The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

An ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Annfield Plain, Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, &c.

No. 637. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} SATURDAY, MARCH 1st, 1873. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

B. MOODY
WATCH-MAKER, EBCHESTER.
708b

JOSEPH OLEY,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
10, WOOD STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE. 228c

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER
LEADGATE AND CONSETT.

☞ PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED OR CONTRACTED FOR. 685b

FALCONER'S A.B.C. RAILWAY GUIDE, by Post Fourpence.

JOHN FALCONER, 53, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin. 529c

"MELVIN'S NOTED EDINBURGH MILD and BITTER ALES are as good Ales as can be purchased, . . . and we do not wonder at the immense sale of these Ales."—(See "Innkeeper's Trade Circular" for Feb., 1866.) 494

A. RICHARDSON,
BUILDER, CABINET-MAKER, & GENERAL HOUSE FURNISHER,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.
Feathers, Flocks, Rabbit Down, and Mattresses. 892a

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

MR. T. F. WATSON, Surgeon Dentist, 95, Clayton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
N.B.—See page 7.

SCRIBBLING PAPER AT SIXPENCE PER POUND.

SOILED NOTE PAPER, in Packets of one pound each, for Sixpence, are now on Sale at the *Guardian* Office, Consett, and by

ROBERT JACKSON,
BOOKSELLER,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL. 903b

PAWNBROKING.

JOHN CALVERT,

IN thanking the Public for the liberal support accorded to him during the Twenty-one Years he has been in Business as Pawnbroker, begs to intimate to his Friends that he is prepared to DISCOUNT APPROVED BILLS OF EXCHANGE on Reasonable Terms. 431c

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E. FARNSWORTH.
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
LICENSED DEALER IN GAME and POULTRY of all kinds.

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BEG to announce that they have succeeded to the Business for many years successfully carried on by Mr. JOHN ROUTLEDGE, and trust by good workmanship, punctuality in the execution of all orders, and moderate prices, to merit public support. 490

THE OLDEST ESTABLISHED HAT SHOP IN NEWCASTLE.

THOMAS COCHRANE is now selling the BEST SILK HAT in the Trade at 10s. 6d.

THOMAS COCHRANE,
19, GRAINGER STREET,
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JUDSON'S SIMPLE DYES, price Sixpence per Bottle.

NAMES OF COLOURS.—Magenta, Mauve, Violet, Puce, Purple, Canary, Cerise, Scarlet, Orange, Blue, Pink, Green, Crimson, Brown, Black, Lavender, Slate, Grey.

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DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL. 952b

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JAMES JOHNSON, FAMILY GROCER AND TEA DEALER. Teas, Coffees, and Spices of the Choicest Quality. Good Useful Teas from 2s. per pound. Coffees 1s. per pound. Household Soaps from 3d. per pound. All kinds of Drysaltery Goods cheap and of the best Quality. Hotels and families supplied at wholesale prices.

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GEORGE HOGG,
HAYMARKET COACH AND WHEEL WORKS,

BEGS to thank his Friends and the Public for their very liberal support during the past Twelve Years in the CARTWRIGHT BUSINESS, and especially in the SPRING-CART TRADE, and respectfully solicits a continuance of their favours which will meet with every attention at the above address.

G. H. takes this opportunity of informing them that he has commenced the COACH BUILDING, and is in a position to execute order in all its branches.

CARRIAGES AND CABS LET OUT ON HIRE.

BRAKES, WAGGONETTES, DOG-CARTS, WHITE-CHAPELS, CARTS, all kinds of SPRING CARTS and WHEELS SPRINGS, and Patent AXLES and LANCE WOOD SHAFT on hand hand for Sale.

HAYMARKET WHEEL WORKS,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 921b

Business Announcements.

BIRD'S EYE RETURNS.

DICKINSON,
TOBACCO MANUFACTURER,
22 AND 24, BIGG MARKET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 23b

P. OSBORNE,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
FRONT STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Valuations effected for Probate, &c. 227c

NOTICE.

FARMERS, GARDENERS, and others may be supplied with GAS LIME on easy terms, at the SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY'S WORKS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

M. RICHLEY, Secretary.

August 5th, 1870. 775a

JOHN JENKINS,
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TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

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Silver Patent Lever Watches	3	10	0	to	27	0	0
Gold Patent Lever Watches	10	10	0	to	40	0	0
Geneva Silver Watches	2	2	0	to	5	5	0
Geneva Gold Watches	5	5	0	to	30	0	0
Ship Chronometers	27	0	0	to	40	0	0

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WATCHMAKERS TO THE QUEEN, CHRONOMETER MAKERS TO THE ADMIRALTY,
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WHOLESALE & RETAIL MILLER, and SEEDSMAN,
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G. H.'s Mixture of Permanent Clover and Grass Seeds has been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturists of the District upwards of Twenty Years.

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COUNTY OF DURHAM.

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EMIGRATION AGENT. 27

J. W. DAVISON,
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PARAFFIN and BENZOLINE OILS, Best Quality.
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HAS FULLY PROVED THAT
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JOHN D. CARIS,
29, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD,
ARE THE
BEST TIME KEEPERS ON RECORD,
WHILE THEY ARE ALSO
CHEAPER IN PRICE.

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Business Announcements.

ESTABLISHED 51 YEARS.

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WORSTED AND YARN MANUFACTURERS, WHOLESALE HOSIERS, AND HABERDASHERS, BLANKET AND FLANNEL MERCHANTS,
48, DEAN STREET, AND 14 & 16, ST. NICHOLAS' CHURCHYARD
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. 704

A WORD ABOUT INDIAN TEA.

ENGLISH enterprise, capital, and industry have made India the Finest Tea Garden in the World, and now the British Tea Planting Companies of India have become the great competitors of the Chinese Empire. For years the Old People have said they could not get the Strong Fine Tea of the Olden Times. It is clear to us that either the Tea Plantations of the Chinese have become exhausted, or that the strongest desire of this peculiar people has been to give quantity rather than quality. It is plain to the most superficial observer, that even the Finest Chinese Tea, although it may be exquisite in flavour, lacks that power and richness peculiar to the Olden Times. It is well for the lover of this refreshing beverage, that the Cultivation of Tea in India has become a commercial success. Years ago, we commenced to combine the Chinese and Indian Teas. This method resulted in a great trade. You may have some idea of its properties, when we state that last year we sold 112,035 pounds of Tea to a delighted people.

The question will naturally suggest itself to your mind; Why do you not offer Indian Tea to the Public? We answer, the price appears high. We do not say they are dear, for the lasting power of Indian Tea is so great, that the second and third water in many instances is better than the first water of China Tea. Taking this economical view of the question, it is cheaper, suppose we say nothing of the increased satisfaction derived in drinking this life-sustaining Cup of pleasure. We would now like you to test the correctness of the opinion we have as to the strength, lasting power, richness, and economy of Indian Tea. We cannot sell this tea for less than 4s. per pound. We give you this notice that we do not intend to disturb the present mixed Tea Trade. We therefore desire you, should it be your pleasure to test our judgment, to inquire for Indian Tea at any of our Establishments.

WILLIAM STEWART, THE TEA DEALER,
CENTRAL ESTABLISHMENT, 33, GRAINGER STREET, } NEWCASTLE.
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT, 33, SANDHILL. } NEWCASTLE.
BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT, 32, MOSLEY STREET. } NEWCASTLE.
SUNDERLAND BRANCH CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD HIGH STREET. 644

CONSETT STEAM PRINTING WORKS

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CHEQUE BOOKS of all descriptions made to order
TEA PAPERS, TOBACCO PAPERS, and CLOTH and PARCHMENT TALLIES.
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A large Supply of LEDGERS, DAY BOOKS, MINUTE BOOKS, and every variety of STATIONERY

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Houses wanted in town and country to rent and purchase.

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LARGE STOCK.
SELLING OFF CHEAP. 483c

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THE LATEST NEW DESIGNS in Ornamental Hair and High Tortoise-shell BACK COMBS are shown at 29, GREY STREET, NEWCASTLE, also all articles for the toilet, comprising—ROUGIER'S SHELL COMBS, KENT'S BRUSHES, ATKINSON AND RIMMEL'S PERFUMERY, IVORY, TORTOISE-SHELL, and LEATHER FANCY ARTICLES. FANS, PERFUMERY, SOAPS, SPONGES, &c., &c.

The latest Parisian and London mode of coiling the hair, also, Bertha Coronets. "Frizettes made to suit any fashion."

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NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

THE LESSEE respectfully announces to the Inhabitants of Consett and district the RE-OPENING OF THE PUBLIC BATHS which have lately undergone a complete renovation. Special attention has been paid to THE TURKISH BATH, which has received a large heating furnace and improved flues, making it equal to any in the North of England; is now Open on SATURDAYS, from 12 Noon to 10 p.m.; SUNDAYS, from 7 a.m to 10 a.m.; and on MONDAYS, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

THOMAS WOODS,
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BRASS and REED BANDS supplied with INSTRUMENTS at exceedingly Low Prices, the Quality of which is guaranteed.

Superior Instruction given, and Music arranged for Bands.

Terms, Price Lists, & Testimonials sent on application.

Agent for the celebrated Musical Instrument Makers, *F. Besson and Co., of Euston Road, London,* whose Instruments he will supply on the same Terms as if obtained from the Firm. Liberal allowances made in cases where several Instruments are required. Full information of which, with detailed Price Lists, will be sent on application. 425c

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New Edition, now ready, Price 5s. Cloth;
Gilt Edges, 6s.
In Crown 8vo. Printed on Toned Paper, bound in Extra bevelled Cloth, 288 Pages,

SONGS OF EARLY SPRING: With Lays of Later Life, by ROWLAND BROWN.

This complete Edition of the Author's Collected Peoms comprises—"Songs of Early Spring;" "By the Sea;" "Lays of Little Ones;" "In Summer and Harvest Days;" "Words for Workers;" "In Winter Day."

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS
UPON THE FORMER EDITIONS.

Athenæum.

Our Author has right to sing, because he possesses real musical instincts. These we can prove by eight lines, in a metre certain to betray any versifier who counts syllables on his fingers in place of obeying his instincts:—

'Bird of the sunny Spring,' &c.

And here is another extract, to show that Mr. Rowland Brown's music does not depend on one tune. Besides warblings about bird, brook, and meadow, we have delightful sonnets, love poems, and a patriotic ode or two, the whole making a most pleasant miscellany.

Illustrated London News.

'SONGS OF EARLY SPRING' are the products of a homely muse, but very beautiful in their homeliness, for the strong home affections displayed in them. The poet is apparently in the spring-time of life, and looks upon all with hope, as is natural at that season. His themes are pleasing and amiable, and his imagery drawn from Nature, developed in her simplest guise; his style vigorous and flowing. We take almost at random a poem by way of example:—

'Oh! to be young when the violets,' &c.

We must add, that the tone of this volume is fresh, healthy, and encouraging.

Morning Herald.

Rowland Brown is not a mere rhymester, but a poet whose writings have a vigour and beauty in them which prove them to be the emanations of a refined and original mind.

Critic.

A collection of poems of far more than average merit, from which we give one specimen, 'My Favourite Name;' but the others are quite equal to it, many better. No one can deny that Rowland Brown is gifted with a sparkling fancy, and, what to him is of inestimable value, the power of investing common objects with uncommon interest. 688c

To be had at the *Guardian* Office.

Business Announcements.

WHITELAW'S CELEBRATED INDIA PALE ALES, and MILD EDINBURGH ALES. Offices and Stores: 23, WATERLOO STREET, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE. WILLIAM MIDDLEMASS, Sole Agent.

"REID'S CELEBRATED EIGHTPENNY MILD ALE (Leazes Brewery) is the best sample of heavy-bodied Ale brewed in Newcastle, and is well-known for its fine flavour."—From "Innkeeper's Trade Circular," for Feb., 1866. 493

JUST FORFEITED.—First-class Gold and Silver Watches, by the best makers, Gold and Silver Alberts, Guards, Wedding and Fancy Rings, at about half the original cost.—J. TAYLOR, Pawnbroker, 19, Broad Chare, Newcastle. 332c

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EDUCATION.

BLACKHILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL, now open, conducted by J. C. WYLIE and Miss HEPTON. Reading, Writing, Mathematics, and Modern Languages.

Music and Needlework.

N.B.—Private Teaching. 208

McEWAN'S
CELEBRATED EDINBURGH ALES
AND INDIA PALE ALE,
Are daily rising in public estimation.
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Capital (fully subscribed)	£2,000,000.
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PRACTICAL CLOCK AND WATCHMAKER,
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LEVER AND GENEVA WATCHES at All Prices.

GOLD AND PLATED JEWELLERY in great Variety.

GOLD AND SILVER ALBERT CHAINS of the latest Style.

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SECURED BY ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

Under the direct Patronage of Her Majesty and the Hon. Board of Ordinance, and adopted by the Crystal Palace Company, and all leading Firms in Great Britain.

THE great saving effected by this Regulator is consequence of its so regulating the pressure through the main pipe leading from the meter, that whereas the pressure from the street may vary from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches, the Regulator keeps the pressure at about $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch column of water which is the most economical burning point. It is self-acting For instance, if 50 lights are burning, and 49 ar turned out, the extra pressure on the one left will cause it to flare and whistle—blackened ceilings testify to this—whereas with a regulator this is entirely obviated. The light is more pure by perfect combustion, and the regulators being most simple in their construction are not liable to get out of order, and when properly fixed require no attention whatever. TESTIMONIALS AND PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION TO—

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IN returning their sincere thanks to the Trade for past favours, take this opportunity to intimate that they have made extensive additions to their Premises, and have erected new and improved Machinery so as to enable them better to meet the increasing requirements of their business.

They are now in a position to supply Builders and Contractors with every description of well-seasoned Machine-made Joinery on the shortest notice.

SAWING, PLANING, AND MOULDING EXECUTED.

Windows, Doors, Door Frames, Stairs, Skirtings, Flooring, and other Joiners' Fittings.

A large Stock of Architraves, Mouldings, Spoutings, &c., &c., always on hand. House and Shop Shutters, Shop Fronts, Counters, Shelving, Fittings, &c. Vineries, Greenhouses, and Conservatories made to order.

Dealers in Chimney Pots, Sanitary Pipes, Slates, and Plaster Laths, Plasterers' Hair, Lathwood, &c.

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GENERAL CARRIERS.

Cart and Heavy Waggon Work done, Spring Waggons and Covered Vans for Removing Furniture and other valuables. Fire Wood and Coals supplied in any quantity.

Orders addressed to HARDY BROTHERS, Bo Quayside, promptly attended to. 97

Poetry: Original and Select.

HONOUR TO PARENTS.

How sad my mother seems to day!
I've caused her pain I fear,
Or else she would not turn away
With such a look severe.

Perhaps at play I made a noise,
When bidden to refrain,
Or quarreled o'er my childish toys
With little sister Jane.

'Tis very wrong, indeed, I know,
So troublesome to be;
The more, to one who loves me so,
And is so kind to me.

When I was sick, how close she kept
Beside my little bed,
And smoothed the pillow when I slept,
To ease my aching head.

Her constant kindness and her care
I never can repay:
How can I grieve her then, or dare
Her word to disobey?

I'll go at once, my fault confess,
And pardon, too, implore;
I'll mind in future what she says,
And never vex her more.

A. N.

A MOTHER'S FUNERAL.

Ah, sune ye'll lay yer mither doon
In her lanely bed and narrow;
But, till ye're sleeping by her side,
Ye'll never meet her marrow! *

A faither's love is strong and deep,
And ready as a brither's,—
A sister's love is pure and sweet—
But what love's like a mither's?

Ye mauna greet ower muckle, bairns,
As round the fire ye gaither,
And see the twa chairs empty then
O' mither and o'faither;

Nor dinna let yer hearts be dreich,
When wintry winds are blawin'.
And on their graves, wi angry sugh,
The snelly drift is snawin';

But think o' blyther times gane by—
The mony years o' blessing,
When sorrow passed the door, and nane
Frae 'mang ye a' were missing.

And mind the peacefu' gloamin' hours
When the outdoor wark was endin',
And after time, when auld grey heads
Wi' yours in prayer were bendin'.

And think how happy baith are noo
Aboon a' thocht or tellin',
For they're at hame and young again
Within their Father's dwellin'.

Sae, gin ye wish to meet up there
Yer faither and yer mither,
O, love their God, and be gude bairns,
And O love ane anither!

—*By the late Rev. Norman Macleod, D.D.*

* *Anglice*—her equal, her match.

Varieties.

Extracts from Punch.

Fine Opening.—We know people who are for ever protesting that they must draw the line somewhere. Now is their time. Let them go to Central Asia.

The Coal Famine.—*Wife:* "O Charles, how kind of the Browns!—(Reads.)—'Mrs. Brown presents her compliments to Mr. and Mrs. Jones, and hopes they will give her the pleasure of their company' at a fire party on Monday, March 3rd.—Fires lighted at 6·30.'"!!

Evident Genius.—*Emmy* (Mamma's volunteer Secretary): "How is this to be answered, Kitty? I don't know what to say!—(Reads.)—'Mr. Fitzmode at home on the 30th inst. from four to six o'clock.'" *Kitty:* "Well, I should write and say Mamma did not know Mrs. Fitzmode had been away, but wonders she should return to stop only two hours."!!

A Matter of Taste.—(Never said, but thought of as we lit the cigar, to go home.)—"Do you like Browning?" asked a reading-man of a young lady whom he had taken down to dinner. The fair creature by his side (who was no bookworm), answered, "Yes. That is, I like crackling."

"Mesne Profits."—*Old Lady:* "Threepence? Why, I've ridden this way a hundred times, and never paid more than twopence!" *Conductor:* "A hundred times, 'M? Let me see! Then you owe the Co'pany eight-an-fourpence, 'M! Would you like to settle with me now, 'M, or shall I—" (Old Lady retreats precipitately.)

WHAT AN OLD FASHIONED WINTER MEANS.

- Doctor.
- Chilblains.
- Red Nose.
- Cold in the head.
- Frosted potatoes.
- Aggravation of the misery of rising in the morning.
- Slippery pavements.
- Falls.
- Fractures.
- Coals up.
- Horses down.
- Melting snow.
- Impassable streets.
- Wet feet.
- Pump frozen.
- Pipes burst.
- Plumber.
- Subscriptions.
- Unfavourable returns by Registrar-Generals.

Extracts from Judy.

Mr. Odger's love for *Hyde* Park proves his devotion to his trade. His next Republican lecture will be given at Shoe-buryness.

A Loafer's Logic.—*Worthy Pastor:* "My boy, learn to be contented; mouths are never sent without the bread to feed them."—*Practical boy:* "Oh, ah! but the mouths are sent to our house and the bread to yourn."

Extracts from Fun.

The Old to the New Republic; Greeting.—*Jonathan:* "Waal, young birds o' freedom, I calc'late yeur satisfied neow."

The most welcome serial just now—"A simpleton."

It is whispered in literary circles that Mr. Carlyle's works will shortly be translated into English.

Canny?—Well, he Won't.—*Carter* (in answer to challenge from a Guardsman):—"Fecht ye! Na, na! fechtin' is yer trade. But ah'll drive a cart wi' ye, if ye like!"

To Whom it may Concern.—Illegible writers are undesirable acquaintances—their "characters" are bad.

To be Kept at Arm's Length.—A bluff old farmer declined the other day to take a sandwich with a friend at a refreshment buffet. Not him! he had observed that the young ladies behind the bar positively handled 'em with a pair o' tengs.

Causes of the Strikes.—No wonder that a spirit of discontent is prevalent:—there is a B in every bonnet.

Betrayed.—The *Scientific American* discourseth upon matters of diet. It arriveth at this deep and recondite conclusion:—"The beer and ale drinkers expand and grow fat, but they are not much given to profound researches in science." What fiend in human form has been sending barrels of beer to the office of the *Scientific American?* We ask, because we want his advice as to sending a hogshead to a journal of our acquaintance.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The dreary and inclement weather that we have had since the opening of the session seems to have put a damper upon the spirits of our legislators, and their Houses have been the usual order of the evening when only ordinary business has been in hand. Yet some of this business is of no little interest to the nation, shirked as it is by its representatives. On Friday night, for instance, the proceedings in the House of Commons were of more public importance than is usual upon a private Members' night. Mr. Fowler called attention to South African complications, which led to an explanation from Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen informing us that a question of boundary between Great Britain and Portugal had been submitted to the arbitration of M. Thiers. After the San Juan affair, people naturally apprehend another adverse award and another sacrifice of British territory from this arbitration. But South Africa does not interest us like North America, and Mr. Fowler's subject did not come home to us like that of Mr. Holmes, which touched that sensitive part the pocket. The latter hon. gentleman, in moving for a Select Committee on the purchase and sale of stores, points out different Government departments were often bidding against one another in the market for the same articles, and that sometimes one department was advertising to purchase what another was offering for sale. Mr. Gladstone, in conceding the Committee, acknowledged that the Treasury had no control over the contracts of the departments, and that Mr. Holmes had done a public service in bringing forward the question. Perhaps the Committee may show Mr. Lowe how to effect a saving of some portion of that £6,600,000 which we shall have to retrench before we can abolish the income-tax, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer explained to a deputation from the Associated Chambers of Commerce on Thursday. But of more vital interest to the public than even savings in Government departments is the coal question brought forward by Mr. Mundella. Mr. Bruce told us the other day that the Government could not intervene in this matter, but he saw his way to agree to the appointment of a committee to inquire into the causes for the present excessive dearness of coal. Probably it was the knowledge that this concession would be made that left Mr. Mundella to make his motion in a house of only twenty-two members. But, at any rate, if our legislators have no vital interest in this matter, the people have, and, if they are to pay exorbitant prices for coal, they would like to "know the reason why."

Mr. Gladstone's Irish University Bill is not destined to pass through Parliament without criticism and opposition from without. On Friday a conference of Nonconformists was held to consider the measure at the Westminster Palace Hotel, when, although a qualified approval was given to the general principle of the measure, strong dissent was expressed from some of the most important provisions, and a committee was appointed to watch the progress of the measure. This is probably about the commencement of a series of meetings in reference to the Bill, and before the measure is disposed of in Parliament there will no doubt be some strong expressions of extraneous opinion.

Bravo, Mr. Plimsoll. He has set the cat among the pigeons, and no mistake. Mr. Eustace Smith was of course justified—nay, it was commendable of him—in calling attention to the breach of privilege committed by Mr. Plimsoll; but it will be noted most emphatically that, although the junior member for Derby apologized to the House, he did not withdraw the imputations he had made on certain shipowners who are members of the House. These owners who have made fortunes out of unseaworthy ships have abundant cause to quake in their shoes. Those points worthy of notice have arisen out of Mr. Eustace Smith's challenge of the charges made by Mr. Plimsoll's pamphlet. The Attorney-General has accepted a retainer from one of the shipowners who professes to be aggrieved by Mr. Plimsoll's statements; and secondly, that if this prove to have been so, a vigorous attempt will be made to compel both Attorney and Solicitor General to give up their private practice or their public.

Lord Roseberry's motion in the House of Lords for a committee to inquire into the present condition of the national horse market cannot be said to have been essentially abortive, albeit the Select Committee, granted at the somewhat condescending instance of Earl Granville, may not succeed in remedying the state of things of which Lord Roseberry complained. There was enough matter in the young Earl's suggestive speech to keep the pens of the experts moving for some time to come, and enough information to form the basis of legislation, should that be deemed necessary. Lord Granville's speech was surprisingly inconsequential—for him. The "roadster" mentioned by Lord Roseberry was anything but the animal whose decay Lord Granville rejoiced at. Race-horses are not as good as they used to be—not so good this decade as they were the last, which way of putting the matter narrows the issue. I do not share Lord Roseberry's lament for the loss of the Chevelard boy, who was nothing but a "coachy" impostor; and I think, in the event of a war, we should be able to requisition horses enough and to spare, if a crisis occurred. I am of opinion that Lord Roseberry's modest and capable speech on the national horse is worth a dozen dogmatic letters or the subject from Admiral Rous.

