The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

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

No. 968. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 21ST, 1879. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

TELFER'S
SMOKING MIXTURE,
RECOMMENDED for its rich and excellent Flavour. It is prepared and blended, with judicious care and judgment, from the finest Tobaccos the world can produce, making a faultless mixture. Sold only in Packets, 1oz., 2oz., and 4oz., at all Tobconnists, Stores, Shopkeepers, and Innkeepers.

TELFER AND SONS,
TOBACCO AND SNUFF MANUFACTURERS,
NEWCASTLE. 346a

ROBERT SEWELL,
AUCTIONEER AND APPRAISER,
14, HAVELOCK STREET, CONSETT.

THOMAS HOWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER,
LEADGATE AND CONSETT.
PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED OR CONTRACTED FOR.

LOOK! LOOK!!—For Washing Machines, Force Tube, Falls, &c., or repairs of every description, go to W. BORROW, Cooper, Front Street, Consett.

A. PHILLIPSON,
AUCTIONEER, FURNITURE DEALER, &c.,
DIPTON.
IS prepared to BUY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., for Cash, or Removes Goods to his Show-rooms, or any other desirable place, to be Sold by Auction.

J. BATES,
HOUSE CARPENTER, JOINER, UNDERTAKER, HARDWAREMAN,
HARVEY STREET, CONSETT. 676S

WEDDING RINGS!! WEDDING RINGS!!
WEDDING RINGS!!
A PRESENT to each Purchaser of our GUINEA GOLD RING.
F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 318b

NOTICE! NOTICE!!
ANY Person found Trespassing in pursuit of Game, gathering Mushrooms, Brambles, &c., on Middle Heads, Oliverford, Middles, Knitsley Grange, Allen Heads, Burdoon, Rowley, Dean Houl, and Hesleyfield Farms will be Prosecuted as the Law directs.
July, 1876. 712S

COALS.
THE VERY BEST SCREENED HOUSEHOLD VICTORIA GARESFIELD COALS delivered in Lanchester at 7s. 6d. per Load of 16cwt.; or delivered at Lanchester Station in Truck Loads, at 7s. 9d. per Ton.—Apply to Mr. SADLER, Stattionmaster, Lanchester Tan.—Apply to Mr. SADLER, Stattionmaster, Lanchester

ART UNION OF KENT, UNDER GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY.
32ND Season. One Shilling per Share. Prizes ranging in value to £100. See Catalogues. Purchasers of Ten Tickets entitled to large Photograph or Oleograph. The Committee present to purchasers of Forty Tickets and upwards (in the event of their not gaining a Prize), a Picture to the value of half their subscriptions. Drawing, 5th April, 1879. Tickets, One Shilling, of Local Agents:—Mr. R. JACKSON, 59, Front Street, Consett; Mr. GRAHAM, 93, North Road, Durham; Mr. GIBBINSON, Stattionmaster, Shotley Bridge Railway Station; Mr. GRADEN, 13, Silver Street, Durham; or of Mr. W. WOODLEY, Secretary, Woolwich, London. 804m

CLEARANCE SALE OF SURPLUS AND WINTER STOCK.
G. RICHARDSON,
DRAPER, SHOTLEY BRIDGE,
BEGS to announce to his numerous friends and the Public, on account of the
GREAT DEPRESSION OF TRADE
In all the Manufacturing Districts,
he has made some
EXTRAORDINARY CHEAP PURCHASES,
And his Stock being very large, he intends having a Sale for Cash, for Seven Days,
COMMENCING ON SATURDAY, MAR. 15TH,
And Concluding on Saturday, March 22nd.
All Goods Bought at the Sale must be paid for when Purchased. 787m

FARM SEEDS.
NOW ON SALE:
FINE NEW SPRING TARES,
FINE POTATO AND TARTARIAN OATS.
FINE MAPLE PEAS, &c.
CLOVERS AND GRASS SEEDS.
G. H.'S CELEBRATED MIXTURES FOR PERMANENT PASTURES.
TURNIP SEEDS.
GARDEN SEEDS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.
Ammonia-fized and Phosphe Peruvian Guanos, Turnip and Potato Manures, Crushed and Dissolved Bones and Top Dressings for Field or Garden use, Nitrate of Soda, and Agricultural Salt.
GEORGE HOBSON,
HARPERLEY MILLS, NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN, AND CATCHGATE.
(ESTABLISHED 1817.) 654b

THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT with the AWARDED ROADS, QUARRIES, WELLS, WATERING PLACES, &c., set out by the Commissioners bearing Award, dated 13th June, 1781; also a note of the various
CUSTOMS OF THE COPYHOLD OF MANOR 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.
The whole of the remaining copies of this useful work, which was published at 3s. 6d., having been purchased by ROBERT JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, Consett, he has determined to reduce the price to *Three Shillings* per copy (post free) in order to effect a speedy clearance.
Also on hand a few copies (being an exact reprint) of the *Original* LANCHESTER COMMON ACT, recently published by Mr. JOHN CALTHEY, at the reduced price of *Two Shillings* (post free).
Every owner or occupier of property within the boundary of Lanchester Common should possess a copy of either of these editions.
Mr. JACKSON will be glad to forward copies on receipt of these editions by return of Post. Postage Stamps or Post-Office Orders made payable to ROBERT JACKSON, Consett must be received.

Business Announcements.

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER,
HOUSE AGENT, AND APPRAISER
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.
PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 660a

BLACKETT STREET TEA AND GROCERY WAREHOUSE,
91 & 93, BLACKETT STREET,
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
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 5d. per pound. All kinds of Drysaltery Goods cheap and of the best quality. Hotels and families supplied at wholesale prices.
TERMS—CASH. 679a

GOOD NEWS
FOR THE
INHABITANTS OF CONSETT AND DISTRICT.
A GREAT WANT SUPPLIED.
OPENING OF A GOOD
FAMILY BOOT AND SHOE WARRHOUSE
IN MIDDLE STREET,
CONSETT.
R. LONGSTAFF, the PEOPLE'S CHEAP BOOT AND SHOE MANUFACTURER, has OPENED a BRANCH SHOP, in MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT, with the Largest and Handsomest Stock in the neighbrhood of every description of LADIES', GENTLEMEN'S, and CHILDREN'S Fashionable BOOTS and SHOES.
The Inhabitants of Consett and District will now be able to select from a large and well-assorted Stock, and purchase the best quality of BOOTS and SHOES at lower prices than are usually charged for very inferior Goods.
LONGSTAFF'S
FAMILY SHOE WARRHOUSE,
4, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
Next Door to Mr. W. AYNSLEY, the Tea Dealer;
and at
18, NEWGATE STREET, BISHOP AUCKLAND;
22, MARKET PLACE, DURHAM;
CHURCH STREET, CROOK;
And
HIGH STREET SPENNYMOOR.

NOTICE TO FARMERS AND OTHERS.
GEORGE HOBSON
TAKES this opportunity of thanking his numerous Friends for the very liberal patronage bestowed on him during the many years he has been in business, and begs to inform them that he has now got his Mill under thorough repair, and, with the addition of extra CRUSHING and SPLITTING MILLS, he is now in a position to fully meet the requirements of his Friends and the Public. Particular attention will be paid to Grinding, Crushing, or Splitting Grain for Farmers and the Trade.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED OATS and BEANS for Horses.
Try G. H.'s CRUSHED MIXED HORSE FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED COW FEED.
Try G. H.'s MIXED PIG FEED.
Pure BARLEY MEAL, PEA MEAL, INDIAN MEAL, and every other Article in the Trade on the most reasonable terms.
HARPERLEY STEAM AND WATER CORN MILLS
(Warehouse, Catchgate),
NEAR ANNFIELD PLAIN.
ESTABLISHED 1817 238g

Business Announcements.

THE QUICKEST PASSAGE ON RECORD.
ON May 20th, the celebrated steamers, "London Castle" and "Glenogle," steamed off together with upwards of one million pounds of NEW SEASON'S TEA from the Hankow district. After a desperate race of thirty-eight days, the "London Castle" arrived in the London Docks one day before the "Glenogle," this being the quickest passage on record. At 4a.m. the morning she arrived, at eight her hatches were opened, at ten the tags were offered on the market. The tea growers expected high prices, but dealers prudently refused to buy except in small lots. While the importers halted, five other steamers arrived with fifteen million of new tea. Steamer after steamer followed each other, until not less than thirty million pounds of new tea was thrown on the market. This, of the large stock of last season's teas on hand, produced a panic in the market. Down came the old seasons teas to a price unknown in the history of the tea trade. We, like prudent dealers, have been watching the market, and secured large lots at the lowest point, and hasten to offer you a GOOD USEFUL TEA AT 1s. 8D. PER POUND. Don't doubt its quality on account of its price. We recommend it with the greatest of confidence as the most wonderful tea ever sold at the money.
Another word about INDIAN TEA :—For many years we have directed the attention of our friends to the wonderful power and quality of this new growth of tea. It is a pleasure for us to report that this year the Indian tea planters have far surpassed other years in the perfection of growth. We have to inform you that we have secured, regardless of cost, the early picking of the finest gardens in India. We stake our reputation on our opinion. These and more perfect growth of teas have never been offered. You cannot make a mistake if you ask for Indian tea at any of our establishments. WE KEEP ONLY THE FINEST QUALITY! We would like you to test the correctness of our judgment, well knowing you will thank us for our opinion.
WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, THE TEA DEALERS,
23, GRAINGER STREET, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 32, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

J. W. BENSON,
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER
TO THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY,
And by Special Appointments to
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, H.I.M. THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA, AND THE MAHARAJAHS OF BURDWAN AND JOHORE.
PRIZE MEDALS—LONDON, DUBLIN, AND PARIS.

BENSON'S WATCHES,
Of every description, suitable for all climates,
From 2 to 200 Guineas.
Chronographs, Chronometers, Keyless, Levers, Presentation, Repeaters, Railway Guards', Soldiers', and Workmen's
Watches of Extra Strength.

BENSON'S CLOCKS,
For Churches, Turrets, or Public Buildings, Dining or Drawing-room, Library, Carriage, Church, Hall, or Shop,
PERPETUAL CALENDARS,
WIND DIALS, &c.
Novelty—
"EARLY ENGLISH" CLOCKS
In Wood and Ormolu, Decorated with Blue Sevres Porcelain, Wedgwood, &c., From £6 6s.
Made solely by Benson.

BENSON'S
GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY,
Of every description, in the Richest and Newest Designs, at the Lowest Prices, compatible with good workmanship.
Brooches, Bracelets, Necklets, Lockets, Rings, Earrings, &c., and, also, in
Diamonds and Precious Stones.

BENSON'S "Workman's" £5 5s. Silver English Lever. Warranted.
BENSON'S "Everybody's" Silver Watch, £3 3s., with Crystal Glass. Warranted.
BENSON'S Silver and Electro-plate for Race and Athletic Meetings, Presentations, or Household Use. Special Designs and Estimates Free.
BENSON'S NEW ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLETS on WATCHES, CLOCKS, TURRET CLOCKS, PLATE, and JEWELLERY, sent Post Free, 3d. Watches sent Safely by Post to all Parts of the World.
Watches, Clocks, and Jewellery Skilfully Repaired by Experienced Workmen. Plate, Jewellery, and Watches Bought and Exchanged. Clubs supplied.
STEAM FACTORY AND CITY SHOW ROOMS—LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.
WEST-END ESTABLISHMENT—25, OLD BOND STREET.
ESTABLISHED 1749.

WINES AND SPIRITS FOR EVERY-DAY USE
Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 200 varieties.
The seals and labels on all WINES and SPIRITS bottled by W & A GILBEY may be accepted as an absolute guarantee of their purity and genuineness. Under the Act of Parliament 38 & 39 Vic., Cap. 63, the purity of any Wine or Spirit can be verified on application to the Local Government Analyst.
This "SELECTED LIST" of W & A GILBEY'S WINES and SPIRITS comprises two descriptions only of each class of Wines and Spirits, the first selected on account of its moderate price, and the second for its fine quality combined with greater age.
AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT
PRICES THE SAME AS AT HEAD ESTABLISHMENTS

WINES	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
PORT Castle 1A *from Portugal* A good-bodied well-matured Wine. 4 years old ..	1/9	21/
PORT Castle B *from Portugal* A fine full-flavored fruity Wine. 8 years old ..	2/6	28/
SPANISH PORT Castle 1 *from Spain* A full-bodied fruity Wine. 8 years old	1/3	15/
SPANISH PORT Castle 4 *from Spain* The finest Spanish Port produced. 10 years old	1/10	22/
SHERRY Castle SPANISH *from Spain* A pure Spanish Sherry. 5 years old ..	1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle C *Pale from Spain* A good type of nutty Sherry. 6 years old	2/4	28/
MARSALA Castle VP *Pale from Sicily* A delicate dinner Wine. 3 years old ..	1/4	16/
MARSALA Castle C *Pale from Sicily* The finest Marsala produced. 7 years old ..	1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A pure sound Wine. Upwards of a year in bottle	1/	12/
CLARET Castle C *from France* A fine-flavored and well-matured Medoc Wine	1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A fine dry Sparkling Wine	Bottles	2/1
	Half-Bots.	1/3
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Foil* A fine old dry Sparkling Wine.. ..	Bottles	2/6
	Half-Bots.	1/6
CHAMPAGNE Castle A pure Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	Bottles	2/3
	Half-Bots.	1/3
CHAMPAGNE Castle S A high class delicate Champagne	Bottles	4/3
	Half-Bots.	1/11

SPIRITS	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
GIN Castle UP Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's own Distillery. 33 per cent. under proof	2/	24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's own Distillery. Strength, proof	2/10	34/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle UP. Distilled from fine Malt. 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle OO Finest old Dublin Whiskey. Strength, proof ..	2/3	39/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle UP Distilled from fine Malt. 33 per Cent. under proof	2/3	27/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle SO Finest old Scotch Whiskey. Strength, proof ..	2/3	39/
BRANDY Castle UP Compounded exclusively from fine Foreign Spirits. 33 under proof	2/3	27/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Compounded exclusively from Foreign Spirits. Proof ..	2/	36/
COGNAC Castle D An excellent Cognac Brandy of fine flavor. 33 under proof..	2/	36/
COGNAC Castle OO The finest old Champagne Brandy. Strength, proof	4/9	57/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP A well-matured Jamaica Rum. 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle JG The finest old Jamaica Rum. Strength, proof	2/3	39/
HOLLANDS Castle 1 A pure Dutch Spirit from Rye Wheat. 14 per cent. under proof	2/4	28/
HOLLANDS *Gilbey's Stream!* A fine old Dutch Spirit, bottled abroad. 14 under proof	2/6	32/

SAMPLES .. .. *Single Bottles of any of W & A Gilbey's 200 varieties of Wines and Spirits can be had as samples!*
EXPORTATION .. *W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits, can be obtained free of duty from their Enclos Bonded Warehouses.—For Prices see Special Export List*
PAYMENTS .. .. *In order to give every possible advantage to consumers cash payments are absolutely necessary, as all prices are strictly upon that principle*
COMPLETE LIST *A Complete List of W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits, containing full particulars of more than 200 varieties, sent free on application*

PLUMBING AND GASFITTING.
ELIZABETH SMITH,
PLUMBER AND GASFITTER,
SHERBURN TERRACE, CONSETT,
BEGS to inform the Public that she intends carrying on the above Business, and hopes by prompt attention to orders, combined with reasonable charges, to merit a share of public patronage and support.
In Consett, July; 26th, 1878.

BOTTLED ALE AND PORTER STORES AND LEMONADE AND SODA WATER MANUFACTORY,
DELVES LANE, CONSETT.
THE Trade and Public of Consett and District are informed that the Old Established Business, heretofore conducted by GEORGE YOUNG, will, on and after May 15th, be carried on under the style or firm of YOUNG and ELLISON, by whom all Orders will be punctually attended to.
All Bottled Waters will be sent in Codd's Patent Globe Stoppered Bottles. 21m

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.
A REWARD OF FIVE POUNDS will be paid to any Person who shall give information to lead to the Conviction of any Person Netting or Poisoning the Waters depended to the Association, or taking fish thereby by any other illegal means. By order of the Committee

CARRIAGES sent in for Sale by Commission :—A light Landau, of 'canoe pattern, for one horse: also a Pair-horse Landau; a Clarence Brougham, also a Miniature and Bijou Brougham; a Gentleman's Omnibus, with sittings for eight, and a Warrymette Omnibus, with sittings for four; a pair-horse Waggonette, to carry six at the back, another to carry four, and a light one-horse Waggonette; a Hansom Cab, suitable for a doctor; a Back-to-Back Phaeton, also an Albert Turn-Over Phaeton, and a fashionable Park Phaeton; a Shamrock Dog Cart, a Whitechapel Cart, and a light Gig, also several Pony Carriages; a variety of Harness.—Particulars sent on knowing the kind of Carriage required.—Apply to ATKINSON and PHILIPSON, Carriage and Harness Manufactory, Newcastle-upon-Tyne 649m

Business Announcements.

THE BEST SHOPS IN THE NORTH
FOR
CHEAP SILKS,
CHEAP DRESSES,
CHEAP SHAWLS,
CHEAP DRAPERIES,
CHEAP BLANKETS,
CHEAP FLANNELS
And every other Article in the Trade, are
DONALD BAIN'S,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL WAREHOUSEMAN,
126, WESTGATE ROAD (OPPOSITE THE TYNE THEATRE), NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
AND AT
COMMERCIAL ROAD, SOUTH SHIELDS.

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

ROBERT SCOTT,
BELLMAN AND BILLPOSTER,
KELL'S HOUSES,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 784k
N.E.R. Parcel Delivery Agent for Consett and Leadgate,

WILLIAM MURRAY,
CAB PROPRIETOR, CONSETT
(Successor to ISAAC MURRAY).
HEARSE and MOURNING. CONVEYANCES of all descriptions for Hire. 735m

SEED POTATOES.
W. WATSON, Tanfield, has for Sale :—Rector of Woodstock, Manchester Hero, Early Market, Eclipse Kidneys, Lord Nelson, Armstrong's Seedlings, and Red Kidneys. Also, Shallots and Rasp Canes (Falstaff and Fill-basket).
W. WATSON,
TANFIELD, LINTZ GREEN. 834m

IMPROVED
CONCRETE FLOORING.
JOHN DOVE & CO.,
35, CLOSE, NEWCASTLE.
ESTABLISHED 1854.
BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, and others supplied with any quantity of PORTLAND and other CEMENTS, PLASTER, HAIR, LATHS, LATH NAILS, &c.
CONCRETE FLOORING executed in all its Branches. Cement Kidging.
OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE, 35, CLOSE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.
CHARLES D. SCOTT,
PLUMBER AND BRASS FOUNDER,
NEWCASTLE,
HAVING been requested by some of the leading business men of this locality to OPEN A BRANCH ESTABLISHMENT in Consett. He has now much pleasure in stating that he has taken the Shop, 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, Where all orders entrusted to his care will receive his best attention and will be executed by competent workmen. 240k

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.
VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.
Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places :—Blackhill Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Westwings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.
All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that 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 therefore, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Person 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, 1879.

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER, IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND CATCHGATE,
HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURN'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 673S

LAGER'S OLD ESTABLISHED AND ORIGINAL PORK SHOP,
SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.
GEORGE F. SCHELLENBERG (successor to CHARLES IAGER), the Pork Butcher, Shakespeare Street, Consett, in returning thanks for the patronage so liberally bestowed on him since he succeeded the above old established connection, begs to intimate that the Pork Business is still carried on in all its branches, and nothing but the very best qualities are supplied, whilst for Prime Home-fed Hams and Bacon, Lard, &c., at moderate prices, this Shop stands unrivalled.
Note the Address—
GEORGE F. SCHELLENBERG
(Successor to CHARLES IAGER),
THE ORIGINAL PORK SHOP,
SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.

The Consett Guardian.

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

THE recent decision of the House of Commons on the proposition to confer the Parliamentary franchise on women relegates the discussion of the subject mainly to private circles for another year. The advocates of votes for women cannot be congratulated on any advance in public opinion in their favour, if the division on Mr COURTNEY'S motion can be taken as a test of this. Last year 140 voted for it and 220 against it; majority 80 against. This year 103 voted for and 217 against; majority 114 against. Thus the advocates of the Parliamentary franchise for women appear to have lost ground considerably. They are, however, not at all likely to be discouraged by this defeat, and will probably see the necessity of still more vigorous agitation. The main obstacle perhaps against which they have to contend is the apathy of women themselves on the subject, and it must be admitted that this undeniable fact is a great argument against the proposition. It has been said of women that "if she will, she will, you may depend on't; and if she won't, she won't, and there's an end on't." Whatever exaggeration there may be in this, it may pretty safely be asserted that until the agitation for Parliamentary franchise is a great deal more pronounced on the part of women than it now is, there is no probability of their obtaining it, and that as soon—and this day appears very distant—as they manifest *en masse* a desire for votes they will get them. MR COURTNEY'S resolution declared that women who are entitled to vote in municipal, parochial, and School-board elections ought to possess votes for Parliamentary candidates. It must be confessed that this in itself is a very strong point. It is well known that municipal elections turn to a very great extent on political pivots, and it is difficult to see why, if women are competent to vote in these contests, they are not equally competent, and we are bound to give them the benefit of the doubt, for no one has yet had the courage to attempt to deprive them of the right they possess, nor is there any reason to suppose that women do not exert their privilege of voting in municipal, parochial, and School-board elections with as much wisdom as men. There is another strong argument for the female electoral franchise. Widows and spinsters sometimes possess exactly the same pecuniary or rental qualifications as men; but while the former are rated and taxed without being represented, the latter are represented by virtue of their pecuniary contributions to the State. Many other arguments for the affirmative of this proposition could also be adduced; but there are very many against it. The leading argument of this kind is, as we have said, that the great majority of women do not want votes. If the reader doubt this, let him or her make inquiries among friends or acquaintances, and it will be found that a very small minority indeed are at all anxious to vote in Parliamentary elections, and of these probably not more than a tenth would put themselves to any trouble to procure or exercise the franchise, while it is a fact that women frequently fail to exercise the voting power they already possess. Properly to vote for a Parliamentary candidate requires a knowledge of the political questions of the day. This knowledge women, as a rule, do not possess, and do not care to acquire it. Moreover, the time for giving the electoral suffrage to women has not yet arrived, and there are no signs of its advent. The male suffrage question is not yet decided; it is confessedly in a transition state, and sooner or later it must be modified. When this is accomplished—and this now appears to be a long way off—it will be quite time for Parliament to decide to give votes to women, always provided that they themselves then show, what, in fact, they do not now manifest, a desire to possess them. As to the argument that the franchise would tend to elevate the social position of women, this begs the question whether that position requires elevation beyond the means now at the command of women themselves, who exercise a powerful indirect influence in social circles, and an immense direct influence in the press and literature of the country. Woman's peculiar sphere is home; hers is "the sex that civilises ours," and in a hundred ways—as teachers and governesses, in connection with our societies and institutions, as contributors to the press and as novelists and authors, as members of our School-board, and leaders of many important social movements—they already possess vast direct and indirect influence on the progress of society. Let them use wisely and well the power they have, and they can afford to wait for the local suffrage.

