VISIT TO STOCKTON AND NEWCASTLE.

DEAFNESS.
BLINDNESS.

CURED WITHOUT OPERATION.

For Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears; Deafness from Influenza cured. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer sent free. Mr. T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds.—Artificial Eyes, Spectacles, etc.

NOTICE. — Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends. Sutties' Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Monday, April 2nd; Hours, 12 to 6. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, April 4th, Hours 11 to 4 30. Attendance at Leeds every Tuesday, Hours 10 to 7, and alternate Saturdays, March 24th and April 7, Hours 10 to 7.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 2066 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. | FRIDAY, March 23rd, 1900. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

FOR INFLUENZA

HARBURN'S PHOSPHORISED TONIC

RENEWS BRAIN, NERVE & BLOOD.

In Bottles 13½d. and 2s 9d, from Chemists or direct from A. HARBURN, M.P.S., Pharmaceutical Chemist, Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

Money.

MR. A. WOLFE, 29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND, IS PREPARED TO ADVANCE FROM £10 to £2,000 ON PROMISSORY NOTE TO ALL PROFESSIONS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS. STRICTEST PRIVACY GUARANTEED. LOW INTEREST, REPAYMENTS TO SUIT BORROWERS' CONVENIENCE; or CAPITAL CAN REMAIN SO LONG AS THE INTEREST IS PAID. NO FEES. DISTANCE NO OBJECT. MORTGAGES ARRANGED. REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES PURCHASED.
Telegrams—'Safe' Sunderland. Nat. Telephone 565.

Contracts.

JOHN DOVE & CO., LTD., Builders Merchants and Lathrenders, offer to tender for the best Portland Cement, Plaster, Laths, Hair, Crushed Bricks, and Granite, Chimney Tops, Sanitary Pipes, Firebricks, Pitch, Tar, &c. Offices, 5, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle. Telephone: P.O., 619; National, 1,122. Telegrams, "Dove," Newcastle. Estab. 1854. 11h

ESTABLISHED 1873.

JOHN HEWITSON,
SLATER AND SLATE MERCHANT, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.
Foreman's Residence: 64, WESLEY TERRACE.
Estimates for Slating Gratis.
Repairs a Speciality.
Agent for all the Leading Slate Quarries.
Agent for F. McNeill's Roofing Felt and Asphalte Damp Course or Foundation Felt.
HEAD OFFICE: LEAZES PARK ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
National Telephone, No. 1348 98f

CROOK HALL SLAG CRUSHING WORKS, NEAR CONSETT.

I AM now in a position to supply promptly and at reasonable prices, the following Materials for Roads, Footpaths, Carriage Drives, Asphalting, Concreting, &c. Machine Broken Slag, to any size, up to 2½ inch. Slag Chippings ¾ to 1¼ inch. Fine Crushed Slag for Concrete purposes ¼ inch.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

The Slag is of most excellent Quality, it is of great density and of good colour, and very strong and durable stone for Road Making, &c. I am supplying it extensively to various Public Bodies, Contractors, &c. I am putting down an extensive Plant, for the manufacture of Artificial Stone, Flags, Kerbs, Sills, &c., and also Asphalting.—QUOTATIONS ON APPLICATION.
Postal Address;
564g D. ORMEROD, Blackhill.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS required in the ERECTION of TWO DWELLING HOUSES (tenements) and Alterations to Two existing Houses as to the building of extra rooms, etc., at Holmside for M. C. BECK, of Ash Tree House, Holmside, Chester-le-Street.
Plans and specifications may be seen at my office on and after the 27th inst.
T. E. CROSSLING, F.I.A.S., Architect.
8th Stanley, R.S.O.

TO CONTRACTORS.

WANTED TENDERS for the ERECTION of a DWELLING-HOUSE, at the low end of Watling Street, Leadgate.
Plans and Specifications may be seen on application to Mr. Wm. Pescod Stockdale, 478, North Cross Street, Leadgate, until March 24th, 1900. Not bound to accept the Lowest or any tender.
6th W. P. STOCKDALE.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for EXCAVATING about 5,610 cubic yards, and Providing and Laying about 7,392 square yards of Rubble Foundation, for the proposed new roadway through Bryan's Leap, Gill Wood, Burnopfield.
Further particulars may be obtained from the undersigned.
Tenders to be sent in on or before 4 p.m. on March 28th, 1900, and endorsed "Roadway."
R. HESLOP, Surveyor,
30h Burnopfield.

TENDERS are invited for either, or both, of the following works.
1.—The CONSTRUCTION of a STONE BRIDGE across the River Derwent, at Eddis Ford, near Muggleswick and Edmondbyers.
2.—The EXCAVATIONS, FILLING and ROADMAKING, of the approaches for same.
Plans and Specification may be seen, and quantities obtained, on application to the undersigned on depositing one guinea, which will be returned on receipt of a bona fide Tender.
Sealed Tenders, endorsed "Eddis Bridge," addressed "Chairman of Bridge Committee, c.o. Mr. J. E. Parker, Post Office Chambers, Newcastle-on-Tyne," to be delivered on or before March 30th, 1900.
The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.
J. E. PARKER, A.M.I.C.E., Engineer.
Post Office Chambers, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
March 10th, 1900. 16h

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for the Excavating, Levelling, and Laying a FOUNDATION with Stone Rubble.
Further particulars may be obtained from the undersigned.
Tenders to be sent in on or before 4 p.m. on March 28th, 1900.
ROBERT HESLOP,
Burnopfield. Surveyor.

TO CONTRACTORS.—TENDERS required in the erection of THREE DWELLING HOUSES (Tenements), at Oxhill Sand Hole, for Mr. H. Hardy.
Plans and specifications may be seen at my office on and after the 16th inst.
Tenders will be received until the 27th inst.
T. E. CROSSLING, F.I.A.S.,
Stanley, R.S.O. Architect.

TO CONTRACTORS.—TENDERS required in the erection of ONE DWELLING HOUSE (Tenement), at Oxhill Sand Hole, for Mrs. Mary E. Clayton, 3, Oxhill Villas, Stanley, R.S.O.
Plans and specifications may be seen at my office on and after the 16th inst.
Tenders will be received until the 27th inst.
T. E. CROSSLING, F.I.A.S.,
Stanley, R.S.O. Architect.

TO CONTRACTORS.—TENDERS required in the erection of TWO DWELLING HOUSES (Tenement), at Oxhill Sand Hole, for Messrs. T. Lumley and R. Reed, of 23, Joicey Terrace.
Plans and specifications may be seen at my office on and after the 16th inst.
Tenders will be received until the 27th inst.
T. E. CROSSLING, F.I.A.S.,
Stanley, R.S.O. Architect.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for the construction of about 400 yards of 6 inch SANITARY PIPE SEWER, together with the necessary Manholes and Inspection Chambers, between Low and Middle Friarside.
Any information as to the above will be given by the undersigned, in the forenoon of March 19th, 20th, and 21st at Burnopfield.
Tenders endorsed "Sewer" to be delivered to the undersigned on or before Wednesday, March 28th, at 4 p.m.
R. HESLOP,
Burnopfield. Surveyor.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SCAVENGING CONTRACTS.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for the REMOVAL of ASHPIT and HOUSE REFUSE for the year ending March 31st, 1901, which will be divided into the following Districts.
No. 1. Tanfield, about 75 houses.
No. 2. Burnopfield East of Sheep Hill and Busty Bank, about 153 houses.
No. 3. Burnopfield West of Sheep Hill, Leazes, and Syke Lane, 165 houses.
No. 4. High and Low Friarside, and Lintz Green, about 100 houses.
No. 5. Lintz, about 160 houses.
No. 6. Hobson, Pickering Nook, Mountsett, etc., about 253 houses.
No. 7. Causey, Andrew's House, about 98 houses.
No. 8. Tantobie, and White-le-Head, 396 houses.
No. 9. Tanfield Lea, 157 houses.
Form of Tender and other information from the undersigned.
Sealed Tenders endorsed "House Refuse" to be delivered to me on or before Wednesday, March 28th, at 4 p.m.
R. HESLOP,
Burnopfield. Surveyor.

Contracts.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.

BUILDERS desirous of TENDERING for the ERECTION of 23 COTTAGES, at Chopwell, or for Viewer's House at Medomsley, are requested to forward their names to Henry Holliday, Esq., Consett Iron Company, Limited, Blackhill, Co. Durham, before Monday, 26th March. Plans, &c., may be seen on application to the Architect, at the Company's General Offices, Blackhill. Quantities will be supplied.

THE WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL invite TENDERS at a price per ton, for the SUPPLY and DELIVERY of Broken Slag, Whinstone, and Limestone for the half-year ending 29th September, 1900, delivered at the following sidings within their district, viz:—Crookgate, Lobley Hill, Teams, and Swalwell. Sealed Tenders endorsed "Tenders for Road Metal," to be delivered to me not later than 12 o'clock noon, on the 3rd day of April, 1900. The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any Tender.
Dated this 13th day of March, 1900.
THOMAS LAMBERT,
Solicitor, Clerk to the Council.
Town Hall, Gateshead.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS required in the ERECTION of 14 DWELLING HOUSES, at South Moor, for Mr. A. SWINBURN.
Plans and Specification may be seen at my Office, on and after the 23rd inst. Sealed Tenders to be delivered by the 31st inst.
WILLIAM FORSTER, Architect,
160h Stanley.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required to be done in the ERECTION and COMPLETION of HOUSE, &c., in Aynsley Terrace, Consett, for Mr. R. C. Foster.
Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen, and Forms of Tender may be obtained at the Architect's Office, 121, Durham Road, Blackhill.
Tenders to be sent in to above Office, on or before Wednesday, 4th April, 1900.
No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.
154h GEO. THOS. WILSON, Architect.

Wanted.

WANTED a GENERAL SERVANT, for Whitley.—Apply in first instance to *Guardian* Office, Consett. 975g

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at MR. COCKBURN'S, Stationer, &c., 13, Front St, Consett.

WANTED, GIRL GENERAL, one able to milk preferred.—Apply, New Acres Farm, South Moor. 993g

CARTMEN WANTED, steady, trustworthy men.—Apply, H. BROWN, Contractor, 30, Green Street, Consett. 945g

TEA LEAD WANTED, in any quantity; (market price given), at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 345f

WANTED, a respectable Girl as GENERAL SERVANT for Hotel.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 96h

WANTED, a good GENERAL, able to Cook and Wash.—Apply, MRS. CHARLTON, Longfield House, Marley Hill. 110h

GENERAL WANTED, for Doctor's House; references required.—Apply, 24, Kingsley Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 152h

WANTED, MASONS' LABOURER to go with Horse and Cart occasionally.—Apply to WM. TAYLOR & SONS, Medomsley, R.S.O. 159h

WANTED, a respectable, steady MAN, to go with Pair of Horses and Waggon.—Apply on Saturday afternoon, to J. WHITEHEAD, The Mill, Consett. 170h

GOOD GENERAL SERVANT WANTED, for Villa, near Rowlands Gill Station.—Apply, with reference, to No. 1, Clifton Road, Newcastle. 98h

WANTED, GENERAL SERVANT, one able to wash, three in family.—Apply, MRS. BACON, Leybourne Villa, The Peth, Durham. 101h

WANTED immediately, an experienced GENERAL SERVANT, not under 20.—Apply to MRS. WYLIE, 122, Durham Road, Blackhill. 108h

WANTED, PICTURES TO FRAME, in Oak, Gilt, or various kinds of Moulding, from 1s. upwards.—T. C. BELL, 37, Rosebery Terrace, Consett. 784e

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J. ORTON, Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, SERVANT GIRL, one who can milk, or willing to learn preferred.—Apply, FRED GASCOIGNE, West Butsfield, Satley, by Tow Law. 898g

CONSETT NATIONAL SCHOOL.

WANTED, ASSISTANT MISTRESS for Standard I. Infants, Art. 50. Salary, £50.—Apply, with testimonials, experience, to Vicar. 140h

SHOTLEY BRIDGE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LIMITED.

WANTED, 2 APPRENTICES for the Dressmaking Business.—Apply to the Committee, Friday, March 30, at 8 p.m. 87h

WANTED, OFFERS for 6 four-roomed HOUSES (self-contained), in Livingstone Street, Consett, and 4 four-roomed HOUSES (self-contained), in Allison Street, Consett.—Apply, JOHN ALLISON, Rose Mount, Consett. 83h

WANTED by the West Stanley Co-operative Society, Ltd., a strong YOUTH for the Warehouse, not to be under 14 years of age, wage to commence 7s. per week.—To apply to the Committee on Monday evening, March 26th, 1900, at 7·15 o'clock. Confined to Members' families. THOS. W. W. RITSON, Secretary.

CLERK OF WORKS.

THE WHICKHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL require a Clerk of Works to superintend works of street paving. Salary 50s. per week. Applications stating age and experience to be delivered to me not later than the 3rd of April next, endorsed, "Clerk of Works," THOMAS LAMBERT, Solicitor, Town Hall, Gateshead, Clerk to the Whickham Urban District Council. 111h

WANTED, all Customers and the General Public to know that W. E. TURNER has REMOVED HIS STOCK to more Commodious Premises.—Note the address:—No. 6 FRONT STREET (next door to Mr. G. Pattrick, Chemist), where they will find a choice selection of Hats, Caps, Ties, Collars, Shirts, Suits, Cyclists' Outfits, and Accessories.—Monster CLEARANCE SALE of CYCLES. A large variety of Pipes, Tobaccos and Cigars. Try the noted "Supremacy," 7 for 1s. 982e

To Let.

TO LET, a Lock-up SHOP.—Apply S. ROWE, Consett. 652g

TO LET, 3 excellent two-roomed COTTAGES situated at Castleside.—Apply, W. RAMSAY, N.E. Bank, Blackhill. 888g

THREE Roomed HOUSE TO LET, Castleside.—Apply, present tenant, or JOSEPH CHEESMAN, Grocer, Iveston. 106h

TO LET, HOUSE and SHOP (6 rooms), in Mortimer Street, Blackhill.—For particulars apply, Post Office, Blackhill. 147h

TO LET, HOUSE, 44, Medomsley Road, Consett, with 6 Rooms, Cellar, Washhouse, and all outside conveniences.—Apply on the premises. 91h

TO LET, ROSE COTTAGE, near Lintz Green Station, containing 7 Rooms, with Bath, Hot and Cold Water. All necessary Conveniences, good Garden.—Apply, W. BRAIDFORD, Lintz Green. 151h

TO LET OR FOR SALE, Splendid BUSINESS PREMISES situated at Dipton, recently occupied by Mr. J. A. Castle, Draper.—Apply, A. Phillipson, Auctioneer, Dipton.

TO LET or FOR SALE, a HOUSE situate in Consett, containing Nine Rooms, Bathroom (hot and cold water), and Box room.—Apply, T. W. WELFORD, Consett. 565g

TO LET, Three-roomed COTTAGE and Garden at Knitsley; One-room Cottage at Sawmill Wood.—Apply to Mr. CRAGGS, Woodlands.

CASTLESIDE, TO LET OR SELL, Four-roomed HOUSE and SHOP, also BYRE and small plot of GROUND, to be entered into at May Day.—Apply, G. A. MUSE, Castleside House, Castleside, Consett. 25h

TO LET, SHOP and DWELLING-HOUSE, containing six rooms with usual conveniences, situate in Front Street, Consett. Possession, May Term. Suitable for any business.—For further particulars apply MURRAY, RICHMOND, AND AYNSLEY, Solicitors, Consett. 19h

☞ For other To Lets and For Sales see Page 5.

Business Announcements.

IT IS AN ASTONISHING FACT THAT EVERYONE WHO IS ILL AND CANNOT GET CURED GO AT ONCE TO

GEO. PATTRICK,

CHEMIST, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
WHO HAS MADE SOME MARVELLOUS RESTORATIONS TO HEALTH IN CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS.
GO TO HIM AT ONCE IF YOU ARE NOT WELL. THOUSANDS OF CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

TURNBULL BROTHERS,
LEAZES & LINTZ COLLIERY,

TEA MERCHANTS, GROCERS, DRAPERS, AND PROVISION DEALERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

GROCERY AND PROVISION DEPARTMENT.

TEA at less than Cost Price: From 1s 1d per lb. New Season's Fruit at Startlingly Low Prices.

CHEESE—Prize Cheshire, Finest American, Wensleydale Edam, &c., &c.

FLOUR—From best Millers in England from 1s 1d per Stone.

CHOICEST HAMS, extra Selected for Christmas Trade, 7d per lb.

BEST BACON obtainable, Finest Sholder, from 4½d per lb.

JAMS of all kinds. CAKES in endless Variety.

WINE, SPIRIT, AND ALE DEPARTMENT.

The largest direct Irish Whisky buyers in the District.

WHISKEY (Lea-bee) ... ... 2s 6d & 3s per bot.
" " ... ... 3s, 3s 6d, & 4s " "
" (Counsel) ... ... 3s " "
" " ... ... 3s per qrt. bo.
Counsel Whiskey keeps its place—Always in Front.
GIN (Old Tom) ... ... 2s 9d per bot.
BRANDY ... ... 3s 6d " "
" (Three Star) ... ... 4s 9d " "
(Usual Price 5s 6d.)

AGENTS FOR WHITBREAD'S, WORTHINGTON'S AND TRUMAN, HANBURY, & CO.'S ALES.

☞ Our Customers may depend that the great object we aim at is TO SEND ALES AND SPIRITS OUT in the VERY BEST CONDITION, so that they may give every Satisfaction.
ASK TO SEE OUR PRICE LISTS.

THE BEST BREAKFAST BACON
IS
M. MACKENZIE & SONS.

CHOICE QUALITY. HOME-FED! OUR OWN CURING.

Rich in flavour, mild in cure, it is the most perfect and profitable Breakfast Bacon you can get.

HOME-FED HAMS, 16 to 20 lbs. Specially recommended for Leanness and Quality

M. MACKENZIE & SONS,
25, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

WINTER FASHIONS.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL DRAPERS.

BEG respectfully to draw attention to their recent Purchases of NEW GOODS for Winter Wear. Our Stock of Dress Goods is one of the largest in this district, and Ladies will find a Splendid Range of Goods to select from. New Black Surah, Morgurette, and Bengaline Silks.
Dress Trimmings, Gloves, Corsets, Umbrellas, and Laces
Wool Shirtings, Flannels, Wool Mixtures, and Blankets of exceptional Value.
DRESSMAKERS, TAILORS, and MILLINERS, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE CENTRAL SHOP
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,
IS THE BEST

For Every Description of GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, PATENT MEDICINES, AND PROPRIETARY GOODS.

The Best and Cheapest House for FLOUR from the best Millers.

Splendid Colonial BUTTER, at 1s. per lb. COOKED HAMS, from 7½d. per lb. Whole.

JOHN HALL & CO.,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

JOHN HUME AND SON,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.
MAKERS OF HIGH-CLASS BRIDES' CAKES, BIRTHDAY CAKES, &c.

CATERERS FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL SOIREES AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENTS.

ALSO, MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF FEEDING STUFFS OF THE BEST QUALITY.

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

THE FINEST FRUITS OF THE SEASON. FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S NEW SEASON'S FRUITS.

Have arrived and cannot fail to evoke the hearty appreciation of all who see and try them. They are

CLEAN, FLESHY, DELICIOUS, ECONOMICAL.

The Thrifty Housewife invests wisely when she purchases at

FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,
DRAPERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

INFLUENZA,
INFLUENZA.
INFLUENZA.

Do you feel a pain in the back, aching of the limbs, headache, dizziness, etc? If so you are feeling the first symptoms of an attack of influenza.

INFLUENZA CAN BE WARDED OFF IN 12 HOURS BY TAKING A BOTTLE OF SWINDALE'S INFLUENZA MIXTURE.
PRICE,—ONE SHILLING PER BOTTLE.

Ordinary Cough Mixtures are worse than useless.

JABEZ SWINDALE,
CHEMIST,
BLACKHILL, CONSETT, & LEADGATE.

F. EDWARDS,
BOOT AND SHOE DEALER,
FLINT HILL, DIPTON,

HAS a large stock of BOOTS and SHOES at lowest prices. Children's Necessaries in large varieties.
Also TRAPS and WAGGONETTES for PLEASURE PARTIES AND CLOSED CARRIAGES for WEDDINGS & FUNERALS.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS,
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,
Insured against, and FIDELITY BONDS granted by the
RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY.
Established 1849. Claims paid £4,150,000.
64, Cornhill, London. A. VIAN, Secretary.
Agents:—Mr. JOHN HARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. J. L. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.
Agents required unrepresented Districts.

LIEBIG'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.
This preparation is made from
PORT WINE,
EXTRACT OF MALT, AND
EXTRACT OF BEEF.
Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended.
3s. 6d. per quart Bottle (usually sold at 4s 6d.)
1s. 9d. per pint Bottle (usually sold at 2s. 9d.

Tawagin Port Wine, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Sherry, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s.
Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s.
Claret from 1s. per bottle.
Burgundies from 1s. per bottle.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:
ROBINSON & CO.
DRUG STORES,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Business Announcements.

HAVE YOU MACHINERY? YES.
THEN USE DICKINSON BROS.' LUBRICANTS.
BEST AND CHEAPEST.
WORKS: CLOSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 122g

CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES.
STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

At Greatly Reduced Prices to clear. Bargains for all.

GREAT REMOVAL CLEARANCE SALE.

Millinery of all kinds, and Fancy Goods.
Ladies' and Children's Outfitting.
Millinery and Drapery.

AT **MRS. HAND'S** MILLINERY ESTABLISHMENT, 14, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.

CANADIAN FARM-FED SMOKED BACON, PERFECT FLAVOUR, 8d. PER POUND.
SWAINSTON'S SIDE BACON, DELICIOUS FOR BREAKFAST.

EXTRA SPECIAL PRIZE DANISH BUTTER, "MOSEBOLLE" DAIRY.
FRESH EGGS, 16 FOR ONE SHILLING.

SWAINSTON BROTHERS,
THE PROVISION SHOP,
12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

FOR A SMART TURN-OUT

You require a Stylish, Well-Finished Trap, and a Handsome Set of Harness.
YOU CAN GET THESE EITHER FOR CASH OR ON THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM
AT
COWEN'S CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS,
TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.

To keep your Harness in Tip-top Condition you must use FRANK MILLER'S CELEBRATED HARNESS DRESSINGS for which we are the Sole Agents in this District.
Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, Rubber and Wool Mats, Horse Sheets and Clothing, Whips, Non-rustable Bits, and other sundries always on hand.
Also at TYNEDALE CARRIAGE WORKS, HEXHAM. 115f

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH.

FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.
CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM THREE TO SIX, AT
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13, FRONT STREET
(SIDE DOOR.)

OPENING OF NEW BUSINESS PREMISES.

DOBSON GRADON,
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

D.G. Has removed into his NEW PREMISES, nearly opposite Old Shop, where he keeps a good selection of Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, and Optical Goods of Reliable and Guaranteed Quality.
WATCH AND CLOCK REPAIRS A SPECIALTY. CLOCKS CLEANED AND REPAIRED IN TOWN OR COUNTRY.
SHOP DOOR CLOSED FROM 12-30 TO 1-30 O'CLOCK. 49f

FOR PURE DRUGS, CHEMICALS, PHOTOGRAPHIC CHEMICALS AND REQUISITES
AT MODERATE PRICES,
GO TO
MILNER,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,
15, SHAKESPEARE STREET, AND FRONT STREET,
CONSETT. 67h

THE CATCHGATE POSTING ESTABLISHMENT;
CATCHGATE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR

HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.
MOURNING COACHES. CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS.
BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES.
SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23y
FURNITURE REMOVED. ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
With all the Greatest Improvements of Modern Dental Science.

THE TEETH supplied by Mr. Campbell are made of only the best and purest materials, and are not affected by the fluids of the mouth, but retain their natural appearance and colour, and enable those who wear them to masticate their food with ease and comfort. They are adapted to the mouth on a system of self-adhesion, without extraction of Stumps, or other painful operation, and the prices are so reasonable that they are within the means of all classes. Every set guaranteed to fit perfectly, and warranted.
COMPLETE UPPER OR LOWER SET, from 30s to £4 10s.
PARTIAL SETS, from 3s to 10s per Tooth.

HIGH-CLASS DENTISTRY.

MR. T. C. CAMPBELL,
SURGEON DENTIST,
No. 8, GRAINGER STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Teeth painlessly extracted by the aid of Nitrous Oxide (Laughing Gas), and all operations in Dental Surgery skilfully performed.
☞ All Charges Strictly Moderate.

CONSULTATION FREE.
Attendance from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Appointments may be made with Mr. Dobinson, Cooke's Buildings, Annfield Plain. 772b

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FOOTBALL.

MATCHES.

DURHAM AMATEUR CUP.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. TRIBLEY STAR.

These clubs met on the Vicarage ground, Consett, on Saturday, in the fourth round of the Durham Amateur Cup. The ground was snow-covered, but there was a good attendance of spectators, who were reinforced during the game by the appearance of a band celebrating St. Patrick's Day. The teams were as follows:—

Consett—Goal, Graham; backs, Patterson and Finnican; half-backs, McNally, McKie, and J. Rafferty; forwards, B. Rafferty, Turley, Jas. Finnigan, Dempsey, and Boyle.

Tribley Star—Goal, Laverick; backs, Robson and Scott; half-backs, Harvey, E. Laverick, and Scott; forwards, Allison, Emmerson, Scott, Wilson, and Weatherall.

Tribley kicked off, and without a moment's notice were driven back. Going straight away Dempsey wound up by shooting into the net. Hardly had the ball been set in moton again than the Swifts dashed along to their opponents goal, and from a scrimmage Finnigan shot the second goal in. Some midfield play followed, and then the Swifts again entered their opponents territory, and working up to the goal Scott, in a very injudicious effort to save, rolled the ball into his own goal, thus giving the homesters a lead of three goals to none with the game still young. Hardly had the applause died away when Finnigan again beat the custodian with a very easy shot, an event which led to Robson, who was keeping goal, being superseded by Laverick, who made a much better show, for soon after, when the backs had been beaten he smartly got the ball away. Turley missed a good chance of scoring by slipping, and Consett took matters easily. Dempsey, however, put on another goal with a low shot which might have been cleared. The homesters continued to have matters pretty much their own way, but no further scoring took place up to the interval, when the game stood—

Consett Swifts .... Five goals
Tribley Star .... Nil

In the second half, despite the heavy scoring against them, the Stars played a plucky game. Each goal was visited in turn, the Swifts perhaps having the best of matters, but they could not break through the grand defence of Laverick, Robson, and Scott. About twenty minutes from time Emmerson scored for the visitors after a determined assault upon the home goal. No further scoring took place, and when the whistle sounded the Swifts were easy victors with the score—

Consett Swifts .... Five goals
Tribley Star .... One goal

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

GATESHEAD N.E.R. v. LEADGATE PARK.

These teams decided their Northern Alliance match on the N.E.R. ground, Old Ford, Gateshead. Teams:—

N.E.R.—Goal, Atkinson; backs, H. Bertram and Redpath; half-backs, G. Bertram, Ridley, and Jarvie; forwards, Sweeney, Cooper, Sibbett, Shield, and Brown.

Leadgate Park—Goal, Hedley; backs, J. Wilson and Laidler; half-backs, Daly, T. Wilson, and J. Bowes; forwards, Cook, Grant, Layton, Thompson, and Lown.

From Layton's opening, Sheild captured, and, putting out to Brown, a race down the left wing resulted, J. Wilson operating safely at back. Cook, along with Grant, drove the ball in front of them some distance across the half-way line, Redpath easing the rush. Ridley put well across to Cooper, who being challenged by Bowes kicked hard and true to Sweeney, who centred grandly in front of Leadgate's goal, Laidler heading splendidly away. Layton and Lown, in some clever exchanges, worked clean through the N.E.R. half-back line, Lown struggling hard to get in a shot, but G. Bertram got the ball out. Forcing the pace, Grant gained a corner for Leadgate, which Lown placed behind. Layton, in a sharp run, went past Ridley, but Redpath stopped any further progress. Cook ran fully thirty yards before the opposition made by H. Bertram prevailed. Down the field went Cooper, and Shield, as the result of a neat transference from Jarvie, a fine saving kick being applied by Bowes when Sweeney, who had taken a pass, attempted to let drive. Atkinson was hereabouts kept engaged, Grant, Cook, and Thompson all getting in straight bangs, each being well cleared. Sweeney went ahead of Bowes, and then lost to Laidler, while later, Sibbett was only stopped with difficulty by T. Wilson. Layton getting rid of Ridley shot well for goal, the ball going high over the bar. Cooper accepted a timely pass from G. Bertram, and going off at racing speed covered much ground before sending out to Shield, who looked like running close until J. Wilson and Laidler closed upon him and closed his career. Grant and Layton after a brief struggle with Ridley and G. Bertram, succeeded in getting clear, and then Layton ran right from the half-way line, and when about a dozen yards from goal, banged in at express speed all along the ground and into the net, Atkinson making a feeble attempt to keep the ball out. The railway men now went in for an equaliser, Cooper having hard lines with a shot; then Sibbett, after mastering T. Wilson, shot a few yards wide. Layton, along with Thompson and Lown, in a passing run, forced the home half-backs and backs right back upon their own goal, Layton sending in a teaser which Atkinson most ably saved. Some midfield work of an interesting character ensued, then Shield, who was playing a sound game on the N.E.R. left, went away in a long run and tested Hedley with a lightning shot, which the Leadgate man stopped. More pressing from the visiting forwards, who had a good understanding with each other, and then a miss by Grant. The game was grandly contested, but the respective defenders on the whole were just a little better than the forwards. Layton was at times highly dangerous, and he led his wing comrades well on to the attack, from one of which Redpath made a splendid saving kick from Cook. Shield and Brown were also often conspicuous, but J. Wilson was a splendid back, and it was seldom that either could get in a shot at Hedley. Just before the turn round the play was very fast, but there was no further scoring. Half-time:—

Leadgate Park .... One goal
Gateshead N.E.R. .... Nil

On again resuming, the Parkites went off with immense dash, Bertram and Redpath having a warm period, the former making a save from Thompson and then Lown called upon Redpath. Atkinson was then harassed with ugly shots from Layton and Grant, both of which he negotiated safely. Shield and Brown, at this stage, got in some telling play, a splendidly directed shot from the foot of Brown being just as well stopped by Hedley. Following upon this attack, Sibbett tipped with excellent judgment across to Sweeney, who, without being pressed, directed the ball yards over the bar. The railway forwards were now sharp upon the ball, and passed well to one another. Shield overpowered Daly and T. Wilson, and passed right over to Sweeney, who sent the ball into the net, Hedley having no chance. The N.E.R. men having now the major portion of the match, Cooper, Sweeney, Sibbett, with Shield and Brown kept working manfully for further openings, and one coming to Shield, this player with a lofty shot put into the net in rare style. A player on each side was here ordered off the field. N.E.R. had up to the end much the best of matters. Final:—

Gateshead N.E.R. .... Two goals
Leadgate Park .... One goal

SOUTH SHIELDS v. STANLEY.

This postponed Alliance fixture was played at South Shields in wintry weather, and before only a moderate attendance. Some delay was caused as to whether the game should be opened but ultimately it was agreed to go on with the match. The visitors turned out their full strength, but the home side were obliged to put two substitutes in the field. The home captain won the toss, and commenced to play towards the railway end. Robson kicked off for the visitors, who immediately made tracks for Seymour. After Wilson had attempted to clear, Masterman put into the net, but he was ruled off-side, and the point was consequently disallowed. Aided by the goal kick, the seasiders were playing to gain a more advantageous position, and after a smart piece of play by Carmichael, Gall scored, but he was given off-side. Snow now began to fall heavily, and Shields were pressing in a blinding snowstorm. Despite the odds against them, they gave Spinks and his backs considerable trouble, and after a splendid combined effort by Murphy and Carmichael, the latter beat the visitors' custodian with an oblique shot from a difficult angle. It was a success well-earned and well-deserved. After this reverse, Stanley attacked with some spirit, and the home forwards were hard pressed. Several corners were conceded in very quick succession, and Seymour saved grandly on several occasions. He was particularly smart in saving one dangerous shot. To do so, he had to throw himself full length upon the ground. After spells of attacks the seasiders began to press their opponents, and Murphy took the ball well up into the centre. Snow continued to fall, and the players had the greatest difficulty in keeping their footholds. The referee was obliged to stop the game to see if the storm abated, and after a lapse of twenty minutes the match was abandoned the score being—

South Shields .... One goal
Stanley .... Nil

WEAR VALLEY LEAGUE.

First Division.

STANHOPE v. COCKFIELD.

This match was played at Stanhope, and resulted in a win for the home team by 3 goals to 1.

CHARITY CUP.

BLACKHILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v. HAMSTERLEY.

This game in connection with the 1st round of the Charity Cup attracted the largest concourse of spectators seen on the Shotley Spa grounds this season. The weather was fine when Mr. R. Charlton lined the teams up as follows:—

Blackhill—Goal, K. Johnson; backs, J. G. Robinson and Wilkinson; half-backs, Redshaw, Mathieson, and J. Johnson; forwards, Watson, Richards, Robson, Lumley, and Higgins.

Hamsterley—Goal, Rudd; backs, Swinburn and Carr; half-backs, Anderson, Ferry, and Little; forwards, D. Seath, T. Seath, Andrews, F. Johnson, and Fenwick.

The Saints won the toss, and started towards the low goal, where the left wing was soon in evidence. Carr, however, cleared, and placed to his right wing, who ran down, but were easily stopped by Wilkinson. The Saints came away again, and Lumley spoiled a fine chance by lifting over the bar when close in. From the ensuing kick, the Hamsterley left wing ran down, and T. Seath got in a good shot, but Johnson picked up and threw away. Hamsterley still kept the pressure up, but the Saints' defence easily disposed of all their efforts to score. Robson by a solo run gained a lot of ground for his side, but had to relinquish his hold of the ball. The referee was hereabouts kept busy detecting a few fouls on either side, after which from a good pass by Redshaw, Watson ran up and put nicely across, but Little got the ball away and passed to Johnson, who gave to his partner, who centred well, and Andrews, who was standing right in the goal-mouth, put the ball through, Johnson making no attempt to stop the ball, the referential whistle having previously gone for off-side. Some good play by both sides was witnessed after this, and the Saints were pressing when half-time arrived with the score—

Blackhill .... Nil.
Hamsterley .... Nil.

On resuming, Hamsterley went away with a rush, but Robinson sent them back, and Higgins sent in a good shot which the goalkeeper cleared. Johnson and Wilkinson were here conspicuous for good work against the Hamsterley right wing, who were not to be denied, and came on again and again, but all their efforts were futile against the fine defence set by Johnson and his backs. Led by Higgins and Robson, the Saints put on pressure, and gained three corners, but the visiting custodian saved in fine style. From a free kick against the Saints, Anderson tried a long shot, but Robinson cleared with a fine kick. From a break away by T. Seath, Redshaw cleared, and putting the ball among his forwards, they ran on, and drawing the goalkeeper out, Robson scored with a fine shot, in the far corner, amid loud applause. From now to the finish the game was stubbornly contested, but the Saints set up a strong defence, and eventually gained a well-merited victory, which will entitle them to play in the next round, by one goal to nil. Final—

Blackhill St. Cuthberts ...... One goal.
Hamsterley .... Nil.

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

By "OFF-SIDE."

CONSETT IN THE FIFTH ROUND.

Consett Swifts made no mistake about who should meet Sunderland Rifles in the next round of the Durham Amateur Cup. They adopted a very wise policy in rushing off at tangent, and scoring goal after goal in the first half, until they had a quintette to their credit. True some of the goals were rather soft, and one was presented to them by Scott, at left back, but that was the fault of the Stars, and not of the Swifts. I believe I am right in saying that the Tribley team have had a remarkably successful season, and hardly knew what it was to retire defeated. On Saturday, however, their display in the first half was poor in the extreme. They were weak in defence and weaker in attack, and only came up to very junior form. In the second half they put more energy into their play, but there was a good deal of sufferance on the part of the Swifts, whose comfortable lead induced them to take matters with considerable ease. Five to one was the final reading, and this should give the Swifts increased confidence in their meeting with the Wearsiders, whom they ought to vanquish, and so qualify once more for the semi-finals. The Tribley team were accompanied by quite a crowd of supporters, and I am told that the latter were perfectly willing to back their pets at any reasonable odds. However, on the day's play they were outclassed and outmatched.

—o—

THE PARK'S USUAL FATE.

At one time on Saturday it seemed likely that the Park would break the spell of ill-luck that has stuck to them in their away engagements this season. Being badly in need of points Gateshead placed a strong team in the field, which included an entire line of new forwards; but up to the interval the visitors had decidedly the best of matters, and had they shot with more accuracy they should have made the game safe ere the change of ends. As it was, the Park led by a goal to nothing, Joe Layton scoring after a run half the length of the field. Leadgate commenced the second period in great style, and from a beautiful pass from the right wing Thompson missed the chance of a lifetime, the ball coming right across and only needing touching through. After a time the visitors seemed to fall away, and this was the signal for the N.E.R. to put forth increased efforts to draw level. The ball ultimately came out to Sweeney, who appeared to be clearly off-side, but he unhesitatingly placed the leather into the net and Mr Mackin disregarded all claims for off-side. Not long after Shield got the ball when well placed, and Hedley had not the slightest chance with the old Prudhoe man's shot, as the latter was only a yard or two out of goal. The home men now played up in rare style, and several times looked like adding to their total, but the Park defence prevailed, and nothing more being registered, Leadgate had once more to acknowledge defeat away from home.

