possess. Nowhere is the feeling of reprehension stronger than throughout most of the branches of the Gateshead Executive. To this feeling it is probably owing that amongst certain of the ironmasters there is a belief that they may be able to get together men enough in Derbyshire and South Staffordshire to go into the northern division of the last-named county and start the works there. The Executive at Brierley Hill have tested the feelings on this subject of the men whom they have thought would be most ready to undertake such work, and they have found them to be altogether opposed to it; and the Executive are not prepared to recommend the taking of such a step. They say that in the first place the undertaking would be fraught with great risk of personal safety to those who undertook it, and that if men should go temporarily from other districts they do not believe that the North Staffordshire men would be frightened into the expectation of losing their places. So the affair has gone on, capital being arrayed against labour, and masters against men. Of course opinions differ very materially as to the right and justice of the struggle. *Ryland's Iron Trade Circular*, which is supposed to be the organ of the ironmasters, gives the following description of the appearance of North Staffordshire, and the position of affairs there:—"The smokeless furnaces and silent industry of the whole district sufficiently testify how earnestly the resolution has been carried out, and how general is the lock-out. The few fires, reflected on the horizon, flame out at such distant intervals, that—were it not for the extenuating circumstances which permit them—they would seem to stand forth as 'burning shames' to their owners, and beacon lights of men whose word is not to be depended upon by their fellows. But as we have said, there are special circumstances in each case—as of gun-metal, and contract orders of mere manufacture—which may be taken to license an exception apparently egregious. The battle—for such it is, and a very serious one—having commenced, the array is becoming closer. The northern masters have further confirmed their already declared intention—for which notice had been given—to lock out this day. They have seen nothing in the inflammatory address of the South Staffordshire Union, or the more placable one of the Gateshead Executive, to induce their withdrawal from the position taken up in self-defence, nor will they deviate from the course by which alone, for the future, our whole trade can be protected from the ruin, always imminent, of strikes. Indeed, it has been said that there were some at the meeting of the northern masters who would have advised a still further step in advance, and that it was solely owing to the mediation of the North and South Staffordshire masters—exercised on behalf of the men—that notice of a further reduction of wages, in accordance with the actual prices of iron, was not urged as a *sine qua non* for resuming work. Such is the position of the masters. In their unity of action lies their strength. The blow is a crushing one undoubtedly; but the weapon is one taken from the armoury of the adversary. The position of the men is by no means of so steady or compact a character as that of the masters. The Unions profess to control the men and guide them in the right way. But it is plain that having set the North Staffordshire men, advisedly, on the wrong path, the Unions cannot divert them from it. The united resources in hand amount, on their own showing, to £16,000 and £6,000, but neither of these amounts are in existence. The bankers know nothing of them. There will be 35,000 men entitled to an allowance immediately from these funds, and it will take £18,000 out of the £22,000 to give them 10s. each for the first week, leaving a miserable dole of £4,000, or rather more than 4s. each for the next, and behind this will be a blank and beggary." Meetings have been held all over the country, but so far no result has been gained. The men hope to receive the support of all the trades' unions in the struggle which, they state, is a battle of unions against masters. On Monday evening the millmen of Staffordshire held a meeting and advised the masters to send puddled bars to the North Staffordshire mills. The proposition was well received, and may, if no other solution of the question presents itself, be carried out.

And now we have to speak of a more pleasing subject—the prospects of a settlement of the dispute. The Council of the Northern Executive of the Workmen's Association held a meeting on Saturday at Gateshead, and in the afternoon a second meeting took place, when it was resolved to send a communication to the committee of the masters (appointed at the ironmasters' meeting on Thursday), asking for an interview with them to discuss the general questions in dispute, with a view of coming, if possible, to an arrangement by which the "lock-out" might be averted. In compliance with this resolution a letter was sent to Mr. C. M. Palmer (one of the masters' committee), who at once replied that he would call the committee together, and meet the representatives of the workmen at any time and place they might appoint. This meeting was arranged to take place on Tuesday, and telegrams were sent to the various large works in the district asking them to send delegates to the conference. On Tuesday this conference took place, but as it is fully reported in another column it will be unnecessary for us to allude to it here, further than to state that the meeting was of a most cheering and gratifying character. Masters and men seemed equally anxious to bring about a conclusion of the struggle, and ultimately it was resolved to hold a second conference at York, at which Staffordshire would be fully represented. During the discussion the proposal to send puddled bars to North Staffordshire was referred to, and one of the deputation said that, under the circumstances, the Association would make no objection, as the men on strike had, by their conduct, entirely cut themselves off from any communion with the unions, and were acting altogether on their own responsibility.

In Staffordshire this proposal is exciting some interest. The committees of puddlers and millmen have received intimation that, at two works, the men have been offered the opportunity of returning if they will sign a document pledging themselves in no way to assist the puddlers in North Staffordshire. The Committee have a repugnance to their members signing documents generally, but in this case they see no reason why the condition required should not be complied with. The Executive of the Union now states that owing to the great extent to which aid is withheld from the men in North Staffordshire, they will not be able much longer to refrain from going to work. On the other hand, the North Staffordshire men assert that they are able to do without the grants which have been withdrawn by the executives. They say that they are receiving assurances of sympathy from workmen and tradesmen in the Potteries, and from persons elsewhere who believe that their labour is worth all that they are asking for it. Whilst the masters are not opposed to any feasible project which shall result in the return of the North Staffordshire men to work, they have no confidence in the permanency of any arrangement the terms of which could not be enforced by legislative enactment. They say that the Union has shown itself thoroughly powerless to enforce its own decrees amongst its own members; and in the event of any arrangement between masters and men, the latter would be sure to break it the first moment that they saw it was working against them.

The feeling between the masters and men has been, on the whole, of a most satisfactory and commendable character. Only one feature has there been of an opposite kind—a bill, extensively circulated in Middlesbro', of which the following is a copy:—

HOW WORKMEN ARE ROBBED OF THEIR WAGES.

The subjoined letter will speak for itself. It shows how much whipping up is wanted to get the money out of the men's pockets in one place to fight against the masters in another. If the Yorkshire workmen were as prudent as the Scotch, and stick to their own as well when they have earned it—there would be less talk about strikes. Of the £1,097 spent, as mentioned in this letter, we should like to hear from "President Kane" how much has been paid for actions and proclamations? and travelling expenses? and public-house accommodation? How much the men and their starved wives and children—so foolishly and wickedly made to starve and pine by other crafty and designing men of their own class—and how much paid to such managers?

To the Ironworkers of Scotland.

Bush Inn, Gateshead, Jan. 28, 1865.

Gentlemen,—The Executive Committee are utterly astonished at your silence on the question of levies. In December last you were informed by circular that the men of Milton and Sheffield were on strike, and that, in consequence of the tyrannical conduct of the proprietor, a strike at the Hive Ironworks, East Jarrow, was apparent. A strike did take place at these works, which lasted a week only. To meet these difficulties we issued an order for a levy of 6d. per member weekly, and, strange to say, the men of Scotland were silent to this appeal. Yet the men of the before-named works, who were fighting your battles as well as their own, must be supported. At the commencement of the present year notices were posted on the gates of all the works throughout England and some parts of Wales, that a general reduction would take place after fourteen days, namely:—Puddling, one shilling per ton, and other branches of the trade, ten per cent. A delegate meeting was held at Brierly Hill, and a resolution was passed to the effect that the men of North Staffordshire resist the reduction. The council of Brierly Hill called their number of the North Staffordshire men out on strike, and, acting in concert with our friends at Brierly Hill, and seeing the necessity of such, we immediately instructed the men of Hanley and district to come out also, to the number of 450. To enable us to carry out our object, and to meet these difficulties, another levy must be demanded forthwith. We sincerely hope that you will be more disposed to assist us than you hitherto have been. In the Leeds case, the men of Scotland have acted very indifferently towards us, by not rendering us the assistance which they had a right to do. If your deficiencies were summed against you, it would be a considerable amount indeed. Unless you come forward with your levies, punctually and regularly, we cannot consider you members of the association, inasmuch as you do not comply with the rules and demands of the Executive. * * * * * We must have an early reply to this, that we may know how to act as far as Scotland is concerned. In consequence of the whole of the men of North Staffordshire being out on strike, and a great many in South Staffordshire; Spennymoor men at present still out, which we hope to be able to get settled; Milton and Sheffield still out; we request you to make an immediate draw upon your bankers, and let us have the money by Friday—and not later. The future levy will be 1s. per member weekly until these disputes are settled.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN KANE, President.

Meanwhile the iron market continues firm, and prices remain about as before, there being only on one kind of iron an advance. The crisis will, according to the opinion of *Ryland's Circular*, keep rates firm over the quarter-day, and not improbably secure steady prices throughout the year.

THE CONFERENCE.

The conference between the committee appointed by the Northern Ironmasters' Association, and delegates appointed by the men of the various iron-works, was held, on Tuesday, at the office of Messrs. Losh, Wilson, & Bell, Grey Street, Newcastle. The following masters were present:—

Mr. C. M. Palmer, Jarrow Iron Works (chairman).
Mr. W. H. F. Bolckow, Middlesbro'-on-Tees.
Mr. Thomas Vaughan, Witton Park.
Mr. Firmstone (one of the partners in the new Limited Liability Company who have recently purchased Messrs. Bolckow and Vaughan's Works).
Mr. J. Hutchinson, Skerne Iron Works, Darlington.
Mr. W. R. Innes Hopkins, Tees-side Iron Works.
Mr. Thomas Bell (Losh, Wilson & Bell), Walker.
Mr. Henry Bell (Losh, Wilson & Bell), Walker.
Mr. David Dale, Darlington.
Mr. Geo. Dyson, Weardale Iron Works, Spennymoor.

The meeting had been fixed for twelve o'clock at noon, but it was one o'clock before the proceedings began, the deputation from the Executive not attending before that hour.

Mr. C. M. PALMER, the chairman, first asked the question: Are you all delegates?

Mr. KANE: I am not a delegate, but I attend simply to give any explanation that may be required.