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The Government defeat by a single vote on Colonel Arbuthnot's motion on Friday, was by no means its only reverse on that luckless night; for it is clear now that the moral effect produced by the famous scene of Sir Robert Peel backing Mr. Jenkins, whom the fugleman of the Treasury failed to suppress by their noisy interruptions, was considerably more disastrous than the little defeat which immediately followed. Mr. Jenkins, however, did not come out of the encounter with altogether flying colours, for he failed to force the hand of the Ministry, who as yet make no signs as to Lord Chelmsford's recall; but this time it is said that the blame lies elsewhere. It is a case of double government, Colonel Stanley being for his recall, but the Duke of Cambridge standing up for the Commander-in-chief. Of course, there is to be a real tug of war; the Horse Guards must give way and bow to the decision of the War Office; but it has not yet come to this; and yet, sooner or later, the Duke must give way, since the pressure brought to bear on him is something unusual. In military circles there is, with very few exceptions, only one opinion, and perhaps one good may result from this conflict. The Duke of Cambridge will probably get a broad hint that the place which he has been warming for the Duke of Connaught is now waiting its new occupant.

Since the memorable 10th of March when the Prince of Wales was married, and when the whole country kept holiday, no Royal wedding has been so brilliantly celebrated, or caused so much stir as that of the Duke of Connaught. On Thursday the West-End turned out to Windsor, and the Royal borough was a scene of festivity, and rejoicing not soon to be forgotten. The press is full of the event. Wedding Hymns, and Wedding Marches have been composed for the occasion; and Mr. Eugene Rimmel concocted a new kind of perfume to be named the "Connaught Bouquet." Indeed, every "startling novelty" in the shop windows for the next month or two will be labelled with the names or titles of the newly-wedded pair. The Princess Margaret—for such there is a disposition to call her, since her first name Louise, is already appropriated in the national mind by the Marchioness of Lorne—is more charming in appearance than can be gathered from her photograph. Her features are not regular, and her nose is certainly—to employ the gallant metaphor of the Laureate—"up-tilted like a flower," but, still, her face is very pretty, and the expression it wears is most charming. Claremont, where the first week of the honeymoon is being spent, is a delightful spot, near Esher, not without its recent historic memories. It was there that Prince Leopold, the husband of our Princess Charlotte, resided. Subsequently the ex-Queen of the French, the widow of Louis Philippe, lived there; and about eight years ago, the Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne stayed there on the same interesting errand as that of the Duke and Duchess of Connaught. The Vicar of Claremont, by the way, who presented the address of the inhabitants to the Duke on his arrival, is a son of the late Wm. Warren, Q.C., the author of "Ten Thousand a-year," "The Diary of a Late Physician," and the less successful "Lily and the Bee."

The reports of a dispute between the Czar and the Czarewitch ending in the latter being interned in his own palace during the Czar's pleasure, have been hushed up, or, at least, officially contradicted. Nothing more has been said on the subject for some days. Meanwhile, the state of Russia appears to go from bad to worse. The Czar, a weak amiable man, who has been described as not having will enough to be good, and not good enough to have a will, is drifting painfully about between opposite currents of policy. He is, in fact, the most unhappy of men, since he sees that his people desire, not paternal benevolence, but liberty. Hence the rise of nihilism, the ramifications of which penetrate everywhere, and which is only an expression of the general discontent. It needs, indeed, no prophet to see that we are on the eve of a convulsion in Russia, second only—if at all—to the French Revolution. The Czardom is doomed, and no one knows it better than the Czar's heir.

Trade is growing uneasy as to what the Budget may bring forth,—what woes may spring forth from that Pandarus's box, to be opened in April. We have all made up our minds to one or even two turns of the financial thumbscrew—another penny at least, or perhaps twopence, in the Income Tax, to make us sigh for the days when our Income Tax was only twopence, and there was a talk of abolishing it altogether. But even this will not be enough. Some excisable article must be seized and made to pay a higher duty. "Not spirit," say the publicans, "not tea," say the grocers. But it is thought that a Conservative Ministry will not dare to wage war with the pothouse; and so another threepence will be put on tea. So the grocers fear, and, as they are acting accordingly, I suppose there is something in it.

The Goschen rumour was promptly contradicted by a circular *avis* sent round to the dailies by the private secretary that the whole story was a canard. We are now told that, so far from Sir. A. Layard not returning to the Embassy, he will go back at Constantinople in a month or two, and that, in fact, he has made himself indispensable there. It is quite possible. The Pashas have short memories, or rather, their gratitude being chiefly for favours to come, they are perhaps looking to Layard to help them in another loan, since this Tocqueville business has broken down. How long will the gullible British public go on lending themselves to these financial schemes of Jew brokers passing themselves off under Aristocratic French names?

The City makes a gallant stand for the retention of its ancient abuses. The Aldermen in the House know that their day is coming. Their absurd privileges cannot survive another Liberal Government. In the meanwhile it is scarcely worth while to cavil at the wholesale admission of new members into the Guilds for party purposes. It is only part of a system which is wholly out of harmony with modern electoral ideas, though, for that matter, it is difficult to see that there is much difference between the manipulation of the voting power of the Guilds and the system of creating faggot votes in other constituencies.

St. Mary-at-Hill, one of the "condemned" City Churches, is likely—I am glad to hear—to have a reprieve at the eleventh hour. Strong representations have been made in favour of preserving this fine specimen of Wren's work, and the Underground Railway Company seem likely to be induced to alter their route by a few yards, in order to spare it, and the feelings of those who would regret its destruction.

Queen's weather on Thursday, as if it had been ordered expressly for the occasion, has been succeeded by sleet and even snow. We had our day's rejoicing as the sun arose in his strength on Thursday morning to greet the young German bride; but since that day without a cloud the sun has not thought it worth his while to put in an appearance. Perhaps he exhausted himself on that one occasion, and gave it seven days' sunshine in one. In any case, old Sol has been missing since in our London sky, and I suppose, as in the Homeric legend, he has gone with other Olympians to visit the ten Ethiopians. We are Spring, in any case, to do without him, and so to raise our spirits the gas Company have erected a gigantic yet strong as a lighthouse beacon-light on Westminster Bridge, and opposite the Palace. Its light is that of 600 candles, and almost equals the electric light.

The National Health Society have made arrangements for an admirable series of lectures at their house in Berners-street during the next two months. The title of one lecture is a little ambiguous. "Invisible Dangers below the floors and behind the walls," is suggestive of burglary and of the exploits of Peace; but it only refers, I presume, to the perils arising from dirt and dust. A provincial luminary is coming to warn us of these evils: Dr. Pridgeon Teale, of Leeds, a physician who inherits his father's genius as well as his practice, and is perhaps the best-known medical man in Yorkshire.

A torchlight procession has a German rather than an English air about it, and, in fact, there was a considerable admixture of the German Socialistic element in the torchlight procession of workmen to Trafalgar Square the other night. When trade is bad and many are out of work, it is not in human nature for the lower orders to be contented with their lot. The procession was orderly enough, and there appeared to be nothing very revolutionary in their objects any more than in their bearing. The old cry, "Give us back the land," is a little pathetic from a purely sentimental point of view. The human race hankers after the soil, and the town-bred artizan cannot forget that his remote ancestors tilled the fields. Unhappily, the idea of providing every man with a plot of ground to call his own is hopelessly impracticable. The further demand for "relief without the workhouse test" will not, I fear, meet with a very general sympathy in these days of abundant vagabondism.

Peace's last will and testament is a reflection on the extreme laxity into which the Criminal Law has drifted in some instances. Formerly all a felon's effects were forfeited to the Crown, and in many cases, no doubt, this rule was productive of great hardship to innocent wives and children, and other relations. Now, however, it is possible for a man like Peace to amass considerable wealth by nefarious means, and to leave it, after his execution for murder, to his children or whomsoever else he may please. A successful burglar who could contrive to make judicious investments might expire on the gallows and leave a fortune behind him sufficient to found a County family. Well, perhaps there are County families whose origin is scarcely less nefarious. Perhaps there were arrant burglars amongst those who "came over with the Conquerer!"

The Duke of Newcastle did little but lose money during his life; but he has made much by his death. The instinct of pecuniary, or rather, of restoring, "great families" is very strongly implanted in the English aristocracy. The late Duke must have pinched himself in the straitened circumstances of his recent years to afford to pay premiums on policies of life insurance amounting in the aggregate to half-a-million of money.

CLOSING OF PUBLIC HOUSES ON SUNDAY.

On Tuesday evening a meeting in favour of Sunday-closing was held in the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge. Mr. Chas. Wilson, of Shotley Park, occupied the chair. There was a large attendance. On the platform were MR. Councillor Swan, Rev. W. E. Houldey (deputation), Rev. W. H. Milward. Rev. R. Willis, Rev. J. L. Low, Mr. Booth, Mr. Priestley, J.P., Mr. Jas. Annandale, jun., J.P., and others.

THE CHAIRMAN said his first duty was to read over several letters which had been received from gentlemen who were unable to attend the meeting that evening. There was one from the Rev. W. Cockin, Medomsley, who expressed much sympathy with the movement, and similar letters were sent from Canon Kearney, Mr. Peile, Rev. H. Hardwaite, and Rev. A. Latimer. The Rev. F. B. Thompson would have been present if he had been well enough, but he wrote that he had very great sympathy with the movement. (Applause.) He also had a letter from Mr. Tregellas, who hoped the meeting would be a success. (Renewed applause.) The Chairman then went on to say that there had been a great many temperance meetings in that Hall, but the present was one of a very different character to his predecessors—its object being simply to petition the House of Commons in favour of the Bill for stopping the sale of intoxicating drink on Sunday. He thought that publicans ought to be placed under the same restrictions that grocers, butchers, and other tradesmen were. (Hear, hear). It seemed to be a great anomaly that, while the shopkeepers were under a penalty (and very properly so) for trading on the Sunday, there was one trade which was privileged and allowed to go on in full swing. He lately read in the newspapers of an Italian boy who had been taken before the Liverpool magistrates because he was found selling pennyworths of cocoa on the street on the Sunday afternoon. No doubt, on his way to the Police Station, the boy would pass by a good many public-houses standing open, and his opinion of the English law must have been a strange one. They had several remarkable laws in England, and this one, which encouraged the sale of drink, while it stopped the sale of the commodities of life, was one of them. This question of Sunday closing was agitating the minds of the people of England at the present moment, and at a great many places where meetings had been held there was a majority in favour of the movement. In Liverpool, for instance, one of the most drunken towns in England, there was a huge majority favourable to stopping the sale of liquor on the Sunday. What they met together that night to do was to express their opinions, and to let the Government who met in London to arrange their programme for what legislation there was on this important question (Hear, hear.) In Scotland and Ireland the public houses were closed on the Sunday by Act of Parliament, though he was sorry to say that in Ireland several large towns (Cities of refuge, as they had been called) were not included in the Act. He hoped they would follow the example set them by the towns in Scotland, only he trusted when the Bill became law in England its provisions would include every town and village. (Applause.) After some further observations, the Chairman called upon Mr. Milward to move the first resolution.

Rev. W. H. MILWARD said the resolution which he had been requested to move was to this effect: "That this meeting is of opinion that the sale of intoxicating liquors on the Lord's Day is productive of a large amount of drunkenness, pauperism, and crime among the people; and inasmuch as it is the duty of the Legislature to shall all be prepared on that day, it is both impolitic and unfair that such sale should be sanctioned, as at present, by the laws of the realm." When he entered that building he was not aware that he was to take any part in the meeting, except to manifest, by his presence, that he was in favour of the Bill which had for its object the closing of public-houses on Sunday. He had been led to attend the meeting from a deep sense of his responsibility as a minister of Jesus Christ, and while he would pay no heed whatever to the cry which they often heard, namely, "Beer and the Bible"—(and he was very sorry to say that this cry was sometimes re-echoed in their ears by total abstainers themselves, a cry which seemed to him to be most unfair)—he would have no alliance with the publicans in this matter, and a cry which seemed to him also to be as vulgar and as senseless as that which he had just mentioned, as it might be misled by this cry, and consequently be placed in a position of antagonism to their minister on account of this false impression, he felt it to be his duty, and indeed the duty of all who stood in a Christian minister, to seek to clear himself of complicity with this matter—(applause)—and to manifest by his conduct that he was strictly loyal to the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ as the creed he had adopted declared him to be. (Renewed applause.) He was not going to make a long speech, as this seemed to be a business meeting, and gentlemen who attended as a deputation that night, and who were to follow him. However, he wished to say that this question of closing public-houses on the Lord's Day was becoming in a most vital one. In the interests of Christ Himself, in whom all the true interests of man were bound up, the sale of intoxicating drinks on the Sabbath day should be prohibited by the most careful and stringent legislation. (Hear, hear.) It might be said that the reasons given by the supporters of the Bill were stale and commonplace, but he confessed he never yet met a cavilier who was prepared to say that any one of them was illogical or inconsistent. (Applause.) The evil of drunkenness existed around them in that district to a large extent, and its results were as lamentable as could be found in any part of the country. If it were true that the closing of public-houses on the Lord's Day in Scotland and Ireland had caused so great a diminution of intemperance and crime as the printed statistics stated, then surely the people of England might hope to derive as large a benefit by the adoption of a similar measure amongst them. (Applause.) He knew of no reason whatever why the public-houses should not be closed on the Sunday all over the country, without delay. He knew they were met by the objection (not a reason) that travellers would be seriously inconvenienced and greatly injured if public-houses were entirely closed on the Lord's Day. His belief, however, was that very few persons who now travel on the Sabbath were really obliged to do so—(hear, hear)—and consequently if, by closing the public-houses, they could check this Sunday desecration, they should be conferring a benefit upon both man and beast. (Applause.) This view alone, he thought, ought to suffice to convince every true Christian that the question was one which demanded his earnest attention, and, if necessary, his strenuous exertions, so that the evil from which they were suffering in such a lamentable degree might speedily be banished from their midst for ever. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. LOW-Low, of Whittonstall, seconded the proposition. He said he was very happy, by his presence that night, to give his cordial adhesion to the object for which the meeting had been called. He endorsed all that had been said by the preceding speaker, especially his reference to the "beer and the Bible." In dealing with the closing of public-houses on Sunday, he said he considered it a grievance and a strange anomaly that the Legislature had fixed the hour for public-houses to begin their orgies just as the bells began to call people to Church. (Applause.) He felt a deep personal interest in the movement, and had much pleasure in seconding the resolution already read. (Renewed applause.)

The Rev. W. E. HOULDEY, Vicar of St. John's, Newcastle, supported the resolution. He remarked that Sunday already existed to a certain extent in our own country. Recently he read of a gentleman who was travelling in America. He called at an hotel for refreshment, and took a small glass of whisky brought to him on a big plate. After eyeing it over, the traveller said, "Yes, that is the sort; now go and fetch me some." (Laughter.) They had got Sunday closing to some extent, and like the traveller above referred to, they wanted some more. (Applause.) The chairman had mentioned the case of a boy being prosecuted for selling cocoa on the Sunday. He (the speaker) knew of a similar case, where a man was fined for selling sweetmeats on the Sabbath. The man told the magistrates that while he was not allowed to sell sweetmeats to children, a gin shop next door was kept open and made men drunk who went into the streets and caused an obstruction. The magistrates, in convicting the man, said they did not make the law, and were only there to administer it, but he thought the country had a right to say that it was a strange law, and that such an anomaly should not be allowed to exist. (Applause.) With regard to Sunday drinking, he quoted statistics which showed that in Liverpool the average number of drunken cases tried before the justices was 100 per cent. more on Sunday than during the week. Out of 577 people taken in Liverpool on four Sundays, no fewer than 441 were charged with drunkenness. The speaker pointed out the good results which had followed the closing of public-houses in Ireland and Scotland on Sunday, and this proved the assertion that people could not be made sober by Act of Parliament. The Chief-Constable of Glasgow, according to the report of the Royal Commission, said he considered that the earnest pleasing which had been conferred upon Scotland, especially upon Glasgow, during the last fifty years, had been the passing of the Forbes McKenzie Act. (Applause.) The closing of public-houses in Ireland showed that the convictions for drunkenness had decreased 30 per cent. (Hear, hear.) They were told by some people that Sunday closing would interfere with the liberty of the subject. Of course it would. Could they inform him of a law that did not? He contended that no man ought to be at liberty to get drunk on Sunday, to become a nuisance to his neighbour. (Hear, hear.) In returning from Church on Sunday evening there was one side of the street he could not use, owing to the number of public-houses and drunken men to be encountered on it. That, he thought, was interfering with the liberty of the subject, but he should like to know—might these drunken men to be allowed to interrupt his right to use both sides of the street? (Applause.) There was only one means of checking the nuisance. The law had created the nuisance, and it was thy law they were to look to for the cure. (Loud applause.)

The motion was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

MR. BOOTH, of Summerdale, proposed the next resolution. "That the following petition be signed by the Chairman on behalf of this meeting, and forwarded to Sir George Elliott, to be presented to Parliament, and that copies of these resolutions be sent to the members for the Borough and County:—'To the Honourable and Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland in Parliament assembled. The humble petition of the undersigned sheweth—That your petitioners believe that the sale of intoxicating liquors on Sunday is a special source of intemperance, immorality, and crime. Your petitioners therefore pray your Honourable House to pass a bill stopping such sale in England and Wales during the whole of that day. And your petitioners will ever pray.'" MR. Booth proceeded to say that accompanying the invitation which he received to attend the meeting were some statistics, one of which struck him very much. It showed that some time ago a poll had been taken in Shotley Bridge of those in favour of the resolution which had been moved and passed that evening, and those who were against it. He had forgotten the exact figures, but he thought the number who votedin favour of closing public-houses was only little the number of those who were neutral or opposed to the movement did not exceed forty. (Applause.) He should liked very much to have seen some of those forty present that night, so that they might have had an opportunity of giving their reasons why public-houses should not be shut up. (Laughter and applause.) He had racked his brain to discover why they should be kept open, but he really could not find one. (Renewed applause.) The Bill for the closing of houses on Sunday might be said by their opponents to savour of class legislation, and that it would deprive the working classes of privileges enjoyed by the more wealthy. In answer to this he need only remark that if a person wished to have intoxicating drink on the Sunday, he could buy it during the week just as he bought his groceries. (Hear, hear.) If the law allowed public-houses to sell drink on a Sunday, then he contended that the same law ought to apply to the grocer and the butcher. (Applause.) No doubt men could speak with greater authority on the subject than the judges who sat in our courts of justice, and these from time to time deplored the evils of drink, to which they attributed nine-tenths of the crime which disgraces the country. (Applause.) Mr. Houldey had dealt with the arguments used by the opponents of the Bill, but there was one he had not touched on, namely, the *bona-fide* traveller. It would be wrong and cruel, some people said, to prevent the traveller from getting refreshment. Now, as he understood the petition, it was to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors on a Sunday, so that it would not prevent publicans (under proper restrictions) opening their houses to the traveller and giving him refreshment, but it would forbid him receiving intoxicating liquors, which could not be looked on as a necessity of life. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Mr. Houldey had expressed an opinion that men could be made drunk as well as sober by Act of Parliament, a statement of which there might be some difference of opinion. There was one thing about which there could be no dispute, however, and that was that they could by Act of Parliament remove the temptation, and it was the duty of the Legislature to do it. (Loud applause.)

MR. PRIESTMAN, J.P., in seconding the resolution, said there was one remark he wished to make, the English people were supposed to have an objection to act on theory—to do anything that had not been tried and that was not thoroughly practical. This question, however, whatever it had been at one time, no longer belonged to the region of theory. It had been tried in Scotland and Ireland with marvellous results, so that the people in this country might support the resolution just read without risking their reputation as a practical people. (Hear, hear, and applause.)

MR. Councillor SWAN, Sunderland, in supporting the resolution, said this was not the first agitation that had been started in favour of Sunday closing. Some eighteen years ago, he remembered, he was deputed to convey a petition, signed by 20,000 of the inhabitants of Sunderland, to London for presentation to the House of Commons in favour of closing public-houses on the Sabbath. He also remembered the time when they had Sunday closing in England, but the people at that time did not care to keep it, and they went back to their old habits. The subject of Sunday closing was again occupying much attention, and the people of England seemed determined to have it. English-men generally thought themselves superior to the Irish people, but in this matter the people of the latter country were far ahead of our own. (Hear, hear.) In a lengthy speech, the speaker showed the good results that had accrued from Sunday closing in Ireland and Scotland, and said that they could only hope to secure a similar measure for England by speaking out to their representatives with no uncertain voice. (Applause.)

THE CHAIRMAN, before submitting the proposition to the meeting, said he understood that MR. BOOTH had promised to move the Bill his support. As chairman of that meeting he should have much pleasure in signing the petition which was to be sent to Sir George Elliot for presentation, but he thought a dozen or a score of the gentlemen present might also write to Sir George urging him to support the measure. (Hear, hear.) He thought if Sir George received a dozen letters asking him to "no" in reply. (Applause.)

The proposition was then put to the meeting and carried.

The Rev. R. WILLIS proposed, and MR. JAMES ANNANDALE, jun., seconded, a vote of thanks to the deputation, which was carried by acclamation.

Votes of thanks to the Chairman and to the "local speakers" were also carried by acclamation, after which the proceedings terminated.

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the members of the above Association took place at the Town Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Monday afternoon. MR. Booth, of Summerdale, presided.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The honorary secretary (Mr. John Annandale) reported that over seventy tickets were sold last year, and after all debts were paid he had a balance of £55 12s 10d in hand. The Chairman said the next business would be the election of officers for the ensuing year. Mr. Wilson, of Shotley Hall, was unable to take an active part in the management of the Association, but he had no doubt he would be willing and glad to occupy the position he held since the formation of the Association fourteen years ago. (Applause.) Mr. Wilson was then re-elected president, after which the honorary secretaries (Rev. F. B. Thompson and Mr. Booth) and honorary treasurer were also re-elected. Since last meeting, death had removed Mr. Proudlock, and his place on the committee was taken by his son, Mr. John Proudlock. Mr. John Pescod, another member of the committee, had left the district, and his place was filled up by the substitution of the name of Mr. Jack, of Blackhill. The other committeemen (Messrs. Annandale Town, Tait, Charlton, George Wedly, Oley, D. Stobbs, W. Dickinson, N. Brown, Pallaser, and Neasham) were re-elected.

FISH POISONING AND ALLEGED POACHING BY ANGLERS.—The Chairman said in 1877 no charge was made for fishing the river, but last year a nominal charge of half-a-crown was levied on each member. It would be for the meeting to determine whether the sum charged for the ensuing year should be 2s. 6d. or 5s. Since their last annual

meeting, some malicious person had poisoned the fish in the river between Blackhall Mill and Lintz Green, but though the Society had inserted an advertisement in the *Guardian* offering a reward of £5, the perpetrator of this diabolical act had not been discovered. He had been in communication with Mr. Lamb (Gibside) and Sir Henry Clavering (Axwell Park) about the members fishing through their grounds. The first-named gentleman did not object to the members of the Association fishing in his portion of the river, but Sir Henry Clavering, who seemed to have received a great deal of provocation from some unprincipled persons, refused to give them permission to fish in the Park. Sir Henry wrote that some person had put poison in the lake, and destroyed upwards of 2,000 dace and a number of large trout, the swans' eggs had been smashed, and the birds themselves frightened away, his keeper had been abused, and he had also received several impertinent letters. Lieut.-Col. Joicey gave them leave to fish the river from Blanchland downwards, and it had been reported to him that the keepers were objecting to certain of the members fishing the river, as several of those who had secured tickets last year were known to have used them for an improper purpose. These men, it was reported, went up the river ostensibly to fish, but after getting into the higher reaches of the river they left the stream and commenced to ferret rabbits and search for game. Now, if landowners found they were imposed upon and annoyed in that way it was every way likely that some of them would withdraw their water from the Association, therefore it behoved the members to keep a strict look out while on the river, and greater care would also have to be taken in admitting members.—Mr. Charlton (Consett) said one of their rules stated that any person wishing to become an ordinary member was to be proposed by two members, or one committeeman. If that rule were more stringently adhered to, it would be impossible for improper characters to gain admission to the Association. —Mr. N. Brown (Shotley Bridge) said one of Col. Joicey's keepers had complained to him about a number of men living in the neighbourhood of Allendale Cottages, Lintz Colliery, and Westwood going into the higher portions of the river at the end of the week, and, under pretext of fishing, destroying the game. Five men, whose names he gave, had been so detected, and convicted by the Hexham magistrates.—The Chairman, after referring to the members' list, said only one of the men named (Henry York, Lintz Colliery) was a member of the Association.—It was decided to give a gratuity of £1 each to five keepers who had assisted in preserving the river during the past season.—Mr. Farrage (Blackhill) said he had been stopped while fishing between Millshield Warren Head and Ackton Burn Foot, and was told that the water between these points was strictly preserved.—Mr. Brown said one side of the river belonged to Mr. Silvertop, and the Association had the latter gentleman's deputation. Mr. Silvertop's land extended up the north side of the water to Espershiels.