—o—

I see that the game is described in a Newcastle paper as the best played on the Old Fold ground this season. If this is so I am not sorry that I missed the other ones. It was a passable game, but that is about all. Had the Park kept up the form they showed in the first half I think it is pretty safe to say that they would have won their first Alliance game this season on foreign territory. But they didn't, and there's the rub. The N.E.R. never gave in, pegging away pluckily all the time, and their persistency was at length rewarded. The new forward line on the home side gave a satisfactory account of itself, Shield being particularly prominent, but the Leadgate defence was very fine previous to the interval, Joe Wilson and Daly especially being in grand trim, whilst Hedley brought off two or three extremely good saves. Sweeney and Brown were also useful, but Sibbett spoiled his display by indulging in shady tactics, and was two or three times cautioned by the referee. Ridley was the shining light at half, and he played a really fine game, his tackling being most effective. Bertram also did very well. At back the N.E.R. captain (Redpath) was in good trim, his kicking and all-round work being worthy of praise. He had a useful partner in Bertram, who shaped capitally. Atkinson was not overworked in goal, but some of his clearances in the first half had a shade of luck about them, especially a save from a header by Grant and a very fast shot from Cook.

The absence of Temple from the Park ranks caused Joe Wilson to take up his old position at back, and he has probably never played a finer game than he did during the opening "45." His heading, kicking, and tackling were splendid, and he stopped the best meant efforts of the Gateshead forwards. Laidler made a promising first appearance, and will probably be kept on the team. At half Daly played one of his best games, and seems to improve every time he turns out. Tommy Wilson worked as hard as ever, whilst at times Bowes showed what he can do if he likes. The forwards were far from satisfactory, and carried at least one passenger. Joe Layton did very fairly in the centre, but Lown had few chances owing to the weakness of his partner. Cook and Grant played very well on the right, but many of their centres were wasted. Hedley kept goal splendidly, and had not the ghost of a chance with the two shots that took effect. An unfortunate incident occurred about 15 minutes off time. Joe Wilson had just sent the ball up the field when Sibbett (who had played a dirty game throughout) struck at the Park captain two or three times. Wilson kept his temper admirably under provocative circumstances, and never attempted to retaliate. The referee's attention was called to the matter by the shouts of the spectators, and after some conversation Mr. Mackin ordered both players off the field. This was very hard lines upon Wilson as the referee never saw what happened, and the Park captain did nothing to merit this severe treatment. As the home players and spectators admitted Sibbett was entirely to blame for what took place.

NEARING THE END.

After some delays, good progress is now being made with the Durham Amateur Cup competition, and the struggle for possession of the pot has been reduced to eight clubs. Consett Swifts and Annfield Plain have both survived, but, after a run of luck in the matter of choice of ground, they both have to travel in the fifth round. And, rather curiously, each team has to visit Sunderland. The Celts will oppose Selborne, whilst the Swifts have as opponents the Rifles. As former winners of the cup, Selborne are entitled to some respect, but I don't think that they are as strong as when they beat Bearpark in the final two or three years since. The Plain fully intend to try and reach the last stage, and I am not without hopes of seeing them thrash the Selborne men. Doubtless they will have to put all on to accomplish this, but a repetition of their previous cup-tie form will about do the trick. I entertain pretty sanguine hopes of the Swifts knocking out the Military, and I shall be somewhat surprised if the Consettonians don't reach the next stage. They are playing in capital form, and should just about put paid to the account of the Rifles. I am fairly confident as to both our local teams pulling through, and in that case I expect to see one of them land the cup. West Hartlepool still continue to go strongly, and I look upon the seasiders as likely to furnish the chief opposition to our local teams. Stick in, Swifts! Buck up, Celts!

THE DECAY OF MINOR FOOTBALL.

I was present at the conference held in Newcastle on Saturday night to consider the above subject, and from what transpired I don't think that there is the slightest chance of the proposal put forward by Messrs Middleton and Bell being realised—viz., that there should be two divisions of the Northern Alliance, the clubs to be selected from the different leagues. I was vastly amused at the speech of a gentleman named Heatley, who, I understand, is president of the East Northumberland League. According to Mr. Heatley, the only football worth seeing in the north is played in East Northumberland. He took it as a "gigantic insult" that the clubs forming his league should be asked to join the second division of the Alliance. Probably Mr. Heatley would like to see as many clubs as are necessary fall out of the present first division into the second, in order to make room for the East Northumberland teams. This gentleman also does not believe in amateurism, and thinks the amateur teams no good with the exception of Queen's Park, Glasgow. I wonder if he has ever heard about a team called the Corinthians, which has on several occasions beaten his own beloved Queen's Parkers. Messrs. Warburton, Tiffin, and Douglas followed in the same strain as Mr. Heatley, advocating that leagues should be more localised, and that country teams should play local men instead of getting so many from Newcastle and other places. Mr. Davie Morrison was about the only speaker to support Messrs. Middleton and Bell, and I cannot say that I was greatly impressed by his remarks. Eventually it was resolved to call a meeting of representatives of the Northern Alliance, Northern League, Tyneside League, and East Northumberland League, which will meet and report to a further meeting to be held later on. I might mention that Messrs Middleton and Bell stated their case in a most able manner, whilst Mr. H. Walker of Redcar, made an ideal chairman. The conference altogether was decidedly antagonistic to Mr. Middleton's scheme, and, in my opinion, there is not a hundred to one chance of it coming about—that is, at any rate, during next season. The local clubs were not strongly represented, as I only noticed few delegates present.

A SURPRISE AT SEGHILL.

The Northumberland Cup-holders got a surprise on Saturday. They entertained Allendale Park, and fully expected to finish on the right side. However, the visitors played a surprisingly good game, and beat the home men by two goals to one. Allendale actually scored five times, but three of the points were struck off for infringements. This was a splendid performance on the part of the visitors, and serves to show that they have now got together a very capable combination—one which should hold its own in their remaining fixtures. I am afraid the Park have little chance of retaining possession of the North-West Durham Alliance trophy, but the team is sure to give a good account of itself during the remainder of the season, especially if they play as they did on Saturday. They surprised the Seghill team and their supporters, who had not reckoned on having to face such opposition. After the match the visitors were hospitably entertained by the committee of the Seghill club, and altogether the Park men had a very enjoyable outing. Mrs. Younger, the hostess of the home club's headquarters, looked well after the needs of the Allendalers. The latter created a good impression, and will be welcome visitors to Seghill on any occasion.

A NOTABLE PERFORMANCE.

The Leadgate Wednesday men accomplished a capital performance last week, when they picked up four points away from home in one day. They first met and defeated North Shields, who took their beating very badly. The visitors had intended to leave their clothes at the North Shields headquarters, and proceed in their football togs to the Tynemouth ground. However, the home club objected to this, but Leadgate were able to make terms with the landlady to leave their wearing apparel in another room. After a lengthy walk Preston Avenue was reached, upon which excellent ground Tynemouth had just previously beaten Prudhoe, and fully expected to mete out the same dose to Leadgate. However, the latter played a splendid game, and had the satisfaction of winning by three goals to none. Probably the Leadgate boys have not played a better game this season, and their exertions at Shields appeared to have affected them very little. The whole team were in form, and greatly surprised Tynemouth, who, like their neighbours, did not at all relish their defeat. Jack Hunter (the old Parkite) appeared in goal for Leadgate, and the fact that he never allowed a shot to pass him speaks volumes for his work. Lowes and Saunderson were excellent at back, the latter being in particularly good trim. At half Kennedy played a grand game, and was the best man on the field. Greener and Morpeth also put in a lot of effective work. The forwards played in good style, Billy Teasdale (another old Parkite) scoring a couple of goals at Tynemouth. The other four—Bell, Kershaw, Lockey, and McGowan—did all that was required of them, and were very smart. I hope that the same form has been reproduced in the cup-tie against Sunderland, particulars of which will be found on our eighth page.

TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS A.F.C.

Mr. J. Gray, the hon. sec. of the above club writes me as follows:—

Dear Off-side,—I am requested by the committee of Tantobie Co-ops. A.F.C. to express our regret that our late secretary should have taken matters into his own hands respecting your suggestion of teams to form an Alliance; also to hope that the same good feeling may still exist between you and the Co-ops.

[I need scarcely say that the reading of the above communication from my friend Mr. Gray gave me the greatest satisfaction. I felt sure that the majority of the members of the "Co-ops." would acquit me of the ridiculous charge preferred against me by Mr. Hindmarsh. Nothing was further from my thoughts than to do Tantobie any injury—or, for the matter of that, any club. There is another thing I would like to mention. Mr. Joe. Brown, whose name appeared at the bottom of Mr. Hindmarsh's letter, denies any knowledge of this, and is indignant that he should have been mixed up in the affair. Perhaps Mr. Hindmarsh will explain how it was that Mr. Brown's name was appended to the letter without the latter's sanction. This is rather a serious matter. In the future, when the interests of the club need defending, would it not be wise on the part of Mr. Hindmarsh to leave that duty to the proper person, viz., the secretary? Mr. Gray is perfectly competent to take charge and look after the club's welfare.—Off-side.]

MEMS.

Perhaps the most sensational result on Saturday was the defeat of Hamsterley by Blackhill St. Cuthbert's.

This took place in the first round of the Charity Cup.

I must confess it was a very great surprise to me.

I fully expected to see Hamsterley win.

However, I congratulate the Saints.

They are a plucky lot, and this win should do them some good.

The Saints' backs and goalkeeper played a fine defensive game.

Robson had the honour of scoring the goal.

Hamsterley were well represented.

The "Tobies" played a draw at Byer Moor.

With choice of ground the "Co-ops" expect to put paid to the account of the Moorites.

However, the holders do not intend to give in without a struggle.

They will be strongly represented.

I am told that the game at Byer Moor was anything but a pleasant one.

Welch turned out for the first time since being injured on Sept. 17th.

He signalised his re-appearance by scoring Byer Moor's goal.

It came from a beautiful header.

Sep Lamb was unable to play.

Several of the Moor players sported the shamrock on Saturday.

Doubtless in honour of the noble deeds done by the brave Irish soldiers at the front.

The Moorites intend holding a tea and smoker at the Peak Horse on March 31st.

In aid of the club funds.

Lintz Rovers also brought off a good performance.

No less than ten goals were scored in the Rovers' tie with Tanfield Lea.

On this form Sinclair's men should be dangerous candidates for the cup.

A lot depends upon the draw for the next round.

Which will be found in another portion of our present issue.

Burnhope turned up at Leadgate on Saturday.

And played the Park Reserve a good game.

The visitors hardly deserved to lose by two goals to none.

Laycock kept goal finely for the visitors.

The Parkites will have to show better form if they wish to go further in the competition.

Allendale Park took a strong team to Seghill.

And had the satisfaction of administering the first defeat to the Northumberland Cup winners.

By two goals to one.

The Park forwards were in grand trim, and succeeded in beating the home custodian five times.

Three of them, however, were disallowed.

Jos. Walton and Birtley were the most dangerous wing.

Birtley scored twice.

McIntyre, the new centre, played a splendid game.

While Yeats and Lynop played their usual effective game.

Taylor, Smith, and Thompson Walton formed a trio of safe halves.

The old warhorse easily held Rutherford and Dunn.

By the way, Dunn is the old Leadgate and Stanley player.

Scott played a grand game at back for Allendale.

But Mat Walton was handicapped through an injury received at work.

McGuinness (the Park custodian) is very smart, and clears in fine fashion.

Jos. Walton (of the Hobson) has returned to his old love.

Birtley, a young and promising player, has also thrown in his lot with Allendale.

He scored both goals against Seghill.

Tommy Brown, of Allendale Park, has removed to Walbottle.

He ought to prove an acquisition to the "Bottlers."

McGuinness is a worthy successor to Scott.

Stanley will have to visit South Shields for the third time this season.

The snowstorm stopped the game on Saturday.

Birtley got an awful drubbing at Shankhouse.

But they were minus several good men.

Their forwards were a moderate lot.

However, the "Blacks" manage to keep going.

Their gate on Saturday amounted to 3s. 10d!

This, I should think, is something like a record for the Alliance.

Shankhouse must have some supporters willing to "get their hands down."

And that deeply.

The Swifts easily accounted for Tribley Stars.

It was a one-sided game.

The Stars brought a whole host of supporters with them.

But they were not given many opportunities of shouting.

Consett soon took the lead.

And never relinquished it.

Joe Finnigan played a fine game at back.

And Patterson is a very promising player.

Dempsey was in rare trim.

And greatly bothered the Stars.

The spectators were annoyed at the many stoppages.

Mr Jane pulled the players up for the most trivial offence.

And in consequence the whistle was continually tootling.

To the annoyance of all present.

I quite agree with a referee being strict.

But Mr. Jane rather overdid it on Saturday.

The clouds were too thick for the Stars to shine.

Several of the spectators called the visitors the "Trilby" Stars.

It was an excusable mistake.

The visitors and their many supporters took the Swifts' headquarters by storm.

The Park are a most consistent team away from home.

They have never yet won an Alliance game off their own midden.

They had a splendid chance of doing so at Gateshead on Saturday.

But let it slip.

There was a great falling-off in the second half.

Joe Wilson, Daly, and Hedley were in great form in the defence.

The forwards did not shine very much.

Sammy Thompson was quite out of it.

I am afraid the veteran is beginning to feel the effects of Alliance football.

Bowes put in some splendid work at times, especially in the first half-hour.

Cook was again the pick of the front rank.

Despite a nasty wound received through falling on a piece of glass.

Joe Layton's goal was obtained after a fine run.

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ANNALS OF THE BOER WAR

(SPECIALLY COMPILED FOR THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN.")

Oct. 13.—A Red Cross train from Vryburg to Isoribogo fired on by Boer troops.

Siege of Mafeking began.

Newcastle abandoned.

Investment of Kimberley.

Oct. 14.—General Sir Redvers Buller and staff sails from Southampton by "Dunottar Castle."

Newcastle occupied by the Boer commando under Commandant Viljoen, and capture of six Natal police.

Oct. 15.—Boers repulsed by armoured train at Spytfontein; losses, British, none; Boers five killed and several wounded.

Vryburg betrayed to the Boers.

Siege of Kimberley begins.

Action between British and Boers near Mafeking. British loss two killed and 17 wounded. Boer loss unknown but reported serious.

Railway and telegraph south of Kimberley interrupted.

Oct. 17th.—British Parliament meet to discuss matters relating to the Transvaal crisis.

Oct. 18.—Militia embodied and Militia Reserve called out.

First engagement in Natal—British outposts encountered Boers at Acton Homes.

Railway between Glencoe and Ladysmith destroyed by Boers.

Oct. 20.—Battle of Glencoe, or Dundee or Talana Hill. General Symons with 3,000 British troops attack 9,000 Transvaal Boers, troops under Commandant Lucas Meyer, who had occupied Smith's Hill commanding the British camp, and routed them. British casualties, killed, 11 officers and 30 men; wounded, 22 officers and 164 men. Gen. Symons mortally wounded. Boer casualties, killed, wounded, and prisoners, between 500 and 600. A squadron of the 18th Hussars captured by the Boers. First transports conveying Army Corps sail from Southampton.

Oct. 21.—Battle of Elandslaagte. Major-General French with 2,000 British troops attacked 1,200 Free State Boers, under General Lucas Meyer, and defeated them. Casualties, British, killed, 5 officers and 37 men; wounded, 30 officers and 175 men. Boer killed and wounded, 100; missing 200, taken prisoners 300. General Viljoen killed and General Kock taken prisoner. Lieutenant Colonel Schiel, the German artillerist, was also made prisoner. Large stores of food and ammunition were also captured.

Skirmish between Naval British and Boer patrols at Rhodes Drift, Limpopo River.

Oct. 22.—Skirmish between British and Boers at Krokodil Poort on the Northern Frontier. British losses, 3 killed and wounded, Boer losses "heavy."

Oct. 23.—The Boer main column advanced in force from North and West on Glencoe. General Yule, in consequence of Boer advance, evacuates Dundee (leaving his wounded and medical attendants, as well as a quantity of baggage and stores), and takes up his position at Glencoe.

Oct. 24.—General Yule, with 3,500 troops, falls back from Glencoe in order to effect a junction with General Sir George White at Ladysmith, where were about 9,000 British troops.

Battle of Rietfontein. Sir George White attacks the Free State Boers who had attempted to prevent Yule from reaching Ladysmith, and defeated them. Casualities, British, killed, one officer and 12 men; wounded, 95. Boer—unknown.

Proclamation issued by Allied Republics annexing a portion of Cape Colony—north of Vaal River—and Bechuanaland.

Sortie from Kimberley under Colonel Scott-Turner. British loss 4 killed and 20 wounded. Boer loss severe, including Commandant Botha killed.

Oct. 25.—Death of Major General Symons, who was wounded at the Battle of Glencoe.

A contingent of troops for use of the British Government in South Africa left Montreal.

Mafeking again bombarded.

Oct. 26.—General Yule's column arrived at Ladysmith.

The Basuto chiefs at a meeting at which the British resident was present unanimously declare their loyalty to Britain.

Oct. 27.—Captain Fitzclarence and 50 of the Mafeking garrison made a night bayonet charge on the Boer trenches outside the town. British loss, 6.

Oct. 28.—Contingents of troops from New South Wales embark at Sydney, and troops from Victoria embark at Melbourne, for South Africa.

Oct. 30.—Battle of Farquhar's Farm. British forces in Ladysmith attacked the Boers, and drove them back some miles.

Owing to a stampede of the mules of No. 10 Mountain Battery at Nicholson's Nek that Battery and detachments of the Gloucester Regiment and Royal Irish Fusiliers captured by the Boers.

Oct. 31.—General Sir Redvers Buller and staff arrived at Capetown.

Commandant Cronje made an attack on Mafeking, but was repulsed with heavy loss. British loss, killed 6, wounded 5; Boer loss unknown, but reported heavy.

DIPTON AND DISTRICT NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB

HISTORY OF THE LIGHTING OF COAL MINES.

INTERESTING PAPER.

At the annual meeting of this club, held last week, Mr. J. Stalker, Dipton, read the following very interesting paper on "The History of the Lighting of Coal Mines, by torch, candle, fish-skins, steel-mill, and safety lamps":—

The early records of coal mining give no definite date as to when coal was first won from the earth; in Europe, however, it may not have been earlier than the 10th century. Prof. Galloway, in his "History of Coal-mining in Great Britain," says that it is probable that before the close of the reign of William the Lion in 1214, coal was attracting some attention on the south shore of the Firth of Forth, and that during the reign of this king a grant was made in the tithes of the Colliery of Carriden, near Blackness, to the Monks of Holyrood Abbey, Edinburgh. This was 200 years after the mines in the Worm district of the Continent were opened out and regularly worked. It is not likely that coal was mined in Great Britain before the 13th century, whereas it was mined in the Worm district certainly as early as 1013 and perhaps even earlier. The early modes of lighting in the shallow seams of coal-mining was of the most primitive character—torches, oil lamps, and tallow candles were in regular use. As soon, however, as the steam engine came into general use in the mill forge, etc., the consumption of coal so greatly increased, that the supply from the shallow seams was no longer adequate to meet the demands of the market, and, therefore, to obtain the required quantity, it became necessary to sink to and work the deeper seams. On opening out these deep seams it was found that the coal, roof, and thill (floor) gave off large quantities of methyl hydride or firedamp, C.H4. This gas being of such an highly explosive nature, it was found impossible to work the coal where it was given off in any appreciable quantity with torch, candle, or other naked light. In such cases, the use of the ghostly contrivance of lighting by putrescent fish-skins was resorted to, but this extremely feeble phosphorescent light was of little use, consequently it was only adopted in cases of extreme danger. The chemical knowledge of the mining community at this time was so meagre that it was considered that the flame of a small candle was safer in an explosive mixture than a large flame of a large candle. Imbued with this prevailing opinion, Mr James Spedding, a mining engineer, of Whitehaven, Cumberland, in the year 1733, seeing the terrible risks incurred by the miners in working with naked lights, devised, what in his opinion, was a safer mode of lighting coal-mines, by what is generally called the flint and steel-mill. This consisted of a steel disc 10 inches in diameter, and three sixteenths of an inch thick; this disc was geared by pinion, spurwheel, and handle, and was made to rotate at a high speed. The steel-mill was actuated by a boy holding it firmly on his knee, and pressing with one hand a piece of common flint on the edge of the disc, while with the other hand he turned the handle. By this means a shower of minute glowing sparks of molten steel were produced to light the miner at his work. Now it is evident that the temperature of such sparks as these produced by the steel-mill were sufficient to ignite an explosive mixture, as was afterwards proved by several explosions that occurred when no other light was used in the mine than that obtained by the steel-mill. Two of these occurred at Wallsend Colliery and one at the Felling Colliery; these destroyed all confidence of safety in lighting by the steel-mill. With the development of the deeper seams, explosions of firedamp became so frequent and disastrous that something had to be done to prevent, to some extent, the enormous loss of life. In the beginning of the present century, 1801, it was found impossible to work more than the bords and heading, or whole coal, in our mines, on account of the superincumbent strata; this meant a loss of something like 50 per cent. of coal left standing in pillars to support the roof. To prevent this great loss Mr. James Barnes, manager of Walker Colliery, Newcastle-on-Tyne, conceived the idea of building stone barriers on the sides of the pillars to support the roof. These barriers were made by packing and stowing the bords and headings. By this means, Barnes was able to extract the whole of the pillar or broken coal. This great achievement of Barnes led Mr. John Buddle manager of the neighbouring colliery, Wallsend, to open out his deeper seams on the panel system. He observed it would be more economical and conducive to safety to leave coal barriers in the first working or winning of the coal, and make the pillars large, these he would be able to extract within shelter of the barriers. Buddle, in introducing his new system of working and ventilating his deep mines, naturally expected to remove firedamp as fast as it was generated and thereby prevent explosions altogether. Laying out and working the seam in panels, with a strong barrier on each side of each panel, and ventilate by splitting the main air-currents, and giving each pane its own separate intake and return airway, using crossings or [illegible] to carry the intake over the return airways, and fixing regulators in each panel to regulate the quantity of air entering each ventilating district. Notwithstanding the decided improvement the panel system secured for fiery mines, explosions still continued to be of frequent occurrence; it soon became evident that an increased quantity of air and a separate ventilation for each panel failed to remove local accumulations of gas. In the year 1813, W. R. Clanny, M.D., F.R.S., the medical officer of Monkwearmouth Colliery, Sunderland, conceived the idea of obtaining a safe light by insulating the flame in such a way that whatever might be the inflammable state of the atmosphere of the mine it could not be ignited by the flame of his lamp. In May, 1813, Dr. Clanny read a paper before the Royal Society, "On a steady light in coal mines," and in October of the same year he exhibited his first safety lamp to the members of the Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society. Clanny's lamp consisted of an air-tight case with a glass cylinder surrounding the flame, and a water-trough diaphragm, into which dipped two tubes; one of those tubes carried off the products of combustion, and to the other was attached the feed-air bellows. Theoretically a safety lamp is one that cannot, under ordinary working conditions, ignite an explosive mixture outside of itself. Now in theory Clanny's lamp was all right, but in practice it was all wrong. No air could get to the flame inside the glass cylinder, nor could the exuding gases escape without passing through the water diaphragm. The flame of the lamp was more perfectly insulated than that of the best safety lamp now in use. The lamp, however, was no use in practice, for it required a boy to exert considerable pressure with a pair of domestic hand-bellows to force the feed-air and exuded gases through an inch of water which formed the diaphragm of the lamp. The consequences were—(1) it was hard work to keep up the supply of air to feed the flame. (2) The moment the bellows ceased to act the light went out. (3) The light was very unsteady. (4) The lamp was never put into practical use. The Doctor, nevertheless, advocated the principle of his lamp until mining experts became convinced that it was just the thing required, but they thought that its construction would have to be very much improved before it would be of any practical use in the mine, and, moreover, it is said that the principle of the lamp had been anticipated by Humboldt, in the year 1796. The experiments of Dr. Clanny excited so much attention among scientists that Mr. Murray, a lecturer on chemistry, designed and constructed an improved bellows lamp. He saw how troublesome was the diaphragm in Clanny's lamp, and to displace this he sucked the hot foul air out of the lamp, and at the same time sucked in fresh air through flexible tubes. Murray's lamp, however, like Clanny's, was a practical failure. A year prior to Dr. Clanny's invention, May 25th, 1812, an explosion occurred at the Felling Colliery, which was more destructive of human life than any explosion which up to that time had been recorded in the annals of mining casualties. Most of the unfortunate victims of that catastrophe were parishioners of the Rev. John Hodgson, incumbent of Jarrow and Heworth. He was personally acquainted with them, and naturally his sympathies were aroused to the utmost on behalf of the sufferers. Notwithstanding the desire of many influential gentlemen that the matter should be quietly hushed up, Mr. Hodgson was determined that the fullest publicity should be given to the shocking details of the accident. He wrote and published an account of it, for the express purpose of arousing public attention, in the hope that the sympathies of scientific men might be touched, so that the causes of explosions in coal mines might be investigated and some mode of preventing them discovered. This publication by Hodgson, and the exciting experiments of Clanny and Murray, led to the formation, at Sunderland, of a society to investigate the causes of explosions in coal mines, and devise some means of preventing disasters. The society, however, did little, until 1815; it then communicated with the eminent chemical analyst and discover, Sir Humphrey Davy, and requested him to investigate the causes of firedamp in mines, with a view of discovering some practical method of producing a safe light with an insulated flame. At the request of the Society, Sir Humphrey visited the north, and was met in Newcastle by the Rev. John Hodgson, who then verbally, and subsequently by letter, rendered signal service to Davy in his researches and experiments in connection with the invention of the safety lamp. After reasoning on the various phenomena and causes of firedamp, Davy found that considerable heat was required to inflame gas, and having discovered that gas mixed in any proportion with air will not explode in a small tube of less than ¼ of an inch in diameter, and that if a lamp was made with tubes of small aperture, the carbon dioxide and azote of the flame and the cooling powers of the small tubes would effectually prevent an explosion taking place outside of the lamp. He further experimented on sieves of fine soft iron wire (gauze), and found that if a piece of gauze was held over the flame of a lamp or a gas-burner, it prevented the flame from passing, and he ascertained that a flame confined in a gauze cylinder of very fine wire would not explode even in a mixture of oxygen and hydrogen, but that the gases burned in it with great vivacity. These experiments served for the basis of the safety lamp. The isolation of flame by small tubes had been (unknown to Sir Humphrey) discovered the year before, namely, 1814, by Mr. Jas. Tennant, who had been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Home Department to make some experiments with coal-gas before it was allowed to be used in London for illuminating purposes. The trial of the Davy lamp took place in October, 1815, at Hebburn Hall, in the presence of Messrs C. Ellison, M. Dunn, T. Easton, J. Watson, J. Buddle, Rev. John Hodgson, Dr. Clanny, and Sir Humphrey Davy. The test being satisfactory, the lamp was then taken into the mine by the Rev. John Hodgson, Messrs Thos. Hays, T. Seymour, M. Dunn, H. Defty, and other workmen, and tested in a place known as Wade's Staple, where a large quantity of gas had accumulated; the lamp was found to be just what its designer specified it to be, "a safety lamp." The Rev. John Hodgson's biographer, Dr. Raine gives an account of this trial, which, I think, is worth repeating. He says "On the road to Wade's Staple, a miner and his mill-boy were working with no other light than that from the sparks of a steel-mill. No notice had been given that the lamp trial was to take place; the miner in an atmosphere of great danger, when he saw a light approaching—apparently a candle burning openly—the effect of which he knew would be instant death to him, his mill-boy, and its bearer, he exclaimed instantly, 'Put out that candle,' with a threat to put his pick through the body of the advancing intruder. The light came nearer and nearer. No regard was paid to his cries, which then became of the most terrific kind, mingled with awful imprecations against his fellow-workman (for such he took Mr. Hodgson to be), who was tempting death in so rash and certain a way. The light continued to approach, and then the oaths were turned into prayers, until there stood before him, silently exulting in his heart, the grave and thoughtful Vicar—a man whom he well knew and respected—who, four years before, had buried in one common grave 91 of his fellow-workmen, holding up in his sight, with a gentle smile, the triumph of science, the future safeguard of the pitman." In January, 1816, Sir Humphrey communicated to the Royal Society, the discovery of the principles of his safety lamp, a model of which, made by his own hands, he presented to that learned Society, and this is preserved in their collection at Burlington House. The lamp, when lighted and gradually introduced into an atmosphere containing firedamp, the flame becomes elongated with a pale blue halo. When the inflammable gas forms one-twelfth of the mixture within the lamp, the gauze cylinder becomes filled with the pale blue flame, within which the flame of the lamp still continues to burn brightly. When the lamp is filled with flame, it must be immediately extinguished, by drawing down the wick with the pricker, otherwise the heated gauze will transmitt the flame to the outside atmosphere. It having been ascertained by experiment that a lamp is only safe while the gauze remained cool; a hot gauze readily transmits or passes the flame. Sir Humphrey's invention was at once adopted, and the lamp came into general use at Hebburn Colliery on January 9th, 1816. Shortly after its introduction Mr. Thomas Hays observed that when a lamp was carried against the air-current, the air impinging on the flame drove it against the back of the gauze, thereby heating it, and rendering it liable to transmit the flame to the outside atmosphere. To prevent this he invented and adopted a small tin shield which was made so as to slide up the poles of the lamp when not in use. The introduction of the Davy was received with such enthusiasm that letters of gratitude poured in upon the inventor from the mine proprietors. They characterised the invention as "shutting up" in a net of the most slender texture, a most violent and irresistible force, and a power that in its tremendous effects seemed to emulate the lightning and earthquake. In the meantime Mr. Geo. Stephenson, a mechanical engineer at Killingworth Colliery, Northumberland, invented and constructed a safety lamp, known in northern parlance as the "Geordie." Stephenson's lamp was but an imperfect adaptation of the principles discovered by Tennant and Davy in their experiments with tubes of small bore, and in proof of this, the feed-air, even in the latest designs of the "Geordie," is made to enter the lamp through small apertures into the annular space at the bottom of the frame. Stephenson in his environment as a mechanical engineer at a colliery had learned something about the force of a blower, and acting on this information, he constructed his lamp with a glass cylinder or shield inside the gauze cylinder, surrounding the flame; thus the "Geordie" is but a Davy with an inner glass cylinder. Stephenson tried his first lamp at a blower in Killingworth Colliery on October 25th, 1815, the second on November the 4th and by the 30th of the same month he had constructed and tested a third.

Dr. Clanny, after trying both the Davy and the "Geordie" concluded that both lamps were defective in their illuminating power, his experience, as a colliery doctor, impressed his mind with the fact that a larger number of accidents occurred when the miner worked by the light from a steelmill than when he worked by the light of a candle. With these facts in mind, he began to improve the Davy, and the result was a "Clanny," in which were embodied the principles of the shielding glass cylinder round the flame of the "Geordie," and the insulating gauze cylinder above the flame of the Davy. In the year 1850, the development of the coal trade, and the extended workings of the mines, necessitated high velocities in the ventilation for the removal of the gases given off at the faces. These high velocities in the air-currents very often puffed out the light of the Davy and left its possessor in the dark, such was the harrowing experiences of an official of the Haswell and Shotton Collieries, when he conceived the idea of the "Mistress or Can." On coming out of the mine he went to the lamp-man—who is generally an adept tinsmith—and ordered him to make a tin can of such diameter as would just allow the Davy lamp to enter easily. He also directed him to fix a glass pane in one side of the can just opposite to the light, and put on the can a wire bow handle to carry it and the contained lamp. The user of the "Davy-in-a-Can" soon found that the light became extinguished in an explosive atmosphere, and on making this fact known, other mining officials tried the combination, and found it so successful that they declared it was the safest arrangement yet known. Mining experts sought to investigate the cause of the reputed safety of the "Davy-in-a-Can." They found that the moment the volume of the flame within the lamp enlarged as the result of the presence of gas, the heat of the lamp so heated the descending feed-air passing between the lamp and the can, that the lamp lost its motive column, and was extinguished in the gases of its own combustion. The can for the Davy was such a complete success that the question naturally rose how to make a can for the Clanny. It was soon found that the Clanny did not require a can with a bottom, as it would cover the light, so the can was made just to reach the top of the glass cylinder. When the tin can or case for the Clanny was made and tried, and found satisfactory, it was seen that the name could no longer be "Can," but "Cap" or "Bonnet" according to the parlance of the district. In 1851, Thomas Emmerson Foster, manager of South Hetton and Murton Collieries, saw the utility of the complete shield, and ordered that every safety lamp in use throughout the collieries should be provided with a "Bonnet" or "Can."

In recent years, there has been much newspaper controversy as to who claimed priority in the discovery of the principles of the safety lamp. Notwithstanding the fact that Dr. Clanny's first lamp was a practical failure, he it was who first suggested in 1813 the construction of a safety lamp, with an insulated flame as a means of preventing explosions of firedamp in coal mines. The merit of the discovery was claimed by George Stephenson, but the question was, I think, settled in 1817, by an examination attested by Sir Joseph Banks, F.R.S., Messrs Brande, Hatchett, and Dr. Wollaston, who awarded the independent merit to Sir Humphrey Davy, not only in point of date, but as regards the long chain of inductive reasoning concerning the nature of the same by which the result was arrived at. Many and various have been the patents secured for the design and construction in safety lamps, as will be seen in the Marsaut, Mueseler, Hepple, and other lamps before you, but in all that have been made and put upon the market, the essential principles discovered by Clanny, Davy, and Stephenson have not been departed from. The Marsaut, for example, although it is considered one of the best and most practical lamps in general use, is only a Clanny with two additions, one of these being an extra gauze cylinder, and the other a complete shield now called a bonnet. Had the principle of the shield in the initial lamps—the Davy and Geordie—been carried a little further, it would have produced the "Bonnet," and the name of Marsaut would never have been a lamp notoriety. Marsaut was not the inventor, but an adapter of the "Bonnet." Notwithstanding the fact that the "Bonnet" is simple and befitting, and increases the safety of any lamp to the greatest possible extent, it required the experience—as has already been shown by the "Davy-in-a-Can"—of a practical and intelligent miner to discover it. Many practical improvements have been made in the Marsaut with a view to facilitate the oiling, cleaning, and fitting, also in the position and design of the lock, so as to prevent unscrupulous persons unlocking and opening the lamp. The best locking arrangement is the sliding-pole and lead rivet lock, known as Ryder's patent. A very important improvement has also been made in the middle ring of the frame; this is known as Patterson's patent. By the use of this patent ring it is impossible to put the fittings of the lamp together and screw the glass cylinder, unless the two gauzes are in their proper positions, whereas in other lamps it is possible to fit the lamp together and send it, unobserved, into the mine without any gauzes being inserted. Another practical improvement in the strengthening of the Marsaut against accidents is Guy's patent seamless steel bonnet; this is a boon in dry mines, but for mines where water is dripping from the roof, this design would subject the gauzes to the corrosive influence of the water falling on the lamp. With all the vast improvements of the best up-to-date safety lamp, they are only approximately safe, even when all the requirements of the Coal Mines' Regulation Act relative thereto are enforced. The safety of a lamp depends, very largely, on the intelligence of the person using it, and no lamp—of whatever design or construction—ought to be trusted to the extent of disregarding the proper ventilation of the mine in which it is used; it ought to be used rather as a safeguard in case of a sudden outburst of gas. Herbert Perkins, in his "Photometry," gives the illuminating effect of the Davy—when burning a mixture of 1 part paraffin and 2 parts colza—as one-fifth of a candle-power; the Geordie, one-seventh c.p.; the Clanny and Marsaut, 0.56 c.p. The standard, or unit, in terms of which light is measured, is the "candle power," that is to say, it is the light produced by a standard candle, 9 in. long, ⅞ inch in diameter, six of which weigh a pound, and burns at the rate of 120 grains of spermaceti wax per hour. It will be seen from the photometric estimate that the illuminating power of the best designed safety lamp is inadequate to the requirements of present-day mining of longwall, in gaseous high seams with stone bands. An improvement in this particular effect is a desideratum of the miner.

A SAD DAY FOR THE GREENGROCER

A worthy greengrocer of Stockport has been recounting to his friends an adventure the very reverse of amusing, which originated during his daily rounds in the town. A local pressman found out the man, Mr. John Barnes, at his address, 38, Edward Street, when the following storey was elicited.

Mr. Barnes, after explaining the nature of his occupation, added: "On one occasion, when very busy attending to my customers, I was seized with violent pains across the chest, which held me as in a grip from which I could not loose myself. I attributed the attack to lifting heavy weights, for I was always worse after hauling potatoes about. The effect of this particular attack was that I quite lost my appetite. I lost no time in consulting a doctor, and took five or six bottles of his medicine besides other remedies, but it all seemed to no purpose. I felt continually sick and empty, though I could touch no food. At this critical point I read an article in the daily paper stating that the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company would give advice concerning any complaint, and state candidly if their remedy was not suitable. So I wrote to them, and the reply encouraged me to try Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people. That was sufficient for me, and I bought a box of pills. Before I had finished the contents I felt a decided improvement. And previously, bear in mind, I was falling away to nothing, and nearly dead with weakness. But after commencing Dr. Williams' pink pills my digestion and appetite gradually returned, and the second and third boxes set me on my feet again and made me fit for work. I shall never cease to recommend their use to any one."