In connection with the whitewashing of the ship Murillo and her release by the Spanish authorities, it is worth while to notice that the jury which sat upon the body of Mr. Brand, one of the passengers of the Northfleet, in returning an open verdict, did not venture to incriminate the Murillo, but merely added to their verdict an expression of opinion "that the Northfleet was run into while at anchor by an unknown steamer, which, had it stood by the sinking ship, might have saved most, if not all, of the lives that were lost." On the evidence before them, the jury could perhaps say no more; and their saying so much will have no practical effect, as it is no legal offence to neglect saving life where it might be done. After the Spanish decision and this verdict, the public will be interested in the evidence that will be produced on the part of the plaintiffs in the Admiralty suit against the owners of the Murillo.

The North-Western is an immense system of railway, and it is perhaps in consequence of its vast extent that it has more casualties than other lines: The last collision, near Warrington, on Thursday morning was exceptional in this respect, that although no one was killed or seriously injured, the engines of the two trains that "collided" were smashed to pieces. But this sacrifice of property will probably be not the most serious pecuniary result of this accident. We read that the persons in the passenger train were severely shaken, which we may well believe; and what a severe shaking in a railway collision means was illustrated on the same day in two of the courts at Westminster, when two passengers severally recovered against two companies, £700 and £200 damages. And it must be observed that it is only the presumably doubtful cases that are generally brought into court, railway companies preferring, as a rule, to settle off hand all indisputable cases.

Under the management of Mr. Kingston, the Royal Opera Comique has become a flourishing theatre, and the lessee has now been encouraged by the public support he has received to bring out a really great work in the peculiar line of this house—Offenbach's opera bouffe, "The Bohemians," adapted to the English stage by Mr. H. B. Farvie, will undoubtedly prove a great attraction to London play-goers and to country visitors who admire the comic lyrical drama. The piece is worthily put upon the stage, with a numerous and efficient caste, and cannot fail to "draw." I will not wish the management success with this new venture, but I congratulate it that it has secured the means of success. In the present version several other of Offenbach's works have been drawn upon to supplement the original music of the opera, thus giving a more extended exemplification of the great French composer's style—a style which has been highly appreciated by the London public for many years.

Markets.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

The *Mark Lane Express* says:—The farmers have had as fine a week for they land as the could have desired, though the cold has increased. The past week has been one of untiring energy in the field. The soil has broken up well, and much wheat has been planted. But there has been too much damp in the atmosphere for any marked improvement in newly-thrashed samples, and this has served to keep the market dull, though not quotably lower. However, in France the tendency has certainly been towards an advance, Paris noting a further rise of 1f. in flour, equal to 8d. per sack, while several of the French markets were 1s to 2s per quarter dearer. Belgium has kept steady, as has Hollond, for good quality wheat, and the German markets, as well as those of Russia, have been fully as dear, but Spain has been quiet, In America they appear to be uninfluenced by our dull advices, prices keeping remarkably steady; and offers do not come from Dantzic for fine wheat under 68s. in London. The Australian harvest is reported as unusually fine, and the colonists fully expect to be able to ship 200,000 tons, which would be about 1,000,000 qrs., of excellent quality.

CORN MARKETS.

Newcastle Corn Market, Tuesday.—At this day's market there was a small supply of wheat from the country, but a gold coasting and moderate foreign arrival. The trade rulled dull, and little business was done, but for all fine qualities the prices of this day week were maintained. Barley slow, at about late rates Malt unchanged. Beans and peas the turn dearer. Oats moved off rather more freely at the late decline. Flour rather lower.

Hexham Corn Market, Tuesday.—There was a fair attendance at our market to day. Wheat was in small supply, and sales were effected quickly at about the rates of last week. Barley was a slow sale, but prices remained unchanged. The thin show of oats on sale were quickly bought at about 1s per Hexham boll advance.

Darlington Corn Market, Monday.—Owing to the cold and snow, there was a smaller attendance, and slightly less rates prevailed than last week. Quotations in farmers, wheat ranged from 12s to 15s per boll of two bushels, according to quality. There was a good inquiry for foreign, of which there were a good few samples shown. Barley made 8s 6d to 10s per boll; oats, 3s 4d to 4s 4d per bushel, according to quality.

London Corn Market, Wednesday.—Market very dull, and little business doing. English and foreign wheat the turn in buyers' favour. Country and American flour 6d cheaper. Grinding barley dull; malting 1s lower on week. Oats and maize dull. Beans firm, Peas quiet.

Durham Corn and Provision Market, Saturday. The following were the prices quoted at our market this day:—Oats, 6s to 8s per boll. Beef, 8½d to 11d; mutton, 9d to 11d; pork, 9d to 10d; veal, 10d to 11d per lb. Chickens, 2s 6d to 3s; ducks, 3s; hens, 1s 6d to 2s 3d; hares, 4s to 4s 6d; turkeys, 7s to 9s each; wild ducks, 5s 6d; pigeons, 1s 3d; rabbits, 2s 8d to 2s 10d per couple. Butter, 1s 8d to 1s 10d per lb.; eggs, 7 to 8s for 1s. Apples, 3s to 4s 6d; onions, 1s to 2s per peck; potatoes, 1s to 1s 6d per stone.

CATTLE MARKETS.

Newcastle Cattle Market, Tuesday.—The show of stock presented for sale exhibited an increase of 72 beasts and 340 sheep as compared with that of last week. Respecting quality, that of cattle was fully an average for the time of year, while sheep were again middling, a large portion of the supplies being composed of half-fed hoggets. The supply of beef comprised 1,582 head. The seasonably large weight of beef on offer to-day, and the somewhat unfavourable accounts from London yesterday, both of which operated against the beef trade, causing prices to recede about 3d per stone from the rates of this day se'nnight. In exceptional cases 10s 9d per imperial stone was obtained, but the general top figure for beef was 10s 6d, with middling finish. The number of sheep was 5,420. The mutton trade was in a dull, lifeless state. Hoggets were easily making 1s per lb; otherwise prices were very irregular, and the business done was quite of a retail character. Pigs—967 were shown. The cold, severe weather being favourable for slaughtering, the pork trade ruled firm, and in every instance extreme currencies were well supported.

Prices this day, sinking offal:—Beasts, prime heifers, per stone, 10s 3d to 10s 6d.; secondary sorts, 9s 6d to 10s 0d; first-class oxen, 10s 0d to 10s 3d; middling, 8s 9d to 9s 0d; cows and inferior, 7s 6d to 8s 0d; pork large, 5s 3d to 7s 3d; ditto. small, 7s 9d to 8s 3; sheep, good vendale wedders, per lb., 11½d to 11½d; middling, 9¾d to 10¼d; inferior, 9d to 10d; hoggets, 1s.

Darlington Cattle Market, Monday.—There was scarcely an average show of fat cattle at the market to-day. Sellers were stiff in their prices, and best made 9s 3d to 10s per stone; secondary sorts, 8s 3d to 9s. Of milch cows there was a fair supply, and they continue very dear, best being £25 to £27; secondary sorts, £18 to £23. There was a good supply of lean cattle, best making up to £16 and £17 in a few cases; the general run, however, was from £11 to £15. Irish cattle were in fair supply, and best made up to £14 to £1[illegible]; the general average was from £10 to £13. Sheep of best quality made 9½d to 10d; second quality, 7½d to 8½d. Pigs are somewhat scarce, and high prices prevail.

Wakefield Cattle Market, Wednesday.—About 1,300 fat beasts, and in excellent condition. Weather being unfavourable and buyers under an average, trade was heavy and prices rather easier. 1,000 less sheep than last Wednesday, and a slight advance in quotations realised. Best small sheep, 1s; other sorts, 10d to 11½d per lb.

MISCELLANEOUS MARKETS.

Newcastle Hay and Straw Market, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £3 to £5; new land hay, £3 10s to £5 5s. per ton; wheat straw, 2s to 3s 6d; barley straw, 1s 6d to 2s 2d; oat straw, 2s 3d to 3s per thrave. There were 115 carts of hay and 71 carts of straw at market.

Newcastle Potato Market, Saturday.—The supply of potatoes at to-day's market was plentiful. and the demand was limited. Prices:—Scotch. 24s; per load. Onions, 13s 6d per bag. Foreign potatoes, £5 10s to £7 per ton. Large arrivals of foreign potatoes, for which there was a good sale, with an upward tendency in prices, owing to the frosty weather.

Middlesbrough Iron Market, Tuesday.—There was a small attendance on 'Change at Middlesbrough. Very little business was transacted. The quotations for pig iron were firm, 120s per ton still being asked for No. 3. It is stated that an ironmaster of Middlesbrough has sold a large quantity of No. 1 at 125s. and No. 2 at 120s. per ton, for delivery over the whole of this year. All the available blast furnaces are at work, the masters being anxious to reap the benefit of the high prices as far as they possibly can. Every effort is being used to hurry on the new blast furnaces in course of erection on Teeside. The Carlton Iron Company, near Stockton, have blown in third furnace. In a short time now the Tees Bridge furnaces, Stockton, will be ready for blast, and the new furnaces in the district are rapidly approaching completion. The demand for pig iron continues good. In the manufactured trade the impossibility of carrying on some branches at a profit is restricted, and several firms are preferring to discontinue puddling operations, in the hope that fuel will be cheaper or the prices of finished iron rise to a remunerative figure. Although bars are quoted £13 to £13 10s, plates £14 10s, rails £13, and angles £14 per ton, the West March Iron Works, Middlesbrough, have entirely stopped puddling. Other firms have several furnaces unlighted, and are not disposed to accept contracts for any length of time. Of course, some firms, who have neither ironstone mines, collieries, nor blast furnaces, are fortunate in having coals contracts at a very low rate, and are, therefore, able to carry on their trade satisfactorily. Engineering and shipbuilding are brisk.

Railway Time Tables,

Newcastle to Jarrow and South Shields.

Leaves Newcastle (Week days)—5·10, 7·0, 7·45 (*), 8·0 9·0, 9·55, 11·0, 11·35 (*), 12·30, 2·5, 3·0, 3·35 (*) 4·0, 5·15, 6·15, 7·35, 9·0 10·50.

Leaves Newcastle (Sundays)—6·10, 8·0, 9·30, 2·0, 5·0, 7·15, 8·15, 9·30.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—Gateshead, 3; Felling, 7; Pelaw, 13; Hebburn, 17; Jarrow, 21; Tyne Dock, 26; and High Shields, 31 minutes after the above times, arriving at South Shields about 35 minutes after the time they leave Newcastle.

* First, second, and third-class express trains, stopping at Gateshead at 3 minutes, Jarrow at 15 minutes, and Tyne Dock at 18 minutes after the above times, arriving at South Shields about 25 minutes after the time they leave Newcastle.

Fares from Newcastle to Gateshead: First, 3d; second, 2d.; third, 1d.

Felling: First, 4d.; second, 3d.; third, 2½d.

Pelaw: First, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 3d.

Hebburn, Jarrow, Tyne Dock, High Shields, or South Shields: First, 9d.; second, 6d.; third, 4d.

South Shields to Jarrow and Newcastle.

Leaves South Shields (Week days).—5·5, 7·0, 8·0, 8·30(*), 9·0, 10·0, 10·50, 12·30, 12·50(*), 2·0, 3·0, 4·0 4·20 (*), 5·5, 6·15, 7·30, 9·0, 10·30.

Leaves South Shields (Sundays).—6·15, 8·0, 9·35, 2·5 5·0, 7·20, 8·20, 9·35.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—High Shields, 3; Tyne Dock, 8; Jarrow, 13; Hebburn, 17; Pelaw, 21; Felling 26; and Gateshead, 30 minutes after the above times, arriving at Newcastle about 35 minutes after the times they leave South Shields.

* First, second, and third-class express trains calling at Tyne Dock, Jarrow, and Gateshead, leaving Jarrow 10 minutes after the above times, arriving at Newcastle about 25 minutes after they leave South Shields.

Fares from South Shields to High Shields or Tyne Dock: First, 3d.; second, 2d.; third, 1d.

Jarrow: First, 8d; second, 6d.; third, 3½d.

Pelaw, Felling, Gateshead, or Newcastle: First, 9d.; second, 6d.; third, 4d.

Sunderland to South Shields and Jarrow.

Leaves Sunderland (Week days).—5·0, 6·50, 7·50, 8·50 12·20, 1·50, 2·50, 3·50, 4·50, 6·5, 7·20,0[illegible], 8·50, 10·15.

Leaves Sunderland (Sundays).—6·5, 7·50, 9·25, 1·55 4.50, 7·10, 8·10, 9·25.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—Cleadon Lane, 7: Tyne Dock, 13; High Shields, 17. minutes after the above times, arriving at South Shields about 20 minutes after the time they leave Sunderland.

Passengers between Sunderland and Jarrow *change carriages* at Tyne Dock.

Fares from Sunderland to Cleadon Lane: first 6d. second, 5d; third, 3d.; Tyne Dock, first, 10d.; second 8d. third, 6d., High Shields and South Shields first, 10d.; second, 8d.; third, 6d.; Jarrow, first, 1s. 4d.; second, 1s.; third, 7½d. Return tickets to Jarrow: first, 2s. 3d.; second, 1s. 8d.; third, 1s. 2d.

Jarrow to South Shields and Sunderland.

Leaves Jarrow (Week days).—5·36, 7·21, 8.21, 9·21, 10·16, 11·21, 12·51, 2·26, 3·21, 4·21, 5·36, 6·36, 7·56, 9.21, 11·1.

Leaves Jarrow (Sundays)—6·31, 8·21, 9·51, 2·21, 5·21, 7·36, 8·36, 9·51.

These trains leave intermediate Stations as follows:—South Shields 4, High Shields 7, Tyne Dock 11, and Cleaden Lane 16 minutes after the train leaves Jarrow arriving in Sunderland in about 24 minutes.

Fares from Jarrow to South Shields: first, 8d.; second, 6d.; third, 3½d.; High Shields: first, 8d.; second, 6d.; third, 3d.; Tyne Dock, first, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 2d.; Cleadon Lane, first, 10d.; second, 8d.; third, 4½d.; Sunderland, first, 1s. 4d.; second, 1s.; third, 7½d. Return tickets to Jarrow, first, 2s. 3d.; second, 1s. 8d.; third, 1s. 2d.

Newcastle to Tynemouth.

Leaves Newcastle—Central Station—(Week days)—6·10 (*a*), 7·0, 8·0, 9·0 (*b*), 9·15, 9·45, (*c*), 10·15, 11·0, 12·0, 1·0, 2·0, 3·5, 4·10, 4·45, 5·15, 5·50, 6·10, 6·45 (*b*), 7·10, 8·10, 9·0, 10·0, 11·30 (*c*).

Leaves Newcastle—Central Station—(Sundays).—6·10 (*a*), 8·30, 9.30, 10·5, 1·0, 2·0, 3·0, 4·30, 6·0, 7·0, 8.0, 8·45, 9·15.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—Manors 3, Heaton 7, Walker 11, Wallsend 16, Howdo 21, Percy Main 25, and North Shields 30 minutes after obove times, arriving at Tynemouth 35 minuter after leaving Newcastle.

a.—This train stops at intermediate stations when required, to set down passengers arriving from the south by either the 4.38 or 5·58 a.m trains.

b.—The 6·45 p.m. train from Newcastle will stop at all Stations on Saturdays and reach Tynemouth at 7·20 p.m.

c.—The 11·30 p.m. train stops at intermediate Stations when required, to set down passengers.

Fares from Newcastle to Heaton, first, 3d.; second, 2d.; third, 1½d.; Walker, first, 4d; second, 3d.; third, 2d.; Wallsend, first, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 3d.; Howdon, first, 8d.; second, 6d.; third, 4d.; Percy Main and North Shields, first, 9d.; second, 6d.; third, 4d.; Tynemouth, first, 1s.; second, 9d.; third, 6d.

Tynemouth to Newcastle.

Leaves Tynemouth (Week days)—5·20, 6·40 (*a*), 7·45, 8·30, 9·0, 9·30, 10·0, 10·30, 11·0, 12·0, 12·45, 2·0, 3·0, 4·0, 5·15, 5·30, 6·0, 6·30, 7·0, 7.30, 8·0, 9·0, 10·0, 10·50 (*b*).

Leaves Tynemouth (Sundays)—7·35, 9·40, 1·0, 2·0, 3·0, 4·30, 6·0, 7·0, 8·0, 9·0, 10·0.

These trains leave intermediate stations as follows:—North Shields 3, Percy Main 9, Howdon 11, Wallsend 16, Walker 19, Heaton 23, and Manors 30 minutes after afore times, arriving at Central Station, Newcastle about 35 minutes after leaving Tynemouth.

a.—The 6·40 a.m. train stops at intermediate Stations to take up passengers booked to the Central Stations.

b.—The 10·50 p.m. train stops at Stations up to and including Walker on Saturdays, and does not reach the Central Station until 11·20 p.m.

Fares from Tynemouth to North Shields, first, 3d.; second, 2d.; third, 1d.; Percy Main, first, 4d.: second, 3d.; third, 2d.; Howdon, first, 6d.; second, 4d.; third, 3d.; Wallsend, first, 8d.; second, 6d.; third, 4d.; Walker, first 10d.; second 8d.; third, 5½d.; Heaton, first, 10d; second 8d.; third, 6d.; Newcastle (Manors or Central), first, 1s.; second, 9d.; third, 6d.

STOCKTON AND DARLINGTON RAILWAY

GOING EAST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·55	12·40	2·30
Benfieldside	„	6·55	1·40	4·25
Rowley	„	7· 3	1·48	4·35
Burnhill Junction	„	7·12	1·57	4·45
Tow Law	„	7·24	2· 9	4·58
Crook	arr.	7·35	2·20	5.10
	dep.	7·35	2·30	5·20
Bishop Auckland	„	8· 5	2·55	5·50
Darlington	„	8·35	3·40	6·40
Stockton	„	9·25	4·10	7·10
Middlesbro'	„	9·35	4·20	7·22
Saltburn	„	10·10	4·55	8· 0

GOING WEST.—WEEK DAYS ONLY.

STATIONS.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Saltburn	dep.	5·45	11·25	1·50
Middlesbro'	„	6·22	12· 2	2·25
Stockton	„	6·34	12·12	2·35
Darlington	„	7·15	1· 5	4·40
Bishop Auckland	„	7·48	1·35	5·10
Crook	arr.	8·10	1·57	5·32
	dep.	8·15	2·20	5·35
Tow Law	„	8·27	2·32	5·45
Burnhill Junction	„	8·42	2·45	6· 0
Rowley	„	8·52	2·55	6·10
Benfieldside	arr.	9· 5	3. 5	6·20
Newcastle	arr.	10 0	4 15	9·35

CONSETT BRANCH.

UP TRAINS.—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS.		1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G. A.M.	1,2,G P.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	5·55	10· 0	12·40	2·30	5·35
Scotswood	„	6· 2	10· 7	12·47	2·37	5·42
Swalwell	„	6· 9	10·14	12·53	2·44	5·49
Rowland's Gill	„	6·19	10·24	1 ·1	2·54	5·59
Lintz Green	„	6·25	10·30	1 ·9	3· 0	6· 5
Ebchester	„	6·38	10·43	1·19	3·13	6·18
Shotley Bridge	„	6·44	10·49	1·24	3·19	6·24
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.			1·30	3·25	
	dep	6·50	10·55		4·20	6·30
Knitsley	„	7· 4	11· 9		4·34	6·44
Lanchester	„	7·13	11·18		4·43	6·53
Witton Gilbert	„	7.20	11·27		4·50	7· 2
Durham	arr.	7·35	11.40		5· 5	7·15

DOWN TRAINS—WEEK DAYS.

STATIONS		1,2,G. A.M.	1,2 G. A.M.	1,2,G. P.M.	1,2,G P.M.	1,2,G P.M.
Durham	dep.	7·40		12·15	3·20	7·55
Witton Gilbert	„	7·55		12·29	3·33	8· 9
Lanchester	„	8 ·6		12·40	3·44	8·20
Knitsley	„	8·17		12·50	3·55	8·31
Benfieldside (Consett & Blackhill)	arr.				4·5	
	dep	8·32	9·15	1· 5	3·35	8·43
Shotley Bridge	„	8·37	9·20	1.10	3·42	8·48
Ebchester	„	8·40	9·23	1·14	3·44	8·52
Lintz Green	„	8·50	9·33	1.24	3.54	9. 3
Rowland's Gill	„	8·55	9·38	1·29	3·59	9· 8
Swalwell	„	9· 4	9·47	1·38	4 5	9·17
Scotswood	„	9·10	9·53	1·44	4·16	9·24
Newcastle	arr.	9·20	10· 5	1·55	4·30	9·35

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.

First, second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains—

UP TRAINS.

STATIONS.		GO. A.M.	RETURN. P.M.
Newcastle	dep.	7·10	4. 0
Scotswood	„	7·17	4· 9
Swalwell	„	7·23	4·15
Roland's Gill	„	7·31	4·23
Lintz Green	„	7·37	4·29
Ebchester	„	7·50	4·4
Shotley Bridge	„	7·57	4·4
Benfieldside (for Consett and Blackhill)	arr.	8· 5	4·55
	dep.	9·10	5·10
Knitsley		9·21	5·21
Lanchester		9·34	5·34
Witton Gilbert		9.46	5·46
Durham	arr.	10· 0	6· 0

DOWN TRAINS.

STATIONS.		GO. A.M.	RETURN. P.M.
Durham	dep.		4· 0
Witton Gilbert	„	8· 5	4·13
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A NEW SAFETY LAMP.

When the principle of the Davy lamp was made known by its inventor, it was supposed that a means had been discovered of putting an end to all accidents from fire damp—and so far as these arose from the immediate contact of a naked flame with the explosive gas, this has been proved to be the case. But there were many objections to the old lamp which interfered with its usefulness. It gave too little light, and it was easily opened. In consequence, the miners—a proverbially reckless class, in order the better to see their work, or even simply to obtain a light for their pipes, were constantly tempted to remove the protecting gauze and expose the naked flame. This practice has been checked, no doubt by putting a lock upon the lamps. It has been found, however, that even when this is done the lamps can be tampered with. The flame can be made to strike against the wire gauze in such a way as to enable the workmen to obtain a light at the heated part, and this, in fact, is constantly done, fearful as the risk is. It has been said that no explosions from fire damp could occur in mines if the safety lamp were properly used; and yet the number of deaths arising from such accidents still amounts to about 300 a year. What is wanted is a lamp which will give more light, which cannot be opened, and which cannot be heated by its own flame so as to cause explosion. Several mechanical inventors have been recently endeavouring to contrive an apparatus meeting these requirments, and among the most successful of them is that for which a patent has been taken out by Mr. William Yates, 24, Duke-street, Westminster. He has modified the old lamp in the following way:—He has removed the wire gauze from that part of it which surrounded the flame, and replaced it by a strong lens or bull's-eye glass on one side, and a silver reflector on the other. The result of this arrangement is that his lamp gives "a cheerful light estimated at 20 times that of the old Davy, and sufficient for all necessary purposes." By this means the temptation to expose the flame to obtain more light is removed. He further provides a complete check against the practice of heating the lamp by means of the flame, for it is placed so low that it cannot be made to approach the gauze either by the breath or by tilting the apparatus. He has remedied a third defect. The lower portion of the apparatus, containing the oil reservoir and the wick, which is screwed to the part which consists of the gauze funnel, the bull's-eye, and the reflector, has a spring bolt attached to it, which catches each time the screw is turned, and finally locks together the two parts of the lamp. The bolt is easily removed by another screw, but this cannot be done without at the same time withdrawing the wick and extinguishing the flame, and it thus becomes impossible to obtain a light by opening the lamp. The new invention thus remedies the chief defects of the old lamp, and those to which the accidents still occurring in mines are chiefly attributed. The apparatus seems strong, little likely to get out of order, and altogether well adapted for the rough usage to which a miner's lamp is likely to be exposed. It is much more expensive than the forms of the lamp now in general use, but Mr. Yates states that the saving of oil effected by its use will in one year pay the additional cost.—*Leeds Mercury.*

ENGLAND IN 2085.