FISHING THE TRIBUTARIES. — Mr. Jack condemned the practice of fishing in small "runners" as unsportsmanlike, and calculated to act prejudicially to the interests of the Association.—Mr. Farrage said Mr. Jack seemed to be alluding to him. (Laughter.)—The Chairman said the Association existed for the purpose of encouraging angling, and whether a man hooked his fish with a crooked pin in tributaries, or took them in a more artistic way in the main stream, they were to look on him as an honest angler. (Hear, hear.)—Mr. Palliaser asked if the Burnhope, which ran into the river at Edmondbyers Bridge, and the Hyshope were included in Lieut.-Col. Joicey's liberty. He understood that several of the members had been stopped by the keeper.—The Chairman said he understood that Col. Joicey's deputation included the Burnhope, but he did not know about the Hyshope. For his own part, he thought, as there seemed to be a good supply of fish in the Derwent, the members had better confine their operations to the main stream, for the present season at least.—Mr. Brown then made a motion limiting the fishing to the Derwent.—The motion was seconded by Mr. Charlton, and carried unanimously.

THE FILTERING PONDS AT SHOTLEY GROVE PAPER MILLS.—Mr. Annandale said the above would be finished in the course of a month. It was decided to make the membership fee 2s. 6d., old tickets to be given up on new ones being issued to the members.—The meeting also resolved to adhere to the rule relating to the nomination of new members.—The usual votes of thanks were given, after which the members dispersed.

THE RIGHT OF SHOOTING ON CORNSAY COMMON.

On Thursday sen., at Lanchester Petty Sessions, Watson Allison, innkeeper, Hedley Hill, was charged with trespassing in pursuit of game on Cornsay Common, without the leave or authority of Lord Boyne, the Lord of the Manor. Mr. Young appeared to prosecute, while Mr. Granger defended. The case, it will be remembered, was adjourned from last court for the production of Lord Boyne's title. Mr. John Tindale, of Brancepeth, produced a purchase deed from the trustees of the late Charles Tempest to William Russell, dated 1797, in which Cornsay Common was mentioned as being in the lordship or manor of Brancepeth, and also a private Act of Parliament, dated 1839, enabling Mr. Russell to grant leases of the minerals of the Maner of Brancepeth.—Mr. Granger said he could not resist the legal evidence. He admitted that Lord Boyne was the representative of William Russell, and also that he was Lord of the Manor.—Mr. E. T. Smith: How far does the common extend?—Mr. Young: To Tow Law. Lord Boyne does not allow people to enclose any land without paying an acknowledgment. This is done over and over again. —Mr. Granger said the only question was the identification of the spot where the hare was shot with this common.—Mr. Pierson, Lord Boyne's agent, was sworn, and said he had seen the spot where the hare was shot. It was part of the unenclosed common mentioned in the private Act of Parliament.—Mr. Smith: You don't contend that the public have not the right to go over the common? —Mr. Young: Yes, we do, unless they have permission from Lord Boyne. Only freeholders have the right of pasturing cattle on it.—Mr. Smith observed that he and his father, and also his grandfather before him, had been in the habit of going over the common, and never required the permission of the lord of the manor.—Mr. Granger said he would not press the matter further.—Mr. Young said he had a dozen witnesses present, and he would call them if necessary.—The Chairman (Mr. Kearney): Have you anything to say about the fine, Mr. Granger? We only intend to impose a nominal fine.—Mr. Granger: Then if that is the case, your worship, I have nothing further to say.—The Chairman, addressing the defendant, said the Bench considered the case proved, but they believed he had acted under a wrong impression. Still, it was a very unsportsmanlike act to foot a hare among the deep snow and then shoot her. He was fined 1s. and the costs.—Mr. Young said he had several witnesses present, but he did not ask for their costs.

REVIVAL OF TRADE IN NEW YORK.—The New York papers are at present discussing the question of work and wages and the existing condition of the labour market in America, and the *Herald*, *World*, and other papers declare as a sure indication of returning activity in trade the diminution in the number of unemployed mechanics and labourers. The *Herald* of the 20th ult., says that the signs of the times are that a general revival in all branches of industry has fairly set in.

THE SHIPMENT OF ARMS FOR THE ZULUS.

Messrs. Hutton and Co., of Liverpool, whose name has been associated in Parliament with the shipment of arms and ammunition for Mozambique, publish a letter addressed to Sir. M. Hicks Beach, in which they admit the shipment of powder from Cardiff in the French vessel Argus, on account of a French firm (Mons. Regis Aine). They say the powder is only used for blasting purposes, contains under 70 per cent of saltpetre, and is a very different article to military gunpowder. This statement Major Majendie, of the Home Office, can confirm. They add that at the same time they shipped 831 flint-lock guns, convinced that they were intended for local native trade. Messrs. Hutton also write to the Liverpool newspapers, adding that the destination of the vessel is 1,000 miles north of Zululand, that the order was received last November, and that the vessel sailed on the 24th February, and that the voyage round the Cape of Good Hope will probably occupy four months. They emphatically deny that the shipment was ever intended to go near Zululand, and for years they have shipped the same material for the same destination.

ELECTRIC TELEPHONES.

In a lecture delivered at the Royal Dublin Society on the latest developments of the electric telephone, Professor Barrett announced that the new receiver devised by Edison, to be used with his carbon telephone transmitter had just arrived in England, in charge of the inventor's nephew. This new receiver has no ear-piece, and can, we believe, deliver the voice as loud as the words are spoken. The principle on which this receiver depends is the same as that of the electronopograph, the novel telegraphic receiver, discovered by Edison in 1874. A band of moistened paper moves below a point, and as the current passes the point slips more or less. This slipping is the source of sound in the receiver, further particulars of which may be given shortly. Even without the aid of this receiver, Professor Barrett was able, by means of the carbon telephone, to make the words of a person speaking and others playing cornets in distant parts of the city clearly audible to the entire audience. The lecturer expressed his indebtedness to both Edison and the Bell Telephone Companies for instruments, and said he believed there was ample room for both companies, though the English public were surprisingly slow in adopting the telephone. New and beautiful specimens of the Bell telephone, of remarkable power, were also exhibited and used at the lecture.

A PILOT BOAT RUN DOWN.—FIFTEEN PERSONS DROWNED.

A sad disaster has befel No. 2 pilot cutter which has been run into off Dungeness and sunk. The cutter had left Dover on the previous day with her full complement of pilots (twelve), and eight of a crew, to take the western duty. The weather was fine and clear. At about half-past six on Friday morning the pilot on duty at the Tower, Mr. Ransom, was informed by the captain of the Rescue steamtug, belonging to London, that the cutter has been run into by the Severn, a large screw steamer bound from Hamburg to Southampton. The vessel had proceeded to Southampton with three of the crew and two pilots on board. There are, therefore, ten pilots and five of the crew missing. The Severn on arriving at Southampton reported that she was in collision about half-past twelve on Thursday night off Dungeness with the pilot cutter Edinburgh, of London, Austen master. The cutter sank in a few minutes with twenty persons on board, twelve of whom were pilots, the remaining eight forming the crew. Five were saved by the Severn and landed at Southampton, viz., Hood and Carison, pilots; and Bowiner, Landell, and Pike, crew. The other fifteen were are believed to be lost. The Severn remained on the spot until after two o'clock, when she came across the steamtug, whose captain promised to stand by until six o'clock in case of any one being found alive in the water.

THE LAST FENIAN PRISONER.

The last of the prisoners confined by the English Government on charges of complicity with the Fenian conspiracy arrived in New York on the evening of Feb. 27 by the steamer Marathon. His name, as our readers are aware, is Edward Peter O'Kelly, and he was sentenced to penal servitude for life in June, 1878, in Dublin, for shooting, with intent to kill, one David Murphy, who was supposed to be giving secret information to the Crown concerning Fenian movements. His release, which was granted on the 12th ult., is coupled with the condition that he is to remain in exile for the rest of his life. That fact, as well as his embarkation on the Marathon, was made known in New York through cable despatches, and his friends had for two or three days been anxiously awaiting the arrival of that vessel. On the 27th inst., about a dozen of them went down the bay on board the revenue cutter W. E. Chandler, and boarded the Marathon off the quarantine landing. A striking scene then took place. While some of the committee were shaking hands with him his old fellow-prisoner, Patrick Tierney, who was released from Spike Island about a month ago, "Where is 13,908?" that being the number by which O'Kelly was designated in accordance with the English prison system. The newly-liberated man stood aghast for a moment at being hailed on his entering New York by his old prison title. He looked round, exclaiming, "Who calls me like that?" "It's I, 12,901," said Tierney, stepping forward; and the two comrades exchanged a cordial greeting. A few words of formal congratulation and welcome were then addressed to O'Kelly by Mr. J. J. Rossiter, chairman of the reception party, after which all re-entered the cutter and proceeded to the landing place off the Battery, reaching that point at about 7 p.m.

PROFESSOR SEELEY ON BISMARCK.

At the London Working Men's College, Professor J. B. Seeley, M.A., Professor of History, Cambridge, has delivered an interesting lecture on "Bismarck," there being a large attendance. Professor Seeley commenced by regretting that the present state of France, Germany, and Russia was never thought of as a subject of methodical scientific inquiry, hence the nations of Europe lived in the darkest ignorance of each other, and no calamity, not even the most dreadful war, seemed even to suggest to them that they ought to study each other more. The idea of nationality or unity was peculiar to a continent. Before the work accomplished by Bismarck a whole generation of Germans had been crying out for union, and it was that motive which actuated the Prussian annexations under his guidance. The lecturer drew a parallel between the unifications of Italy and Germany, and between Cavour and Bismarck, who were the instruments in bringing them about. The means employed to accomplish the unity of Italy were similar to those used in Germany, and which had caused Bismarck to be regarded as a man of "blood and iron." Bismarck had sufficient force in his own hand to accomplish his work without foreign interference, but Cavour had to enlist the help and sympathy of other Powers. After referring to the disputes about the German and French frontier, Professor Seeley said it was given to Bismarck to decide the great controversy and overthrow the French ascendancy by German unity. The war of 1870 was by no means the final struggle between France and Germany, and it would be rash to predict that France would not have her revenge, but it must be remembered that France had now adopted a form of Government which rendered it improbable that she would carry out the dangerous design of a war of revenge on Germany. In the fact of France adopting a policy of peace and abandoning the thought of revenge lay the danger of Bismarck personally in Germany, and the power of Bismarck depended mainly on the fear of a foreign foe, and when that fear was dispelled there would no longer be any need for Bismarck. The lecturer was throughout frequently applauded.

The master of the Rescue (tug), which brought the news to Dover respecting the Edinburgh (pilot cutter) reports having seen a second steamer at the scene of the disaster, and thinks more lives may have been saved by her.

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"NINETY-EIGHT!"

A STORY OF THE IRISH REBELLION

By the Author of "Fortune's Fool," and other Romances.

> Who fears to speak of "Ninety-Eight?"
> Who blushes at the name?
> When cowards mock their country's fate,
> Who hangs his head for shame?
>
> *Irish Revolutionary Ballad.*

CHAPTER I.

"THE OULD FAMILY."

High and dry on the bleak inhospitable coast of the county Donegal the little village of Rathgallan stood nigh eighty years ago. It was a straggling, dirty, tumble-down place, full of poverty, pride, and the smell of fish. There were few houses in it of a sufficiently substantial character to afford the inhabitants protection against the rude inclement weather which lasted for many months of the year. Mud-built ancient cabins there were in plenty, but the wild sea-winds had so battered those fragile domiciles that they looked as woe-begone and wretched as their unhappy owners. When the storm raged savagely, as it was wont to do in those parts, the thatch roofs and tottering walls were a source of danger rather than the means of security; for it happened not unfrequently that both walls and roofs were too weak to withstand the fierce play of the elements, and were sent toppling on the heads of the poor wretches crouched inside.

Rathgallan was in a desolate and exposed situation, and its people were, in consequence, subjected to many privations unknown to their more inland neighbours. Despite this, they were far from considering their lot in life a hard one; on the contrary, they accounted themselves lucky in most things, and most lucky in living in Rathgallan. One of their chief blessings was that their remote, out-of-the-way position saved them from some of the evils of that time of persecution; when news reached them of the treasons, and hangings, and trials, and house burnings which were going on in the towns and hamlets nearer to the metropolis, they thanked God for their obscurity, and lived and laboured with patience, if not with contentment.

The village of Rathgallan was the abode of fishermen, and these fishermen were hardy, bold, and adventurous. Thoroughly Irish in their peculiarities, they formed amongst the Scotch settler in Donegal a little colony which could not, or would not, be "assimilated." A local tradition affirmed that they had followed the fortunes of a Connaught chieftain—one Dherg Dhunallan—who, in the wars between the eastern and western kings, refused to subscribe to the submission extracted from his sovereign by the victorious son of the King of Aileach, and fled from the wilds of Urris to seek a home amongst the Donegal rocks. The fishermen's forefathers had openly pursued the vocation of sea-robbers, and they themselves were by no means free from the suspicion of smuggling. It was understood, indeed, that they did a brisk contraband trade, and that the caves in the cliffs could discover secrets which would astound the revenue officers. Rathgallan was what was then called a "Papish" place, and had suffered a great deal in consequence from the fiery zeal of all good Protestants. In the days we write of religion was enforced with the sword, and "error" was torn up by the root; the penal laws were rigidly applied, and persecution was deemed to be not only lawful but righteous. Priests of the prevailing faith were under a ban, and held their lives by the insecurest tenure; they wandered through the land with a price on their heads, and often owed their escape from death to the faithfulness of their flock, or to the charity of benevolent Protestants.

Times innumerable had Father Flynn, the priest of Rathgallan, celebrated mass in the rocky glens of the coast, his devout followers stealing at dawn from their homes to participate in the service which was prohibited by law. Captain Knox, the Yeomanry officer and magistrate of the district, had had many a fruitless chase after these mass-hearing "Papists;" for he was a noted upholder of the legal religion, and had vowed that he would some day nail the ears of the recalcitrant "Father" to his stable door.

There was, of course, a "Hall," with its "ould family" in Rathgallan. The Hall had once been a very grand place indeed, and the villagers were then proud of it and of its owners. But misfortune had fallen thickly on the Donellans, and Tom Donellan, the present representative, had not done much to retrive their losses. He had led a sad dissipated life in his younger days, and had played and drank, and drank and played until there was but a poor account left of the fine estate which had once been tacked to the old name. These were the days of heavy drinking and reckless gambling be it remembered, when a country gentleman thought it part of his education to betake himself to Dublin when he came of age, and ruin himself magnificently at the card-tables which were everlastingly spread in the playhouses of that city. Half the estates in the finest counties were morgaged for gambling debts; what did the "fine old Irish gentleman" care so long as they could raise money on a bill, or borrow from lawyers at a rate of interest that would have brought a Nabob to grief? Tom Donellan, too, had taken a leading part in the rebellions of his time, and was only saved the extremest consequences by the intercession of some of his friends, who had strong interest at "the Castle." Bit by bit the estate had slipped away from him, until he possessed little or nothing but the prestige of his old name; part had been confiscated, part had gone to pay the heavy fines which his rebellious acts had entailed, and he himself had lent a vigorous hand to his own undoing. The Hall gradually became so dismantled that it presented a grotesque appearance, and not more than a quarter of it was in use. From its ruined towers might be seen the many broad acres which had once belonged to the Donellan family, but which had now passed away to those who were strangers in the land, but who nevertheless loved the land—at its market value—dearly.

Tom Donellan had of late years led a retired life, and had grown wonderfully gloomy and morose. He was so utterly unlike the dashing young "buck," the villagers once knew, that they were at a loss to account for the change. The jovial hard-drinking Squire was metamaphosed into an austere recluse—the truth being that the many misfortunes he had met with and the persecutions he had been compelled to endure had broken his spirit, and had left him helpless and hopeless. His wife had died long before, leaving her husband two children—a boy and a girl. Tom Donellan's own sad life had unfitted him as a teacher for these half-orphans, but his poverty prevented his having them educated by a tutor, and all the teaching they received came from old Father Flynn, who was especially profound in the annals of his own country. The boy was two years older than his sister, and at the date of the commencement of the story, had entered on his twentieth year. He was not robust for his age, but was tall, graceful, and slight, as his mother had been. From his mother he had also inherited a sad expression of countenance, and a refined outline of face, but the bright piercing black eyes were like his father's, and his voice had a rich mellow ring in it which was exceedingly pleasing to the ear.

Maurice, as the son was named, had imbibed from his father principles of an intensely national character, and had evinced a profound interest in the political agitations which were being brought to a crisis as he entered into manhood. His father was deeply concerned for his safety, knowing the dangerous lengths to which discontent was likely to lead one of Maurice's ardent disposition; but he firmly hated the "Saxons," and secretly rejoiced at the gallant spirit of the boy. The times in which he lived had rendered him familiar with scenes of bloodshed, and so he was far less concerned than a modern parent would be at the prospect before his son.

Young Maurice, notwithstanding his delicate appearance, was as bold as a hawk, and his rambles amongst the rocks and ravines of his native county had inured him to hardship. The wild stories of "Saxon persecution" and "Saxon perfidy" which had been poured into his ears by the people with whom he mixed, had fired his spirit and made him hope eagerly for some opportunity of avenging the supposed wrongs of his country. Like most Irishmen of that day, he was disloyal by inheritance, and [illegible] by necessity.

CHAPTER II.

A TREASONABLE GATHERING.

The autumn of the year had passed, and the fishermen of Rathgallan were preparing to meet the rough hard season which was to follow. The country was alive with rumours of every conceivable kind; the "Defenders" and the "Right Boys" had been unusually busy, and the most alarming reports were current concerning their doings. Rathgallan was but little outwardly disturbed by these rumours, and the fishermen drank their potheen with native *bonhomie*.

On this particular night there was a great gathering of company at the *shebeen*, which stood in a sheltered spot close to the beach. Every room was full, and the weather-beaten fellows who gathered around the fires appeared to be deeply engrossed in some common topic.

Lanty Doolan, the well-to-do "landlord" of the house, bustled from room to room to "take the ordhers of the gintl'min." Mrs. Doolan reposed her comfortable body upon a chair, in front of a bright fire.

"I'm think'n' it's a bitther night we're goin' to have, Lanty," said Mrs. Doolan, drawing her chair nearer to the fire, and poking the turf sods into a blaze.

"Faith thin it's three truth ye spake," returned Lanty. "It's as black as a beetle's back already. Sorra as much as a stime can ye see, and a pitchfork might be stuck into ye'r eyes without ye being a rap the wiser."

Here Lanty, as if overcome by the gloomy condition of the weather, applied to a mug of liquor for comfort, and the gurgling in his throat told that the draught was neither short or stinted.

"An' tell me, *acushla*," resumed Mrs Doolan, in a wheedling tone, "Whin are thimsels comin'? Shure it's late enuf already in all rasahon, an' maybe it isn't sthoppin' much longer the boys will be."

"Howld yer whist," said Lanty, in a whisper, and with his hand held up as if ready to clap it in an emergency on the mouth of his loquacious wife. "*Hoight mille dhoul*, what is ye be talking about? Thimsels 'll come whin it plaises thim, an' it isn't the black night that'll parvint thim. But faix there's worse things abroad for thim than the weather, fur owld Knox an' his murtherin' Yeos have been gallivantin' about all day—the curse of Crumwell on him and thim!"

This pious objurgation of Lanty was uttered in a low tone, and was barely audible to Mrs. Doolan, who in nowise resented the sentiment.

Lanty at this juncture going to his front door heard trotting of hoofs on the highroad and immediately a gleam of satisfaction shot across his countenance. Hurrying back into the house he called aside a *gossoon* who served as groom and "handy-man," and in a low whisper he said to him "Phelim ye *omadhaun*, put the candles in the socks in the barn, an' go round to the boys, and tell thim that all's ready fur the little divarsion, and that the fiddlers are comin down the road." Phelim followed out the instructions given him, and in a few minutes the rooms in the *shebeen* were deserted. Lanty in a curious state of excitement stood at the door and peered into the darkness of the night. Nearer and nearer came the sounds of the horses' hoofs, and at last a party of four horsemen pulled up in front of the house.

The foremost of the new comers appeared to be no stranger to Lanty Doolan, who saluted him familiarly. He was a short, thick-set man, with over-hanging brows and determined face. He was dressed or rather enveloped in a horseman's cloak of huge dimensions; he wore hessian boots, and had on his head a cone-shaped, broad rimmed hat of the fashion peculiar to the period. He advanced into the light, while his companions seemed to court the darkness and backed their horses into the shaded portion of the road.

"Well, Lanty, *mahouchal*," said the foremost rider, dismounting and holding his horse by the bridle at the doorstep, "Is all prepared? Have ye told the boys to come to-night to hear some illigant music discoorsed in yer barn, ye sinner?"

"Faith then be me sowl," replied Lanty, "they're safe an' sound in the barn, an' sorra a minit's pace I've had since the spalpeens came two hours ago. Ye'll find them as ripe for mischief as a lot o' March hares. But tell me, Mister Shaughnessey, how are ye goin' on in Dublin? There's great news of ructions in Leinster, and they say that its tantalishin' the *black mouths* (*i.e.* Protestants) ye are intirely."

Shaughnessey, with a wave of his hand to his companions, as if beseeching their patience, opened his budget, and told the landlord such odds and ends of political news as were current in the stirring days of 1798. Travellers were few then, and a traveller from Dublin especially, the centre of all the troubles of the period, was a godsend.

"An' what did they do wid the Relief Bill?" asked Lanty at the termination of Shaughnessey's string of gossip.

"It passed on Tuesday," returned the latter, "in spite of the dirty opposition of Ogle and Duigenan, who fought against it tooth and nail to the last, because no one thought them worth bribing. But if the Sassenachs think we're going to be satisfied with such concessions the more fools they. Until we drive them out of the country and the banner of our Republic floats over Dublin Castle we'll never be content."

"Hush, Tom," said another of the travellers, now coming forward. "These are dangerous words, and might hang bettter men than you or us. Let us get to business at once."

With this Shaughnessey threw the reins of his horse to the worthy landlord, and the *gossoon* Phelim being called the horses of the other three travellers were consigned to his care.

The four then followed Lanty into the kitchen, and thence to a large barn at the back of the house. Before entering, Shaughnessey called the landlord aside and said in a low whisper, "Have the horses ready behind the hedge. The Yoes were out at Rangle this afternoon, and if they take it into their heads to come down this way it may be touch-and-go with us."