Mr. Barnes is but twenty-six years of age, and is now in vigorous health, and glad of the opportunity to subscribe this evidence.

Any excessive strain on the system will quickly cause an entire derangement of the digestive powers, and the same ailment is frequently induced by worry or melancholy. The obvious remedy is one that will, by restoring tone to the digestive organs, enable them to extract nourishment from the food taken, and in this way Dr. Williams' pink pills restored Mr. Barnes to health; purgatives can do no more than relieve the system of food that is worse than useless. By acting as a nerve tonic and blood builder Dr. Williams' pink pills cure such diverse ailments as paralysis, locomotor ataxy, rheumatism, and sciatica; diseases arising from impoverishment of the blood, such as anæmia, scrofula, and eczema; rickets, consumption of the bowels and lungs, pale and shallow complexion, loss of appetite, indigestion, palpatations, early decay, pains in the back, hysteria, and complaints peculiar to the weaker sex. But no pills are genuine if they fail to bear the full name (seven words) Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people; these are obtainable of most chemists, and Dr Williams' Medicine Company, Holborn Viaduct, London, at two shillings and ninepence per box, or six for thirteen and nine. Substitutes are sometimes offered by retailers at a lower price as an inducement to buy them, but they do not cure, so in reality are far dearer than the genuine remedy to which Mr Barnes owes his present happy frame of mind.

The Drink for the Season.

Absolutely a New Drink.

Awarded 8 Gold Medals.

LEMO.

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Try it. An Ideal Summer Drink.

MADE ONLY BY

J. KERSHAW and SONS,

LEADGATE and GATESHEAD.

LOCAL PATENTS

The following list is specially compiled by Mr J. A. Harvey, chartered patent agent, 3, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whom all information concerning patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained:—

4,136. March 5th, 1900. J. S. Spence, Bishop Auckland. The Spence carriage wing protecting ornamental and repairing clasp.

4,333. March 7th, 1900. J. Platel, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in movable protecting shields to be used in warfare.

4,338. March 7th, 1900. A. B. Lennox, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in roller mills.

4,340. March 7th, 1900. J. E. Cooper, Stockton-on-Tees. An improved construction in connection with the anti-friction mechanism of the axle shafts of railway carriages and other vehicles.

4,477. March 9th, 1900. R. L. Weighton and D. B. Morison, Hartlepool. Improvements in steam distribution valves of multiple expansion engines.

4,578. March 10th, 1900. J. D. Dalton, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Improvements in expanding tables.

Stanhope Urban Council

The ordinary meeting was held on Monday night, Coun. T. D. Collingwood presiding. A letter was read from Mr. C. A. Harrison, of the N.E. Railway Company, in reference to a lamp for the level crossing at the Butts, which is regarded as highly dangerous without a light on dark evenings. The latter intimated that there was no great necessity for a lamp at this particular spot, as there was no train up or down after 6.30 p.m. Several demurred to this statement as not being exactly right. There were frequently excursion trains after that hour, and often a mineral train as well, but in winter time, when the days were short, that was the very time it was needed. Besides, the five train up in winter frequently ran past in the dark. On the motion of Councillor J. W. Roddam, it was decided to again write pointing these facts out to Mr. Harrison.—The waste of water during frosty weather from people leaving taps running and other waste was discussed. It was decided that all who had water supplies in fields or byres should have ball taps. The surveyor had found some who had not ball taps, which caused a waste of water. He had found others with taps running at full, and in frosty weather [illegible] to many people allowing the water to run to prevent freezing. Water was scarce in the elevated parts of the town, which is to be remedied in future as far as possible.—Councillor J. Crawhall drew attention to a defective drain at the station bank top, which allowed water to escape down the road, a very improper thing for a health resort town like Stanhope. It is to have attention.—It was decided to ask the Local Government Board for consent to borrow £1,600 for Town Hall purposes.—A letter was read from Mr. F. Batute in respect to improvements in Cross Street. The Ways and Works Committee is to meet him on the spot.—The Medical Officer's report and the Inspector's re-appointment are to come before a special meeting on March 31st.

ANNFIELD PLAIN COUNCIL ELECTION

[BY AN ONLOOKER.]

Although the time for the triennial election of twelve councillors is drawing near, there appears to be little or no interest, compared with that of former elections, taken in the matter. Whatever the cause it seems regrettable that the public have to a large extent lost the interest once evinced in the selection of their representatives for public office and honours. This lethargic spirit on the part of the electors appears to be shared by those who once offered their time and abilities as a free will offering on the altar of public service. From the unappreciative manner in which their sacrifices have been accepted, and the harsh treatment to which some of the retiring councillors who dared to speak their convictions on unpleasant topics have been subjected, it is not surprising to find that there are secessions from public life of gentlemen whose knowledge of the work of an Urban Council well qualifies them for office on such a body. Unfortunately, Mr. Wm. Johnson, whom the people honoured with a seat on the old Council, will not seek re-election on account of pressure of business and other similar reasons to those already quoted, while all will regret to hear of the continued illness of Coun. Wm. Fitzpatrick and Coun. Geo. Wailes, which has prevented their attendance on public duties. As neither of these gentlemen have recruited their health they will not seek a place on the new Council, so that at least there will be three seats to scramble for on April 2nd. With these exceptions it is expected that all the other retiring Councillors will again contest the seats shortly to be vacated by them, and as they have done yeoman service during their term of office, extending over some 3½ years, they should stand a good chance of again being accepted as the representatives of a grateful public. They have striven to fulfil the pledges given when elected, and although many important reforms have not yet been accomplished which are sorely needed, the district is assuming quite a different appearance to what it did when first the Annfield Plain Council was created. Several roads have been widened, footpaths cemented and asphalted, the sanitation of dwellings improved, and nuisances removed. The Council has been thoroughly progressive, yet economical; the public money has not been squandered over useless projects, and although impossible to please each individual ratepayer, they have given general satisfaction, and deserve the gratitude of those of whose interests and welfare they have had in charge.

SUDDEN DEATH.—Mr. Wm. Rutherford (70) died very suddenly from apoplexy at West Black Dene, Upper Weardale, on Saturday.

New Fermented Drink for Summer and Winter!

BURDOCK.

(Registered). (Registered).

BURDOCK.

TO BE HAD FROM ALL RETAILERS, OR WHOLESALE FROM

ANNFIELD PLAIN ÆRATED WATER CO.,

MAKERS OF HIGH-CLASS MINERAL WATERS AND SPECIALLY FERMENTED DRINKS,

ANNFIELD PLAIN

BILE BEANS FOR BILIOUSNESS. CURE DEBILITY

AN ANÆMIC YOUNG LADY'S TRIALS.

ALWAYS FELT TIRED—HAD NO ENERGY!
HER APPETITE HAD LEFT HER!
BILE BEANS CHANGED ALL THAT!
(EXTRACT FROM THE "NORTHERN REPORTER.")

"They are simply marvellous." This was the term applied by Mr. Walter Scott, blacksmith, of Scholes, near Leeds, with regard to Charles Forde's Bile Beans. Hearing that his daugther, who for some time had suffered acutely from indigestion and anæmia, hadbeen greatly benefitted by Bile Beans, a representative of the "Northern Reporter" interviewed Mr. and Mrs. Scott, the girl's parents, on Tuesday, January 9th, on the matter. Mr. Scott received the representative most courteously, and readily volunteered the following statment: "For some months prior to her taking Bile Beans, Mary, my daughter, who is 17 years of age, was far from being well, always feeling tired, fatigued, and unable to work, so we procured three or four bottles of medicine for her. The medicine seemed to do her good for a time, and then it had no effect upon her whatever: she lapsed into her old state. She had been in service with Mr. John Crossland, of Scholes, for two years, but in consequence of her illness she had to come home. We saw Charles Forde's Bile Beans for Biliousness advertised, and we thought we would give them a trial, as other medicine had failed to do her any good. We wrote for a box and before she had taken a dozen of the Beans she could feel a difference in herself; and after she had taken the box she could walk to Barwick and back, a distance of four miles, without any difficulty. Before she could not walk across the kitchen floor without having to sit down. She had a second box, which so completely cured her that she was able to return to her situation three weeks ago. She is as lively now as she ever was in her life. Knowing, as I do, what they have done for my daughter, I shall always speak highly of Bile Beans; they are simply marvellous." Mrs. Scott here interposed and said "She is not like the same girl since she took Bile Beans." Continuing again, Mr. Scott said that Bile Beans were good as a family Pill. They had given some to their neighbours who had been poorly, and theyaffirmed that Bile Beans were a grand medicine. Mrs. Fenwick said that she could feel the Beans "act all over her."

During further conversation, Mr. Scott remarked that he had heard of Pills being worth their weight in gold, but if ever pills were worth that amount he believed Bile Beans were. "They're a grand thing, and we shall keep nothing else in future."

Mrs. Scott also added her personal testimony to the efficacy of Bile Beans, and concluded the interview with the following statement:—"Before taking the Beans, Mary could not bear the sight of anything to eat. I do not know that I ever saw a girl in such a weak state in all my life, and many people told her that she would not get better. But Bile Beans for Biliousness have made such an astounding alteration in her that she can now jump, skip, and dance."

CHARLES FORDE'S BILE BEANS FOR BILIOUSNESS.

Have been found an undoubted cure for HEADACHE, INFLUENZA, COSTIVENESS, PILES, LIVER TROUBLE, BAD BREATH, ANÆMIA, RHEUMATISM, INDIGESTION, DIZZINESS, BUZZING IN THE HEAD, FULNESS AFTER EATING, LACK OF AMBITION, DEBILITY, SCROFULA, ECZEMA, FEMALE AILMENTS, PIMPLES, ULCERS, and a host of other ailments that owe their origin to defective bile flow, assimilation and digestion.

BILE BEANS FOR BILIOUSNESS. CURE ANÆMIA

DEPUTIES DINNER AT MEDOMSLEY

There was a large gathering at the Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, on Saturday night, on the occasion of the revival of the Consett Company's Deputies Dinner. There used to be an annual re-union up to about twelve or thirteen years ago, when it was allowed to lapse, but recently a feeling was expressed in favour of a revival of the event, and the hearty response made fully justified the proposal for a renewal. An excellent dinner was served up by the host, to which ample justice was done by the company, which included several managers, under managers, and others as well as deputies in the employ of the firm. Amongst those present were Messrs J. W. Jameson (chairman), A. Hedley (vice-chairman), J. W. Bell, R. Wilson, Clark (General Secretary,) Thos. Mason (Secretary to the Dinner,) J. Hey, John Forster, W. Hall, W. Stobbs, Thos. Lee, W. Black, J. Caygill, T. M. Henderson, J. Oxley, J. Graham, J. Steel, R. Allison, J. Cawthorn, J. Bramley, J. Steel, W. Smith, C. Miller, W. Carr, J. Hetherington, R. Charlton, J. Walton, J. Davison, G. Dixon, J. Wallace, W. R. Cooke, J. Wass, T. Reed, J. Carrick, J. Cain, Richard Hogg, Musgrove, Bousteard, Bell, Charlton, Rogerson, I. Rutherford, Rochester, Milburn, Peacock, J. Bell, Wharton, J. Hope, W. Barker, J. Page, W. Gilbert, W. Cookson, G. Graham, A. Milburn, Geo. Scott, W. Gibson, W. Richardson, W. Robson, G. Moon, W. Cant, Simon Johnson, J. Robinson, Jas. Pattinson, Jos. Walton, Kennedy, and Ben Saunderson. After the tables had been cleared,

The Chairman said it was a pleasure to him to be present at anything connected with the deputies of the Consett Iron Company's Collieries, and when he said hat he meant in particular anything connected with Medomsley and Westwood collieries as they were [illegible] charge. He took it that every man within the walls of that room was patriotic. As Englishmen they perhaps stood as the first and foremost nation in the world. They were all, generally speaking, happy, and they had a right to be. If they compared their nation and the privileges they had with others they had a right to be proud of their country. They had also a right to be proud of the Queen. (Applause.) As a mining community they knew what it was in times of calamity and catastrophe to have gracious messages sent by their beloved Queen. The Queen had herself supped deeply of the cup of bereavement, and she knew what it was in her own circle to lose by death. She had never yet failed to show sympathy with any deserving cause or any deserving person. She had extended her womanly tenderness and kindly helping hand to high and low, and she had set them an example that they would do well to follow. He asked them to drink to the toast of the Queen and the Royal Family.

The toast was enthusiastically honoured.

The Vice-Chairman proposed the Army, Navy, and Volunteer Forces. The army, he said, had shown their continental friends that they had reached a fairly high state of efficiency. Matters had been going on very smoothly for a few weeks now in South Africa. The navy, of course, had not been called upon to do much, but what help it had given had been of very great service. They had shown themselves quite ready to help when occasion arose. If an enemy should come to their own shores then the Navy would come in useful.

Mr. W. R. Cooke responded, and said he was present in that room at a similar gathering a few weeks ago. At that time they seemed to be under a very dark cloud in South Africa. Kimberley, Ladysmith, and Mafeking seemed to be hemmed in and in those towns they had heroes and heroines prepared to suffer a terrible death from hunger and starvation. What other nation could in so short a time have sent so large an army to the scene of action without the aid of conscription, to which their critics had to resort to? They had any number of men in the country and in the Colonies glad to volunteer their services on behalf of the nation. Although at that time everything seemed to be against them they did not drop their lower jaw, but stood with set teeth and clenched fists determined to see the thing through to a successful issue. (Applause.) What was the result? They had had sensational but pleasant reading. Ladysmith was relieved, Kimberley was relieved, Cronje was on his way to St. Helena, and when they totted a few millions they had twenty times more offered than they could do with. Although he was a peaceful man, rather than they would have submitted to the tyranny of Kruger, Steyn, and Co., he believed they would have suffered extermination. On behalf of the Army, Navy, and Volunteer forces he responded to the toast with the greatest possible pleasure. (Applause.)

Mr. James Clark proposed "The Consett Iron Company." He thought they would agree with him that the Company were ever ready to help and forward the interests of the workmen. Whenever they had been asked to assist in any good object they had always liberally responded to the call. That feeling seemed to his mind to be growing with them. In all their endeavours to approach them it seemed to be getting easier, and they always was responded with increasing liberality. He wished entire success to the Company for the success of the workmen depended upon the success of the Company. It might be a matter of conjecture whether they got a proportionate return, but they got what they could. Whatever by honest and just endeavours they could prove they had a right to they had never been denied. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Walton responded and said they were a noble Company, and he was glad to say everything seemed prosperous.

Mr. Wass also responded, and said the Company had made a most generous offer with regard to a reading room for Medomsley. He was sorry Mr. Palmer was not with them that night.

Mr. Cooke next proposed "The Deputies' Association." He said he had been very much interested in that Association ever since its formation. He believed he would be the first delegate to represent Westwood at Durham. He had some knowledge of the uphill work the Association had to contend with for several years. At first they were looked down upon by the Durham Miners' Association; they at the same time only wanted the deputies subscriptions. They did not want the deputies to attend any of the meetings, but in spite of the uphill work they struggled on and a desperate struggle they had. They had a great deal of opposition from the owners as well as from the Miners' Association. Time after time when they sought to be recognised at meetings in Newcastle they were told that they could not be recognised. Still they persevered, and he was very glad to say that they had now for some years been recognised as an Association by the Owners at the Coal Trade Office. There were many conflicting interests, and he was sure Colliery owners and managers would have uphill work without the deputies. He was glad they had resuscitated that dinner, and he hoped it would continue to be held annually. He had no doubt that the deputies, who were bound to look after their employers' interests, found themselves in a better position now than formerly, and the manner in which they had worked themselves into that position was creditable to them. (Applause.)

Mr. J. W. Bell, President of the Deputies' Association, responded and said in his judgment it was an advantage to all concerned that they should have an Association. He disliked the strike element, and he hoped the time would come when there would be no strikes. At the same time in the case of a strike, lock out, depression, sickness, or accident they made allowances which would compare favourably with any kindred Association in the country. Recent legislation made it more imperative and more desirable than ever that all deputies should be members of the association. The Compensation Act was a very important one. It was a matter in which they had no wish to be complicated but sad affairs did occur here and there and must be attended to.

Mr. J. Clark also responded, and said that as General Secretary for the past seven years he had become largely acquainted with the ins and outs of the Association. They had a lot of uphill work, but he was glad to say they had now about got to the top of the hill. He was glad of the success they had achieved and of their present position. The greatest difficulty they had was to fight against ignorance in the County. Many men outside the Association seemed to have their minds filled with prejudice and until they were brought into closer touch with them in order to remove that prejudice and until they were brought into closer touch with them in order to remove that prejudice they would still have uphill work to do. Still, they had not so much aggressive work to encounter now. When he became Secretary there were 700 members, and now they had 1,300. They had a sick benefit club, and they had the handsome sum of £3,000 in hand and in the Bank. At one time they had to struggle with great financial difficulties so that he thought they would agree with him that their Association had made great headway, and especially since the Owners and Management took them into their confidence and recognised them as a Society. The deputy's position should be such as to enable him to do justice to the office he held. They were now a factor for good wages in the County. They had direct access to the Coal Trade Office at Newcastle upon all local as well as general disputes. He trusted they would so perform their duties as to merit and be worthy of a continuance of the confidence already placed in them. (Applause.)

Other toasts included the Management, the Press, the Chairman, and the host.

During the evening songs were rendered by Messrs Joe Robinson, R. W. Wilson, and others, and Mr. Kennedy recited "Tam O'Shanter" thus contributing to an enjoyable and successful evening.

A DUNSTON DIVORCE CASE

HEARD IN LONDON.

THOMPSON v. THOMPSON AND OTHERS.

(SPECIAL REPORT.)

Marriages, like pie crust, are easily broken—in a certain acceptation of the term; but, before they can be legally nullified, certain expensive formalities must be gone through. This latter procedure has just been adopted in respect to a Dunston woman, against whom a decree nisi has been granted. A divorce case is almost unknown in Whickham parish, yet such has to be recorded this week—writes our Swalwell correspondent—for on Wednesday week in the Divorce Division of the High Court of Justice, the case of Thompson v. Thompson, Glendinning, and Johnson came on for hearing before Mr. Justice Gorell Barnes.

The petitioner, Wm. Francis Thompson, a ship's steward, was represented by Mr. W. T. Barnard, who explained that the suit was for a dissolution of marriage on the ground of the adultery of the respondent, Mrs. Ruth Lawson Thompson, with the two co-respondents mentioned in the petition. The parties were married on the 29th August, 1887, at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and there had been no issue of the marriage. About the time of the marriage, petitioner kept the Nag's Head public-house. For about two-and-a-half years the parties lived happily, and then the wife gave way to habits of intemperance. In 1890 petitioner found that his business was not paying, and as he had been at sea before it was arranged that he should endeavour to secure a birth on board ship. For that purpose petitioner went to Shields, and was away for some time. On his return he found that the respondent had got rid of the bulk of the furniture in the house, and had run debts up against him to the extent of about £40. In consequence of this, petitioner gave up his business as a publican, and took a situation as a barman. About Christmas, 1890, or early in January 1891, he lost that situation, and just about that time the respondent was arrested on a charge of stealing furniture. She was brought up before the Magistrates, and fined, the husband paying the fine, and it was arranged that she should go and reside with her parents. The husband went away to try and get a situation on board ship, and while he was doing so to his surprise he received a summons for cruelty. Petitioner saw his wife about the matter, and she said it was only a matter of form, that he was going away, and she wanted to have an allowance from him. The case went before the Magistrates, and the husband made no answer, the result being that an order was made made that he should pay his wife 6/- a week. Unfortuntely no copy of that order could be obtained.

His Lordship: Do you mean that it is not recorded?

Mr. Barnard: We cannot find that it is so, my lord. Within two or three days of receiving the order, Mr. Barnard continued, the wife met her husband, and they went to live together again, until the petitioner went off to sea. He returned to England in 1892, and lived with his wife for seven or eight weeks. While they were together, petitioner received a communication concerning the co-respondent Glendinning, on which the husband taxed his wife with infidelity, and she admitted it, and from that time he had never lived with her. In July of last year, petitioner returned to this country, and instructed his solicitor to make inquiries with reference to the conduct of his wife. Evidence was then obtained of misconduct with the two co-respondents.

Miss Elizabeth Campbell, who resides at Gateshead, and a witness for the petitioner, deposed that the co-respondent Glendinning and Mrs. Thompson stayed in her house for three months as Mr. and Mrs. Glendinning. On one occasion witness overheard the respondent say to Glendinning that she was Mrs. Thompson. Witness's mother then gave Mrs. Thompson notice to leave the house.

Sergt. J. Reynolds, of Dunston, stated that on Race Wednesday in the year 1897, a disturbance took place near the Keel Hotel, Dunston. Witness assisted the respondent to take a man into the house of her father, Mr. Simpson. Mrs. Thompson assisted to undress this man and put him to bed, and in answer to a question by witness she said that this person was her husband. Witness afterwards found that they called this person Wm. Johnson, one of the co-respondents in the case. Since that time they had lived together in various parts of Dunston, as man and wife. At the present time they were both residing in Grey Street, Dunston.

His Lordship, after hearing the evidence, granted petitioner a decree nisi.

Time means money! Have the correct time, by wearing J. T. Castle's 50s English Lever.

WEARDALE NOTES

[BY "STANHOPE."]

WORSE THAN THE BOERS.

The West Auckland football team took their beating badly at Stanhope the other Saturday—even worse than the Boers. There is a smart little player in the Stanhope team named Bainbridge, who shot in the fatal ball which placed West Auckland "hors de combat." Some of the visitors were furious at this mite of a man firing the fatal shot. One of them exclaimed "Bainbridge cannot shoot at all." A spectator standing by replied, "He's shot one too many for you to-day."

A TRYING WINTER.

The present winter will be long remembered both for severe weather and influenza. Doctors have had a busy time, even some of them have not escaped the trying ordeal of a hard winter. Out-door labour has been much impeded, and the workmen have had a terrible time in the quarries among the ice and snow, and dirt. The hard weather has told severel yon old people, and weakly ones as well, many having succumbed and now their places are vacant and we miss them much. Death has been busy in the Wear Valley this last week. Among his victims are Wm. Rutherford, of West Black House; Wm. Foster, of Westgate; Joseph Thompson and Nurse Woodham's father, Stanhope; Mrs Ridley, wife of M. Ridley, Peak Field Farm, Frosterley; and Miss Sarah Walton, Hill End, Frosterley.

STANHOPE CRICKET CLUB.

The annual meeting of the Stanhope Cricket Club has been held. All the officers were re-elected except the secretary. Mr H. Green is now secretary. The annual sports are to be held on Whit-Monday. Matches have been arranged for at Stanhope, with Shildon, Raby, Crook, Darlington North Road, and others. A few dates are still vacant—Whit-Monday, June 9, 23, 30, July 7, 14, Aug. 11, 18, and Sept. 1.

A KINDLY ENTERTAINMENT.

Commend me to the Frosterley Wesleyans for a bit of choice music. Th echoir gave a cantata at Stanhope, on Saturday night, entitled, "Under the palms." It was of a high order of merit, and reflected upon all concerned the highest credit. It was given in aid of an afflicted working-man, and to him was as a veritable oasis in the desert. A real benefit in time of need. Even Mr. Sheldon himself would commend the kindly act had he been present as the author of "What would Jesus do?" It was a musical treat.

FROSTERLEY WESLEYANS.

For many long years Frosterley Wesleyans have been noted for having a good choir, and their Sunday School anniversaries have been characterised as up to the mark these last 20 years or more. The anniversary is always a draw on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. Miss Pickering is a splendid organist and Mr Turnbull as conductor of the choir is a wonderful musician.

A CASE FOR OUT RELIEF.

The horror of the poor for the Workhouse still exists. Many of them would rather die than enter the detested place. A case to hand exists at Stanhope. A poor old widow last week lost by death her only son. She is 78 and totally blind. Her constant dread is of being taken there, and among the poor the thing is pretty general. Where it can be done our Guardians should allow and encourage out-door relief as much as possible, to deserving cases.

GIBSIDE HALL AS A CONVALESCENT HOME.

LENT BY THE EARL OF STRATHMORE

A correspondent writes:—Residents in the Northern Counties, who have given so liberally of men and money for the present War, will be gratified to hear that Gibside Hall has been offered to the authorities, by the Earl of Strathmore, as a temporary convalescent home for our wounded soldiers; and that the offer has been accepted, after inspection. Work will immediately begin to prepare the hall for the reception of convalescents. The Hall has recently been in the hands of the Northern Sanitary Institute, and its arrangements will be found perfect. There ought to be sufficient accommodation for 100 patients with attendants.

Gibside Hall is sitated about a mile from Rowlands Gill Station; it has a fine aspect, and is sheltered from all sides by magnificent trees, mainly beeches. The walks and drives within the grounds are numerous, and in Spring and Summer are enchanting. There is a beautiful little chapel in close proximity to the Hall, in which service is held every Sunday afternoon.

DEATH OF MR. GEO. BULLERWELL, OF WINLATON.

The funeral of the late Mr. Geo. Bullerwell, the well-known farmer of Snook Hill, Winlaton, took place on Wednesday, the 14th inst., in the presence of a vast assemblage of relatives and acquaintances. Mr. Bullerwell was a life-long resident in the district, and was very greatly respected and held in the highest esteem by all who made his acquaintance. Born at Lockhaugh in 1824, he had thus completed his 76th year. For many years he managed the farms of the late Mr. P. Ramsay, Sherburn Tower, and superintended the railway making and opening out of Victoria Garesfield Colliery. He afterwards went to "Cut Thorns" Farm on the Gibside Estate, and came to Snook Hill 20 years ago. He always took a keen interest in everything agricultural, and was widely known as a breeder of stallions, some of which went to Africa and America. He was one of the promoters of the Winlaton and District Manure Seed Association, and remained on the Permanent Committee until his death. He was also a prominent member of the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society, frequently taking prizes, and often acting as judge. For many years he was a member of Blaydon Local Board, until failing health compelled him to retire. He was a churchman, and a conservative in politics, and was the oldest tenant on the Towneley Estate, having attended over 100 rent audits, at which gathering he was vice-chairman for a great number of years.

HOCKEY.

CROOK v. STANHOPE.

This match was played at Stanhope on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the visitors by three goals to one.

How good tempered and rosy your baby is, Mrs Jones! Whatever do you give it? Oh, just one or two of Patrick's Cooling & Teething Powders every week. They are the cheapest and best in the district—only 8d per dozen, from Patrick, Chemist, 5, Front Street, Consett.

LOCAL ELECTIONS.

CONSETT URBAN COUNCIL.

On the 2nd of April the electors of Consett Urban District area will be called upon to elect four members to the local Council. The retiring members are Messrs Geo. Ainsworth, J.P., vice-chairman of the Council; N. Elsdon, John Kempson, and G. D. Powell. For the four seats no less than ten nominations were handed in, and up to mid-day on Tuesday, the time allowed for withdrawal, the only gentleman who had erased his name was Mr. Joseph Whitehead. There are thus nine candidates for the four seats, the nominations being as follows:—*George Ainsworth, works manager, The Hall, Consett; John Allison, builder, Consett; David H. C. Balleny, solicitor, The Brooms, Leadgate; John Davison, ironmonger, East Parade, Consett; *Nathan Elsdon, mineral water manufacturer, Delves Lane, Consett; Thomas Heslop, insurance agent, Sherburn Terrace, Consett; *John Kempson, licensed victualler, Blackhill; *George Dixon Powell, bacon factor, Consett; Jesse Holl, Co-operative manager, Rosemount, Consett.

LANCHESTER COUNCIL.

The nomination for the Lanchester District Council are conspicuous by the fact that there is not a single contest. All the old members have been re-nominated with the exception of Mr. Hunter, and in the absence of opposition Mr. Ritson exercised his power of declaring him to be re-elected. The following are the nominations and returns:—Knitsley—Mr. James Oliver, gentleman, Consett. Craghead—Mr. E. J. Wardle, mining engineer, Craghead. Ebchester—Mr. Joseph Pumphrey, gentleman, Ebchester. Greencroft—Mr. R. Mitchinson, mining engineer, Catchgate. Healeyfield—Mr. T. J. Muse, merchant, Castleside. Muggleswick—Mr. U. A. Ritson, jun. Medomsley—Only Messrs Henry Palmer, mining engineer, Manor House, and Wm. Robinson, New Fines, were nominated, and the returning officer (Mr. W. H. Ritson) declared the third retiring Councillor, Mr. John Hunter, Grange Farm, to be also re-elected.

LANCHESTER GUARDIANS.

The following nominations have been received for the statutory vacancies created on the Lanchester Board of Guardians:—

Benfieldside (3 required)—*George J. Robinson, grocer, Blackhill; *Miss Helen Piele, spinster, Shotley Bridge; *Edward Sloane, postmaster, Blackhill.

Collierley (3)—J. B. Armstrong, farmer, Collierley; George Murray, grocer, Dipton; *William Young, innkeeper, Dipton; John Storey, grocer, Catchgate; J. T. Robinson, mining engineer, South Medomsley.

Greencroft Within (1)—*Henry Greener, mining engineer, Greencroft.

Iveston (3)—*Luke Nicholson, draper, Leadgate; the Rev. A. Magill, Brooms; *T. S. Longstaff, innkeeper, Leadgate; J. W. Winter, registration agent, Leadgate; and Henry Whitfield, commission agent, Leadgate.

Kyo (2)—John Reece, checkweighman, Annfield Plain; R. Tindale, brakesman, Annfield Plain; John Foster Smith, grocer, Annfield Plain; W. Rutherford, mining engineer, Catchgate; Joseph Bainbridge, jeweller, Annfield Plain; W. M. Morison, physician, Annfield Plain; William Down, assurance agent, Catchgate; Thomas Bowes, colliery manager, and Geo. Bullerwell, agent, East Kyo.

Messrs Whitfield, Storey, and Tindale withdrew, but this leaves us with contests in Iveston, Collierley, and Kyo parishes.

EBCHESTER AMATEUR ROWING CLUB.

The annual general meeting of this club was held on Wednesday week.—Mr. William Fairlamb presiding over a good attendance of members. Mr. John Charlton, the secretary, read his annual report as follows:—"I have much pleasure in submitting to you my fourth annual report, and in doing so I beg to congratulate you upon the last season which in my opinion has been one of the most successful seasons in the history of the club. During the season we have erected a new boathouse, which I am sure would do credit to a much larger club. We can boast of a good membership, which I hope will be enlarged ere the ensuing season is very old. The income for the past season is £28 9s 3d, and the expenditure, which includes the new boathouse, is £32 13s 4d, leaving the club in debt to the amount of £4 4s 1d, which by a special effort we hope to clear off in a very short space of time. In the ensuing season I hope the members will work harmoniously together, and endeavour to raise the club both financially, and the standard of sculling higher than it has ever been in the club before. To my mind sculling is one of the best exercises that anyone can indulge in, besides being a charming pastime. I would also beg of you to elect good officers for the ensuing season as you are all aware that such are beneficial to any club. I also wish to thank you all for the help you have afforded me during the past season, and I wish you every success in the future."

The following officers were elected for the next season:—President, Mr. T. S. Strickland, The Hall, Ebchester; the vice presidents were elected "en bloc;" captain, T. Murray; vice-captain, J. W. Simpson, jun.; treasurer, A. Johnstone; committee, T. Waggott, M. Snaith, J. Mulholland, W. Wraith, R. Tiffin; auditors, M. Snaith, J. W. Simpson; handicappers, W. Fairlamb and J. Charlton; secretary, John Charlton, Bells Houses, Medomsley, R.S.O.

STANHOPE.

LECTURE ON TEMPERANCE.—Mr. McMillan, temperance agent, delivered a lecture on "Temperance" on Thursday night, in the Primitive Methodist School-room, Stanhope.

CONCERT.—The Frosterley Wesleyan Choir gave the popular cantata, "Under the Palms," on Saturday night, in the Stanhope Wesleyan Chapel, to a large and appreciative audience. The object was in aid of an afflicted working-man, and a nice round sum was realised on his behalf. The soloists were Miss Pickering, of Shildon, and Miss Pickering, of Frosterley; Messrs Sanderson, Gardiner, and Greenwell. Organist, Miss Pickering, Frosterley; chairman, Mr R. Ridley, Stanhope. Messrs J. Bell and G. Egglestone, Stanhope, assisted as violinists.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected COCOA, Mr. Epps has provided for our breakfast and supper a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—"Civil Service Gazette."—Made simply with boiling water or milk.—Sold only in packets and pound tins, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & CO., LTD., Homœopathic Chemists, London." 8061.

MR. GEO. HOBSON'S SEED DINNER

On Thursday afternoon, Mr. George Hobson, seedsman, of Harperley Mills and Catchgate, held his fifty-fourth annual seed dinner for his customers at Mr. J. Pears, Crown and Thistle Inn, Catchgate. There was a good attendance of guests, who thoroughly enjoyed the substantial repast provided by the generous tradesman. Amongst those present were Mr J. Stobbs, Annfield Plain; Mr F. Wilson, Loud; Mr J. Cuthbertson, Crookgate; Mr J. Hunter, Medomsley; Mr T. Robinson, Leath Farm; Mr E. Watson, Causey; Mr T. Young, Broomholme; Mr J. Smith, Farside; Mr J. Innes, Burnhope; Mr J. B. Armstrong, Colderley; Mr Harrison, Stobby Lea; Mr J. J. Robinson, Catchgate; Mr G. Cumberledge, Catchgate; Mr T. Henderson, Lintz Hall; Mr M. M. Hobson, Catchgate; Mr R. H. Slater, Newcastle; Mr A. Phillipson, Dipton; Mr Bates, East Stanley; Mr J. Ridley, Ewehurst; Mr R. Henderson, Loft House; Mr F. Hall, Toft Gate; Mr J. Bell, Medomsley; Mr W. Thompson, South Field; Mr I. Charlton, Billingside; Mr J. Wilkinson, New Acres; Mr G. Bolam, Pontop Hall; Mr G. Bell, Medomsley; Mr H. Farnsworth, Carribees; Mr W. Haughan, Knitsley; Mr J. Callender, Tanfield Grange; Mr T. Wilkinson, Lanchester; Mr W. Rutherford, Hollinside; Mr R. Kirkpatrick, Humber Hill; Mr G. Jeffrey, Square House; Mr E. Ridley, Holmside Hall; Mr T. H. Smith, Tanfield; Mr J. Lumley, Annfield Plain; Mr W. Smith, Crook Bank; Mr J. Henderson, Tanfield Lane; Mr E. Wylam, Shield Row; Mr J. Hornsby, Chapman's Well; Mr W. Atkinson, Wester Leith; Mr D. Kirton, Lyredean; Mr D. Martin, Fell Farm; Mr W. Callender, Burnopfield; Mr R. Ferguson, Burnopfield; Mr W. Forrest, Langley West House; Mr G. Bullerwell, East Kyo; Mr W. Cuthbert, Annfield Plain.

After the cloths had been removed, Mr M. Hobson, on behalf of his father, who was unable to attend, said he was pleased to see so many present, but was sorry to say that his father had not felt equal to the occasion. They would all be well aware what had happened, and it was his father's wish for the meeting to appoint their own chairman.

Mr Wilkinson proposed, and Mr A. Phillipson seconded the motion, that Mr R. Innes, of Lanchester, be chairman.

Mr Innes very reluctantly acceded to the wish of the meeting, stating that he considered Mr Phillipson a more capable gentleman for that office. Mr T. Wilkinson and Mr H. Harrison occupied the vice-chairs.

THE TOASTS.

"The Queen and Royal Family."

The Chairman said the first toast on the programme was that of "The Queen and the Royal Family," and asked the company to give it musical honours by singing the National Anthem.

"Army and Navy."

The next toast was that of "The Army and Navy," which was responded to by Mr A. Phillipson, of Dipton, who, in the course of his observations, said any worthy Englishman would give a hearty response to a toast of that kind, especially on that particular epoch of English history. They believed that there never was a time when so much sympathy excited amongst the English people as there had been of late in reference to the British soldiers, and he didn't suppose that ever they had discharged more honourable and laborious duties in connection with warfare than they had done during the great campaign in South Africa. (Hear, hear.) They were very glad they could regard that great operation with greater success than they could at the beginning. They were then under considerable foreboding and discouragement, but the tide had turned in their favour, and the representatives of those Republics were bound to an admission that things were going sore against them. In the matter of settlement he was glad the heart of this country was so strong and firm. The Republics had brought upon Great Britain an enormous expense, and therefore she must have some recompense and remuneration for the money spent, and their terms of settlement must be complied with before they could relinquish their operations in that country. He had the greatest pleasure in responding to that toast, and had no doubt it would meet with the hearty approval of all those present. He trusted they would have a speedy, successful, and satisfactory settlement. (Hear, hear.)

"Volunteer and Reserve Forces."