As we stood with hushed breath, waiting for the first glimpse of her shores, while rushing through the waves at the rate of twenty knots an hour, with as little oscillation as if we were on a railway, thanks partly to our great size and double hull, but more to our beautiful "Bessemere deck," we saw one of the mighty American packets steaming (to use the old term, though that is hardly the right phrase, I suppose, for the new caloric agent which is beginning to supersede steam) over the top of the waves, and skimming along in the distance, nearly half as fast again as ourselves. Our captain explained that she was fitted up with the new balloon apparatus, aloft and below, so that she was able to show an enormous extent of canvas to the wind with comparative safety from capsizing, and with a very light draught of water. At least, so the inventor says, but our old tar shook his head, and seemed to question her safety in a squall. There is, however, no doubt a wonderful security and power of crowding sail in the system of double boats which counterbalances the risk of specially heavy seas breaking them asunder. It has now been in general use for nearly fifty years, though our American cousins, not satisfied with this great improvement, must needs clap on balloons! But they were always a little too fond of gas, and in spite of their brilliant pioneering-go-ahead-ness, their enterprises sometimes explode rather disastrously. As we neared the huge Yankee clipper, and saluted the Star-Spangled Banner, receiving in return their compliments to the old Union Jack, I could not help thinking, with deep gratitude, under what far happier auspices our Australasian relations with the mother country had been carried on than those which history tells us three centuries ago darkened over it and her rebellious child, when an obstinate misguided king drove the colonies to assert their independence. But British rulers learned their lesson at last. Then we saw occasionally some of the old-fashioned steamers, and still older-fashoned sailing vessels, coasters, colliers, fishing-smacks, and so forth; mere pigmies compared with our great bulk. And then at last!—Yes, there were in truth, just peering through the haze, the long low line of cliffs and lofty headlands of old England. I'm not ashamed, my children, to confess that for a few moments I hid my face and cried; as you may remember I have, however, seen you do when mother and I have been running away from you for a week's gaieties at Sydney or Melbourne! As we slowly forged along past Hurst Castle and then towards Southampton Water, the number of beautiful yachts of all sorts and sizes strikes the eye with very delightful sensations. It being tolerably calm weather we also saw a great number of those water-velocipedes (or "Frying-pans," as these amphibious English term them) which you may remember grandfather telling us created such a sensation at Melbourne years ago. It was rare fun to see some young beginners wriggling about with them, and every now and then getting capsized into "the briny deep." All the inhabitants of the district seemed to be disporting themselves in one way or another on the waters in holiday fashion, and I learned that like our people at home, English shopkeepers and workmen, as well as the gentry generally, make the whole of Saturday a national holiday, many of them uniting to keep yachts, which they use in turn with their wives and families These even the smallest, are mostly fitted with the old Bessemere's swinging-deck, for the benefit of the ladies, you understand, my little Julia. We remained several days at Southampton and Portsmouth, and among all the objects of exceeding interest, I do not know that anything delighted me more than going over the old hull, still carefully preserved, of the immortal Nelson's flag-ship, the Victory. Of rather more modern date and construction was the hull of the celebrated Great Eastern, which was the monster ship of the 19th century; though the one that brought us from the Cape consisted of two vessels joined together, each of them larger than this once famous sea-giant. As we rushed along the railway from Southampton to London, we were struck with the number of small homesteads everywhere visible, farms of five, ten, or fifteen acres, worked together on the co-operative principle, so different from the look of our Australian fields which are still in the stage of large farms, prevalent in England 200 years ago, but which are gradually giving way, even with us, to the *petite culture* as population thickens, in any particular neighbourhood, and the co-operative system can be fairly carried out. Everywhere we see signs of a happy, contented, but not over-wealthy population in these southern agricultural counties. It is much the same we are told in the eastern and western counties, but very different, alias, in the north. Most of the inhabitants appeared to be assembling for various evening athletic sports or dancing, and lively strains of music were heard in the neighbourhood of several stations. We were glad to find that double lines of railway, one for passengers and one for goods, had long been universal in this country as they are in ours. The chief proximate cause we were told by a fellow-passenger, of this change was a tremendous smash which occurred near the end of the 19th century, when a large party of illustrious men were going to the annual meeting of the Social Science Association, I think at Manchester. Two dukes, three bishops, an earl, and six baronets, were among the slain, and the whole country rose as one man demanding the double line system immediately. A bill was passed in the next session of Parliament, with ineffectual opposition from the Companies, enforcing the change. It seems wonderful to read in the chronicles of only 200 years ago how long people consented to be pounded to bits by accidents arising from the goods traffic running on the same line with passengers. The shameful manner also in which, according to the newspapers of the day, rival railway companies conspired against the public convenience, is remarkable, but I think it was not till the beginning of the next century that the Government had bought up all the railways in the kingdom, and consolidated them under their present admirable management. Fears were entertained at first of jobbery, &c. It was urged that Governments never could manage these things as well as private enterprise. But the post-office and telegraph system was always appealed to as an answer, and the result we hear has fully justified the advocates of the change.—*The Workman's Magazine for February.*

A CHINESE ROMANCE AND TRAGEDY.

The *Pekin Gazette* of the 15th December, contains an Imperial Edict, in which is embodied an instance of filial piety, that shows how tenaciously and madly the Chinese still cling to their old customs and prejudices. The Emperor says that he had just received despatches from Li-han-chang, Viceroy of Liang-hu Hunan and Hupeh (brother of Earl Li, the Viceroy of Chih-li), announcing the death of three noble ladies in Hunan, and begging that memorial gateways may be erected to commemorate their virtues—and that a relative of the family, a mandarin of the 3rd rank, may be degraded, as he has dared to act without a precedent, and contrary to the time-honoured custom of the Empire. The said mandarin, Li-kwong-liao, had a young brother who married a lady of great worth and beauty. After living happily together for some years, he died suddenly, leaving two young daughters, who were both betrothed in marriage. His wife was inconsolable, and wept incessantly, refusing all advice or sympathy from friends, and secluding herself from all society, until at last her health failed and she became quite blind. Her daughters, who inherited her beauty and passionate devotion, were greatly afflicted at this, and immediately resolved to devote their lives to her in fasting and prayers that her sight might be restored. The families they had promised to enter in marriage sought the interposition of an elder brother of the deceased father, the natural guardian of the ladies. He urged them to fulfil the vows already made ere they took upon themselves others which would for ever prevent them from doing so. They persisted in sacrificing everything to their mother. This, according to Chinese usages of filial piety, would be quite right; but the mother besought her daughters to heed the advice of their uncle. They still remained inexorable, saying that their lives should be one long prayer to the gods that her eyesight might be restored. The unhappy mother, feeling that she stood in the way of the happiness of her daughters and of the families into which they were to marry, suddenly cut the thread of her existence by killing herself. Their grief knew no bounds; they wept day and night. Their uncle again interposed, and seeing that all persuasion was lost upon them, commanded them to control their sorrows, and prepare for their approaching marriage. They only wept the more bitterly at this, and when left alone, they decided it would be better to join their beloved mother in Hades; and thus these two bereaved orphans put an end to their lives by hanging themselves in their own bedroom. The Emperor then says, this family cannot be too highly praised—the wife for her entire devotion to her husband, and the daughters for their loving devotion to their mother. Therefore, let the Board of Rites award to them the highest honours; and as for their uncle, the mandarin (Li-kwong-liao), who preferred for his nieces fortunate marriages to lives of fasting, or prayers and filial devotion, let him be immediately degraded from all office of trust and honour, that others, seeing his disgrace, may tremble and beware.

NEWCASTLE TONIC SOL-FA ASSOCIATION.

The annual concert of the Tonic Sol-Fa Association (by certified voices) took place on Tuesday night, in the Town Hall, Newcastle, but owing to the inclemency of the weather the audience, though large, was not equal to former years. There was, moreover, another drawback to the success of the concert, viz., that the classes from Berwick and other places north of Newcastle were absent, owing to the railway companies not having, as before, provided a special train from those places. The number of voices was therefore reduced from 1,000 as advertised, to about 250, but notwithstanding the deficiency, the audience were much delighted with the performances, and seemed to relish the singing of the various pieces. The performance, however, was not equal to former years, and perhaps no one would be more alive to that deficiency than the promoters of the concert, whose laudable desire to bring the classes together had been thus unexpectedly frustrated. The names of the teachers whose classes were represented were, Mr. W. Dobson, Newcastle; Mr. J. Hickman, Jarrow; Mr. W. M'Kendrick, Sunderland and South Shields; Mr. J. Pearson, Felling; Mr. J. Sands, North Shields; and Mr. J. Stephenson, Consett. Mr. Dobson acted as a leader, and Mr. W. Rea presided at the organ. The programme embraced some of the best tonic sol-fa music of the day. The concert was commenced with the hymn "Eternal Father, strong to save," by the Rev. J. B. Dykes, and it and the anthem, "Stand up and bless the Lord," by Sir John Goss, were given with great spirit. The part song "Heavenly Dwelling," was sung with much taste and sweetness. The song, with vocal accompaniment, entitled "Autumn Winds," which was given on a previous occasion with great effect, was repeated, and was loudly applauded, the sighing of the wind being happily rendered. There was also great ability shown by the scholars in the glee by T. Cooke, entitled, "Strike the Lyre," which was received in a manner that the rendering of it rightly entitled it to. The audience were also afforded a treat in the shape of an organ solo, a march in C flat, by Mr. Wm. Rea, who played in his usual graceful manner. A French chorus, "The Tatoo," with an imitation of drums was very creditably performed, the roll of the drums being very cleverly done by the bass voices, which, being intermingled with the sweet and melodious voices of the female portion of the singers, had a very pleasing effect. In the second part, a very effective arrangement of the Vesper Hymn, by Sir John Stevenson, was rendered with much taste; and Handel's chorus, "But as for His people," was given with considerable power. In "Sweetly come those strains"—a quintette and chorus, there was another of those pleasant surprises which the sol-fa concerts have introduced to the notice of the people of Newcastle. In it the "Old Hundredth" is given as if it were sung at a distance, and the intended effect was very skilfully carried out, the grand old air running through the piece and sounding as if "from the distant chapel door." The choral march, "Come, merry comrades all," was given with considerable spirit; and Dr. Callcott's enumeration exercise, "Aldiborontiphoscophornio," was loudly encored and repeated, being the only piece that was so dealt with, although every piece was encored. An operatic selection on the organ by Mr. Rea was heartily applauded; but Mr. Rea did not respond to the invitation of the audience to repeat it. Although the concert was not equal to that of last year, yet it was not wanting in attractiveness, and it showed how much could be done under the system.

EFFECTS OF THE COAL FAMINE ON THE NATION.

"W. R. G.," in a letter in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, makes the following remarks respecting the effects of the coal famine on the nation:—It is not only impossible for us all to get as much feul as we want at any price, but we have to pay a price which people of fixed and moderate incomes cannot afford. To say that we are paying on an average one-third more than during the last two years is at least not an exaggerated estimate. In many cases it is much more than this, and the smaller the quantities purchased the greater, I believe, is the per centage of advance. Let us see what this means. The slightest and least important consequence is privation and inconvenience throughout the middle classes—though this is not trifling. The next, and far severer consequence is privation (often nearly total) of the chief comfort, and, indeed, all but the first necessary, of the poor. Next to food, firing is most indispensable to make their lives endurable; and firing they can now not procure in quantities enough for warmth, scarcely even for cooking. Those who go among the poor know how much real suffering this implies, and wonder at, while they admire, the strange patience with which it is borne. But evils which are endured when inevitable, cease to be endurable when it begins to be suspected that they are artificial. (This, however, by the way.) The third result is an unmistakable augumentation of the death-rate. The deaths in London have risen 400 a week since the early part of January. Of this increase, how much is due to the severity of the weather, and how much to lack of the usual means of providing against that severity, we cannot, of course, accurately say. But few will attribute less than one-fourth of this swollen rate of mortality to want of sufficient fuel among the indigent classes. During the same period the deaths in twenty-one large cities, comprising one-fourth of the entire population of the kingdom, have risen nearly 1,000 per week. Comparing the two sets of figures, we shall probably not err in assigning 20,000 deaths per annum to the scarcity of fuel. Another consequence will be an increase of price in nearly every article of daily use. Even food, though less affected than any other, will not escape; for our only chance of keeping down the cost of home grown wheat and cattle lies in the application of steam machinery to agriculture; and the cost of steam machinery depends upon the price of coal and coal-made iron. There is scarcely a single commodity employed or consumed in England into the cost of which coal does not enter, and enter largely, as an ingredient. Every one may think this out for himself. Two or three comparatively small and familiar illustrations will assist. We are all beginning to find that we must pay our washerwoman more. Bakers and brewers will not, perhaps, be slow to follow. Farriers are everywhere giving notice that, the price of coal and iron being so vastly agumented, they can no longer shoe our horses at the old price. All articles of clothing, the produce of machinery and manufacturing industry, will feel the same influence. The price of paper has already risen 20 per cent., five or six tons of coal being needed for the production of one ton of paper. But this is a mere trifle compared with the operation of a rise of from 30 to 50 per cent. in the price of coal on the great manufacturing and commercial interests of the country. It has passed into a common place that Great Britain owes her industrial and mercantile supremacy to her cheap coal more than to any other advantage she possesses; that, indeed, this cheapness countervails many signal disadvantages. Dear coal means dear iron; and dear iron means a restriction of the iron trade, and a disadvantage *pro tanto* in competition with foreign producers. The same with every article of export. The consumption of coal in all our great industries is beyond the belief of the ordinary public. Out of 100,000,000 tons yearly raised, the iron manufacture alone consumes 33,000,000; other industries 30,000,000 more; steamboats and railways, at least 6,000,000. Single manufacturers consume 600 tons a week, and an advance of 10s. a week knocks off £300 a week, or £15,000 a year from their profits. But far worse than this, this addition to the cost of the article produced reduces consumption, checks export, discourages production, stops furnaces and factories, throws hundreds of thousands of artizans out of work, or puts them on short time. The same with sailors; the same with dockyard labourers; the same with all persons connected with the vast machinery of exchange. One shipowner declares that his coal bill last year was £15,000 heavier than the year before, and that he has twenty ships, at least, lying idle in the docks. But the requisite amount of coal for all these industries cannot be obtained, even if the profits of the trade could bear the enhanced price. Works must stop, and are stopping daily. Orders are refused, and go to be executed elsewhere. Production being reduced, traffic is reduced in proportion; railway dividends ditto. It is not too much to say that 30 or 50 per cent. permanent advance in coal will very speedily curtail and partially paralyse nearly all the chief industries of the country, and turn our late prosperity into positive bad times. Then come unemployed skilled labour, augumented rates—levied, moreover, on a smaller area of rateable property—deficient yield of customs and exercise, the necessity for increased taxation. In fine, cheap coal is the key of our national position. Cheap coal has made England industrially and commercially the mistress of the world. Dear coal means (to sum up all) privation, discomfort, increased mortality, enhanced prices of every article of consumption, reduced exports, artizans put upon short time, thrown out of work and starving, a failing revenue, inflated poor-rates—a pinched and impoverished community, in short—and all this artificial and gratuitous—with coal at hand enough to last us some say for 300, some say for 1,200 years.

At an early hour on Saturday morning, two children named Mary Glenfoney and Hannah Drummond, were found dead in their beds, and an old man named Felix Kerr, residing at 14, Grosvenor-street, Gateshead, also died suddenly.

On Monday afternoon, Captain Charles Dybble, of the ship America, lying in the Tyne Docks, South Shields, accidentally fell down the hold of the vessel, and received a severe fracture to one of his legs, and also seriously injured about the head and face. He was conveyed to his home in Nile-street, South Shields.

A Chinese Coal Field.—It is to be regretted that, when the coal deposits of the various countries are causing the greatest interest and anxiety to their inhabitants the Chinese are wilfully blind to the incalculable advantages that might be derived from a judicious use of their immense coal fields, covering as they do an area of upwards of 400,000 square miles. The coal bearing province of Shansai, notably, contains some 30,000 square miles, with beds varying from 12 feet to 30 feet in thickness, and in the province of Shanghai the coal bearing strata are 500 feet in thickness, and contain, besides, an inexhaustible supply of iron ore. The quality of a vast majority of the coal-seams is stated by competent authorities to be equal to the best Cardiff, which, owing to the deplorable inactivity prevailing, sells at prices varying from £1 11s. 6d. to £2 9s. 6d. per ton. It is to be hoped that permission may ere long obtained from the Chinese Government, to work these mines and construct railways for opening up communication and facilities for transport.

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER AND EXTRAORDINARY LIVING.

On Sunday afternoon the Bishop of Manchester preached a sermon in St. Saviour's Church, Ringley, in connection with the opening of new day and Sunday schools in St. Saviour's parish, which have been erected at a cost of about £1,500. In his concluding remarks, the Bishop said there was a remarkable saying in the Book of Proverbs, "The prosperity of fools shall destroy them." "The fool" in the Bible did not mean an ignorant man, or one who could not read, write, and cipher; but the fool was the godless man, who said in his heart, "There is no God." He was now going to say a word to his good friends the working men of Ringley. He thought he might venture to call them his friends, for on a previous occasion he had met a number of the Ringley colliers. This was a good time with collieries. They were earning high wages. How were they spending those wages? In things that profited or in things that ruined even while they were being enjoyed? Was all the money going in meat and drink? Were they saying to the soul, "Take thine ease; eat, drink, and be merry. This good time will last a good time longer yet, and while the money is coming in we may as well get as much out of it as we can?" Now, he honestly said he did not know what were the habit of the working men of Ringley; but he did hear it said that these prosperous times, these high wages for the working men, were not doing them the good they ought to do; that it had brought on them the habits of luxuriousness and large expenditure, which it would be very hard on them when bad times came to control. He remembered how he was brought up by a careful mother 35 years ago. He could see the way in which people in his rank of life were being brought up now, and he could see that they were having ten times as much indulgence as he had had. Whether upon dress, or food, or what we ate and drank, or upon amusements, he ventured to say that people were spending ten times as much now as they were spending on such objects 50 years ago; and he very much doubted whether the mass of them were not living, he would not say beyond their incomes, but at a higher rate than was justified by their incomes; and therefore he would earnestly impress upon working men that for their own sakes, for their own real comfort and happiness, they had better practise a little self-denial.

DAYS WITHOUT NIGHTS.

Nothing strikes a stranger more forcibly, if he visits Sweden at the season of year when the days are the longest, than the absence of night. Dr. Baird once related some interesting facts. He arrived at Stockholm from Gottenburgh, four hundred miles distant, in the morning, and in the afternoon went to visit some friends. He returned about midnight, when it was as light as it is in England half an hour before sunset. You could see distinctly, but all was quiet in the streets; it seemed as if the inhabitants were gone away, or were asleep, or dead. The sun in June goes down at Stockholm a little before ten o'clock. There is a great illumination all night, as the sun passes round the earth towards the North Pole, and the reflection of its rays is such that you can see to read at midnight without any artificial light. The first morning Dr. Baird awoke in Stockholm he was surprised to see the sun shining into his room, He looked at his watch, and found it was only three o'clock. The next time he awoke it was five o'clock, but there were no persons in the street. The Swedes in the cities are not very industrious. There is a mountain at the head of the Gulf of Bothnia where, on the 21st of June, the sun does not appear to go down at all. A steamboat goes up from Stockholm for the purpose of carrying those who are curious to witness the phenomenon. It occurs only on one night. The sun reaches the horizon—you can see the whole face of it; and in five minutes more it begins to rise. At the North Cape, latitude 72 degrees, the sun does not go down for several weeks. In June it would be about 25 degrees above the horizon at midnight. In the winter time the sun disappears, and it is not seen for weeks; then it comes, and remains for ten, fifteen or twenty minutes; after which it descends, and finally does not set at all, but makes almost a circle around the heavens. Dr. Baird was asked how they managed in these latitudes with regard to hired persons, and what they considered a day. He replied, that they worked by the hour, and twelve hours would be considered a day's work. Birds and animals take their assustomed rest at the usual hour, whether the sun goes down or not. Another very interesting account of these glorious scenes is related by Mr. Campbell and his party, as observed in the north of Norway, from a cliff one thousand feet above the sea:—"The ocean stretched in silent vastness at our feet; the sound of the waves scarcely reached our airy lookout. Away in the north the huge old sun rested along the horizon. We all stood silent, looking at our watches. When both hands came together at at twelve midnight, the full round orb hung triumphantly above the waves, a bridge of gold, running due north, spanning the water between us and him. There he shone in silent majesty, which knew no setting. We involuntarily took off our hats; no word was said. Combine, if you can, the most brilliant sunrise and sunset you ever saw, and their beauties will pale before the gorgeous colouring which now lit up the ocean, heaven, and mountain. In half an hour the sun moved perceptibly; the colours changed to that of morning; a fresh breeze rippled over the sea; one songster after another began its notes in a grove behind us; we had slid into another day."—*Aunt Judy's Magazine for February.*

Scarcity of Coal in Durham.—It is said that in some households, in the city of Durham, the scarcity of fuel is such as to allow of the kitchen fire alone being lighted, and that the members of families have to keep up the supply of physical heat by taking their seats in turn at the fire. Another story is that an old lady, advanced in years, is compelled to remain in bed to keep herself warm. At many of the larger inns and hotels the proprietors have been compelled, on account of the difficulties they have of obtaining the necessary supply of coals, to burn wood. Among all classes, and in all quarters of the town, the effect is the same. The richer inhabitants have to be content with such quantities of coal as they can obtain. Numerous families well able to pay for the coals are put upon short allowances, and very many have had to borrow off their neighbours.

Desperate Encounter between a Policeman and a Poultry Stealer.—On Sunday morning, at about three o'clock, P.C. O'Connor, stationed at Hedgefield, was on duty at the village, when he observed a man carrying a sack on his back. He questioned the man as to what he had in the sack, and he replied, "A game cock, you b——r," striking the officer with the sack at the same time. The officer was about to arrest the man on suspicion of stealing the contents, but the man offered desperate resistance. For a considerable time a hand to hand struggle was maintained, but after a quarter of an hour the constable became almost overpowered, Meanwhile the poultry in the sack had got loose, and the man, seeing his opponent becoming weak, placed the sack over the constable's head, and held it there until he became senseless. On recovering his senses O'Connor found his antagonist had escaped. Some minutes after O'Connor was met by P.C. Taylor, who assisted him to his home, where he now lies in a very bad state. The poultry were found on the highway some time afterwards, and claimed by Mr. Geo. Brumfoot, of Newburn. On Sunday night a striker, named George Gillins, belonging to Winlaton, was apprehended at Blaydon, and he has since been identified by O'Connor as the man he encountered on the road.

LITERARY SELECTIONS.

Good Natured People.—Be good-natured if you can, for there is no attraction so great, no charm so admirable.

Prejudice lurks in hidden corners of all minds over which knowledge has not shed its penetrating light, and prejudice is the natural foe of magnanimity.

Conceit.—There is one thing worse than ignorance, and that is conceit, Of all intractable fools, an otherwise wise man is the worst. You may cause idiots to philosophize: you may coax donkeys to forego the thistles; but dont think of ever driving common sense into the head of a conceited person.

Keep the Conscience Clear.—How many bitter thoughts does the innocent man avoid! Serenity and cheerfulness are his portion. Hope is continually pouring its balm into his soul. His heart is at rest, whilst others are goaded and tortured by the stings of a wounded conscience, the remonstrances and risings up of principles which they cannot forget, perpetually teazed by returning temptations, perpetually lamenting defeated resolutions.—Paley.