The barn was well filled as our travellers entered, and they were greeted with a subdued shout of welcome. A rough table had been placed in the middle of the floor, and three or four tallow candles glimmered doubtfully in their sockets against the opposite walls. About fifty stout fellows in ragged, time-worn frieze coats, knee breeches and caubeen hats, were ranged round the barn in quiet, orderly fashion. Shaughnessey, who seemed to act as general spokesman, at once proceeded to the table, on the top of which he mounted. It was to be noted that the words he addressed to the strange assemblage partook more of the oily brogue of the lower class than those he had spoken to the landlord, and that for some curious reason or another he had assumed a mask which half-covered his face. His companions, too, remained near the door, and their faces were concealed in their large cloaks.

"Now, boys," said Shaughnessey, in a voice which, although pitched low, was heard distinctly in every corner of the barn, "Ye know what a risk we're runnin' to be here to-night? And ye know that every mother's son of ye 'id have the rope round ye'er nicks in no time if this was found out? So I look to ye to keep still tongues in ye'r heads, an' not to let on to the fader that reared ye that ye wor at the meetin'."

A murmur of approval ran round the barn, and the faces of the listeners assumed a stern, determined aspect.

So Shaughnessey, after his preliminary admonition, told the fishermen in a few ardent words the condition of affairs in Dublin. Perhaps he told them untruths, the man was an agitator and would stop at nothing to enlist their sympathies. But even the bare truth was stirring enough to excite such passionate natures. He told them that the Society of United Irishmen expected great things from the people "of the north"—that the "oppression" of the country was being daily increased, that the liberty of the Irish nation and the honour of the Irish Parliament were being bought and sold by Westmorland and his "beagles" as they were called, that the power of persecution was entrusted to the enemies of the Irish—that cabins were burnt and the occupants hanged on any and every pretext—that the peasantry were driven to desperation by the cruelties practised by the soldiers, and that the grand juries at assizes were "packed" with Orangemen who were without mercy for their Catholic fellow-countrymen.

The eyes of his hearers glistened, and their hearts throbbed as they listened to this preacher of sedition. He knew perfectly well the fiery character of his audience, and he used such words as they understood most readily. But when in the progress of his speech he launched forth in the native vernacular, and detailed to them in the mother tongue the "wrongs" of their unhappy country, how their hearts swelled, and how their wild eyes blazed with Celtic passion! For tenderness and fierceness no language equals the Irish; its expressions of grief and indignation are terrible to hear.

"Boys!" said Shaughnessey, relapsing into English, "remimber ye'r sufferin', an' take an oath this night never to be content until ould William is pitched into the Liffey, an' all the Orangemen in Linsther as well. D'ye think they'll help ye to ye'r rights if ye don't help ye'rselves? Not the length of a thraneen, an' so don't be desaved be any *shanenawsh* o' that sort. It's little love they have for ye or the likes o' ye, an' sorro's skure to ye if ye don't give them tit for tat. Claw for claw, as Conan said to the ould boy. Hav'nt we put them into fear an' thrimbl'n' already, only be just risin' our little finger, an' isn't Westmoreland, the nagur, sweatin' fur his life behind his double guard o' Fincibles at the Castle? But, in spite o' all the Fincibles an' Yeos, from Clear to Carrick, we'll have our rights, won't we boys?"

A burst of enthusiasm was the answer to this appeal, and the look which settled on the faces of the listeners was serious and grave.

"Now, me lads," said the orator, "I've a mighty big sayerret to tell ye, an', if ye have any fear o' the thriangle an' the pitch cap, ye'll keep it all to ye'rselves. Ye must know that we're goin' to have a little ruction of our own afore long, an' it isn't for want o' help that we'll fail. There's a *colleen dhas* across the wathur"—here he stretched out his arm in the direction in which he supposed France to be—"in the finest an noblest nation undher the sun, that has an extrhaordinary likin' fur ould Ireland. But don't be thrustin' all to the *colleen dhas*, me boys, ye must do ye'er own work ye'rselves, mind; ye must make an' be ready. Sharpen ye'er swoords an' ye'er pikes, an' hope for the best, boys. The good day 'll soon come!"

Here again there reached the gratified ears of the speaker a subdued shout of approbation, and he proceeded with a bolder and more confident tone.

"Let me put it plain to every man here, before ye go. An' mind there's neither force or flatthery in it.

(To be Continued.)

THE ROYAL MARRIAGE TREATY.

There was issued on Saturday a copy of the treaty between her Majesty and the German Emperor, King of Prussia, for the marriage of the Duke of Connaught with the Princess Louise Margaret of Prussia. Under the treaty the Queen engaged that the Duke of Connaught should secure to the Princess out of any revenues belonging to his Royal Highness or granted to him by Parliament, the annual sum of £1,500, to be paid half-yearly to her Royal Highness for her sole and separate use, and without any power of anticipation, during the period of their Royal Highnesses' marriage. In the event of the Duchess surviving the Duke the Queen engages to grant to her Royal Highness, or to such persons as her Majesty may think fit to name in trust for her Royal Highness, in lieu of dower, as a personal and inalienable provision, the annual sum of £6,000, to continue during her life of her Royal Highness, and to be payable quarterly. The German Emperor has granted to the Princess a dowry of 300,000 marks, of which one moiety is to be considered as an actual marriage portion, such as the Princesses of the Royal Prussian House are entitled to, and the moiety is to be considered as a special gift of his Majesty, passing over into the free possession of her Royal Highness. This dowry is to be delivered within four weeks after the date of the solemnisation of the marriage to such person or persons as her Brittannic Majesty shall authorise to receive the same, to be held by them upon certain trusts which have been agreed upon between her Majesty and the German Emperor, and which will be expressed in a separate instrument. The German Emperor agreed to provide the Princess with princely apparel, jewels, and an outfit suitable to a Princess of the Royal Prussian House. The Princess, in accordance with the existing practice in the Royal Prussian House and family compacts, with the concurrence of the Duke of Connaught, renounces formally and permanently, in favour of the male line of the Royal Prussian Margravian Branbenburg Family, all contingent right of hereditary succession to land and people, and in such wise that so long as male descendants of the Royal Prussian Margravian Brandenburg shall be living, she shall have no claim whatever and no right thereto. But if all male descendants of the Royal Prussian Margravian Brandenburg line should have died out, then whatever appertains to the Princess of the Royal Prussian Margravian Brandenburg House in virtue of testaments, settlements, laws, and compacts of the aforesaid house shall not be lost, but shall be reserved to the Princess and her heirs.

A YANKEE SERMON.

The following is one of "Dow, junior's patent sermons." It is full of good sense, although quaint and whimsical:—"My dear friends: I'd just as lief say it as not, and I will [illegible] it if I get my ears boxed and my hair pulled, that women are more artificial and affected than men. Well, it is all right, I suppose, that they should be. They don't do the courting, and are not allowed the liberty of making the first advances; consequently, they must contrive to attract. I never could see, though, how any great capital could ever be made out of the ridiculous enormities of fashion. Some young ladies not only starve their love to feed their pride, but they must also starve and torture their poor bodies, out of all rhyme and reason. Some won't taste of coffee, lest it should be the means of accumulating too much adipose about the ribs, and make them measure an inch more round the waists. They use no butter, for fear of a pimple upon their pretty noses; nor partake of a particle of meat, under a horrid apprehension of incurring a muddy complexion. But mark the consequence they soon become weakly, nervous, fidgety, and old-maidish—their skins get yellow as a cucumber gone to seed—their eyes have no more lustre than blue beans in a withered pod—and their whole systems got so shattered at last that they will hardly stand the shock of a severe compliment. What, then, must they do? Why, endeavour to make up, by artificial means, for what Nature could have done (and a great deal better), had she been allowed her own way. They take physic to prop up their broken constitutions, and apply paints, washes, chalks, and cosmetics, to recover their pristine bloom and youthful beauty. Young bachelors! don't have anything to do with one of these. They are counterfeit goods—spurious articles; and, after you have had them upon your hands for awhile, you will come to the conclusion that you have 'seen the elephant' to your sorrow. My hearers: once in a while you come across one 'who starves her love to feed her pride; but what that pride is, it is difficult to tell. It varies under diffierent circumstances. She won't mention her love, nor open the doors of her heart to allow it the liberty to come out and soar upon butterfly wings through the bland atmosphere of frankness and freedom. No! she lets concealment, like a worm in an apple-core, feed upon her damaged cheek. And all this through pride, vanity, foolishness, or something of the sort! Pshaw! all you girls who want husbands, and can't get on without 'em, speak out and don't be afraid. You will thus get them quicker, and better ones, too, than by pursuing any vanity-feeding, pride-pampering, or make-believe bashful course. Go ahead—make your own wants—publish your preferences—and you shall each be rewarded with a husband who says his prayers daily, chews tabacco, looks after his household, and takes delight in being considered a domestic animal. So mote it be!"

The accounts of the Paris Exhibition of 1877 have only just been closed, and show a surplus of 55,805f., to be equally divided between the State, municipality, and the subscribers.

Wanted.

WANTED, from Two to Six Acres of LAND, with or without COTTAGE.—Address, stating terms, &c., C. F., Post Office, Blackhill. 835m

GOOD HAY WANTED.—State quantity, quality, price, and nearest Railway Station, to Mr. HAANEBERGEN, Woodlands, near Consett. 840m

SERVANTS.—Ladies requiring Servants and Servants wanting Situations should apply at Mrs. COCKBURN'S Registry Office, 12, Front Street, Consett.

To Lend.

£150 TO LEND on Mortgage of Freehold Property.—Apply to ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett. 851m

MONEY TO LEND on Private Mortgage.—Apply to WM. HALCRO, Solicitor, 2, Mount Pleasant, Consett. 599k

LOANS GRANTED immediately, from £100 to £2,000, at 5 per cent., repayable over Three, Four, or Five Years, on Personal Sureties, and Life policy effected with the WEST OF ENGLAND INSURANCE CO. (Established 1807).—Apply to GEORGE HAWDON, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 527m

To Let.

TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP, at Wesley Terrace, Dipton.—Apply to WM. HEPPELL, Espershields.

TO LET, at May, TWO SHOPS, next door to J. S. MURRAY, Front Street, Consett.—Apply to J. S. MURRAY. 845m

TENTS TO LET, on very reasonable terms. Lengths—120 by 30ft., and 60 by 25ft.—Apply to E. LOVAT, Medomsley, Lintz Green Station. 801m

TO LET, a Five-roomed HOUSE in Medomsley Road, Consett.—Apply to JOHN ALLISON, Beehive Inn, Sherburn Terrace. 785m

TO LET, on Hire, a HORSE and CONVEYANCE, on moderate terms. A Neat Turn-out.—Apply to GEORGE F. SCHELLENBERG, Pork Butcher, Consett.

TO LET, in Middle Street, Consett (the best Business situation in the Town), THREE NEW SHOPS and HOUSES. Splendid opportunity for Grocers, Butchers, Pork Butchers, or any other Business.—Apply to JOHN POTTS, Draper, Consett. 806m

TO BE LET, with entry at May-day next, a DWELLING-HOUSE and SHOP, situate at Ebchester, with Stable, Piggery, and Orchard, of an acre in extent, at present in the occupation of the Owner. The above may be seen by applying on the Premises, and further particulars known, and offers in writing will be received by RALPH PICKERING, Low Woodside, Iveston, up to 12th of April next coming.

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a Useful COW, close to Profit.—Apply to MATTHEW ROBSON, Iveston. 841m

FOR SALE, Pure TARTARIAN SEED OATS. Also, SEED BARLEY and SPRING TARES.—Apply to E. DIXON, Ebchester Mill. 791m

BUILDING SITES

FOR SALE, in Sherburn Terrace.—Apply to Mr. J. CALVERT. 731m

IVESTON COTTAGE FOR SALE, containing Four Rooms, with Byre, Stable, about a Quarter of an Acre of Garden Land, and other Conveniences attached.—Apply to JOHN BLAND, Iveston. 761m

TO BE SOLD BY TENDER, a STACK of WELL-WON HAY, from 12 to 14 Tons, standing at Knitsley Mill. Tenders to be sent to J. CALVERT, Sherburn House, Consett. 730m

FOR SALE, New and Second-hand CONVEYANCES of every description.—Apply to Mr. ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Consett, or to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Shotley Bridge. 811k

FOR SALE, 7 Phaetons; 2 Whitechapels; Four-wheel Dog-cart; 2 Pony Whitechapels; small Pony Gig; Oak Cabinet, 290 years old. Also, several Ponies.—Apply to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Tailor and Draper, Shotley Bridge. 610m

TO COW KEEPERS AND OTHERS.

SWEDE TURNIPS FOR SALE. Price, 18s. per Ton.—Apply to E. WILKINSON, Dipton, or to the HIND, South Medomsley Farm. 809m

TO BE SOLD, BY PRIVATE CONTRACT, the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND, Chapel Street, Blackhill, County of Durham. Applications to see the Premises to be made to Mr. W. HAY, Benfieldside Goods Station, and Sealed Offers to be sent to A. ANNANDALE, Viewfield, Blackhill, on or before the 12th April, 1879. The Trustees do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer. 809m

FOR SALE, by Private Contract all that Copyhold PROPERTY, containing Seven Rooms, Shop and Back Shop, and all other Conveniences, with the BUILDING SITE adjoining, being 66, Durham Road, Blackhill, the property of Mr. T. W. WRIGHT, who is declining business. The House is at present in the occupation of Mr. W. REED. The situation is a very eligible one for an active man with a small capital, or as a private Residence. Enquire on the Premises.

Contracts.

BUILDERS are invited to TENDER for the several WORKS required in the Erection of New Workshop, &c., at Blackhill, for Mr. WM. STRACHAM. Drawings, Specification, &c., may be seen at our Offices, where Tenders will be received on or before the 1st day of April, 1879. The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

JOHN SMITH and SON, Architects.

Shotley Bridge, Mar. 19, 1879. 837m

TO CHIMNEY BUILDERS.

TENDERS required, on or before March 25th, for the BUILDING of a Round BRICK CHIMNEY, about 160 feet high, at Shotley Grove Paper Mills.

Plans and Specifications can be seen at the Office of JOHN ANNANDALE and SONS, Shotley Grove.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS, &c.

THE GUARDIANS of the POOR of the Lanchester Union invite TENDERS for supplying the Workhouse at Lanchester with FLOUR and GROCERIES, BUTCHER'S MEAT, MILK, COAL, READY-MADE CLOTHING and DRAPERIES, SHOES, COFFINS, &c., for Twenty-seven Weeks, from the 28th instant to the 2nd day of October, 1879.

Forms of Tender, specifying the Quantities of the various Articles required, may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom Sealed and Endorsed Tenders, with Samples as far as practicable, should be sent not later than the 19th day of March.

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

By Order,
WM. HENRY RITSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.

Lanchester, March 6th, 1879. 794m

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for the performance of the following WORKS:—

1.—The Cutting, Finding Material, Laying-in, Covering, &c., of an 18in. Sewer from the Settling-Ponds and down the Consett Hall Road. Length, about 463 yards. (Marked "Sewer A.")

2.—A similar Sewer over part of the same ground. Length, about 220 yards. (Marked "Sewer B.")

3.—Scavenging. ("Marked "Scavenging.")

4.—Cleaning out Privies and Ashpits. (Marked "Ashpits.")

5.—Watering the Streets. (Marked "Watering.")

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Office of the Board, on and after Monday, the 17th inst.

Tenders, addressed to the Consett Local Board, Consett, will be received up to Monday, the 31st inst.

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

By Order of the Board,
JOHN ELLIOTT, Clerk.

Local Board Office, Consett, March 13th, 1879.

Business Announcements.

PRINT DEPARTMENT.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN

ARE NOW SHOWING OVER ONE HUNDRED PIECES OF THE LATEST NOVELTIES IN

SPRING PRINTS

INCLUDING ALL THE BEST MAKES. PRICES RANGING FROM 3½D. TO 8½D., PERFECTLY FAST COLOURS.

ENGLISH AND MILBURN,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS,
CONSETT AND DIPTON. 813m

IMPORTANT NOTICE

TO THE INHABITANTS OF BLACKHILL, CONSETT, AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

J. COLLINSON

BEGS to return thanks for the favours received since he Opened his Shop at 14, Tinmill Place Blackhill, and to state he has now adopted all the best principles in trading to be found in co-operation, without any of the false ones. His Goods are of the best quality, and as low in price as any house in the trade. Every purchaser of One Shilling's worth and upwards of Groceries and Provisions (Flour excepted), Boots, and Shoes, will receive Checks representing One Penny for every Shilling's worth of Goods purchased. Such Checks may be exchanged for Goods at any time, but their equivalent in Cash will be given on the second Wednesday of May, August, and November.

The following statements will show at once the advantages of dealing with J. C. Every person purchasing Goods to the amount of Four Shillings weekly, for Twelve weeks, will receive Checks to the amount of Four Shillings, making a Capital of Eight Shillings. By continuing to purchase with your Eight Shillings weekly, for another Twelve weeks, your capital becomes Sixteen Shillings, and by continuing the process for another Twelve weeks you have Thirty-two Shillings and eventually Sixty-four Shillings in Twelve months.

In order to facilitate business and keep down working expenses, J. C. will receive deposits from One to Five Pounds of Customers, and allow such Depositors Ten per cent. per annum. Every Depositor will be allowed to purchase Goods to the full amount of their deposit, and if such deposit is made good within Six days, the interest will be allowed the same as if no such purchase had been made. Thus, if a deposit is made on Monday and Goods supplied on Wednesday, and the deposit is made good on the Monday following, such Depositor will have fulfilled the above requirements. Every Depositor may withdraw his deposits by giving One month's notice.

J. C. also begs to state he has been appointed Agent to the Foreign Wine Association for the Sale of their superior Wines. These Wines are of the very best quality, consistent with prices, for which see Trade Circulars.

J. C. also begs to thank the public for their liberal support during the Twenty-nine years he has been in business at 14, Middle Street, Consett, and to inform those who may have recently come to the Neighbourhood that he has the Best Stock of HOME-MADE and HAND-SEWED BOOTS in the District. Always on hand, a large Stock of RIVETED and MACHINE-SEWED BOOTS, quality and price unequalled. J. C. having had an extensive experience in the Shoe trade, and his connection with the largest and best Manufacturers in England enable him to supply Goods at an advantage rarely to be met with.

J. C., in conducting his business, has always adhered to the best principles of trade, by one price for each, Class of Goods, and all Customers treated alike. Parties buying Boots and Shoes at 14, Middle Street, Consett, will never get Old Stock and Inferior Goods, polished over with Blacking, but an article worth the money paid.

Always on hand, UNREDEEMED PLEDGES, which are Sold at a very low price.

LEATHER, NAILS, and all Requisites for Repairing and Making Boots and Shoes, are supplied at the lowest possible prices.

EASTER! EASTER!

EASTER! EASTER! EASTER! EASTER!

JUST ARRIVED
AT THE
CELEBRATED CLOTHING EMPORIUM,
ABOUT
2,000 BOYS' AND YOUTHS' SUITS
OF THE MOST FASHIONABLE DESCRIPTION.

BOYS' - - - - - - from 3s. 11d. to 25s.
YOUTHS' - - - - - from 8s. 11d. to 45s.

N.B.—We shall be glad to forward a few to any Address on application.

See ours before Purchasing elsewhere.

SHAW AND ATKINSON,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

ROBERT JACKSON,
PRINTER, STATIONER, LITHOGRAPHER, BOOKBINDER
"GUARDIAN" OFFICE, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

BOOK PRINTING in all styles—Reports and Pamphlets, Sermons and Lectures, Essays, Poems, Sunday-school Hymns, Friendly Society and other Rules, Catalogues of every description, &c.

PLACARDS, POSTERS, SHOW CARDS, and HANDBILLS of every size and in every colour.

PROGRAMMES—Books of Words, Cards of Admission for Balls, Concerts, Lectures, and Public an Private Entertainments.

POST CARDS, with intimations of all kinds, for summoning Meetings, Announcements from Commercial Travellers, and all other purposes.

COMMERCIAL PRINTING—Trade Circulars, Lists of Goods, Catalogues, Account Headings, Forms, Returns, and Statements, Balance Sheets, Tickets, Cards, Labels, Tallies, Handbills, Circulars, Cheques, and Billheads.

PRINTING OF ALL KINDS, in Black and Coloured Inks, and in any variety of style Ornamental and Plain, is executed with rapidity, accuracy, punctuality, and at reasonable prices, by

ROBERT JACKSON,
"GUARDIAN" STEAM PRINTING WORKS
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

☞ Persons requiring any kind of Printing in haste can rely with confidence on having it executed at the time promised.

MARBLE CHIMNEY PIECES. KITCHEN RANGES.
REGISTER, GILL, HALL, AND SHOP STOVES.
GAS COOKERS, HEARTH TILES, &c.

DINNING AND COOKE, HOT WATER ENGINEERS,
91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 689l

Public Notices.

4 IS the Winning Number of the Peacock.—Apply to Mr. D. IMRIE, Consett. 850m

REMEMBER the GOOD TEMPLARS' ANNIVERSARY in the Assembly Rooms, Consett, on Tuesday First. See Bills. 847m

THE MEMORIAL STONES of Consett Wesleyan Day and Sunday schools will be Laid on Easter Monday. Further particulars will be given in Bills.

NOTICE.

TRESPASSERS on Number One Farm, will be prosecuted. 692m

LOOK HERE! MORGAN IS COMING. 844m

PASSENGERS Booked to and from the United States, Canada, and Australia. Reliable information and Pamphlets can be had of Mr. LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate, Annfield Plain, the authorized Agent. Assisted Passages to Canada. 849m

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, without first obtaining the said Company's permission, will be prosecuted according to Law.

By order of the Directors,
August 21st, 1875. M RICHLEY, Secretary.

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.

CHIEF OFFICES:—92, LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.

THIRTIETH ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1878.

THE results of the operations of the year 1878 have been most satisfactory. They may be summed up as follows:—An increase of £216,187 2s. 9d. in the Premium Income, raising the total Premiums to £1,537,342 15s. 4d. per annum; an augmentation of £259,616 7s. 10d. to the Assurance Funds; and a general reduction of expenditure of Two-and-a-half per cent. on the Annual Premium Income.

The total sum paid in Claims in both Branches now amounts to £2,763,589 8s.

The Investments of the year have been still restricted to those of the highest class, chiefly British Government Securities, Freehold Ground Rents, House Property, Mortgages, and Reversions.

ORDINARY BRANCH.—In this Branch, the New Business completed during the year consists of 4,040 Policies, assuring the sum of £506,317, and producing a New Annual Premium Income of £17,834 4s. 2d.

The Expenses of the Branch have been reduced three per cent. on the Annual Premium Income.

The Annual Premium Income at the end of the year is £101,882 15s. 4d. showing an increase of £8,530 6s. 9d. over the year 1877.

INDUSTRIAL BRANCH.—In this Branch, the Annual Premium Income at the close of the year is £1,435,460, receivable under 3,659,432 Policies, showing an increase of £207,656 16s. in the Premium Income, and 443,242 in the number of Policies.

The total expenses of this Branch, as compared with the previous year show a reduction of Two-and-a-half per cent. on the Premium Income. The expenses of conducting the existing business are eight per cent. below the provision made for this purpose at the last valuation.

The Directors are glad to announce that their continued efforts to keep the Policies in force have been most successful. Of the Policies of five years' duration, less than six per cent. have lapsed during the year, and arrangements have been made with the object of reducing the number of lapses that occur among the recently issued Policies. The greatest facilities are granted for the revival of all Policies, and no fine whatever is imposed in this Branch upon such revivals, while, if preferred by the assured, a free policy is issued if the assurance has been in existence a specified time.

LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANYS' ACT, 1870.—FOURTH SCHEDULE.

BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY (ORDINARY BRANCH), ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1878.

LIABILITIES.		£	s.	d.
Life Assurance Fund		548,150	4	9
Sickness and Assurance Fund		473	18	2
Leasehold Redemption Fund		4,000	0	0
		£552,624	2	11
Claims under Life Policies admitted but not yet paid		15,689	10	6
		£568,313	13	5

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
Mortgages on Property within the United Kingdom		112,607	3	3
Loans on the Company's Policies		19,839	6	3
Investments:—				
In British Government Securities		70,701	18	11
Indian and Colonial ditto		49,139	7	3
Foreign ditto		13,967	15	3
Railway and other Debentures and Debenture Stock		42,103	5	8
Ditto Shares (Preference and Ordinary)		6,361	11	4
Trust Funds Certificates		20,423	10	0
House Property		97,528	14	8
Reversions		61,554	2	10
Life Interests		156	10	1
Loans on Municipal and other Rates		13,509	3	7
Mortgages of Reversions		1,320	10	3
Agents' Balances		693	18	9
Outstanding Premiums		6,231	11	11
Ditto Interests and Rents		4,052	7	4
Amount due from Official Liquidator of International Society		16,160	12	1
Deposits at three months' notice		27,000	0	0
Cash—On current account	£4,862 4 0			
In hand	100 0 0			
		4,962	4	0
		£568,313	13	5

BALANCE SHEET OF THE PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY (INDUSTRIAL BRANCH), ON THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1878.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Shareholders capital	24,920	0	0
Life Assurance Fund	758,986	6	5
Contingency Fund	40,000	0	0
Claims under Life Policies admitted	5,019	6	5
	£828,925	12	10

ASSETS.		£	s.	d.
Mortgages on property within the United Kingdom		26,560	0	0
Investments:—				
In British Government Securities		33,109	7	6
Freehold Ground Rents		321,140	10	9
Scotch Feu Duties		7,047	14	0
House Property		214,010	10	1
Life and other Interests and Reversions		61,002	7	7
Furniture and Fittings		11,456	10	4
Loans on Municipal and other rates		8,210	0	0
Loans upon personal Security		39,413	4	4
Agents' Balances		87,552	16	10
Outstanding Interests and Rents		5,034	6	3
Deposits at three Months' notice		5,000	0	0
Cash—On current account	£9,138 5 2			
In hand	250 0 0			
		9,388	5	2
		£828,925	12	10

We have examined the foregoing Accounts, find them to be correct, and hereby confirm the same. We have also seen and examined the various securities.

JAMES ALLANSON, ROBERT BARNES, } Auditors.

18th February, 1879.

EDGAR HORNE, Chairman.
THOS. REID, HENRY HARBEN, } Directors.
THOMAS C. DEWEY, WILLIAM HUGHES, } Managers.
828m W. J. LANCASTER, Secretary.

Public Notices.

A GRAND BALL

WILL be held in the Assembly Rooms, Consett, on Wednesday Evening, March 26th, 1879.

Mr. JOSEPH DODDS, M.C.

Tickets—Gentlemen, 1s.; Ladies, 6d.—to be had at the Door.

Doors open at Eight p.m. 850m

R U COMING to hear the Stanley Primitive Methodist Choir at the United Methodist Free Church, Burnopfield?—A CONCERT will be given in the above Chapel, by the Stanley Primitive Methodist Choir, on Saturday, March 22nd, 1879. A choice selection of Anthems and Vocal and Instrumental Solos will be rendered. Chair to be taken at Half-past Six, by Mr. W. WARD, of Burnopfield. 808m

NOTICE.

A MEETING of the Tradesmen whose Goods are sent by the North-Eastern Railway Company, via Annfield Plain, will be held in the Town Hall, Catchgate, on Wednesday, March 26th, 1879, at Half-past Seven p.m., to take into consideration the present rates charged for the carriage of Goods, with a view to make an effort to secure a reduction of the present high rates. The various Tradesmen, who are customers, are earnestly requested to attend. 842m

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT the ANNUAL MEETING of the Inhabitants of the Township of Collierley and Pontop will be held at the house of Mr. John Fenwick, Bute Arms, Dipton, on the 25th day of March, 1879, at Six o'clock p.m., for the purpose of making a Rate for the Relief of the Poor and other purposes chargeable thereon according to Law; also to appoint a Waywarden and Overseers for the ensuing year, and to pass a Resolution to Rate the Owners instead of the Occupiers.

833m JOHN AYRE, JOHN URWIN, } Overseers.

BIBLE READING.

STRANGERS, visiting Consett on Saturday Evenings and desiring to spend a quiet hour at Bible Reading, are invited to the BIBLE READING, commencing at Six o'clock, at the Mission Room, Derwent Street.

On Sunday, December 22nd, at Half-past Six p.m., at the same place, the First of Thirteen Weekly DISCOURSES will (D.V.) be given on 1 Cor. i, 9. READER, COME. 666m

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Jenkins.

Iveston Road, Leadgate.

MR. JOHN JENKINS has received instructions to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Wednesday, April 16th, 1879, at the Red Lion Commercial Inn, Leadgate, a Freehold Four-roomed COTTAGE, with other CONVENIENCES, together with a Good GARDEN, belonging to Mr. CHARLES TEANEY, and now in the occupation of Mr. MARK O'BRIAN as Tenant. For further particulars, apply to Mr. CHAS. TEANEY, Front Street, Leadgate; or the AUCTIONEER, Trafalgar Street, Consett.

Sale to commence at Seven o'clock.

Also, the STOCK-IN-TRADE and other EFFECTS belonging to Mr. TEANEY. See future Advertisements.

96 and 97, Leadgate.

MR. JOHN JENKINS has received instructions from Messrs. HEDLEY and WALES, 96 and 97, Leadgate, who are about to emigrate, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday, March 29th, 1879, the whole of their Valuable Household FURNITURE, HARMONIUM, &c., comprising excellent Mahogany Drawers and Bookcase; Mahogany Press; four-feet Mahogany Loo Table; Centre Table; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating, large size; 6 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Easy Chair; 4 Polished Kitchen Chairs; Eight-day Clock, in Mahogany Case; Birch Cheffioneer Bedstead; Mahogany Washstand and Dressing Table, nearly new; Swing Glass; Four-poled Bedstead and Mattress; 2 Feather Beds, with Pillows and Bolsters; Iron Bedstead and Mattress; 2 Cornice Poles, with Brackets; Down Bed, Pillows, and Bolster; Polished Rocking Chair; 2 Kitchen Tables; 2 Parlour Fenders and Fireirons; Kitchen Fender; Cradle; Child's Rocking Chair; Filter; Tidy; Loose Bar; Posstub and Staff; Pots, Pans, Pails, Brushes, Mugs, and Broom; together with a large assortment of other useful Goods, too numerous to mention. Also, Harmonium, in splendid Walnut Case, 13 Stops, Knee Swell, 4 Sets of Reeds, with Cabinet and Stool to match.

The Auctioneer begs respectfully to call the attention of Trustees of Chapels and musicians in general to the above instrument, it being by an eminent maker, and of a very powerful tone. The Harmonium can be seen and tried at the above address up to the time of Sale, and will be Sold without Reserve.

Sale to commence at One o'clock. 843m

By Mr. W. Raw.

Blackhill Saw Mills.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, appreciating the favour of HENRY RITSON, Esq., and in carrying out his instructions will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of his remaining TIMBER MERCHANT'S PLANT and STOCK, in Blackhill Sawmill Yard, on Wednesday, April 9th, 1879, comprising 2 Steam Engines and Sawmills, complete; Corn, Indian Meal, and Oilcake Crushers; Shaft-making Machine; Wood Waggons and Carts; large quantity of Railing Posts; Crown Trees; New Hurdles; Cut Timber; New and Old Iron, &c.

Particulars in future Advertisements.

Sale-office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 812m

South Pontop Colliery, Annfield Plain.
To Colliery Owners, Farmers, and others.

MR. WM. RAW, honoured with instructions from the Owners of South Pontop Colliery, will SELL BY AUCTION, the following Powerful and Useful HORSES and PONIES, at the Colliery Yard, on Thursday, March 27th, 1879

Brown Horse, "Smiler," 15h. 1in., 9 years old.
Bay Horse, "Lofty," 15h. 2in., 11 years old.
Black Horse, "Doctor," 15h., aged.
Brown Pony, "Brisk," 11h., 8 years old.
Grey Pony, "Badger," 11h. 3in., 7 years old.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock precisely.

Sale-office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 838m

Allansford Mill, near Blackhill.

MR. WILLIAM RAW, honoured with instructions from Mr. SIMON ROWE, who is leaving Allansford Mill, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, the whole of his FARMING STOCK, MILLER'S PLANT, IMPLEMENTS, &c., on Saturday, March 29th, 1879, comprising—

Useful Bay Horse, 15½ h.h., good worker; Brown Filly, 1 year old, by "Honest Tom."

CATTLE—Excellent Milch Cow; Shorthorn Roan Heifer, in calf, 2 years old; Incalving do.; 4 Irish do. Shorthorn Bull, 11 months; 2 Milk Calves and 1 young Geld Cow, fat; Geld Cow.

IMPLEMENTS—2 Coup Carts; Spring Cart; Wheelbarrow; 2 Iron Ploughs; 2 Pairs of Harrows; strong Cart Springs; Grindstone; Corn Bin, 60-Gallon Pot; large Boiler; large Mill Meal Chest; 2 Sack Barrows; Desk; 2 Sieves; Bartlett's Weighing Machine, to weigh 4cwt.; Chaff Cutter; Bean Splitter; Blocks and Ropes; Dovecot; Beehouse and Two Hives of Bees; Set of Cart and other Harness, and all the Hand Implements; about 20 Loads of good Potatoes, in Bags; 40 Hens and Cocks; 2 Ducks and Drake, pure Aylesbury; Cow Bands and Tubs.

FURNITURE AND DAIRY UTENSILS—Large Kitchen Table; 6 Kitchen Chairs; Writing Desk; Washing and Wringing Machine; Desk Bedstead; Washing Tub; Barrel Churn; 2 Milk Barrels; and all the Dairy Utensils.

Also, the EATAGE of about 3 Acres of Meadow Land up to the 12th May, and a quantity of Hay, to be eaten on the Premises.

Sale to commence at One o'clock precisely.

N.B.—Anyone having Stock or Implements for absolute Sale, can have them Sold on early application to the Auctioneer.

Sale-office, Blackhill, Co. Durham. 814m

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett.
Sale of Linen and Woollen Drapery, for the benefit of whom it may concern.

MR. ADAM BRODIE respectfully intimates that in consequence of the expiration of the lease of the Victoria Sale-rooms, he will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the said Rooms, on Monday and Tuesday, March 24th and 25th, 1879, the whole of the Superior LINEN and WOOLLEN DRAPERY, comprising Dresses, Shawls, Blankets, Sheets, Winceys, Cords, Carpets, Gents' Scarfs, Fronts, and Collars, Fingering Wools, Umbrellas, and nearly every other article connected with the Trade.

Sale at Seven o'clock each Evening, and to be continued on Monday and Tuesday Nights until cleared out, as the premises must be evacuated at May Term.

NO RESERVE. 759m

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 744h

By Mr. J. Oley.

The Loud, near Annfield Plain.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, instructed by Mr. W. M. Johnstone, who is about to emigrate, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, the whole of his valuable FURNITURE, BOOKS, &c. For particulars see handbills. 832m

Annfield Plain.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY, having received instructions from Mr. John Wilkinson, who is about to emigrate, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Saturday, March 29th, 1879, the whole of his very valuable Household APPOINTMENTS, for particulars of which see handbills.

Sale at One o'clock p.m. 831m

Lintz Colliery.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at 70, Lintz Colliery Cottages, on Monday, March 24, 1879, all the valuable Household FURNITURE, belonging to Mr. John Ferguson, who is about to emigrate to America.

For particulars see handbills.

Sale to commence at One o'clock in the Afternoon.

830m Mr. JOSEPH OLEY, Auctioneer.

Harperley Hall Farm, near Annfield Plain.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY has been honoured with a commission from Mr. Edward Reveley, who is retiring from Farming, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above Farm, on Monday and Tuesday, April 7th and 8th, 1879, all his valuable HORSES, STOCK, SHEEP, FARM IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY UTENSILS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, &c., comprising Brown Draught Horse, nine years old; Horse, aged, Brown, in Foal to "All Glory;" Brown Filly, two years old, by "All Glory;" Brown Filly, two years old, both very promising; Yearling Colt, by "All Glory; 5 Milk Cows, calved and to calve; two-year-old Heifer; 2 Yearling Stirks; Yearling Bull Stirk; 2 Milk Calves; 4 Fat Heifers; 2 Pork Pigs; 35 Half-bred Hogs, forward in condition; a number of Poultry, including 2 Turkeys; Implements; Light Spring Waggon; 1 Long and 3 Coup Carts; Iron Wheel Plough; 2 Swing do.; Scuffling do.; 2 Pairs of Harrows; large Wood Roller; Stone do.; Combined Reaping Machine; Grass Cutter, by Wriggam; Double Turnip Drill; Horse Hay Rake; do. Hay Tedder; Hay Sweep; Oil Cake Crusher; Clod Crusher; 20 Sheep Hurdles; Stack Cover, 10 yards by 8, nearly new; a number of Sacks and Pokes; Sack Barrow; 2 Wheel Barrows; 2 Sets of Cart Harness; 2 do. Plough Gears; Gig and Gig Harness; 5 Stack Stands; 2 Sheep Hecks; 6 Stone Pig Troughs; 2 Turnip Cutters; 4 Stackyard Ladders; Spring Balance; Hay Knife; Warrick Chain; Cart Ropes; Cow Chains; large Metal Pot; with all the Hand Implements; large quantity of old Wood and old Iron; together with the Dairy Utensils, including Barrel Churn, and Lead Milk Bowl. Particulars of Furniture are given in Handbills.

The Sale to commence each Day at One o'clock p.m.

N.B.—The Implements on Monday and the Furniture on Tuesday. 826m

JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.

Office—
10, WOOD STREET, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

By Mr. Richardson.

Valuable Freehold and Copyhild Property for Sale at the Black Bull Inn, Lanchester.

MR. W. RICHARDSON, having been honoured with instructions by the owner, Mr. W. Bone, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on March 26th, the whole of the valuable PROPERTY, known as the Lanchester Flour Mill, together with Dwelling-house and Out-buildings, Stabling, Cart Shed, with Garden Ground both back and front. The whole of the Property is in a thorough state of repair.

Also, Two Copyhold BUILDING SITES situate at Maiden Law, in the Parish of Lanchester.

For further particulars see handbills. 836m

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Dipton.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at 8, Dickinson's Square, Dipton, on Saturday, March 29th, 1879, all the very Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, belonging to Mr. Samuel Northey. Particulars in Bills.

823m Mr. A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer.

Important Sale of Household Furniture.

TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION, at 39, Wood Houses (Double Row), Annfield Plain, on Tuesday, April 1st, 1879, all the very excellent Household FURNITURE, belonging to Mr. Andrew Jacques, who is emigrating to America,

Mr. A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer.

For particulars, see Bills. 839m

Important Sale of a Sewing Machine Dealer and Stocking Manufacturer's Stock-in-Trade and Valuable Household Furniture.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON is honoured with instructions from Mr. W. Hall, of Dipton, (who is emigrating to Canada,) to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at his Premises, Dipton, on Monday, March 31, 1879, the whole of his STOCK-IN-TRADE and HOUSEHOLD GOODS.

Sale to commence at Half-past Twelve prompt.

☞ Particulars in Bills and future Advertisements.

Watson's Tapeworm Specific.—C. C. writes from Consett Street Side—"Have suffered from Tapeworm six years, brought exceedingly weak, could not walk far without assistance. Tried most patent medicines as well as our own surgeon, but without results. Tried your "Tapeworm Specific" and am cured. Words cannot express my gratitude." Of all Chemists, price 1s. 1½d.; by post, 3d. extra. Watson's Specific Powders are a perfectly safe and effectual remedy for Threadworm and Roundworm, No. 1 (adults), No. 2 (children), Price 7½d. and 1s. 1½d.; by post, 1d. extra. Prepared only by J. H. Watson, Chemist, Shipley, Yorkshire, whose name and addresses are printed on the Government Stamp round each genuine packet. Circulars post free. London Depot: 95, Farringdon Street, E.C. 829m

Holloway's Pills.—At the change of seasons many persons feel oppressed without knowing why they are so—they are aware something within them is wrong, though they cannot detect the defective organ. A few doses of these powerfully purifying and eminently cooling Pills will restore regularity to every part of the system—will cast out all impurities lurking in the frame, and will thoroughly expel the last traces of disorder, however hidden the disease may be—however obscure its cause. With Holloway's medicine relief is insured without risk; erroneous action is rectified without disturbing natural regularity, health is reinstated, and with it return the cheerful feelings which unmistakably tell the recent invalid that all within is right again.

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAR. 21st, 1879.

THE SUNDAY CLOSING MEETING AT SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

It is said that the Liberal member for North Durham has already promised to support the Bill promoted by the Association for Stopping the Sale of Intoxicating Liquors on Sunday. Our other representative, Sir George Elliot, some time ago formed an alliance with "the trade," and, unless influence be brought to bear on him before the Bill is introduced, it is more than probable he will vote against it. However, if all the other Tory strongholds in the county are as unanimous in asking for Sunday closing as our Shotley Bridge friends were on Tuesday night, and adopt the same tactics in bringing their views before the Government, Sir George may after all be led to give his support to the measure. The petition adopted by the meeting at Shotley Bridge will be forwarded to the senior member for presentation, and it is to be hoped that a score of our most prominent public men will adopt the advice given by the Chairman of the meeting, Mr. Chas. Wilson, namely, write privately to Sir George urging him to support the Bill.

As the Chairman remarked, the Sunday-closing Bill is agitating the minds of the English people, and there is a widespread feeling in favour of its adoption. The first resolution was moved by the Rev. Mr. Milward, Wesleyan minister. Mr. Milward is not in sympathy with the Beer Barrel. He is fully alive to the hideous and destructive vice of drunkenness, and as a true patriot and Christian, he is wishful to further any measure that is likely to aid in the destruction of the machinery of intemperance. The next speaker, Mr. Low, a clergyman of the Church of England, also addressed the meeting. The reverend gentleman resides in the village of Whittonstall, and in a pithy speech he referred to the abnormity of opening public-houses on a Sunday evening just as his Church bells were set in motion. The Rev. Mr. Howldey, of Newcastle, spoke of the gratifying effects that had followed the closing of public-houses in Scotland and Ireland, remarking in the course of his speech that this decrease in drunkenness showed that people could be made sober by Act of Parliament. Mr. Booth, of Shotley Bridge, made a capital speech on the subject, as did also the speakers who followed. At a poll recently taken in the neighbourhood of Shotley Bridge, it was found that twelve hundred were favourable to Sunday-closing, while the roll of those opposed to the movement only disclosed forty names. When the petition is forwarded to Sir George Elliot for presentation, we trust this fact will be pointed out to him.

Local and District News.

Mr. John Wilson, of Iveston, died suddenly at his residence on Tuesday evening.

Cambridge University Local Examinations.—We have pleasure in stating that Master T Gee, of Lanchester, was one of the successful candidates whose names appear on the honour lists of this great examination.

The Rev. M. James Elliott, of Richmond College, Surrey, son of Mr. John Elliott, of this town, and late secretary of the Consett and District Y.M.C.A., has been appointed by the Wesleyan Missionary Society to their work at Lagos, Western Africa, and will sail about Easter.

Delays are dangerous; therefore, if you are suffering from a bad Cough or Cold, Difficulty of Breathing, Hoarseness, or any other affection of the Chest and Lungs, delay not, but at once go and get a Bottle of "Budden's Balsam of Horehound and Coltsfoot." One Dose relieves; one bottle generally cures. Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. Wholesale—Ismay. Agent for Consett—Mr. David Imrie, Chemist, Front Street. 543m

The Invalid's Friend.—Todd's Quinine Wine.—Dr. Wheatley, writing from the Crescent Carlisle, says:—"I have much pleasure in giving my testimomy to the efficacy of Mr. Todd's Quinine Wine. I consider it a valuable and pleasant mode of taking quinine." This valuable and renowned preparation of genuine English quinine is the most pleasant and certain remedy known for indigestion and all derangements of the stomach. The genuine is manufactured only by Joe Todd, chemist, Carlisle, and bears his name on the government stamp.

Accident to a Consett Man.—About seven o'clock yesterday (Thursday) morning, Mr. Thos. Wailes, of Trafalgar Street, Consett, a cartman in the employ of Messrs. Dickinson, met with an accident at Blaydon. Messrs. Dickinson are sending sanitary pipes to Ryton, by way of Blaydon, and on the morning in question Mr. Wailes was in the act of crossing the railway at he latter place with a horse and cart when an engine and tender dashed up. The horse was much injured and had to be subsequently shot, while Wailes himself was much hurt about the head. He was afterwards removed to his lodgings at Blaydon.

Death of Mr. John Seymour.—Another "old standard" has been removed from our midst in the sudden demise of Mr. John Seymour, innkeeper. Mr. Seymour was a native of Witton Gilbert. He came to this district about the time of the commencement of the Iron Works. He was one of the promoters of the Consett Water Works Scheme, and after the Company was formed acted for some time as a director. At one time he took an active interest in sanitary matters, sitting as a member of the Local Board for several years. Mr. Seymour was of a kindly disposition, and had gained for himself the respect of a large circle of friends, by whom he will be missed. The body was interred at Benfieldside this (Friday) afternoon.

The Prudential Assurance Company.—Our readers will find a copy of the thirtieth annual report of the Prudential Assurance Company in our advertising columns. From this report we learn that, although the past year was one of great depression, this company has not only stood its ground but achieved great success by a substantial increase of £216.187 2s. 9d. in the premium income, thus raising the total premiums to the unprecedented sum of £1,537,342 15s. 4d. per annum, being an augmentation of £259,616 7s. 10d. to the assurance funds. The directors and manager of this large and prosperous company have also to be complimented in being able to reduce the expenditure two-and-a-half per cent., while a larger and more profitable business has been effected. The balance sheet shows most conclusively that the Prudential Assurance Company has secured firm hold on the working classes in this country, and this is to be attributed principally to the well-known liberality and promptness of its settlements. Our readers, who are not already assured, would do well, by a small weekly payment, to secure the benefits which such a company is able to give in cases of bereavements.

Mr. R. L. Markham, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, Surgeon Dentist, attends No. 12, Mount Pleasant, Consett, every Monday from Eleven a.m. to Three p 561m.

The Railway Accident at High Stoop.—An inquest was held on Friday last, at the High Stoop Inn, on the body of David Johnstone, labourer, 58 years of age, who was killed by the passenger train running between Benfieldside and Tow Law.—Mr. Robert Harper, farmer, identified the body as that of his half-brother.—Mr. Thos. Robson, platelayer, High Stoop Terrace, said at a quarter to seven o'clock on the morning of the 12th March he was going his length, and cautioned the deceased, who was trespassing on the line. The passenger train was almost due, and witness advised the deceased to leave the rails. Previous to the train coming, the wind was very boisterous and the witness said deceased would have difficulty in hearing the approach of the train.—Thos. Skipsey, engine-driver of the passenger train, also gave evidence. He said he was on the Look-out about 300 yards before he approached the spot where deceased was run over, but did not observe any one on the line.—Dr. Hood said he had examined the body on Wednesday and found external marks on it. Five or six ribs were broken, the right side being completely crushed in.—Mr. G. Elliott (foreman of the jury) questioned the driver, but could not in any way find him to blame, and a verdict of accidental death was accordingly returned.