Mr. PALMER next said he would commence the proceedings by explaining how the meeting had been brought about. It arose from a letter that he had received, and which had been sent to him as one of the committee appointed by the ironmasters at their meeting in Newcastle on Thursday last. He received a letter from Mr. Kane on Saturday, asking him to be pleased to be prepared to receive a deputation from the workmen. He replied to the communication by stating that he should be prepared to receive a deputation from a committee of the men; and the meeting was called for that day at noon. He did not know whether noon was considered to be one o'clock, but the masters had waited for an hour of the men putting in their appearance. In the next instance he had received the following notification a few minutes before the meeting:—

"That the following ironworkers are deputed from the various works now laid off, and are now waiting your pleasure for an interview:—

Mr. John Kane, President of the Gateshead Council of the National Amalgamated Association of Iron Workers.
Mr. G. G. Thomas, from Bolckow and Vaughan's Works, Middlesbro'.
Mr. Wm. Rollins, Tees-side Iron Works, Middlesbro'.
Mr. Thos. Thomas, Newport Iron Works, Middlesbro'.
Mr. Henry Gilmour, Albert Hill Works, Darlington.
Mr. John McKay, Skerne Works, Darlington.
Mr. James Croft, Witton Park Works.
Mr. John M'Iver, Consett.
Mr. Thomas Brown, Black Hill.
Mr. Oliver Duffell, Jarrow.
Mr. John Campbell, Walker.

Mr. PALMER said the calling of the present meeting had arisen from a letter which he received on Saturday from Mr. Kane, inquiring if the committee of the Ironmasters' Association would be prepared to receive a deputation from the men locked out that explanations might be entered into by both parties, with the view, if possible, of bringing about a speedy settlement of the difficulty at present existing in the iron trade. He needed not to say that it afforded him great pleasure in calling the meeting; and now that both parties were together, he had to express the hope that the proceedings would be conducted in a manner likely to tend to a settlement of the serious question in which they were both so much interested, and that nothing would be said on either side of an irritating character. He might be permitted to say that the masters felt they were placed in the position they now occupied from no fault of theirs. They were willing to bring about a settlement, and the committee were prepared to hear anything the deputation might have to say which would be likely to effect this. The result of the conference would be reported to a general meeting of the ironmasters, which would be called, provided the overtures—and the committees were only deputed to receive overtures—were of such a nature as to show some prospect of a settlement of matters. The masters felt that the stand they had taken had been forced upon them by the proceedings which had been adopted—he would not say by the men, but, generally speaking, by the Executives of the unions. The Executives themselves seemed now to fancy that they had committed an error, inasmuch as they were condemning what a short time ago they were believed to support. They were recalling the recommendations passed to the men in North Staffordshire, approving of their relinquishing their work rather than submit to a reduction of wages—a reduction which, it was felt by all thinking persons, ought to be submitted to, considering the depressed state of the trade and the present prices of iron. The present position of matters—if he understood that position right—was simply this, that the masters had been compelled to close their works to protect themselves from the unjust demands of the men. He called these demands unjust, simply because the Executives of the unions had now used the word. He hoped, however, that some good would result from the present meeting, and the deputation might rest assured that any proposals they would make would meet with a fair consideration.

Mr. KANE: Perhaps you will allow me to make a single remark at the present stage. I do not appear here to represent the views of the men, for at such a meeting I think it best that the men should be allowed to state their own views.

Mr. PALMER: That would be more satisfactory to us.

Mr. KANE: Of course; and I just wish it to be understood that I do not appear here as their mouth-piece, but simply as desirous of saying something, if necessary, in support of the Executives, which I think have been most unjustly assailed.

Mr. PALMER: I am sure we shall be glad to hear you upon that point, because we think that the Executives have been to some degree, at least, to blame, for bringing about the present state of matters.

Mr. KANE: Then I have to remark that, so far as the members of the Gateshead Executives are concerned, we have nothing to do with the matter. The men were brought out without our knowledge. A conference of the men was held at Sheffield during the Christmas holidays, at which resolutions were passed, calling upon the men, considering the state of the iron market, to accept the reduction of 10 per cent. which it was proposed to make upon their wages. The following meeting, a delegate meeting, was held at Brierly Hill, at which the Gateshead Executive were not represented, neither in person nor by letter. At that meeting it was said the conference held at Sheffield had no right to take the steps they had done; and a resolution was passed authorising the men not to accept the reduction which the masters proposed to make. The Gateshead Executive protested against this procedure, and wrote off requesting another delegate meeting to be held, to reconsider the matter. This request was refused, on the ground that to call another meeting would be somewhat expensive. What then, I ask, were we to do in such circumstances? We were bound to protect the men. The masters are bound together to protect each other; and thus far it is a fair battle. But even after the delegate meeting what we asked for was refused, we tried hard to bring about a settlement; and, so far back as the 27th January, we sent letters for this purpose to different places. A delegate meeting was afterwards held at Gateshead, where a deputation was appointed to proceed to South Staffordshire, with instructions to do their utmost to prevail upon the men to continue working; but all our efforts were fruitless. We also sent off a telegram requesting them not to strike. We did what we could to prevent the strike, but we were unsuccessful; and as we were bound by our rules to a united action betwixt north and south, we could not very well get clear of the position which was taken for some time after the commencement of the dispute. This, I think, is the substance of the whole affair.

Mr. BELL: Can you tell us at what time the last payment was sent from your Executive to North Stafford?

Mr. KANE: A sum of £250 was set aside a fortnight ago to send to North Stafford, but the money was not sent.

Mr. BELL: Yes; but was that money not made up after you sent off the telegram, urging the men to go on with their work.

Mr. KANE: The telegram was sent off on the 31st of January, I think.

Mr. BELL: And a fortnight afterwards this sum of money you speak of was made up?

Mr. KANE: Yes; but some days after the telegram was sent, we asked for a delegate meeting of the whole trade to settle the question.

Mr. PALMER: It will be as well, perhaps, to state what the Staffordshire people say themselves. We believe that they were disposed to accept the reduction; but it was agreed by the Brierly Hill and Gateshead Executives that the North Staffordshire men should come out and be supported by the others. I see from a letter, signed by Mr. Kane, and addressed from Gateshead to the ironworkers of Scotland, that this is the fact. That letter says:—"A delegate meeting was held at Brierly Hill, and a resolution passed, that the men of North Staffordshire resist the reduction. The Council of Brierly Hill called their number of the North Staffordshire men out on strike, and acting in concert with our friends at Brierly Hill, and seeing the necessity of such, we immediately instructed the men of Hanley and district to come out also, to the number of 450." The letter then goes on to demand money from the Scotch ironworkers for the support of the strike, and expresses the hope that they will be more disposed to assist their brethren in England than they have hitherto been. The ironmasters in Staffordshire, as we well known, had resisted this attempt of the men to prevent a reduction, and, after some weeks, they found that the men were being supported by large sums of money which were being regularly forwarded to them from Brierly Hill and Gateshead. They then came to us ironmasters in the North, saying that, by keeping our men at work, we were indirectly supporting the men on strike, and asking us, with the view of putting a stop to the strike, to close our works. Before closing our works here, however, we called a general meeting of the association, to which deputations were invited from the ironmasters of North and South Staffordshire, that we might be made sure of the real state of matters before taking the extreme step asked of us. I put the question at that meeting—notwithstanding the resolutions passed by the Gateshead Executive, or whatever you call the Union there, condemning *in toto* the resistance on the part of the men—I put the question to the North Staffordshire masters, I say, if they were certain money had been sent from this district for the support of the men on strike. I put this question, because I conceived if it could be answered in the negative that the matter would be settled, so far as we were concerned, and we could at once have stated that what the Staffordshire ironmasters complained of, if it existed at all, was now removed. But we were told that Mr. Kane had been over a few days beforehand with a sum of money, and had been nearly mobbed in consequence of not taking enough. (Laughter.) This money was taken to the men, it was said, even after you had passed your resolutions.

Mr. KANE: Which resolutions?

Mr. PALMER: Some resolutions the Gateshead Executive passed, condemning the men out on strike.

Mr. KANE: Then the answer you got was not correct.

Mr. PALMER: Such, at any rate, was the statement made to us. We therefore felt that there was nothing left for us but to accept the notice proclaiming the lock-out. Mr. Kane has said that the men, in the matter of union, have been just acting in the same manner as the masters; but I would just remind him of this, that the masters have been solely driven to this method of defending their interests by the men. We also felt that we must support each other, if we did not want our trade driven to destruction.

Mr. KANE: You will allow me to observe, in regard to what you have said, and in regard, also, to the letter to the Scottish workmen, which has been referred to, that it is only fair and honourable that the Executive Associations belonging to the men should defend the interests of the men, as much as the masters' interests are supported by the associations with which they are connected.

Mr. PALMER: Precisely so; we do not dispute that.

Mr. KANE: Perhaps not; but there is this difference—that it is not altogether a fair race. The masters' steam engine can stand very well without food; but the men's stomachs will very soon cry out against this. (Hear, hear, and laughter.) It has been said that at the time I took a sum of money to Staffordshire, my personal safety was in jeopardy. That is scarcely correct. The occasion on which anything of this kind occurred at all was when I took the money; but that simply to try and smooth matters, and, if possible, effect a settlement.

Mr. BELL: You did not answer my question as to the time you made your last payment to North Staffordshire. We want to know the date of this?

Mr. KANE: I do not exactly remember. I have told you the date on which we made some money up, but did not send it off.

Mr. DUFFELL: I think it was after the Brierly Hill meeting.

Mr. BELL: How many weeks was that before you made the sum of money up which you did not send off?

Mr. PALMER: Well, this does not matter very much, since we all now seem to be of the same opinion—that the men in North Staffordshire were wrong; and since, consequently, the men in this district have declined to support them.

Mr. DALE: As I understand the position of the men here, it appears to be this—that although in the first instance they did not encourage the men in Staffordshire to strike, yet owing to the connection existing between the rules of the Gateshead and Brierley Hill Executives, it was found necessary to support them. That support has been refused now; but what Mr. Kane states in his letter to the ironworkers of Scotland is doubtless correct.

Mr. KANE: The quotation which has been given from the letter is no doubt correct.

Mr. DALE: Therefore, what we and the public really must understand is this, that at first you did encourage the men on strike, but that now you desire to withdraw the support you have given them, or have withdrawn that support already. Consequently, we must come to this conclusion: that, whatever was the position you stood in at the outset, with relation to the Brierly Hill Executive, it was as competent for you to steer clear of them then as it is now. All you can say in modification of this is, that the course you took at first was taken against your judgment.

Mr. KANE: I state this, that it was found it impossible to avoid the step we took; and allow me to say that before we sent any money, we received several very angry letters from Staffordshire asking for it. We have did a whole month before we sent anything.