Shams.—That you are eccentric, is only to say that you are an Englishman; and if your eccentricity consists in leading a rather simple life, and in not feeling bound to do things you don't like or can't afford, because others do them, you may be proud of the designation. when you hear people of limited means talking and swaggering about travelling, yachting, shooting, hunting, climbing mountains, and so forth, with the airs of millionaires, it is surely a creditable and a conspicuous thing to have done nothing, seen nothing, and to have been nowhere. At a period when the great object of life seems to be outdoing your neighbour in all things; to appear to be worth five thousands a-year when your real income is not as many hundreds; to paint, varnish, veneer, and tinsel yourself, your doings, and your possessions, to try and make honest brick look, by the aid of stucco, like stone, to assume habits which by birth and education are utterly alien to you; when everything you do is either "awfully jolly," or a "beastly bore;" when expletives and superlatives are necessary to every remark,—there are many advantages in being thoroughly simple and honest in speech and conduct, many advantages not implied in the mere axiom that "honesty is the best policy." Meeting the gigantic demon "sham" at every turn, having constantly to hob and nob with his attendant imps "pretence" and "make believe," it will be difficult always to steer clear of the habit of exaggeration. So long as what has been called the "bellwether" instinct of humanity remains dominant, we may be sadly prone in an age of luxury to despise the simplicity of a homely life; and when a season arises affording ample opportunity for a little extension of that "bow," at one time the chief weapon of our ancestors it is difficult always manfully to resist pulling it. The question, "Where have you been?" offers such an opportunity; and he who has the courage to meet it with the rejoinder "Nowhere," deserves a gold medal, especially if he can follow his answer up with the assurance that he was stationary from choice.—*Tinsley's Magazine.*

The House Fly.—"Nat, there is another question which has often puzzled me. In the summer time flies abound by thousands. They loiter about flowers, perch upon fruit and enter houses, and buzz about windows, or continually accompany horses, and teaze them about the ears. But in winter a fly is as rare as a swallow. You say the swallow migrates; does the fly migrate too?" "Not usually, Andrew; the great bulk of them hybernate or go into a deep sleep. As the cold increases towards autumn, they frequently creep into unoccupied rooms, lay themselves up behind picture-frames, or in the folds of curtains; their bodies become torpid, like those of the bat or hedgehog, and they sleep away the winter awaiting the return of spring. With the April sunshine they again wake, their bodies resume their functions, and life and activity prevail." "That accounts for a little circumstance which occurred the other day. My housemaid was airing an unoccupied room, and the flies came tumbling out of the window-curtains, and lay by dozens near the window, in a kind of half mesmerized, half-wakeful state, as if Nature was wishful to rouse them into a living state, but didn't precisely know how." "Yes, they had lain to pid until the fire was put into the room. It then acted upon them like the sun of spring, and roused them into activity. In very warm rooms the house-fly will be about all winter. The atmosphere is not sufficiently cold to induce torpidity." "Then they never migrate, Nat?" "Sometimes, but not periodically like birds. Immense flights occasionally cross the British Channel, but the cause of their migration is rather obscure. I once witnessed an attempt of a flight to cross when sailing between St. Margaret's Bay and Calais. We fell in with one which had left France, and tried to gain the English coast, but failed. The great bulk of it consisted of the common house fly, with a few of the yellow and white butterflies. They lay floating dead upon the sea by myriads, whilst we sailed through their lifeless bodies for miles. We first met with them about four miles from Calais. It seemed as if myriads, almost countless, had congregated upon the coast like swallows, tried to cross the Channel, and failed."—*The Peacock at Rowsley, by John Joseph Briggs, F.R.S.L.*

The Origin of Architecture.—"Among the relics of early nations, the invention and progress of each of the arts may best be traced; but as architecture is the most durable as regards the materials out of which works of art are formed, efforts in this branch only can be referred to for illustration. In the remains, however, of Indian temples we see at once the original invention of the art from an imitation of natural caves and of the trees of the forest; as these temples not only resemble, but are mainly constructed out of the former, and closely imitate the latter in their carvings and pillars. Probably, indeed, in architecture, not only the pillars and mouldings show the origin of the art as derived from an imitation of the ancient groves, but even the tracings (traceries?) of the windows of many buildings, and the painted glass which filled them, may have been adopted from an imitation of the closely intersecting branches over an opening in the grove, or suggested by the leaves and the transparent and vari-coloured foliage and flowers, and also fruit, which are seen among them. Indeed, the forms, both of the leaves of particular individual trees and also those into which the branches resolve themselves might constitute the types for certain windows in architectural structures; while in the lines of casement are correspondingly imitated the fibres and twigs. In many countries, however, as in China and in some parts of India, the style of architecture which has been invented and adopted seems to possess a certain degree of resemblance to the foliage and structure of the trees which are produced there, as also to the style of the mountains and rocks, which give a character to the country, and which must have had a powerful influence in directing the tastes of the people, even supposing they did not supply the original patterns for their artistical designs. The type, or model, of imitation in some of the mouldings in Gothic architecture may be discovered in the forms of willow rods, which in ancient structures immediately preceding the period of Gothic architecture were used in certain buildings, and the shapes produced by which suggested the mouldings in stone which were thus invented, and which are still continued. So the peaks and pinnacles of mountains, as in the case of Mont Blanc (more especially as mountains were themselves early resorted to as places for public worship), may have supplied the types of the pinnacles of temples, and their conical head the type of the dome. The shape of the heart is said to have suggested that of the vase, and the forms of certain fishes may have suggested that of some windows. In the general outline of the cathedrals and of several churches that of many may perhaps be not indistinctly traced as the model of imitation—The altar corresponding with the brain, the choir with the head and neck, the transept with the arms, the body with the trunk, and the western aisles with the legs. As regards the interior of the structure, the aisles of a Gothic cathedral are thought by some to have been suggested by the form created by an avenue of trees, especially when this consisted of four rows, the interlacing boughs of which closely resemble the mouldings of the arches."—*The Theory of the Arts.*

To Lend.

TO LEND, £100, £200, £300, and £400 upon approved security.—Apply to JOSEPH HOWARD Consett. 624c

MONEY TO LEND.

BRITISH MUTUAL INVESTMENT CO. LIMITED.

SUMS from £50 to £1,000 to lend on approved Personal Security, and larger sums on Freehold or other property. No enquiry fee. Monthly or quarterly repayments.—Apply to

J. J. BRITTON,
Solicitor,
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399c

For Sale.

EIGHT good HOUSES for SALE. Easy purchase.—Apply to JOSEPH HOWARD, Sharebroker, Consett. 708c

100 CONSETT WATER CO. SHARES For SALE, (Second issue) Apply to Jos. HOWARD, Consett. 683c

10 SHARES FOR SALE, in the HYSEHOPE SILVER AND BARYTES MINING COMPANY, LIMITED. Apply to JOSEPH HOWARD, Sharebroker, Consett. 697c

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, a SPRING CART, nearly new, suitable for a green-grocer or miller.—Apply to Mr. WM. TURNER, Station Hotel, Blackfine, Benfieldside. 623c

BUILDING PLOTS FOR SALE by Private Contract at SHOTLEY BRIDGE, within Ten Minutes walk of the Railway Station, in well Timbered and Picturesque situations.—Applications to treat to be made to Mr. JOHN BOOTH, Solicitor, Shotley Bridge. 128c

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

ALL those Five Two-Roomed COTTAGES, situate in John Street, Consett, Numbering from 2 to 6.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer and Commission Agent, Blackhill, County of Durham. 363c

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. T. Crow.

Peel's Great Northern Horse Repository and Auction Sale Yard, Haymarket, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
Sales by Auction every Tuesday.

THE next SALE of HORSES, HARNESS, CARRIAGES, &c., will take place on TUESDAY Feb. 25, 1873. ARTHUR T. CROW, Auctioneer

By Mr. John Jenkins.

SALE BY PRIVATE CONTRACT.

MR. JOHN JENKINS, Auctioneer, &c., Consett, has a number of most valuable BUILDING SITES FOR SALE, leading from Market Street to East-Green Street, Medomsley Road, which, if built upon, and a street properly made, will be one of the choice situations in Consett. The Sites will be Sold at reasonable Prices.

Also, a good BOILER, new, 6ft. by 3ft., made of Low Moor Plate, with Frame and Door. Any further information can be obtained by applying to the AUCTIONEER, Trafalgar Street Sale-rooms, Consett.

July 17th, 1872. 214c

By Mr. T. Whetherell.

BROADWOOD, THREE MILES FROM LANCHESTER RAILWAY STATION.

UPWARDS OF 120 TONS OF WELL-WON HAY.

MR. THOMAS WETHERELL will SELL BY AUCTION, on WEDNESDAY, the 12th of March, 1873, at BROADWOOD, near Satley, Four STACKS of OLD LAND HAY and Two STACKS of CLOVER HAY, well got and of good quality, to be taken off the premises.

Full particulars to be had of the AUCTIONEER, 32, Claypath, Durham.

Sale at 2 p.m. punctually. 704c

By Mr. Henry Brown.

HORSES, CONVEYANCES, HARNESS, &c., FOR SALE.

MR. HENRY BROWN, Auctioneer,

HAS received instructions to offer for SALE BY AUCTION, at the FOX INN, DIPTON, on MONDAY, March 3rd, 1873, the following HORSES, CONVEYANCES, HARNESS, &c. (belonging to Mr. TODD, and others, who is declining the coaching business), comprising—1 Brown Horse, "Billy;" 1 Brown Mare, "Poliy;" 1 White Pony, "Paddy;" 1 Chestnut Mare, "Meggy;" 1 Dun Filly, by "Silvertop;" a Wagonette in good order; a Brake; 1 set of Double Harness; 1 set of Single Harness; Stable Utensils, &c., &c.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock. 709c

By Mr. William Raw.

STATION HOTEL, BLACKHILL.

MR WILLIAM RAW having been honoured with instruction from MR WILLIAM TURNER, Station Hotel, Blackhill, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on the Premises, the following Valuable HACK HORSES, CONVEYANCES, IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY, &c., &c., on MONDAY March 3rd, 1873.—Comprising:—

1 Black Half-Bred MARE 5 y. o. 15 hands 1 in. high, Quiet and Honest in Saddle or Harness.

1 GRAY FILLY rising 3 y. o., 15 hands 2½ in. by NORFOLK, COB, very promising. Quiet and goes well in Harness or Saddle.

1 BAY FILLY rising 3 y. o., 14 h. 2½ in., by LAMMASDAY a Fine Animal and quiet to Ride or Drive. The above are three useful and valuable Hacks, sound and clear of vice.

CONVEYANCES.

2 Excellent Spring Carts, 1 White-chapel, 1 Dog Cart; 1 Good Phæton, nearly new; 1 Gig; 1 Spring Butcher's Cart with Cover; and 1 Neat Snow Sledge. The above Conveyances are all good and in excellent order.

IMPLEMENTS.

2 Iron Swing Ploughs, nearly new by Ramson & Simm; 1 Pair of Harrows in good order; 2 Sets of Ploughing Harness; 3 Sets of Gig Harness, very good; 1 first-class Joiners' Bench; 3 Stone Pig Troughs, and several other useful articles.

Sale to Commence at One o'clock precisely.

Sale Office, Blackhill, February 20th 1873. 695c

Contracts.

TO TOWN CORPORATIONS, LOCAL BOARDS, BUILDERS, &c.—The North of England Val de Travers Paving Company (Limited) is prepared to take CONTRACTS for the laying and repairing of Roadways, Footways, Courtyards, Roofs, Stables, Cowbyres, Damp Courses, Cisterns, Brewery, Warehouse, and Kitchen Floor, and all the various applications of the Val de Travers Pavement.—Samples and prices may be obtained from the Manager, Mr. D. P. MORISON, 21, Collingwood Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 502c

Wanted.

WANTED Immediately FOUR QUARRYMEN —Apply to JOHN HESLOP, Blackhill. 693c

WANTED Two ERRAND BOYS.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office. 686c

WANTED, an APPRENTICE to the PRINTING BUSINESS.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 52c

WANTED a Young Man to the GROCERY and PROVISION BUSINESS.—Apply to Jos. A. CURRY, Grocer, &c., Dipton. 705c

WANTED, COOKS, HOUSE MAIDS, and WAITING MAIDS.—Apply at Miss LEYBOURN'S Office, 5 Collingwood Street, Newcastle. From Eleven till Three on Tuesday's and Saturday's Ladies will meet Country Servants who will be engaged subject to satisfactory references. 4c

WANTED to Purchase or Lease, a PUBLIC-HOUSE, or BEERHOUSE. Price from £200 to £2,000. No objection to buy, if in a Building Society.—Address, stating full particulars, to "Malt," *Guardian* Office, Consett. 649c

WANTED, Two or Three good ENGINEMEN, to take charge of engines for grinding fire clay. Constant employment and liberal wages given, None but steady men need apply. Also a good steady CARTMAN, to go with a Horse and Cart.—Application to be made to R. DICKINSON & Co., Fire Brick Works Office, Consett.

February 27th, 1873. 702c

TO BUILDERS.

WANTED TENDERS for the ERECTION of a two stalled STABLE, HARNESS ROOM, and COACH-HOUSE, at Viewfield, Shotley Bridge.

Drawings and Specifications to be seen at JOHN CAMPBELL'S, Shotley Grove. Tenders must be in on or before the 7th March.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted. 710c

BUILDERS wishing to TENDER for the whole of the WORKS (except Plumbing and Gas-fitting), required in making certain alterations and additions to Snows Green House, near Shotley Bridge, County Durham, are informed that the Drawings and Specifications may be seen at the office of JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects, Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, by whom Tenders will be received up to MARCH 10th, 1873. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted 696c

To Let.

TO LET, the TOWN HALL, CATCHGATE, suitable for Concerts, Lectures, Public Meetings, Sales, &c.—For further particulars, apply to Mr. R. HENDERSON, Blacksmith, Catchgate, by Burnopfield. 241c

TO LET, MARQUEES or MARQUEE TENTS, any size, on moderate terms.—Apply, WALTER PROUDLOCK, (late of Black House, High Bridge,) Wholesale Tobacco Pipe Manufacturer, Newcastle Arms, No 3, Clayton Street East, near Eldon, Square, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Well-Aired Beds. New Milk. Live Rabbits and Pigeons supplied. 224c

TO BE LET, and entered upon at May day, 1873, the "Punch Bowl" Inn, situate at Edmondbyers, County Durham. The house is in thorough repair, with excellent Stable, Coach-house, and other conveniences attached, affording ample accommodation to sportsmen visiting these celebrated moors during the shooting season.—For particulars apply to Mr. W. TAYLOR, Draper, Blanchland, who will receive offers for the same.

Blanchland, February 27th, 1873. 703c

TIME OF LETTING EXTENDED IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE SNOW.

TO BE LET,
And entered upon on the 13th May, 1873,

FINE HOUSE FARM, in the Parish of Shotley, and County of Northumberland, containing 115 Acres or thereabouts of Arable and Pasture Land, at present occupied by Mr. Joseph Briddock.—Mr. GEORGE WAUGH, of Low Waskerley, near Shotley Bridge, will show the Farm, and further particulars may be known on application to Mr. SAMPLE, Land Agent, Matfen, by whom offers in writing will be received up to SATURDAY, the 22nd inst.

597c

Public Notices.

T. LAMONBY, in tendering his thanks to his Customers and the Public generally, respectfully intimates that he has removed to his new Shop, FRONT STREET (next door to Wesleyan Chapel), LEADGATE. 701c

PUBLIC NOTICE.

THE SHOTLEY BRIDGE TEMPERANCE SOCIETY, (*D.V.*), will celebrate their Thirth-eighth ANNIVERSARY, on EASTER MONDAY, April 14th, 1873. 653c

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

TO LET the KERBING, CHANNELLING and MACADAMISING John Street, Consett. Plans and Specifications of which may be seen on application to Mr. G. DAWSON, 4, Sherburn Terrace, Consett, by whom Tenders will be received up to MONDAY, the 3rd of March, 1873, to be marked "Tenders for John Street."

The Board do not bind themselves to accept the lowest nor any Tender. 691c

SPRING TARES FORSALE.
LINSEED CAKES.
COTTON CAKES.
E. DIXON,
711c EBCHESTER MILL.

NEWCASTLE DISTRICT WESLEYAN BAND OF HOPE DEMONSTRATION.

TOWN HALL, WEDNESDAY, March 5. 1,000 Children will Sing. Conductor—Mr. J. B. BOWES; Organist—Mr. W. REA; Speakers—Revs. W. H. AFFLECK, W. MALTBY, and T. HIND. Chairman—W. D. STEPHENS, Esq. A Special Train, calling at all intermediate stations, will leave Newcastle for Benfieldside at 10 p.m. 713c

Business Announcements.

ANOTHER LARGE ARRIVAL OF HAMS AND BACON.

SALE FOR FOURTEEN DAYS LONGER.

THOMAS SWAINSTON
15, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

DEFIES COMPETITION IN QUALITY AND PRICE, AS FOR EXAMPLE, THE FOLLOWING QUOTATIONS—

WHOLE HAMS, 7½d per lb.
BACON, 5d per lb.
„ (the finest) only 6d per lb., or whole sides 6s 6d per stone.
200 PRIME HAMS, MILD CURED 7½D. PER LB. EACH.

THOMAS SWAINSTON,
15, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT. 673c

READY-
MADE
CLOTHING.

R. W. SHAW

BEGS to announce that he has contracted for a very large supply
OF
FASHIONABLE READY-MADE CLOTHING,
Particulars of which will be published shortly. 700c

LEFT in a Third-class Railway Carriage between Newcastle and Lintz Green Station, on February 15th, a BROWN PAPER PARCEL, addressed, LEADBITTER, Kyo. Any person returning the same to the Station-master, Lintz Green, or to Mr. LEADBITTER, Kyo, Annfield Plain, will be rewarded for their trouble. 706c

CONSETT CHURCH TOWER FUND.

THE Sum of £95 from the Parishioners of Consett is Still Required to provide the Funds necessary for the Completion of Consett Church Tower. Will all who have not promised to subscribe send in their names, with the amount, to the Vicar or the Churchwardens? A full List of all Subscriptions, great and small, will shortly be published.

FREDERICK STEGGALL, Vicar.
W. AYNSLEY, } Churchwardens.
J. S. MURRAY, }
670c

THOROUGHBRED STUD HORSE, at WOODLANDS, near Knitsley Station. STENTOR, by De Clare, (by Touchstone, out of Longbow's dam), out of Songstress, winner of the Oaks, by Birdcatcher, out of Cyprian, (also winner of the Oaks). Both Stentor and De Clare won every race they ran, the former won the Poule d'Essai, or French 2,000 guineas.

STENTOR stands 16 hands 1½ inches high, bright bay, 4 black legs great substance, he is the sire of Pythonisse, Thabor, Neptunus, Paimpont, Absolon, Corvette, Prima Vera, and other winners. Thoroughbred mares, ten guineas; half-bred mares three guineas. Three mares at the price of Two.—Apply to W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq., Enfield Lodge, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 664c

THE GARDEN.

TO THE GENTRY, CLERGY, AND PUBLIC GENERALLY.

NOW READY, ROBSON'S justly celebrated and splendid collection of KITCHEN GARDEN SEEDS for one year's supply of Vegetables, including all the newest varieties, with full cultural directions for sowing.

	£	s.	d.
No. 1 COLLECTION—40 varieties, also 20qts of Peas of sorts, inclusive	3	3	0
No. 2 COLLECTION—40 varieties, also 12qts. of Peas, of sorts, inclusive	2	2	0
No. 3 COLLECTION—40 varieties, smaller quantities, 12 sorts of Peas, inclusive	1	1	0
No. 4 COLLECTION—40 varieties, ditto, ditto, ditto..........................	0	11	0
No. 5 COLLECTION—40 varieties, 6 sorts of Peas, inclusive....................	0	6	0

Carriage paid to any address, on receipt of Post-office Order or cheque payable to

C. B. ROBSON,
NURSERY AND SEEDSMAN,
HEXHAM.
(Address in full.) 714c

CAUTION! CAUTION!!

BEWARE of travelling impostors going about the country representing themselves as connected with Dr. PERRY; their only object being to fleece the afflicted and make lies their refuge.

N.B.—To make this more plain, Dr. PERRY never gives medicine anywhere, except at his Depots No. 12, Victoria Street, Consett, and at 61, Blackett Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 622c

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the YEARLY MEETING of the PROPRIETORS of this COMPANY will be held in the COMPANY'S OFFICE, GREEN STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE, on TUESDAY, March 4th, 1873, at Twelve o'clock at Noon, for transacting General Business of the Company.

The Transfer Books will be closed Fourteen Days before the above meeting.

By Order
R. DICKINSON, Chairman.
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.

Feby. 13th, 1873. 669c

PRICE THREE SHILLINGS, POST FREE.

THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT with the AWARDED ROADS, QUARRIES, WELLS, WATERING PLACES, &c., set out by the Commissioners by their Award, dated 13th June, 1871; also a note of the various

CUSTOMS OF THE COPYHOLD OF MANORS
OF THE SEE OF DURHAM.

Edited and Compiled by ROBERT JACKSON, for upwards of thirty years Managing Clerk in the Copyhold Office, Durham, and late Bailiff of the Manor.

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ALMANACK FOR 187

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JACKSON'S
BUSINESS AND HOUSEHOLD
ALMANACK FOR 1873,
Will contain, besides a vast amount of general information,
A DIRECTORY FOR THE DISTRICT
Corrected up to the time of going to press,
The names and residences of the Magistrates in the Lanchester Petty Sessional District;
Lanchester Board of Guardians;
Lanchester Highway Board;
Consett Local Board;
Leadgate Local Board;
Benfieldside Local Board;
Tow Law Local Board.
Directors of Consett Ironworks;
Directors of Consett Waterworks Company;
Directors of Shotley Bridge and Consett District Gas Company;
Directors of Annfield Plain Gas Company;
Directors of Dipton Gas Company;
Directors of Burnopfield Gas Company
Benfieldside Burial Board; also the Cemetery Charges, with Rules and Regulations
Shotley Bridge County Court.
The various places of Worship with the names and Residences of Ministers in the District.
Postal Regulations;
Postal Arrangements, including the time of Arrival and Departure of Mails from the various Post-offices in the District, and Names of Postmasters.
Shotley Bridge Hirings and Fairs;
Coaches and Carriers leaving Consett, Shotley Bridge, &c.
List of Bankers with their London Agents
List of Fairs for the Counties of Northumberland and Durham.
Local Building Societies with time and place of meeting;
Local Friendly Societies, with time and place of meeting.
Dates of holding Local Petty Sessions at Lanchester, Shotley Bridge, &c., &c.

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Abergavenny Castle—with an engraving.
Death of Richard III—with an engraving of th Battle of Bosworth Field.
Folly Bridge—with an engraving.
Rhembrandt's Mill, do.
The Boundary Stone, do.
Chertsey Abbey do.
Tewkesbury Abbey, do.
Woolwich Dockyard, do.
Brecon Bridge South Wales do.
Chelsea Hospital, do.
Crickhowell, Brecon, do.

WISE MAXIMS AND CHOICE READINGS.—
The Value of Books. A Capital Story.
Testimony of a Water Drinker. Good Advice.
Sunday Labour. The Gospel.
Power of a Mother's Word.

GOLDEN RULES TO BE OBSERVED THROUGH LIFE.—
A Sermon for the Young. Riddle of Life.
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The Bottom of the Ocean. Spare Moments.
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Proper use of Hope. Power of Perseverance.
Benefit of Knowledge. Greatness of Man.
Enthusiasm of Man. Contagiousness of Enthusiasm

TWELVE GOLDEN MAXIMS FOR FAMILIES,
1.—Health must be regarded.
2.—Education must be earnestly attended to.
3.—Amiable tempers must be cherished.
4.—Industrious habits must be formed.
5.—Mutual confidence must be reposed.
6.—A continual desire for domestic tranquillity must be cherished.
7.—The parental character must be highly respected.
8.—Domestic order must be maintained.
9.—The love of home must be fostered.
10.—Sympathy under domestic trials must be expressed.
11.—Sincere prayer must be presented for each other.
12.—The family must look forward to a purer, brighter, nobler world than this.

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Public Notices.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that all or any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry must first obtain the consent of the Secretary of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default thereof, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Persons will be Prosecuted as the Law directs. The Secretary can be seen daily at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.

By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1870. 242a

The Consett Guardian.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1st, 1873.

Local and District News.

THE SUFFERINGS OF WOMANHOOD.—William Morris, a puddler, was charged at Hartlepool, on Monday, with an intent and unprovoked assault upon his wife, on Friday morning last. After giving him all the money she had to get beer, the cowardly scoundrel locked the door, and knocking her down, kicked and beat her about the head and body, until her piteous cries for help brought on the scene several neighbours, but it was not till they forced an entrance that they could obtain admission to the house. The magistrates condemned the prisoner in the severest terms, and to his evident astonishment sentenced him to two months' hard labour.

A WEARDALE YOUNG MAN KILLED AT STOCKTON.—On Monday an inquest was held on the body of Cuthbert English, a young man 17 years of age, belonging to Weardale, and who met with his death at Stockton on Saturday last, at which place he has been residing.. He was goods guard on the Clarance Railway at Stockton, and met with his death whilst shunting some waggons from the main line on to the sidings. The deceased used a piece of wood placed on the last waggon on the one line and on the first of the other, for the purpose of moving them, and whilst doing this he slipped and fell before the waggons, which passed over his body. He died within about an hour after he was taken to his home in Howden Street.