Mr T. Wilkinson, Lanchester, in responding to the toast of "The Volunteer and Reserve Forces," said it gave him very great pleasure indeed to rise to respond to the toast just offered. He felt a little confused and nervous when rising before an assembly like that, as he was only a novice at the game. It was his second appearance, and he had happened to get at the draughty door both times. When he looked round that assembly and saw so many experienced men he thought they ought to have had a call. He felt out of his element altogether, but there was one thing he would like to express his sympathy with their dear host who had not been able to be with them, and he hoped he would have the all-sustaining power given him to enable him to meet with his friends there for years to come. The volunteers and reserves were brave, valiant soldiers of Her Majesty the Queen. He was glad in one sense that he was a little old for that job as he didn't know whether he would have had the pluck to go to South Africa. Those men had denied themselves, and in many instances had left their wives and children, fathers and mothers, and volunteered to serve their Queen and country, and he hoped they would return with success and laurels that would last for ever. (Hear, hear.)

"Bishop and Clergy."

The next toast was that of "The Bishop and Clergy."

Mr Slater, in responding, said they had recently had specimens of each kind, but they might thank God that they were a power for good in good old England, and he would not nike to be without them. They might feel thankful that they had bishops and clergy doing good work in many ways, therefore he had great pleasure in responding to the toast. (Hear, hear.)

"Mr. Hobson and Family."

The Chairman, in announcing the toast to Mr Hobson and family, said he hoped that gentleman would be able to be with them next year, and thought they could not do less than propose the health of "Mr Hobson and family" in their sad and sore bereavement.

Mr Slater, in responding, said it would not be out of place if half-a-dozen rose to respond to that toast. It was an annual festival, which he claimed to be amongst those present the festival of the year. Four years ago they had the pleasure and privilege and honour of making Mr Hobson a presentation, showing to him the honour in which they held him. That day they were met together, but Mr Hobson was absent. They had shared with him his successes and joys, and that day he was sure one and all of them shared with him his sorrow. He was quite sure they all sympathised with him. Mr Hobson would like to have been present. It was a great kindness on their part to be present, as it shewed that they respected him all the more. Mr Hobson had met there from year to year and bestowed his hospitality, and proved himself a true English gentleman, a true friend of the people, and he could not but think as he met him that day that years were telling upon him. In looking round about as he sat in that chair Mr Hobson had often said "some who were here last year are not here to-day." If he had been here to-day he would have said somebody who was here last year is not here, and that is my son. It was a loss which pricked him to the very heart. He hoped, as time went on (and time was the only healer of sorrow), that Mr Hobson would come out in his customary robust health and mix among them, and he had no doubt as the years turned round they would have Mr Hobson with them. He had a representative there and another son whom he hoped would convey to him their expressions of sympathy in that his time of sorrow. He had never before seen Mr Hobson under to him as a sudden shock, one which he felt acutely, and which was a burden upon his mind. He hoped Mr Hobson might have strength given to overcome it and have bestowed upon him another measure of health to meet with them in many years to come. (Applause.)

"THE SEED TRADE AND AGRICULTURAL INTERESTS."

The toast which followed was that of "The Seed Trade and the Agricultural Interests in the Country."

Mr Harrison, in responding, said it was only right to say a few words. He was not prepared to say much because he had not had a good take last year. It was perhaps his own fault owing to his bad management. The farmers sowed clover and seeds too often. His father who was a great hay grower, used to say if they wanted a good take of clover it should not be sown more than once in eight years. The seeds he got from Mr. Hobson were looking well and if they wanted seeds Mr. Hobson could supply as good seeds as any man.

Mr. M. Hobson next addressed the company on the seed trade. He was sorry they had not been prepared to meet the customers as well as they ought to have been. They had samples before them from different parts of the country to choose from and as soon as they were able to issue their catalogue it would be their pleasure to let the customers have them. They had always been most particular about the samples and did their utmost to uphold the quality of the seeds. He thanked them most sincerely for the kind and sympathetic manner in which they had drunk the toast to his father in his absence, and would be most happy to convey their kindness and for their attending to partake of that dinner. He was sorry there was not the singing they generally had but if spared to another year they would be able to have the harmony as usual.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. Phillipson then proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who he thought had done justice to the office and sustained its honour. It was as little as they could do to show their appreciation of the kind services rendered by Mr. Innes. Though he was reluctant to undertake the duties there was no doubt as to his ability to attend to them in the fullest capacity. The Chairman had done considerably to enliven and contribute to the pleasure of the gathering and trusted he would be long spared to attend similiar gatherings.

Mr. Harrison seconded the motion, and after

Mr. Innes had briefly responded, the meeting terminated.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIAL AT BURNOPFIELD

On Friday evening the employees of the Burnopfield Co-operative Society held their annual social in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield, and the event proved a great success. Dancing was kept up with great vigour until four o'clock on Saturday morning, and all present seemed to enjoy themselves. The music was ably supplied by Mr. Jefferson (piano), Mr. W. Hindhaugh (violin), Mr. F. Gregory (violin), and Mr. H. Wilkinson (piccolo). The hall, which was nicely decorated for the occasion, reflected great credit upon the exertions of the committee, Messrs Dent, Humble, G. Nicholson, Rowell, Harrison, and W. Mein. The duties of M.C.'s were ably discharged by Mr. J. Marshall, Mr. T. Hall, and Mr. T. Thompson. During the evening songs were sung by Mr. H. Weedy, Byer Moor; Mr. Nicholson, Hobson; and Mr. Dixon, Hobson. The refreshments, which were supplied by Mr. N. R. Herdman, Burnopfield, were of excellent quality. The secretarial duties were in the able hands of Mr. J. Marshall. Amongst those present were:—

Mr. Dent, Burnopfield.
Mr. and Mrs. Humble, Burnopfield.
Mr. Rowell, Burnopfield.
Mr. and Mrs. Mein, Burnopfield.
Mr. Harrison, Burnopfield.
Mr. G. Nicholson, Marley Hill.
Mr. W. Liddle, Hobson Colliery.
Mr. Elliott, Hobson Colliery.
Mr. Dixon, Hobson Colliery.
Mr. Sheavels, Burnopfield.
Mr. and Miss Pattison, Marley Hill.
Mr. Thirkell, Burnopfield.
Mr. and Mrs. Allison, Burnopfield.
Mr. T. Hall, Byer Moor.
Miss Graham, Hobson Colliery.
Miss Sharp, High Row, Marley Hill.
Miss Spoors, Byer Moor.
Miss Kirton, Burnopfield.
Miss Robson, Hobson Colliery.
Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Burnopfield.
Miss Wheatley, Rowlands Gill.
Miss Hall, Crookgate.
Miss Storey, Catchgate.
Mr. Rock, Catchgate.
Mr. T. Thompson, Low Farm.
Mr. B. Davidson, Marley Hill.
Mr. R. Stonehouse, Spen.
Mr. R. Handcock, Barcus Close.
Mr. Harper, Spen.
Mr. J. and Miss Reed, Lintzford.
Mr. J. Andrews, Lintzford.
Miss Gladstone, Lintzford.
Mr. W. Seath, Lintzford.
Mr. E. Allison, Hamsterley Mill.
Mr. T. Dickinson, Hobson.
Mr. Nicholson, Hobson.
Mr. J. and Miss Coulthard, Byer Moor.
Mr. and Miss Robson, Hobson Colliery.
Miss L. Shaw, Burnopfield.
Mr. J. L. Weedy, Burnopfield.
Mr. J. Jennings, Burnopfield.
Miss Cawthorn, Hobson.
Miss Hall, Byer Moor.
Mr. Rowell, Pipe Bridge.
Miss Hall, Byer Moor.
Mr. and Mrs. Weedy, Byer Moor.
Miss Wilkinson, Marley Hill.
Mr. Young, Andrews House.
Miss Jennings, Burnopfield.
Miss Scott, Lintz.
Miss Errington, Burnopfield.
Miss Bell, Hobson.
Mr. J. Marshall, Hobson.
Mr. T. Wright, Burnopfield.
Mr. J. Walton, Burnopfield.
Miss Walton, Burnopfield.
Miss H. Sharp, High Row.
Misses Patterson, Hobson.
Miss Cooper, Byer Moor.
Miss Bolton, Syke Lane.
Mr. Forster, Hobson Colliery.
Mr. Kendall, Marley Hill.
Miss Layton, Hobson.
Miss E. Easey, Penpifine.
Miss Nicholson, Burnopfield.
Miss Oates, Burnopfield.
Miss Curry, Tanfield.
Mr. and Miss Wilkinson, Pickering Nook.
Mr. T. Whorley, Tantobie.
Mr. Hunter, Tantobie.
Misses Saunders, Marley Hill.
Mr. H. Cawthorn, Fellside.
Miss Pringle, Tanfield.
Mr. Richardson, Burnopfield.
Mr. Metcalf, Burnopfield.
Mr. Young, Byer Moor.
Miss Boyd, Byer Moor.
Mrs. Haughan, Byer Moor.
Miss Mason, Byer Moor.
Mr. Dale, Burnopfield.
Mr. Hume, Burnopfield.
Mr. Reay, Burnopfield.
Mr. M. Cheesemond, Gibside.
Mr. Wilkinson, Stanley.
Miss Armstrong, Burnopfield.
Miss Hall, Hobson.
Mr. and Mrs. Dent, Marley Hill.
Miss Milburn, Hobson.
Miss Parker, Hobson.
Miss Irwin, Tanfield.
Miss Bowes, Tanfield.
Mr. R. Heslop, Burnopfield.
Mr. Charlton, Burnopfield.
Mr. Telford, Catchgate.
Mr. T. Wheatley, Rowlands Gill.
Mrs. Jefferson, Byer Moor.
Miss Dixon, Hobson.
Mr. W. and Miss Thompson, Low Farm.
Mr. R. and Miss Mein, Sheep Hill.
Mr. and Miss Nicholls, Marley Hill.
Mr. Pattison, Marley Hill.
Mr. R. Nicholls, Marley Hill.
Mr. R. Armstrong, Burnopfield.
Miss M. Mein, Sheep Hill.

WHO OWNED THE DOG?

At the Durham County Court on Monday, before his Honour Judge Meynell, John Fitzpatrick, miner, of Esh, sued Wm. Ames, miner, of Waterhouses, to recover a toy-terrier dog, or its value, £5.—Mr. J. Mawson appeared for the plaintiff, who lost the dog at Lanchester in 1897. He advertised for it and made inquiries, and found it in January of this year in the defendant's possession. When he claimed it, defendant told him he got it from a cousin in Norfolk, and some time after said he bought in Newcastle. Plaintiff, who bought the dog for 7s 6d, now valued it at £5.

Several witnesses having given evidence as to the identity of the dog, defendant said he bought the dog in Newcastle market in 1897.

His Honour wished to know why defendant had said he got it from Norfolk?

Ames: Of course, I told him many a thing when he came to plague me. When there's a lot of bees around your cabin you may tell anything. (Laughter.)

His Honour found for the plaintiff, and asked the defendant whether he would give up the dog or pay the £5.

Defendant said he would not give up the dog, and could not pay, and, on being told he must do one or the other, answered, "I'll go to gaol."

He was ordered to pay the £5, which would be reduced to 1s if the dog was given up within seven days.

APIOL and STEEL PILLS for females a French remedy for all irregularities and obstructions, superseding bitter apple, pill cochiae pennyroyal, &c. Price 4/6 post free. Obtainable only from MARTIN, Foreign Chemist SOUTHAMPTON.

J. T. Castle, Front St., Stanley, is not excelled in the district for Wedding Presents in Sterling and Electro Silver.

GREAT PRIZE SCHEME.

THOMAS HEDLEY & CO. LIMITED
ARE GIVING AWAY
£500 IN CASH PRIZES
FOR
FAIRY AND HYSSOP
SOAP WRAPPERS
DURING APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE, 1900.
LIST OF PRIZES GIVEN EACH MONTH.

1st Prize	£25 0 0
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26 Prizes of £1 each	26 0 0
101 ,, ,, 10s. ,, ...	50 10 0
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330 Prizes	£166 10 0

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

Save the whole of the Fairy and Hyssop Soap Wrappers (tops only will be disqualified) and send, postage or carriage paid to THOMAS HEDLEY & CO., LTD., CITY SOAP WORKS, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, not later than the 30th day of the month in which you are competing. Any received after that day will be held over for the next competition, and also any wrappers sent in and not securing a prize in April or May will be counted in the next competition. The Prizes will be awarded in the above order to the senders of the highest number of wrappers. If any wrappers are sent with insufficient postage they will be refused. Every wrapper must first have contained soap. Be careful to send your full name and address, also the number of wrappers sent. No employee of Thomas Hedley & Co., Ltd., will be allowed to compete. All prizes will be sent off by the 10th day of the month following the Competition, and a list giving the result will be sent to every competitor.

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FAIRY SOAP CHARMS ALL DIRT AWAY.
HYSSOP SOAP THE GENUINE DISINFECTANT.
Send in your Wrappers, however small the number, as you stand a good chance to secure one of the Prizes.

THE WORK OF THE ANNFIELD PLAIN COUNCIL

A GOOD RECORD.

In his report of the work of the Annfield Plain Council, since its formation in October 1896, Mr. T. J. Trowsdale, surveyor and inspector to that authority, gives a detailed comprehensive account of the various works and improvements which have been effected during its tenure of office now rapidly expiring. The difficulties associated with the formation of a new district, says Mr. Trowsdale are apparent to all, but at the same time recognises and acknowledges freely and frankly that those difficulties have been rendered comparatively light by the generous assistance afforded by the Chairman, the members, and officials of the Council. And it is a pleasing thing to know that such a spirit of friendship and cordiality has existed among the Councillors. It is helpful in many ways, and facilitates the work of any Council in a very large degree. Our readers will agree with Mr. Trowsdale that the work of an Urban District Council is varied and extensive, and materially affects the well-being of the general public, and very much depends upon the way in which the work is done. So energetically have the Council set about the great tasks entrusted to them that they may now look back with pardonable pride and congratulate themselves on the result of their exertions of the past 3½ years. That the Surveyor and Inspector, as well as the Council, has the best interests of the district at heart will be apparent from the incessant devotion he has always given to his work, and his high aim to make the district one of the best sanitary districts in the county. The area of the Council's district covers some 3,475 acres, has an estimated population of 13,500 souls, and a rateable value of £41,039. The report then proceeds to enumerate the improvements effected on the main roads together with their cost, amounting to some £885 13s 8d, of which the County Council have refunded £484 4s 6d, while an additional sum of £51 1s 4d is now due from that authority. An examination of these figures shows that the Council has been fully alive to the necessities of the district, and has spared no pains to bring about a state of things more in keeping with the progressive age in which we have the honour to live. Turning from the report on the highways to that of the district roads, of which there are some 11½ miles, it will be seen that many necessary improvements have been made, the average annual cost per mile including the maintenance and improvements of the roads and footpaths reaching the sum of £65 17s 5d. Money expended judiciously, as it has been in these cases, is by no means wasted, as will be testified by the improved condition of the roads to what they were when the Council first took office. The road improvements have been fairly well distributed in the different parts of the district, and the large majority of the inhabitants will concur with the statement that they were badly needed. Several parts of the district are now assuming the appearance of little country towns since the introduction of the asphalt and cement footpaths, which in the long run will prove more serviceable and consequently more economical than the old-fashioned ballast footpaths, which continually needed the attention of the workmen. It is highly creditable to the Council that their workmen have without any special professional assistance completed most of these improvements under the supervision of their own surveyor, the saving to the ratepayers in this respect representing a considerable sum. Another feature of the Council's work is the manifest improvements made by the adoption of the Private Street Works' Act, which was rendered necessary owing to the bad state in which several of the roads were found in wet weather, and the existence of the open channels, which were receptacles for all kinds of filth. In its adoption and application of the powers conferred by this wholesome Act a great sanitary improvement has been effected, notably in the Dipton district. The provision of public conveniences in the Annfield Plain, Catchgate, and Dipton districts cannot but have a salutary effect upon the morals of the people, while it has removed from the streets and footpaths the intolerable and disgraceful scenes so rife in almost all parts of the district. The importance of an efficient service of public lighting has been recognised as essential, and many places which once sat in darkness have at last seen light. Nor has the sewerage, one of the most important branches of the work, been overlooked or neglected. Streets and detached houses which were previously without drainage have been connected with the mains at Annfield Plain, Flint Hill, Catchgate, and South Medomsley. With one important exception, that of the Dipton Wood Houses, all the district has been properly sewered. The success which has attended the introduction of the treatment of the sewage by bacteriological filters should be ample justification for trying the experiment in the Dipton district, where the sewage at present flows into two settling tanks which only arrest the bulk of the solid matter, and which in the dry part of the season causes a serious nuisance, thus rendering some efficient mode of treatment of the sewage of primary importance and urgent necessity. The spirit of enterprise in the building trade has apparently suffered little check, for on the other had 179 new houses have been built and occupied in the district, showing a material growth of population during the last three years. As a fitting "finale" to the surveyor's department, Mr. Trowsdale draws attention to the provision of a suitable Institute or Free Library and Reading Room, without which he observes very truly no well-ordered community is complete in these days of advancement and search after knowledge. Although admitting the difficulties of such a task, he has a firm belief in the possibility of its attainment, and suggests the very feasible plan of approaching the colliery owners and others who have interests in the district for the purpose of enlisting their sympathies in the raising of sufficient money with which to build suitable premises, remarking that such a step would be an inestimable boon to the toiling inhabitants of the district.

In the Inspector's department the Council have not allowed the grass to grow green under their feet. The scavenging and removal of house refuse, which Mr. Trowsdale observes, had only been imperfectly carried out generally, was in the interests of all parties undertaken by the Council. Although the change has not been considered a perfect improvement, it is gratifying to know that it is giving satisfactory results at an annual cost of £735 3s, including rent of deposits and disinfectants. The water supply of the district has received its quota of attention, and in several cases where the stand pipe system was in vogue, the Council have prevailed upon owners of houses to lay the water supply on to each house; and it is hoped that a separate service will obtain throughout the district shortly. Under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts some 26 domiciles have been repaired and made habitable, while others considered uninhabitable have been permanently closed. The state of the common lodging-houses in the district at the time of the formation of the Council, the Inspector states, were filthy and neglected, but by close attention and supervision their condition has been materially improved. The action of the Council in respect of slaughter-houses has been of a decisive character, and every care has been taken to remove these premises from positions in which they could not avoid being positive nuisances. After making some trenchant remarks on the size and general condition of the older houses, the rooms of which he fitly designates as only "apologies" for rooms, Mr. Trowsdale draws the attention of the Council to the question of overcrowding, an evil which, he states, exists to a considerable extent. One reason attributed to this undesirable state of affairs is the continued prosperity and development of the industries of the district, making suitable dwellings very scarce. The Inspector wishes the Council to recognise the fact that if the requirements for the necessary accommodation is not met by private enterprise, it will be the duty of the Council to deal with question by seeking and enforcing the powers conferred by the enactments relating thereto. In conclusion, the Inspector advises the continuation of a well-ordered progressive policy in dealing with all public matters in order that a better state of things may be brought about. Appended to the reports is a statement of the income and expenditure of the Council since its formation. During the half-year of 1896-1897 the income was £2,265 10s 9d, the expenditure £429 3s 4d; between 1897-1898, the income was £4625 6s 3d, and the expenditure £3,669 12s 11d; between 1898-1899 the income rose to £5,770 0s 1d, and the expenditure to £4,858 19s 11d; while between 1899 and 1900 the income reached £6,999 3s 2d, with an estimated expenditure of £6,014 19s 10d, thus shewing a substantial balance each year to the credit of the Council.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN COUNCIL ELECTION.

When the time for the nomination of candidates for the above election had expired it was seen that there were 25 nominations for twelve seats. The names marked * are old members in the following list:—

James Baxter Armstrong, farmer, Collierley.
Mark Aynsley, engine-driver, Annfield Plain.
James Bainbridge, colliery under-manager, East Pontop House.
John Birtley, miner, Hill Top, Dipton.
Thomas Bowes, colliery under-manager, Annfield Plain.
George Bullerwell, agent, East Kyo.
*Thomas Clark, colliery under-manager, Dipton.
*William Down, assurance agent, Catchgate.
*William Eltringham, colliery under-manager, Catchgate.
William French, colliery cashier, Catchgate.
Thomas Gatiss, innkeeper, Kyo.
*Robert Hall, checkweighman, Annfield Plain.
Thomas Holland, agent, Catchgate.
*James Mason, miner, Annfield Plain.
George Murray, grocer, Dipton.
John Orr, painter, Annfield Plain.
John Reece, checkweighman, Annfield Plain.
John Foster Smith, merchant, Annfield Plain.
*John Storey, grocer, Catchgate.
*James George Taylor, stationer, Dipton.
*John Wilkinson Taylor, printer, Dipton.
Robert Tindale, engineman, Annfield Plain.
John Thomas Weston, auctioneer, Cornwall House, Annfield Plain.
*William Young, innkeeper, Dipton.

Is marriage a failure? Certainly not, if united with one of J. T. Castle's Wedding Rings.

CONSETT. 1900. STANLEY.

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(Signed), J. ORTON.

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A Good Assortment of Fruits.
Choice Cheshire Cheese and Fruit Cakes.
TRY OUR SPECIAL BLENDED TEAS.

J. E. KINLESIDE,

POST OFFICE, LEADGATE.

TOBACCONIST.—Smokers' requisites. Try Kinleside's noted Specials.

TO ARTISTS.—Paints, Oils, Brushes, Canvasses, Opals, etc. Materials and Tools for Leather Work.

Choice selection of Stationery and Wedding Cards.

REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS.

EYES TESTED AND SPECTACLES SUPPLIED.

FOOTBALLERS' OUTFITS, &c.

GROCER AND PROVISION MERCHANT.

Best and Finest Cheese, Bacon, Lard, Currants, Figs, and Raisins obtainable.

BEST VALUE
IN
FLOUR, PROVISIONS, &c.,
AT

W. WHITFIELD'S

FRONT STREET,
LEADGATE.

LUMLEY'S

IS
THE NOTED SHOP
FOR

CHEAP SUITS.

6, SHERBURN TERRACE
CONSETT.

THE WEST STANLEY MINERAL WATER CO.

Have removed from Co-operative Street to New, Larger, and more Commodious Premises in LOWER BEAMISH STREET.

For the
NOTED LEMON SQUASH.
Try our
STONE GINGER BEER.
SODAS AND LIME JUICE a Speciality.
Goods delivered by our own Vans.
SPECIAL TERMS TO RETAILERS.

NOTE THE ADDRESS 374e

KOLACTICUM OINTMENT

ACHES and PAINS disappear speedily by use of the newly-discovered KOLACTICUM OINTMENT. Highly recommended for the permanent cure of RHEUMATISM, PILES, VARICOSE VEINS, STIFF JOINTS, SKIN DISEASES, ULCERS, ERUPTIONS, etc., etc. Every sufferer should give this Ointment a trial, and prove its wonderful healing powers. Sold in large boxes with full directions.

PRICE, 2s 9d POST FREE.
THE KOLACTICUM CO.,
585y. 54, Bow Lane, Cheapside, E.C.

AMERICAN LINE.—UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.
SOUTHAMPTON—NEW YORK SERVICE.
SOUTHAMPTON to NEW YORK.
SATURDAY, at noon.

Highest Class of Accommodation for Saloon, Second Cabin, and Steerage Passengers.

LIVERPOOL—PHILADELPHIA SERVICE.
Every WEDNESDAY.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA

Calling at Queenstown every Thursday. Passengers and goods are landed at Philadelphia on the Wharf of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which has the shortest and most Direct Route to all places in the Western States.—Apply to Richardson, Spence, and Co., Southampton or Liverpool; or to Local Agents, J. Crawford, Victoria Street, Consett; T. D. Dryden and Co., Front Street, Consett; Alfred Phillipson, Emigration Agent, Dipton; William Gray, 5, North Road, Durham; Geo. Leadbitter, Accountant, Catchgate; Thomas Storey, Auctioneer, Front Street, Chester-le-Street; W. J. Johnson, 95, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; Wm. Anderson, Bridge Street, Tow Law; E. Sloane, Post Office Blackhill; or T. A. Brown, 3, Market Place, Crook. 725b.

Business Announcements.

BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.

W. RICHARDSON,

DRAPER AND MEN'S OUTFITTER.

FOR THE SEASON.

Large Assortment of LACE, GLOVES, &c., &c., for Presents.
DECORATIVE PLANTS for Ornamentation.
UMBRELLAS, HABERDASHERY, AND HOSIERY
New and Special Consignment.

To Spend Wisely STOP HERE

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,

LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET.

DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.
SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.
ACCOMMODATION FOR CYCLISTS.
851a J. H. COURTNEY.

THE

CREDIT ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION LIMITED.

Head Office—10, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Capital £1,000,000. Subscribed £380,000.

Guarantee of Trade Acceptances and Open Credits.

The Corporation will guarantee Traders 50 per cent. of their credits, at premiums representing only a small percentage of the ordinary trade profits.

Fire. *"Each risk rated on its own merits."*

Apart from the Corporation's subscribed capital, which exceeds that of any other Non-Tariff company, and is larger than that of several of the Tariff offices, it possesses re-insuring resources enabling it to write large amounts.

Workmen's Compensation. *"Non-Tariff."*

The Corporation issues an absolute guarantee against all liability under the Acts of 1897 and 1880, and at Common Law without limit.

Application for Agencies Invited.

O.V.H.S.

ESTABLISHED 1820.

THE VATTED HIGHLAND SMALL STILL WHISKY.

(Registered).

Matured in Sherry Wood.

Supplied to Principal London Clubs and Restaurants. Price: TWO GUINEAS per dozen Case, CARRIAGE PAID. Extra Special LIQUEUR, 48s, per dozen, CARRIAGE PAID.

F. H. LAMB & CO.,

FORTH HOUSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Agent for Consett and District:
NATHAN ELSDON,
Delves Lane.
791g Consett.

HENRY ANNANDALE TOWN,

(Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute.)

LAND, ESTATE AGENT,
VALUER AND SURVEYOR,
UNDERTAKES

The entire Management of Country Estates.

Properties of every description, either in Town or Country, Managed on Moderate Terms under Personal Supervision.

Properties Sold or Let on Commission.

Valuations undertaken and Mortgages Negotiated.

Agent for the Lancashire Fire and Life Insurance Company and Globe Accident Insurance Company.

15, PILGRIM STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Telephone, No. 4.

PIANOS & ORGANS

FOR SALE,

8s., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., 22s. 6d., per Month.

Guaranteed 10 years. Liberal Discount for Cash

Old Pianos taken in exchange.

Tuning and Repairs promptly attended to.

CYCLES. CYCLES.

Sole Agent in District for the "Osmond," "Beanco," "Ariston," and other renowned makes.

ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND ENAMELLING done on the Premises.

ADDRESS:
E. SLOANE & SONS,
PIANO AND CYCLE WAREHOUSE,
BLACKHILL. 549d

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
LEEDS, LONDON, YORK, SCARBRO', DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBRO', DARLINGTON, WEST HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, KEIGHLEY, MORECAMBE, HULL.

500 PIANOS, ORGANS, HARMONIUMS.
PIANOS, ORGANS, HARMONIUMS,
in
ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S
IMMENSE SHOW ROOMS.
by the
WORLD'S GREATEST MAKERS.

The exceptional facilities for choice this splendid selection gives to purchasers cannot be too highly estimated.

IT IS ONLY BY CLOSE COMPARISON THE BEST VALUE CAN BE REALLY ASCERTAINED BY THE ORDINARY PURCHASER.

HORIZONTAL PIANOS.
HORIZONTAL PIANOS.

To purchasers of Horizontal Grand Pianos.—Archibald Ramsden would specially invite inspection of their choice stock; all the leading makers are represented, and most advantageous terms offered to cash or deferred payment purchasers.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S are offering a very beautiful Overstrung Grand at £60 cash. CATALOGUE FREE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S
HIGH-CLASS CHEAP PIANOS.
HIGH-CLASS CHEAP PIANOS.

£19 10s 0d cash. Supplied on the easy deferred payment system at
£21 0s 0d cash 12s 9d, 15s, 18s 4d, 21s per
£28 0s 0d cash. month.
£37 0s 0d cash. Each instrument is guaranteed ten years, and sent carriage paid.

AMERICAN ORGANS. AMERICAN ORGANS.
SPECIAL VALUE IN NEW INSTRUMENT at £10, £12, £14, £16.
BEAUTIFUL TONE, ATTRACTIVE CASES. WELL FINISHED AND THOROUGHLY RELIABLE.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN'S
LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME.
LIFE AGREEMENT SCHEME.

Applied to every instrument taken on the hire-and-purchase system. Over £800 has been already paid in claims. INTENDING PURCHASERS SHOULD CONSIDER THIS BENEFICENT SCHEME NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE WHATEVER BEING MADE FOR THE INSTRUMENTS.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE. 808g.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LIMITED),
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
PARK ROW, LEEDS.

Business Announcements.

FOR EMIGRATION, to SOUTH AFRICA and AMERICA, apply to A. PHILLIPSON Auctioneer, Dipton.—SPECIAL AGENT. 157v

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NEWCASTLE WARDROBE CO.,
31, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
NEW AND SECOND-HAND CLOTHES, BEDS, &c.

Orders executed for Oilskin Garments, guaranteed Waterproof; Leather Goods, &c. Inspection invited. 330e

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT FOR THE MARLEY HILL BRASS BAND SPORTS AND BRASS BAND CONTEST, to be held at Burnopfield, on June 30th, 1900. 84h

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF DIPTON

SHOULD any ASHPITS or PRIVIES be Overlooked or not properly Cleaned, please notify the Contractor at once when they will be attended to. Signed,
572e G. NICHOLSON, Contractor.

NOTICE.

CASTLESIDE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND LIVE STOCK SOCIETY.

THE Eleventh Exhibition of the above Society will be held at Castleside, on Saturday, August 11th, 1900.

Secretary, JOSEPH PROUD.
Consett Park Terrace,
95h Castleside.

TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d
Already acknowledged	2263	14	6
W. M. Annandale, Esq., Lintsford	5	5	0
	£2268	19	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett; or further information from the Hon. Secretaries—Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Brynglass, Consett; or Mr. G. T. HYDEN, Blackfyne House, Blackhill.

N.W.D. STEAM LAUNDRY. GEORGE ST., BLACKHILL.

THIS LAUNDRY IS NOW IN WORKING ORDER.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

Washings are Collected and Delivered by our own Van, Free of Charge.

A Post Card to the Manageress will receive prompt attention.

EASTER, 1900.

THE "TREKKING" OF THE HOLIDAY CROWDS

Will be in the direction of the

STANLEY TRADES' EXHIBITION AND CARNIVAL.

THE OPENING CEREMONIES,
MAGNIFICIENT DISPLAY,
TALENTED ORCHESTRAS,
SIDE SHOWS AND SHOOTING,
etc., etc.,
Will make it a Nucleus of Attraction.

See Programmes and Bills.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES' ASSOCIATION.

TRANSVAAL WAR.

ALL APPLICATIONS for Temporary Relief by the dependents of Soldiers (where the breadwinners are serving with the Colours) not already receiving Grants from Local Funds, should be made personally or by letter to Mr. J. B. Lazenby, Hon. Secretary, for the Petty Sessional Division of Lanchester, at his Office, Bank Chambers, Shotley Bridge.

The following information should be supplied with each Application:—*Name of Parish, Full Name of Soldier, Age, Married or Single, No. of Children, Wife, Mother, or Relatives, Dependent, Regiment, Regimental No., whether in Receipt of any, and if so what Relief or Government Allowance.* 446g

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PARISH OF TANFIELD RESERVISTS' FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	52	7	2
Hobson Colliery	4	16	3
South Garesfield Colliery	7	17	10
Lintz Colliery	5	16	6
J. Robinson	1	1	0
Pickering Nook Social	11	7	9
Messrs. Turnbull Bros. Employees	1	4	0
	£84	10	6

J. ROBINSON, Treasurer,
North-Eastern Bank,
89h Stanley, R.S.O.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES' ASSOCIATION.

LANCHESTER DISTRICT.

	£	s.	d.
6th Donation from Miners at Malton Colliery, per Mr. McCormick	1	9	2
Per Mrs. Piercy Taylor-Smith, from Gramasphone		1	0
7th Donation from Surface men at Malton Colliery, per Mr R. Ainsley	4	6	6
8th	4	8	11
Per W. Cumming, Esq., receipt from Social, held in National Schools, Lanchester, Feb. 26, 1900	15	13	10
	£25	19	5

Total amount up to date, £131 19 5

March 20th, 1900.
J. D. PIERCEY-TAYLOR SMITH,
104h Hon. Sec. and Treas.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

FUND in aid of the Wives and Families of Soldiers and Sailors serving with the Colours.

CONSETT DISTRICT.

CHAIRMAN:—COUN. WM. AYNSLEY, J.P., CONSETT.

HON. TREASURER:—MR. T. L. GLEDSTONE, NORTH EASTERN BANK, CONSETT.

HON. SECRETARY:—MR. T. W. WELFORD, CLERK, CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

SUBSCRIPTIONS ALREADY PROMISED OR RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d
Amount Acknowledged	506	10	2
Collected at Mr. Taylor's Presentation, per Mr. Coltman	0	6	6
Hamsterley Colliery Workmens' 3rd Contribution	7	6	7
	£514	3	3

122h T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer.

TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

Positively for One Week only commencing MONDAY, MARCH 26th.

Doors open at 7.15. Commence 7.45. Early Doors at 7, 3d extra to all parts.

DAY PERFORMANCE on WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

Popular Prices, 2s. (Reserved), 1s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.

THE JOSEPH POOLE'S Latest and Greatest Production—

NEW MYRIORAMA
GREATER BRITAIN.
Magnificent Series of Scenes, showing all Events connected with the
BOER WAR.
The ARMOURED TRAIN.
Winston Churchill's Heroism.
BLOWING-UP THE COLENSO BRIDGE.
The Engagement at MODDER RIVER.
ELANDSLAAGTE.
The Gordon Highlanders, Devon, and Manchester Regiments swept the Boers from rock to rock at the Point of the Bayonet.
THE BATTLE OF COLENSO!
DEATH OF LIEUT. ROBERTS, THE LOST GUNS, &c.
Also Lord Dundonald's dash to the RELIEF OF LADYSMITH.
The Joseph Poole's Perfect VAUDEVILLE ORGANIZATION.
PROF. CARL HOWLETT'S ROYAL MARIONETTES.
MISS FLORA CASON, Ballad Vocalist.
HORTON and LINDER, The Comical Chinese.
The SCHAFERS (ALBERT and LILY), Musical Specialitie Artistes.
RICARDO, in his Sensational and Refined Juggling Performance.
WARL and CHARL, Continental Eccentrics.
MR. FRANK FREELAND, Guide, Humorist, and Vocalist.
SANDY and CARL, the Eccentric Comedians.
DE VOYE'S CHAMPION DOGS, Undoubtedly the Finest Troupe of Trained Dogs in the World.
The JOSEPH POOLE'S Improved
—BIOGRAPH—
All the Latest War Pictures, &c., &c.
THE JOSEPH POOLE'S SUPERB ORCHESTRA.
Conductor, MR. FRED DRAKE.

Albert Hall, West Stanley, Monday, April 2nd.

Public Notices.

NOTICE.

VISITORS TO SOUTH SHIELDS for Holidays or Week-end, will find Home Comforts, at reasonable charges, at

F. A. MACDONALD'S BOARDING HOUSE, OCEAN ROAD,

between Pollard and Baring Streets; Five minutes' walk to Public Parks, Baths, Pier and Sands. References: Messrs. J. and G. Gair, Annfield Plain; Levi Whitfield, Leadgate; and Geo. Toward, Castleside. 897g

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CHOPWELL RESERVISTS' FUND.

CHAIRMAN:—J. R. GILCHRIST, ESQ., BEDA LODGE, LINTZ GREEN.
HON. TREASURER:—W. ARCHER, ESQ., CHOPWELL VILLA, LINTZ GREEN.

The Committee gratefully acknowledge the following sums received during eight weeks ended February 27th.

	£	s.	d.
Proceeds of "Social" at High Spen, arranged by Mrs Douglas	26	10	0
Proceeds of "Social" at Victoria Garesfield, arranged by ladies of that Village	21	0	0
The Garesfield Workmen (6 weeks)	17	18	6
High Spen Workmen .. (4 weeks)	12	9	5
Chopwell Workmen .. (2 weeks)	13	5	9
Proceeds of Lecture, arranged by P. Methodists at Victoria Garesfield	4	5	0
Donation, Mr Dixon, Dipwood	5	0	0
" " Gilchrist, Beda Lodge	2	2	0
" " Richardson, Oak Villa Chopwell	2	2	0
" " Dobson, Chopwell Hotel	1	1	0
" " Charlton, Pear Tree Farm, Blackhall Mill ..	1	1	0
" " Rennison, Ship Inn, Blackhall Mill	1	1	0
" " Cheeseman, Chopwell Woods	1	1	0
" " McColvin, Provision Dealer, Chopwell ..	1	1	0
Collected by Mr Burton 13s 7d, Mr. Vipond 14s 6d, Mr Armstrong 7s	1	15	1
Collected by Mr Laing 6s, Mr Franks 5s, Mr Prudhoe £1 0s 6d ..	1	11	6
Collected by Mr Pearson 2s, Mr Rodham 5s, Mr Potter 2s 6d ..		9	6
Collected by Mr Noble		2	6
Total,	163	16	3

ADAM SMITH, Hon. Sec.,
88h School House, Victoria Garesfield.