Mr. DUFFELL: I can honestly say that we have all along condemned the strike *in toto*. Mr. Kane and myself were appointed to proceed to Staffordshire to bring the men to terms with their masters. We tried hard to accomplish this, but the last word we got was to the effect that the delegate meeting at Brierly Hill had "ordered the strike, and that therefore we had no 'call' to interfere. As to the money which was sent, it was decided, at a meeting of the ironworkers of this district, that the men on strike should be paid for the time during which they had been out—

Mr. KANE: That was the month I spoke of.

Mr. DUFFELL: Yes; but we decided that if they did not immediately resume work, no more of our funds would be sent to them.

Mr. PALMER: When was this resolution passed?

Mr. KANE: On the 11th of February. It was after that meeting that I went over with the money. I went over with it on the Monday morning.

Mr. DUFFELL: You will thus see that we are entirely free in the matter. And now what we want to know is, what we are locked out for?

Mr. HOPKINS: Wait a moment. We are told in the letter to the ironworkers in Scotland that a resolution was passed to the effect that the men in North Staffordshire resist the reduction; and then it is said "We sincerely hope that you will be more disposed to assist us than you have hitherto been." Who are the "We"?

Mr. DUFFELL: I suppose the "we" means the Executive of Gateshead.

Mr. HOPKINS: Then how can you say you are entirely free on the subject?

Mr. KANE: But, I beg pardon. The men came out entirely against our wish. I have said that at the Brierly Hill meeting we were entirely against the strike, and that resolution then passed went altogether in the face of ours.

Mr. HOPKINS: The letter, however, says you called the men out.

Mr. KANE: Well, the letter may say so in so many words; but in reality, so far as the Gateshead Executive is concerned, it is not the case. I may state that we felt ourselves at first bound to act along with the Brierly Hill resolution, because we had to conform to a set of rules which were drawn up at Leeds on the 27th of June, 1864. One of those rules is as follows:—"That, so far as the course of action between the two Executives—North and South—is concerned, the Executive power to be one in sentiment, one in policy, and one in impulse; but sitting in North and South for the sake of defence." That was the reason why we at first took the matter in hand.

Mr. HOPKINS: It seems stated here, as a fact, that you also instructed the men to come out; and it appears that you might have been receiving money from some quarter or other. Last Saturday they

Mr. KANE: It may be; but I can say—this I guarantee—that not one penny of it is coming from the north.

Mr. HOPKINS: Well, can you tell us anything about the feeling at Brierly Hill?

Mr. KANE: I believe the Executive there is decidedly against the men on strike.

Mr. HOPKINS: And yet the men on strike managed to get 4s. each on Saturday.

Mr. DUFFELL: They may have got it from their own funds. We understand they have about £600 on hand.

Mr. BELL: Then why did you pay them anything?

Mr. DUFFELL: That they may not break upon their own money for a time, I suppose.

Mr. KANE: We supported the men at first because we thought it legitimate to do so; but subsequently the feeling in this district became so strong against the strike that we felt it expedient to stop our supply.

Mr. PALMER: But you are entirely separated from the men on strike now.

Mr. DUFFELL: They have separated themselves.

Mr. KANE: We are owing them some money yet, but we have written stating that we will meet no claims they have against us by any means.

Mr. G. G. THOMAS: At the time of the conference we held on the subject, I spoke against the men proceeding to strike, as, under the present circumstances, I considered they were doing that which was altogether unconstitutional. When we were appointed to the delegate meeting at Gateshead, I considered it fair to propose to pay the men for the time they had been on strike if they would promise to resume work at once.

Mr. DUFFELL: I can easily support what has been stated by Mr. Thomas as to his remarks at the conference meeting; for on turning to a printed report of the proceedings, I find his remarks to be as follow:—"I am very much pleased to come to this meeting, for I find that, according to the whole of the correspondence which our president has read, it is with much reluctance our Executive Council have done anything in the matter. It appears to me that they have done all they possibly could to avoid it. They have referred in several letters, both to Brierley Hill and Hanley, that it would cause general dissatisfaction; but while I am happy to find that the Northern Executive have done all they possibly could to prevent a strike, I am fully convinced that it is a conspiracy, entered into by the Southern Executive, with a view to upset the Council in the North, and arrogate to themselves complete supremacy."

Mr. DALE: It just comes to this, that you were parties to the calling out of the men in North Staffordshire; but it appears from what is now read, that you took part in the matter reluctantly—"reluctantly," I think, is the word used. If you now acknowledge you were in a mistake, and desire entirely to withdraw from the position you at first took, it will be better for all parties to state so frankly, than to endeavour to throw a cloud of words or dates over your proceedings.

Mr. PALMER: We now seem to understand one another so far, at any rate; and I think we ought to try to bring some question forward of a practical nature, upon which we may be able to call a meeting of the trade, with the view of settling the difficulty.

Mr. DUFFELL: I should just like to be allowed to remark that I should exceedingly regret if that letter, which has been so often referred to at this meeting, bearing to be addressed to the Scotch ironworkers, should go forth as the sentiments of the men in this district.

Mr. HOPKINS: It has gone forth as your sentiments already. It has been published in various forms.

Mr. BOLCKOW: I should like to know if the meeting could devise some means to put a stop to the state of matters existing in Staffordshire?

Mr. KANE: What would you suggest we should do?

Mr. PALMER: It is for you to make some proposal. You might do so very easily.

Mr. KANE: We cannot, of course, force the men out on strike to return to their work.

Mr. PALMER: Of course not.

Mr. DUFFELL: We are prepared to pass a resolution that we will not send them any support; in fact, we have done so already.

Mr. PALMER: Does that resolution go so far as to say that you will not support them, directly or indirectly?

Mr. DUFFELL: Not quite so far as that.

Mr. HOPKINS: Could you not get the men individually to promise not to send any support?

Mr. KANE: Is it not a sad state of things, gentlemen, that you have no confidence in the word already pledged by your own men?

Mr. HOPKINS: Why, that is just what we want. (Laughter.) We ask our own men's words.

Mr. G. G. THOMAS: Our conduct in Middlesbrough has been most consistent throughout. You can rely upon our words, for I am certain we will stand to the resolutions we have adopted. We might sign a thousand documents, and it would not make our word more sure.

Mr. PALMER: It is immaterial, I think, whether we get a verbal or a written promise. All we want is, some agreement that you will not, directly or indirectly, support the men on strike.

Mr. G. G. THOMAS: We have declined to support them already. We have brought our connection with the Staffordshire men to a close; and I think it would be only fair in the masters to follow the same course—I mean to allow Staffordshire masters to fight their own battle with their own men.

Mr. DALE: Could we not have a guarantee from the Executive in the north that they will not give anything out of their funds for the support of the men on strike.—[Mr. Kane: And this guarantee you will have with pleasure.]—and over and above an understanding that each individual man will not contribute.

Mr. KANE: Will you allow me to say that neither by word nor deed will the slightest support be given from the Northern Executive to the North Staffordshire men; nor shall we countenance any one coming to this district to collect subscriptions on their behalf.

Mr. HOPKINS: You cannot prevent their coming.

Mr. DALE: No; but the men could be got to promise that they would not contribute through any channel.

Mr. KANE: We can simply lay the matter before the Executive. They have already passed resolutions disapproving of the strike. These resolutions were rumoured in certain quarters to be a ruse, but I can honestly state we were perfectly sincere in the statements they set forth. I feel that we would have been much happier without North Staffordshire, and so far as I am personally concerned, I don't much care though we should not have any connection in future with the men there. I think they have a good deal to learn, at any rate, before they can be represented as true union men.

Mr. M'IVER: I represent the men in Consett; and we don't see any reason why we should be locked out, seeing that we submitted to the reduction, and did not contribute anything to North Staffordshire.

Mr. HOPKINS: Would you advise the men at Consett to come to an agreement not to support those on strike?

Mr. M'IVER: Certainly.

Some conversation of a like nature followed.

The masters then retired to an ante-room to deliberate on the statements which had been made by the men. They were absent for about three-quarters of an hour. On re-entering the office,

Mr. PALMER said: Since we retired, we have discussed the matter over very fully. We feel, however, that as a committee we are not empowered to deal with the question, for it will be requisite for us to call a general meeting of the trade. I may say that we trust that the meeting we have had to-day may tend in some measure, to a settlement of the present unfortunate state of things in the trade with which we are connected; but we feel, at the same time, that there should be some co-operation, with the view of obtaining a settlement, on the part of the men in South Staffordshire along with those belonging to the Northern Executive. We wish this because we feel that the strike in North Staffordshire has arisen, in a great measure, on account of the men in the south calling their brethren in the north out. We think you should endeavour, at any rate, to get the Brierley Hill Executive to subscribe some such declaration to the masters in South Staffordshire as the members of the Gateshead Executive are willing to subscribe to us. We will lay the matter before the association, and we can have another conference before the close of the week. In the meantime, you can enter into correspondence with Brierley Hill, and when the meeting is called, we shall, perhaps, be able to arrive at some definite result.

Mr. G. G. THOMAS: We pledge ourselves to do what we can with Brierley Hill; but I must say that, after what they have already done, we can have little faith in them. We will do what we can notwithstanding, but if they don't give in, I don't see why we should be punished for them.

Mr. KANE said he knew the Brierly Hill people a little better than Mr. Thomas, and he had no hesitation in saying that they were now entirely against the dispute.

After a considerable amount of conversation, it was agreed that the Northern Executive should use their endeavours with the Executive at Brierley Hill to get them to come to some such arrangement as has been come to by the men in this district, with the view of putting a stop to the strike. It was also agreed to adjourn the conference till Friday, when a meeting will be held in the Station Hotel, York, at which delegates from the ironworks in South Staffordshire will be invited to attend, along with those from the Newcastle district.

CONSETT AND SHOTLEY.