THE CASE OF THE "COUNTESS OF DERWENTWATER."—In the Newcastle County Court, on Monday before T. Bradshaw, Esq , Judge), the case of Amelia Radcliffe, better known as the "Countess of Derwentwater," came up. Mr. Steavenson said he had gone down with Mr. Fenwick to the Gaol with a view of taking steps to bring up Amelia Radcliffe for examination at the Court that day; but they found that in consequence of the inclement state of the weather it was not advisable to bring her up then. The examination, therefore, must be further postponed. He made this statement, he said, as he wished to inform the Court that they were taking proceedings to have her brought to the Court.—His Honour then directed that the case should be further adjourned.

MURDEROUS ASSAULT ON A WIFE.—A tramp named Thomas Jones was on Monday charged at Bishop Auckland, with assaulting his wife under most brutal circumstances, at Bishop Auckland, on Saturday. The pair were staying at Natham Green's lodging house, and because the woman had not the supper ready when the man went in, about half-past eleven o'clock, he struck her to the ground and then dragged her across the floor by the hair of the head into a corner, and kicked her over the face and head in a most murderous manner. Sergt. Harrison, who was sent for, found the poor woman lying in a corner in a pool of blood, and took her assailant into custody. The ruffian pleaded guilty, but said his wife was drunk. The woman did not wish to press the case, and prisoner was fined £1 and costs. Colonel Hall, the presiding magistrate, remarked that had the case been pressed, the prisoner would have been sent to the Assizes.

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—Health's Defence.—None save the strongest can with impunity pass through the sudden transitions from wet to dry, from cold to muggy weather always prevalent during the late autumn and winter months. Influenza, bronchitis, cough, sore throat, diphtheria, or quinsey will attack, those most watchful of their health; but they can readily arrest any of these complaints by rubbing Holloway's Ointment twice a day upon the skin adjacent to the affected part, and by assisting its corrective action with appropriate doses of his Pills. This well-known, safe, and easy mode of treatment efficiently protects the invalid both from present and future danger without weakening or even depressing the system in the slightest degree.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT ON THE CONSETT BRANCH.—On Tuesday moning, an accident, happily unattended with loss of life, took place on the Consett branch of the North-Eastern Railway, near Lanchester. It appears that a goods train left Consett junction a little before ten o'clock, and proceeded to Lanchester, where she usually occupies a siding in order that the passenger train due at Lanchester at 11.18 may pass. On this occasion, however, before going to the siding, the van and a number of waggons were left standing on the main line while the engine shunted some waggons into the goods station. While so engaged the passenger train came down the line, and in consequence of the foggy state of the weather the enginemen was unable to see the obstruction, and the two trains came into collision. The van of the goods train was smashed, and several waggons containing old metal left the rails. The passengers, however, beyond a severe shaking and a few bruises, escaped uninjured.

THE BLACKHILL TEETOTAL BRASS BAND.—On Saturday evening, the members of the above band, which is composed of workmen connected with the Consett Iron Company, sat down to an ex ellent supper at Blackhill. The repast, which was supplied by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Montgomery, was served up in the Band Room, and was of a choice description. Misses Liddell, E. Elsdon, T. Kirkup, and Mrs. J. Hayes attended on the tables. At the conclusion of the supper, a meeting was held, and was presided over by the leader of the band, in the absence of Mr. Thomas Ridley, one of the trustees for the instruments. Addresses were given by Messrs. Messrs. George Farrage and James Weir. Messrs. Thomas Hogg, and Wm. Montgomery also gave several select readings. A song, composed for the occasion, in which every member of the band was introduced, was sung by Mr. Thomas Sinclair, and received quite an ovation. Mr. T. Elstob, late of the Durham Union Band, gave a solo, "God Bless the Prince of Wales," on the baritone. During the evening the band played several pieces in a creditable manner. This band was started by a few teetotalers a few months ago, and is intended to supply a requirement that has oftentimes been felt in the locality, especiality in regard to teetotal processions. The cost of the instruments was £93, of which sum £52 had been raised by subscriptions and members' donotions, leaving a balance of £41 to be raised by the exertions of the members and the kindness of friends. We understand that several gentlemen have kindly promised to become annual subscribers in support of the band. The instruments are vested in the names of three trustees, viz., William Jenkins, Esq., Mr. Thomas Ridley, and Mr. J. T. Little, in order to perpetuate the band; by this means, of course, members leaving the band cannot take their instruments, &c., with them.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.—The ordinary meeting of the members of the above Board was held on Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Bagshaw, of Sedgefield, were appointed master and matron of the Workhouse, in the place of Mr. and Mrs. Brisco, resigned.

DAY SCHOOL FOR KNITSLEY.—Mr. Lawson, schoolmaster, of Leadgate, has been appointed to conduct the above school, and will commence his duties on Monday next. The school will be held in a cottage placed at the disposal of the committee by Mr. Spencer, but we understand it is the intention of the committee to erect a new school as soon as practicable.

STACK FIRE AT CRAGHEAD.—Between twelve and one o'clock last Sunday morning, P.C. Logan, stationed at Craghead, perceived flames issuing from the farmstead of Mr. John Willey, White House Farm, near Craghead. He at once roused the inmates, and after considerable difficulty the flames were extinguished, not before, however, two straw stacks were entirely destroyed. Considerable damage was also done to the adjoining farm buildings.

THE RAILWAY CROSSINGS.—A special meeting of the Consett Local Board was held on Monday to consider what steps should be taken regarding the proposed new line which it is intended is to cross the road in Delves Lane, and of which the Consett Company had given no notice to the Board. Mr. Jenkins on behalf of the Company, now asked leave to lay down a new line of rails across the road. After a warm discussion, in which the whole of the members took part, the application was granted.

On Saturday, at midnight, John Anderson, a young man, mate of a ship belonging to Aberdeen, whilst proceeding on board the screw steamer Richmond, of Aberdeen, accidentally fell over Bullock's Drops, West Holborn, South Shields, into the river and was drowned.

CHARGE OF ASSAULT ON A WOMAN AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—At the Shotley Bridge Petty Sessions, on Monday, before H. C. Silvertop, (chairman), A. Town, and T. Wilson, Esqs., John Marshall, a navvy, was charged with assaulting Mary Ann Golding, a married woman, at Shotley Bridge, on the 22nd ult. From the evidence of P.C. Thom, it seems that on Saturday evening he was on duty at Shotley Bridge, and heard cries of "murder" and "police" proceeding from Golding's hause, and on going to the place he found the prisoner dragging Mrs. Golding round the room by the hair of her head.—Complainant's husband was examined, and it appears that the latter was not in the house when the assault was committed. In answer to the bench, he stated that the prisoner had no right in his house.—Mrs. Golding was unable to appear, and prisoner was remanded for a week.

TAILORS APPRENTICES STRIKING FOR SHORTER HOURS.—Yesterday, at the Lanchester Petty Sessions, before A. H. Talmadge and H. Smith, Esqs., William Pyburn, tailor and draper, Beamish, near Chester-le-Street, summoned Jacob Morris and Wm. Davison for breach of indentures. Mr. A. W. Granger, solicitor, Durham, appeared to prosecute, and in opening the case stated that the defendants were bound apprentices. He produced their indentures, which stated that they were to work from six in the morning till seven at night. The defendants seemed to have got it into their heads that the Factory Act applied to them, and for the last month they had been in the habit of ceasing work at six o'clock at night, and four on Saturdays. Last Saturday they left work at the hour named, and left a suit unfinished, for which Mr. Pyburn claimed 6s. compensation.—The complainant, in answer to the bench, said it was the custom of the trade to work eleven hours.—Mr. Talmadge, addressing the defendant's aid if they agreed to work ten or twelve hours they must act up to that agreement. It was evident that they had fallen into that state which was disturbing the whole industry of the country—little work and high wages, and the sooner they got rid of that idea the better. Defendants were then ordered to pay 5s. compensation and costs, and also to find sureties for their future good behaviour.

THE LATE MR. SNAITH, BUILDER, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—When a fellow-townsman pass away, whose general good character, repectability, and self-attained position, through which he has become acquainted with many people around him, mingled with the feeling of general regret, exists a curiosity to know something definite of the man. The above fact may plead an excuse for this humble sketch. Mr. Snaith, after an illness of about eleven days, died at his residence, Hill Terrace, Shotley Bridge, on the 11th ult., of inflammation of the lungs, and was interred amidst general expressions of sorrow, in the Friend's Burial Ground, Benfieldside, on the 14th ult. Drs. Wm. and George Renton attended him during his brief sickness, and did all that lay in their power to save the dying man, but in vain. Mr. Snaith was born at Gibet Hill, near Witton-le-Wear, in the August of the year 1811, and hence was in his 62nd year at the time of death. He received what education he got in the village school, Witton-le-Wear. At an early age he was apprenticed to George Ramshaw, builder, machine and cart wright, of the above named village. After completing his apprenticeship he worked successively at Newcastle, Penrith, in Westmorland, and assisted in the re-building of Matfin Hall, the property of Mr. Blackett, some 33 or 34 years ago. From thence he came to Shotley Bridge, and was first employed by Mr. Wm. Nicholson, builder, as foreman, who, at that time, was building the mansion known as Shotley Park, for Jonathan Richardson, Esq. Mr. Snaith than (33 years ago) married Margaret Westgarth, formerly of Blanchland, and went into business for himself, and through his energy, steadiness, and perserverance, he has left Mrs. Snaith, it is pleasing to know, in comfortable circumstances. The subject of this imperfect sketch, for more than thirty years has been a staunch advocate of total abstainance, referring to alcoholic drinks, and aided the cause whenever he could. He was, as all know who knew him, a kind and social man, strictly upright in his dealing with the world, and hence is much missed and lamented by his friends.

PRESENTATION IN THE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—On Monday evening last, a great number of the friends of Mr. William Proudlock, engineer, met for the purpose of presenting him with a family bible, a hymn book, and silver pencil case, as a mark of their esteem, on the eve of that gentleman leaving his present respected masters (the Messrs. Annandale), whom he has served about eleven years. Before the ceremony took place, about 120 friends partook of a cheering tea, excellently served by Misses E. Brodie, Armstrong, Campbell, and Mrs. Urwin; during which the choir sang select hymns. Between 8 and 9 o'clock, the company adjourned to the chapel where the presentation was made. Mr. James Leadbitter was unanimously elected chairman, and the gentleman made the presentation in a most appropriate speech, in which he spoke of the many years he and Mr. Proudlock had spent in the warmest friendship, of the deep regret he felt at him going away, and urged the recipient to lay hold in his trouble on the consolation found in the Christian Volume, and closed by trusting that they might lead him to a final and happy abiding place. Mr. Proudlock felt so deeply the force of the chairman's kind remarks that it was with difficulty he thanked his friends for the honour done him. Messrs. Urwin, W. Campbell, Wm. Wheatley, J. Lax, and Robinson, all spoke on the manly virtues of Mr. Proudlock, their heartfelt regret at his leaving them, and the success the Primitive choir had met with under his seven years leadership, and of the prizes awarded them at Darlington, approaching two years ago, and the first prize they received last autumn at Stanhope.—The bible and hymn book, which are beautifully bound, bear the following inscription:—"Presented by the Shotley Bridge Primitive Methodist choir and their friends to Mr. Wm. Proudlock, as a token of their esteem, and in appreciation of his services rendered as conductor of the above choir."

THE INVALID'S FRIEND.—The very agreeable character of Todd's Quinine Wine has rendered this preparation a general favourite with invalids. It is an invigorating and sustaining tonic, with a refined and grateful flavour, and is universally approved by the medical profession. This elegant and renowned preparation has been tested by thousands with the greatest success in all cases of indigestion, nervousness, neuralgia, emaciation, langour, &c. The genuine is manufactured only by Joe Todd, Chemist, Carlisle, and bears his name on the Government stamp.

From an advertisement which will be found in another column, our friends will be glad to learn that the great event of the year—the Newcastle District Band of Hope Demonstration—will be held on Wednesday first; and, judging from the success of last year, it will be a treat of no ordinary character. A special train will leave for Benfieldside after after the meeting.

CONSETT WATER WORKS COMPANY.—Yesterday (Friday) afternoon, the half-yearly meeting of the Consett Water Works Company took place at the Company's Office, Front Street, Consett. The report for the past half-year was read, and a diviend of 10 per cent. upon old shares, and 5 per cent. on new shares, declared. There is a prospect of the new reservoir, which is constructed to hold 15,000,000 gallons of water, being finished at the latter end of the current year.

PAYING FOR A DRUNKEN FREAK.—On Monday, at the Shotley Bridge Police Court, two miners named Martin Jennings and John Parks, belonging Leadgate, were charged with wilfully damaging two windows and a door belonging Catherine Smith, at Leadgate, on the 7th ult. It seems that Jennings, while in a state of drunkenness, went to complainant's door and attempted to kick it in. Failing in this, he procured a "door-scraper," which he hurled at the door and broke it. He afterwards threw stones through the windows of the upper and lower rooms. With the exception of six panes, the windows were completely gutted.—Jennings admitted breaking the door and two or three panes of glass, but denied doing the whole of the damage to the windows.—Mr Salkeld, of Durham, appeared on behalf of Parks, and called several witnesses to prove that Parks took no part in the affair.—Jennings was fined 10s and the damage, £2 1s in all and as the vidence was not sufficiently clear against Parks, he was dismissed.

CAUSEY ROW UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH SCHOOL.—A concert and fruit banquet was held in the school-room, on Saturday last, to defray the cost of making alterations in the school. Thos. Bell, Esq., of Hedley Hall, occupied the chair. The following programme was very effectively gone through:—Part song—"Wanderer's Farewell," by Miss Harrison, Mrs Halliday, Messrs. Halliday and Redshaw. Reading—"Town Pump," Mr. Redshaw. Recitation—"The Little Jack Daw of Rheims," Mr. Angus. Part song—"Welcome Home," Miss Harrison, Mrs. Halliday, Messrs. Halliday and Redshaw. Reading—"Dream of Eugene Aram," Rev. T. B. Saul. Song—"Twinkling Star," Mr. J. Futers. Reading—"Pat at the Coronation of Queen Victoria," Mr. Angus. Duet—"Convent Bells," Messrs. Futers and Forster. Glee—"Carnival," Miss Harrison Mrs. Halliday, Messrs. Halliday and Redshaw. Reading—"Money for Money," Rev. T. B. Saul. Duet—"Albion on thy fertile plains," Messrs. Futers and Forster. Song and chorus—"No Tears in Heaven," Miss Harrison. Duet—"Larboard Watch," Messrs. Futers and Forster. Reading—"Wreck of the Hesperus," Rev. T. B. Saul. Song—"Rock me to sleep Mother," Miss Harrison, Mrs. Halliday, Messrs. Halliday and Redshaw. Song—"Hail Silent Night," Miss Harrison, &c. Song—"I've Lost my Child," Mr. Halliday. Song—"The moon behind the hill," Mr. Futers. Song—"Beautiful Isle of the Sea," Mr. Futers. Recitation—"French Exile," Mr. Angus. Fruit was distrbuted at intervals, and a very enjoyhble evening was spent. The concert was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

A SOCIAL MEETING OF EAST PONTOP COLLIERY OFFICIALS.—On Saturday evening last, the underground officials, in connection with smiths, brakesmen, &c., belonging to the East Pontop Colliery, met at the house of Mr. Joseph Irwin, at Catchgate, and partook of a most splendid supper, prepared by Mr. Irwin. After the cloth was withdrawn, a most pleasant meeting was enjoyed; Mr. T. Fenwick in the chair, and Mr. A. Ledger in the vice-chair. At the commencement Mr. Fenwick expressed thankfulness for the amount of prosperity that had attended their united efforts during the past year in the East Pontop Mine. Notwithstanding the great difficulties they had had to encounter, they had overcome them all, and been enabled to steer clear of any fatal accidents. He himself attributed the success to the careful attention of his officials in connection with the blessing of God; and he hoped that the same amount of good feeling would exist among them, and the next year's results would be equally satisfactory.—"Success to East Pontop" was responded to by Mr. Wm. Dawson, back-overman, who spoke of the kind feeling that existed between masters and servants, and hoped it would strengthen and continue.—A vote of thanks to Mr. J. Irwin, for the able manner in which he had served up the repast, was next proposed and responded to.—Mr. George Browell, on behalf of his brother-deputies, expressed their thankfulness for the kind treatment they had received from Mr. Fenwick. As a class of deputies, they were glad to see the great improvement that had been made in the mine during the last year. For good work and first-class ventilation, they stood second to none in the district at East Pontop Colliery; and as officials, they felt determined to do all in their power for the welfare of the colliery in general.—The toast of success to the owners of East Pontop Colliery was afterwards given, and a pleasant evening was spent.

CHESTER-LE-STREET SHROVE TUESDAY FOOTBALL MATCH.—This town is amongst the first in the north where the game at football on Shrove Tuesday is carried on, and although efforts have from time to time been made to abolish it, yet it has held its own. Mr. Murray for many years provided the ball, which he threw up from his shop door lying at the goal of the "down-streeters." On Tuesday, Mr. Joseph Murray, the worthy representative of the family, threw up the ball shortly after the old bell of the church tolled the hour when all good housewives put on their pancakes. The youngsters enjoyed the fun for some time, and when the half-holiday began the adult population went in. For a long time the down streeters kept the ball next their goal at the north end of the village, and it was generally thought that an easy conquest would result. Towards four o'clock a strong *posse* of the up streeters came upon the scene, and one of the most exhilarating and exciting scenes ever witnessed took place. The up streeters drove the ball slowly towards the foot of the steep bank in the lower part of the town, and here probably was witnessed the finest play seen for many years. Of course, both parties knew that this was the crowning point of victory, and which party succeeded here victory was for them a certainty. After a most determined struggle, the ball was driven to the mouth of the Lower Chare, and gradually it crept towards the Lambton Arms. Getting upon level ground, the up-streeters drove the ball rapidly towards their goal, and for upwards of an hour a grand display of football took place. Feeling running high, led enthusiastic individuals to transgress, and those fleet of foot did good service to their side. This took place about five o'clock, when the issue of the game was no longer in doubt. Fox-hunting became the order of the day, and the ball, which was carried from one end of the town to the other, was eventually picked up beyond the goal of the up-streeters, who, even in the opinion of their opponents, deserved the victory. The greatest good humour prevailed throughout the day. In the evening, a display of fireworks took place in front of Mr. Joseph Murray's shop, and closed a pleasant day's recreation.

FRUIT BANQUET AT HEDLEY HILL.—On Saturday last, a fruit banquet and concert took place in the colliery schoolroom, Hedley Hill, kindly granted for the occasion by W. Elliott, Esq., agent for the Weardale Iron & Coal Company. The concert was given by the Juvenile Choir of Hedley Hill, under the leadership of Mr. M. Davison and great credit is due to that gentleman for the efficient manner in which the children acquitted themselves. Mr. J. Vickers of Tow Law, occupied the chair. The proceeds amounted to £3 3s. 3d.

PRESENTATION TO SERGEANT CAISLEY AT WILLINGTON.—A number of friends repaired to the residence of Sergt. Caisley on Wedesday night, for the purpose of presenting him with a testimonial previous to his removal to Durham to undertake the responsible duties of inspector at head-quarters. The testimonial consisted of a very hamdsome silver tea and coffee service, which bore a suitable inscription, together with a purse containing upwards of £25. A pair of gold earrings and a beautifully-embellished brooch was also presented to Mrs. Caisley. A substantial supper was gratuitously provided by Mrs. Caisley, and after the company had partaken of the same, Mr. H. Lowe was called to the chair, and Mr, John Dunn to the vice. The vice-chairman, on rising to make the presentation, spoke in eulogistic terms of the useful services rendered by Sergeant Caisley.—Sergeant Caisley suitably responded. Afterwards P.C. Davis, on behalf of the police-constables in Willington, presented Sergeant Caisley with a handsome gold ring, as a small token of their friendship towards him.—Sergeant Caisley feeling replied.—A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded an agreeable evening's enjoyment.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT WHILE HUNTING.—A TREMENDOUS LEAP.—On Thursday afternoon, between two and three o'clock, an accident of a very serious nature happened to Mr. Robert Cole, livery stable keeper, Consett. On Thursday morning, the meet of the North Durham Foxhounds was at Colpike Hall, and Mr. Cole and a number of Consett gentlemen were amongst the company. Mr. Cole was riding the celebrated pony, "Nimrod," who ran second in the Durham Hunt Cup last year. Shortly after two o'clock, Mr. Cole and a party of gentlemen left the hunt for the purpose of returning to Consett, and on nearing the village of Lanchester, they perceived a horse and cart coming along the road. The horses were going at a brisk trot at the time, and it is surmised that the horse in the cart became frightened at the unusual spectacle. However, be that as it may, the horse became unmanageable, and suddenly planted itself and the cart right across the road. Nimrod, however, refused to be pulled up, and, making a rush, he bounded into the air, and cleared the obstacle. Mr. Cole was unable to keep his seat, and his head and face came in violent contact with the cart. The unfortunate gentleman was picked up, and it was found that he had received several severe scalp wounds, one of which measured several inches in length. A conveyance was procured with all speed, and Mr. Cole was conveyed to his residence at Consett. After making the wonderful leap, Nimrod galloped along the road, and ran into the yard adjoining the "Blue Bell" public-house at Lanchester, where he was secured. From inquiries made just before going to press, we hear that the unfortunate gentleman is progressing favourably.

Correspondence.

☞ *We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.*

THE KNICKEY KNACK LAD AND THE COUNTISS IV CONSITT.

Ti the Editor iv the Guardian.