CONSETT.

THE MASTER and GOVERNORS of SHERBURN HOSPITAL invite OFFERS for the purchase of the following PROPERTIES at Consett.

Lot 1.—No. 5, Harvey Street.—Fish Shop, Stable and Coach-house with loft above, and Outbuildings in yard behind, in the occupation of Robert Hand.

Lot 2.—No. 6, Harvey Street.—Shop with two Rooms behind on ground floor, and three rooms above.

Lot 3.—No. 7, Harvey Street.—House of two rooms on ground floor, and two rooms above, conveniences in yard behind, in the occupation of Christopher Bell.

Lot 4.—Nos. 11 and 12, Harvey Street.—Shop and three rooms on ground floor, and four rooms above, with outbuildings in yard behind, in occupation of John Bates and Guy Russell.

Lot 5.—No. 16, Harvey Street.—Shop and one room on ground floor, and three rooms above with stable and outbuildings in yard behind, in the occupation of Geo. E. Christopher.

Lot 6.—Nos. 17 and 18, Harvey Street.—House of two rooms on ground floor, and two room above, with outbuildings in yard behind, in the occupation of M. Rafferty and Christopher Telford.

Lot 7.—No. 9, Sherburn Terrace.—House of two rooms and kitchen on ground floor, and two rooms above, with outbuildings in yard behind, in the occupation of James Akers.

Mr. SIMON ROWE, Barr House, Consett, will shew the premises.

Further particulars may be had from Mr JOS. HUTCHINSON, The College, Durham to whom offers may be sent, up to and including Saturday, the 24th day of March, 1900.

NEW THEATRE,

CONSETT.

Lessee and Manager .. Mr. HUGH ROBERTSON. (Also of the Royal Theatre and Opera House, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne).

Resident Manager .. Mr. LLOYD CLARANCE.

Instantaneous and Emphatic Success of MR. EDWIN RAMSDALE and Clever Company, in the Popular PANTOMIME—

LITTLE RED RIDING HOOD.

Grand MORNING PERFORMANCE on Saturday, at 2. Children half-price to all parts.

MONDAY, MARCH 26th.
Most Important Engagement of the—
NEILSON OPERA CO.
In a Round of English Operas.

Excursions

NORTH EASTERN RAILWAY.
EXCURSION TRAIN from BLACKHILL, Saturday, March 31st at 12.45 p.m. for SUNDERLAND and SOUTH SHIELDS.
For further particulars see bills.
GEORGE S. GIBB,
York, March 1900. General Manager.

Church Notices.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 1900.
Morning, 10.30 } REV. A. BARRACLOUGH.
Evening, 6 }

ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25th, 1900
Morning 10.30 } Mr. W. SKELTON.
Evening 6 } Mr. W. RICHARDSON.

ALL SEATS FREE.

WESLEYAN CHURCH, CONSETT.

GRAND
BAZAAR & SPRING FAIR,
Wednesday and Thursday,
APRIL 25TH, & 26TH.
FURTHER PARTICULARS LATER.

BLACKHILL WESLEYAN CHURCH CHOIR.

A GRAND CANTATA,

Entitled:—
"JOSIAH" by W. A. OGDEN,
Will be given in the Blackhill Wesleyan Church,
ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28th, BY A CHORUS OF 50 VOICES.

Artistes:—
Soprano: Miss WILLIAMS, Consett.
Contralto: Miss DAVISON, Blackhill.
Tenor: Mr. J. HESLOP, Consett.
Baritone: Mr. J. T. SYMINGTON, Consett.

Chair to be taken at 7.45 p.m.
Proceeds in aid of the Trust Funds.

Musical Tuition.

MISS JACKS,
GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

LESSONS given on the Pianoforte and Organ. Pupils prepared for Incorporated Society of Musicians Examination. Terms on application.—JAS. H. COCKBURN, 51, Park Road, Consett. 983c.

MUSICAL TUITION.

LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned, post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemetery Road, Blackhill. 921c

Sales by Public Auction.

By Mr John T. Weston, Junr

23, South View, Annfield Plain.

MR. JOHN T. WESTON, Jun., instructed by Mr. Warren, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Saturday, March 31st, 1900, Furniture, etc.

Sale at One o'clock p.m.
Sale Office: Cornwall House,
Annfield Plain. 118h

JOHN T. WESTON, JUN.,

AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.
SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLACE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt settlements.

Sales by Auction

By Mr T. D. Dryden

CATCHGATE, near ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Important Sale of High-class Furniture and Effects, on Monday, March 26th, 1900, at One o'clock prompt, instead of March 19th as previously advertised.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN, instructed by Mrs. M. Leadbitter, who is leaving the district, will SELL BY AUCTION, the following Valuable Household FURNITURE and APPOINTMENTS. Inventory: Splendid Solid Oak Dining-room Suite in Leather; Splendid Chippendale Sideboard, Bevelled Oval Glass back; Piano; Sewing Machine; Pictures, &c.; Sitting-room Suite in Velvet; Ornaments, &c.; 2 Hair-seated Couches; 6 Hair-seated Chairs; Maple Wardrobe; Washstand, Marble top; Drawers; Swing Glass; Gipsy Tables; Fenders, &c.; Large Kitchen Press and Drawers; Mahogany Writing Table; Kitchen Table; with all the Crockery, Pots, Pans, &c., too numerous to mention. Quantity of Books, Law Books, and 100 doz. Rolls of Wall Paper.

Sale at One o'clock prompt.

The Auctioneer would call special attention to the Dining and Sitting-room Suites, as they are exceptionally good quality.

T. D. DRYDEN, Auctioneer, Consett.

Catchgate.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN will SELL BY AUCTION, at Mr. M. Handy's, Smith's Hotel, Catchgate, on April 2nd, at 7.30 p.m., all the Valuable PREMISES, now occupied by Mrs. M. Leadbitter, Front Street, Catchgate. For particulars apply to W. H. Oliver, Esq., Solicitor, Durham, or the Auctioneer.

N.B.—Anyone having Property or Shares for Sale, can include them in this Sale by applying to the Auctioneer, Front Street, Consett. 970g

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Town Hall, Consett.

MR. T. D. DRYDEN will SELL BY AUCTION, at an early date, a splendid lot of HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, belonging to a gentleman going abroad. Particulars later.

T. D. DRYDEN, Auctioneer,
971g Consett.

T. D. DRYDEN,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

By Mr John Crawford

John Crawford's Salerooms, Victoria Street, Consett.

SALE OF FURNITURE AND EFFECTS, on Monday, April 2nd. Anyone wishing to dispose of their Furniture can have it included in above Sale, or bought outright for Cash.

Farm Stock Sales conducted on reasonable Terms. Prompt settlement. 169h

---

JOHN CRAWFORD, AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, EMIGRATION and HOUSE AGENT. Also, appointed Bailiff by his Honour Judge MEYNELL, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street Consett.

By Mr Wm. Robinson

PITT HOUSE, MEDOMSLEY.
WEDNESDAY, March, 28th, 1900.

MR. W. ROBINSON, instructed by the Representatives of the late W. Cuthbertson, will offer for SALE BY AUCTION, at the above place and date, the whole of his Household FURNITURE and other EFFECTS, Comprising: Ash Secretaire and Bookcase (brass handles), 3 Chests of Drawers, Cheffioneer, Sideboard, Kitchen Press, Linen do., Mahogany Case Clock, Oak Case do. (very old), Dining Table, Centre do., Card do., 2 Sofas, 6 Birch Chairs, 5 Kitchen do., 3 Arm do., 4-Poled Bedstead (with netted and knitted hangings), Mattresses, 3 Feather beds, Toilet Tables, Hanging and Mantel Mirrors, Round Table, 2 Kitchen do., Barometer, Case Stuffed birds, Violin, German Flute, English do., Brass pan, Coffee Mill, Cut Glass Ware, China Tea Set, Old China, Dinner Ware, 18 Large Meat Dishes, Knives and Forks, Chamber Ware, Milk Bowls, 2 Barrel Churns, B.M. Tea Pots, Coffee Pots, Steel Yards, Saws, Axes, Augurs, Netted Window Curtains, Knitted Quilts, Woollen do., Cotton do., Linen and Cotton Sheets, Blankets, Pillow Cases, and Bolsters, Towels, Finger Napkins, Woollen and other Table Cloths, Corset, Hearthrugs, 2 Wheelbarrows, [illegible] Corn Binns, Flour do., a few Volumes of Books, Gladstone and his Contemporaries (4 volumes, new), Elliot's Delineation of Romanism (1 volume), Fleetwood's Life of Christ (1 volume), Burkitt's Commentary, (1 volume), Family Bible (in leather), Scott and Henry's Bible, Imperial Encyclopedia (6 volumes, in leather), and other books. Particulars in posters.

Sale to begin at 11 a.m.

N.B.—The Property will be sold the same evening at 7.30 p.m., at the Royal Oak Inn, Medomsley. Refreshments will be provided on the premises, at the furniture sale, by Mrs. Moffit, Medomsley.

Sale Office: 3 and 4, New Fines Medomsley.

Eligible Property, for Sale by Auction, a compact little Estate, pleasantly situated, and known as Pit House, Medomsley, Co Durham, and belonging to the late W. Cuthbertson.

MR. W. ROBINSON, instructed by the Representatives of the late W. Cuthbertson, will offer for SALE BY AUCTION at the house of Mr. Trayner, Royal Oak Inn, Medomsley, on Wednesday, March 28th, 1900, at 7.30 p.m., subject to such conditions, as will be there and then stated, [illegible] the Valuable and Desirable PROPERTY, Consisting: Two Stone-built, Freehold Houses, Two Large Fruit Gardens, [illegible] house, Four [illegible] 4 cows, 2 stalled stable, Large Hay Shed, Four and-a-half Acres [illegible] of excellent grass land, very suitable for Building Sites. The present yearly rental exclusive of the House and Garden [illegible] Mr. Cuthbertson) [illegible] readily let [illegible] on application to Messrs Booth and Lazenby, Shotley Bridge, or the Auctioneer, New Fines, Medomsley, R.S.O.

N.B.—The property can be viewed at any time by applying [illegible] Furniture sale [illegible]

Sale Office: 3 and 4, New Fines, Medomsley, R.S.O.

MR. J. [illegible] [illegible] TURE [illegible]

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY
Sales conducted [illegible]

By Mr A. Phillipson

Saw Mills, [illegible] Dipton.
Wednesday, March 28th, 1900.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by [illegible] who is declining housekeeping, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on the above date, all his very Valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and Effects, Comprising: Handsome Sideboard, in Walnut, with Plate Glass Back and Doors; Mahogany Dining Table, with [illegible] Leaves; [illegible] Oval Table, [illegible] Suite, in Leather, [illegible] and Gent's Easy Chairs, [illegible] in Walnut; [illegible] in Walnut; [illegible] Press; Fancy Work Table; [illegible] room Suite, [illegible] Bed Hangings; [illegible] Bed and Pillows; [illegible] Carpet; [illegible] Oil Paintings; [illegible] Good Patent [illegible] Lever Watch.

See Bills for [illegible]

Sale to commence at One o'clock prompt.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conduct them in good style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., [illegible] pointed by [illegible] the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Office, Front Street, Dipton. [illegible]

By Mr James Turnbull.

FORD GRASS PARKS.

THESE PARKS will be LET on Wednesday, April 18th, 1900. JAMES TURNBULL, Auctioneer. 153h

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CHESTER-LE-STREET AUCTION MART.

FIRST SPECIAL GRAZING SALE will be held on Friday, April 6th, 1900. Entries respectfully solicited. JAMES TURNBULL, Auctioneer.

By Mr John S. Murray.

FARM STOCK SALE, by J. MURRAY, in April, Fines House. 152h

GRASS PARKS LET, Greencroft, May 23rd. 154h

EXTENSIVE SALE OF PROPERTY, in Consett District, shortly, at Mount Pleasant Hotel. 149h

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JOHN SWINBURNE MURRAY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT,
BLACKHILL.

Being done [illegible] liberty to take [illegible] up a day of the week.

Appointed by his Honour Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.

All Sales [illegible] conducted with Care, Economy, and Quick Settlements.

WHITEHALL LODGE, BLACKHILL.

Sales by Auction

BY MR. J. GREEN.

BLACKHILL FARMERS' MART CO., LTD. MONDAY, MARCH 23rd, 1900. MR. JACKSON GREEN, AUCTIONEER. 25 Fat Cattle; 150 Sheep; Cows; Calves; Pigs; Poultry; Harness; Ladders; &c. Sale at One o'clock, to commence with Cows. J. W. OSBORNE, Secretary, 10a, Durham Road, Blackhill.

A SPECIAL SALE will be held on Monday, April 11th for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c.

A SPECIAL SALE will be held on WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11th, for Horses, Cattle, Sheep, &c. 72h

J. GREEN'S SALE APPOINTMENTS.
April 12th.—Baxton Bank Farm Sale.
April 28th.—Wolsingham, Furniture Sale a Station Hotel. 73h

MR. JACKSON GREEN AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.
Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.
All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.
SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 807a

By Messrs R. and T. Hindmarsh and Heppell

In the High Court of Justice. Chancery Division.

In the Matter of the Estate of JOHN THEODORE HOYLE, DECEASED.

Valuable Copyhold Property at Blackhill, in the County of Durham, for Sale by Auction.

MESSRS R. & T. HINDMARSH & HEPPELL will offer for SALE BY AUCTION, at the Royal Hotel, Blackhill, on Friday, the 30th day of March, 1900, at 3·30 in the afternoon, the following Copyhold Properties:—

Lot 1.—Nos. 124, 125, & 126, Durham Road, Blackhill, comprising three stone-built two-roomed Cottages, with 2, 3, and 5 Stalled Stables adjoining, Harness-room and Lofts above all, together with large open Yard, with Manure Pit in corner and large open Ash-pit on the opposite side of the ground, used by the Tenants of the said Cottages.

Lot 2.—No. 127, Durham Road. A stone-built Cottage of Four Rooms, with outside Pantry and Ash-pit, together with premises used as a Granary, having spacious Coach-house, small Trap house, and open Yard, all enclosed by a pair of gates.

Lot 3.—Nos. 128, 129, & 130, Durham Road, comprising a Five-roomed Cottage, with separate Yard, having a Garden in front, with an outside W.C.; together with two four-roomed Cottages adjoining, and Yard used by both Tenants with Gardens in front.

All the Property is Copyhold, is an excellent situation, has been recently put into good repair, and is well worth the attention of buyers.

Further particulars may be obtained from Messrs NASH, FIELD, & Co., Solicitors, 12, Queen Street, Cheapside, London, E.C.; Messrs RANSON, NELSON, & MALING, Solicitors, 43, West Sunniside, Sunderland; Messrs PATERSON, SNOW, BLOXAM, & KINDER, Solicitors, 25, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London, W.C.; Messrs GEORGE READER & Co., Solicitors, 1, Chapel Place, Poultry, London, E.C.; Messrs HOYLE, SHIPLEY, & HOYLE, Solicitors; or the Auctioneers, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 92h

NATHAN ELSDON.
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.
OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

N. ELSDON wishes his friends and customers to know that he has the LARGEST AND BEST SALE ROOMS in the district and that he is prepared to STORE FURNITURE and all classes of goods FREE OF CHARGE, and Sell on Commission according to arrangement.

All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or sold by Auction.

To Let.

TO LET, all those FIELDS (Permanent Grass), 13 acres or thereabouts, situated close to the village of Castleside. For particulars apply to MRS. DAVISON, Four Lane Ends, Castleside, or MR. C. W. ALMOND, Front Street, Consett. 76h.

TO LET, West Butsfield Middle Farm, entry May Day, about 70 acres, of which 14¼ are tillage, more land added if required. About 2½ miles from Knitsley, or 2 miles from Rowley Stations. Present tenant not an offerer. Offers received by Mr. HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 10h.

For Sale.

WIRE NETTING FOR SALE, at Wholesale prices.—Apply, F. WELCH and Co., Annfield Plain. 998g

FOR SALE, cheap, about 5 tons OLD LAND HAY, or would exchange.—Apply, Shotley House, Shotley Bridge. 14h

HOUSE FOR SALE, pleasantly situated, two minutes walk from Station.—Apply, F. WELCH, Annfield Plain. 26h

REAL PEBBLE SPECTACLES, 3s. 6d. per pair, worth 7s. 6d.—F. WELCH & Co., Annfield Plain and Stanley. 27h

FOR SALE, large KNITTING MACHINE for linings, shirts, jackets, antimacassars, &c.—Apply, WM. BRAND, Sen., Fish Merchant, Consett.

FOR SALE, a good useful COW, time up April 27th.—Apply, JOHN CAMPBELL, East Castle. 147h

FOR SALE, at Iveston, grand stack of HAY.—Apply, R. BELL, Iveston, or H. WANLESS, Leadgate. 145h

EGGS FOR SALE, Anconas, also Langshans, 3s. 6d. per doz.—FEN MADDISON, Friarside, Lintz Green. 8th

FOR SALE, two well-bred GOATS, to kid next month, £1 each; also one good milker, 10s.—Apply Shafto House, Craghead.

36 INCH SAFE FOR SALE £5; 30 in. £5; 24 in. £4; delivered. JOS. LEVY, 55, Frederick Street, Sunderland. 689g

FOR SALE, FIXTURES AND COUNTERS, Part Fixtures are suitable for Grocer, 18ft. 6in. in length, by about 8ft. in height; 1ft. 5in. in depth; with 34 Drawers for the same.—Apply to J. COCKBURN, Front Street, Consett.

FOR SALE, a Lady's Second-hand MACHINE, in good condition, accept £4 10s.; also, Gent's High-class Second-hand MACHINE, a bargain.—Apply, HODGSON, Post Office, Dipton. 163h

TO BE SOLD OR LET, with immediate possession, TWO DWELLING HOUSES in Benfieldside Road, Shotley Bridge, on the Shotley Estate, containing 9 rooms each, gas, water, bathroom, and garden.—Apply to MR. WM. C. SAMPLE, Trittlington Hall, Morpeth.

FOR SALE, Frank Miller's Celebrated HARNESS DRESSINGS, nothing to equal it for preserving the Leather, and requires no brushing; also, a good stock of Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, Horse Sheets, and Clothing, Whips, Non-rustable Bits, Brushes, and other Sundries.—COWEN'S CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS, Taylor Street, Consett.

BASIC SLAG.
Largest and Best Productions.
Most Reliable, and Oldest Established.
THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER greatly increases Feeding Quality of Grass and Hay. Will pay Farmers well to use freely.
Wholesale Agents:—LANGDALE BROTHERS, 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 200f

MONEY LENT on Gold and Silver Watches, Plate, Jewellery, Pictures, Men's and Women's Clothes, Bed and Table Linen.—Large Stock of Unredeemed Pledges for Sale. Hand Quilted Quilts.—M. HEPTON, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 266f

CYCLES, CYCLES, BARGAINS, 1500 CYCLES! Free to any Address, the most interesting and complete list of 1,500 Machines POST FREE. Single Machines at Wholesale Trade Price. New and Second hand Machines from 35s each. 500 New, latest 1900, Gent's Pneumatic Safeties. Marvellous Prices. 500 Ladies' New, latest 1900 pattern—Single Machine at Wholesale Price. Write for large List. Post Free to any one. Agents wanted. Marvellous Bargains. Send for List. WARRILOW & CO., Cycle Manufacturers, Weston-super-Mare.

March 23rd, 1900.

"CONSETT GUARDIAN" FREE INSURANCE. £100.

WILL BE PAID to the legal representative of any man or woman (railway servants on duty excepted) who shall happen to meet with his or her death by an accident to the railway train in which he or she was travelling in any part of the United Kingdom on following conditions:—

1. That at the time of the accident the passenger in question had upon his or her person this coupon.
2. That prior to the accident the passenger in question had affixed his or her usual signature in the space provided below.
3. That notice of the accident be given to the Corporation guaranteeing this insurance within seven days of its occurrence.
4. That death result within one month from the date of the accident.
5. That no person can claim in respect of more than one of these coupons.
6. The insurance under this coupon holds good from Thursday 6 a.m., date of publication, to 6 a.m. of the following Thursday.

Signed ....

Address ....

The due fulfilment of this insurance is guaranteed by
THE CREDIT ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION, LIMITED,
10, King William Street, London, E.C.
to whom all communications should be made.

Election Addresses.

CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

On Monday, April 2nd, you will have the opportunity of electing four members to represent you on the above Council. I am one of the retiring members, and have again been nominated for re-election. Your knowledge of how I have discharged my duties as your representative heretofore, inspires me with a hope that you will again place me in the honourable position which I have previously held; and in the event of my being returned, I beg to assure you that I shall continue to discharge my duties to you as honestly and faithfully in the future as I have done in the past.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN KEMPSON.
Rose and Crown Hotel,
March 21st, 1900.

CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have consented to become a Candidate for the above Council on April 2nd. As a resident in the district for a lengthy period, and having a thorough knowledge of building matters, sanitation, etc., I trust to receive a share of your support. Should you honour me by electing me to a seat on the Council, my best endeavours will be used to safeguard your interests.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,
JOHN ALLISON.
Rosemount, Consett,
March 21st, 1900. 142h.

CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

You will be asked to record your votes on the first Monday in April for those you wish to represent you on the Council. My name will be on the list placed before you, and I hope that all who approve of my actions on the Council in the past, in the economical use of the public funds, for the better lighting of the town, the good order of the streets, and the improvement of all matters affecting the health of the people, will record a vote in my favour.

Yours respectfully,
GEORGE DIXON POWELL.

CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Having again had the honour of nomination as one of your Representatives on the Urban District Council, I place my services at your disposal.

If elected it will be my endeavour to further the interests of the Town and District generally.

Respectfully soliciting the favour of your Vote and Interest,

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,
JOHN DAVISON.
East Parade, Consett.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE URBAN DISTRICT OF CONSETT.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Having accepted nomination as a Candidate for a seat on the Council, I beg to offer you my services. A long and intimate acquaintance with the district and its requirements enables me to solicit your support. The duties imposed on District Councils are now of such wide extent and variety that they demand very diligent attention from the members, if they are to be successfully carried out. The growth of the present complex system from the powers exercised by the Committee that constituted the first authority here through the successive changes that have taken place by the formation of the Local Board, and the operation of the different Public Health Acts, and the Local Government Act 1894, illustrates the gradual development of local government in our district. The authority at first elected to deal with public health has been found to provide a convenient organisation for dealing with a number of other subjects whose connection therewith is often very remote. Year by year the number of such matters has increased, and is increasing. Perhaps the latest instance is the power last year conferred on Councils to lend money to workmen for the purchase of their houses (with the consent of the County Council) not exceeding £400 in value, repayable with interest in instalments extending over a period of 30 years, the loan in many cases being four-fifths of the value of the house, and at a low rate of interest. The protection of the public health is a matter of necessity which it is essential to carry out as economically as possible, but which must be efficiently carried out at a cost. Powers such as that just mentioned under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899 (which appears to be a continuation of a policy that has hitherto been mainly used for the improvement of land or agriculture) seem to require administration on a basis which should make them self-supporting.

Should you honour me with your confidence, the duties of the office shall always have my close attention, and be carried out in an impartial and progressive spirit, with a proper regard for judicious economy in the expenditure of the Rates.

Your obedient servant,
D. H. C. BALLENY.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

MONDAY, APRIL 2nd, 1900.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

As a Candidate in the above Election, I respectfully ask for your Vote and Influence, and, if elected, will do my best for the interests of all in the district.

Sincerely yours,
JOHN FOSTER SMITH.
Front Street, Annfield Plain.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

APRIL 2nd, 1900.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In response to the request of a number of leading Ratepayers, I have allowed myself to be nominated for one of the twelve seats on the above Council. A life-long resident in your midst, and known to most of you, I claim to have an intimate knowledge of the requirements of our district.

Briefly, Lighting, Sanitation, condition of Roads and Footpaths, and the proper Housing of the Working Classes will, each in their order, obtain my earnest consideration.

If elected, I shall strive to obtain the greatest amount of good work, without extravagant waste of Public Money.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
JOHN THOMAS WESTON, JUN.
Cornwall House, Annfield Plain.
March 21st, 1900.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

APRIL 2nd, 1900.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In soliciting a renewal of the confidence which you reposed in me by electing me a member of the above Council three years ago. I can honestly say that I have, and will, if elected, support all possible reforms brought before the Council for better railway facilities, better postal facilities, better public lighting, and, most important of all, better sanitation.

I believe that the main footpaths should be asphalted; also, that a separate water supply should be laid to each house in the district, and, being a Trades' Unionist, I firmly believe in the fair wage clause being inserted in all contracts.

Trusting to receive a share of your support on the day of the poll.

I am, yours faithfully,
ROBERT HALL.
Dunn Street, Annfield Plain.
March 21st, 1900.

Vote for a Miners' Candidate.

Election Addresses.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN

On April 2nd you will be called upon to elect twelve men to represent you on the above-named Council. Having been nominated as a candidate, I have the pleasure of placing my services at your disposal, and, if elected, my endeavour will be to work for your interest and satisfaction. Kindly soliciting your vote,

I remain,
Yours obediently
158h MARK AYNSLEY.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

APRIL 2nd, 1900.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Having been nominated as a Candidate for one of the seats on the above Council, I have pleasure in placing my services at your disposal.

Myself a large ratepayer, and having been a long resident in your district, I can fairly claim to have an intimate knowledge of the requirements of the same. Whilst much has been accomplished towards the improvement of our district, much remains to be done: good roads and improved sanitation can be brought about without extravagant waste of the Ratepayers' money.

And you can assure this being done if you choose to elect me as one of your Representatives.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MURRAY.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL ELECTION.

APRIL 2nd, 1900.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Having been requested to offer myself as a Candidate for a seat on the above Council, I have pleasure in doing so.

During my short residence in this district you have done me the honour of electing me on October 23rd, 1899, to a seat on the Collierley School Board, and if my actions in that capacity have reflected your wishes and desires may I ask for your further support and influence on the day of the Council Election.

I believe in a thoroughly Progressive Policy without extravagance, being pursued on all matters pertaining to the welfare and health of the district, and to this end I should favour proposals to provide a foot-road from Annfield Plain Station to Greencroft Cottages; the formation of a direct cart-road from Dipton to Lintz Green Station, which I am in a position to know could become an accomplished fact without seriously affecting the Ratepayers; the question of proper sanitation being one of the most important departments of Council work, would receive my most careful attention, and in place of the present unsatisfactory and unhealthy Sewerage Disposal Works at Dipton, would favour any practical scheme for having the district drained and sewered on the most improved system; and the proper Housing of the Working Classes, which will in the near future have to be grappled with, is a question which would receive my heartiest support.

Thanking you in anticipation for a share of your Votes on April 2nd.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
J. B. ARMSTRONG.
Collierley, Dipton,
March 19th, 1900.

ANNFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS, 1900.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The above Election is fixed for Monday, April 2nd. Twelve members are required. The selection lies with you. In the elections of 1896 and 1897 you honoured me with a highly creditable position on the Poll. That mark of kindness and goodwill I am pleased to say has not been forgotten. It has been to me during the 3½ years of the Council's existence, an inspiration, and an incentive to faithful, plodding, persevering effort for the good of our district, and the betterment of its people. My fellow Councillors did me a further honour by selecting me as their chairman. This kindness they have repeated from year to year.

These two considerations:—1st.—The confidence reposed in me by you, my fellow electors; and 2nd, the regard and respect evinced by my fellow Councillors induce me to again offer myself for election, and to ask for a share of your support.

The work of an Urban District Council must necessarily be many-sided, and in consequence, requires care, thoughtfulness, and a broad outlook, if the varied interests of the electorate are to be fairly met. During the time I have served you, my constant aim has been to exercise my mind and increase my knowledge on the many questions raised, that a clear and dispassionate judgment might be brought to bear on all things under our control, always keeping in mind the idea with which I set out on the formation of the District in 1896, "That the health of the people, the comfort of the people, the convenience of the people, were matters of the first importance." As a candidate for your suffrages, this has ever been by "creed," and this I still fearlessly abide by.

During the 3½ years our district has been formed much useful work has been done, many needed improvements have been carried out and many more have been initiated. These facts will be admitted I think on all sides, and go far to prove that our agitation for Urban powers a few years ago (so powerfully opposed at that time) has been fully justified in the carrying out of these reforms and improvements in which I may fairly claim to have taken some part.

The members of the late Council will leave to their successors plans and projects for many more improvements including the completion of the Ashphalted Footpath throughout the district. The introduction of a better system of lighting (electric or otherwise). The re-construction of some of our Sewage Disposal Works. The widening and partial levelling of several of our district roads. The Housing of the Working Classes Act should receive fuller attention, and something might be done towards organising a movement for the provision of a Library and Reading Room.

On all these matters I claim to have some knowledge and experience (obtained largely by the public position to which you have on many occasions so generously elected me).

If you deem me worthy of election, my aim will be to follow a steady and reliable progressive policy, believing this to be in harmony with the best interests of all.

Thanking you for past favours.

I remain,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
JOHN W. TAYLOR.
Dipton, March 21st, 1900.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

PARISH OF COLLIERLEY AND PONTOP.

ELECTION, APRIL 2nd, 1900.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

A number of influential Ratepayers having asked me to allow myself to be nominated for one of the above seats, I have pleasure in placing myself before you as a candidate. As a long resident in the parish, I can claim to have an intimate knowledge of all classes of deserving poor, and, if elected, my endeavours will be to see that equal justice is meted out to all. I have always been of the opinion that too much has been paid to management and other official work and too little to cases of necessitous poor relief.

Trusting to receive a large share of patronage on the day of the poll,

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
GEORGE MURRAY.
London House, Dipton,
March 20th, 1900.

Election Addresses.

ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

PARISH AND TOWNSHIP OF KYO.

MONDAY, APRIL 2nd, 1900.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

Having been nominated as a Candidate for the above election of Guardians, I have pleasure in offering my services, and believe, if elected, that I shall be able to fulfil the duties pertaining to the office with fairness and impartiality to all concerned.

Your Vote and Influence is kindly solicited.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN FOSTER SMITH.
Front Street, Annfield Plain.

ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

TO THE RATEPAYERS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF KYO.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

At the urgent request of many of the Ratepayers, I have consented to being nominated as a Candidate to represent your interests. As I have lived amongst you many years, and having represented an adjoining Township on the Board of Guardians for a considerable period, I claim in some measure to be acquainted with the duties and responsibilities involved in the administration of the Poor Law, and beg to offer my services, and trust to have your support on the day of election.

W. RUTHERFORD.
Mill House, Catchgate.

ELECTION OF GUARDIANS.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

On April 2nd, 1900, you will be called upon to elect three Representatives for the Lanchester Board of Guardians for the Parish of Collierley and Pontop, and I beg to offer my services as a Candidate. Should you elect me to that honourable and responsible position I shall use by best endeavours to efficiently discharge my duties and safeguard your interests by pursuing a policy of economy without parsimony.

Thanking you in anticipation.

I remain,
Yours obediently,
J. B. ARMSTRONG.
Collierley, March 19th, 1900.

Election Thanks.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I take this opportunity of thanking you for the honour you have conferred upon me in again electing me a member of the above Board. I assure you no effort shall be wanting on my part to merit the confidence you have placed in me.

I am,
Your obedient servant,
RALPH T. SWINBURN.
Whickham, March 21st, 1900.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I am deeply sensible of the honour conferred upon me last Friday, and nothing shall be wanting on my part to discharge my duties in an honourable and straightforward manner, having proper regard both to the interests of the children and the ratepayers at large.

Yours obediently,
JOSEPH A. DIXON.
Dunston, March 21st, 1900. 168h

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In thanking you for the signal honour conferred upon me in electing me as a member of the above Board, I can only promise to endeavour to carry out the duties of the position in a manner that will meet with your approbation.

Yous obediently,
R. RUTHERFORD.
Whickham, March 21st, 1900.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to return sincere thanks for my election as a member of the Board. My desire is to see that the children receive a thoroughly sound education without any undue extravagance.

Yours obediently,
SEPTIMUS WRIGHT.
Dunston, March 21st, 1900.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE ELECTORS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to return my sincere thanks to the Electors for returning me as a member of the above Board. I will endeavour to carry out, to the best of my ability, the work allotted to me. Thanking you for the confidence reposed in me,

I am, your obediently,
EDW. TAYLOR.
Whickham, March 21st, 1900.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I most heartily thank you for your cordial and numerous support at the above election, which gives me great satisfaction. You may rest assured I will try to return the compliment by a vigorous and constant attention to the welfare of the Schools and education of the children, also to make a prudent use of the Ratepayers' money during my period on the above School Board.

Yours faithfully,
WILLIAM NEESAM.
Rose Villa, Swalwell.

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.
WILLIAM AYNSLEY, Esq., Chairman.

SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, March 23rd, 1900

EDITORIAL CHAT.

Whickham School Board. The election in connection with this body has come and gone, and, as usual, in these contests, there have been one or two surprises. Perhaps the greatest of these was the overthrow of the Rev. Wm. Dryburgh—a circumstance which we sincerely deplore, as Mr. Dryburgh, by birth and training, is just the sort of member that we want on our School Boards. Too often we find ignoramuses thrust on to these bodies who know as little about educational matters as they do about the Greek kalends. In accordance with general expectations, Mr. Swinburn headed the poll somewhat easily, and there can be no doubt as to his popularity. If he so desires it, he will in all probability be appointed chairman of the new Board. Mr. Rutherford also occupied the position assigned to him by many people—viz., next to Mr. Swinburn. He should make an excellent member. The third and fourth on the list came somewhat as a surprise, Messrs. Neesam and Dixon filling these places. As a gentleman who has previously had ten years' experience of School Board affairs, Mr. Neesam should prove a valuable acquisition to the Board. Mr. Walls (one of the retiring members) figures as fifth on the list, and the two remaining positions amongst the successful candidates are secured by Messrs. Wright and Taylor. The Ratepayers' Association have every reason to be satisfied with the result. Three of the four candidates they pledged themselves to support have been returned, whilst the fourth (Mr. Bell), only just missed being elected. Mr. Gass also polled well, and will probably try his luck again when another election comes round—in all likelihood with a more successful result. We trust that any little bitterness that may have been allowed to show itself during the contest will now die a natural death, and that the members of the new Board will settle down to their work with a full determination to do their duty both to the children for whose education they are responsible, and also to those who sent them there. We understand that Mr. Fenton has been re-elected to represent the Lamesley portion of the parish.

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A Good Cause. The entertainment so ably organised by Mr. Lloyd Clarance last week, at Consett, on behalf of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association, served to show what a wealth of musical and dramatic talent we possess in the district. Most of the items on the programme were original, and these reflected the greatest credit upon the various composers. Several of the songs were distinctly above the average, and the whole proceedings were a huge success. There was only one fault—the programme was a trifle too lengthy. In fact, there was quite sufficient material for a couple of nights, and then no one could have grumbled that they had not had their money's worth. Where all acquitted themselves so admirably it may seem somewhat invidious to single anyone out for special praise, but we cannot refrain from expressing our admiration of the splendid manner in which Mr. Lloyd Clarance organised the function. It is an open secret that the lion's share of the work fell upon the shoulders of the popular manager of the New Theatre, and it speaks volumes for his capabilities and tact that everything should have passed off in such a smooth and satisfactory fashion. It was not a light task by any means that Mr. Clarance undertook, but he is a gentleman not easily deterred when he sets his mind upon doing anything; and thus, in spite of the many little disappointments and annoyances inseparable from an event of this kind, Mr. Clarance pushed bravely on, and he had his reward on Wednesday night of last week. Rarely have we seen a more enthusiastic audience assembled in the Consett Town Hall than that which gathered on the evening referred to, and the proceedings throughout were marked by the greatest patriotism. We have not heard the exact amount realised as the result of the performance, but we understand that the promoters hope to hand over some £50 or £60.

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An Interesting Experiment. For some time past the Leadgate District Council has been carrying out improvements to the footpaths in the place by cementing them. This work has given general satisfaction, and this year a proposal was put forward to complete the scheme by cementing those footpaths which have not already been attended to. The Surveyor was instructed to prepare an estimate of the cost of carrying out this work, and he put down the figure at something like £1,600. Those favourable to the scheme advocated that the money should be borrowed, but there was a strong element on the Council against adopting this course. During the several discussions that have taken place upon the question, it was mentioned that the Annfield Plain and Stanley Councils had gone in for asphalting their footpaths, and that the experiment had answered exceedingly well. In consequence of this it was decided by the members of the Leadgate body to institute inquiries respecting the durability, cost, &c., of asphalt. The result has been that at a special meeting of the Council held recently, it was decided—after carefully considering the report of the committee who went into the question—to asphalt the remainder of the footpaths in Leadgate. This will mean that, instead of spending some £1,600 on cementing, only £300 will be required for asphalting; and it is proposed to raise this amount out of rates, so that there will be no borrowing. It will be interesting to see how the experiment works; but, judging from what has been the result at Annfield Plain and Stanley, there seems no reason to anticipate that it will be other than successful.