Of all places which will suffer by this most disastrous calamity Consett will be one of the principal. Its very existence depends on the success of the iron trade, and even the slightest fluctuations in it are felt by the inhabitants. Its iron works, the property of the Consett Iron Company, of which David Dale, Esq., and Jonathan Priestman, Esq., are the managing directors, are nearly, if not the largest, in the kingdom, and employ between 4,000 and 5,000 men directly. Indirectly the number is far more, because there are several collieries whose working depends on the success of the iron works at Consett, whilst the influence of the company extends over the whole district. This influence has always been beneficently exercised by the managing directors, and even at the present juncture, when the men are locked out, they are admitted to be the best masters in the iron trade. They have always been foremost in every good work, have contributed liberally to every fund having for its object the advancement of the moral, social, and intellectual welfare of the people over whom they have been placed. Many of the good works at Consett, such as the New Church and the Reading Room, owe their foundation to their beneficence. This unhappy lock-out is thus the more to be regretted, because it may tend, if it should last long, to embitter the feeling of the men against their masters. For some time however, there has been a dispute hitherto amicably conducted, between the men and the masters relative to wages, and one of the mills, number four, has been laid in for several weeks in consequence. The men subsequently accepted the reduction, acting under the advice of the Executive Committee of the Union, and the dispute would have been entirely settled but a small portion of the men, the shinglers, still refused to work, and so the mill was laid off for a further period. Coming at this juncture of affairs when the relations between the men and the masters were good and the long dispute settled it is much to be regretted that the masters should have considered it to be their duty to close their works and lock-out the men. Such a step, however, the masters in conjunction with the other firms of the Iron-masters' Union have taken, and the result is that a very large number of men have, during the past week, been out of work, and the consequences to the tradesmen have already been serious, as although the men have received their pay they do not seem to have paid it away. This may have resulted from a rumour that the tradesmen of the town had held a meeting at which they determined to refuse any further credit, and the men were then stated to have declared that if such was the case they would not pay what they owed. Such, however, was not in reality a correct statement of the case. A meeting of the tradesmen really did take place, but was attended by but few of them, and the result was far from unanimous. During the first few days after the lock-out the men anxiously discussed the question as to how long it was likely to last. On this subject it was declared that the men could hold out for a very long time, some going as far as to state that they could do without work for so long a period as a year. The question, however, does not seem to be how long they can hold out, for they are not on strike, but when the masters will consent to re-open their works. The men have, through their Executive Committee, refused any further aid to the men on strike in North Staffordshire, and so the stipulation of the masters seems to be complied with. It is understood that the masters determined to lock-out, because the union would send supplies to those of North Staffordshire, but when they ceased to do so the stated cause of the lock-out seems to exist no longer. The masters, however, say that the men are not honest in their statement, and that supplies still continue to be sent; and, as a test of their honesty, it has been suggested that they should consent to send men out to North Staffordshire to open out the works there, and then the strike would be at an end, and with it the lock-out. The men, however, strongly express their conviction that the ulterior object of the masters is to break up the union, and they say that they will stand by their union as long as they possibly can. The masters have not declared this to be their object, and the men are very likely mistaken in their opinions. Should they be right, and should the ultimate object of the masters be the extermination of the trade union, the result would be a great war of capital *versus* labour, and it would be one of the greatest calamities the country, and especially the towns like Consett, have ever suffered. So discouraging was the appearance of affairs here that several of the men in the earlier part of the week left for Scotland. This migration will, however, cease now that it is known that the Scotch ironmasters will not employ locked-out men from England. The men very naturally had great hopes that a settlement would be come to at the meeting on Tuesday, and when it was heard on the same evening that no definite result had been arrived at, and that the meeting had been adjourned, a great deal of disappointment ensued. However, the general tenor of the speeches made at that meeting show that both the masters and the delegates representing the men were sincere in their desire to resume work, and it is confidently expected that an amicable adjustment of the difficulty will be made on Friday. There have been some, who, discouraged at the situation of affairs, and hopeless of any speedy termination of the dispute, have left their homes and emigrated to America. About twenty-five of these men have already sailed for New York, and should a satisfactory settlement not be come to on Friday, and a termination not put to the lock-out, about twelve more will leave on Monday for the same port. Arrangements are also being made to send men to Belgium and France, so that, should it continue, it is possible a rapid depopulation may take place. The general feeling both amongst the workmen themselves and the tradesmen is that the lock-out cannot last long. Indeed they now consider it as a sort of holiday, and games were played in the streets on Wednesday, whilst dancing and such other amusements were carried on. On Wednesday afternoon the men held a meeting at the house of Mr. Jopling, Coach and Horses Inn, Front Street, when a resolution was passed, "That the men of Consett do promise to withdraw all support from the men of North Staffordshire, on condition that the masters of the North cease all communication with the masters of North and South Staffordshire." Mr. McIver was re-appointed delegate to the meeting at York. At the meeting great satisfaction was expressed with the proceedings of the masters' committee at the meeting on Tuesday. There is one cogent fact which may seem to indicate that the masters do not intend to lock-out long, or do not expect that it will last long, that the enginemen have received orders to keep the machinery ready to start at a moment's notice. Such is the position of affairs here, and we earnestly hope the lock-out will terminate this week; for the result, if it does not, will be that trade will receive a terrible shock, from which the town will scarcely recover. At the Shotley Iron Works, the masters have taken advantage of the lock-out to carry out their contemplated enlargement of their works, so that it may be imagined that it will not continue long.

MEETING OF WORKMEN AT JARROW.

On Wednesday morning, a meeting of ironworkers connected with the Jarrow Lodge was held at the Mechanics' Institute, Jarrow, to receive the report of the delegate who had attended the conference at Newcastle on the preceding day, and to discuss the subject. The chair was occupied by Mr. Leech, who called upon Mr. Duffell, the delegate appointed to attend the conference, to give a statement relative to the proceedings of that gathering. He said that he and the other delegates had been received in a kind and courteous manner; and the way in which Mr. Palmer had conducted the business, and acted throughout, was deserving all praise, and they ought to award him a vote of thanks. He could see that his desire was that his men should be at work, and for a satisfactory solution of the lock-out to be arrived at speedily. Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Dale, and Mr. Bolckow, had also expressed themselves in a kindly manner towards the men; and the latter gentleman went so far as to say that if the workmen in his employment had any grievance to complain of, it would be much better for them to appoint a committee from among their number, in order that the subject might be discussed in a friendly manner rather than resort to extreme measures. He further said that he would do his best to bring about such a state of matters. He (Mr. Duffell) must take that opportunity of stating that, while the master had a perfect right to reduce the price of his iron, he had no right to make a reduction of wages without consulting his men. The master was a purchaser of labour; and the men were sellers of it. Altogether he thought that the meeting on Wednesday was just what was wanted, and would tend to inaugurate a better state of things than had previously existed. The question of sending puddled iron into North Staffordshire was asked at the meeting held at Newcastle. Now the asking of that question was in itself an evidence that the masters wished to treat them courteously, and desired to know their opinion upon that subject. In conclusion, he urged upon them to abide by the union, and if they did so nothing in the world could destroy it. (Hear, hear.)—The Chairman was glad to hear such a good and encouraging report from Mr. Duffell. Something had been said about the workmen being engaged for a certain time at a specified rate of wage. For himself he would not object to an agreement for three, six, or twelve months, but there should be an understanding that if any difference arose, such agreement could be terminated by giving a month's notice on either side. He was glad to see the spirit manifested by the masters of the north, who he trusted would act independently of those in Staffordshire.—A conversation took place with regard to sending puddled iron from this district to North Staffordshire, but the proposal met with general disfavour; and it was resolved that at the meeting to be held on Friday, at York, the masters be requested not to send puddled iron into North Staffordshire.—Upon the motion of Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Booth, Mr. Duffell was appointed to represent the members of the lodge, at the meeting to be held at York, on Friday.—In the course of some remarks relative to sending relief to North Staffordshire, it was stated that if they could not do so constitutionally, and as a society, there was nothing to prevent them doing so as individuals.—Mr. Smith said that, after they had worked for the money, they had a perfect right to do with it what they thought proper.—A vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. Duffell for his services at the conference held on Tuesday.—Mr. Duffell, in returning thanks, remarked that the feeling of the meeting appeared to be in favour of a settlement being come to.—The thanks of the meeting were likewise tendered to Mr. Palmer for his courtesy and kindness at the conference.—Mr. Smith said that he was instructed to inform the meeting that if a few men wanted their money it would be paid at once by the Messrs. Palmer; but if the whole of the men required it, they would have to give a day's notice.—Mr. Lannigan moved that they go in a body at once and demand their money.—Mr. Halles seconded the motion, which was agreed to.—It was resolved, upon the motion of Mr. Jarvis, seconded by Mr. Booth, that the delegate at the meeting on Friday introduce the question of doing away with Sunday labour.—Mr. Smith then submitted a motion, that, as the men were locked out, no man put his hand to a tool in the works until every man employed therein belong to the union.—Mr. Wedge seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.—A vote of thanks having been awarded to the chairman, the meeting terminated.

THE LOCK-OUT IN STAFFORDSHIRE.

In South Staffordshire the belief is prevalent that the masters in the North of England will not long keep their works closed. The workmen who promulgate statements to that effect allege that they had received communications from certain of their fellows, who are now employed in the Newcastle district, encouraging them to entertain this view. Upon certain of the works, it is alleged, the operations of important shipbuilding yards depend; and that so pressing were the necessities of some of those yards before the lock-out took place that, in the words of the writers, "the iron was being dragged out of the works nearly red hot." But the ironmasters in South Staffordshire have perfect confidence in the good faith of the masters of the north of England, and do not believe that the arrangement come to at the last general meeting of the trade in Birmingham will be departed from on either side. By that arrangement north and south became one in enforcing the universal observance by their men of any determination in respect of wages upon which the masters generally would resolve.