MAISTER EDITUR,—Maybees thou winna believe that wee take in the paper at Nickey Knack, bit we dee marro, and reed it tee. Now, sir, aw was at Consit twae or three munths syne, and wad hae written tiv ye, but aw heard that the poor Kountiss iv Consitt was in limbo, and as aw was yance in mesel fur poarching at neet, aw didna like, man, te say half what aw thout when her back was at the wa! But sin she's puttin out sich a bad-blooded, bletherin, spanging fond pamflit aws gannin te gie ye the ackownt of ma experiense when aw went wiv a hundrid pownds in mee pocket to tak a new collery frave her agents. Where did a pitman git a hundrid pounds? Where the Heelander fund the tyngs. Mee aunt, whae "selt a shop" beside the Plain left me her shop and lots o' brass tee marrow. She awas telt me to "believe every man's mony if it wur gud, but naebody's sell—if aw careet on the chop when she was gaen." Bit aw was soft then, hinney. Jak Bell had gitten the best kavil in the pit. Nelly Brown's aunt was deed, and she expected twae hundrid thousand pounds (just the voloration o' the Kountess of Consett's "air balloon's" or some sic name she gies them). But what's the use of gannen on. Iv less than three munths, sur, I tuke on (and they tuke in) three and twenty kustomers we gud kavels, but the havels awas turned bad at the pay, and aw was cheeted out ov me pay, see, maistor editor, aw sells the shop-fixtures, stock, and bad debts (thur cudna be wurser in England, sur, as aw telt the man what bowt them when he wanted tiv brige the preise) for—guess. Never mind, sur, aw banks hur at Durham. See, as ye'll hear, aw tuke intiv me heed to gang tiv Consitt te see about specurlating on the Kountess's elder lineage domains. Aw think aws spellin reet. See Bill Jackson, a teetotaler, with plenty tin, and mesell hires a gig at Durham and gangs tiv Consitt. We stops i' the Middle Street (Bill Airds, aw think, was o' the door). Howsomever, the chap keeps gud yale. "Here's me and mi marrow," says aw tiv the man at the bar, "we want tiv see the Kountess's com—com—somethin—er." "Commissioner, bailiff, and bum, ye mean," says the chap; "aw suppose the Kountess's keeper is iv the taproom. He'll tak ye street to the commissioner." The keeper's nyme was Steven. "Aw'll tak ye to the commissioner," says he; "cum on lads, "but mind Hexham whatever ye dee." Aw keeps muttering aw the way—"Believe everybody's money if its gud, but believe naebody's sell." "That's just like what the Hexham magistrates dee," says the keeper. "It didna matte what our chaps swore, they would hae nowt but twae pun for each offence, together with the expenses on each." Aw tuk the very words down, sir. See Bill tips me the wink, and aw purposes tee hae a gill at the big chap's yonder, but a canny feller, tho. "Hae ye oney whiskey like thee sell, marrow," says aw. "Thou's daft, man," says he. "Thurs far warser iv Consett," says aw, "thou's five and forty ower proof." He taks the hint, marrow. "Here's some stuff 'ill knock ye doun and lift ye up agayen,' says he. "A double chucker," says aw, "fur the keeper, a glass of Bass, and a bottle iv pop for raw gut Bill." How it lowsened his pours o' speech. "Did thou get much sport ower the water?" says aw. "Middlin, the last day," says he; "aw shot a craw off a tree first; then a chap what cam 'weet'—'weet'—'withery weet' about me lugs—aw bags him; then aw shot a few paartrish throu the hedge, but away came the watcher and taks the paartrish, but the Kountess telt me tiv gie the craw and the pee weet tiv the sufferin poor." Bill gies him sic a queer luke. Bill's clean gayen wee me fur leein, not fur hewin. He's travelled tee. "Is that aw the poor ever gat?" says Bill. "It's mair," says the keeper, "and it cost mi faather maistt forty pun. Aw gae that chap gannen by the pee weet tiv stuff, and a poor wife gat the craw and tossed it ower the midden." "Will ye call that gentleman in, please," says Bill, speaking peas and barley English. Aw likes the real thing, if its bit pitmatic. "Awl dee that," says the landlord, "but mind he likes twae glasses better nur yaen ony time." "Aw reet," says aw; "stuff him wee double chuckers." A nise rorspectabill little chap he was, an nee mistake, see aw tells him wur eerent. "Are ye luncatics tee," says he "Kountess as mikle as awm King o' the Cannibu Islands. Didn't thingabee theere write tiv what de ye call that place abute the marriage, and it was as grate a fib as Dettenengine"—aw think that was what he cawd it. "Nae doubt the yearls son deed oot there," as history says. "Haes ever ony man, woman, or child kum forrot tiv say, 'aw kent yaen o' the famelee when th e leeved on the kontinent.'" "That's nowt bit kommon sense," says Bill, "an hee's an uncommon fule tha, thinks *per contra*"—fur Bill will try English proper. "Ye may tak maw word on't," says the stuffer, "that the Land Company, the Coal Company, and the Minen Company o' the Kountess are aw real Jeremiora Diddlers gittin up by thorough-bred jackasses. Keep thee tin mi lad." "Everybody's money, naebody's sell," says aw. "But we'll see it oute, now, Bill. Let's off tiv the bailiff, bum, commorsioner." See we gangs, hinney, raps at the dour, and oot kums com. "What's yer bisiness," says he, "awm verra bissey with the Kountess's agents consultin," and verra grim he luked. "We want to try to tak a collery iv the Kountess," says aw. "Verra gud," says he; "but hae ye ony money." "We hae a hundrid and fifty in wur pockets." Lads alive, had ye seen how the sunshine kam ower his fayce. "Kom in, gentlemen, and aw'll inturduce ye," says he. "This is Mr Peter Pegaway the Kountess's orator, and hee's open to gie ony man iv Knickey Knack five hundred words start in twenty minutes' tarking (talking). This is Mr. Hairylip, the Kountess's miller, what's to grind for the sufferin poor at Dilston. This is Mr. Payfurall, the Kountess's commursioner of works; he's ganen to drain aw the turnpikes ov Dilston domain fur the poor to waly on dry futted. This is Mr. Amuse, the Kountess's sharebroker; and this is Joe Wiseman, the Kountess's sparit rapper." Thinks aw tiv misell, yur a queer lot. Pegaway was at it, touth an nail, lang afore Com. was dune, but he went at it so fast that his rough tung gat fast amang his teeth every now an then. Hairylip cried hear, hear; Wiseman closed his een an said, amen; Amuse and Payfurall looked at huz jeest as if they wur thinking that we wur greeneys. "Stop Pegaway," says Com.; "lets tiv bisiness. But furst Mr. Amuse, hae ye written tiv the owners to comishin the Great Eastern ti fetch ower the long spars for colour posts when the Kountess comes home?" "Aw reet," says Amuse. "Why then," says he, "get owt the check buks and give these gentlemen a rorseet fur a hundred and fifty." "Mak it five," says aw; "but mind ye'll not get a hawpenny till we get purshesun." Darkness agane, lads, sat doon on his brow. "Lads," says he, "there's mair wud on the plase than 'ill pay ye ten times ower." "Marrow," says aw, "how dus it happen to grow there? Dar ye not cut it doon for fear o' Hexham?" "Walk oot o' maw hoose, ye rascals, ye cowards," says he; "I'll gie ye five hundrid tiv pit up the flag on wur big chimney when the Kountess gits her reets. But ye wud be frightened tiv gang up—I'll bet a croon." "Doon yur dust," says aw; "and we'll leave it tiv yur awn own orator and aw'll prove it now." We staykes the munney, marrow. "Now," says Pegaway, "you're in a fix, gentlemen. How it's rashonally, reesonably (aw's forgot what lang yarn mair) possible to prov'd now?" "Why this way," says aw; "aw wudn't be a bit frightened to gang up, but maist transatlantically frightened if cummin ower fast doon. Awl tell ye what aw think lads. Ye believed iv the Kountess fur the loaves and fishes. Ye see now there's naethin but stayens and treadmills fur ye, see ye want to purswade fondies te gie ye guds for what tiv yur sorrow ye knaw te be a sell." What vinogur fayces they put on, sur, when aw said that, but they were aw reet in cawing me what they liked, far mair than aw can tell. Howsumever they tessed me mi five shillings (it sud hae been ten sur, sud it not,) ordured me out, and challunged ony man to aks them quessons. And Ralph Jackson, the best penman iv England sends sumit wi maw letter fur them tiv answer publickly, as they are sae much gien tiv print:—

1st: I had a brother who went out to Austria as a sinker. He died their. An old aunt died in England, leaving property, my niece came over to claim her share, but neglected to bring any credentials. Twenty people sent attestations from Austria. How does it happen that the Kountess never gave one reference—Kountess, even, whose family lived from 1723 to 1857 in Germany and Austria. Does nobody there knew anything about her family or her? Should they not come forward by scores to prove the Kountess.

2nd: When she entered an action against the Admiralty and turned cur, why does she say running awap gave her victory?

3rd: When did it become logic that when a person was sold off, and put in prison for making a claim, the legality of that claim was established (*vide* pamphlet everywhere) by the very act?

4th: If the "Dormant heirs were only sleeping and bound until 1857"—where did they sleep, and where were they bound?

5th: How is it that when the Admirality, took no proceedings, they were cowards; when they do, they are tyrants?

6th: Why did relics of £200,000 values go at a sale of speculators for Brummagem ware prices?

7th: How was she "Born Lady Amelia Matilda Mary Tudor"—when any other lady would have had to be baptised so?

Lastly, where did she learn grammar, for she begins (the word sheweth being in capitals) "I Amelia Kountess of Consitt sheweth." This is very like "Born in the garret—on the kitchen bred." Now, Mister Editer, let ony man iv Consitt say aws spanging.

GEORDIE MILLS, Knickey Knack.

Feb. 17th, 1873.

On Saturday, while the screw steamer King Cole was proceeding up Shields Harbour from sea, she came in collision with the barque Tanivally, which was lying in the tier abreast of the Bottle House Landing, South Shields, and the latter vessel received some damage.

MANSLAUGHTER CASE AT SOUTH SHIELDS.—At the South Shields Police Court on Monday morning, Joseph Tennet, baker, Barrington-street, was charged with having caused the death of his wife, Jane Tennet, by, it was alleged, throwing her down stairs. The facts of the case have already been reported at length in our columns. After a lengthened enquiry, the magistrates committed the prisoner for trial at the Assizes on the charge of manslaughter.

The editor of the *Northern Echo* has been inspecting the fettling patented by Messrs. Greener and Ellis, at the Skerne Ironworks, Darlington, and has reported it a complete success. It betters the iron, increases the yield, gives less chance of burning the iron, and saves from 6s. to 10s. a ton. It being tried in the rotary furnaces at Hartlepool. If it "stands" in them as it does in the stationary, it will be a great economical help.

SINGULAR CASE OF POISONING AT GATESHEAD.—A somewhat singular case of poisoning took place at Gateshead on Sunday. It appears that a person named Knowles lodged with William Carr, a labourer, in the Church-walk, and some time ago the lodger meeting with an accident was taken to the Newcastle Infirmary, where he died; but previous to his death he told Carr, who is an old man near 70 years of age, that he could have his box and contents. On Sunday afternoon the old man opened the box, and finding the bottle which as he thought contained brandy, poured some into a tumbler, and after having mixed it with hot water, drank the mixture. Shortly after he took very ill, and expired in great agony at three o'clock on Sunday morning. The medical gentleman on examining the remainder of the contents of the bottle, found it to be poison.

INDIGESTION, loss of appetite, nervousness tic or neuralgia, ague, debility, spasms, and all derangements of the stomach, are speedily removed by that well-known remedy, "Todd's Quinine Wine," which, through its perfect purity, palatableness, speedy efficacy, and consequent economy, has obtained the universal approval and unqualified confidence of the medical profession, and an unprecedented amount of public patronage. The genuine is manufactured only by Joe Todd, Chemist, Carlisle, and bears his name on the Government stamp.

"THE LION, THE NET, AND THE MOUSE."—To prevent Pirates, and unprincipled Traders from deceiving the public, the proprietor of Powell's Balsam of Aniseed has been compelled to adopt the above Trade Mark (Lion, Net, and Mouse), and this design will in future continue to appear upon the wrapper of each genuine Bottle, and any one imitating it will render themselves liable to fine or imprisonment. The following letter will bear testimony to the wonderful curative properties of this old cough medicine.—"Her Majesty's Gun Boat, 'Netley,' Wick, North-East Coast of Scotland, 7th September, 1868.—Dear Sir,—Having had a most distressing and severe Cough, which caused me many sleepless nights and restless days, I was recommended by His Lordship the Earl of Caithness, to try your most invaluable Balsam of Aniseed, and I can assure you with the first dose I found immediate relief, even without having to suspend my various duties; and the first small bottle completely cured me, I have therefore the greatest confidence in fully recommending it to the million. Most respectfully yours, W. Linzell, H.M.G.B. 'Netley.'—To Mr Powell."—Prepared and Sold by THOMAS POWELL, 16, Black-friars Road London; and Sold by Chemists and Medicine Vendors throughout the World. In Bottles only, at 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 6d. each. Ask for "Powell's Balsam of Aniseed."

AN EVENING BEVERAGE.—CACA'OINE.—The *Food Journal* says:—"By a new process to which the nibs are subjected, the principal part of the oil is effectualy removed, a thin beverage, well adapted for afternoon or evening use, as a substitute for tea, being the result. The flavour of Caca'oine will, in addition, be a great attraction to all."—Each packet or tin is labelled, "JAMES EPPS and Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." (Also makers of Epps's Milky Caca'oine Caca'oine and Condensed Milk). 449b

LADY DARVILLE,

OR,

Lost in the Labyrinth.

AN ORIGINAL COPYRIGHT TALE.

By the Author of "John Gisborne's Wife,"
"Varley Shrubsole," &c.

CHAPTER IV.

Sir Piers Darville Threatens to take a Step.

Lady Darville entered the breakfast room the morning after her singular visit to Weston, and the strange circumstances that followed it, looking radiantly and superbly beautiful. She had had a good night, and the harsher lines of her stern features seemed to be softened by sleep, the "sweet restorer." Perhaps she had taken some extra pains with her toilette, and assisted nature a little by those arts that no one better than herself knew how to employ. Be this as it may, she came down all smiles, and took her seat at the table grandly, but benignantly, and with all the calm composure of a woman without a care.

Outwardly, of course; inwardly the sepulchre was dark and angry with the storm that raged there, ready to break out and belie the fair surface so smoothed and whited over by self control.

Antoine had been punctual. He had seen her Ladyship that morning, and had gone to Weston upon the commission she had mentioned overnight; and by the time Lady Darville was seated at the breakfast table, along the electric wire ran the fluid that conveyed to Jacob Vandel, solicitor, of Bucklersbury, the message of his hasty client.

Presently, as her Ladyship sat alone, sipping her coffee, and humming snatches of a French opera, as though the morning had brought with it good spirits and unclouded happiness, the small, pale, and now cadaverous face of Sir Piers came into the room, in advance, as it were, of his body, which afterwards followed, when he saw that her Ladyship's countenance looked clement, and that she was not sitting on her throne, in angry majesty, with the thunders in her hand to hurl at his unhappy, aching head.

A wretched spectacle was this abject, trembling victim to the superior arts of a strong-willed, designing woman. A miserable anatomy of a man was this thin hesitating creature in male garments, who came humbly into his own breakfast room to know his fate, and to see what this Cleopatra of modern days had in store for him. His blinking eyes that had not known their proper sleep; his trembling hands that were eloquent of nervous debility; his small pallid face made meaner by fear; his halting voice when he spoke; his hesitating shifting movements when he sat down: all these made Sir Piers Darville a piteous object indeed, by contrast with that firm, hearty-looking woman who regarded him with a fixed stare of assumed but not angry wonder.

"Why, Piers," she said. "You look as though you had been frightened out of your life. This comes, I suppose, of your being an undutiful, prying, little rebel of a husband, instead of a sensible, confiding man who would scorn to mistrust the wife of his bosom."

Sir Piers could not help smiling miserably. The wife of his bosom had condemned that bosom to strange quarters during the past night.

"Bella," he said, "you have used me very cruelly. You have deceived me. I am a poor, ill-used, betrayed wretch, and I should be glad to die and end my misery."

Her Ladyship put down her coffee-cup, and looked Sir Piers hard in the face.

"How do you know I have deceived you?" she said. "Do you dare, Sir Piers, to arouse my scorn, by hinting at your vile handiwork of last night? I thought you would come to me with an apology for acting the part of a spy and a lock-breaker. What will the world say, when it hears that Sir Piers Darville entered his wife's apartments in her absence, like a thief, and ransacked her writing-case to find food for his unmeaning jealousy? And the world shall hear of it, Sir Piers. It shall have the facts of this mare's-nest that you have sought with such ridiculous results. You have provoked the storm, and it shall overwhelm you."

Sir Piers looked at her Ladyship with a silly expression of wonder. She spoke so confidently, so haughtily. She seemed to mean what she said; and her meaning was so perilous. Was this innocence? Could she explain away, if she pleased, the ugly facts that told against her? If she could not, her demeanour was a marvel.

"Will you tell me, Bella," he said, "why you went to Weston?"

"What! and reward you for being the mean little spy you have proved yourself! No, Sir Piers, I will not tell you why I went to Weston. You may find that out, as you have tried to find out other things. You read my letters I suppose last night?"

"No, not one of them—not one," said Sir Piers. "But I did read that paper—that ——"

"There, there, I see what an idle and ridiculous conclusion you have come to! O, dear me! if I could only forgive you for being a spy, I think I should laugh at you, Sir Piers; yes, laugh."

And her Ladyship did really indulge in a grim smile that was an inward laugh, and that puzzled Sir Piers still further.

"Yes," she continued, "when the world hears of all this; when we come—as I suppose we must—to settle our differences in the only way that now occurs to me—I mean in a legal way, Sir Piers—your position will be a ridiculous one, indeed!"

Her Ladyship paused for a moment, and looked at the wondering Baronet to see the effect produced upon him by this hint. Then, as though it had incidentally occurred to her, she said presently,

"Oh, bye-the-bye, I may as well tell you that I have telegraphed to my lawyer in anticipation of things."

"You have?" said Sir Piers in alarm. "When?"

"This morning. I shall have his answer to-morrow. After that, I may bid farewell to Darville Park, and live in London. But of course I shall act upon advice."

As her Ladyship said this, a soft pensive smile played over her fine countenance, and lighted up her undoubted beauty of feature. Sir Piers looked at her. He thought he had never seen her so charmingly attractive—so fair, so splendid an image to fall down before and worship. He did fall down before her at that moment, and his soul grovelled in the dust.

"Bella," he said, the weak tears starting from his blinking, tired eyes, "You will not leave me! I still love you, though you refuse me your confidence. Let us be friends; and perhaps you will tell me—to-morrow, or the next day, or next week; when you please, Bella—what all this mystery means. I will not ask you even; but you shall speak of your own will. Oh, I am so miserable, and I have passed such a wretched night."

He approached her, and held out his trembling timid hand.

"No, Piers," she said, "We will not shake hands till we understand each other better. We should be ten times worse for it when we break the truce. As the lawyers say, we will be friends; but without prejudice; that is, we will not commit ourselves to any particular course; but remain free."

Lady Darville applied herself vigorously to her breakfast when she had said this; for she was blest with a fine appetite that was never the slave of sentiment. The broiled chicken and mushrooms were tender and succulent; the coffee was good—*cafe noir* her ladyship took without milk or sugar; and the dry toast was delicately browned. Looking up presently, she saw that Sir Piers did not eat. She was astonished!

"Have you lost your appetite?" she said, "or did you breakfast early?"

Sir Piers shrugged his shoulders miserably.

"I have not breakfasted, and I have no appetite," he replied.

There was something so dejected in his tone, that her Ladyship smiled compassionately upon him.

"Well," she said, "to your other indiscretions, don't add *felo de se*, and starve yourself. Eat your breakfast. I despise sentiment that impairs the constitution."

Oh, what a riddle was this woman to the unhappy Baronet! He could not understand her. When she smiled upon him, he had faint fits of hope. When her cold sarcastic words grated harshly upon his ear, he despaired.

"Bella," he said, "you are a very strange woman. You seem to have no heart."

"No heart! why here it is! I can count its regular pulsations, as I can the seconds on my watch. A woman without a heart, Piers, would be a physiological curiosity. Depend upon it I have a heart, and one that is not likely to give the doctors trouble. It fluttered once, Piers. Do you know when?"

The baronet shook his head.

"When you asked me to become Lady Darville."

There was a vivid light in her Ladyship's eyes as she said this, that was another riddle to Sir Piers.

"But you did not love me even then? You never could have loved me to treat me as you do?"

"Well, you know best," she replied. And she yawned, and left the table dallying for a moment on her way, and turning with a smile towards the Baronet as she passed through the doorway.

When she had gone, Sir Piers found the appetite that he thought had deserted him, and breakfasted upon the ruins left by her Ladyship. In doing this, he felt assured against danger. The contents of the medicine chest were in his mind, and he began to realize the horrors of being in the same house with one who kept such deadly weapons ready to her hand.

"Suppose," he thought, "she should poison me! She might do it in this cup, in that bread. I have heard of such things. How anxious she was that I should make my Will when we returned here. Darville Park would then be hers—all would be hers. If I could only tell her that I had destroyed the Will, that I had made another! I should be safe then."

He maundered thus in thought till his naturally hesitating mind was a chaos of doubt and suspicion and half-formed resolution; and so he passed the miserable hours till the evening came. Then he and Lady Darville were face to face again.

He was ready to talk; he had determined to talk—indeed to alarm her Ladyship by telling her that he meant to alter his Will. But he received no provocation, and he could not begin offensive warfare without it. Lady Darville was silent—placidly, not angrily silent. She knew the advantage of avoiding treaties and protocols, and she maintained a calm courtesy of demeanour that repelled embarrassing conversation.

When, however, the dinner came to an end, she spoke:

"I have taken care," she said, "that you shall sleep better to-night. I have arranged a suite of apartments for you—those that were set apart for visitors, you know. It will be convenient that you should occupy them till we are on better terms."

Sir Piers winced. He had hoped that her Ladyship would have relented at least so far as to allow him the *entree* to their mutual apartments. Her cool determination in the matter aroused him again; and he ventured upon a remonstrance.

"Lady Darville," he said, "May I ask who is master in this house—you or I?"

"We will not discuss that question," she replied. "But I will, if you wish it, yield to your mastership so far as to sleep in my dressing room. I am such a terrible woman, you know, that I might strangle you in the night, or do what Claudius did in the play to Gertrude's husband. Suppose I were to pour poison in your ears! *You* think me capable of anything, don't you?"

This was a well-considered point of her Ladyship's. She wanted to see what Sir Piers knew of the contents of the medicine chest.

"Might I not?" she asked, seeing that he hesitated.

"*Perhaps*," said Sir Piers solemnly.

"He *has* opened the chest!" thought her Ladyship. And she was silent.

The Baronet's "perhaps" was seriously meant, and he consented to fall in with Lady Darville's arrangements. That night he occupied the chamber in the suite of apartments selected for him by Her Ladyship.

Lady Darville was up early the next morning; for the letter bag was expected; and she wanted to have Jacob Vandell's answer first hand. She thought Sir Piers might, perhaps, pluck up spirit to break the seal.

The letter came. It was brought to her Ladyship by Antoine; she opened it in Sir Piers' presence; read it calmly, and then put it in her pocket.

"Well," said Sir Piers, eager to know its contents, "What does your lawyer say?"

"Just what I expected," replied the unabashed Lady Darville. "He thinks it a case for reconciliation. He's wrong!"

She said this quite firmly and fiercely. She even repeated it:

"He's wrong! The man who has violated my private correspondence, violated I know what not else; and filled the servants' hall with tittle tattle—(I have heard it, Sir Piers!)—is not one to prate of reconciliation with! But I will wait—I will wait a week. I shall be calmer then; and in the meantime, perhaps, you will consent that we remain upon our present terms."

To Lady Darville's astonishment Sir Piers rose from his seat. His little arm swayed the air, and his small blue eyes flashed with passionate resolve.

"Yes," he said. "We will wait a week. You shall have your way in that. But I will have my way in another matter. That Will you induced me to sign when our honeymoon was scarcely a fortnight old, shall be superseded, Lady Darville! I say it shall be superseded. I will make a new one, and it shall not avail you, even if you—you poison me.

Lady Darville turned strangely white.

"Poison you!" she said.

"Yes, my lady. I have seen all. Arsenic, prussic acid, laudanum! You may kill me; but the act shall beggar you. I will go to Weston this time alone; and it shall be to make my Will!"

He rushed from the room before her Ladyship could stop him; and she then thought that she had mismanaged her business a little.

But a bold, fearless woman, like her Ladyship, is not easily dismayed when she has a man of such calibre as Sir Piers Darville to deal with. When she had thoroughly realised the fact that he had gone, that he had gone, too, ostensibly to make a new Will, a harsh smile came over her countenance, and she clenched her hands till the rings on them almost galled her white, but not small fingers.

"The idiot!" she exclaimed. "He will make a new Will, forsooth! Pshaw! he has not the courage while I live to hinder him. Now, this is what he will do. He may go to Weston; he may see his lawyer, and they will talk. But for the life of him, he dare not do more. He will never carry out what was but a threat, intended to alarm me! Still, I was foolish, indeed, to link myself with such a man without a settlement or jointure, or anything that can make me independent of him and his jealousy.

Her Ladyship pondered for a time after muttering these words, and presently she had recourse to a book that was lying on the table before her. It was a popular sensation romance—her Ladyship liked sensation romances—and it happened to open, as she handled the leaves carelessly, just where a wife who has the misfortune to be married to two living husbands, meets the first of the two, on the second husband's property.

At this point of the narrative, Lady Darville took up the story. She read rapidly, and with evident interest. At length, keeping her finger between the leaves to mark the page at which she had left off reading, she cast her eyes upwards as though in thought, and said,

"Admirable!"

What was it that Lady Darville characterised as admirable?

It was simply the bestowal of a husband, who was much in the way, down a well!

"Admirable!" she repeated; for she had read the novel before, and knew what the bare hints she had just noticed really meant.

"But after all," she resumed dreamily, "I don't quite believe in any woman going so far as that, even under such awkward circumstances as this popular heroine was in. What, I wonder, do ladies do with husbands who talk of altering their Wills maliciously?"

She smiled as she asked herself this strange question.

"Why," she said, at length, answering her own query,—"They do as I shall do,—keep them alive till they repent and alter back again, or, as in Sir Piers's case, show that they only uttered an idle threat, which they have no design to carry out."

Lady Darville resumed her favourite book after this, and read on. But presently, she grew tired, and flinging the book aside, went to the window.

She looked over the broad expanse of garden before her, at the terrace with the strutting peacock on it; at the rich woods in the distance,—at all, indeed, within sight, of Sir Piers Darville's substantial property.

"I must keep this somehow," she said. "And why should I jeopardise it by the ridiculous affection that haunts me? Better, perhaps, that I had yielded what little real love I possess for any human being, stifled the one passion of my heart, and settled down here as the quiet, unquestioned mistress of this place, instead of placing myself at my husband's mercy by nourishing a fondness that may ruin me."