Evening Concert at Annfield Plain.—The second annual concert in connection with the Annfield Plain Choral Society was held in the Board Schools, Annfield Plain, on Monday evening, when Mr. Thomas Lamb most ably officiated as chairman. There was a large and appreciative audience, and as the pieces throughout were well rendered, the performers came in for a good share of well-merited applause, especially so in the second part, every performance in which, with one exception, was heartily encored. Mr. William Chatt, who labours hard and incessantly as the conductor of the Choral Society, wielded the *baton* with his usual skill and precision, whilst Mr. Thomas Lumley, the president, accompanied the pieces severally on the American organ and piano, in capital style. The programme was very select and varied, the first part being devoted entirely to sacred pieces, and the second to glees and *comique*.

First Part.

Chorus—"Magnify, glorify,"..................Choir
Trio—"But their Redeemer,"......Messrs. Matthews, Fenwick, and Chatt.
Anthem—"How beautiful upon the mountains," Choir
Solo—"Angel ever bright and fair,"....Miss Dryden
Anthem—"Star of Bethlehem,"................Choir
Solo—"But thou didst not leave,"......Mr. Matthews
Trio—"Prophets, rejoice," Misses Foster and Dryden, and Mr. Murray.
Chorus—"Sing, oh, sing,"....................Choir

Second Part.

Glee—"Which is the properest day to sing?"....Choir
Solo (Flute)—"Keel Row," with variations,".....Mr. Matthews.
Part Song—"Aldiborontiphoscophonio," ......Choir
Trio—"A little farm," ....Messrs. Murray, Telford, and Chatt.
Song (Comic)—"Leaning on a balcony," Mr. Matthews
Song (Comic)—"Fifty years ago,"........Mr. Telford
Chorus—"Laughing chorus,"..................Choir

It would be useless to individualize the various performers, as they all did their work most efficiently, reflecting great credit to all concerned. During the interval, a new feature was added to the programme, by the chairman, who sang in good style two funny local songs, which were well received. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Lamb for kindly performing the duties of chairman's and to the members of the Kyo School Board for the use of the Schools. Mr. Lamb returned thanks on behalf of himself and the Board, of which he is a member, and expressed the willingness of the Board and himself, personally, to aid the choir at all times. The singing of the National Anthem concluded the performance.

The Failure of a Berwick Shipbuilding Firm.—Recently a meeting of the creditors of Messrs. Cowans and Wilson, iron ship builders, Berwick, was held in that town. There was a numerous attendance of creditors, and the Mayor presided. A statement of affairs showed the liabilities to be £8,814, and the assets over £4,000. The losses of the firm were said to have arisen upon the iron vessels they built, depreciation of machinery, working expenses, &c. A composition of 5s. in the pound was offered, but refused, and the creditors appointed Mr. J. D. Purves trustee, and a committee of five gentlemen to liquidate by arrangement. The tradesmen and others in Berwick are the principal sufferers by the failure, but a few firms near Newcastle are also creditors, the Consett Iron Company being the largest.

Medomsley.—The members of the Medomsley Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society held their ordinary monthly meeting in the Templars' Hall, at Medomsley, on Friday evening last, which was well attended as usual, the Rev. W. Cockin, M.A., vicar of Medomsley, presiding. The rev. gentleman stated that they should have held their meeting a little sooner, as they were a fortnight over the month, but had not been able to do so, on account of their having had mission services at the Church; they would, however, endeavour to have their next meeting a little earlier than a month, in order to be able to hold their future meeting at the proper time. He believed that much good had already been done by their society, as it had been the means of improving the moral and social condition of several whom he knew, and of their becoming useful members of society. The rev. gentleman then introduced the following programme:—

Duet—"Gather bright flowers,"......Miss Heslop and Miss Harrison.
Reading—Selection from "Pickwick," Rev. J. Horrocks
Song—"Blue Alsatian Mountains,"......Miss Heslop. Encore—"Kathleen Mavourneen."
Address—Temperance,......Rev. A. K. G. Granville.
Song—"Never mind the rest," ....Mr. J. Armstrong.
Duet—"The wind and the harp," ....Miss Heslop and Miss Harrison.
Reading—"An Irish sketch," ......Rev. J. Horrocks.

Mrs. East, of Holly Lodge, Ebchester, very ably played the accompaniments on the piano. The duets by Miss Heslop, of Weed Park House, Dipton, and Miss Harrison, Newcastle, were well rendered; and the song by Miss Heslop was so highly appreciated that a loud and prolonged encore was demanded, to which she heartily responded. A very powerful address on the subject of temperance was given by the Rev. A. K. G. Granville, Durham, who, a few years ago, was the first organizing secretary to the Church of England Temperance Society in this county, and had long been a strong and popular advocate of temperance. The rev. gentleman hoped that their society at Medomsley would rapidly develop itself, and that the members would strongly endeavour to influence their neighbours to join the society. He concluded by addressing a few useful hints to the juveniles against the practice of smoking, and hoped that they would not learn the bad habit, as he could see no benefit to be derived from the indulgence in the Virginian weed. The Rev. J. Horrocks gave two excellent and amusing readings, which were well taken; the rev. gentleman's excellent manipulation of character was admirably brought out on the occasion. Mr. J. Armstrong contributed a song, which was also well received. At the conclusion of the entertainment the Chairman moved a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had so kindly come from a distance to assist them, and also to all who had taken part in the meeting, after which the business of the society was transacted in the usual manner.

Allensford.—Under the auspices of a few friends, fortnightly entertainments have been held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel at the above place (kindly granted by Mr. Simon Rowe), consisting of temperance melodies, recitations, and stirring, short addresses. The following is a programme of one held on Saturday se'nnight:—

Address—"Advice to the young,"..........Ed. Clark
Melody—"Ever to the rescue rally,"....Miss M. Bell
Recitation—"The picture over the door," Mr. W. Reed
Melody—"Long, long ago," Mr. Mott and Miss Brown Brown.
Address—"Temperance progress,"....Mr. Simon Rowe
Melody—"Merry Dick,"..........Mr. John Anderson
Recitation—"The Drunkard's hat," Master Joe. Brown
Melody—"Sign the pledge for Mother's sake,"....Miss Brown.
Recitation—"The auction,"........Master E. Brown
Melody—"Joe Parkins was a white man,"........Miss Elizabeth Brown.
Address—"The benefits of total abstinence," ......Mr. Cruddess.
Melody—"The Dreams of my childhood," Miss Brown
Reading—"The first spree,"............Mr. Anderson
Address—"The evil effects of drink,"........Mr. Cant

The whole was rendered in an effective manner, taking into consideration the rural character of the district. The Chapel was full. The audience seemed to appreciate the meeting. A vote of thanks to the chairman (Mr. D. Brown) and his family for services rendered brought the pleasant meeting to a close. Five pledges were taken. The society, recently commenced, already numbers 30 members.—*Correspondent.*

CANDOUR IN THE LAW COURTS.

The Judges of the Court of Appeal have lately been expressing themselves with refreshing candour on some of the judgments of the Courts below. The Master of the Rolls sitting in the Appeal Court at Lincoln's Inn on a recent occasion, observed that he had read the judgment of the learned Vice-Chancellor with the utmost pain, as it was contrary at once to all legal principles and to common justice. At Westminster still more unceremonious language has been heard. A counsel whose pleading has been successfully demurred to before a learned Baron appealed to the Higher Court, and appeared armed with a large array of law books. After he had stated the nature of the point in dispute, which was of a sufficiently trivial, not to say frivolous, nature, the presiding Lord Justice, eyeing the pile of authorities askance, enquired whether they had all been quoted in the Court below. He was informed that such was the case. "Why didn't you tell Baron——that it was all bosh:" whereupon the appeal was allowed.

Original Poetry.

TO A BACHELOR.

The news is growing unco rife
That ye intend tae tak' a wife,
Tae help ye through the storms o' life
Until ye reach,
Secur'd against a' human strife,
The heav'nly beach.

An' may she prove a wife indeed,—
The vera friend I'm shair ye need;
An' may she be o' Abslam's seed,—
A beaut'us creature,
Possessing graces ane may read
In ilka feature.

But mind! a wife's a kittle thing;
Hoo aften does she mischief bring;
It's then man's sorrows a' begin,—
In heaped measure;
But may she be as poet's sing,—
A gowden treasure.

May peace an' plenty be ye're lot,
When ye ye're better ha'f hae got;
May happiness within your cot
Be only ken't;
An' may there nought to stain'd or blot,
Be ever sent.

When ye united climb time's hill,
Where cares an' griefs the bosom fill;
'Tis He alane that says "Peace be still;"
Tae Him aye flee:—
The troubled heart obey's His will,
As weel's the sea.

When time has furrow'd deep thy brow,
An' age thee loads an' makes thee bow,
O may yire heart be still on lowe
Wi' love sincere,
For her ye love sae fervent now
Your——dear.

Jarrow, Feb. 19, 1879. T.D.C.

Correspondence.

Communications intended for insertion must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

THE FARCE OF FREE TRADE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Dear Sir,—I am busy having a good spell now and then at two old acquaintances, "Smith's Wealth of Nations" and "Crake's history of British Commerce." My object is to try and find a doctrine confirmatory of the modern formula of free trade "at any price" and without reciprocity. I have not discovered the advocacy of this dogma in the great Adam Smith, although like all thinking men now, who have been taught to think by him, he stands unconditionally the free interchange of commodities. Be it undesstood that I don't say Smith does not advocate unconditional free trade; but I have to say that, by means of the index, I have sought out all likely chapters without meeting with anything so absolute. Does free trade exist in England? Of all places on the face of the earth the contrary principle prevails in our country, both in extent and intensity. To give a practical, incontestible illustration: a firm is offered a contract for ten thousand tons of iron. Belgian and other manufacturers are known to have sent in estimates. Well, the manager calculates, consults the directors, and sends in an offer which he expects will secure twelve per cent. His estimate is accepted; he proceeds to organise and employ; the trade is improving generally, and the workmen, inspite of his remonstrances, demands a rise of twenty per cent; he cannot, or will not, give it; the men strike, and all the trades unions in the kingdom support them. If this be not the law of untutored nature—the "strong oppressing the weak"—by what name shall we designate it? You may baptise it free trade; but the sign of the cross will not eradicate the mark of tyranny burnt to the bone on its brow. Take the other side of the case: the masters find the state of trade puts them in a position to give the screw a turn or two, and they do it with about as much feeling as a Spanish Inquisitor; the men must submit, but they "bide their time;" a chance arrives, and they insist on getting all back they have lost, and as much more as possible. Is there any colouring here? How can there be solidity, satisfaction, or safety, when employers and employed are for ever in actual combat, or under skilful training for a fresh encounter? But what beats alectoromachy may be stated thus: a cry originates for reciprocity. Opposite parties in politics make use of the fact to suit their purposes. An election takes place, the employed who were a month ago "clipped out" and locked in mortal combat, each handled respectively by the owners' association and the trades' union, now join issue to glorify free trade and denounce reciprocity, as a disguise for return to protective duties. If agreeing to fight together to keep foreigners untaxed and fight with themselves to tax each other as much as possible, be not the positively sublime in inconsistency, it is certainly the profoundest of inconsistent absurdities. Each seems oblivious of the facts that they are themselves protected by an organisation as complete as selfishness and experience can make it, that foreigners amuse themselves at our inconsistencies, and, what is far worse, enrich themselves by founding rival manufactures, while we are on strike, now underselling us in our colonies, and in many cases even in this country itself. Politically, England is the freest of nations; physically and intellectually we are as, Wordsworth says, of "Earth's best blood," and, geographically, our position is the best on the globe for the world's traffic. The blindest man may see that there is some screw dreadfully loose when when six years' depression has ground down our operatives to minimum dimensions of all senses, and we are grinding now to the bone. I believe strikes and screws are the main agents in our abasement. No power, no legislation, and no skilled application of labour will either restore or sustain our prosperity, until kindly, liberal, and peaceful relations between capitalists and workmen are fully established.

Whom you Please.

THE ENSUING ELECTIONS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Now that the time is approaching for the election of members for the Benfieldside Local Board, I trust that the ratepayers of Benfieldside will bestir themselves and make an effort to return candidates to represent the higher portion of the district. Let us lay aside our mistrust of each other, and unite heartily to return four members who will look after the interests of Benfieldside. I would suggest the nomination of the Rev. Thos. Smith, Mr. Anthony Turner, Mr. George Eltringham, Mr. Daniel Harris, or Mr. Jacob Dowson. Call a meeting, and take a ballot, and abide by the decision of the meeting. Then go in heart and soul to carry our men. The composition of the Board is not creditable to the ratepayers of Benfieldside. Shotley Bridge is represented by Mr. James Annandale (Liberal), Mr. John Annandale (Conservative), Mr. Joshua Lax (Conservative), Mr. William Wilson (Conservative), Mr. William Wheatley (Liberal), Mr. Charles Wilson (Liberal), Mr. John Dickinson (Conservative), Mr. John Smith (Liberal), Mr. Henry Carss (Radical), Mr. Henry Ritson (Liberal), and Mr. Joseph Eltringham (Liberal). The late Mr. R. Marshall was a Liberal. From this list, eight of the twelve members belong to Shotley Bridge, and only Mr. Eltringham resides in Benfieldside. Let us look at the result of our folly in voting for Shotley Bridge men. First, take the number of gas lamps in Shotley Bridge. In the Front Street only a few yards separate them. Then go up to the Terrace, as it is called, and you will find the lamps and burners in first-class condition, although it is a private road, and the public have no right to light it. In Shotley Bridge, then, the members of the Board look after their own interests. The second point is, the foot and carriage roads are better looked after. Contrast Benfieldside business portion with Shotley Bridge. The lamps are like the courtship of Jock and Jenny. When Jock wanted to break silence, he said to Jenny, "Heer's aw, where's thou?" So with the lamps. They are so far off, that they cannot see each other, and may say "Heer's aw, where's thou!" The wealthy in the Terrace must have plenty of light, but the poor denizens of Bottle Bank must have none. The same remark is applicable to Murray Street and several others. Then as to footpaths, Derwent Street is at times almost a bog. If there had been as much passenger traffic on any street in Shotley Bridge, it would have been flagged from end to end ere now. The working classes, as I have stated, cannot get the streets in which they reside lighted, but the Board has lighted from Snows Green up to the Railway Station, where there are no houses at all. If necessary to light up to the Station, how much more so Bottle Bank, and every other street in the district? I trust that these hints will suffice, and that we will unite heartily to return four men from Benfieldside who will see that we get a fair share of what improvements are made.—Yours truly,

Voter.

March 11th, 1879.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Dear Sir,—Some weeks ago, a letter appeared in your columns, asking when the statement of accounts of the purchase of the Tow Law gas works would be published. Not having seen any account as yet, it is to be hoped one will be published shortly. The ratepayers are very anxious to know how matters stand, as even with the slight reduction in the price of gas per cubic feet made by the Board since they entered upon the management of the gas works, the ratepaying consumers have not experienced that relief they were led to expect, from the expensive outlay. The gas bills are still heavy, and the rates are increasing, and it will be well if a further reduction in the price of gas can be made, as it is still far above other towns.

The time is also drawing nigh for electing four new members, three in the room of the three retiring members, and one in the place of the late Mr. Harrison. The ratepayers should look about them, and return men only who will look after their interests, and not those who seem to get in somehow or another to look after their own. It is also to be wished that if anyone is nominated that has not the qualification required by the Act, he will either refuse to stand, or the clerk will notify the same on the voting paper, so as to prevent votes being thrown away.—Yours truly,

A Ratepayer.

March 18th, 1879.

Markets.

Newcastle Corn Market, Tuesday.—At this day's market, there was only a moderate supply of wheat from the coast and the only foreign arrival consisted of one American cargo. Very little inquiry was experienced for wheat and holders would have been obliged to take less money to effect sales. Oats a fair sale at late rates. Maize unchanged. Malting barley in little demand. Flour quiet at last week's rates.

Hexham Corn Market, Tuesday.—At our market to-day the supply was again large, composed chiefly of oats, which were bad to quit, and prices had a downward tendency from last week. An average show of barley, which met a fair demand from 34s to 37s per qr. Wheat was only in meagre supply, and a clearance was effected at fair prices.

Newcastle Cattle Market, Tuesday.—The show of stock presented for sale exhibited an increase of 590 beasts, and 16 sheep as compared with that of last week. Respecting quality, there is an improvement to notice both in cattle and sheep. Some extraordinary shorthorn bullocks and heifers were from the Rothbury district of Northumberland. The supply of beef comprised 2,156 head. The number of sheep was 3,365. Pigs: 761 were shown. The pork trade was in a sluggish state, and prices gave way 3d per stone from the rates of last week. Beasts, prime heifers, per stone, 8s 6d to 8s 9d; secondary sorts, 6s 9d to 7s 6d; good oxen 8s 3d to 8s 6d; middling, 6s 9d to 7s 0d; cows and inferior, 5s 6d to 6s 0d; pork, large, 4s 6d to 5s 0d; do. small, 7s 0d to 8s 0d; sheep, good vendable wedders, per lb., 9½d to 9½d; middling, 8½d to 8¾d; ewes and inferior, 6½d to 6¾d.

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, 60s to 90s; new land hay, 65s to 64s per ton; wheat straw, 1s 5d to 2s 0d; barleystraw, 1s 4d to 1s 7d; oat straw, 1s 4d to 1s 9d per thrave.

Durham Provision, Saturday.—Oats, 4s 9d to 7s 0d; barley, 7s 0d to 9s 0d; Indian corn, 6s 6d; beans, 10s to 11s 0d; peas, 8s 6d to 9s 6d per boll. Beef, 7d to 9½d; mutton, 6½d to 9½d; veal, 8d to 10d; bacon, 3½d to 5d; hams, 5d to 6d; cheese, 5d to 8d per lb. Chickens, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s 0d each; butter, 1s 5d to 1s 7d per lb.; eggs, 9 to 12 for 1s; pigeons, 1s 0d to 1s 3d per couple. Apples, 1s 4d to 2s 6d; onions, 1s 0d to 2s per stone; Grapes, 10d to 2s 0d per lb.

Durham Potato, Saturday.—Potatoes, 5d to 8d per stone.

Newcastle Potato, Saturday.—Scotch potatoes, 8s 6d to 11s per load.

A LONDON THEATRE BURNT.

A fire broke out on Sunday evening in the East London Theatre, Whitechapel. At a quarter to nine o'clock the flames were discovered in the part where the scenery is stored. In a short time the entire building was in flames, and was totally destroyed, together with part of the adjoining premises, before the fire engines obtained the mastery. The premises are covered by insurance. The theatre has been closed for two weeks. Unlike the neighbouring theatre, the Pavilion, which also belonged to Morris Abrahams, the East London was not open on Sunday evening for gospel services.

TREASONABLE DOCUMENTS.—A FENIAN IN TROUBLE.

At the Borough Police Court, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Bernard Thorley, a respectably-dressed Irishman, was charged with having assaulted another Irishman named Patrick Lynch. Complainant stated that he met the prisoner, who was a stranger, in a public-house, and they had a conversation as to the different parts of Ireland they came from. When they left the public-house prisoner struck him on the eye without the least provocation. Prisoner was given into custody.—In reply to the magistrates' clerk, prisoner said he was a bricklayer, and came from Liverpool. He had never been in Ireland in his life. He declined to give any explanation as to the papers found in his possession.—Mr. Dutton (magistrates' clerk) said that these papers were of a most revolutionary and treasonable character. One document was a set of rules and regulations for the management of the North of England Division of the I.R.H., and referred to the enlistment and enrolment of members, election of officers, formation of military organisations, the secret arming of its members, the secret accumulation of war material, and other matters. Another document was a circular addressed to the officers and men of the North of England Division by the Executive of the division. It bore the footnote, "This sheet to be destroyed in the presence of the meeting before which it is read; officers to report to head-quarters the destruction of the circulars sent to them," and contained the following paragraph:—"We confidently rely upon your best endeavours, under existing circumstances, to fulfil your respective duties and obligations to the cause. Let the universal satisfaction at your enemies' recent humiliating defeat, by despised opponents, stimulate us to exertions which shall hasten our opportunity to strike also. A Cetewayo, with unarmed followers, would never have staggered the prestige or curbed the insolence of England. Arm Ireland, and a Rorke's Drift nearer home may shake the empire to its base."—The magistrates directed that the papers found in the possession of the prisoner should be forwarded to the Home Secretary; and in the meantime they sent prisoner to gaol for a month for the assault.

THE PARDON OF WILLIAM HABRON.

Mr. Cross in the House of Commons on Monday night in reference to the man Habron said:—I think I stated to the House some time ago, that at that time this man was convicted, I came to the conclusion—a conclusion in which the learned judge who tried the case (Mr. Justice Lindley), concurred—that the evidence tended to show that this was not the man who actually fired the shot; and upon that ground the sentence was respited. Other evidence came before the jury which led to the conclusion that he was implicated in the murder, and, therefore, he underwent sentence under that verdict. When the confession was made by the man Peace before his execution, of course it was quite necessary to consider carefully the whole of the circumstances again. I stated to the House that the matter would receive the anxious consideration of the Government, as to how far the verdict would be allowed to stand, and at the same time that the confession which was made was undoubtedly one which would require the most rigid scrutiny that could be applied to it. I have had every assistance from the learned judge, and I have thought it right to lay the whole matter before the law officers of the crown, together with one of the ablest and most experienced Queen's counsel. The conclusion I have myself come to is that the statement made by the man Peace has been so entirely corroborated from many important points, that I feel it my duty to recommend to the crown that a free pardon be given to the man William Habron. (Loud cheers.) And it will be a satisfaction to the House to know—at least it is a great satisfaction to me—that I have the entire concurrence of the learned judge and of the Law Officers of the Crown. (Cheers.) The House knows, with respect to persons who, however unfortunately, have been punished for offences of which they were afterwards found to be innocent, that it has never been the practice in this country to make compensation to the persons who had so suffered. Still I hope I may be allowed to state—hear, hear—that I can see my way to make certain arrangements by which care will be taken that the future of this unfortunate and most unhappy man will be attended to. (Loud cheers.)