On Tuesday was the usual weekly gathering in Wolverhampton of the ironmasters of the West Midland district on 'Change in this town. In the interim between the quarterly preliminary meetings of the trade, when the members of the Ironmasters' Association assemble and discuss the question of future prices, and other matters which may be regarded as the legislation of the trade, the affairs of the Association are managed by the chairman for the year (now Mr. W. O. Foster, M.P.,) and a committe of gentlemen who have been nominated to fill the office of chairman in succession, one of them (now Mr. Walter Williams, jun.) acting as the honorary secretary, assisted by a paid secretary. As may be imagined, these gentlemen are virtually the government of the trade; and their proceedings at this time are regarded by their constituents as of the greatest moment. But they enjoy the fullest confidence of the whole of the Association—no mistrust whatever is felt in their wisdom and their *esprit de corps*. All official correspondence between the ironmasters of the north of England or any other part of the kingdom and those of the west midland is carried on by those gentlemen. To-day they received a communication from the hon. secretary of the Association of the North of England Ironmasters communicating the result of the meeting between the committee of that body and members of the Gateshead executive of the men, on the previous day, in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It was to the effect that the North of England masters had promised the executive of Gateshead that a general meeting should be called to consider the present condition of affairs; and it desired that a general meeting of the masters of the South should be called, to be held in York, on Friday next. The communication said nothing whatever as to what would be discussed at the meeting, but a statement had appeared to the effect that the North of England masters were prepared to send puddled bars to North Staffordshire to enable the masters there to re-start their works. This statement the committee believed had emanated from the men, as they did not think that the masters would conceive that the scheme was practicable. It was certainly not thought to be so by the committee. The scheme, it was shown, was tried in South Staffordshire by a section of the masters there during the last strike of the puddlers, and it failed. Many more difficulties, it was felt, would be in the way of such an arrangement, in which the masters of different districts might combine to assist each other in this way. If the masters in the North of England should really contemplate such a step, it was thought that so soon as they knew the result of such a measure when it was tried in the South of Stafford they would see its impracticability. It was, however, the opinion of the committee that the strike of the men in North Staffordshire would terminate within a fortnight if the meeting of trade societies in London, on that (Wednesday) night, it should not be resolved to support the North Staffordshire men very liberally. Intimation has been conveyed to South Staffordshire from some of the men to this effect. The puddlers in North Staffordshire will remain out on 4s. a week it is asserted; but it is added that they will not go to work as long as they can obtain 15s. or 20s. a week. As the probabilities are all against such liberal relief being forthcoming the committee feel pretty confident that cause for the lock-out will soon terminate. If the decision of the meeting should be to support the North Staffordshire men to a large extent, then the committee see no prospect of an early termination except by men going into North Staffordshire and starting the furnaces which the puddlers there refuse to work on masters' terms. It was finally resolved that three of the committee should go as a deputation to York; and a statement comprising a history of the lock-out, was drawn up and signed by the hon. sec., to be forwarded for publication in the public journals. With the facts contained in that statement the public are familiar.

TRADES MEETING IN LONDON.

A meeting of delegates from trades unions was held at London, on Wednesday,—Mr. Potter, chairman. Deputations attended from the Brierley Hill Executive of the National Association of Ironworkers and the Millmen's Association. Some members of the Trade Council disputed the legality of the meeting. Great confusion prevailed; but a large majority declared the meeting properly constituted. The following resolutions were passed:—"That this meeting of delegates from the London trades' societies, having heard the statements made by the deputations from the executive council of the National Association of Ironworkers, and from the Millmen's Association, is of opinion that the efforts made by the councils and delegates of the ironworkers, to avert the threatened lock-out, were amply sufficient to have satisfied the Ironmasters' Association, and all that they ought in justice to have required from the men; and that a general lock-out in the face of those efforts is unwarrantable, unjust, and deserving of the strong condemnation of all classes; that the magnitude of this aggression of combined capital upon labour, evidently made not so much from the local strike in North Staffordshire as from a desire on the part of the ironmasters to destroy the combinations of the men, calls for a corresponding amount of resistance on the part of the trades' societies, and that this meeting therefore recommends every trade society throughout the kingdom to at once vote—without waiting for any formal deputation—a sum of money from their funds; also, to place a weekly levy on their members. The amounts thus voted and raised to be sent as early as possible to the executive council of the men so unjustly locked out, and also to the North Staffordshire men on strike. The meeting was adjourned till Wednesday.

THE SCOTCH LOCK-OUT.

At a meeting of the Scottish malleable iron masters, held at Glasgow, on Wednesday afternoon, it was unanimously resolved that a reduction be made of 1s. per ton on wages of puddlers, and ten per cent. on wages of millmen; and that fourteen days' notice of reduction be given on the 26th inst. It was also resolved that workmen from the lock-out or strike districts in England be not employed.

Miscellaneous News.

The *Aberdeen Herald* understands that the Queen has decided to leave Windsor for three or four weeks' residence at Balmoral about the middle of May.

Mr. John F. Lewis, the Oriental painter, has been elected a Royal Academician, to fill the vacancy left by the decease of Mr. David Roberts, R.A.

The Executive of the Dublin International Exhibition have received an official intimation that the Prince of Wales will open the Exhibition on the 9th of May.

M. Haussmann, the prefect of the Seine, has resolved upon giving the name of "Julius Cæsar" to one of the streets of Paris.

All difficulties, says the *Musical World*, about Meyerbeer's posthumous opera "L'Africaine" being arranged, it will first be given in Italian by Mr. Gye's company; and in the winter by the company of the Royal English Opera in English.

We understand that Lord Milton and Dr. Cheadle are about to publish an account of their late adventurous journey across the Rocky Mountains, and that this work will appear very shortly, beautifully illustrated by a great number of wood engravings.

THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL MEMORIAL TO THE PRINCE CONSORT.—Her Majesty has been graciously pleased to make choice of a design for an equestrian statue by Mr. John Steel, Her Majesty's sculptor for Scotland, for the Scottish National Memorial to the late Prince Consort. The site approved is in the level ground of the Queen's Park behind Holyrood Palace.

ALLEGED DEATH OF HAYES, THE MURDERER OF MR. BRADDELL.—From information we have received (on authority) it appears that Hayes, the murderer of Mr. Braddell, died a few days ago on the mountains of Slievenamon. He wandered about for the last few years, no one wishing to act the policeman, but, owing to want and wretchedness, hunted from place to place, he at last fell a victim to privation. He was buried a few days since at three o'clock in the morning, to avoid detection.—*Kilkenny Journal.*

The deputy coroner of Liverpool was engaged on Saturday in the investigation of a case of death from starvation. A woman, named Sarah Murphy, thirty-five years of age, who had got a poor living by rag-picking, and had lived in a cellar, was on Thursday found dead, in a crouching position, at the foot of the cellar stairs. There was neither furniture, firing, nor food in the place. A witness stated that the deceased had applied to the parish for relief, but had not been seen with any food for some days. Further investigation did not tend to throw any blame on the parochial authorities. The medical man called to see the poor woman when she was found dead was of opinion that she had fallen down the steps in consequence of her weakness, and that the shock, combined with exhaustion from want, had killed her.

Mr. H. D. Palmer, manager, writes to the papers in reference to the *seance* of the Davenport Brothers at Cheltenham. He states that the brothers were tied tightly, but not brutally, and admits that they were not released for nearly half an hour. "But why?" he writes. "The rabble in the gallery would not allow the gas to be lowered, consequently depriving them of the very first condition necessary for the production of the phenomena, viz. darkness." Mr. Palmer concludes his letter in the following manner:—"Mr. Ira Davenport, since the *seance*, has been so ill that he has been unable to appear and fulfil his engagements, and at one time his life was despaired of, consequent upon the lengthened confinement in the cabinet on this occasion. Hereafter I hope to obviate all difficulty by placing the admission at such a figure as will keep the *seance* select."

SHOCKING DEATH IN A RAILWAY TUNNEL.—On Saturday night a man named Heart was killed in the London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Company's tunnel under the western heights, Dover. The poor fellow, who had before lost a leg by accident on the South-Eastern Railway, has for some time past oiled the points in this tunnel, and while he was so engaged on Saturday the London express train, due at 7·0 p.m., entered the tunnel at one end, and the up train at the other. The man, who was probably bewildered by the double danger, was knocked down by the express train, the whole of which passed over him. His body was found completely cut asunder at the lower part, so that death must have been instantaneous.

Mr. J. J. Lake sends us the following anecdote in illustration of the habits of ants:—"It is disputed by some whether ants do carry off grain and store it; but the following incident will show that they do so, and to a considerable extent. At the side of my house at Exeter there was a thrashing-floor, or rather the paved space was converted temporarily into one, a pole having been fixed in the centre, to which horses were attached, and driven round and round to trample out the corn. A pile of wheat was left here unthreshed for a few days. In the meantime the ants committed depredations upon it, and, on one of their nests being opened, two good-sized tin canfuls of grain were found deposited in it."—*Athenæum.*

AN AMUSING FOX HUNT.—On Saturday there was a meet of the Holderness hounds at Sproatley, when Reynard managed to elude the vigilance of his pursuers so far that he got right on to Hull, a distance of several miles. He got on the Hornsea Railway at Wilmington, a suburb of Hull, and from here he crossed to the Withernsea branch, and kept on until he arrived at the Southcoates Station. Here a large number of men and boys set up a hunt on their own account, but Reynard dodged them for some time, no one being inclined to risk a bite. At length he appeared to come to the conclusion that, surrounded as he was by a crowd, it would be impossible again to make his escape by the road. He therefore made a bolt for a side door, which led into a yard. On gaining the yard he made for the opposite corner, where there was a pigsty, which he at once entered, and allowed himself to be ignominiously captured. Having been secured, he was taken to a public-house, and shortly afterwards conveyed back to Sproatley by one of the huntsmen, who had arrived in pursuit.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING.

PRICE ONE PENNY.

The *Consett Guardian* contains all the News of the Week, Reports of Local and Police Intelligence, &c., and all the Latest Foreign and Home News.
Resident Agent......Mr. R. JACKSON.
Office ....FRONT-STREET, CONSETT.

APPOINTMENTS FOR NEXT WEEK.

OUR AGENT (MR. R. JACKSON) intends Visiting the following Places during the Next Week, and will be happy to receive Orders for Advertisements, &c., for the *Consett Guardian* :—

1865.			
Monday,	March	20	Mountsett.
"	"		Colliery Dykes.
"	"		Dipton.
"	"		Shotley Bridge.
"	"		Blackhill.
"	"		Consett.
Tuesday,	"	21	Leadgate.
"	"		Colliery Dykes.
"	"		Dipton.
"	"		Catchgate.
"	"		Annfield Plain.
"	"		Consett.
Wednesday	"	22	Shotley Bridge.
"	"		Blackhill.
"	"		Consett.
Thursday,	"	22	Lanchester.
"	"		Consett.

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1865.

Local and District News.

FOOT RACE AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.—On Saturday last, a somewhat exciting race for £3 aside came off at Annfield Plain, between John Mason and J. Todd, both of that place. The distance was one hundred yards, and was won easily by Todd by about six yards.

SHOOTING MATCH.—A pigeon shooting match for a double-barrelled gun took place on Saturday last, near the house of Mr. Maughan, Woodman's Arms, Fellside. There were ten entries. The successful shooters were Wallace Atkinson, of Wickham, and W. Smith, of Winlaton, each of whom killed five out of six birds. These men will meet at the same place this day (Saturday) to finish the match.

CONSETT NUISANCE REMOVAL COMMITTEE.—An adjourned meeting of this committee was held on Wednesday, at the house of Mr. John Seymour, Puddlers' Arms, Consett. Present—Messrs. W. J. Scott, J. S. Murray, jun., R. Almond, and J. Calvert in the chair. The minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed. The balance sheet was produced, which had been audited and found correct. The chairman was authorised to sign an order upon the overseers for the amount of contract for laying pipes, &c., in Brickflat-lane. The inspector also reported that B. Sloane is proceeding with his contract as quickly as possible. Authorisation was also given to the inspector to apply to the magistrates for summonses against certain parties.