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Collierley School Board. Doubtless the attention of our readers would be turned to the letter in the correspondence column of our last issue from Mr. S. Swalwell, of Dipton, in which that gentleman complains of our criticism on the attitude he assumed at the last meeting of the Collierley School Board, respecting Miss Clark's application for an advance of salary. After detailing the "basis of his grievance" he vainly endeavours to justify his action in objecting to the advance by making the flimsy excuse that "the question as to salaries paid to other teachers was not first raised by any member of the Board, but by the teacher making the application." Quite true. Even then we can see no reason why the Board, or at least two members of that body, should seek to shuffle the subject when the small increase asked for was so manifestly the teacher's due. Then our friend tries to make it appear that the special subjects mentioned by Miss Clark and us are not really such, but part and parcel of the ordinary work of the teacher, although he admits that drawing is an extra subject, but is one which does not entail "much strain on a certificated teacher." All the same, it is an extra subject. Further, in that dreadful leaderette, Mr. Swalwell says it was stated "that the late assistant-mistress was only required to keep up her scholars to a certain degree of proficiency," upon which he proceeds to enlighten our mental darkness by the bold assertion "that she had first to get them up." Of course she had, but in our humble opinion we think that the "getting them up" is implied in the "keeping them up," for the former must be accomplished before the latter becomes possible. But Mr. Swalwell's "one-sided, pandering partiality on the one hand, and his unjust denunciation on the other" of our leaderette so completely veils his mental vision that he can only see the force of that part of the argument we used, which he imagined would suit his purpose for the brilliant display of his powers of logic, but which, we think, savours much of pedantic jargon. The quotation of the grants earned during the last five years by the school is an interesting feature, and serves to show that Miss Clark and others must have had their classes up to the standard required for earning the highest grant obtainable, as well as the late assistant-mistress, upon whom our friend appears to lavish the whole of the credit of that signal distinction

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A Standard of Primitive Methodism. To the younger generation in the district the name of the Rev. Thomas Southron will be unfamiliar, but those whose memory can carry them back some twenty or thirty years will probably have little difficulty in calling to mind the rev. gentleman, who was stationed at Blackhill for some year. Those who knew Mr. Southron will regret to hear that he passed away at Darlington last week at the ripe old age of 81, and this regret will be shared by the whole of the Primitive Methodist Connexion, more especially in the North of England. Mr. Southron was a man of Connexional celebrity, and filled many positions of importance. Perhaps his chief distinction was the enthusiasm and energy he threw into the question of ministerial education. It was mainly owing to his advocacy and perseverance that the first Primitive Methodist College for the Training of Ministers was opened at Sunderland. For many years he was one of the examiners, and amongst those who passed under him for the ministry may be mentioned the name of Coun. H. C. Wood, of Burnopfield. A great number of the ministers now serving the Primitive Methodist Churches in this country have benefited by his training and example. The late Mr. Southron entered the ministry in 1840, and after over 44 years faithful and arduous labour he was superannuated in 1885. He has lived in Darlington for the past seven years, and when able was a regular attender at the church meetings and services. The last meeting he attended was the quarterly meeting held on the 7th inst., and he then made a vigorous speech on the question of the union with the Bible Christians. Whilst resident in this district Mr. Southron was exceedingly popular with all classes.

Mr. G. Hobson's Seed Dinner. The cycle of time, with its attendant changes, brought round on Thursday afternoon the fifty-fourth annual seed dinner given by Mr. Geo. Hobson, of Harperley Mills and Catchgate, to his many customers in the farming trade. The annual festivity has not lost any of its attractiveness, but, on the contrary, seems to become increasingly popular as the years roll round. Owing to the lamented death of his oldest son, Mr. Hobson was unable to lend his presence to the gathering. Sympathy with Mr. Hobson in his sad loss was expressed by several gentlemen who addressed the meeting after the dinner, and we take this opportunity of offering our condolence to Mr. Hobson, and trust he will be able to outlive the trouble which at present seems to be a great weight upon his mind. The meeting, which was presided over by Mr. Hobson's oldest customer, Mr. R. Innes, of Lanchester, was enlivened by his narration, in his own inimitable way, of several humourous stories, in fact, the absence of Mr. Innes at this annual gathering would be a distinct loss to it, as he always has something humourous and "taking" to tell. By the continued attendance of farmers from year to year at Mr. Hobson's seed dinner, the popularity of the seeds supplied at his establishment is fully maintained.

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A Novel Method It would appear as though the agitation commenced by the doctors some time since in many parts of the colliery villages for an increase in the fortnightly contributions paid to them is not altogether at an end. At least, we learn that for a considerable time the local medical practitioner has been trying to induce the workmen of Esh, Waterhouses, Hedley Hill, and Ushaw Moor Collieries to augment their contributions to him, but, so far, without success. The doctor, in consequence, has hit upon a rather novel method of disposing of the question. He has issued a circular offering to abide by a ballot of the miners on the point in dispute, and it has been arranged for a vote to be taken accordingly. It will be interesting to learn the result.

BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL

A monthly meeting of the members of the Benfieldside Urban District Council was held at Shotley Bridge on Wednesday evening. Coun. C. Parnaby presided, and there were also present Couns. J. Heymer, E. Sloane, J. Annandale, R. G. Barclay, G. J. Robinson, H. Carss, W. M. Annandale, J. Dowson, J. Eltringham, the Clerk (Mr J. B. Lazenby), and the Surveyor (Mr J. Dixon.)

FINANCE REPORT.

The Highway, Lighting, and Finance Committee reported that they had to recommend the borrowing of £1,000 from the Public Works Loan Commissioners to be repaid by sixty half yearly instalments of principle and interest. The Committee submitted the following estimate of expenditure and receipts for the ensuing half-year, and recommended the making of a rate of 1s 2d in the pound. The expenditure was estimated to amount to £2,727 0s 6d, and the receipts to £939 8s 2d.

It was resolved to issue a rate of 1s 2d in the pound, and the report was adopted.

Cheques for the payment of £199 18s 3d were also ordered for payment.

ASPHALTING FOOTPATHS.

Coun. Carss, in accordance with notice, moved that the Surveyor be instructed to arrange for a meeting between the Highway Committee and the Surveyor to the County Council with a view to having certain footpaths asphalted, namely, from Back Street to the road to High Snows Green, from the Slonks to Highgate and from Highgate to Derwent Street. He said he did not wish to press for immediate action, but he thought some steps should be taken to secure their position.

Coun. Sloane seconded the motion.

Coun. J. Annandale drew attention to the fact that no decision had yet been given by the Local Government Board on the dispute between that Council and the County Council.

Coun. Barclay supported the motion.

The Clerk said the County Council would not object to asphalting. It was cementing they objected to.

The motion was agreed to.

FROM THE GAS COMPANY.

A letter was read from the Gas Company respecting John Street and the laying down of a main there. They asked that if any damage were caused to the pipes by the formation of the road the Council would be responsible as the Company could not protect themselves on private ground.

Coun Annandale moved that until the street was made from end to end, and the Council took it over, the question of lighting remain in abeyance.

Coun. Robinson seconded the motion, which was carried, Couns. Dowson and Sloane voting against.

APPOINTMENT OF OVERSEERS.

Messrs Telford, Heymer, and J. S. Murray were re-appointed overseers, subject to the consent of the Local Government Board.

THE SEWAGE WORKS.

On the motion of Coun. J. Annandale, seconded by Coun. Eltringham, it was resolved to ask Messrs Priestman to receive a deputation respecting the proposed sewage works.

Other business of a routine nature having been disposed of the meeting terminated.

Death of Mrs. Robson, Consett.

We regret to record the decease of Mrs. Margaret Robson, at the residence of her son-in-law, Mr. Jesse Hall, jun., 22, Belle Vue Terrace, Consett, which occurred on Friday evening last. Deceased was a native of this district, and was esteemed by all who knew her. She took ill about four months ago, and gradually grew worse until little hopes were entertained for her recovery. She had been associated with the Wesleyan Methodists almost all her life and had been a member of the Consett Wesleyan body for upwards of 18 years and as her life had been so was her death, of a truly Christian character. Her funeral took place on Monday at Blackhill Cemetery. An impressive service was held in the Wesleyan Church, Consett, conducted by the Rev. G. E. Polkinghorne, who also officiated at the graveside. There was a large attendance of sorrowing relatives and friends. The bearers were Messrs Ed. Whittaker, Wm. Grainger, Chas. Allison, Ed Parsons, Coun. John Lowes, and Venice Dunn. The bidders were Messrs Wm. Goudie and Fred Jones. The principal mourners included Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Hall, jun., daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Snaith, brother and sister-in-law; Miss Vera Hall, grand-daughter; Mrs. Robt. Coates, sister, Mrs. Mary Robson, sister; Mr. Robt. Coates, brother-in-law; Misses Coates, Misses Snaith (2), Mr. Geo. Snaith, Mr. Robt. Snaith, Mr. J. R. Coates, Newcastle; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Coates, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Coates, jun., Mr. Alf. Coates, Mr. Geo. Robson, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Robson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Robson, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey, Mr and Mrs Pinkerton, Mr. Thos. Snaith, Miss M. H. Robson, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Minks, Mrs. Lee, Mrs. Hodgson, Mrs. Summers, Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Hall sen., Mrs. Jones, Miss Tweddle, Miss Robson, Miss L. A. Allison, Mr and Mrs. Waites, Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, Mrs. Hardy. Wreaths were sent from Mr. Jesse and Mrs. Hall jun., Consett: Mrs. Robert Coates, Consett; Mrs. Snaith, Annfield Plain; Mrs. Richard Robson, Annfield Plain; and Mrs. Almond, Consett. During the service the hymn, "Jesus, Lover of my Soul," composed by Ross-Valley, was sung, this being a favourite of Mrs. Robson's and at the close of the service the "Dead March" in Saul was played on the organ. Among those who followed the remains to the grave were, in addition to those already named, Coun. R. C. Foster, Mr. Goudie, the Rev. J. S. Nightingale, Mr. Geo. Siddle, Mr. Jas. Scott, Mrs. T. Rawes, Mrs. Whittaker, Mrs. Dawson, Mr. T. Carr, Mr. and Mrs. H. Davison, Mr. and Mrs. C. Davison, Mr. and Mrs. John Davison, Mr. John Surtees, Mrs. Lowery, Mrs. Moir, Mrs. Hunter, Mrs. Grainger, Mrs. Hodgson, Mrs. Cummins, Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Siddle, Mrs. Wildsmith, and others. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Messrs T. C. Rawes and Co., of Consett.

STANLEY.

Mr. R. W. Little, headmaster of the West Stanley Board Schools, having been appointed headmaster of the Birtley Schools, has tendered his resignation to the Tanfield School Board.

£6,250 SENT.
VINOLIA ½d. War Fund helps Tommy Atkins, and doesn't cost you anything!
VINOLIA SOAP is the best for complexion. A ha'penny is sent on every tablet sold. 121h

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OBSERVER (Annfield Plain.)—Received.

Local and District News.

Consett.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.—Mr. Joseph Poole's celebrated company will occupy the Town Hall at Consett next week, and large crowds are sure to be attracted. The myriorama will consist of a magnificent series of scenes, showing all events connected with the Boer War, and including the engagements at Modder River, Elandslaagte, and Colenso; Lord Dundonald's dash to the relief of Ladysmith, &c. As usual, the variety company got together by Mr. Poole includes many stars, particulars of whom will be found in our advertising columns. There will also be the improved biograph, showing all the latest war pictures, &c. Altogether a mammoth programme will be presented, and good companies should assemble each evening.

LECTURE ON "ALCOHOL."—On Monday evening, at the meeting of the Wesley Guild, a very interesting lecture on alcohol was delivered by Dr. Grainger, of Consett. The lecturer said that the subject of the lecture had caused much discussion. Alcohol contained carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen. There were several kinds of alcohol, and the kind he was going to deal with was ethylic alcohol. This was the kind which was consumed in public-houses. Ethylic alcohol was prepared by fermentation by sugar and yeast. All fermented drinks contained alcohol. Fermentation was really putrefaction. Yeast was a living organism or a fungus. Alcohol could be obtained from apples, pears, peaches, and grapes, but ethylic alcohol could only be got from grape sugar. Beer contained about four per. cent. of alcohol, while brandy generally contained about 30 per cent., but it varied greatly. In preparing alcohol it had to go through three processes of having water taken off Sugar contained a great deal of alcohol, and wherever sugar was there was alcohol. In intoxication the last nerve centres to give way were the heart and lungs. The heart was the noblest little muscle in the body, and in the course of a week of seven days pumped something like forty tons of blood. There had been much discussion as to whether alcohol was a food. When a person commenced taking beer the average life was 21 years, while for spirits it was 16 years. After giving various extracts of what others had said about alcohol, Dr. Grainger concluded the lecture, and votes of thanks terminated the proceedings.

SOURCES OF THE CHURCH IN BRITAIN.—Under this heading the opening portion of a lecture was delivered in the Church Hall, Consett, on Monday night, by the Rev. Arthur Watts, Rector of Witton Gilbert, the subject being "Iona: St. Columba and his work, A.D., 565." Mr. Geo. Ainsworth, J.P., presided over a good audience and in his introductory remarks said they were met that evening to learn a little of the early introduction of Christianity into their country. He dared say many of them, like himself, were supremely ignorant of the early history of the Church in Great Britain. He was, therefore, glad that Mr. Croudace had enlisted the services of Mr. Watts to enlighten them.—The rev. lecturer, aided by splendid lime-light views exhibited by Mr. Henry Palmer, J.P., then proceeded to detail the life and work of St. Columba. This was interesting not only from historical points of view, but also from modern pictures vividly given and showing how Christians of the present day might by travel and inquiry improve their minds and learn lessons from the past by the simple method, and with great advantage, of post-dating. To the antiquarian, the field naturalist, or to any man possessed of a spark of historical interest the lecture and the illustrations must have been productive of the deepest interest. Mr. Watts confined his audience to a great extent to the Island of Iona, and a most interesting subject it proved to be, but next Monday, it is understood he is going to say something about Holy Island and Lindisfarne. If his remarks are as interesting on those places as they were on Iona then there ought to be a great audience on Monday next.—At the conclusion of the first portion of his lecture Mr. Watts was heartily thanked on the motion of the Vicar (the Rev. W. D. Croudace) seconded by Mr. T. L. Gledstone. Thanks were also accorded to the Chairman for presiding, and to Mr. Palmer for having so kindly furnished and worked the lantern.

Blackhill.

VALUABLE PROPERTY IN THE MARKET.—On Wednesday afternoon, at the Station Hotel, Blackhill, Mr. J. S. Murray, auctioneer, offered for sale by public auction five superior dwelling-houses on Elm Park Road, close to Shotley Bridge Station. The solicitors for the vendor were Messrs Wilkinson and Marshall, 27, Mosley Street, Newcastle. There was a fairly good attendance of bidders present. After the usual conditions of sale had been read, bidding was began by Mr. J. Eltringham, of Blackhill, who offered £750 followed by an offer from Mr. R. G. Barclay, Shotley Bridge, of £800, when the glass was run. A subsequent bid was made by Mr. J. Eltringham of £825, at which figure the property was withdrawn, and the five-roomed house offered separately. Mr. J. Eltringham began by offering £150. The house was eventually withdrawn on Mr. Atkinson's offer at £175. One of the four-roomed houses was then offered. Mr. Atkinson commenced the bidding at £115, and after Mr. Dodds had offered £170, it was withdrawn. Another four-roomed house was offered, and after the bidding had reached £175 the reserve of £200 was announced, but a sale was not effected. Mr. Murray also offered a house of six rooms at Benfieldside, two shops and dwelling-house in Consett, and two building sites in Blackhill for competition, in separate lots. The solicitors were Messrs Richmond, Murray and Aynsley, Consett. Mr. J. Eltringham opened the competition for Lot 1, which was slow, at £300, at which it was withdrawn. The next lot, No. 17, St. Cuthbert's Avenue, Benfieldside, was next put up. Mr. Hutchinson offered £250, and on Mr. Dodds offering £280 it was withdrawn. The last lot was two building sites having a frontage to Queen Street, Blackhill, of fifty feet. Mr. J. Eltringham offered 20/- a foot frontage, at which it was withdrawn, the auctioneer regretting that he had been unable to affect a sale. We understand that part of the property was privately disposed of afterwards.

Chester-le-Street

LORD DURHAM'S HEAD KEEPER.—Mr. Joe. Woodrow, of Picktree House, has just been made the recipient of a handsome silver cigar case from the under-keepers on the Lambton Estate. Mr. Jas Fennell made the presentation on behalf of the subscribers. During the fifteen years that Mr. Woodrow has occupied the position of head-keeper (from which he is now retiring) he has enjoyed the respect and esteem of all with whom he has come in contact. Many of the men who have served under him are now filling important positions in various parts of the country. The cigar case bore the following inscription:—"Presented by the underkeepers of Lambton Estate to Mr. James Woodrow, March, 1900."

Cornsay Colliery

COLLIERY ACCIDENT.—At noon on Monday, a coal-hewer named Blenkinsop, of Wilks Hall, near Cornsay, was about to relieve his marrow in the back shift, when he met with on accident, a fall of stone injuring him considerably in the left shoulder and lacerating his face and ankle.

Dipton

TRIPE SUPPER.—On Wednesday evening of last week a tripe supper was held at Mr. S. Ledger's, Bird Inn, Dipton. After the meal had been greatly enjoyed the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony. Mr. J. B. Armstrong occupied the chair, and Mr. G. Stal the vice-chair. Amongst those present were—Mr. R. Nevin, Lintz; Mr. J. Fenwick, Lintz; Mr. W. Southern, Hill Top; Mr. J. Bolam, Hill Top; Mr. S. Ledger, Hill Top; Mr. J. Wilkinson, Hill Top; Mr. A. Wilkinson, Hill Top; Mr. T. Henderson, Flint Hill; Mr. R. Leybourne, Flint Hill; Mr. G. Brown, Dipton; Mr. F. Turnbull, Dipton; Mr. R. Curry, Dipton; Mr. M. Curry, Dipton; Mrs. Curry, Dipton; Mrs. Wilkinson, Hill Top; Mrs. Ledger, Hill Top; Mrs. Fenwick, Lintz; Mrs. Fenwick, Lintz; and several others.

Leadgate.

P. M. CHURCH.—Sermons were preached in this place of worship on Sunday by Mr. J. Puckering, of Lanchester. On Monday evening, the Rev. J. Taylor, of Blackhill, delivered his very interesting lecture on "John Knox, the Scottish Reformer," a resume of which has already appeared in our columns. Mr. J. Maughan made an able chairman. At the close of the lecture a ham-and-coffee supper was provided, and was fairly well attended.

Pelton

VISIT OF MR. R. SILVESTER'S CONCERT COMPANY.—During the early part of the week Mr. R. Silvester's Concert Company have been drawing crowded audiences to the Co-operative Hall, Pelton Lane Ends, by their capital variety entertainments. The performers include the brothers Miller (double trapeze artistes), Mr. Billy Brooks (negro comedian and dancer), Miss Connie Barry (pretty ballad and serio-vocalist), Mr. C. Osmond (eccentric comedian and dancer), Miss Eily O'Mara (the Irish gem), Messrs Murphy and Blake (Irish knockabout comedians), The Seven Silvesters, Messrs McCaffrey and Doyle (negro comedians, funny duettists, and dancers), together with Prof. Rensberg and his giant phonograph and the cinematograph. Mr. and Mrs. Silvester prove a host in themselves, and their efforts alone are worth a visit.

Frosterley.

FUNERAL OF MRS. RIDLEY.—The funeral of Mrs. Ridley, the wife of Mr. Matthew Ridley, of Peak Field Farm, Frosterley, on Tuesday afternoon, at Frosterley, was one of the largest known there for years. Deceased was well-known and highly respected in the district, and her death is much lamented.

Swalwell.

BAND OF HOPE.—The usual weekly entertainments held under the auspices of the Swalwell Band of Hope were brought to a successful termination on Monday evening, when the last concert of the season took place in the old Presbyterian Church, in the presence of a crowded audience. Mr. Wm. Spoor occupied the chair. Mr. Wm. Lumley delivered a most instructive temperance address, which was attentively listened to. Some admirable vocal selections were given by Miss Jenny Riddle, Miss Ada Collingwood, Miss Ada Dobson, and Miss Elizabeth Spoor, of Whickham. This last named young lady also delivered an interesting recitation. Six young members, under the guidance of Miss Banham, went through a series of drills which evoked hearty applause. Miss Janet Lumley proved a most able accompanist. All the young members received a ticket for the forthcoming tea.

South Moor

BENEFIT CONCERT.—On Monday evening a successful benefit concert was given in the Miners' Hall, South Moor, in aid of Charles Burns, and Edwards Wilkinson, of South Moor, who have been unable to follow their employment for a considerable time through sickness. A well selected programme was rendered by Mrs. Lindon, contralto, Stanley; Mrs. McGoldrick, soprano, Stanley; Mr. Wm. Clark, sentimentalist, Hetton-le-Hole; Mr. M. Clark, Irish comic, Hetton-le-Hole; Mr. J. McCabe, sentimentalist, South Moor; Mr. J. Beston, song and dance artist, Hetton-le-Hole; and Mr. J. Clark, clog dancer, Burnhope. Mr. W. Moody presided at the piano in a most able manner. The chair was occupied by Mr. T. Oxley, of South Moor, and there was a good attendance. The performers most generously gave their services free. A good sum was realised, and we hope to publish the exact amount in our next issue.

Stanley.

SUBSIDENCES.—During the last few days part of the roadway and footpath at Shield Row bank have subsided to a depth of two or three feet, and the wall has also collapsed for several yards. This is undoubtedly due to colliery workings.

ON THE SPREE.—At an occasional court held at Stanley Police Station on Wednesday afternoon, Jane Law, who has recently been staying at the Stanley lodging-house, was brought up before Mr. J. Green, on a charge of being drunk and disorderly at Stanley on the 20th inst.—The accused was dismissed on promising to leave the district.

THE GREAT UNWASHED.—At an occasional court held at Stanley Police Station on Wednesday afternoon, before Mr. J. Green, Terence O'Neil, John Thornton, James Henry, Edward Meegan, Henry Hall, Patrick Burns, William Goodfellow, Patrick McCarthy, Thomas Whitfield, Wm. Clark, and Thomas Andrews, most of them old offenders, were charged with an act of vagrancy by sleeping out at Stanley and West Shield Row collieries. P.C.'s Ayre and Thomas proved the cases. The offences were committed on the 21st inst. Thomas Henry was sentenced to seven days imprisonment, while the others were ordered to be imprisoned for fourteen days each, with the exception of Goodfellow, who made his first appearance, and was dismissed on promising to leave the district.

ACCIDENT ON THE RAILWAY.—On Monday afternoon a travelling hawker named William Armstead, 59 years of age, met with an accident on the railway near No Place. Armstead, it appears, was walking down the incline leading from Jackey's Pit to Beamish, and when opposite the Red Robin Inn, No Place, he was caught by a set of waggons, with the result that he received terrible injuries to his left hand and face. The mishap was witnessed by the waggon-rider, who at once stopped the moving trucks, and afterwards sought the assistance of Mr. Cranston of the Red Robin Inn. Dr. Johnson, of Beamish, and P.C. Thomas were quickly in attendance. The medical gentleman ordered the man's removal to the Newcastle Infirmary, where he was taken by P.C. Thomas and Mr. Cranston. Amputation was found necessary.

PRESENTATION.—On Saturday evening an interesting ceremony took place at the Victoria Theatre, West Stanley, when Mr. Hedley Brydon, and Mr. Waugh, were made the recipients of suitable gifts on the occasion of their leaving the Victoria Theatre Orchestra. The presents, which were the gifts of the members of the Sunday morning band, and the theatre staff, were handed over to the recipients by Mr. Mark H. Lindon, in the course of a neat speech.

HELP FOR THE FRONT.—On Wednesday afternoon a most successful tea, generously given by Miss Ashburn, was held in the Church Institute, West Stanley, the proceeds being in aid of the Stanley Ladies Association for the succour of our soldiers at the front.—A large company sat down to tables presided over by Miss Ashburn, Mrs. Smith, and Miss Roxby. A good sum was realised.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT P.M. CHORAL UNION.—On Wednesday evening the members of the Stanley and District Primitive Methodist Choral Union gave a most successful entertainment in the P.M. Chapel, East Stanley, the proceeds of which were in aid of the organ fund.—Mr. J. T. Bolam in the course of a neat speech introduced the chairman, Mr. Robert Summerbell, who was accorded a hearty reception on taking the chair. The Chairman expressed the pleasure it gave him to see so many people present. They had a long programme to go through, and he would not trouble them with a speech, but conclude by asking the Choral Union to render the first item on the programme—"Strike the Lyre." (Applause.) A telling interpretation was given of this beautiful composition, which called forth warm applause. A number of other selections were given with equal success. Throughout the whole of the pieces excellent time was maintained, the voices were nicely balanced, and the members sang with great purity of tone. Mr. Wm. Collins wielded the baton with skill and ability, whilst Miss Summerbell proved a most able accompanist. The entertainment was a huge success.

Weardale

SUDDEN DEATH OF A FARMER'S WIFE.—Mrs. Ridley, wife of Mr Matthew Ridley, farmer, Peak Field Farm, Frosterley, died very suddenly at her residence on Saturday morning aftre a few hours' illness. She was well and widely known and respected, and her sudden demise is deeply lamented.

THE WEATHER.—There was a heavy fall of snow during Sunday night throughout Weardale. The weather during last week was very cold and wild. Farm work and garden work has been considerably impeded of late. A considerable quantity of snow fell on Saturday, and the frost at night was very severe.

WEARDALIANS RETURNING TO SOUTH AFRICA.—Consequent on the victory of General Gatacre and the driving of the Boers from the coal-producing district around Cyphergot, on Monday, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Wilson and family left St. John's Chapel for the place where Mr. Wilson is a contractor, etc., at the pits. The party have been recuperating since the eve of the war, and have benefited much. There was a gathering of many friends, who wished the popular Wesleyan ex-telegraphist "bon voyage" and "au revoir," as it is understood the group intead to pay another visit some time hence.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

The attraction this week at the New Theatre is Mr. Edwin Ramsdale's company in the grand Christmas pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood." Although rather late in the season for pantomime, many play-goers have visited the theatre during the present week, and appear to have been well satisfied with the bill-of-fare. As usual in pantomime, the old-time plot we associated with "Little Red Riding Hood" in our youthful days has not been strictly adhered to, but this does not take away from the attractiveness of the piece—rather does it add to it. There are some capital songs, bright dialogue, and sparkling puns which do not deserve to be classed as "chestnuts." Miss Lilian Ramsdale makes a charming "Little Red Riding Hood," whilst the parts of "Boy Blue" and "Miss Muffett" are efficiently discharged by Miss Alice Ramsdale and Miss A. Diver respectively. Miss Dorothy Crew is a capable "Little Bo-peep," and Miss Florence does every justice to the part of "Tommy Tucker." Miss R. Marsden also scores as the "Fairy Queen." Plenty of fun is provided by Mr. Will Brereton ("Dame Hubbard"), Mr. Edwin Ramsdale ("Baron Badlot"), Mr. J. H. Maxwell ("Jimmy Green"), Mr. Will Casey ("Johnny Stout"), Mr. R. Browning ("Timothy Pushem"), and Mr. J. D. Etherdo ("The Wehr Wolf.") Miss Violetta Lonsdale does well as "Jack Horner." Other attractions include the Brothers Rioto, who are very clever in their great act, "Imps Revels;" Mr. J. H. Maxwell, the only one-armed juggler in the world; Miss Lilian Ramsdale, celebrated banjo songs and dances; the Sisters Mitchell, acrobatic dancers. All of these turns are excellent, and win much applause. The scenery is admirable, whilst the grand transformation, "The birth of the lily" (by Mr. W. E. Richards) is deserving of warm praise. A very pleasant evening can be spent in witnessing "Little Red Riding Hood."

DOCTORS OUTCLASSED.
REMARKABLE EVIDENCE
IN FAVOUR OF
VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC.
SICK PEOPLE GET WELL
AS IF BY SOME MYSTERIOUS POWER.
FACTS FROM THE LIPS OF A HIGHLY RESPECTED RESIDENT IN SOUTH SHIELDS, WHICH WILL APPEAL TO EVERY LADY SEEKING HEALTH.

MISS C. ADAMS, 66, Stevenson Street, Westoe, South Shields, writes, Feb. 20th, 1900. Mr. Veno. Dear Sir,—"I have great pleasure in writing this letter to thank you for your medicine which has proved of utmost benefit to me. The doctor gave mother very little hope of my case, he said my lungs were affected and I could not live long, but I am thankful to say I have better health now than I have had for a long time, through taking your Seaweed Tonic. I had great weakness and pains in the back, and was never free from headaches, in fact, many a time I thought I would go out of my mind, until I took your medicine. My friends are telling me that I look better now than ever I did. I tell them what I have been taken and advise them to try your Seaweed Tonic. I can see now what a lot of good your Seaweed Tonic must be doing. You may use this letter if you like.

VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE.

A stubborn cough is not difficult to cure, neither is bronchitis, asthma, or influenza if you take Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. It has saved many valuable lives. Doctors endorse it because it is a scientific remedy prepared according to the latest teaching, superior to ordinary cough mixtures or any of the emulsions. Try it for children's coughs, weak lungs, catarrh, and phthisis. Ask for Veno's Lightning Cough Cure. See you get it; 1s 1½d and 2s 9d.

VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC
IS THE PEOPLES STRENGTHENER AND HEALTH GIVER.

The extraordinary cures performed by Veno's Seaweed Tonic in stomach, liver, kidney, and blood disease have been a great surprise both to medical men and the public. It cures quickly without leaving evil effects. If you are troubled with indigestion, wind, biliousness, weak heart, constipation, or nervous weakness, try Veno's Seaweed Tonic and you will soon be as well as ever. It is especially good for weak, pale, debilitated men and women. Price 1s 1½d and 2s 9d.

Sold at the Consett Co-operative Society, Milner, chemist and Mr. Dawson, chemist, Consett, and by all Chemists and Co-operative Stores. Ask for Veno's Remedies and see you get them. Avoid the man who offers you a cheap mixture of his own.
939g

CHESTER-LE-STREET GUARDIANS

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Thursday afternoon last in the Board Offices, Chester-le-Street, Lieut.-Col. J. Humble presiding. The other members present were Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J. Mitchell, E. Watson, Wm. Morris, Dr. Garson, J. W. Bolam, T. W. Brass, C. Green, Dr. Duncan, W. Hawking, R. E. Purves, J. Sharp, J. Wilson, J. Todd, P. Oswald, F. Herbert; the Clerk (Mr. R. Dickinson), and the Assistant Clerk (Mr. R. V. Dickinson.)

RELIEF CASES.

The number of relief cases were more numerous than usual, and occupied the attention of the Board for about fifty minutes.

STATISTICS.

The Workhouse Master (Mr. Aikman) reported that the number of inmates at present were 166, as compared with 159 for the corresponding week of last year, being an increase of seven. The vagrants relieved during the month were 140, whilst 163 had been relieved for the corresponding month of last year, making a decrease of 13.

A PLEASANT EVENING.

The Workhouse Master also reported that on Feb. 26th the Rev. A. Dunn and party gave an entertainment—Mr. J. Mitchell in the chair—to the inmates of the Workhouse, when the men received tobacco, the women tea, and the children sweets. The proceedings were much enjoyed.

The Chairman: Was it a smoking concert? (Laughter). Seeing that Mr. Mitchell was in the chair I suppose it would be properly conducted? (Laughter.)

Mr. Mitchell: We had a pleasant night's enjoyment.

GENEROUS DONORS.

Receipt of magazines was reported from Mrs. Newall (Birtley), Miss Wood, The Deanery, Workmen's Club, and Mrs. Wilson, Railway Cottages.

A vote of thanks was passed to the generous donors.

TENDERS.

The following tenders were accepted:—Flour—Messrs Mitchell and Co., 22s 6d per 20 stones. Other tenders from the same firm were accepted for all the provisions. Butcher meat—Mr. Robert Nixon, 8s per stone for beef, and 2s for ox-head. Coal—Mr. J. Gibson, Plawsworth, 17s 6d best round, 13s small. Milk.—Mr. J. Lawson, 10d per gallon. Drapery and Clothing—Messrs Thompson and Co. Boots and shoes—Mr. J. A. Wilson. Coffins—Mr. Smith.

THE ESTIMATES.

The Clerk reported that the probable amount for the ensuing half-year was £8,758, which would require a rate of 7½d in the £ to be levied.

This rate was decided to be levied.

HASWELL MOOR RESIDENTS.

A communication was read from the Houghton-le-Spring Union relative to the amount of relief paid in those cases where the recipients have gone to reside in the aged miner's homes at Haswell Moor, and asking the Guardians to send representatives to a conference to be held with a view to putting the residents upon equal terms.

It was decided not to send representatives, as the Board intend to pay the same amount as heretofore.

THE REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES.

The Clerk enquired if the Board would decide to use one of the Board rooms for the purpose of a registration office for marriages. If they agreed to this it would be necessary to forward notice of the same to the proper authorities.

It was resolved to forward a plan of the proposed room to the Registrar-General for approval.

MR. MITCHELL AND THE CLOCK!

Mr. Mitchell said he would like to have the opinion of the Board in reference to the clock. He thought the members would agree with him when he said that it was an unsatisfactory one. (Laughter.) The question to him was: Is it good or not? (Renewed laughter.) It seemed to him a very plain clock. (Laughter.)

A member: Is it a good timekeeper?

Mr. Mitchell: I don't know, I am sure.

A member: That is the main thing.

Mr. Mitchell: It is anything but a respectable looking clock.

The Chairman: What would you suggest?

Mr. Mitchell: I think the building committee asked the Board to be allowed to put a clock in, and I think the master went and chose this one. I would suggest—if the Board think that it is good enough then let it remain—that you allow two or three to go and purchase one. (Laughter.)

Dr. Garson suggested that Mr. Mitchell should extend his proposal a little further and have an illuminated clock for Chester-le-Street. (Laughter.)

Mr. Mitchell: If you think it is good enough——

The Chairman: Have you any idea of the cost?

Mr. Mitchell: I have not.

Dr. Garson: I suggest that Mr. Mitchell make us a present of a clock. (Laughter.)

Mr. Sharp: I second that. (Laughter.)

The Chairman thought that Mr. Mitchell would not get support.

Mr. Mitchell: I will sit down, Mr. Chairman.

The Chairman: Is it to remain or has another one to be put into its place?

Mr. Sharp proposed that the matter should be left in abeyance to see if some good member would present the Board with a clock.

Dr. Garson: I second that.

The matter then dropped.

POOR LAW CONFERENCE.

A communication was read from the Secretary of the Poor Law Conference giving notice of a meeting to be held in London, on Thursday and Friday, the 29th and 30th March.

The letter was ordered to lie upon the table.

AN ADVANCE.

Dr. Garson, in accordance with notice of motion given, moved "that the resolution adopted by the Guardians on January 5th, 1899, fixing the salary of Mrs Stark, the porteress, at £15 per annum, be rescinded, and that it be increased £5 from rate of £15 to £20 per annum."

The motion was carried.

This was all the business of note, and the meeting soon afterwards terminated.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION

RESULT OF THE POLL.

Polling commenced at noon on Friday, and closed at eight o'clock in the evening for the election of seven members to represent the Whickham School Board for the ensing three years. Polling stations were located at Dunston, Swalwell, Whickham, Marley Hill, and Byer Moor. There were fourteen candidates—whose names have already been given—for the seven seats. During the week many of the candidates kept up a vigorous campaign, and canvassing was rigorously persecuted. Some of the candidates made no individual efforts to gain a seat, but left themselves entirely in the hands of the electorate. In such cases the results have been most unsatisfactory. Arguments might be used both for and against such a stand, but it is clear that the public consider that if a seat is worth having, it is worth working for. Public interest in the contest began to increase as the day fixed for the election drew near, and speculation was rife as to who would be the favoured candidates. Our prognostications that Mr R. T. Swinburn would head the poll turned out correct, likewise the statement that Mr R. Rutherford would be about the spot, for he has been placed second on the list. The contest proved to be a stubborn one, and the result has not been without its surprises. There is one gentleman in particular whom we regret has not been elected, and that is the Rev Wm. Dryburgh. There is no disputing the fact that the stand which this gentleman has taken in regard to the present war is partly responsible for his non-election. We had hoped that the public would not have allowed this to interfere with the contest, but experience during the last few days demonstrated the fact that he electorate did take this into consideration when voting. We can only say that we regret he has not been elected, as he is a gentleman well versed in educational matters. We believe that the whole of the elected members will prove themselves worthy of the confidence reposed in them. It has indeed been an anxious time for many of the candidates, who have hardly yet got rid of the effects of the election fever. The counting of the votes took place at the offices of the returning officer—Mr. Geo. Craighill. A commencement was made at ten o'clock on Saturday morning, and the result was made known about midday as under:—

ELECTED.