EXTRAORDINARY CASE OF RELIGIOUS IMPOSTURE IN GERMANY.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Standard* says:—A more pitiful exposure of religious fraud and credulity than the trial of the Marpingen children and their accomplices is not recorded in the annals of any country. In July 1876, it may be remembered, three little girls, aged from eight to ten years, daughters of agricultural labourers at the village of Marpingen, in Prussian Rhineland, startled the rural population of the district by the assertion that they had seen the Holy Virgin in a neighbouring wood. Their tale ran thus:—They saw a lady in white, surrounded by a supernatural halo, leaning against a fir tree. They asked her who she was. To this the apparition condescendingly replied, "I am the one immaculately conceived." Entering into conversation with them, the Virgin exhorted the children to pray industriously, and to tell others to do the like. The story, being supported by the priests, speedily attracted thousands to the spot. A praying multitude filled the miraculous copse night and day; and as the children professed to have hourly interviews with the Divine Being, and to cure any species of disease by placing the Virgin's robe upon the ailing limb, the movement soon assumed extraordinary proportions. That the Virgin was invisible to all except the three privileged children the latter accounted for by their superior innocence, as attested by the resplendent lady in white. After a while the incident excited the attention of the authorities. It was only too evident that the apparition dealt in politics. She had chosen for her *debut* in the wood the day of the inauguration of the Lourdes Chapel—a chapel, it is well known, dedicated to a peculiarly Gallic and fighting type of the Virgin, who is expected to patronise the *guerre de revanche*. Again, she had come to Marpingen during the height of Ultramontane antagonism to the reunion of Germany under Prussian Protestant auspices. She was regarded by believers as sure to afford supernatural help in the ecclesiastical war against the Government. Her entry upon the scene produced quite as many signs of incipient resistance to the authorities as of increasing devotion to the saints; and as the genuineness of the figure was stoutly vindicated by the whole *posse* of the Ultramontane press, then fiercely opposed to the institutions and government of the land, there could be no doubt as to the design pursued by the vision and its upholders. Seeing through the very worldly nature of the scheme, the Government eventually thought themselves justified in shutting up the miraculous wood. A little later, suspicious evidence flowing in from all sides, a prosecution was instituted against the parents of the three visionary girls, five village priests, and half a dozen other persons implicated in the sorry business. The preliminary inquiry lasted two years and a half, and supplied only too abundant evidence for the Crown to substantiate the charge of premeditated fraud and deceit. Preparations being at last completed, the trial opened a fortnight since at Saarbruck, and, after the minute examination of the prisoners and one hundred and seventy witnesses, closed with a lengthy speech by the Public Prosecutor, [illegible] condemned to various terms of imprisonment extending from one year to three years. The sentence will be pronounced three weeks hence. Meanwhile the depositions made by the witnesses and by the prisoners leave no doubt as to the deplorable nature of the case. A seal engraver deposed that the medals recording the appearance of the Virgin at Marpingen were ordered at his shop early in June, though the first celestial visit to the wood only occurred on July 3. The priests who countenanced the story were shown to have been circulating orally and in print what they had not always the courage to assert in the presence of educated persons, what they knew only from hearsay, or learned from they do not exactly remember whom, and did not trouble to investigate for themselves. Margaret Kunz, the cleverest of the three self-proclaimed visionaries, who alleged her supreme innocence as the distinctive quality that allowed her to commune with Divine personages, in examination came out as a prodigious liar, steeped in wickedness and insolence beyond anything conceivable in a girl of ten years of age. She is too young to come under the cognisance of the law. There can be little doubt as to the ultimate result of the business, the most painful feature of which, perhaps, is the active part played by the local priests, and the careless toleration practised by their ecclesiastical superiors.

OBLIGING A VILAGER.

The *Times* Paris correspondent says that an English bookseller in Paris, having been entreated by an unknown but evidently illiterate Surrey villager to present a lottery ticket which he said had won a prize, was arrested and escorted to the Prefecture of Police on the ground that the prize had been already claimed, and that one of the figures of the ticket had been altered. He was subjected to all the usual questions as to age, parentage, vocation, number of children, &c., after which he was escorted home and directed to appear again in a few days. This was a very unpleasant result to an act of pure kindness, and a visitor to Paris might have got into serious trouble by resisting an apprehension made without the legal formalities, while the absence of domicile or references would probably have involved the lock-up. The ticket was stamped "Metropolitan Buildings, 68, Queen Victoria Street," and had no suspicious appearance. Whether it had really been tampered with or whether the Surrey villager acted in good faith, the case is certainly a warning against a readiness to oblige a distant ticket-holder. Frauds have, no doubt, been attempted, but, on the other hand, it is understood that some valuable prizes are still going begging, the tickets having been lost or destroyed or the owners being ignorant of their success. Happily there is little fear that the State will ever again embark in a speculation which has left a stigma on the Exhibition.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY: RIOTING AT BELFAST.

Notwithstanding the divided counsels which it was evident prevailed in the ranks of the Nationalists of Belfast, a small section of their number persisted in carrying out their original resolution to hold a demonstration on the occasion of the anniversary of Ireland's patron saint. The morning broke very inauspiciously, a heavy fall of rain and sleet, which ultimately developed into a snowstorm, prevailing. Owing to the establishment of the "National" holiday under the amended Factories and Workshops Act, large numbers of people paraded the streets through which the procession was expected to pass. Between eight and nine o'clock the Nationalists began to assemble in Smithfield, and their numbers were in a short time largely augmented by contingents arriving from the New Market and Ballynacarratt. The demonstrators were decorated with the usual green regalia, and each contingent was accompanied by a band and one or more banners. The authorities, believing that the processionists would make an attempt to parade through the principal streets, had stationed a large force of constabulary across West Street, at the entrance to Smithfield, to prevent their exit in that street, while another force was placed at the Millfield end of West Street. It seems the Nationalist party did make the attempt to get through the files of the police, but were resisted at the point of the bayonet. A force of mounted constables at this juncture came to their aid, but as soon as they were within range they were received with several volleys of paving stones from the mob in Smithfield Square, and were obliged to bring their horses up on the footpath on either side of the street. Meantime they were assailed with showers of stones, which rebounded off the swords and scabbards of the mounted constables, who, from some unexplained cause, were not permitted to defend themselves against their assailants. Two or three shots were heard coming from the processionist party, and these were replied to by some of the constabulary present. A number of constables and others were seriously injured during the *melee*, but it would seem that the police got the worst of the encounter. A considerable force of the Scots Greys, Bengal Fusiliers, and constabulary were on duty during the day.

THE FLOOD IN HUNGARY.—VISIT OF THE EMPEROR OF AUSTRIA TO SZEGEDIN.

The *Daily News* correspondent telegraphed on Monday:—The *Pester Lloyd* publishes a telegram from Szegedin this morning stating that the town and environs contained 9,700 houses, and that yesterday, after an official inspection in the four districts of the number of houses now standing, there were found to be in the first district 8, in the second 14, in the third 56, in the fourth or inner town 182. These including the railway station, make 261 still standing in all, out of which 72 are in a precarious position. In fact this once most important centre of Hungary, containing two railway stations, factories, asylums, handsome schoolhouses, and a few really fine public buildings, is now a mere mass of ruins. In the whole district now under water about 120,000 persons have been flooded out of house and home. Parliament is now debating what ought to be done with these refugees. Handsome collections are coming in from all directions. Mr. Whitehead, of the torpedo factory at Fiume, has given five thousand florins. Punctually at seven o'clock this morning the Emperor arrived at the scene of the disaster. He was accompanied by the Minister-President (Herr Tisza); Baron Wenckheim, and General Pulz. His Majesty was received with great cheering by the people assembled on the railway embankment. The Mayor of Szegedin then made the following speech to the Emperor:—"We appear before your Imperial and Royal Majesty in the greatest trouble and affliction, with the announcement that Szegedin, once the most flourishing and populous town of Alpoeld, is now in ruins. Your Majesty, we have lost all our fields, goods, and houses. All we have is destroyed. Only one thing is left to us. That is love and loyalty for your Imperial Majesty, who is the first to come to our assistance." A few words more followed, closing with "God bless and keep your Majesty for the good of our country." The Emperor answered: "The great sorrow in my heart brings me here to see with my own eyes the fearful catastrophe which has befallen Szegedin. My heart pains me greatly as I see this terrible affliction, but let us hope that good times may yet come, and that this town may yet be restored to its former power and wealth." His Majesty then stepped into a pontoon, and was rowed through the ruins of the town. He stopped at some of the larger buildings which still stand, and spoke to some of the unfortunate inmates, telling them to bear up well in their misfortune, that help was coming, and everything possible would be done for them. After the inspection the Emperor returned direct, via Pesth, to Vienna. A Reuter's telegram says that up to the present 23,000 of the fugitive inhabitants have been removed from the town. Hitherto there has been no lack of provisions for those who remain. The *Neue Freie Presse* publishes intelligence from Szegedin, stating that out of 10,000 buildings in that town 8,200 have fallen in up to the present, including about 4,800 dwelling-houses, and that as far as at present ascertained 4,000 persons have perished.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.

From Lavenham in Suffolk a murder and suicide of a painful nature is reported. A single woman named Mary Ann Gearman, about thirty years of age, who was the mother of an illegitimate child, had been sitting up late in company with a married sister as the child was not well, but on its becoming quiet she persuaded her sister to lie down and rest. When the sister woke up she missed both the child and its mother, and on search being made both the bodies were found in a fishpond near the premises, the unfortunate woman having secretly left the house and jumped into the water. From the evidence at the inquest it transpired that the deceased was to have visited the father of the child and had said that if she did not get an allowance or persuade him to marry her, she should have to call upon the parish. The jury returned a verdict of "Wilful murder" concerning the child, and "Temporary insanity" as to the death of the mother.

A SERVANT ATTEMPTING TO BURN DOWN A HOUSE.

At Preston Police Court, Annie Lindley, aged 14, has been charged with attempting to burn down the house of her mistress, Miss Harris, schoolmistress, French Wood Street. The prisoner, apparently out of malice for some treatment which did not please her, got up early on Sunday morning and packed two boxes with almost all the edibles in the house and many articles of apparel and jewellery. She then lighted the gas over the mantlepiece, turned the jet to the woodwork, then lit a candle, and placed it on its side on the parlour carpet. Next she lighted a large basket containing a quantity of paper, wood, &c., in the cellar, and lastly she placed a quantity of patent kindling turf on the stairs, and ignited it. She then left the house with the boxes. Her mistress got up soon afterwards, and fortunately discovered the four fires before any material damage was done, and extinguished them. Prisoner, who was apprehended on her way to the railway station, was remanded.

SAD DEATH OF A FARMER.—A SAGACIOUS DOG.

On Saturday morning, Mr. John Hamilton, farmer, of Kirkland, near Garstang, was found dead on the banks of the river Wyre. The deceased on the previous evening was visiting at the house of a friend in the neighbourhood, and left for his own house after nightfall. His way lay over a wooden bridge across the Wyre, consisting of a few planks; and it is believed that in crossing this bridge, near where his body was found, Mr. Hamilton had stumbled and fallen headlong into the stream, and that with the help of his dog he had struggled to the bank, where he died from cold and the effects of the immersion. Early on Saturday morning the dog was heard howling at the door of his master's house, and the inmates were conducted by the animal to the spot where the body was found. Mr. Hamilton was sixty years of age, and was formerly a draper in Preston.

DEATH OF WILLIAM BROADHEAD.

There passed out of existence, on Saturday, in Sheffield, a man whose name, twelve years ago, was upon every tongue. We refer to William Broadhead, the central figure in the great Trades' Union Commission of Inquiry of some dozen years ago, and whose confessions of connivances in trade outrages, culminating in murder, blowing up of houses and workshops, robberies of tools, and other acts of terrorism, created such profound consternation in the public mind. The deceased was originally apprenticed to saw grinding, and entering the union his powerful mind made such a deep impression that before he reached the age of thirty he was raised to the secretaryship, and subsequently became the leading spirit in trades' unionism throughout the country. He suggested the amalgamation of the various trades' unions into one administrative body, from which afterwards sprang the Sheffield Organised Trades, the sphere of whose operations subsequently became national, under the United Kingdom Alliance of Organised Trades. The trade outrages committed led, in 1867, to the appointment of a Royal Commission of Inquiry, at which free pardons were offered to all participators who should confess previous to the commission; and even during its sittings, Broadhead maintained a high moral position, repeatedly denouncing the outrages, and offering rewards for the discovery of the perpetrators. As the inquiry progressed, however, Broadhead, finding that he was being seriously compromised, offered himself as a witness. He then confessed to having paid men for shooting an obnoxious workman whilst sitting in a public-house; also to the blowing up by gunpowder of various saw grinding works and houses of employers and workmen, at one of which an old lady was killed. After the confession, though Broadhead received a free pardon, there was such a strong revulsion of feeling against him that he was deposed from his public positions, and his few remaining friends subscribed for his passage to America. Finding public opinion as strong against him there as in England he returned, and up to the time of his decease lived obscure and unnoticed. The cause of his death was softening of the brain, produced by care and disappointment. He was sixty-three years old, and leaves a wife and ten children, several of whom are married.

FITS.—EPILEPTIC FITS OR FALLING SICKNESS.—A certain method of cure has been discovered for this distressing complaint by a physician, who is desirous that all sufferers may benefit from this providential discovery. It is never known to fail, and will cure the most hopeless case after all other means have been tried. Full particulars will be sent by post to any person free of charge.—Address: Mr. WILLIAMS, 10, Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park, London. 370m

THROAT AFFECTIONS AND HOARSENESS.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable Chemists in this country at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Manufactured by JOHN I. BROWN and SONS, Boston, United States. Depot, 493, Oxford Street, London.

FLORILINE!—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Prepared by HENRY C. GALLUP, 493, Oxford Street, London.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. Manufactured in New York, and at 493, Oxford Street London.

Business Announcements.

TODD'S QUININE WINE.

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The *Vital Restorative* acts electrically upon the organization; for instance, it assists nature to generate that human electricity which renews and rebuilds the osseous, muscular, nervous membranous and organic systems. It operates on the system without exciting care or thought upon the individual as to the process. It moves the lungs, liver, heart, kidneys, stomach and intestines, with a harmony, vigour, yet ease, unparalleled in medicine.

This *Vital Restorative* gives back to the human structure, in a suitable form, the phosphoric or animating element of life which has been wasted, and exerts an important influence directly on the spinal marrow and nervous system, of a nutritive tonic, and invigorating character, maintaining that buoyant energy of the brain and muscular system which renders the mind cheerful, brilliant and energetic, entirely overcoming that dull, inactive and sluggish disposition, which many persons experience in all their actions.

The beneficial effects of the *Restorative* are frequently shown from the first day of its administration, by a remarkable increase of nervous power, with a feeling of vigour and comfort to which the patient has long been unaccustomed. Digestion is improved; the appetite increases wonderfully; the bowels become regular; the eyes brighter; the skin clear and healthy; and the hair acquires strength, showing the importance of the action of the Restorative on the organs of nutrition.

Finally, the *Vital Restorative* maintains a certain degree of activity in the previously debilitated nervous system; its use enables all debilitated organs to return to their sound state and perform their natural functions. Persons suffering from Nervous Debility, or any of the hundred symptoms which this distressing disease assumes, may rest assured of an effectual and even speedy cure by the judicious use of this most invaluable remedy.

This medicine is extensively used in the Army, and is also in very general use in Hospitals and Public Sanitary Institutions throughout the land, as well as in private practice, and is considered as an invaluable remedy.

Beware of Spurious Imitations in the form of Pills.

Ask for "Sir Astley Cooper's VITAL RESTORATIVE."

Do not let the Chemist persuade you to take any other. The argument of larger bottles and less price is put forward. It is QUALITY the afflicted require, not *quantity.*

Sold by G. FRENCH, CHEMIST, 293, HIGH ST., CHATHAM, and all Chemists, at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., 11s., and 22s. per bottle; or sent on receipt of price by HILTON & Co., 9, LOWER BELGRAVE STREET, LONDON. *Particulars Free.*

CAUTION.—*See that the words, "SIR A. COOPER'S VITAL RESTORATIVE" are blown on each bottle, and that our Trade Mark, as above, is on the label, without which none can be Genuine.*

WHOLESALE AGENTS.

Barclay and Sons; S. Maw, Son, and Thompson; Sanger and Sons; Newbery and Sons; Butler and Crispe; Mather; Edwards; Burgoyne, Burbidges and Co.; Tidman and Sons; Barron, Harveys and Co.; Millard and Son; Sutton and Co.; Hovenden and Sons; Evans and Lescher; Cleaver, &c., &c., and all the Wholesale Houses throughout the World.

From the *Monthly Magazine of Pharmacy, Chemistry, &c.*, February 1st, 1877.

Messrs. HILTON & Co. are manufacturing two very useful articles, one being a medicated voltaic electric perforated plaister, the other "Sir Astley Cooper's Vital Restorative," a capital tonic and nerve invigorator. This last is carefully prepared from a recipe written by the late Sir Astley Cooper, and is most effective in its action.

Testimonials, the originals of which can be seen at the office of Messrs. Hilton and Co.:—

268, Holland-road, Kensington, W.,
5th April, 1877.

Messrs. E. Hilton & Co.

Sirs,—I have been using your "Sir Astley Cooper's Vital Restorative" for some time past, and with the greatest benefit to my health, it has done me more good than all the medicine I had been taking under medical advice for months before I tried it. My complaint was General Nervous Debility, caused by long residence in India, and now I find my health almost restored to what it should be.

Yours faithfully,
J. J. GRAY.

Joseph H. Doran and Son,
Solicitors and Proctors, Dublin.

Dear Sir,—Send me a bottle of Sir Astley Cooper's Vital Restorative. I have found great benefit from the use of it.

I am, dear Sirs,
Truly yours,
J. H. DORAN.

To Messrs. [illegible] and Co.,
9, Lower Belgrave-street,
London, S.W.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

On Wednesday afternoon, the members of the above Board held their monthly meeting in the Local Board-room, Town Hall Buildings, Shotley Bridge, the Chairman (Mr. Jos. Annandale, jun.) presiding. Mr. Chas. Wilson, Mr. John Dickinson, Mr. Carse, Mr. Henry Ritson, Mr. William Wilson, Mr. John Annandale, Mr. Jos. Eltringham, Mr. Lax, and Mr. Wheatley were also present. The minutes of the previous meeting were read, confirmed, and signed.

LOUGH'S PROPERTY.

The Surveyor (Mr. Dixon) reported that Mr. Lough had commenced the alterations to his property.

Mr. Carse asked if Lough was working to the plan made by Mr. Heslop, the late Surveyor.

The Surveyor said Lough was adhering to the plan except in one slight particular. He asked to have the entrance to the privies at the front, instead of at the side, as shown on the plan.

Mr. Carse said a large number of people used the privies, and their object in having the entrance at the side was to keep it as much as possible from the public gaze.

Mr. Eltringham said the Sanitary Committee did not intend to make any recommendation about the position of the doors.

Mr. Carse said on the plan the doors were placed at the side.

Mr. Chas. Wilson said the plan submitted by Mr. Heslop showed the doors at the side, but although this plan was adopted by the Board, the Committee made no reference to the position of the doors in their report.

The Surveyor said the difference in the cost would be £5 or £10, and in a sanitary point of view, it made no difference whether the entrance was at the side or front.

The Chairman (who had been looking over the Sanitary Committee's report) remarked that no mention was made about the position of the doors.

Mr. Carse asked if it were wise to depart from the plan after it had been passed by the Board.

The Surveyor said he had been asked if putting the doors at the front would make any difference, and he replied that he did not think it would, though at the same time he did not give permission to do so.

Mr. Wheatley thought it was unimportant where the doors were.

Mr. Annandale said if the privies had their doors at the front they would only be like the great majority of such buildings in the township.

It was then understood that the doors were to be at the front.

FOOTPATHS.

Mr. Carse said as the Board had decided to repair the footpaths, he thought something ought to be done to the flags in front of Mr. Brown's and Mr. Brodie's shops. The footpath at the places named was in a bad state.

Mr. Lax: Yes, very bad.

Mr. W. Wilson: The flags in Wood Street are in a bad state too.

Mr. Lax said in Wood Street there were holes six inches deep. He wished to know if the flagging in front of Mr. Wilson's house had been put right. The footpath there was in a dangerous condition, several people having fallen.

The Surveyor said the work had been in Mr. Westgarth's hands two months, and he had promised to put it right as soon as the weather permitted.

Mr. Chas. Wilson said the flagging wanted attending to in several places.

THE PUBLIC LAMPS.

The Clerk (Mr. Booth) said he had written to the Gas Company respecting the structural works of certain lamps.

The Chairman said the lamps appeared to be burning well now.

The Surveyor was instructed to see that the defects named in Mr. Booth's letter had been properly rectified.

AN ENCROACHMENT AT NUMBER ONE.

The Inspector (Mr. Dixon) reported that he had, as directed, served a notice on Mr. Geo. Brown, requiring him to remove the wall at Number One Bank, which notice, however, had not been complied with.

The Chairman read the following letter from Mr. Brown:—

Consett, March 17th, 1879.

Gentlemen,—In reply to yours of February 21st, 1879, the wall was built to make an improvement, but if you require the land at any time for road purposes the wall can be removed. The width of road in front of wall is 35ft, and the width 30ft. from the centre of the road. Farther down, towards Blackhill, the road is only 40ft. and 26ft. wide.—Yours truly,

G. Brown.

Mr. Carse: The notice ought to have specified the time.

The Inspector: There was no specified time named in the printed notice.

The Clerk: It says within a reasonable time.

Mr. Lax: Would it be well to ask Mr. Brown to pay an acknowledgment for the land which has been encroached upon?

The Chairman: It would be well to let him take it if it is wanted in that way.

Mr. Lax: We should still have a claim upon it.

Mr. Carse: The difficulty is that Mr. Brown has got his fence on the wrong side of the land.

Mr. Wheatley: I think it has greatly improved the place.

Mr. Eltringham: It is not a question of improvement, but simply an encroachment on the land.

Mr. Wheatley: It is encroached on all the way down.

Mr. Carse: Yes, but two blacks don't make a white.

Mr. Lax: That is the view to take of it.

The Chairman: Mr. Brown now acknowledges that it is an encroachment. No doubt he would consent to pay an acknowledgment, and it could be let to him on this condition.

Mr. Wheatley: I don't know what else we can do, but take his offer, as he has built the wall.

Mr. Carse: The question involves a very serious principle indeed. The time has come when these encroachments ought to be stopped. I think the Board will be unanimous on that point. We cannot allow Mr. Brown to put up this encroachment, in the face of the Board. Had the wall been placed there before the Board existed, it would have been another thing. We are the conservators of the highways, and it is our duty to insist on the wall being put back.

Mr. Lax: If the encroachments are allowed to continue, the evil will have no end. I think it would be well to get an acknowledgment from all those who have encroached on our highways. By so doing, we could at any time take the land if we needed it.

Mr. Annandale: For the purposes of the road.

Mr. Eltringham: For any purpose.

The Chairman: Brown has not taken any part of the roadway, and I think he might be allowed to retain what land he has got on payment of a small acknowledgment.

Mr. Carse: We must not sit here to sanction a violation of an Act of Parliament.

The Chairman: We shall not be doing so if we take an acknowledgment.

Mr. Carse: Mr. Brown is retaining the wall in defiance of the Board. If Mr. Brown is to be allowed to retain the encroachment, then the other motion requesting him to remove it must be rescinded. You cannot blow both hot and cold.

Mr. Wheatley: We have allowed other parties to encroach four times as much without saying anything.

Mr. Lax: That does not alter the principle of the thing.

Mr. Eltringham: That has nothing to do with this question at all.

Mr. Wheatley: I think it has.

Mr. Carse: Some people have asked the Board's permission.

Mr. Wheatley: I beg pardon; some have not. Mr. Eltringham: You have taken their railings down by order of the Board.

Mr. Wheatley: And put them up again, and the Board winked at it.

Mr. Eltringham: Golding took his down and did not put them up again.

Mr. Annandale: Mr. Brown has improved the appearance of the road by building the wall.

Mr. Wheatley: That is not the question before us. The question is—are we the conservators of the road, and if so, what is our duty in relation to it?

Mr. Annandale: Mr. Brown has put a nice fence up, but we can still keep our hands on the land.

Mr. Eltringham: No doubt the road has been improved. The only difference between its condition now and before is that the wall has been brought a little farther out.

Mr. Wheatley: That's a very bad wall, and this is a good one. It is a great improvement. He has brought the wall out on to a level with the cow-byre.

Mr. Annandale: Some authority has allowed the cow-byre to be put up.

Mr. Eltringham: The Board could not help that, as we were not in existence when it was put up.

Mr. Dickinson: I think if we get an acknowledgment that will be sufficient.

Mr. Wheatley: I think so.

Mr. Carse: What will you do with this motion on the rescinding?