ANNFIELD PLAIN MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.—A lecture was delivered on the 15th inst. under the auspices of the Annfield Plain Mechanics' Institute, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, by W. H. Welford, Esq., of Newcastle, who chose for his subject "Energy and Perseverance." A more pleasing and interesting lecture could scarcely be conceived; it evinced ability combined with originality of thought. The audience certified their appreciation by frequent applause. The chair was occupied by R. T. Swallow, Esq., president of the institution. A hearty vote of thanks was awarded to the lecturer and chairman, and terminated the meeting.

CONSETT PENNY READINGS.—These readings were given in the Iron Company's School Room, Consett, on Monday evening, to a numerous audience. The performances of Mr. Pothecary were, as usual, of a first-class character. The readings were by the Rev. F. Steggall and Miss Watson; and the songs were "The Prairie Flower" and "The Last Rose of Summer," by Miss E. Medici; "Kitty Tyrell," by Mr. Cross; and "The Hazel Dell" and "The Beggar Girl," by Miss Dobbs, which were both encored. Recitations were also given by Mr. J. Robson and Mr. Imrie in excellent style; and a piece of music by Mr. Todd, a pupil of Mr. Pothecary, was rendered in excellent taste. The principal feature of the evening was, however, a short address on Scotland and the Scotch Poets, with vocal musical illustrations by Mr. P. Livingstone, which was deservedly encored by the assembly; he then repeated some anecdotes of Burns, and sang "Jessie of Dumblane," and, as he was again encored, gave "When the kye comes hame." The most amusing part of the evening's entertainment, however, was the old Jacobite song, "Hame came our gude man at een," which was rapturously encored. Mr. Siddell also contributed very highly to amusing the audience in giving, by request, "The pitman's review of the past and present."

We have received many important inventions from America, but none more important than the one just introduced—a Copper Tip for Children's Boots. Children always wear out their shoes at the toe first, as all who have little feet to provide for know too well. One pair of Boots or Shoes with those Metal Tips will wear as long as two pairs, and often three pairs without them. In America, we hear, there are hardly any Children's Shoes made without them. These Children's Tipped Boots are now sold wholesale and retail by G. G. TAYLOR, Wholesale and Retail Boot and Shoe Manufacturer, 20, Dean-street and 68, Clayton-street.

INQUEST AT MIDLESBRO'.—An inquest was held in the Town Hall, Middlesbro', on Wednesday, before J. C. Sowerby, Esq., Coroner, on the body of the man found in the dock entrance on the previous morning. The body had not been identified. After the witnesses had been examined, a verdict of "found drowned" was returned.

TERMINATION OF THE BRICKLAYERS' STRIKE AT HARTLEPOOL.—On Wednesday the whole of the men commenced work on the advanced wages—bricklayers, 30s. per week, and labourers, 22s. per week,—payments to be made weekly. The labourers have obtained all the objects of the strike, and have got an advance of 4s. per week, while the bricklayers have got 2s. extra.

THE LATE EXAMPLE OF COMMERCIAL INTEGRITY.—The creditors of Mr. Thos. Howdon, grocer, &c., Winlaton, met at Messrs. Brinton & Sons, Crown and Thistle Inn, Newcastle, on Tuesday last, and presented him with a tea and coffee service, as a mark of appreciation and reward for his industry, perseverance, and integrity of conduct in paying the whole of his creditors in full after the lapse of thirteen years, and Mrs. Thomas Howdon with a silver cake basket. The gifts were feelingly acknowledged by Mr. Howdon.

ACCIDENT ON THE GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY.—On Wednesday evening an accident, though happily not attended with serious results, occurred near the Hatfield Station on the Great Northern line. A goods train on its way to the north by some means got partially off the line, which put a temporary stoppage on the down traffic. Amongst other delays occasioned by the untoward circumstance was that of the down express train which leaves London at five o'clock in the afternoon, but was compelled to stop for upwards of an hour near the scene of the accident, until the line was sufficiently cleared for it to resume its journey, consequently passengers for Newcastle instead of arriving at 12·20 that morning did not reach here until a quarter to two o'clock.

PENALTY FOR INTIMIDATION AT STRIKES.—At Warwick Assizes, on Wednesday, William Breakwell (39), miner, Joshua Jones (23), and William Smart (29), were charged with intimidation and assault. Mr. Powell, Q.C., and Mr. Keighley prosecuted; and Dr. Kewally defended. The facts of this case were, that the prisoners had, during the late strike of colliers, conspired together, in conjunction with other men who were committed at the last assizes, to force certain men from following their employment as colliers, by intimidating them. Breakwell had been a leader during the whole of the strike, and had done much to prolong it. The prisoners were found guilty, and his Lordship ordered Jones and Smart to be bound over, and Breakwell's sentence was deferred.

THE MASON'S STRIKE AT CARLISLE.—The strike in the building trade still continues at Carlisle, and so far as can be ascertained there is little prospect of immediate adjustment. When the strike commenced, seventy-four masons turned out, but the number has now been reduced to forty-one, thirty-three having left the city in search of employment elsewhere. A number of bricklayers have also left the town, and others intend to follow.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM AT OXHILL.—Three years ago Oxhill could not boast of a place wherein the worship of God was celebrated, but since that time the Primitive Methodists have missioned it and established a church there, who, since its origin, by the kind permission of the owners have had the use of the colliery office for the purpose of holding their meetings. As the society's number of members steadily increased, and the congregation became too large for the place of worship, it was manifest that something was yet to be done for the better accommodation of the people. When it was resolved that Major Joicey should be waited upon and consulted as to the best means of meeting the demands of the public, that much-esteemed gentleman promised that he would furnish them with a commodious school-room. As time glided away, the building commenced, and was completed and pronounced ready for the reception of the people. On Saturday, the 11th inst., a public tea party was held in the school-room, and notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, numbers flocked from all quarters to partake of the refreshing beverage, when upwards of 250 sat down to tea, which reflected great credit on the ladies presiding at the various tables, who were Mrs. Handy, Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Shield, Mrs. Short, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Dotson, Miss Ayre, and Miss Fenwick. After tea a public meeting was held, when Mr. M. Halliday presided, who, after briefly addressing the meeting, introduced Messrs. T. Fenwick, James Dotson, Richard Brown, Walter Howchin, and George Charlton, from Newcastle. The singers added much to the interest of the proceedings by the performance of a variety of pieces of music. Votes of thanks were accorded to Major Joicey for the benevolent disposition he had manifested in granting this place for the use of the Primitive Methodists; to George Charlton, Esq., for his presence and services; to the ladies for the taste they had displayed in the preparing and management of the tea, and to the chairman and singers. On the Sunday following three excellent sermons were preached in the morning at half-past ten, and in the evening at six by Mr. George Charlton, and in the afternoon at two by Mr. Walter Howchin. The congregations were overflowing, and liberal collections were made, which will be devoted to the establishment of a Sunday School and Library.

ENTERTAINMENT AT BLAYDON.—An entertainment was given in the Zion Chapel, Winlaton, on Monday evening last, by the Blaydon Choral Class, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Y. Hawdon on behalf of a new Wesleyan Chapel that is intended to be built in Winlaton. Mr. Thos. Urwin, jun., of Blaydon, presided at the harmonium. There was a good attendance, and between the first and second parts of the programme Mr. Alexander Watson, of Blaydon, gave an interesting and highly instructive address.

THE QUEEN'S RECEPTION.—On Monday Her Majesty held a Court at Buckingham Palace. The Court was in mourning for the death of the Queen Dowager of the Netherlands. The Queen wore a black silk dress, with train, trimmed with crape and jet; and a Mary Queen of Scots cap with long veil, the cap ornamented with large pearls. Her Majesty wore four rows of large pearls round the neck, and pearl brooches, the Ribbon and the Star of the Order of the Garter, the Victoria and Albert Order, and the Order of Louise of Prussia. The Princess of Wales wore a train and petticoat of rich black silk, trimmed with tulle, bows of ribbon and jet, head-dress of black velvet and diamonds, with white feathers and veil. Diamond ornaments. Orders, Victoria and Albert and Isabella of Portugal. The Princess Helena wore a dress of black figured net over rich glace silk, trimmed with jet lace looped up with large jet beads; train of rich black moire antique; head-dress—wreaths of white wild violets and green ivy leaves, with feathers and veil. Ornaments, diamonds. Victoria and Albert Order, and order of St. Isabella. The Princess Louise wore a similar dress and similar ornaments.

Law Intelligence.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY.—Before M. KEARNEY, A. H. TALMADGE, and J. L. SMITH, Esqs.

DRUNK AND RIOTOUS.—*Ralph Proudlock* was brought up charged by P.C. Forster with being drunk and riotous on the 4th of March. Fined 5s. and costs.—*Henry Bell* and *George Cowey* were also charged with the same offence, at Annfield Plain, on the 12th inst. The prisoners were fighting and causing a crowd to assemble on the afternoon of hat day, and were apprehended by P.C. Taylor and P.C. Thompson. The prisoners expressed their sorrow at being in their present position, and on promising to conduct themselves better in future, the magistrates inflicted the small fine of 5s. each and costs.—*George Treppitt* was also charged with being drunk and riotous at the same time and place, and, in addition, was charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty by endeavouring to prevent the officers from taking the prisoners into custody. The magistrates considered that this was a worse case than the last, and fined the prisoner 10s. and costs.

REFUSING TO LEAVE A PUBLIC HOUSE.—*Ralph Thompson* was charged by John Hope, publican, Dipton, with being drunk and quarrelsome, and also with refusing to leave his house when requested. It appears that some dispute had arisen in consequence of the defendant persisting in stating that he had not had his proper change returned to him by the landlady. The Bench considered that the statements made by prosecutor, which were corroborated by a witness, were more to be relied on than those made by the prisoner, and sentenced the defendant to pay 10s. and costs, or in default of payment, to two months' imprisonment.

ASSAULT.—*Mary Hall* was charged by Elizabeth Starford, with committing an assault upon her by throwing dirt, coals, &c., on her. Fined 10s. and costs.

TRESPASSING IN PURSUIT OF GAME.—*William Turner* was charged by George Parker with killing game without a license, near Stanley. Francis Brodie, gamekeeper to Major Joicey, stated that he was going through a field, and saw a snare. He lay down and watched, and afterwards saw the defendant go and take away the snare. He then took hold of prisoner, who had no gun or dog with him. As he has on several occasions been before the Bench, he was fined £5 and costs, or in default, three months' imprisonment.