RALPH T. SWINBURN, Whickham, Accountant	1208
R. RUTHERFORD, The Rosery, Whickham, Colliery Manager	974
WILLIAM NEESAM, Rose Villa, Swalwell, Colliery Manager	879
JOSEPH A. DIXON, Ravensworth Avenue, Dunston, Colliery Manager	754
WM. WALLS, Ravensworth Road, Dunston, Joiner	590
SEPTIMUS WRIGHT, Ravensworth Road, Dunston, Engineer	560
EDWARD TAYLOR, The Durdans, Whickham, Manufacturer	526

NOT ELECTED.

James Bell, Old Sunniside	481
Thomas H. Gass, Dunston Hill, Gateshead, Accountant	465
Wm. Dryburgh, Market Lane, Swalwell, Presbyterian Minister	399
Matthew Heppell, Sandy Gate, Marley Hill, Clerk	386
William Lumley, Park Terrace, Swalwell, Moulder	342
Arthur Allwork, The Rectory, Whickham, Clerk in Holy Orders	299
James Cooper, Byer Moor, Miner	271

A considerable number of electors did not poll, and there was likewise a number of spoiled papers. The number of persons who polled in each village was as under:—Dunston, 452; Swalwell, 312; Whickham, 257; Marley Hill, 150; and Byer Moor, 77. It was seen that 1,248 had recorded their votes.

Several of the candidates were present at the counting of the votes, and a couple of anxious hours were put in by them. The result was awaited with almost equal anxiety by the electorate.

At Swalwell both the colliery offices of Messrs Hannington and Co., and the Swalwell Garesfield Colliery Co., were beseiged with persons anxious to learn the result, and when it become known that the manager at these two collieries had been elected the utmost satisfaction prevailed. The signal success of Mr Swinburn caused much rejoicing amongst his many supporters. His arrival at Swalwell Station by the 5.35 p.m. train was the signal for loud cheering, and he did not forget the juvenile population of the village, whose vocal efforts were liberally rewarded. The arrival of Mr Rutherford by a later train was signalised in a similar manner. The crowd were anxious to welcome Mr Neesam, whose advent was eagerly looked forward to, but this gentleman drove home, and thus avoided any demonstration at the railway station. When the inhabitants did catch sight of his genial figure he was accorded such a welcome as he will not readily forget. He is practically a stranger to the parish, but during his short residency the public have got to know his worth, and have fittingly honoured him by placing his name third upon the list. Mr Neesam is a great favourite amongst his workmen, who almost voted for him en bloc. He was backed up by a strong army of active workers, and his success is in no small measure due to the individual exertions of Mr John Daglish, who kept up a vigorous campaign.

The newly-elected Board is composed of active and intelligent gentlemen, in whose hands the educational work of the parish should not suffer. We trust that the members will work harmoniously together, and take this opportunity of congratulating them upon their success.

How's your Liver? Why I never know I have one now, as I always keep a bottle of Patrick's Medicine by me, and if I feel a little "off," I take a dose, and am soon myself again. Everyone who is ill goes to Patrick, Chemist, 5, Front Street, Consett, who can cure almost any complaint. 371a.

Highest in quality; lowest in prices at the CASSEL WATCH WORKS STANLEY.

PARDON ME!
HAVE YOU TRIED THE POPULAR KYTE TEA? Sold at 1/6, 1/10, 2/-, 2/4, 2/6, 2/10, & 3/2. Aroma and Quality Delicious.
HAVE YOU USED KYTE COFFEE? The Essence of Perfection.
In ¼, ½, and 1-lb Tins. Sold at 1/- 1/4, and 1/8 per lb.
KYTE HEALTH SALT. The Indispensable Remedy for Disordered Liver. A Morning Tonic.
KYTE BAKING POWDER. Absolutely Pure—Therefore Best.
Use your Judgment and insist on having KYTE BRAND GOODS. The Standard of Quality.
May be obtained from Grocers and Co-operative Stores.
Wholesale from ANTHONY OATES,
ST. MARTIN'S COURT, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE

LOCAL POLICE COURTS

Lanchester Petty Sessions.

THURSDAY March 15th.—Before Col. Leadbitter-Smith (presiding), Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, Mr. W. B. Van Haansbergen, Mr. Wm. Logan, Mr. W. Aynsley, and Dr. Wilson.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

The following cases of drunk and disorderly were disposed of:—James Pringleton, 2s 6d; Frank Armstrong, 5s, Wm. Bryant, 10s; Robert Liddell, 2s 6d; Wm. Gibson, 2s 6d; John Wall, 2s 6d; Wm. Wilson, 2s 6d; Wm. Burroughs, 2s 6d; Michael Finnighan, 5s; Thomas Hunter, 2s 6d (twice); John Chapman, 5s; Patrick Cain, 2s 6d Thomas Chapman, 5s; Geo. Henderson, 5s; and Edward C. Young, 2s 6d. Costs followed in each case.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Samuel Juice, Thomas Dawson, Joseph Robson, Charles Mackenzie, James Juice, and John Murray, were each charged with having played at pitch and toss at Burnhope on the 25th of Feb. P.C. Haw having proved the case the defendants were each fined 5s and costs.

Thomas Dodds, Geo. Clement, John Bibby, Wm. Mills, Wm Brown, John Timby, Edward Boxendale, Geo. Allison, Joseph Tomlinson, Jonathan Ivey, Thomas Armstrong, Henry Mellon, and John Gibson were all convicted of playing at pitch and toss at Craghead on the 4th of March on the evidence of P.C. Crisp. Boxendale and Armstrong were each fined 7s 6d and costs, and the others were ordered to pay 5s and costs each.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Arthur Moore for committing a breach of the peace by fighting on the football ground at Annfield Plain on March 10th, was bound over to keep the peace for three months.—John McKnight and Abraham Lonsdale were also bound over for a breach on the 26th of February.

KEEPING DOGS WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Samuel Pears, Burnhope, for keeping a dog without a license was fined 2s 6d and costs; Henry Dodds, Burnhope, and Henry Carlyon, South Moor, for similarly offending were each fined 7s 6d and costs.

IN SEARCH OF GAME.

Walter Thompson, miner, residing at Annfield Plain, failed to appear in answer to a summons charging him with having trespassed in pursuit of game on the estate of Mr. Brodie Cochrane, Greencroft Park, on March 7th.—Wm. Fracker, gamekeeper, said he saw Thompson with a dog running a hare.—A fine of 20s and costs was imposed.

MINES' REGULATION ACT.

Wm. Waugh, miner, was charged under the Mines' Regulation Act, with contravening one of the special rules at Craghead Colliery by having his lamp within the swing of his pick when working within the pit on the 1st of March. Defendant broke his lamp and immediately reported the matter and admitted the offence.—He was fined 1s and costs.

AN UNRULY INMATE.

Sarah Smith, an inmate of Lanchester Workhouse, was charged with disorderly conduct in the House on the 3rd of March.—Mrs. Brotherhood (Matron) said the defendant had been granted leave for the day. She returned after seven o'clock at night in a very drunken state, and refused for a time to go to bed. She eventually went upstairs, but refused to undress and used very disgusting language. The matter was reported to the Master who ordered a policeman to be sent for, but before the officer arrived defendant had gone to bed.—She was sent to Durham gaol for 14 days with hard labour.

THEFT OF PIGEONS.

Wilfrid Bousfield, Geo. Raine, and Thos. Marley were charged with having stolen four pigeons at Ushaw College, the property of John Robson, on Feb. 25th and 27th.—Evidence was given to show that the defendants took the birds from the dovecot. They were treated as first offenders and ordered to come up for sentence if called upon.

THE C.D. ACT—SHEEP SCAB.

John Gibson, farmer, West Newbiggen; Henry Oliver, farmer, Hurbuck; and Charlton Potts, farmer, Woodside, were charged under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act with having failed to notify to the police the prevalence of sheep scab on their respective farms.—Inspector Waller prosecuted, and Mr. T. W. Welford defended Messrs. Oliver and Potts. The case against Mr. Oliver was taken first.

Inspector Waller said that on the 21st of Feb. from something he was told he went to Hurbuck farm and inquired for Mr. Oliver, but was told he was not at home. He told Mrs. Oliver that he suspected there was something wrong with the sheep. She said she did not know anything about it but she would send for her son Thomas. She did so and he came.

Mr. Welford said he did not want to object if he could avoid it, but unless the defendant was present the Inspector must not repeat any conversation which took place.

Inspector Waller said Mr. Oliver was not present.

Mr. Welford said in that case it would not be evidence against his client.

Inspector Waller then said from what he saw of the sheep he called in Mr. Wilkinson, Veterinary Surgeon, the same day. Mr. Wilkinson examined them and declared them to be infected with sheep scab. Witness served a notice on the owner to prohibit their movement.

Cross-examined, the Inspector said he had before that date received a communication from P.C. Smith to the effect that Mr. Oliver had been talking to him about the sheep. It would be about the 10th of February.

Mr. Wilkinson, V.S., said that on the 21st of February he was requested by Inspector Waller to examine a flock of sheep at Hurbuck. He did so, and after a proper examination he found that they were suffering from scab. There were ten affected, as near as he could remember, out of 37.—In reply to the Bench and to the Clerk witness said he could not separate those affected from those not affected because there was not a proper place. They had been dipped. He should say from the look of the sheep that the disease had been upon them six, seven, or eight weeks. There were one or two very bad. Five or six, in his opinion, were just commencing with the disease. Had it been in summer time he had no doubt that three parts of the flock would have been affected. In winter time it did not spread so quickly.

Mr. Welford: Are you sure that they had scab?—Yes, I am quite sure.

Is it very easy to detect?—Not by the naked eye.

Or by a Veterinary Surgeon?—Not by the naked eye.

Then we will take it that as a farmer he might have had it for a few days or weeks without knowing?—He might not know it was scab.

Do you think if this thing was reported on the 9th February that that would be as early as he might know there was anything the matter with the sheep?—They were bad before that.

Had you seen them?—No.

Mr. Welford quoted a case in which an Inspector swore the sheep were suffering from scab and it was proved by expert evidence that it was not scab at all, and he asked the witness if he had heard of that case?

Witness said he had not.

The Clerk pointed out that it did not affect the present case.

Mr. Welford said he knew, but he was just drawing Mr. Wilkinson's attention to it. Doctors differed and patients—

A Voice: Die. (Laughter.)

Witness, in reply to further questions from Mr. Welford, said the Inspector asked him if it was scab and he replied he would not say so until he had examined the sheep. He was not positive until he made the examination. It was after an examination of the wool that he came to the conclusion that it was scab. He found a parasite which they got in scab. He found this by means of a microscope. He examined the wool as soon as he got home. If the sheep had been treated he would not expect to find the parasite on the same sheep on the 5th of March. They had been treated previous to his examination, but he did not know how they had been treated. Something had been put on. Supposing the same treatment had been carried on to the 5th of March and the wool taken from the sheep then and examined he would not like to say whether he would expect to find the parasite. It would depend upon the dressing.

Thomas Wilkinson, V.S. (son of the preceding witness), said he was present when his father made the microscopical examination. He did not examine the sheep.

Mr. Welford: Oh then this won't do.

Inspector Waller: He examined the scab.

Mr. Welford: He examined some wool; we have no proof that it was from these sheep.

Mr. Wilkinson, sen., in reply to the Bench, said he put the wool in a box and took it home, and he and his son examined it by the microscope.

Mr. Wilkinson, jun., informed the Clerk that they found a parasite. There was no doubt whatever about it. Replying to Mr. Welford he said if the affected parts had been properly treated he would not have expected to find the parasite on the 5th of March. Supposing the sheep had scab on the 21st February and received proper treatment it would take two or three dressings once a week to put them right.

P.C. Smith, called by Mr. Welford, said he saw Mr. Oliver on the 9th of February in Front Street, Lanchester. He said there was something the matter with the sheep. He asked if the Inspector was at home and witness replied that he was not. He then started to speak about a man named Potts having sheep scab on the premises. Witness said, "Do you think your sheep are all right? The best thing you can do is to go home, look at your sheep, make yourself perfectly sure whether they have got it or not and if they have got it come and see the Inspector and make some arrangement, because if you have sheep scab and you don't report it it will be a very serious matter. Mr. Oliver then left him promising to see the sheep.

The Chairman: What did Mr. Oliver come to see you at first for?—I don't think he came to see me. He wanted to see the Inspector.

Mr. Welford: Did Mr. Oliver not say to you "Will you ask the Inspector to come and inspect the sheep."?—He said the Inspector might call if he happened to be round that way.

Mr. Welford said on behalf of the defendant he proposed to call Mr. Foreman V.S., who examined the sheep, and it would be for the Bench to decide whether Mr. Oliver gave notice and whether the sheep really had the scab or not.

Mr. Oliver went into the witness box, and said he first thought there was something the matter with the sheep on the 8th of February. On the following day he went to Lanchester and met P.C. Smith near the police station. He asked for the Inspector, but was informed that he was away from home. He then said to P.C. Smith, "I hear there is scab in the country and you might tell him to come over and look at my place." That was the earliest he thought there was anything the matter. He was positive he asked Smith to ask the Inspector to come and inspect the sheep. The Inspector did not come until the 21st, and witness was away from home at the time. He received a notice, and afterwards, on the 8th of March, was served with a summons. On the 2nd of March he took some wool to Mr. Foreman.

Cross-examined by Inspector Waller witness said he had had the sheep since the 12th of October. He examined his sheep every day if he was at home. At other times his son did. He heard the veterinary say that there had been scab on his premises for six or eight weeks. He could not account for it: how could he tell whether it was scab or not? He had seen a case of scab, but he had never had it on his own sheep.

Mr. W. J. Foreman, V.S., said Mr. Oliver brought some wool to him on the 2nd of March, and he examined it under a microscope. He did not find any evidence of scab. If the sheep had had scab on the the 21st of February and the wool was taken from the same sheep he would have been able to tell that they had had scab. He sent a portion of the wool to Professor MacFadyen. Witness went and examined the sheep on the 5th of March and he came to the conclusion that they had not had scab at all.

By the Bench: He took some wool from the sheep himself.

By Inspector Waller: It would depend upon the extent of the disease as to whether all trace of scab could be removed by the 5th of March supposing they had had scab on the 21st of February. From the appearance of the sheep he was prepared to say they were not suffering from scab on the 21st of February.

Mr. T. Foreman, V.S., said he had been a Veterinary Surgeon for 52 years. He went with his son to Hurbuck on the 5th of March and examined Mr. Oliver's sheep. He also examined the wool with his son on the 2nd of March. Supposing the sheep had had scab on the 21st February he would have expected to have found traces on the 2nd and 5th of March. In his opinion the sheep had not suffered from scab at all.

Inspector Waller: You say you did not examine the sheep until the 5th March?—Yes.

Will you swear that these sheep were not suffering from scab on the 21st of February?—As a Veterinary Surgeon I will.

You are quite positive?—Yes.

No matter what treatment was administered?—No matter what treatment.

Mr. Welford said that was his case, and the Chairman intimated that they would hear the other two cases before deciding.

Charlton Potts was then charged, and Inspector Waller said that on the 3rd of February Mr. Potts came to Lanchester and reported that he had some sheep suffering from scab. On the following day, in company with Mr. Wilkinson, witness went to Woodside and there examined 47 sheep. They found 20 suffering from scab. In the presence of Mr. Wilkinson he said to Mr. Potts "these sheep of yours have been bad for several weeks. He said, "Well, not far from eight to ten weeks but I did not know it was scab."

Mr. Welford: To put it fairly do you think he came and told you when he thought it was scab?—There are a hundred and one reasons why a man should come and report it at the last moment. I would rather not answer the question. It might possibly be so. The words he used were "I suspected there was something wrong some time ago, now I find it is scab."

Mr. Wilkinson said on the 4th of February he was requested to go to Woodside and examine a flock of sheep. There were 47 all told, 46 being outside and one inside naked. He examined them all one by one, and there were 20 affected more or less. Some did not ail very much. The worst of the whole lot was the one inside.

Cross-examined he said Mr. Potts came and saw him on the 3rd and said he thought there was something the matter with the sheep Witness told him if there was anything wrong he had better report it.

Mr. Potts then gave evidence, and said before he went to see Mr. Wilkinson he did not suspect it was sheep scab. As soon as he suspected it he went to Lanchester and saw Mr. Wilkinson, and also told the Inspector. He had never had sheep scab before, and had had no experience of it.

The case against Mr. Gibson was next heard.

Inspector Waller said that on the 28th February, in going to Hurbuck farm he noticed a number of sheep in the Banks near the Viaduct. They were the property of Mr. Gibson. After visiting Hurbuck and Woodside he went to West Newbiggen farm. On the way he found that the sheep had been removed from the Banks to the farm, and placed in a stack yard. He waited a few minutes and saw Mr. Gibson coming up with a flock of sheep from the lower parts. He asked him if they were all right, and he said they were not. He said there were three or four of them bad. Witness asked what was the matter with them, and Mr. Gibson replied "I am afraid they have got the scab." Witness told him he ought to have reported it.

Mr. Wilkinsin jun., said that out of 63 sheep he found four of them badly affected.

The Bench retired, and after a consultation, the Chairman said in the case of John Gibson they had come unanimously to the conclusion that there must be a conviction. In the case of Potts he would be dismissed on account of a certain amount of doubt. There must also be a conviction in the case of Henry Oliver. Gibson and Oliver would each have to pay a fine of 10s and costs. He might say that the maximum penalty was £20. The veterinary fees were also allowed.

THE MESSAGE OF PEACE is always appreciated and respected by all true men, for many of us hope the time is not far distant when it may be universally adopted by all nations. When this comes to pass, happiness and prosperity will be the rule and not the exception. In the meantime, Holloway's Pills and Ointment have largely helped to make foreign nations understand that Englishmen delight in alleviating pain and suffering. These wonderful remedies have been blessed in many lands for the relief they have afforded and the cures affected. They are specially adapted for all complaints affecting the liver, stomach, and kidneys, and at this season no family should be without a supply.

Consett Petty Sessions.

MONDAY March 19th.—Before Mr. J. Annandale (presiding), Mr Geo. Ainsworth, Mr. F. Priestman, Mr. W. B. Van Haansbergen, Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, and Mr. W. Holmes.

ASSAULT ON BAILIFFS: A LIVELY TIME.

John Atkinson and his two sons, William and Henry, were charged with having committed an assault on Joseph Osborne, a County Court bailiff, and also with having assaulted James Frodick, a sub-bailiff. Mr. McCartan prosecuted, and Mr. Balleny defended.

Mr. McCartan said the plaintiff had had in his possession for some time a writ against the defendant John Atkinson who was a builder and contractor, and lived at Knitsley. He was a man whom, he believed, had sufficient means to pay the small amount of the execution and his resistance on the present occasion must have arisen from actual contempt and defiance of the law. It appeared that the execution was for 22s, and that had been in the hands of the bailiff for about three months. The bailiff saw Atkinson about three months ago and told him about the execution. Atkinson promised to pay, and had repeated the promise about half-a-dozen times, but never paid. On the 14th of March, accompanied by James Frodick, the bailiff went to Atkinson's place with the object of obtaining payment or of seizing the goods. When he asked for payment Atkinson said he would have to wait until he got it. Next morning, accompanied by Mr Frodick and three policemen, the bailiff went to Hartington Street where Atkinson was engaged in a contract. He produced the warrant and Atkinson said he would pay on the following Saturday. The bailiff said he was tired of these promises, and declined to wait. He told Frodick to take charge of the horse and cart, and when Frodick did so Atkinson, sen., got hold of him and struck him. One of the sons also struck Osborne a blow on the head. The son who struck Osborne attempted to run away with the horse and cart.

At this point it was admitted that there was no case against Henry Atkinson, and he was therefore dismissed from the action.

Joseph Osborne said he was a bailiff, and a warrant was issued and placed in his hands for execution on the goods of John Atkinson. He got the warrant on the 9th of October last, and saw Atkinson about it. Atkinson promised to pay on more than one occasion. On the 14th of March he went in company with three policemen to the contract Atkinson had in Hartington Street. He produced the warrant and asked for him to pay the amount. He said he would pay it on Saturday. Witness said he could not wait until Saturday and he directed Frodick to take charge of the horse. Atkinson then took hold of Frodick and fell on top of him and witness went to Frodick's assistance. While he was assisting to take Atkinson senior off Frodick, he was struck by one of the sons.

Mr. McCartan, in reply to Mr. Ainsworth, said that Osborne was struck by one of the sons who was not in Court.

Mr. Ainsworth said that would not be evidence against the present defendant.

Witness said he was struck by one of the sons. After he got the father off Frodick, the sons rushed to the horse's head and tried to get it away, and did all they could to hamper them in every way they could. The father took up a brick, but witness took the horse and cart away. The father was taken to the Police Station and locked up.

P.C. Waite and P.C. Parkinson having given evidence.

The Chairman asked Osborne if the writ was a usual one, and Osborne replied that it was.

Mr. Van Haansbergen asked if Atkinson was not working on someone else's premises at the time? Was it customary to serve a writ in that way?—Witness said it was.

Mr. McCartan said it was much easier to take a horse and cart than to remove a lot of furniture.

Sergt. Dryden gave corroborative evidence.

Mr. McCartan put in the warrant of execution showing that on an account there was a balance of 19s 6d due.

Mr. Balleny then called John Atkinson, who said he had a debt of £14 16s, and he sent his daughter to Durham to see the amount. She had £1 4s returned to her, and if the creditor wanted more why was it not taken out of that amount?

Mr. McCartan pointed out that when a bailiff had a warrant handed over to him it was no part of his duty to inquire whether it was correct or not.

Mr. Balleny said possibly not, but it was important for the defendant.

Mr. McCartan said there was a judgment obtained in the County Court at Durham, and in default the plaintiff went and issued an execution.

The Chairman asked when the execution became due?

Mr. McCartan said it became due when the plaintiff applied for it.

The Chairman asked defendant what instructions he gave when he sent his daughter to Durham.

Mr. McCartan objected. Evidence as to the instructions he gave to his daughter, or what passed at Durham had nothing to do with the bailiff's authority after the warrant was placed in his hands.

Mr. Ainsworth said surely the circumstances might be allowed to weigh with them.

Mr. McCartan said the bailiff was an official.

Mr. Balleny asked the witness what instructions he gave, and in reply he said be gave his daughter £14, and told her that that would cover the debt. She brought back £1 4s. The execution was issued at Hartington Street, and he resisted it. It was quite natural he should do so, because he understood he was square. He was served with a paper in February, but he did not think it was his duty to pay the amount. As far as the assault was concerned he admitted he knocked Frodick off and his son hit Osborne.

In reply to Mr. McCartan, defendant said he promised to pay in February, but did not do so. On the day of the assault he promised to pay on the Saturday, because he did not want any bother.

The Chairman asked him if he had the money upon him at the time, and witness replied that he had not.

Mr. Balleny then addressed the Bench on behalf of the defendants, and condemned the action of the bailiffs in going to a public place and seizing a horse and cart worth 25 times the amount of the sum mentioned on the warrant. It was under such such circumstances that Atkinson lost his temper and resisted the bailiffs.

The Chairman said the Bench had come to the conclusion that John Atkinson committed a technical assault on the bailiffs. For the assault on Osborne he would be fined 2s 6d, and for the assault on Frodick he would have to pay 5s. The summons against the son was dismissed.

CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

John Rutherford and Joseph Purvis, employed by Mr. Wilkinson, mineral water manufacturer, Gateshead, were charged with cruelty to two horses at Burnopfield, on the 8th of March.—P.C. Robson said at noon on the day named he was on duty at Leazes Road, Burnopfield, when he saw a waggon belonging to Mr. Wilkinson in front of the Temperance Hall. He saw there was something the matter with the horses and he crossed the road, and examined them. He found a large bleeding wound on the flank of the offside horse, and on going to the shoulder and lifting the collar he found seven bruises. On the left shoulder there was a wound the size of a four shilling piece. The other animal, a light bay mare, had a wound on the neck, and there were others wounds from which matter was running. There was also a wound on the left hind leg. He sent for Purvis and pointed out the wounds. Purvis said he did not want to fetch the horses that morning, and he added that it was all Rutherford's fault. He also said if Mr. Wilkinson had known the state of the horses he would never have allowed them to come out. Mr. Wilkinson, however, was very seldom there; sometimes he was not there for six weeks at a time.

Inspector Greatorex, R.S.P.C.A., said that on the 12th of March he went to Mr. Wilkinson's stables at Gateshead, and asked to see Rutherford. He told him his business, and asked him if he was the horsekeeper, and he replied that he was. He asked him if he sent Purvis out to Burnopfield on the 8th with two horses which were suffering from old sores. He said he did, but he had the collars eased. Witness asked to see the horses, and he found the bay gelding in a bad condition. On the offside he found a large wound the size of a man's hand much inflamed and, apparently, very painful. He also saw seven small wounds on the offside shoulder, and an old sore on the near side shoulder. All the wounds appeared to be very painful, and had been dressed. He also examined a mare and found it suffering from wounds. On leaving he went to Purvis' house and found him there. Purvis told him that Rutherford sent him out with the horse. He said he sent one horse back because it was not fit. He said he did not know about the wounds until he got to Burnopfield, when his attention was drawn to them by the constable. Witness added that when he was at the stables he found five other horses unfit for work.

P.C. Wilkinson having given evidence.

Rutherford said he was not in charge of the horses at all. He was foreman at the place and went round in the morning to see the waggons out. He was not the horsekeeper.

Purvis said he never saw the horses himself. They were harnessed and yoked for him, and he did not see their shoulders until P.C. Robson drew his attention to them at Burnopfield.

Mr. Fred Finney, V.S., said he was called in to see the horses on the 9th inst., and he was bound to say he had never heard such an exaggeration of a case in his life. The evidence given by the witnesses was simply ridiculous. There were two small sores on both of the shoulders from which the collar had been eased. The collars were never touching. As a matter of fact there were extra horses kept to relieve horses with sores and he could assure the Bench there was no desire to send out horses in an unfit state. He made an inspection of the whole of the horses every Sunday morning. As to the horse which was alleged to have seven wounds, the officer might have counted 25 scars, but as a matter of fact there was not a single wound. There was not a wound about the shoulder. There was a slight abrasion, but that was not a wound. The wounds to which P.C. Robson referred were old scars. The horses would not have been sent out if they had not been fit. He mentioned that the horsekeeper was a man named Carruthers who left on the Saturday, and Rutherford only took temporary charge of them on the following Monday.

The Bench dismissed the case against Rutherford, and inflicted a fine of 20s and costs on Purvis.

POACHING FOR A LIVING.

Henry Bentick and Walter Thompson were charged with game trespass on the 5th of March, on the estate of Mr. W. B. Van Haansbergen. Bentick pleaded guilty, and Thompson, who was fined 20s and costs in his absence at Lanchester on the previous Thursday for poaching at Greencroft, was again absent. Mr. Van Haansbergen left the Bench and conducted the prosecution. He said the two men appeared to be making a trade of poaching. About 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 5th of March, the defendants were seen poaching rabbits in one of his (prosecutor's) fields. He sent three of his men to the Lanchester Woods, and they saw the two men ferretting for rabbits. The men noticed the watchers and ran away, but after a short chase they were overtaken. One of the men had four rabbits and the other three. They had also some nets.—Evidence having been given, Bentick was fined 20s and costs, and Thompson 40s and costs.

THE HORSE AND TRAP CASE.

John Nicholson and Thomas Miller were charged on remand with having, on the 10th of March, stolen a horse and trap valued, with the harness, at £50, the property of George Murray, of Dipton.

Thomas Murray said that at 10 minutes past 10 on the night of the 10th of March, he called at the Prince of Wales' Inn, Flint Hill, and left the horse and trap standing at the door. He went into the house to call for his wife. From what his wife said he went outside and saw the horse and trap being driven round the Hill Top. He shouted and gave chase on foot, but the occupants kept driving on. When he got to White-le-Head he met Mr. Bell with his pony and trap, and getting in, they gave chase towards Tanfield from Tantobie. On the way they picked up P.C. Tomlinson, and they afterwards found the horse and trap at Fellside standing at a public house door. The defendants were just coming out of the doorway when he got to the horse's head. He missed a box and two baskets from the trap. He asked the defendants why they had taken the horse and trap, but they made no answer. On returning they told him they had thrown the box over a fence and witness recovered it. He had known both defendants for several years. He did not think they really intended stealing the trap. They said it was a joke.

Miller said they did not know what they were doing at the time.

The Chairman said the defendants had placed themselves in a very awkward position, and might have been sent to gaol. The Bench, however, would dismiss them on the present occasion with a warning.

SECOND COURT.

Before Mr. F. Priestman and Mr. W. Holmes.

THE DRUNK LIST.

The following is a list of the cases of drunkenness and the fines imposed:—John Kiefe, Burnopfield, 2s 6d and costs; John Lowes, Burnopfield, 2s 6d and costs; John Marron, Burnopfield, 5s and costs; Robt. Rooney, Pickering Nook, 7s 6d and costs; Phillip Rook, Hill Top, Dipton, 5s and costs; Margt. George, Leadgate, 2s 6d and costs; A. Johnson, Blackhill, 5s and costs; Hy. Carey, Shotley Bridge, 10s and costs; Francis Patterson, Consett, 2s 6d and costs; Evan Laws, 2s 6d and costs; Jas Tinnion, Stanley, 5s and costs; and Giles Wood, 5s and costs.

PLAYING AT "JINKS."

P.C. Ayre, of Consett, summoned Joseph Bibbins, Anthony Elliott, Thos. Dorian, Wallace Coleman, Fred Almond, Wm. Thorborn, Jas. Nugent, Jas. Donnelly, and Ernest Coleman for having played at "Jinks" at Consett, on March 11th. Bibbins pleaded not guilty, and the officer agreed to withdraw the charge against him.

In his evidence the officer stated that about five p.m. he saw the defendants playing "jinks" at the back of Green Street, Consett. There had been several complaints made about the defendants previously.

Mrs. Coleman, who attended as a witness for Thorborn, said she was at the back door and saw the defendants run away. She remonstrated with her lads for playing. Thorborn was with her boy riding a bicycle while Nugent's boy was bad in the house. Elliott, W. Coleman, and Dorian were fined each 7s 6d and costs, and the others dismissed.

PITCH AND TOSS.

John McGeary and John Tebb were summoned by P.C. Rispin for having played at pitch and toss at Westwood, on March 3rd.—The officer stated that while on duty about six p.m. he saw the defendants playing at pitch and toss.—Defendants pleaded guilty, and were ordered to pay 2s 6d and costs.

P.C. Johnson preferred a similar charge against P. Agnew, Mich. Agnew, Mich. Ruddy, James Glancey, and Thos McKenna at Shotley Bridge, on March 11th. On the date in question the officer stated that he concealed himself at Bridge Hill, and watched the defendants schooling. The language they used was something disgraceful. A fine of 7s 6d and costs was imposed in each case.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

The owners of Hamsterley Colliery summoned Robt. Cawthorn, David Adams, Robt. Stonehouse, and Wm. Jones for having done wilful damage to the coke ovens at Hamsterley Colliery, on March 2nd.—P.C. Sinden stated that while on duty at Hamsterley Colliery he saw the defendants break open one of the oven doors while the others climbed up on to the top of the oven and interfered with the draught course. The damage was assessed at 3d each. Defendants were fined the damage, and 2s 6d and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Hy. Pearson and Joseph Cawthorne were summoned by P.C. Rispin for committing a breach of the peace by fighting at Allendale Cottages, on March 2nd.—Defendants, who pleaded guilty, were bound over to keep the peace for three months and pay the costs.

James Lamb, Michael McCluskey, W. Birtley, P. McKenna, T. Simpson, and John Cloe were similarly dealt with.

USING BAD LANGUAGE.

Mary Procter, a married woman, of Consett, was summoned by P.C. Ellwood for having used obscene language in Middle Street, Consett, on March 8th.—Defendant's husband, who appeared pleaded guilty, and said it was his fault.—A fine of 1s and costs was imposed.

Sarah Nelson, of Blackhill, who was summoned by P.C. McGee for using bad language at Blackhill, was ordered to pay 1s and costs.

EDUCATION CASES.

Mr John Gibson, attendance officer for the West Division of the Lanchester School Attendance Committee, summoned Ann Wynn, Robt. Nimmons, Thos. Brown, Jane Batey, and Esther Fraser for neglecting to send their children to school. The cases against Wynn, Batey, and Nimmons were adjourned for a month. In Brown's case an attendance order was made, while the case against Fraser was dismissed on the production of a doctor's certificate.

Mr Seymour Meddick, attendance officer to the Tanfield School Board, summoned John Stephenson, Jane Donohue, and Jas. McCabe for failing to send their children regularly to school. Stephenson and McCabe were ordered to pay 5s and the usual order for attendance was made, while Donohue was adjourned.

ASSAULT CASES.

Esther Graham, a married woman, summoned Wm. Bruce for assaulting her on March 8th.—Complainant said she was washing her step when Bruce assaulted her. He got hold of her hands and nearly twisted them off. He wanted her husband out to fight with him, but complainant said she thought more of her husband than to let him make himself a blackguard for him.—Joseph Graham, husband, said he was in bed while his wife was talking to her sister for her good, when defendant struck her and nearly twisted her hands off. He got up and separated them and took his wife into the house. There were marks on her arms for a week after.—Mary Stephenson, a witness, said she heard complainant shout, and heard defendant say he would hang for her. She saw the marks on complainant's arms.—Defendant denied the charge, and said complainant first began to quarrel with her sister, who was keeping his house.—A fine of 1s and costs was imposed.

A DESERTER CAUGHT.

Edward Linihan, who was charged by P.C. McGee with having been drunk and disorderly at Blackhill, on Saturday night, was also charged by Sergt Dryden with being a deserter from the Connaught Rangers (Militia).—Sergt. Dryden said he charged defendant that morning at the Police Station with having been a deserter from the Militia four or five years since, when he replied that he was in the Militia.—Defendant was ordered to rejoin the colours.

DRUNK ON LICENSED PREMISES.

John Dunn was charged by Sergt. Leadbitter, of Stanley, with having been drunk on licensed premises at Stanley, on Saturday afternoon.—The officer said on visiting the Royal Hotel, Stanley, he found the defendant drunk in one of the rooms.—A fine of 2s 6d and costs was imposed.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!!
N. ELSDON
IS AGAIN TO THE FRONT WITH HIS
Wines, Spirits, Mineral Waters, Ales, Stout, &c.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d	6s 0d
2s 6d	3s 3d	14s 0d	7s 0d
2s 9d	3s 6d	16s 0d	8s 0d
3s 0d	3s 9d	17s 0d	8s 6d
3s 6d	4s 0d	18s 0d	9s 0d
	4s 6d	19s 0d	9s 6d
	5s 0d	21s 0d	10s 6d

RUM.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d
2s 6d	3s 6d	14s 0d
3s 0d	4s 0d	16s 0d

SHERRY.

Per ½ Gal.	Per Bot.
6s 0d	1s 6d
7s 0d	2s 0d
8s 0d	2s 6d
	3s 0d

GIN.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0	13s 0d	6s 6d
2s 6d	4s 0	16s 0d	8s 0d

HOLLANDS:—3s per Bottle.

BRANDY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
3s 0d	3s 9d	16s 0d	8s 0d
3s 3d	4s 6d	18s 0d	9s 0d
3s 6d	5s 0d	20s 0d	10s 0d
4s 0d	6s 0d	24s 0d	12s 0d
5s 0d			
6s 0d			

GINGER CORDIALS, &c., 1s 3d per Bottle. BLACK BEER, 1s 3d.
GOOD PORT WINE, 1s 6d, 2s 3s, 4s, and 5s per Bottle.
FINE ALES (OCTOBER BREWINGS), IN BOTTLES.
PALE ALE ... 1s 6d per doz. Gills; Reputed Pints, 2s
MILD ALE ... " "
STOUT ... " "
BASS'S ALE ... 1s 9d per doz. Gills; 9-gal. Casks, 9s & 10s 6d
" " ... 2s 9d per doz. Pints; 18-gal. Casks, 18s & 21s.

Don't wait till Christmas and New Year's Eve, but come before the rush, so that you may get supplied. Send your Orders by Post, and the Goods will be delivered promptly by my own men. Eight Vans on the road daily.

Wishing you the Compliments of the Season, I am, your humble Servant,
N. ELSDON.
DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS:—NEAR THE NEW CONSETT STATION. 217g

Stanhope Petty Sessions.

FRIDAY, March 16th, 1900.—Before Mr. V. A. Rippon, Mr. J. W. Roddam, and Coun. T. D. Collingwood.

There were only five cases for the month for the whole of Weardale and Derwent districts.

DRUNKEN CASES.

Wm. Charles Wilkinson was fined 15s, inclusive of costs, for being drunk at Westgate on the 6th inst.

Robert Jopling was fined 12s 6d for a similar offence.

NON-MAINTENANCE OF PARENTS.

George Pybus, coal-miner, Heddon Colliery, was summoned by Mr. J. G. Bainbridge, Relieving Officer to the Weardale Union, for the non-maintenance of his parents. His wages were ascertained to be 6s per day.—The Bench made an order upon him to pay 2s per week with costs.

Isaac High was also summoned by the same officer for arrears of £1 14s 6d.—An order was made upon him on Jan. 20th, 1899. His wages were stated in court to be £1 8s weekly.—The case was adjourned for a month in order to give him a chance of paying it.