A suspicion of a tear came to Lady Darville's eye as she said this. But she brushed the intruder away, and, after a time, went to her boudoir. There she busied herself with the arts of the toilette, till she thought fit to leave the upper chambers, and see whether Sir Piers Darville had returned.

(*To be continued.*)

FACETIÆ.

The long head is never headlong.

A key that fits everybody's trunk.—*Tur-key.*

A great oddity in these times.—A cheap *comm-odity.*

The Most Curious Thing.—A woman that is not curious.

Why are clouds like coachmen?—Because they *hold the rains.*

What pickle reminds you of gathering a flower?—*Pick-a-lily.*

Do you endorse a scoundrel when you make your mark upon his back?

Why does a neigh resemble a groan?—Because it is a h(o)arse noise.

A cross wife, like the bird of Minerva, does most of her hooting at night.

A slow pulsation is the sign of a long life, not only in individuals but in law suits.

Why is an occulist like a ready rhymer?—Because he can *improve eyes* (improvise).

When is a soldier like a piece of rope round a horse's head?—When he is a halter.

What language does an Arabian child speak before it cuts its teeth?—*gum*-Arabic, unquestionably.

Gusto.—Why is eating with a relish like ravelling in a gale of wind?—Because it is enjoyed with a *gust-o.*

Oblong.—A grocer in a neighbouring city, says that a lady applied to him for a pound of *oblong* tea.

May not a room where a lover files his declaration and plead his cause be properly called a *private court* room?

Why are cats like unskilful surgeons?—Because they *mew-till-late* (mutilate) and destroy *patience* (patients).

Would a promissory note, which is made payable a sight, be a legal tender to an inmate of a blind asylum

What military order is like a lady crossing the street on a wet day?—Dress up in front, and close up in the rear.

The common deer is not generally looked upon as a draught animal, and yet we take it "direct from the wood."

Spare-Rib.—Why is a pig the most provident of animals?—Because he always carries a spare-rib or two about him.

There is many a slip between the cup and the lip, but there are many more slips after the cup has been drained by the lips.

Breeches of Trust.—Ought a pair of trousers which have been obtained on credit to be legally regarded as breeches of trust.

Sculptors who are fond of going on a spree may be said, in professional parlance, to be remarkable for their "animated *busts.*"

Thistles.—Milton says that many thistles grow upon Parnassus. That must be the reason why so many donkeys browse at the base.

Which causes a girl most pleasure—to hear herself praised or another run down? Hard to decide. A bachelor friend hazards the notion that "both cases are about equal," but allows that "much may be said on both sides."

The following toast is from a printer:—"Woman! The fairest work of Creation; the edition being extensive, let no man be without a copy." Our only objection to the work is that there are too many gilt-edged and fancy-bound in the market.

"You musicians ought to be happy fellows," said Jack Thomson the other day, to a bandmaster. "Why?" said the leader. "Because you need never want for money, for when your funds run short you have only to put your instruments to your lips and —raise the wind.

The following is a statement showing the total number of messages forwarded from postal telegraph stations in the United Kingdom during the week ending the 1st of February, 1873, and during the corresponding week of 1872. Total number of messages for the week ending February 1, 1873, 290,161; corresponding week last year, 246,332; increase in the week ending 1873 on that of 1872, 43,829.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday, at the official residence of the First Lord of the Treasury, in Downing-street. The Ministers present were the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, the Lord Chancellor, the Marquis of Ripon, Viscount Halifax, the Right Hon. H. A. Bruce, Earl Granville, the Earl of Kimberley, the Right Hon. E. Cardwell, the Duke of Argyll, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Hon. G. J. Goschen, the Marquis of Hartington, the Right Hon. C. Fortescue, the Right Hon. Hugh Childers, the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, and the Right Hon. J. Stansfeld.

Parliamentary Summary.

THURSDAY.

In the House of Lords the Lord Chancellor fixed the second reading of his Judicature Bill for the 4th of March. Lord Roseberry moved for a Royal Commission to inquire into the condition of this country with regard to horses, and its capabilities of supplying any present or future demand for them. Lord Granville suggested that the appointment of a committee would answer the purpose, whereupon Lord Roseberry said he would not press his motion. The House rose before seven o'clock.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Gathorne Hardy gave notice of a motion respecting the Three Rules agreed to under the Treaty of Washington, and expressed the hope that the Government would grant him a day for its discussion. In reply to one of the many questions addressed to Ministers, Lord Enfield stated that the Murillo is still in custody, and explained that it would not be desirable to produce the correspondence on the subject until the investigation at Cadiz comes to an end. Mr. Eustace Smith called attention to certain charges brought against some Members of Parliament connected with the shipping interest, in a book recently written by Mr. Plimsoll, and entitled "Our Seamen, an Appeal." He maintained that Mr. Plimsoll's remarks affected not only the character of the House, but also the honour and reputation of the individual Members alluded to, and moved a resolution characterising the statements in the book as highly reprehensible and injurious to the honour and dignity of the House. Mr. Plimsoll said he had no intention of avoiding any responsibility in the matter. In what he had done he had consulted the highest authority, and if he had in the earnestness with which he had taken up the subject said anything affecting the character of the House or its honourable privileges and traditions, he had done so most unintentionally, and for this unintentional error he begged to offer the most ample apology. Mr. Gourley having accepted the apology as a Member of the House, Mr. Gladstone pointed out that as the question was likely to come on again and to form the subject of legal proceedings, it was not desirable the discussion should continue. The motion was then withdrawn. On the motion of Mr. Bruce, the Prevention of Crime Bill, the object of which is to amend certain defects that experience has pointed out in the Habitual Criminals and Penal Servitude Act, was read a second time. The third reading of the Bill Legalising Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister was opposed by Mr. Collins, but on a division 98 voted for the measure and 54 against it. The Bill then passed.

FRIDAY.

In the House of Lords, the Marquis of Ripon gave notice of his intention to move, on Tuesday next, that their Lordships should agree to the appointment of a joint committee on the subject of the amalgamation of railways. In reply to Lord Houghton, who asked whether it was the intention of the Foreign Secretary to interfere with the acceptance of foreign decorations by British Exhibitors at the Vienna Exhibition, Lord Granville referred to the general rule that no Englishman could wear a foreign decoration without the express permission of his Sovereign, and expressed an opinion in favour of its being retained. Replying to Lord Carnarvon, the Foreign Secretary stated that the Murillo has not been released, and that the investigation by the Spanish authorities is still going on. A list was ordered of all the endowed schools with which the Commissioners have corresponded; and, on the motion of Lord Roseberry, a select committee was appointed to inquire into the condition of the horse supply of the country. The House adjourned at six o'clock.

In the House of Commons, it was agreed on the motion of the President of the Board of Trade, that all Railway and Canal Amalgamation Bills should be referred to a joint committee of both Houses. A new writ was ordered for Mid-Cheshire in the room of Mr. G. Leigh. Colonel Barttelot gave notice of a motion on the Malt Tax for the 21st of March; Mr. Vernon Harcourt announced that on the same day he would call attention to the case of the imprisoned gas stokers; and Mr. Gathorne Hardy fixed the same date for his motion with respect to the interpretation of the Three Rules under the Treaty of Washington. In reply to Mr. Seymour, Mr. Grant Duff made an explanation as to the boundary question in Central Asia, and stated that perfect maps of the territory would be published in a few days. Mr. Mundella brought forward his motion on the coal question, asking the House to appoint a select committee to inquire into the causes of the present dearness and scarcity of coal. Mr. Liddell seconded the motion: and after a few remarks from Mr. H. Vivian, Mr. Eykyn, and Mr. Wheelhouse, the Home Secretary acceded on the part of the Government to the proposed inquiry. The motion was then agreed to. Shortly afterwards, at half-past eight, the House was counted out.

MONDAY.

The sitting of the House of Lords only occupied half an hour. No business of importance was transacted.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Gladstone presented a petition from the Magee College in favour of the Irish University Education Bill. The Right Hon. Gentleman also made an explanation, in reply to Lord Robert Montagu, respecting the powers of the Council proposed to be appointed under the measure. Replying to Sir John Elphinstone, the Premier pointed out that it would not be easy at present to send out a Commissioner to survey the proposed boundary in Central Asia, and added that the Government believed the boundary recently agreed upon was sufficient for all practical purposes. The President of the Board of Trade having, in answer to a question, expressed some doubts whether he would be able this session to bring in a bill in connection with metric weights and measures, Mr. J. B. Smith gave notice that he would introduce a measure dealing with the question. The Committee on the Army Estimates was delayed by a motion from Col. Barttelot respecting the length of soldiers in India; but after an explanation from Mr. Cardwell, the resolution was withdrawn, and the War Minister proceeded to explain the Army Estimates. They amount to £14,416,400—showing a saving on the last year of £408,000, and on the previous year of £1,027,000. The saving would have been much greater, but for the fact that the rise in the prices of fuel, provision, and clothing has absorbed something like £500,000. The estimates make provision for a total number of 462,754 men for service at home and abroad—125,004 regulars, 139,000 Militia, 13,000 Yeomanry, and 160,750 Volunteers, besides the pensioners. The rate of recruiting has been satisfactory, and so far from the desertions having amounted last year, as alleged, to 8,000, they have only been 4,006. The new rules have been favourably accepted by the Volunteers, and although the numbers have somewhat diminished, Mr. Cardwell has no doubt that with increased efficiency and discipline a foundation is being laid for an ultimate increase. With regard to the question of the abolition of Purchase, the sum already expended has been £1,221,000. On the 31st of March a further sum will be required, and the result will then be that £227,000 less than the sum estimated will have been expended. Having referred in detail to the scheme of localisation, the Right Hon. Gentleman stated that it is intended to revise the soldiers' pay so that, with all the reductions for rations, &c., the men will receive not less than one shilling per day. At the close of Mr. Cardwell's speech, Sir John Pakington suggested that the discussion should be postponed, and this course was adopted. The House adjourned shortly after nine o'clock.

TUESDAY.

In the House of Lords, Lord Houghton fixed the second reading of the Bill legalising Marriage with a Deceased Wife's Sister, for Thursday fortnight. On the motion of the Marquis of Ripon, it was agreed to refer all Railway and Canal Amalgamation Bills to a joint committee of both Houses. The Prince of Wales was added to the Select Committee on Horses.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Anderson gave notice of his intention to call attention to the currency, and Mr. Chadwick stated that on the 18th of March, he should move for a Select Committee to inquire into the income-tax. Lord Enfield and Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen having given explanations respecting the commutation of the sentence of death passed upon the master and mate of the Karl for the massacre of the kidnapped Fijians, the Marquis of Hartington announced that it had been resolved to abandon all further proceedings in connection with the Galway election prosecutions. Replying to Sir H. Hoare, Mr. Gladstone expressed doubts whether, beyond a Continuance Bill, the Government would deal this Session, with corrupt practices at elections; Mr. Bruce, in answer to Mr. Powell, stated that he did not propose to bring in a bill to amend the Workshops Act; and Mr. Stansfeld, replying to Sir C. Adderly, intimated that he did not consider it either expedient or necessary to consolidate the Sanitary Acts this Session. Mr. C. Foster moved an address to the Crown in favour of summoning Parliament not later than the last week of November, in accordance with a resolution of the Select Committee of 1871; and to this Mr. Newdegate submitted an amendment for a Select Committee to consider the time at which the House should meet. On the suggestion of Mr. Gladstone, however, both motion and amendment were, after a brief debate, withdrawn. Mr. Seely then brought forward a proposition recommending that the affairs of the Admiralty should be administered by a Secretary of State, and that the offices of controller and superintendent of the navy should be given to persons of practical knowledge and for fixed periods. To this Mr. Brassey moved as an amendment that, instead of a Secretary of State, a Board of Admiralty should be appointed "with such modifications of constitution and procedure as experience has shown to be desirable." In the debate that followed the present administration of the Admiralty was defended by Mr. Goschen, and on a division Mr. Seely's motion was defeated by 114 to 13.

WEDNESDAY.

This being Ash Wednesday the House did not meet until two o'clock. Nearly the whole of the brief sitting was occupied with a discussion on the second reading of the Poor Law (Scotland) Bill, which proposed to abolish the present jurisdiction of the Sheriff and the legal right of demanding relief, which exists only in Scotland. The debate was confined to Scotch Members, and resulted in the measure being rejected by 181 to 48.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

The last block of the great breakwater at Kurrachee was laid on Saturday.

A Toronto telegram states that the last rail of the Canada and Southern Railway has been laid.

Dr. Barclay, Principal of Glasgow University died on Sunday afternoon from bronchitis, at the age of 81 years.

The North Staffordshire Miners on Saturday served on their employers a demand for 15 per cent increase.

The *Rock* says that the Free Church of England party have now adopted evening Communion in all their churches.

Baron Anselm Rothschild, the chief of the Vienna branch of the well-known banking house, is seriously but not dangerously, ill.

It is reported that it is the intention of the Royal Academy to hold a public exhibition of Mr. Mason's works at Burlington House.

The Wrexham and Ruabon colliers have demanded an advance of 20 per cent., which it is considered the masters will concede.

Last month the declared value of petroleum imported was £25,838; in the same month last year, £54,752; in January, 1871, £115,054.

In Friday's sitting of the Spanish Assembly, the Minister of Justice brought in and read a bill abolishing capital punishment for all offences.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Lieutenant-Colonel Ellis, dined with Earl Granville at his Lordship's residence, in Bruton-street, on Friday evening.

The Colliery Explosion at Talk-o'-th'-Hill.—The body of the last of the 18 colliers who were killed by the explosion—Samuel Kenyon, 16—has been recovered.

The first election of a school board for the Burton-on-Trent district took place on Friday. Of the nine members elected five are opposed to the 25th clause of the Education Act.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* states that a survey has been ordered upon all the chain cables in the Mediteranean and Channel Squadrons, in consequence of the late accident in Funchal Roads.

At a meeting held in Edinburgh, on Friday, it was unanimously agreed to nominate Miss Flora Stevenson as a lady candidate for the Edinburgh School Board, in addition to Miss Phœbe Blyth.

The Lords of the Admiralty have informed Dr. W. C. Bennett that the Admiralty has ordered a supply of his "Songs for Sailors," with a view to their adoption for use in the naval training ships.

Michael Mullak was arrested on Saturday at Belfast for having murdered Constable Gordon, who died from the effects of an assault committed on him by the prisoner in September. The prisoner has already undergone four months' imprisonment for the assault.

Charge of Fraud Against a London Merchant.—The charge against Mr. Legandi of fraudulently obtaining £12,000 from Messrs. Glyn and Co. was further investigated at the Mansion-house on Friday and the defendant was liberated on giving heavy bail.

The Russian Government has authorised the Academy of Medicine of St. Petersburg, to accept a gift of £8,000 offered by Madame Lidia Rodstrenna to the Academy, for the foundation and institution of a course of medical instruction for the use of women.—*The London Medical Record.*

Cardinal Cullen and Archbishop M'Hale have issued pastorals. The former denounces secret societies, amongst which he places the Good Templars. Archbishop M'Hale condemns the University Bill, and says it is only from an Irish Parliament that a Catholic system can be obtained.

The Edinburgh Joiners. — The Edinburgh operative joiners have demanded an advance of wages from 6½d to 7½d an hour from the first proximo. Their employers have offered to meet them half way, but this the men refused, and have given notice of a strike unless their demand is fully conceded.

Though the pearl fisheries of Ceylon are at present failures, the planters' prospects, says the *Times*, are improving, owing to the cheapness of railway traffic. The military question is engaging much attention. The steam shipping trade is increasing. The municipal reforms lately introduced are not successful.

It is stated on the authority of the secretary of the "United Kingdom General Post-office and Telegraph Service Benefit Society" that the question of an increase of the pay of the Post-office employes is under the reconsideration of the Lords of the Treasury, and that he expects the decision in a few days.

The Case of Mr. Edwin James.—On Saturday afternoon, at the close of Mr. Edwin James's address to the Judges, their Lordships decided that he had shown no adequate cause for reversing the decision of the Benchers of the Inner Temple; and that he could not, therefore, be re-admitted to practice at the Bar.—*Observer.*

It is stated that if the rules of the service were not so stringent, a deputation of naval medical officers would wait upon Mr. Goschen to remonstrate on the appointment of a civilian to be the medical attendent to Greenwich College, notwithstanding that many able men belonging to the Royal Navy are desirous of being selected for the post.

At the Skerne Ironworks, Darlington, a new mode of fettling has just been adopted which promises to effect a considerable economy in the manufacture of finished iron. It is the joint patent of Mr. Thomas Greener, mining engineer and coke merchant, Darlington, and Mr. William Ellis, late manager for Messrs. Bolckow and Vaughan, at Whitton-park.

Mr. Thomas M'Kenna Hughes, M.A., of Trinity College, has been elected successor of the late Professor Sedgwick, in the Woodwardian Professorship of Geology at Cambridge. The voting was as follows:—Hughes 112; Bonney, 105; Fisher 4, Morris 1. The new professor is a member of Trinity College, where he graduated as B.A. in 1857, 10 years later proceeded M.A.

Coming Back to the Old Ways.—A significant indication of the tendency of Nonconformists towards the use of a liturgy in public worship was afforded the other evening by a discussion which took place on the subject at a meeting of the members of the Congregational Church in Brixton, of which the Rev. B. Brown is minister. The discretional use of a liturgy was supported by a great majority of speakers including two of the deacons.

Representation of Northallerton.—It seems now to be accepted in Northallerton that Mr. Hulton, the Conservative sitting member, will resign, and that Mr. George Elliott, jun. son of the member for North Durham, will be brought forward by the Conservatives in his place. The leaders of the Liberal party have held one or two private meetings. The name most mentioned as their probable candidate is Mr. Wrightson, the former member for the borough.

Army (Colonies).—By a parliamentary paper issued last week, it appears that the total colonial contribution to be paid into the Exchequer during the ensuing year is £238,300. The amounts included in the army estimates 1873-74 for military purposes in the colonies were £1,708,290, and in 1872-3 £1,761,257. The probable sums to be repaid, as stated, are as follow: £10,000 from the Cape of Good Hope, £3,500 from Natal, £20,000 from Hongkong, £51,600 from the Straits Settlement, £120,000 from Ceylon, £6,200 from Malta, and £27,000 from the Mauritius.

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MANHOOD SUFFRAGE MEETING AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

On Saturday afternoon, a meeting of miners residing in the western part of the county of Durham, was held at Shotley Bridge, the gathering being promoted by the Durham County Franchise Association. The meeting took place in the Town Hall, which was crowded. The chair was occupied by Mr. James Carlan, of Wooley Colliery, and supporting him were several prominent leaders of the Manhood Suffrage movement.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the meeting, referred to Mr. Bruce's speech with regard to the coal question in the House of Commons on Friday night. Mr. Bruce was reported to have said that "there had been a vast increase in the means taken by capitalists to supply the increased demand for coal, but there had not been a correspondent willingness on the part of the workmen to dig the coal from the ground." He thought this statement was a slander on the miners in Northumberland and Durham and of the whole country. (Cheers.) Working men had, in the past, exhausted their physical abilities by hard work, and now, when they saw their error, when they wished to have a fair proportion of the profits, when they wished to educate themselves and their children, they were charged with idleness. (Loud applause.) The speaker explained that manhood suffrage had been substituted for household suffrage, in consequence of a vote which had been taken from the collieries of the county.

Dr. JAMES TROTTER, Bedlington, said he represented the Northumberland miners, on whose behalf he asked the co-operation of the working men of Durham. They would be aware that certain well-minded persons had been induced to advocate the extension of household suffrage, but he was persuaded that if they were as well acquainted with the so-called household suffrage as he was, they would have nothing to do with it. (Applause.) In the Parliamentary borough of Morpeth they found out that household suffrage was nothing but a wretched farce, a miserable sham. During the course of its agitation, every sort of quibble had been raised to prevent working men having their legitimate rights. They found that the overseers could, if so minded, strike off, or never put on the register the names of two or three thousand workmen; they discovered that the justices of Petty Sessions backed out this action; and likewise that the revising barrister backed out both overseers and justice in preventing the working men obtaining the franchise. (Loud cheers.) They wished to advocate for household suffrage no longer: what they wished for now was manhood suffrage—they believed in a man representing his own manhood. (Applause.) He need scarcely remind them that if they could secure votes they would have power to send representatives not only to Parliament, but to Local Boards of Health and Boards of Guardians. At present capital and wealth were only represented in the House of Commons. They had a representation of capitalists, but no working man was to be found within the walls of St. Stephens. (Renewed applause.) Some persons had stated that the present House of Commons was perfectly fitted to legislate for the working men, but he maintained that nobody could represent the working classes better than the working men themselves. (Loud cheers.) Mr. John Bright had said that some of the greatest questions affecting capital and labour would have to be settled in a short time. He asked them how could questions affecting capital and labour be settled without they (the working men) had a representatives? (Cheers.) Capitalists would naturally side with capitalists, and this was a good reason why labour should be represented. The speaker next referred to the Home-Rule for Ireland. He was not an Irishman himself, but he was of opinion that no people could legislate better for Ireland than the people of that country themselves. (Cheers.) Irishmen would have a better chance of obtaining Home-Rule if they assisted the working men of this country to obtain manhood suffrage, and then he had no doubt the legislation for Ireland would be founded upon strict justice, not upon policy and expediency. (Applause.) There would be great difficulty in the way of obtaining the grand object they had in view—the raising of the working men from the position of slavery to the great and glorious position of free citizens of a free country. (Renewed applause.) It had been said by an eminent statesman that taxation without representation was tyranny. He contended that every man who contributed to the legislation of the country ought to have a voice as to how it was distributed. They talked about a national scheme of education. He denied that any scheme was a national scheme unless the voice of the people was in it. (Cheers.) He called upon the miners of Durham to come out strong in this matter, to urge upon the Government what they were entitled to—a fair share in the representation of the country. (Applause.) He was glad to see that the miners of Durham were going in for manhood suffrage, pure and simple; and he trusted, whatever might be done in the matter would be done in unity. He hoped they would set aside all party feeling, and by one grand demonstration show the Government that they were determined in the matter. (Cheers.) The miners of Northumberland intended to hold a great meeting on the Newcastle Town Moor, and he thought that the Durham miners should not be behind their Northumberland brethren in endeavouring to free themselves from their bonds of slavery. (Loud cheers.)

Mr GLASSEY, Chopington, came forward to say a few words to his fellow-workman in Durham, to stretch out the right hand of fellowship, and to ask them to make one resolute stand for political freedom and independence. (Loud applause.) When the working classes became united, and they demanded that these political bonds must be broken, and that they should become free men, no Government would dare to say nay. It had been stated that the working men were hereditary freedmen, but he said they were hereditary slaves—(applause)—and he asked them as working men, as rational beings, how much longer they were content to remain under political bondage. (Cheers.) The speaker next referred to the enormous expenditure of public money, and gave a few instances as to how it was expended, after which he contrasted the condition of the aristocracy and the working classes.

Mr. ELLIOTT, Chopington, said that he was glad that the men of Durham had assembled together, not to go in for the franchise, but for manhood suffrage—for their complete political emancipation. It was time that the working classes had a voice in the making of the laws of the country. Mr Bruce had stated that had there been a few working miners in the House of Commons they would have materialy assisted him in carrying the Mines' Regulation Bill through the House; and Mr. Eustace Smith, the member for Tynemouth, asserted that they had been worried to death by the coalowners, and a few working miners would have assisted in carrying the measure in its entirety, and he hoped they (the miners) would send a few members of their own class into the House, so that their interests might be fully represented. (Loud cheers.) He (Mr. Elliott) hoped the miners would take the advice given by that gentleman, and that at the first opportunity they would send a goodly number of their own class into St. Stephen's Hall. It was their intention, at the next election, to send Mr. Thomas Burt as their representative in Parliament. (Applause.) With regard to their proposed demonstration, he trusted that the miners of Durham would come forward nobly, and join the mechanics on the banks of the Tyne and the miners of Northumberland, and in one voice speak in a way that the Government could not but understand, and insist that every man in this country be put in possession of his political rights. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. ATKINSON, Newcastle, proposed:—"That this meeting resolves to do all in its power to promote the success of the manhood suffrage demonstration to be held in Newcastle on the 12th April." He thought the present Parliament was one of landlords and employers. (Applause.)