SUNDAY POACHING.—*Jonathan Woodmas* and *James Smith* were charged by John Ross with poaching on Sunday on land belonging to Mr. Balleny, near Consett. Woodmas was fined £2 and costs, or two months' imprisonment; Smith was fined £3 and costs, or three months' imprisonment.

ASSAULTS.—*John Moyle* was charged with committing an assault on a person who did not appear. Case dismissed.—*James McNanny* was also brought up charged by Adam Little with committing an assault on him in his own house on the 14th inst. Fined 10s. and costs.

CUTTING UNDERWOOD.—*Robert Robson* was brought up charged by N. Clark with cutting underwood at Lintz Green. Prisoner stated that he had been allowed liberty to do so by a young man, who now stated that such was not the case. Fined 10s. and costs.

STEALING HAY.—*William Thirlwell* was charged by the owners of Byersmoor Colliery with stealing hay. Mr. Patrick, of Durham, appeared for defendant. It was stated by the policeman that, for some time, quantities of hay had been missed, and that on this occasion he had gone to defendant and charged him with the theft. On going along the road prisoner said it was a bad job, and there was no use in denying it, and he had taken a truss before. He was committed to prison for 16 days.

AFFILIATION CASES.—*William Lee*, of Consett, was charged by Elizabeth Robinson with being the father of her illegitimate child. The evidence was deemed inconclusive and the magistrates dismissed the case.—*George Miller*, of Leadgate, was charged by Elizabeth Urwin with being the putative father of her illegitimate child. Adjourned for fourteen days.—*Thomas James Bell*, of Darlington, was also brought up charged by Phillis Smith with being the father of her child. Dismissed.—*Robert Kirkup* was charged by Dorothy Moore with being the father of her child. The parties in this case did not appear.—*James Young* was also charged by Jane Dodds with being the putative father of her child. The defendant was sentenced to pay 2s. 6d. per week and costs.

THE SPEN MURDER.
EXECUTION OF ATKINSON AT DURHAM.
SHOCKING SCENE.

Yesterday morning, Matthew Atkinson, convicted at the last Durham Assizes for the wilful murder of his wife, suffered the penalty of his crime. The murder, the details of which will be fresh in the memory of our readers, was one of great enormity. After the trial on Saturday week a memorial was presented to the judge from eleven of the jurymen, asking for a commutation of the sentence. Mr. Justice Mellor sent the document to the Home Secretary, but no reply was received, and, so far as we know, no farther attempt was made to save the life of the condemned man. At the trial Atkinson throughout was calm and collected—almost stolid and indifferent, and only once, when he was asked if he had anything to say why the sentence of death should not be passed upon him, did he shew any appearance of feeling or contrition. After the last sentence of the law was passed upon him, whilst the echo of the judge's last words were ringing in the ears of those in court, the prisoner replied, "I am ready to die any moment," and since that he has maintained an attitude of almost unbroken composure. Since his conviction he has taken his meals well and slept soundly at night. His behaviour has been most orderly and decorous, and he has gained the respect and good-will of all the officials who have come in contact with him since the commencement of his confinement. To the exhortations of the prison chaplain (the Rev. G. R. Bulman) he has been most attentive, and he expressed himself as being highly interested in the great doctrines which he propounded. On Tuesday the relatives and friends of Atkinson paid a visit to the condemned cell and took a last farewell of the prisoner. Three sisters, four nephews, and six friends applied for admission to see him. When the condemned man was informed of the fact he was quite overpowered with emotion, and it was a considerable time before he felt himself sufficiently composed to receive them. As soon as they were admitted to his cell the scene was so affecting that all parties present burst into tears, the prisoner being entirely overwhelmed with grief. After a short interview the prisoner was left alone, and since then he has been in a very composed state.

The scaffold, which was the same as had done duty on many previous occasions, was erected right over the centre door of the courts. The edge of the Court Green was barricaded off by strong ropes, fixed to stout stakes driven into the ground. The erection was commenced about noon on Wednesday, and it was not completed till seven in the evening. During the day its progress was watched with interest by the little groups scattered about—young men and their sweethearts, talking glibly and callously of the horrible tragedy, little children in all the innocence and carelessness of childhood, and sturdy men, who debated, often warmly, whether the condemned man really deserved the penalty of death. Askerne, the executioner, arrived from York, where he resides, about ten o'clock; he appeared on the scaffold several times during the day, superintending its erection, and in the evening satisfied himself that this grim instrument of the majesty of the law was in proper working order. As night drew on the people from the adjacent colliery villages trooped into Durham, disturbing the time-honoured quiet and steadiness of the old city. But few of the people, however, proceeded till morning to the scaffold, about two hundred being the largest number that were ever there during the evening. The night was fine and clear, and the dark black outline of the scaffold stood out distinct from the background of grey, fleecy clouds, which fleckered the sky. As the night wore on the few spectators wended their way homewards, and at midnight no one was to be seen in the vicinity but the watchman pacing his weary round, and keeping watch till the dawn. There was but little riot or drunkenness in the town, only two cases being reported at the police office. The scene at the Gaol Green at this time was very impressive. The scene was illuminated by the lamps around the square, which lit up the sombre erection of the scaffold, and brought out in bold relief the handsome façade of the county prison, with the time-honoured towers of the Cathedral in the background, standing out sharp and clear against the star-studded sky.

The morning, which was the last the wretched man would see, dawned calmly and peacefully—a morning too quiet and beautiful for the wretched scene which followed. The air was nipping and eager and raw; but no rain fell, and so far the weather was favourable. It was nearly six o'clock before the spectators commenced to arrive, the majority coming from the colliery districts, and from the ironworks in the vicinity, the the men of which had been laid idle by the "lock-out." As the hour advanced on which the outraged majesty of the law was to be avenged, and the last act of the hideous tragedy enacted, the crowd grew thicker and larger. Most of those present were boys and men, but there were mingled here and there in the mob females of every grade. Shortly before eight o'clock every 'coign of vantage was occupied, and every corner filled by spectators, of whom it is estimated, there were nearly 5,000. At half-past seven, half an hour before the appointed time of execution, Askerne made his appearance on the scaffold, and adjusted the rope. He proceeded with the work somewhat hurriedly, and it was seen that he arranged for a long drop—a drop so long that when the bolt was drawn little more than the head of the unfortunate man would be visible. At ten minutes to eight the prison bell commenced tolling—"tolling a living man's knell"—and continued its mournful notes till eight o'clock. Precisely at this hour the condemned man appeared on the scaffold, accompanied by the Rev. G. R. Bulman, prison chaplain, Mr. W. E. Wooler (Under Sheriff), Mr. W. Green, the Governor of the Prison, and other officials. The Chaplain was reading in a loud and distinct voice parts of the burial service. The condemned man was very pale; he quivered in every nerve, his lips were livid, and he frequently closed his fingers convulsively. His eyes rested for a moment with a strange look upon the crowd before him, then turning to the clergyman, he accompanied him in the devotional exercises, which were offered up, making audible responses. The exercises were concluded in about four minutes, and at the close he shook hands warmly with the clergyman and the executioner. The white cap having been placed over his head, and the noose adjusted, the bolt was drawn. A most agonising scene followed. No sooner did the "drop" take place—before, in fact, the man had hung for a second—than the rope broke near the noose, and he fell into the interior of the scaffold with a dull thud, which echoed all over the square. A cry of agony then broke from the onlookers, who seemed at first as if they scarcely comprehended what had happened. Immediately, however, on its being seen that the rope had broken a wild cheer broke forth, which was taken up again and again, lasting for several minutes.

The crowd busied itself as to whether the wretched man had been killed by his fall, or would again be led to a second death. What occurred in the gaol is, perhaps happily, hid, for no reporters were admitted within its walls, and what passed has not transpired. The crowd had not, however, long to speculate; steps were speedily taken for proceeding with the execution, and the trap door was replaced. About twenty minutes past eight, Askern came again on the scaffold, bringing along with him a rope almost double the thickness of the one which had failed. As he placed it around the beam, he was hooted and hissed to a fearful extent by the crowd. This time he arranged for a drop much shorter than the former one. At half-past eight o'clock, the prisoner walked on to the scaffold with a firm step, displaying wonderful composure. He was deadly pale, and there was round his neck a bright red ring, caused by the broken rope. As he made his appearance, and as Askern placed him upon the trap-door, cries of "shame," and "hang the hangman" arose from the crowd in every direction. No service was conducted this time, the clergyman merely whispering a word of consolation in the wretched culprit's ear. The executioner then adjusted the noose with very great care, drawing it tight. This proceeding drew loud and prolonged hisses from the crowd. Then the bolt was drawn, and the wretched man was hurried into eternity. Owing to the clumsy nature of the noose, the man struggled greatly for about thirty seconds. After hanging for the requisite time, the body was cut down, and buried in terms of the sentence within the precincts of the prison.

This painful scene excited intense feelings of indignation among the crowd, but when all was over the spectators gradually dispersed. Numbers adjourned to the public houses there to talk over the fearful scene, whilst others wended their way homeward by the many outlets of the city.

The *Daily Express* gives the following account of the last scene:—The unfortunate man, Atkinson, was brought out on to the scaffold exactly at eight o'clock, accompanied by the Under-Sheriff (W. E. Wooler, Esq.), his bailiffs, and the Under Governor and his officials. The reverend chaplain, in a loud and impressive manner, was engaged in reading the funeral service, and had got to that portion of it to which his body was consigned to the tomb, when the hangman (Askerne), during a pause in which the breaths of the crowd were bated for the final catastrophe, proceeded to put on the white cap over the poor culprit. He stepped to one side, drew the bolt, and, frightful to relate, the rope broke, and the poor man fell and disappeared, leaving nothing but the jagged end of the rope exposed to view. The hands of those on the drop were raised in horror, whilst from the crowd, which was not large, came loud shouts of indignation. Efforts were at once made to adjust the drop, in order to complete the dreadful work. The crowd were indignant, and there were few present but felt the horror of the scene.