Mr. Lax: Of course that will be null and void if we decide to take an acknowledgment.

The Clerk said they had Mr. Brown's letter, which was an admission by him that the wall was an encroachment.

Mr. Wheatley: That letter is sufficient, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Lax: But that letter is only from Mr. Brown, the tenant.

The Chairman: I would have a money payment besides.

Mr. Carse: Will a money payment by the tenant bind the owner?

The Clerk said the agreement could be between the Board and Mr. Brown.

Mr. Chas. Wilson thought it would be better to take an acknowledgment from Mr. Brown than from the governors of Sherburn Hospital, the owners of the land.

Mr. Annandale then moved that Mr. Brown's letter be considered satisfactory, and that an annual acknowledgment of 5s. be taken from him whilst the encroachment remained.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Wheatley.

Mr. Chas. Wilson said he did not like the word "satisfactory." Would it not be letter just to say that the letter had been received from Mr. Brown.

Mr. Annandale: I think everything is there.

The Chairman: It is a satisfactory letter, I think, because Mr. Brown admits he has done wrong.

Mr. Carse protested against such a resolution being passed. He moved as an amendment that the Surveyor be empowered to carry out the removal of the encroachment in twenty-eight days.

Mr. Annandale said there was nothing unreasonable in allowing the encroachment to stand, when they began to think of the encroachments that had been made right and left.

Mr. Carse said if he could not get any member to second his motion, it would fall to the ground.

Mr. Annandale's resolution was then submitted to the meeting and carried, Mr. Carse being the only dissentient.

CARTER'S APPLICATION.

The Surveyor stated that he had seen Mr. Carter about the waste land at Number One Bank, and he wished to have half-an-acre, if agreeable to the Board.

The Chairman said it only remained for the Board to say what acknowledgment they were to take.

Mr. Eltringham: Will there be half-an-acre left after the other is taken?

The Surveyor: Yes. I have taken the measurement.

The Chairman: A very much smaller acknowledgment will suffice for this.

Mr. Lax: Half-an-acre.

The Chairman: Too much.

The Clerk: There is half-an-acre, and we could not very well make it less.

Mr. Dickinson: If Carter has to fence it in, half-a-crown will be enough.

Mr. Chas. Wilson said there ought to be a proper agreement between the Board and Carter.

Mr. Carse said by allowing Brown to take the other, the value of the piece asked for by Carter was very much deteriorated.

The Chairman said they were to remember that Brown would have a right to go over an encroachment to get to his land.

Mr. Carse said Brown only had a right of access to his land where there was a cartway.

The Chairman said he might enter at any part.

Mr. Carse: No.

Mr. Chas. Wilson was of the Chairman's opinion.

The Clerk said it had always been understood, in dealing with encroachments, that the adjoining landowner was to have the first chance of them. If the Board had commenced to allow people in the position of Carter to enclose pieces of land without giving the adjoining landowners the first choice it would be an injustice to both landowners and tenants. He might go further than that, and say that the first person who had a claim on the land was the adjoining landowner or his tenant. The Board might let the land to a lazy person, who might allow nothing but thistles to grow, to the injury of the owner of the adjoining land.

Mr. Wheatley said the Highway Committee had been put in to look after the waste lands. Was there any report from them?

The Chairman read the Highway Committee's last report on the subject, in which they mentioned that there were several encroachments of long standing in the district.

Mr. Wheatley: Are there no other places that have been encroached upon where no acknowledgment is being paid?

The Chairman: That question was taken up a month ago.

Mr. Eltringham then moved and Mr. Lax seconded a resolution authorising Mr. Carter to enclose half-an-acre of land, on payment of an acknowledgment of half-a-crown a-year, this sum, as in the previous cases, to be paid in advance.—Carried.

TAKING OVER NEW STREETS.

The Surveyor reported that he had, as directed, seen Mr. Heslop about Chapel and Back Derwent Streets, and had been informed that the streets were carried out according to plan and specification, but the roads they were not taken over by the Board was because they were allowed to lay on 6in. of metal instead of 12in., the required depth for public streets.

After some discussion, during which it was stated that only a portion of the road in Chapel Street was finished, it was decided, on the motion of Mr. William Wilson, seconded by Mr. Wheatley, to declare the finished portion of the street a public highway, the actual length of such finished portion to be ascertained by measurement.

THE ACCOUNT AGAINST MR. FRIEND.

The Clerk stated that Mr. Friend had paid the account of 13s. 2d., for fencing his property at Shotley Bridge.

THE SEWERS.

The Sanitary Committee had met at Blackhill and examined the drain leading from Messrs. Stokoe and Wright's properties and found it insufficient to receive the drains from Messrs. R. Murray and H. Armstrong's properties. They had left it directed the Surveyor to take up the 3in. pipe and replace it with a 9in. at a sufficient depth to join the main sewer in Dixon Street. 40 buildings sanctioned to be erected at Blackfine the Board would be under the necessity of laying in a 12in pipe, from Mr. Wright's property, to join the 12in. pipe at the Wesleyan Chapel, Blackhill. Till this was done, Dr. Renton and Messrs. Eltringham's cellars would be flooded whenever there was a heavy rain.

The Surveyor reported that he had carried out the instructions of the Committee.

Mr. Carse said they were doing Dr. Renton and Mr. Armstrong an injustice by allowing the backwash from the sewer to flow into their cellars. He moved that the Surveyor prepare an estimate of the cost of carrying a 12in pipe between the points named in the Committee's report.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Annandale and carried.

The Chairman said he had an engagement elsewhere, and would be obliged to leave the meeting.

Mr. John Annandale was then voted to the chair.

A DANGEROUS HOUSE.

The Building Committee reported that they had inspected the house at Shotley Bridge belonging to Mr. Friend, of Newcastle. A sketch of the exterior had been prepared, showing that the house was in a dangerous state. It was unoccupied, and the Committee reported that they could not recommend any person to occupy it in its present state. They recommended that the Clerk be instructed to write to the proprietor requesting him to take immediate steps to secure it.

The above recommendation was adopted.

THE ENCROACHMENT QUESTION AGAIN.

The Building Committee (Messrs. Wheatley, Carse, Eltringham and Smith) reported that the plans of proposed additions to workshop, warehouses, &c., at Blackhill, for Mr. William Strachan, plumber, had received attention, and they recommended that they be passed, subject to Mr. Strachan taking the responsibility of making good any damage that might occur to the main sewer.

The plan was passed, subject to the conditions named.

The Committee had also had before them the proposed additions to gardens in front of Old Cutlers' Hall, belonging to Messrs John Annandale and Sons. The bringing out of the wall on a line with the property adjoining would, the Committee thought, improve the footpath, and the general appearance of the place, but as it involved an encroachment on the highway they referred the matter to the consideration of the Board.

The Chairman said all they (the Messrs. Annandale) desired to do was to improve the property. It was an improvement that had been suggested by the Surveyor.

Mr. Eltringham: The Building Committee were satisfied that it would be an improvement. We left the question for the Board to decide, as it involves an encroachment.

The Chairman said the proposed alteration would be of no benefit to them in a monetary point of view.

Mr. Wheatley: It would be a great improvement to the place.

Mr. Carse said they had established a principle of paying for encroachments, and it would never do to allow Messrs. Annandale to do so without paying something.

Mr. Chas. Wilson: I suppose only a few feet of ground would be wanted.

Mr. Eltringham: An average width of 4ft. 6in. It is 127ft. in length.

The Clerk: It does not seem to be part of the road. The wall seems to go along so far, and then there is a little garden, which does not appear to be part of the road.

Mr. Carse: We would not allow Golding to take 4ft., and how we can allow Messrs. Annandale to take it I am at a loss to know. It is an encroachment, and an acknowledgment should be paid for it.

The Chairman: We don't consider it part of the public road at all.

Mr. Carse: Yes, it is though.

The Chairman: It is never used as a public road.

Mr. Eltringham: No doubt it belongs to the public road. You are only hurting your case, Mr. Annandale, by setting that up.

The Chairman said perhaps the tenants themselves would pay a small acknowledgment, as it would improve the property.

Mr. Eltringham said it was a nasty place at the present time.

The Clerk asked if the public travelled along the land which it was proposed to enclose.

Mr. Carse remarked that he for one travelled upon it every day, and objected to it being closed.

Mr. Wheatley repeated his belief that enclosing the land would improve the appearance of the place.

The Chairman said Messrs. Annandale did not care about the place being enclosed.

Mr. Eltringham moved that the plan be passed, subject to a recommendation respecting a channel, and that Messrs. Annandale pay a penny per annum to the Board as an acknowledgment.

Mr. Wheatley seconded the proposition, which was carried.

The Chairman assured the Board that the proposed additions would not benefit them. On the contrary, it would be an out-of-pocket job.

THE ROADS AND FOOTPATHS.

The Surveyor's report showed that 220 tons of limestone had been put on Durham Road, while 30 tons had been laid on to Lobley Hill Road. The footpaths on Durham Road had been covered with ashes. A large stone drain crossing the Lobley Hill Road, which had tumbled in, had been repaired. A portion of Dean Burn Bridge and the retaining wall of the footpath on the Sandy Peth Road had also been repaired. The Surveyor also reported that a portion of the "blue heaps" abutting Number One Bank had slipped on to the footpath, and he had been obliged to cart the material away. The contract for team work would expire during the month.

With regard to the last-named item, the Surveyor was instructed to advertise for tenders.

WATER-COURSE IN CEMETERY LANE.

A letter was read from Mr. Elliott, Clerk to the Consett Local Board, calling attention to the water-course in Cemetery Lane. "When you covered that in," Mr. Elliott wrote, "you put in pipes too small to admit the surface water. We tried to meet the case by diverting part of it into the Foundry Road sewer, but find it will not do, and we can therefore only call upon you either to open the water-course or to put in pipes sufficiently large to carry off the water."

On the motion of Mr. Wm. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Lax, the matter was referred to the Sanitary Committee.

NEW CROSSING.

On the motion of Mr. Carse, seconded by Mr. Wm. Wilson, the Surveyor was instructed to lay down a crossing at a point near Mrs. Gradon's shop, Blackhill.

The Board then adjourned.

How to Cure A Cough or Cold.—Take "Budden's Balsam of Horehound and Coltsfoot." One Dose relieves; one Bottle cures. Price, 1s.-1½d. and 2s. 9d. Agent for Consett—Mr. D. Imrie, Chemist, Front Street. 544m

FUNERAL OF MRS. SURTEES.

On Tuesday afternoon, the mortal remains of Elizabeth Jane Surtees, widow of the late Robert Surtees, of Hamsterley Hall, were interred in the family vault at Ebchester. The deceased lady was exceedingly popular among all classes of the community, and her funeral was the largest that has ever taken place in that district. In the latter part of February, Mrs. Surtees had an attack of bronchitis, and was attended by Dr. Bolton, of Ebchester Hill, under whose treatment she partially recovered. About a fortnight ago she attended the funeral of her brother-in-law (Capt. Thomas Maughan, of Shieldfield, Newcastle, charged with having been drunk at Consett, on Saturday night, was also fined 5s. and the expenses.—Benjamin Spivey was charged by Sergt. Tranmer with a similar offence on the 15th inst. A fine of 5s. and costs was imposed.—Mary McDonald was charged with a similar offence. Discharged with a caution.—John Hammel, charged by P.C. Murdock with having been drunk, was fined 5s. and costs.

Trespass at Blackhill.—Wm. Smith, Edward Cartwell, James Cartwell, and John Cameron, lads, were summoned for damaging a field belonging to Mr. William Turner, at Blackhill. Sergt. Cruickshank said on Sunday, the 2nd inst., he saw defendants in a plantation belonging to Mr. Turner.—Mr. Turner said he was much annoyed last summer by trespassers, and he wished to put a stop to the annoyance.—Defendants were fined 8s. 1d. including costs.

Leaving a Horse and Cart on the Highway.—Robert Wilson Bell, of Blanchland, was summoned for allowing a horse and cart to stand on the highway at Blackhill, contrary to the provisions of the Highway Act. P.C. Rogerson said on the 6th inst., about twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock, he was in Foundry Row and saw a horse and cart standing on the road in front of Mr. Palliser's shop. There remained there till five minutes to one o'clock. Witness then went into Mr. Palliser's shop, and found that the horse and cart belonged to defendant, who was in Mr. Palliser's house. Defendant came out, without a hat, and smoking a pipe. Mr. Bell's overcoat was thrown over the horse's back.—Mr. Bell said he left the horse in charge of Mr. Palliser's boy. It was a cold day, and the lad, instead of standing at the horse's head, remained within the doorway.—P.C. Rogerson said when he went into the shop the lad was in the back shop. There remained there till five minutes to one o'clock. Witness then went into Mr. Palliser's shop, and found that the horse and cart belonged to defendant, who was in Mr. Palliser's house. Defendant came out, without a hat, and smoking a pipe. Mr. Bell's overcoat was thrown over the horse's back.—Mr. Bell said he left the horse in charge of Mr. Palliser's boy. It was a cold day, and the lad, instead of standing at the horse's head, remained within the doorway.—P.C. Rogerson said when he went into the shop the lad was in the back shop.—Mr. Palliser's boy was called, and said he was watching the horse through the window.—The Chairman said if the horse had run away, the cart would have been powerless to restrain it from where he had taken up his position.—Mr. Bell said the horse was a quiet one, and he knew it would not run off.—In answer to Supt. Oliver, the lad said he was not in the back shop when the constable entered.—The Chairman said defendant seemed to have taken some precaution, but not sufficient. The boy ought to have been at the horse's head.—Mr. Bell was then let off on paying the costs, 7s. 6d., no conviction being recorded against him.

Raid on Dogs.—John Brady, Robert English (Blackhill), George Stobbs, and Edward Stacey were severally charged with keeping dogs without a license. In each case a fine of 7s. 6d. and costs was inflicted.——Michael Green, of Leadgate, was summoned for a similar offence. Defendant called his son, James, who said the dog was his. The case was dismissed, a fresh summons being taken out against the son.——William Swinburn, of Pigdon Hill, farmer, was also summoned for keeping a dog without a license. Defendant said he kept the dog for farm purposes, and produced the subscription paper which he had obtained from the Excise authorities.—P.C. Thompson, who prosecuted, said the dog was a white poodle.—Mr. Swinburn said he had had it seven or eight years, and it answered his purpose.—The Chairman said as defendant's dog did not come under the exemption clause, a fine of 7s. 6d. and costs would be inflicted.

Chimney Firing.—Peter Flynn was summoned for allowing a certain chimney to be on fire at Blackhill, on the 26th February. Fined 1s. and costs.

Game Trespass.—William Wilkinson and Thos. Williamson were summoned by Sergt. Reveley for trespassing in pursuit of game on land belonging to the Consett Iron Company, on the 5th inst. Fined 40s. and costs.

The Sale of Nitre.—Thomas Bulman, Derwent Cottages, and William Robinson, Medomsley, were summoned at the instance of Superintendent Oliver for selling adulterated nitre. The samples obtained had been sent to the county analyst (Mr. Edgar), who in his report stated that they contained 27 and 30 per cent. respectively less nitre than was to be found in genuine nitre, the samples containing a very small quantity of nitrous ether—the active principle of the drug. Mr. Edgar added that the addition of water caused decomposition of the nitrous and, and rendered the drug of no use as a remedy.—Defendant said the drug was supplied by Messrs. Bell and Sons, wholesale chemists, Liverpool, and it was retailed out just as they got it.—The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Watson), said defendants might have protected themselves by getting a warranty from Messrs. Bell at the time they purchased the nitre.—The Chairman said as it was the first case of the sort that had been tried, a small fine of 5s. and costs only would be imposed.

Throat Irritation.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. Glycerine, in these agreeable confections, being in proximity to the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, becomes actively healing. Sold only in 6d. and 1s. Boxes, labelled "James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Mr. Peter received: Gentlemen,—It may, perhaps, interest you to know that, after an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit (with or without medical treatment) in almost all forms of throat disease. They soften and clear the voice. In no case can they do any harm.—Yours faithfully, Gordon Holmes, L.R.C.P.E., Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary." 563m

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

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

MARRIAGE.

Bishop Auckland.—At the Wesleyan Chapel, on the 15th inst., by the Rev. D. Williams, Richard Palliser Thistlethwaite, to Hannah, second daughter of the late Thos. Moses, Crook.

DEATHS.

Consett.—On the 18th inst., aged 64, John Seymour.

At Derwent Street, on the 15th inst., aged 47, Joseph Pescod.

Chester-le-Street.—On the 18th inst., aged 78, Jos. Watson.

Swalwell.—On the 14th inst., aged 66, Wm. Clark.

Dipton.—At Derwent Head, on the 16th inst., aged 47, Mr. Thos. Ridley.

Iveston.—On the 18th inst., John Wilson.

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, March 17.—Before A. Town, Esq. (chairman), J. Fenwick, Esq., and Jas. Annandale, Jun. Esq.

Vagrancy.—Joseph Jopling, a young man, was charged by P.C. Thompson with sleeping in the vicinity of coke ovens, on the 16th inst. Committed to prison for fourteen days. The prisoner, on being to his own admission, had not worked for nearly a couple of years.

Drunk.—William Dougherty, of Hill Top, was charged by P.C. Bain with having been drunk at Hill Top, on the 7th inst. Fined 5s. and costs.——Thomas Maughan, of Shieldfield, Newcastle, charged with having been drunk at Consett, on Saturday night, was also fined 5s. and the expenses.——Benjamin Spivey was charged by Sergt. Tranmer with a similar offence on the 15th inst. A fine of 5s. and costs was imposed.——Mary McDonald was charged with a similar offence. Discharged with a caution.——John Hammel, charged by P.C. Murdock with having been drunk, was fined 5s. and costs.

Trespass at Blackhill.—Wm. Smith, Edward Cartwell, James Cartwell, and John Cameron, lads, were summoned for damaging a field belonging to Mr. William Turner, at Blackhill. Sergt. Cruickshank said on Sunday, the 2nd inst., he saw defendants in a plantation belonging to Mr. Turner.——Mr. Turner said he was much annoyed last summer by trespassers, and he wished to put a stop to the annoyance.—Defendants were fined 8s. 1d. including costs.

Leaving a Horse and Cart on the Highway.—Robert Wilson Bell, of Blanchland, was summoned for allowing a horse and cart to stand on the highway at Blackhill, contrary to the provisions of the Highway Act. P.C. Rogerson said on the 6th inst., about twenty-five minutes past twelve o'clock, he was in Foundry Row and saw a horse and cart standing on the road in front of Mr. Palliser's shop. There remained there till five minutes to one o'clock. Witness then went into Mr. Palliser's shop, and found that the horse and cart belonged to defendant, who was in Mr. Palliser's house. Defendant came out, without a hat, and smoking a pipe. Mr. Bell's overcoat was thrown over the horse's back.——Mr. Bell said he left the horse in charge of Mr. Palliser's boy. It was a cold day, and the lad, instead of standing at the horse's head, remained within the doorway.—P.C. Rogerson said when he went into the shop the lad was in the back shop.——Mr. Palliser's boy was called, and said he was watching the horse through the window.——The Chairman said if the horse had run away, the cart would have been powerless to restrain it from where he had taken up his position.——Mr. Bell said the horse was a quiet one, and he knew it would not run off.—In answer to Supt. Oliver, the lad said he was not in the back shop when the constable entered.——The Chairman said defendant seemed to have taken some precaution, but not sufficient. The boy ought to have been at the horse's head.——Mr. Bell was then let off on paying the costs, 7s. 6d., no conviction being recorded against him.

Raid on Dogs.—John Brady, Robert English (Blackhill), George Stobbs, and Edward Stacey were severally charged with keeping dogs without a license. In each case a fine of 7s. 6d. and costs was inflicted.——Michael Green, of Leadgate, was summoned for a similar offence. Defendant called his son, James, who said the dog was his. The case was dismissed, a fresh summons being taken out against the son.——William Swinburn, of Pigdon Hill, farmer, was also summoned for keeping a dog without a license. Defendant said he kept the dog for farm purposes, and produced the subscription paper which he had obtained from the Excise authorities.——P.C. Thompson, who prosecuted, said the dog was a white poodle.——Mr. Swinburn said he had had it seven or eight years, and it answered his purpose.——The Chairman said as defendant's dog did not come under the exemption clause, a fine of 7s. 6d. and costs would be inflicted.

Chimney Firing.—Peter Flynn was summoned for allowing a certain chimney to be on fire at Blackhill, on the 26th February. Fined 1s. and costs.

Game Trespass.—William Wilkinson and Thos. Williamson were summoned by Sergt. Reveley for trespassing in pursuit of game on land belonging to the Consett Iron Company, on the 5th inst. Fined 40s. and costs.

The Sale of Nitre.—Thomas Bulman, Derwent Cottages, and William Robinson, Medomsley, were summoned at the instance of Superintendent Oliver for selling adulterated nitre. The samples obtained had been sent to the county analyst (Mr. Edgar), who in his report stated that they contained 27 and 30 per cent. respectively less nitre than was to be found in genuine nitre, the samples containing a very small quantity of nitrous ether—the active principle of the drug. Mr. Edgar added that the addition of water caused decomposition of the nitrous and, and rendered the drug of no use as a remedy.——Defendant said the drug was supplied by Messrs. Bell and Sons, wholesale chemists, Liverpool, and it was retailed out just as they got it.——The Magistrates' Clerk (Mr. Watson), said defendants might have protected themselves by getting a warranty from Messrs. Bell at the time they purchased the nitre.——The Chairman said as it was the first case of the sort that had been tried, a small fine of 5s. and costs only would be imposed.

PLOUGHING MATCHES AT CATCHGATE.

After having been put off time after time in consequence of snow and frost, the annual ploughing matches in connection with the Catchgate, Annfield Plain, and Dipton District Ploughing Society were, on Thursday last, brought off on the farms of Mr. J. Maddison and Mrs. Humphrey, near Catchgate. Unfortunately, after all the delay, the day turned out to be a very unfavourable one, snow falling rapidly during the afternoon, and rendering the duties of the judges very difficult. There was a severe frost in the early part of the day, and ploughing did not commence before ten o'clock, thus making it rather late before the competitors got through their allotted portions of work. The judges were Mr. G. Vasey (Bradbury), Mr. J. Dixon (Littledown), and Mr. R. Richardson (Ouston). The results are as under:—

Class 1. Open to all except ploughmakers' men. First prize, £4, Wm. Webster, Lythe, near Sunderland; 2nd, J. Dixon, Brandon; third, £1, G. H. Storey; highly commended Geo. Brearley.

Class 2. For ploughmakers' men, a silver medal, Wm. Hill, of Messrs. Ransome and Sims.

Class 3. Open to any one who has not previously won a first prize with a wheel plough. First prize, £3, Geo. Crisp, Low Thornley, near Winlaton; second, £2, G. Storey, New House, Leadchester; third, £1, Wm. Taylor, Sunnyside.

Class 4. Open to any one who has not previously won a first prize with a swing plough. First prize, £3, Priestfield, Lintz Green; third, £1, J. Turnbull, Pelton.

Class 5. For boys under eighteen years of age. First prize, £2 10s., J. Turnbull, Twizall; second, £1 10s., J. Marshall, Jobcy's, New Acres; third, 10s., Thos. Smith, Low Bradley; R. Turnbull highly commended.

Subsequent to the ploughing, a large company partook of an excellent dinner at the house of Mr. J. Lumley, Railway Tavern, Annfield Plain, Mr. J. Maddison presiding. Mr. Jos. Liddell occupied the vice-chair.

Printed and Published by Robert Jackson, at the Steam Printing Works, Front Street, Consett, Friday, March 21st, 1879.