Mr. THOMPSON, Tow Law, seconded the motion. He was glad that the miners of Durham were going from household suffrage to manhood suffrage. He thought that if the whole of the miners of Durham and Northumberland advocated manhood suffrage it would be as easy got as the other. (Cheers.) It had been stated that the Durham miners were behind their Northumberland brethren in this movement, and that they, being the stronger party, should take the lead. However he thought the Durham miners were better in the rear, for they, being the most powerful party, would be the better able to push their fellow-workmen to the top of the tree. (Laughter and applause.) If they laid their heads together, and went hand and heart into the cause, they might yet live to enjoy liberty and freedom. There was only one way to obtain this—by unity. (Cheers.)

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried amid great cheering.

Mr. BATEY, secretary of the Durham Miners' County Franchise Association, said the subject that had brought them together had been ably discussed by the preceding speakers, and to detain the meeting with any remarks of his would be out of place. (Cheers, and "go on.") The subject that had brought them together that day was of great and vital importance to them as workingmen. Hitherto, the working classes had been looked upon as something hardly fit to live, as political nonentities, that they had nothing to do but work, to be at the call of those who employed them; but the working men were now calculated to take their stand among any class of men in the world. (Loud applause.) In 183*, Earl Russell said the working men should have a voice, but that they were not fit to have it. The same, however, could not be said at the present day. The speaker, in conclusion, called upon his hearers to support the cause by their presence at the forthcoming demonstration.

Votes of thanks to the chairman and speakers followed, after which the meeting closed.

DURHAM SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, Feb. 21.—Before John Lloyd Wharton, Esq., M.P., (chairman); Rev. E. H. Shipperdson, Esq., and A. H. Talmadge, Esq.

ENCOURAGING A CHILD TO STEAL.

Mary Dowd, 44, widow, was found guilty of receiving three petticoats and one table-cloth the property of Robert Brown, well knowing them to have been stolen by her daughter, a little girl who had been in the prosecutor's service at Chester-le-Street, on the 4th of February, and who was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for the offence. The Chairman commented severely on the conduct of the prisoner, in encouraging her child to steal, and sentenced her to six months' hard labour.

UNLAWFULLY WOUNDING AT CROOK.

Edward Gilmoor, 35, labourer, was charged with unlawfully wounding Jonn Jordan, at Crook, on the 28th of December.—Twelve months' hard labour.

UNLAWFULLY WOUNDING AT CONSETT.

James McArdle, 20, labourer, an athletic young Irishman, was charged with unlawfully wounding John Coleman, at Consett. Mr. Edge prosecuted, and Mr. Blackwell defended. Mr. Edge briefly opened the case, and as the prosecutor did not answer to his name the case was proceeded with in his absence. The first witness called was

John Scott, who said he was a labourer and lodged at No. 11, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. About half-past ten o'clock on the night of the 11th January, witness left his lodgings and proceeded to the Commercial Inn for the purpose of getting a glass of beer. While there, the prisoner entered the room in which witness was sitting. The prisoner looked at witness, gave a growl, and went out again. Witness shortly afterwards drank his glass of ale and left the house. Before witness arrived at his lodgings he heard someone call out "oh." Witness looked round, and saw the prisoner striking the man who was before the magistrates at Lanchester. The prisoner was striking the man with an instrument he had in his hand. The men then passed witness, and the prisoner felled the man at the lodging-house door.

The CHAIRMAN: How often did he strike him?

Witness: Five or six times before he passed me.

Examination continued: Witness knew the man that was struck perfectly well by sight. He lodged next door to witness. When the man was felled, he called out "don't kill me." While the man was lying on the ground, the prisoner struck him repeatedly. Witness tried to open the lodging-house door for the purpose of getting assistance, and the prisoner then made off. The lodging-house door was opened, and witness assisted to take the man into his lodgings. He was bleeding about the head and ears—the right ear more especially. The prisoner struck the man with a weapon like the life-preserver produced.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How long had you known this man who was struck?

Witness: I had not known him before that night.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How did you known he lodged next door to you?

Witness: I saw him go into the house previously.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How many men were there in the lodging-house?

Witness: I cannot say.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How many men were there in the place where you lived?

Witness: Perhaps a score.

Mr. BLACKWELL: When the prisoner came into the Commercial Inn, you say he gave a sort of growl?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Did he appear to be looking for some one.

Witness: He only stepped through the door and looked at me. He said nothing.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Did he appear excited?

Witness: A little.

Mr. BLACKWELL; Did you see both his hands?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Did there appear to be anything in them?

Witness: I did not see anything in his hands.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How many men assisted to take the man into the lodging-house?

Witness: A good many out of different houses.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Do you know a man named Jem?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Is he here to-day?

Witness: No.

Mr. EDGE: Where was the prisoner when Jem came up?

Witness: He had run away.

Mr. EDGE: There was no crowd until after you heard the cries?

Witness: No.

Thomas Smith, labourer, living at Constt, said on Saturday night, the 11th January, about ten o'clock, he was in John Ward's public-house. The prisoner came into the house, without either hat or cap. The prisoner walked round the room and pulled a life-preserver out of his pocket and struck a man over the head. The weapon was similar to the one produced. Witness left the house and went in search of a police-officer. He saw Sergt. Forster, with whom he proceeded along Sherburn Terrace where they found the prisoner. Witness assisted to take the prisoner into custody.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How long had you been in this public-house?

Witness: About a quarter of an hour.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Had you been in any other?

Witness: No.

Mr. BLACKWELL: What time was it?

Witness: About a quarter past ten.

Mr. BLACKWELL: When the prisoner entered McGurk's the man was struck in a moment?

Witness: Yes; the man never said a word to the prisoner.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How many men were there in the room?

Witness: Six or seven.

Mr. BLACKWELL: No word was spoken by any person?

Witness: No, sir.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Are you quite sure when the prisoner came into the house he had no cap on?

Witness: Yes.

Mr. BLACKWELL: What time was it when the prisoner was locked up?

Witness: About half-past ten.

Mr. BLACKWELL: How far is it from the place he was apprehended to the Police Station?

Witness: About a quarter of a mile.

Mr. BLACKWELL: When you encountered the prisoner in Sherburn Terrace, was he standing or walking?

Witness: He was walking towards Consett.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Do you know the numbers in Sherburn Terrace?

Witness: I know No. 11.

Mr. BLACKWELL: Was it by No. 11 that the prisoner was apprehended?

Witness: It was near Tumilty's shop.

By Mr. EDGE: The shop was three or four doors from No. 11.

Benjamin Foster, sergeant of police stationed at Consett, said from information he received from the last witness, on Saturday night, the 11th January, he went in search of the prisoner. He found the prisoner in Sherburn Terrace. He charged prisoner with striking the man with a life-preserver. The prisoner replied that he had nothing of the kind about him. Prisoner drew himself up against the wall in an aggressive manner, and the witness seized hold of his right arm, and found the life-preserver produced concealed up his sleeve. The weapon was attached to the prisoner's wrist by a string. Witness then locked the prisoner up.

In answer to Mr. EDGE, the last witness said Coleman was in Consett on Thursday.

Duncan Whyte, assistant-surgeon at Consett, described the wounds on Coleman's head. He thought they might have been caused by a life-preserver.

Mr. BLACKWELL said his friend had not put the prisoner's statement in.

Mr. EDGE replied that he was not bound to do so, unless requested.

A lively passage of arms ensued between the two legal gentlemen, during which Mr. Blackwell caused a good deal of laughter by indignantly remarking "that he was not to be bullied."

The prisoners statement before the magistrates at Lanchester was then read, and was to the effect that the prisoner was coming out of Ward's public-house when he saw four or five men before him, one of whom struck him with a life-preserver. Prisoner succeeded in taking the weapon from the man, and during the suffle he lost his cap.

Mr. BLACKWELL, for the defence, contended that Coleman was one of a party of men that had attacked the prisoner, and what had been done to Coleman was done in self-defence.

The jury found the prisoner guilty, and he was sentenced to prison with hard labour for twelve calendar months.

SATURDAY, Feb. 22.—Before J. L. Wharton Esq., M.P., (chairman), and A. H. Talmadge, Esq.

FALSE PRETENCES AT BLACKHILL.

Isabella Martin, 20, domestic servant, pleaded guilty to obtaining, by false pretences, a pair of stays, a piece of flannel, and a piece of tartan cloth, with intent to defraud Anthony Evelyn Turner, at Blackhill, on the 14th of November. She was sentenced to twelve months' hard labour.

SAD END OF A YOUNG GIRL AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

On Wednesday morning, J. M. Favell, Esq., coroner, held an inquiry at Annfield Plain, touching the death of Mary Ann Birch, fifteen years of age.

Ann Hardy said: I am the wife of John Hardy, innkeeper, Annfield Plain. Mary Ann Birch, the deceased, was my servant. She was the daughter of John Birch, of Annfield Plain, a joiner. She was in my service a month. I had missed some money from a drawer, and on Sunday morning the deceased confessed to having taken 4s., but I had missed more than that amount. I told her that she was to go away on Monday morning, and I would not proceed against her. I called her to get up about seven o'clock on Monday morning, and in about a quarter of an hour she came to my room and asked for the key of the bar. Soon after that, the other girl, Minnie Lumley, came to my room and said the deceased was screaming. I proceeded down stairs and found her sitting by the fire, and bending herself right back. I took hold of the deceased and laid her on the floor. She was shaking and screaming very much. She once asked me if the doctor had come. The doctor came just as she was dying. She died on the floor. We had used some vermin killer I had got from Mr. Watson's, a chemist in the village, but the deceased never had anything to do with it. The whole of the vermin killer was used.

Elizabeth Watson said: I live with my brother who keeps a shop and sells chemicals and drugs. I sold some of the vermin killer (Battle's) to Mrs. Hardy, last week. I produce a packet of the vermin killer. About eight o'clock on Monday morning I sold a packet of vermin killer to a young girl. I did not know her, and cannot say that it was the deceased.

Minnie Lumley said she was thirteen years of age, and was a servant with Mrs. Hardy. About half-past seven o'clock on Monday morning, Mary Birch, the deceased, was sitting at the fire and appeared uneasy. Witness asked her was what the matter, and she replied that she could not tell. Witness knew that she had taken some money out of a drawer. The deceased went into a pantry and witness followed her. Deceased mixed some starch and warm water in a drinking pot. She then returned to the kitchen, where she mixed something else with the starch and water and drank it. In about half-an-hour the deceased became ill. She threw herself on a longsettle, to which she held with both hands. Witness called of her mistress, and went for a doctor. After the deceased took the starch and water, she mixed some bread and milk, which she also drank.

The CORONER: Did she go on with her work as usual that morning?

Witness: No. She appeared very uneasy.

The CORONER: How much starch did she mix?

Witness: About a teaspoonful.

The CORONER: Did she say anything about the money that morning?

Witness: She told me how much she had taken out of the drawer.

The CORONER: How much had she taken?

Witness: Two florins and two shillings.

The CORONER: Did she tell you how she got it?

Witness: She said she took her mistress' key, with which she opened the drawer.

The CORONER: Did she seem to fret very much about it?

Witness: Yes, sir.

The CORONER: She never said she had taken anything?

Witness: No, sir.

The CORONER: Had you seen her with a gully that morning?

Witness: She went into the pantry and got a gully and said she had a good mind to cut his throat.

The CORONER: That was before she took the starch?

Witness: Yes.

A JUROR: Did you make any remark to her when she drank it?

Witness: No, sir.

Sergt. Brown informed the Coroner that nothing had been found in the girls' pocket.

A woman who was present observed that 9½d had been found in the deceased's box.

A JUROR remarked that it was rather a singular coincidence that the last witness, Minnie Lumley who was present when the deceased took the poison, should also have been present when Mr. Dodds, innkeeper, cut his throat.

The CORONER: Some superstitious people would think that there was some fatality about it.

Hannah Watchman said: I live the second door from Mrs. Hardy's. On Monday morning, about twenty minutes past seven o'clock, I saw the deceased pass my door, and return in a few minutes. She had to pass my door to get to Mr. Watson's. I was present when she died.

The CORONER: Was her face altered before death?

Witness: Her face was convulsed.

The CORONER: Was there any peculiarity about her eyes?

Witness: One eye was wide open and the other one was closed. She opened both eyes before death. They first turned red and then yellow. I opened her mouth, and found that her tongue was black. Her face became calm soon after death.

John Turton Hooper, surgeon, Catchgate, said he saw the deceased at a quarter to nine o'clock on Monday morning. She was then lying on her back in Mr. Hardy's kitchen. There was a great deal of swelling and discolouration about her face. The pupils were thoroughly contracted. The extremities and body showed that she had suffered from extreme spasms. Witness tasted some remains in a cup, which was sharp and sweet. He had no doubt the deceased had taken strychnine. Battle's Vermin Killer contained strychnine. If she took the Vermin Killer, it would destroy life, and she would suffer in the same way that the witness had stated.

The CORONER said the jury could have no doubt that the deceased had been in a desponding state of mind when she took the poison. That she had done so was quite clear. It would be for them to say under what circumstances she took it—whether with a cool intention to destroy life, or while she was in a low state of mind at the time.

A JUROR remarked that the deceased was in reduced circumstances when she first entered Mrs. Hardy's employ. She had not received any money, yet she had bought several articles of wearing apparel at a neighbouring shop.

The CORONER said it was evident that the poor girl had been in a distressed state, which had tempted her to commit the theft.

In answer to the Coroner, a JUROR said the deceased's father was a very drunken man, who refused to assist the deceased in any way.

The Jury returned a verdict to the effect that the deceased committed suicide whilst in an unsound state of mind.

Local Police Courts.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE POLICE COURT.

MONDAY, Feb. 24.—Before H. G. SIDVERTOP (chairman), A. TOWN and T. WILSON, Esqs.

DRUNKENNESS.

John Graham, miner, Leadgate, an infirm-looking old man, was charged by P.C. Firn with the above offence at Leadgate, on the 7th ult. In answer to the usual interrogatory, defendant admitted that he was rather "gone," but hoped their worships would deal leniently with him as he had worked very little during the last eight months. The evidence went to show that the deceased was drunk and refused to go home. Two women, however, ultimately succeeded in getting him off the streets.—Fined 2s. 6d. and costs.

Peter Flynn, miner, pleaded guilty to a similar offence at the same place on the 7th ult.—Fined 10s. and costs.

James Kennedy, miner, Leadgate, was summoned for a similar offence on the same day. P.C. Firn said the defendant was drunk about nine o'clock. Defendant's version of the affair was that he was proceeding home when he saw two women beating a man with a poker. He rescued the man, and the women attacked him with the poker.—The officer stated that what the defendant had described took place afterward.—Fined 10s and costs.

John McGrahan, miner, Leadgate, was also charged with drunkenness at Leadgate. P.C. Firn said the defendant was drunk at the above place between ten and eleven o'clock on the night of the 8th ult.—Fined 10s and costs.

Owen McCoy, miner, Leadgate, was charged by the same officer with a similar offence on the 25th ult.—The defendant was put out of Clark's public-house, and he afterwards caused a number of people to collect.—Ordered to pay a fine of 10s. and the expenses.

James Devellin, miner, Hamsterley Colliery, was charged with a similar offence. P.C. Reed stated that on Saturday night, the 8th ult., he found the defendant drunk in a public-house at Blackhall Mill. Witness ordered the landlord to fill him no more drink, and shortly afterwards the defendant left the house.—Fined 10s and costs.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

George Dixon, miner, Leadgate, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly at the above place on the 22nd ult. P.C. Farnaby was on duty at Blackhill, and saw the defendant put out of Skelton's public-house. The defendant was drunk and as he could give no account of himself he was locked up.—Fined 10s. and costs.

James Connor, mason's labourer, Blackhill, was charged by the above officer with a similar offence, on the 22nd ult.—Fined 10s. and costs.

Rose Ann McManners and Minnie Clintan, two dissipated-looking females, were charged with a similar offence, on Saturday night. The former defendant was found lying drunk in a field, and the latter defendant, when apprehended, was being followed by a crowd of children.—Fined 5s. and costs each, and in default of payment, they were sent to Durham gaol for seven days.

Patrick Moyle, labourer, Blackhill, was charged with a similar offence. Sergt. Nattress said on Saturday night, about nine o'clock, the defendant was drunk near Jobling's public-house. He resisted his apprehension very much.—Fined 5s. and costs.

Thomas Cogan, mason, Consett, was charged by P.C. Stebbing with a similar offence on Saturday night.—Fined 5s. and costs.

Charles Edwards, puddler, was charged by the above officer with a similar offence on the same day. Defendant was turned out of a beer-house, drunk, and on the officer attempting to take him into custody he became very violent.—Defendant said he belonged to Leeds, and only came to Consett on Friday night.—Fined 5s. and costs.

William Lamb, puddler, Consett, pleaded guilty to a similar offence in Sherburn Terrace, Consett, on Saturday night.—Fined 5s. and costs.

William Keenan, miner, Leadgate, for a similar offence at the latter place, was fined 10s. and costs.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

David Purvis, labourer, Consett, was charged by P.C. Tranmer with the above offence. Defendant was fighting in Skelton's beer-house and refused to go out when requested.—Defendant had previously borne a good character, and a fine of only 5s. and expenses was inflicted.

ASSAULT.

David Allan, miner, Hamsterley Colliery, was charged with assaulting Thomas Lee, a boy, at Ebchester, on the 10th ult. Complainant stated that he was going an errand to Ebchester when he saw the defendant, who shouted "Tom," after which he asked complainant where he came from. The defendant then seized him by the collar and "at him."—In answer to the magistrates, complainant said the defendant accused him of stealing a dog which defendant had with him, and which complainant said belonged to another party.—Defendant said complainant was going to strike him with a stone. He knocked complainant into the hedge in consequence.—Fined 1s. and the expenses, 8s. 6d.

LANCHESTER POLICE COURT.

THURSDAY Feb. 27.—Before A. H. TALMADGE and H. SMITH, Esqs.

DRUNKENNESS.

James Strong, miner, Annfield Plain, was charged by Sergt. Brown with drunkenness at Annfield Plain, on the 15th inst. The officer said the defendant was drunk and annoyed everybody he met.—Fined 10s and costs.

William Southron, blacksmith, Oxhill, was charged by P.C. Stamper, with a similar offence. The officer stated that on Sunday night, the 16th ult., about twenty minutes to ten o'clock, he was on duty in Shield Row, and found the defendant drunk and unable to walk.—Fined 5s and costs.

William Campbell, miner, was charged by P.C. Reay, with drunkenness at Catchgate on the 8th ult. The officer found defendant lying on the road in an incapable condition at Catchgate.—Defendant, who was before the magistrates quite recently, was fined 20s and costs.

ASSAULTING THE POLICE.

Matthew Carroll, puddler, Consett, was charged with assaulting P.C. Stebbing, at Consett. From the statement of the officer it seems that on Monday night, P.C. Tranmer was endeavouring to take three men into custody. P.C. Stebbing went to his assistance and seized the defendant, who tripped him up twice.—P.C. Tranmer corroborated the above officer's statement.—Mr. Talmadge said the defendant had been guilty of a crime of the very worst description—that of interfering with the officer in the discharge of his duty. Police-officers had quite enough to do without being interfered with by blackguards like the defendant, and he would be fined 40s and costs, or two months' imprisonment; and if he was ever brought up again for interfering with police-officers in the discharge of their duty, he would be sent to prison without the option of paying a fine.

REFUSING TO QUIT.

William Brown and Michael McQuiggan were charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of John Routledge, at Consett.—Fined 10s and costs.

John Jackson, miner, was charged with refusing to quit the licensed premises of Mr. Fenwick, at Dipton, on the 19th ult. P.C. Raine said he was requested by Mr. Fenwick, innkeeper, Dipton, to eject the defendant, who was drunk.—In answer to the bench, Sergt. Morland stated that the defendant did not get his drink at Mr. Fenwick's. The latter refused to fill him any.—Fined 10s and costs.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

Isaac Beatie, was charged with having been drunk and disorderly at Hedley Hill, on the 22nd ult. P.C. Stephenson said the defendant quarrelled with his wife. He was drunk and fired a gun twice—once inside and once outside the house.—Fined 10s and costs.

Christopher Attey, miner, was charged by P.C. Raine with a similar offence at White-le-Head, on the 15th ult. This was the defendant's fifteenth appearance, and he was fined 20s and costs.

John Evans, miner, was charged by P.C. Graves with a similar offence on the same day. The officer said about nine o'clock on the night in question he was called into Elliott's public-house to eject the defendant. The defendant had hold of the landlord by the neck.—Fined 10s and costs.

ASSAULT AT QUEBEC.

William Williamson, miner, was charged with assaulting Isabella Holmes, at Quebec, on Friday night last. Mr. Granger defended. Complainant stated that the defendant's daughter accused her of listening to what was going forward in defendant's house. Complainant denied that she had done so, whereupon the defendant himself came forward and struck her twice.—Defendant was further charged with assaulting Mary Sinter on the same occasion.—Defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and pay costs.

MASTER AND SERVANT.

David Kirkup, farmer, Lintz Green, was summoned by Mary Ann Hunter, with discharging her without just and reasonable cause. Mr. Patrick, of Durham, defended. Complainant stated that she was hired as an agricultural servant for half-a-year. Her mistress ordered her to "cut her stick," and she had accordingly left the defendant's employ. She claimed half-a-year's wages—£5.—Cross examined by Mr. Patrick: She was hired by word of mouth. Her brother and another young man came to visit her on the 16th ult., the day on which she left the defendant's employ. Her mistress told her not to go to the door to talk to her brother and the other young man. Complainant, however, did go to the door, and remained there about twenty minutes. Her mistress then ordered her to "cut her stick." A quarter's notice was to be given on either side to terminate the agreement.—The magistrates said the complainant was not justified in leaving her situation because her mistress rebuked her for disobeying her orders. Complainant would have to pay expenses, and go back to her services.

A BATCH OF CASES FROM ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Jonathan Gibson was charged with assaulting Edward Powell at Annfield Plain, on the 21st ult.—Fined 30s. and costs.

Simpson Birtley was charged by Peter Allan with a similar offence on the same occasion.—Fined 20s. and costs.

Jonathan Gibson was further charged with assaulting Elizabeth Powell, with a poker, at the same time and place.—Fined 5s. and costs.

Simpson Birtley, William Carroll, and William Simpson, were charged by James Powell with wilful damage on the same occasion.—Birtley and Carroll were ordered to pay the damage, 5s. and costs; Simpson was dismissed.

SINGULAR.—Orpheus, though now and then unfortunate, especially at the finish of his—as the liners say—chequered career, got a good deal out of his instrument, and a more modern gentleman has told us that music has great soothing properties; but we think that if either of them had seen the following in the *Newcastle Chronicle*, his surprise would have been great:—"I, John Williamson, of Jarrow, hearing that C. Wright, of Jarrow, is not satisfied with his late defeat at the Hen and Chickens, Manchester, will sing him the best Scotch song, bar "Ye Banks and Braes," for his own sake; or R. Nixon can be on at any price. An answer will be attended to." Possibly "Ye Banks" is not calculated to soften the sorrow of C. Wright, perhaps the title is too suggestive of recent commercial failure to induce joy in the listeners, and maybe, after all, as it has been discovered that Bruce and Wallace were both Engtishmen, "Ye Banks and Braes" may not be a Scotch song. We have heard of and wondered at the urchin who sang for his supper, but one man singing for another's "own stake"—which is here obviously misspelt—is still more marvellous. We like to hear what R. Nixon, the slighted, "who can be on at any price," has to say on the subject, and with the jocund Jarrowvian, inform him that "an answerd will be attended to.—*Fun.*

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

The insertion of anything beyond the simple announcement of Births, Marriages, or Deaths, will be charged as Advertisements.

MARRIAGES.

WOLSINGHAM—At the Register Office, on the 22nd ult., Mr. George Ridley to Miss Margaret Lowson, both of Towlaw.—22nd, Mr. Joshua Stephenson, of St. John's Chapel, to Miss Hannah Hill, of Dry Gill.

DEATHS.

TANFIELD—On the 19th ult., Mr. William Armstrong, sen., late of Wylam, aged 57.

DIPTON—At Bradley Lodge, on the 23rd ult. Mr. John Graham, viewer, aged 53.

MICKLEY SQUARE—On the 17th ult., aged 5, Elizabeth, relict of the late Mr. Loudon, grocer, &c.

Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at the Steam Printing Works, Front Street, Consett Saturday, March 1, 1873.