"When the rope broke the convict fell to the bottom of the scaffold in the inside with a fearful crash, and amid the execrations of the assembled multitude. This occurred a few minutes after eight o'clock, and many people imagined that the unfortunate man had been killed by the shock instead of being strangled by the rope. This, however, was not the case, and after the lapse of some twenty-five minutes—namely, at twenty-five minutes past eight—the unhappy man was again brought on to the scaffold. Another rope was fastened to the fatal beam, and the cord was again affixed to the neck of the convict by the hangman, amidst the groans and execrations of the crowd. The second rope was very thick, and while the executioner was adjusting it around the neck of the unhappy man, a cry was raised in the crowd that the executioner was strangling him. This actually appeared to be the case, and when the bolt was drawn Atkinson hung suspended by the rope without a struggle, as if the vital spark was fled before the bolt was drawn. Thus closed one of the most deplorable scenes ever witnessed at a public execution."

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

Their Lordships met at five o'clock.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE called attention to the state of the negotiations respecting the coast boundary of Turkey and Persia.

Earl RUSSELL said the negotiations began in 1843. A treaty was prepared for the settlement of the question in 1847, and a commission was appointed to define the boundary, but great difficulty and delay had since arisen. With the exception of the time of the Crimean war the British and Russian Governments had acted in harmony on the subject, and were exceedingly anxious to have the question finally disposed of. The Foreign-office had made repeated inquiries as to when a final arrangement would be come to; and he had reason to believe that the negotiations would be concluded by the end of the present month.

The Earl of HARROWBY called attention to the effect of the revised code regulation of the committee of Privy Council for Education, dated 8th February, 1865, in reference to the education of children under six years of age.

Earl GRANVILLE, in reply, said there was no change in the system.

After a short conversation the subject dropped.

Their Lordships then adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The Speaker took his seat at a quarter to four o'clock.

Mr. FORSTER, as chairman of the committee of public petitions, stated that in the petitions presented on behalf of Azeem Jah to the title and revenues of the Nawab of the Carnatic, many of the signatures were forgeries, and others fictitious.

Sir W. GALLWEY called attention to the accident reported in the morning papers as having occurred to the express train on the Great Western Railway, solely from the want of means of communication between the passengers' guard and drivers, and asked how long the public would have to wait until this necessary step was provided either by Government or by the railway companies.

Mr. MILNER GIBSON said the subject was before the Royal Commission recently appointed to inquire into the railway system of the United Kingdom.

On the motion for going into committee of supply,

Sir J. TRELAWNY asked whether the proclamation made by the Governor of New Zealand on the 17th of December last would be carried out to the letter.

Mr. CARDWELL had not the slightest apprehension that either Sir George Grey or his present advisers contemplated any breach of faith, and they certainly would not be authorised by him to do so.

Mr. CARDWELL, in reply to Sir H. Willoughby, said that no advances had been made from the treasury to the colony of New Zealand since the year 1843.

Mr. TREHERNE asked the President of the Board of Trade whether any communication had taken place between her Majesty's Government and that of France with a view to the modification of the commercial treaty of 1860.

Mr. M. GIBSON said that, in reply to inquiries made last autumn, the French Government said that the duty on ribbons would be in a short time reduced from 8 to 4 francs per kilogramme, or half a franc per cent. *ad valorem*.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

Mr. D. GRIFFITH asked whether all forced labour on works of the Suez Canal had been entirely and finally discontinued.

Lord PALMERSTON said that some time ago the works of the Suez canal had been entirely carried on by Fellahs, who were compelled to work, but some months ago the Sultan issued a firman forbidding that species of employment in future; and as far as he was aware that firman was now in force—at least he had no information to the contrary.

The House then went into committee of supply.

The Marquis of HARTINGTON, in introducing the army estimates, said the total estimate for the ensuing year was £13,348,447, or a reduction of £405,641 from the estimate of last year, but if the sums returned to the Treasury for the army were included, the total saving would be £835,839. The reduction in the number of men proposed was 4,000 men, of whom 1,000 would be artillery and 3,000 infantry. The reduction in the infantry was effected partly by disbanding the 5th West India Regiment, and by remodelling the depot companies. Two regiments would be brought home from India and five from New Zealand during the course of the year, and the result would be that there would be at home 35,700 infantry in battalions, and including the Indian and colonial depots, 45,920 against 32,500 last year in battalion, and including the depots for 3,520, the total number of battalions of infantry was 141, of which this year there were 40 at home, 46 in the colonies, and 55 in India. Next year there would be 47 at home, 41 in the colonies, and 53 in India. The increase in the grant for the volunteers was £6,640, and arose from the very satisfactory increase in the number of efficient men qualified for the extra allowance. The solution of the problem of heavy ordnance had not yet advanced as much as he had expected last year; and he was afraid it was not yet by any means solved. The Armstrong gun had been adopted up to the 40-pounders, and as a field gun there was no reason to regret that step. Sir W. Armstrong had since made a series of experiments; and the result was that the Government believed the 12 ton 9 inch gun and the six ton 7 inch gun were perfectly adapted to any service likely to be required of them. Attention had also been directed to the necessity of supplying the army with breach-loading rifles; for this purpose a committee had been appointed and gunmakers had been invited to send in plans for converting the Enfield into a breach loader at a cost not exceeding £1 per weapon. About 40 responded to that invitation, and 7 or 8 systems were selected, with respect to which the committee had only reported yesterday; but if an emergency arose, the army could be easily armed with new weapons, and the process could be quickly and cheaply effected. The Gun Cotton Committee had not yet reported. After some details with respect to other votes of no particular interest, the noble lord concluded by moving the first vote of 142,477 men.

After some discussion, the vote was agreed to.

The Consolidated Fund Bill and the Marine Mutiny Bill were read a second time.

The House adjourned at 1 a.m.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SPAIN AND PERU.

The articles of the treaty between Spain and Peru have been published at Lima. The bases of arrangement do not differ from the advices sent by last mail. The settlement met with much disapproval among the people; and the old angry feeling against Spain bitterly revived. On the 5th a party of officers and men landed at Callao from the Spanish fleet. The Spaniards were basely treated in the streets, and the officers took train to Lima. The excitement there became formidable. The mob was fired on by the troops, many being killed and wounded. Callao and Lima were two days under martial law. A plot has since been discovered for a revolution to overthrow the present Government. Ex-President Castallia and other influential parties were arrested. It is reported that Admiral Pareja will insist on heavy damages for these outrages. The British war vessels *Leander* and *Shearwater* were at Callao from Chili.

AUSTRIA AND PRUSSIA.

VIENNA, March 15.—A reply of Austria to the Prussian demand for the annexation of the Duchies, leaves room for further negotiation on that question.

BERLIN, March 15.—It is believed here that Austria will after all consent to the annexation of the Duchies, provided she receives a guarantee from the Germanic Confederation of all her present possessions. The project of annexation is for the present given up, because Russia decidedly opposes the plan, and France encourages its prosecution with the intention of subsequently putting in a claim for compensation, as in the case of Nice. M. Benedetti is negotiating in this sense.

THE SHENANDOAH.

This Confederate war ship only arrived at Melbourne just before the departure of the mail. Several lady prisoners were on board, who occupied the best cabin, but Captain Waddell said they were free to land and go where they pleased.

MELBOURNE, Jan. 26.—The captain of the *Shenandoah* has formally requested leave of Sir Charles Darling to land his prisoners, and to coal in this port and repair his machinery. He promises to observe the neutrality, and to get to sea as quickly as possible. His application is at this moment under the consideration of his Excellency and the Executive Council.

Correspondence.

It must be understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions of our correspondents.

MR. BALLENY AND THE GREENCROFT RATES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Having served as a public officer for upwards of thirteen years, and being of opinion that public matters cannot be made too public, I hope you will excuse my trespassing on your valuable space.

Being a member of the Highway Board of the Lanchester District, and also a member of the Assessment Committee of the Lanchester Poor-law Union, it has been part of my duty (along with other members) to examine the rate-books of the several townships in the Union and of the Highway district. In going through, I find in the township of Greencroft some discrepancies to which I feel it my duty to call the attention of the ratepayers, and to ask Mr Balleny, the late acting-overseer and road surveyor of the above township, for an explanation. Such an explanation I trust he will be kind enough to give through the column of your paper, to shew the ratepayers that he has performed the duties of his office, with credit to himself, and for the general benefit of the ratepayers. I would also wish him to shew how he rated the wood lands. In the first place I may state for the information of the ratepayers, that Mr. Balleny and Sir William Clavering are the largest landed proprietors in the township, and nearly the sole owners of the woodlands, the quantity of which I take from the reference book to the ordnance survey, to be as follows, viz:—2,637 acres of land rateable to the relief of the poor, and 483 acres of woodlands which are rateable for the repairs of the Highways.

Table of extracts from the Rate Books of the Poor Law Union and Highway Board, and which shews that the Woodlands have not been rated on behalf of the Highways:—

		Highway Rate.	Poor Rate.
1854...	Rated on	£2,739 at 6d. ...	£2,739 at 2d.
1859	"	£2,614 at 3d. ...	£2,613
1860	"	£2,614 at 8d. ...	£2,660
1861	"	£2,652 at 10d. ...	£2,703
1862	"	£2,713 at 6d. ...	£3,309
1863	Rate made, total,	£126 8s. 4d. ...	£3,492.

Note.—From the above it will be seen that not only have the Woodlands not been rated, but that the Highway Rate has, in many instances, been levied on a considerably less sum than the Poor's Rate.

I think the ratepayers will now see that it is time they were looking a little more closely after their own interests, and particularly to an improvement in their representation in the Highway Board and Poor Law Union.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
JOHN CALVERT.

Consett, March 9, 1865.

[Mr. Calvert has enclosed a long table, which we have condensed [illegible] ordinary limits [illegible] Rate is taken [illegible] ED. C. G.]

THE TRADESMEN OF CONSETT AND THE "LOCK-OUT."

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

[illegible]

I am, yours, &c.,
TRUTH AND HONESTY.

FATAL COLLISION ON THE TYNE.—[illegible]

SUDDEN DEATH OF THE ORDINARY OF NEWGATE.—[illegible]

Sporting Intelligence.

STEEPLE CHASE FIXTURES, 1865.

[illegible]

RACING FIXTURES.

[illegible]

NEWCASTLE RACES.

[illegible]

DONCASTER SPRING MEETING.

[illegible]

LATEST BETTING.

TATTERSALL'S.

[illegible]

Market Intelligence.

CORN MARKETS.

[illegible]

CATTLE MARKETS.

[illegible]

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

[illegible]

MARRIAGES.

[illegible]

DEATHS.

[illegible]

Printed and Published at 45, West Clayton-street, [illegible] R. JACKSON, Office, Front-street, [illegible]

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 1865.