BREACH OF THE EDUCATION ACT.

John Ridley, Hunstanworth, was summoned by Mr J. G. Bainbridge, School Attendance Officer, Stanhope, for not sending his little nephew to school. His nephew is staying with him at present. He is his guardian. Out of 83 possible attendances he has only made 30.—In defence it was stated that the child had been unwell, and the weather unpropitious.—The Bench made an order on defendant to send the child to school regularly.

BRAES OF DERWENT HOUNDS

The meet of these hounds on Saturday week was at Scales Cross. The morning was particularly fine and was the first springlike morning we have had this year. Generally on such a morning the sport with hounds is very moderate, whereas often on a disagreeable wet day good runs are enjoyed. Saturday, however, was a pleasing exception. It was a long time before a fox was found, but when the hounds did find several foxes were soon on foot. The Minstreacres covers, New House and Espershields Woods and also Bog Hall cover were all drawn blank, but two foxes were soon on foot in South Kellos. The one the hounds ran turned out to be a bad dodging customer, and after about 40 minutes woodland hunting, round North Kellos and Minstreacres he was lost near the gardens at the latter place. At one time this promised to be a good run, and the hounds more than once pressed their fox into the open, but the doubling propensities of the latter spoilt all chance of a gallop. The next draw was Watch Hill which provided a fox of quite a different type. After one turn round this small cover he broke away at the east end with hounds close at him and raced away for Lead Hill. Before reaching this place, however, the fox took to the road and ran on it until nearly into Whittonstall. Just before entering this little village he turned off to the right for half a field, and then made straight south again over the hill behind Whittonstall, pointing for Morrowfield. Hounds were now racing away from their field over big pastures, when a right handed turn brought us with our heads straight for Walkershank cover whither our fox was evidently making, hoping to find shelter in the large earths there, which luckily for him he found open. This run had lasted 25 minutes at top speed, while the hunt servants were looking at the earth and getting the hounds together, the master received information that another fox (apparently a run one also) had been viewed only two fields away. As there was no chance of getting the one we had run to ground out, the master at once galloped off to where the other fox had been seen. At first hounds did not get very well away, but after one or two casts forward they began to run well and pointing east were soon into the top of Mereburn Wood. On entering the cover scent seemed to improve and they ran right down through this wood with a tremendous cry. Crossing the Newlands road they still kept on down the burn into the lower half of the cover, and at one time looked like crossing the Derwent in the direction of Shotley Bridge, but a left-handed turn brought us into the open below Newlands Grange, and here the line being nearly due east we left Newlands on our left and crossing the road from the latter place to Ebchester were soon into the Heugh Bank at Broadoak. Here some slow hunting took place for a short while, but on reaching the open again hounds kept on at a good pace by the Hollins on to Hedley Fell, only very few of the field now being with them and these enjoyed a nice gallop to Ions Wood where scent failed.

On Tuesday week, the "Braes" were at Collierley Farm, near Dipton, and though there were plenty of foxes they would not leave the Pont and Hamsterley Woods for any distance, nor was the scent good enough for hounds to press a fox when he did take to the open. A circle round by Bradley Farm and Southfield, and another in the direction of Dipton were the only occasions when hounds got much away from the woods. Scent was pretty good in the covers and some very nice work was seen, but in the open no good could be done.

SWALWELL.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.—On Saturday evening a most successful entertainment, promoted by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Shield, was held in the new Presbyterian Church, Swalwell, the proceeds of which are to go towards the building fund. Coun. G. H. Snowball presided over a crowded audience. A high-class programme of vocal and instrumental music was rendered by a number of ladies and gentlemen from Gateshead and district, including Mr. Percy Dickinson, Mr. James R. Batey, Miss Lily Dunn, Mr. Jos. Coll'ns, Mr. W. S. Jordan, and Miss Florrie Dunn. The whole of the performers received an encore, which showed that their efforts were highly appreciated. Mr. Percy Dickinson discharged the duties of accompanist in a skilful manner. The Rev. W. Dryburgh announced that the Chairman had given a handsome donation towards the object of the entertainment, which elicited loud cheers. The entertainment proved one of the most successful held in the village, and the building fund will have benefitted considerably thereby.

"BUCHU-PAIBA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, indigestion, inflammations. Of Chemists. F. Newbery & Sons, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

PRESENTATION AT CONSETT

The members of that famous body, the Hooligans, gathered in force on Thursday night, at the Commercial Inn, Consett, in order to make a presentation to the worthy landlord, Mr. Wm. Redshaw, who is leaving Consett for Durham to take up the tenancy of the Court Inn in that city. Mr. H. Dowse was voted to the chair with Mr. S. Aynsley in the vice-chair.

The Chairman, at the outset, said he supposed they all knew the reason of their meeting that evening, which was to make a little presentation to their worthy host, Mr. Redshaw, on the occasion of his leaving the district. Mr. Redshaw had been in the district for many years, and had a lot of good old companions there, especially the Hooligans. (Applause.) There was little doubt but what he would feel a few pangs of regret in leaving Consett, but he was only going a matter of 15 miles, and the train service was good, so that they might often see him. (Applause.)

The Chairman then gave the toast of "The Queen," the company singing the National Anthem.

Mr. Geo. Wilkinson next proposed "The Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces," and referred to the fact that they had in South Africa no fewer than two hundred thousand men. It was not exactly a standing army, but it was made up of good stuff, including volunteers, militia, and yeomanry. (Applause.) They had had rather a stiff job in Africa, but the tide had turned. They had relieved Kimberley and Ladysmith, and that day they had heard of the British Flag being hoisted at Bloemfontein. (Applause.) The next step he hoped would be the relief of that gallant garrison at Mafeking. (Applause.) It was only a small garrison, but it was headed by a great man. (Loud applause.) This war had been forced upon them. The peace party said that it was their own making, but the majority of British subjects of that great empire and her colonies said it was a just, honourable, and righteous war. (Applause.) He thought they must see the business through. He agreed with Lord Salisbury and Mr. Chamberlain that there must be no more patching up like there was in 1831 and 1881. (Applause.) The colonies had done nobly, and he hoped that before long the whole of South Africa would be governed with equality. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman said they had now come to the most important business of the evening. When he first came to Consett, about 15 years since, their worthy host's father kept the Jubilee Inn in Middle Street. He and others used to frequent that house, and were always treated with the greatest of courtesy. (Applause.) He could say that the son had followed in the footsteps of the father, and likewise the daughters. (Hear, hear.) He was very pleased when he heard of that presentation to their worthy friend. He hoped that it would serve to put Mr. Redshaw in mind of them, although they were only a small moiety of his friends in the district. (Applause.) He had much pleasure in calling upon Mr. Forster to make the presentation, and he hoped that they would have the pleasure of seeing Mr. Redshaw often in his new home at Durham. (Applause.)

Mr. Tom Forster, in handing over a handsome and valuable gold medal to Mr. Redshaw, said that although this was the most important item on the programme, he thought it required no speech from him. It was intended as a slight memento to Mr. Redshaw from a Hooligan to a Hooligan—one of the oldest and one of the best. (Loud applause.) They were now getting a small body owing to one circumstance and another. On behalf of the Hooligans, he had much pleasure in presenting that little token of their esteem to Mr. Redshaw on the occasion of his leaving Consett, and they hoped to see him often although he was leaving them. (Applause.) The medal bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Will Redshaw by the Hooligans, as a token of esteem on his leaving Consett. March 15th, 1900." On the front was the initials, "W.D.R.," very neatly engraved.

The health of Mr. Redshaw was then drank with musical honours.

Mr. Redshaw, who was loudly applauded on rising to respond, thanked them very heartily for the present he had received that night. He only hoped that in his new home he would meet with such a jolly lot as he had met with in Consett. (Applause.) His sisters and himself tried to conduct the business to the best of their ability. He had had many pleasant times with the Hooligans. He would always be pleased to see them at Durham, and when he had the opportunity he would be pleased to come to Consett. (Applause.) It did not need anything of that kind to remind him of his friends at Consett, but nevertheless he thanked them for their gift, because it would serve to show to any friends he made at Durham that he had many good friends at Consett. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Lloyd Clarance next proposed "The Hooligans," and said he had always found them a lot of jolly good fellows. (Applause.) They stuck to one another, and they had an example of it that evening in the way they had rallied round Mr. Redshaw to wish him God-speed and a prosperous future. (Applause.)

The Vice-chairman responded, thanking Mr. Clarance on behalf of the Hooligans. Mr. Redshaw was one of the best of Hooligans and they all hoped he would have the best of good luck at Durham. (Applause.)

The other toasts included "The Host and Hostess," given by the Chairman; "The Ladies," proposed by Mr. H. Rowes; and the "Press," proffered by Mr. H. Wood.

During the evening excellent songs were rendered by Mr. Jos. Robinson, Mr. H. Wood, Mr. T. Forster, Mr. D. Owen, Mr. Stoker, Mr. A. Burnhope, Mr. W. Redshaw, and the Vice-chairman. Mr. Jos. Robinson accompanied in admirable fashion. The enjoyable gathering concluded with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

CONSETT STEELWORKERS AND THE EIGHT HOURS DAY.

On Saturday afternoon, the steelworkers employed at the Consett Iron Co.'s works held a demonstration in the New Theatre, Consett, in favour of the eight hours movement in lieu of working twelve hours shifts as at present. There was a very large attendance at the meeting; which was presided over by Mr. T. Swinscoe, Blackhill, who observed that a ballot had already been taken amongst the steel mill men, and they had unanimously declared themselves in favour of an eight hours day or the three-shifts system. However as a great proportion of the hands employed at the works were not connected with the Associated Iron and Steel Workers of Great Britain, it was deemed advisable to call a full meeting of the steelworkers, and ascertain their opinions as a whole on the question at issue.—Mr. E. Holliday, Consett, the operatives' representative, explained that an effort would be made to introduce the eight hours' movement in all the works in the North of England. He submitted a resolution to the effect that the meeting pledged itself in favour of an eight hours day, to be brought about by mutual arrangement with the employers.—This was seconded by Mr. Conway, and after some discussion it was unanimously agreed to.—The meeting appointed a deputation consisting of two representatives from each department at the works, to wait upon the managers on the subject.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

☞ WE DO NOT hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—(Ed. "C.G.")

CORRESPONDENTS are requested to enclose their names and addresses on a separate slip of paper.

LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than TUESDAY morning.

MR. WHARTON'S FLOGGING BILL.

(To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian.")

Sir,—A Flogging Bill, for the punishment of robbery, burglary, violent offences against women, and various crimes, has been introduced by Mr. Lloyd Wharton, M.P., and is down for its second reading on March [illegible]. The fact has to be faced that at the present time there is a wide-spread recrudescence of "flagellomania" among unthinking people, who, in defiance of history and statistics, are under the delusion that the lash is the best corrective of crime. I understand that Mr. Lloyd Morgan has given notice of rejection, and I venture to urge all humane persons to write at once to their Members of Parliament and press them to vote against this Bill. On the ground that flogging is a loathsome and irrevocable punishment, if on no other, it is to be hoped that Mr. Wharton's Bill will be defeated by a substantial majority.—Yours faithfully,

March 12th, 1900. JOSEPH COLLINSON.

MR. WHARTON'S FLOGGING BILL.

Under this heading Mr. Joseph Collinson (of Wolsingham) writes to the London "Daily Chronicle," of March 8th, as follows:—

"Sir,—Some surprise has been expressed that at the late Durham Assizes Mr. Justice Day did not avail himself of the opportunity to urge the acceptance by the Legislature of Mr. Wharton's new Flogging Bill.

There is at least one possible reason for this so-called "singular omission." Briefly stated, it is that if flogging—a loathsome and irrevocable punishment, from which there is no appeal—is introduced for the classes of crime scheduled in Mr. Wharton's Bill, it will follow (to quote the words used by Mr. Justice Matthews) "that prosecutions would be few, the police would have a difficulty in getting information, there would be a difficulty in procuring witnesses, and when cases came before a jury the jury would be glad to grasp any excuse to acquit them."

That juries do exhibit a reluctance to bring in a verdict of guilty when they know that the punishment is unduly severe has been demonstrated over and over again. And as the proof in cases of so-called assault usually turns on the truthfulness of the supposed victim, it is not unnatural, in view of the danger of wrongful conviction, that Mr. Wharton's proposals are distrusted by a large section of the community.

Assuming that flogging is the proper mode of suppressing crime, there is, at present, no need for its extension. Crime in England and Wales is decreasing, and apparently stands low. The Courts of Assize in February, 1900, have reported the lowest averages of charges on record; and in several cases the judge has been presented with white gloves. The number of prisoners for trial at the Durham Assizes revealed a considerable diminution, both in regard to the quantity and quality of crime, and it appears that the cases of indecent assault which came before the Assize Court at Newcastle, were mostly trumped up.—I am, yours faithfully,

JOSEPH COLLINSON.

Hon. Sec. Prison Reform Committee, Humanitarian League.

PLAGUE AND ITS PROPHYLACTIC.

(To the Editor of the "Consett Guardian.")

Sir,—In the Queen's speech regret was expressed that the epidemic of plague continues in India. The "Lancet" of Feb. 10th, states that Bombay is in the commencement of a fourth epidemic of plague, and estimates the deaths due to it during the week ending Feb. 9th, at about 1,000, remarking cheerfully that "it is a hopeful sign to find that about 7,000 people continue to come forward each week to undergo plague inoculation. In the "Hospital" of March 3rd, it is stated that "Plague has attacked persons who have undergone inoculation as many as four times in the course of two years." According to the "British Medical Journal" of March 3rd, the Government Commissioners in their report on the serum expressed the opinion that the prophylactic agent was contained in the bacterial sediment alone, and contrary to Mr. Haffkine's views, the supernatent fluid possessed no protective effect. In the same journal, p. 540, we read that in the opinion of residents of Bombay, plague prevails in the city to a much greater extent than official figures indicate; so much so that many believe the number to be at least twice as many as the mortality statistics show. In the Patna district there were 620 deaths from plague during the week ending February 3rd.—I am, sir, yours truly,

ATHELSTANE S. BISHOP.

COMFORTS FOR THE TROOPS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—May I request you to be so good as to publish for the information of all interested, the list, as under, of articles of clothing, etc., received since the publication of the previous one for despatch to the Northumberland Fusiliers and Durham Light Infantry now serving in South Africa. Permit me on the part of the regiments to add my thanks to the kind givers.—I am, etc.,

B. COLLINGS, Captain, for
Commanding Officer 5-68 Reg. Dis.
Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 12th, 1900.

12 Tam o' Shanters, 15 helmets, 7 mufflers, 21 pair socks, 6 pair stockings, 18 handkerchiefs, [illegible] shirts, 5 pair muffatees, Brunton Parishioners and friends, per The Misses Coulson; 22 shirts, 36 pair socks, 31 helmets, 21 [illegible], 6 vests, 36 handkerchiefs, Burnmoor Working Party, per A. C. Paterson; 2 pair mitts, 3 mufflers, 20 pair socks, 12 cap covers, C. D. Shafto, Esq., Durham; 3 helmets, 3 mufflers, 2 Tam o' Shanters, Mrs. T. Easey, Low Fell; 6 pair socks, 2 shirts, 2 helmets, Mrs. Worswick, 4, Grey Street, Newcastle; 1 parcel old linen, etc., Mrs. Emley, Low Fell; 6 pair socks, 6 helmets, Mrs. F. Thompson, 22, Westbrook Villa, Darlington; 7 pair socks, 2 helmets, Matron and Lady teachers, Deaf and Dumb Institution, 2 mufflers, 6 helmets, 1 pair socks, J. Pybus, 95, Osborne Road; 60 socks, 24 d'oyleys, W. J. T., Leadgate; 1 pair blankets, 3 pair socks, 2 helmets, Mrs. Milburn, 68, Sydney Grove; 3 pair socks, 1 helmet, Mary Trotter, Knitsley Station, Consett; 4 Tam o' Shanters, 2 dozen handkerchiefs, Mrs. Tanner; 2 pair socks, Westslade; 3 helmets, Miss Crismmack, Institution for Deaf; 3 pair socks, H. M. P., Heaton; 32 shirts, 45 pair socks, 28 helmets, 5 dozen handkerchiefs, 10 under flannels, 6 chest protectors, 13 pair cuffs, boot laces, stationery, &c., &c., Stanley Ladies' Association; 3 boxes hospital comforts, Mrs. S. Plotnicke, 39 George Road, Wallsend; 5 large bundles of shirts, socks, &c., &c., Messrs Hills and Co., Sunderland; 4 pair socks, 1 pair stockings, Mrs. Green, Linden South Farm; 1 pair socks, M. Hall, Whitley Bay; 2 pair socks, A. Mounger, 54, Eldon Street; 1 pair socks, 2 helmets, Capt. Crawford, Morpeth; 36 glass covers, 1 Tam o' Shanter, 1 muffler, 2 pair socks, 1 pair over socks, 1 helmet, Mrs. F. Armstrong, Rothbury Terrace; 3 helmets, 4 pair cuffs, 1 muffler, Mrs. Booth and Mrs. Bickell, Springfield; 6 pair socks, A friend of the soldiers; 6 pair socks, The Misses Richardson, Tudor Lodge; 12 pair socks, 6 mufflers, Mrs. Jas. Hey Forsyth, Highbury House; 6 helmets, 3 mufflers, Anon, Gateshead, 4 helmets, M. and N. Thompson, Rushend, Bellingham; 3 pair socks, 1 muffler, 2 pair cuffs, Mrs. I. Taylor, Widdington; 2 Tam o' Shanters, 2 mufflers, Mrs. F. Wood, Market Place, South Shields; 37 pair socks, 7 Tam o' Shanters, 4 helmets, 1 shirt, 1 pair cuffs, 3 mufflers, The Misses Redley, Welburn, Ovingham on-Tyne; 8 d'oyleys, Mrs. Jaques, Monkseaton; 1 helmet, 1 pair socks, Mrs. Smallman, Hobson; old linen, Mrs. Guthrie; 3 pairs socks, cards, envelopes, &c., &c., Mrs. Rowland Barnett, 39, Brighton Grove; 177 pair socks, 19 caps, 8 helmets, 12 mufflers, 11 belts, 52 handkerchiefs, 23 cuffs, note paper, &c., &c., C. D. Shafto, Esq., Durham; 1 large bale containing shirts, belts, socks, mufflers, &c., &c., C. Hersley, Greenbank, West Hartlepool; 1 large bale containing cardigans, caps, socks, shirts, &c., &c., Mrs. Stainton, 10, Loran Terrace, South Shields; 12 d'oyleys, 4 pair socks, H. Joicey, 50 Westmoreland Road; 2 pair socks, Anon. Felton, R.S.O.; 1 parcel magazines, Mrs. Elliott; 16 pair socks, 3 mufflers, 15 handkerchiefs, muslins, 44 helmets, Mrs Rogerson and Mrs. McMillan, 5, Granville Road.

INCOME TAX REPAYMENTS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN.")

Sir,—So many persons fail to recover overcharges through not lodging their claims in time, that we hope you will allow us to remind your readers that no claim for repayment of tax deducted from rents, dividends, annuities, &c., in respect of the year ended April 5th, 1897, will be allowed unless the same be lodged before April 5th next. Where the income has been received and tax paid, a claim can now be made for four years. With few exceptions, all persons whose incomes do not exceed £700 are entitled to exemptions or abatements, even when the income is said to be "free of income tax," and on an income not exceeding £400 the amount repayable might amount to £42. All claims should, however, be made with the least possible delay, as the time allowed for making some of them is strictly limited. We shall be glad to advise any of your readers gratuitously whether they can make a claim for repayment of Income-tax, on their sending us full particulars of their incomes and a stamped addressed envelope.

Yours faithfully,
THE INCOME-TAX ADJUSTMENT AGENCY, Ltd.
12 and 13, Poultry, London, E.C.

DANGER OF THE MALLEIN TEST FOR GLANDERS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN.")

Sir,—The value of Mallein—a bacterial toxin—as a test for latent glanders in horses, is the subject of an article in the "British Medical Journal" of March 10th. Of 278 apparently healthy horses that reacted on the first test with Mallein, not one reacted on the seventh test, and these animals were drafted back to work. "This," says the "British Medical Journal," "may perhaps be taken to indicate that Mallein is not only a valuable diagnostic, but also has some controlling power over, if not curative action upon, the disease." In reality it is simply a similar case to that of the cows injected with Tuberculin at the instance of the Technical Instruction Committee of the Cheshire County Council, from which it was found that repeated injections would cause reaction to cease in tuberculous animals. Hence, Mallein, like Tuberculin, is a snare in the guise of a test. Professor Brown in a paper on "The Use of Tuberculin and Mallein," said that nothing short of an Act of Parliament prohibiting or restricting the use of these agents could avail to protect the public from the danger arising from the power of their repeated employment to render infected animals irresponsive to their action. The "British Medical Journal" seems unaware of this.—I am, sir, yours truly,

FRANK LESTER.

3, Warwick Road, Redland, Bristol.

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Dear Sir,—Kindly allow me a little space in your valuable paper to express myself re the above election. It was well said on Saturday night, "We were bad before, but are a jolly sight worse now." It is surprising to see by the result of the poll what a crisis we are in, how the parish smells of "red-tapeism," and how it is germinating amongst us. Well might the surprised miner stare when his visitor announced, "You must come and vote." Consequently no less than three managers of collieries have been elected on their first appearance in an election, and little longer than five minutes in the parish, while, on the other hand, we have men of letters like the Revs. A. Allwork and W. Drybugh, B.A., thrown aside—men that could give first-class council and weigh everything carefully up from an educational standpoint; but it is a fact that so fast does a little leaven spread within us—so incalculable is the effect of one personality on another—that we must be afraid when our occupation or receiving favour at someone's hands is at stake. And again "red-tapeism" is generally and naturally coupled with inconsistency. Just view the situation and result of the poll:—Whickham (without any Board School) 3 elected; Dunston (with 1 Board School) 3 elected; Swalwell (with 1 Board School) 1 elected; Marley Hill (with 2 Board Schools) no representatives. View the situation further at Whickham, we have a Church School, and awhile back men were compelled to send their children to it from Swalwell Board Schools, which meant a decrease in the grant to the parish, and in the face of this we have men who actually pose as Liberals and Democrats that worked and voted for the party, and still audaciously claim the right to be continually crying out about the rates. It has been well said "Let a man once throttle himself with a satin stock and he'll get new wants and new motives. Metamorphosis will hove begun at his neck-joint, and it will go on till it has changed his likings first and then his reasoning, which will follow his likings as the feet of a hungry dog follows his nose." And, what's more, they insist in doing this as men are doing it every day, for a ridiculously small prize—perhaps for the sake of two parlours, a little rank, and various other things, too numerous to mention, which in the long run will bring about distemperature of will, mental uneasiness, a discontented wife, and several unhopeful children. The old Catholics are right, with their higher rule and their lower. Some are called to subject themselves to a harder discipline, and renounce things voluntarily which are lawful for others. It is the old word—'necessity is laid upon me.' Oh! yes, give me a handful of generalities and analogies and I'll undertake to justify So-and-So and So-and-So, and prove them benefactors of their species. But we long to find that they who bid for nuts and news may chance to find them hollow. You will then know when their towers fall; it is an ill business for these nest builders—if they will enter into plots and forsake their true colours, if they will march with obstinate men, who will rush at random on guns and pikes, then they must share the consequences, which will not be long. We then hope to be free from the time that Sir George Elliott speaks about in one of his books where he says, "I suppose buttered ale and grease of that sort to make the wheels go, belong to the necessary humbug of representation." I therefore contend, sir, our cause to be a righteous one, which will eventually over-run the rashly spirited, misled enthusiasm, and prevail in its right place. So in the meantime we will have patience with forbearance, and endure until that time arrives. Trusting I have not taken up too much of your space,—Believe me to be,

Ever yours,
T. MAHARAJAH.

Dunston.

LETTER FROM A DIPTON MAN IN SOUTH AFRICA.

AN AWFUL SIGHT.

Mr. Robt. M. Rutherford, the landlord of the Fox Inn, Dipton, has received the following letter from Gunner J. McGill, of the 79th Battery of the Royal Field Artillery, now serving with the 3rd Infantry Division in South Africa:—

Bird's River Camp,
South Africa,
February 16th, 1900.

Dear Bob,—Just a few lines to you hoping to find you all well, as it leaves me at present. I suppose you have read in the papers before now about the engagement we had in Penhock and Bird's River. I can assure you we have had a very lively time of it since we left Sterkstroom. There were only two guns sent away from Sterkstroom to Penhock, and we had not been there many days before the Boers were on us, and attacked our camp. The first shell they fired fell the exact range of our guns. We sent 14 of our shells amongst them, which made them retire. As soon as they retired we got the order from General Gatacre to move to Bird River, where the enemy were attacking our camp in great force. This was a distance of 16 miles, and I can assure you we had to move. As soon as we came into action we fired two shells at them, when they soon cleared off again. After this war is over this battery will be better known as the "Clear-aways." Our horses have done some very heavy work, and we have only lost four altogether. As soon as we got to this camp it was an awful sight. They had dropped 43 shells into the camp, but only killed one man and wounded four. I saw the man they had killed with the shell. He was completely disembowelled, and had got the full contents of the shell. I can tell you it was a horrible sight to see. I never want to see another like it. I wish Bragg, Henderson, and Armstrong were out here along with me, as Bragg, being a bit or a runner, I think he would get on very well out here. We are expecting to move up 15 more miles tomorrow to the Boer position, and will have to stop there a bit, as the railway has been all pulled up by the Boers. I will try and write a little more next time, as we have not got much time. We are getting ready to move off, so I will conclude and remain,

Your old chum,
J. McGILL.

We may mention that just recently Mr. Rutherford has kindly forwarded a supply of tobacco, pipes, writing paper, envelopes, etc., to Gunner McGill, for which the latter will doubtless be very grateful, as these luxuries are scarce in the Transvaal.

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN AUSTRALIA IN THE EARLY DAYS

(BY J. W. FAWCETT.)

THE REV. SAMUEL MARSDEN.

During the two years Mr. Marsden was away from New South Wales, one of the greatest events in the history of the Colony occurred—this was the rebellion of 1808 and the deposition of Captain Bligh, the Governor, by the military officers. Had Mr. Marsden been in the colony during the conflict between Governor Bligh and the New South Wales Corps, I venture to say that a different turn to the history of that period would probably have taken place. His intellectual vigour, his fearlessness of character, his knowledge of parties, his promptitude of action, his solid commonsense, and his honesty of purpose, would in all probability have prevented the occurrence of a dark blot on the history of New South Wales.

Mr. Marsden returned to Sydney in 1810 and with him two agents for Mission work in New Zealand, and in 1814 he took steps to establish a mission in those islands under the auspices of the Church Missionary Society. He left Panamatta on Nov. 19th, 1814, and sailed for New Zealand in the "Active," his own missionary vessel—full of courage, faith, heroic devotion and hopefulness, and sighted the shores of that island on Dec. 15th. He landed on the 20th, and determined to remain all night, sleeping beside a faithful Maori friend. This act of his, surrounded as he was by well armed cannibals, many of whom had helped to kill and eat the Englishmen massacred in the tragedy of the ship Boyd—was a very brave act and at once secured the confidence and veneration of the Maoris.

On Christmas Day (which was also Sunday) Mr. Marsden preached his first sermon to the Maoris. A broken canoe served for the pulpit and Duaterra, his faithful Maori, whom he had had living with him at Panamatta for some time, acted as his interpreter. He chose for his text those blessed words:—"Behold I bring you glad tidings of great joy." It was a gladsome Sunday—that Christmas Day—when Mr. Marsden taught the Maoris, as they said "how to keep Sunday," and most beautiful and bright was that on which God was first worshipped, and the Gospel first proclaimed in New Zealand. Then again was literally fulfilled the declaration—the people that walked in darkness have seen a great light. They that dwelt in the land of the Shadow of Death, upon them hath the light shined. The little seed was sown—showers of blessings watered it—and how great was the harvest! The nation of cannibals have become a nation of Christians and the servants of savagery have become disciples of Christ. Many a jewel have they added to the Redeemer's Crown. Christ hath seen of the travail of his soul in this great work of love, undertaken by the Colonial Chaplain. Writing in 1818, Mr. Marsden thus views the New Zealand Mission. "The British settlement in New Holland is a very wonderful circumstance in these eventful times. The island in the Great Pacific Ocean could not have been settled unless there had been the settlement formed previously in this country. The Missionaries could never have maintained their ground, had they not been encouraged and supported from Port Jackson. How mysterious and wonderful are the ways of the Lord! The exiles of the British nation are sent before to prepare the way of the Lord."

Mr. Marsden made no less than seven missionary voyages to New Zealand, and the dangers he encountered in vessels not always seaworthy, and the extraordinary fortitude which he manifested while travelling among the Maoris are things worthy to be remembered. In those days a voyage to New Zealand was considered a great undertaking, and few persons ventured to land on a coast where so many massacres had been committed. Mr. Marsden impressed the New Zealand Chiefs with the benevolence of his intentions, and gained a surprising influence over them and was honoured to see the conversion of many tribes of this interesting people. Those people had always a warm place in his heart, and his last words were in keeping with his life, for with an inward prayer for the Maoris, he whispered "New Zealand."

Marsden continued in harness to the last dying at the Parsonage, Windsor (then occupied by his friend, the Rev. H. T. Stiles) on the 12th of May, 1838, aged 74 years, and was buried in his own churchyard at Parramatta. His memory is kept green on two tablets, one in St. John's Church, Parramatta, and one in All Saints, Mansfield, which was built in memorial of him, whilst in the churchyard of his native parish church at Farsley there is a granite pedestal and in the church some fine memorial windows to his memory.

The Rev. H. T. Stiles, of Windsor, in his funeral sermon preached in St. John's Church, Parramatta, thus referred to Mr. Marsden:—"Samuel Marsden was no common character. He was raised up for a special purpose. As Luther in Germany, John Knox in Scotland, and Cranmer in England, were sent by the Head of the Church, and fitted with peculiar qualifications to unfold His Glorious Gospel, when it was almost hidden in Romish darkness, so no less truly was Samuel Marsden raised up in this southern hemisphere, and abundantly fitted for the work, and made the honourable instrument of diffusing the light of that same Gospel, and of bringing it to bear on the darkness of heathenism in New Zealand and the isles of the sea, and upon the darkness, too, no less real of the depravity of society in early Australia."

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TANFIELD.

AGED MINERS' HOMES AT HASWELL MOOR.—In response to an appeal for a coal supply to these Homes, several miners' lodges have decided to pay one penny per quarter, including Tanfield and South Tanfield.

Dales' GOLD MEDAL Dubbin

Is a wonderful waterproofer for BOOTS and HARNESS. Softens and preserves the leather. Pleasant odour, allows polishing with blacking. 22 EXHIBITION HIGHEST AWARDS. Tins 2d, 6d, 1s, and 2s 6d of Boot Makers, Saddlers, Ironmongers, &c.
Manufactory, Dulwich, London.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

VISIT OF THE EXCELSIOR HANDBELL RINGERS.—On Saturday evening the Excelsior Handbell Ringers from Bearpark, gave a grand concert in the Annfield Plain Co-operative Hall. Mr. R. Bates, of Kyo, in the absence of Coun. J. Storey, occupied the chair, and presided over a fairly large company. Songs, duets, and quartettes were ably rendered by Mrs. Robinson, Mr. Young, and Miss Hope. The party of bell-ringers were quite a treat, and rendered several well-known selections with great credit. The proceeds were in aid of the Catchgate Free Church new building fund.

BRIEF ANNALS OF SOUTH AFRICA

1877. The annexation of the Transvaal was followed by a proclamation that the province "should enjoy the fullest legislative independence compatible with the circumstances of the country and the intelligence of its people." But months passed and nothing was done, and a number of the Boers became dissatisfied. To this cause must be attributed a great part of the Boer unrest which eventually followed, and the opposition to annexation, which at first largely fictitious, became real. When Lord Carnarvon in his despatch to Shepstone approved of the annexation, Britain was now pledged to maintain her authority in the country, and she was also bound to see that the promises of local self-government were fulfilled. Unfortunately the outbreak of a native war on the eastern frontier of Cape Colony, prevented Sir Bartle Frere from going to Pretoria, as he had intended, in September, 1877, and no sooner had that trouble been overcome than the far graver question of war with the Zulus forced itself to the front. The hands of the authorities were full, and the reforms promised to the Transvaal burghers were not granted. This gave encouragement to the disaffected among the Boers, especially as the British did nothing to prevent many of their homesteads from being destroyed and their occupants murdered by the Zulus.

1877. The few Boers who objected to the annexation of their country—of whom Mr. Paul Kruger was the leading spirit—protested against the action of Sir Theophilus Shepstone, and decided to send a couple of delegates to England and lay a petition, with that of President Brugers, before Her Majesty's Government. The delegates were Mr. Paul Kruger and Dr. E. P. Jorissen, late Attorney General of the Republic. They left Pretoria on May 10th, had an interview with Sir Bartle Frere at Cape Town on June 4th, and arrived in England in July. On July 12th, they had an interview with Lord Carnarvon, the Colonial Secretary, who politely received them, but informed them that the act performed by Sir Theophilus Shepstone was irrevocable—that it was impossible for Her Majesty's Government to entertain the idea of reversing it, and that it would be idle to enter upon a discussion of it. Mr. Kruger asked for a plebiscite but Lord Carnarvon declined the request.

Many of the Boers protested against the protest of Messrs. Kruger and Jorissen, and a memorial approving the annexation was numerously signed, and amongst the signatures were six members of the Volksraad.

1877. On June 21st Lord Carnarvon, in a despatch to Sir Theophilus Shepstone, approved the action he had taken in annexing the Transvaal.

1877. Outbreak of a war with the Gaikas and Galikas, who occupied territory on the eastern frontier of Cape Colony.

1877. Cetewayo, having ordered a regiment of girls (of about twenty years of age—who are enrolled for commissariat purposes, having to supply their fathers and brothers with food when on duty at the military kraals) to marry a regiment of men (who were more than 40 years of age), which they refused, sent out an order to kill the girls and "eat up" (despoil) the fathers. His order was executed with ruthless barbarity, and about five hundred perished. As soon as Sir Henry Bulmer, the Lieutenant Governor of Natal, heard of this, he sent a remonstrance to Cetewayo, who made the following insolent reply:—"Tell the white man that he rules in Natal and I rule here. I do not tell him how he should govern, and he must not tell me how to govern." Although no change in the action of the English Governor in Natal had been made towards him, his sudden development of a most violent temper on this occasion was the first open indication that he had thrown off the moral control to which he had hitherto submitted.

1877. In order to settle the boundary dispute between the Boers and the Zulus, Sir Theophilus Shepstone went to the border to meet the Idunas (delegates or envoys) of Cetewayo at the Blood River (October.) Contrary to all previous custom and to the peaceful character of the interview to which they had been invited, they came armed. Sir Theophilus offered them the boundary (which was afterwards accepted) but they indignantly rejected it, and laid claim to the whole country now comprehended in the Utrecht divisions and half of the Wakerstroom and Lydenburg divisions of the Transvaal. Sir Theophilus who had a narrow escape of being shot, by accident as the Zulus affirmed but afterwards proved to be intentional, closed the conference and intimated that the dispute would be settled by arbitration, based on a discussion in which the Zulus and the Transvaal Boers should be equally represented.

1877. Although Cetewayo had been warned not to interfere until the case was settled, yet after he had consented to submit the decision to the Border Commission, he not only sent to the people living in the disputed territory, warning them to leave their farms, but he also sent a party of one thousand Zulus to erect a military kraal on the north of the Pongola, on land which had not been occupied, or even claimed by the Zulus before.

1877. A boundary Commission, in which Boer and Zulu representatives attended, was held by Sir H. Bulmer the Lieutenant Governor of Natal, which resulted in the memorandum or report on which the award was afterwards founded.

1877. Mr. Kruger had told Sir Theophilus Shepstone that if his mission to England failed, he would be faithful to the new Government, and when it did fail and he returned to South Africa, he was with Mr Jorissen, offered an official position and salary under the British Government in the Transvaal. These they both accepted, Mr. Kruger becoming a member of the Executive Council and Mr. Jorissen, Attorney General.

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CROOKGATE.

RESERVISTS' FUND.—On Wednesday night week, in aid of the Reservists' Fund, a smoking concert was held at the Pack Horse Inn, Crookgate. The affair was promoted by the Burnopfield and District Reservists' Fund Committee. Upwards of 30 accepted the invitation, and Coun. Holmes, J.P., was voted to the chair. The proceedings began by the chairman proposing "The Queen and rest of the Royal Family," which was loyally pledged, after which Mr. Humble followed with the beautiful song, "Allan Water," being followed by Mr. Smith in "Come back." Mr. Heslop next proposed "The Army, Navy, and Troops now in South Africa," remarking they all knew of the valour of the British soldier without his telling them. The toast was drunk in a bumper. Other songs were rendered as follows:—Mr. Reay, "Commodore"; Mr. Welch, "The Thistle and Rose"; Mr. J. Weedy, "The Red, White, and Blue"; whilst Mr. W. Reay also recited Mr. Kipling's popular poem, "The Absent-minded Beggar." A collection was made which amounted to £1 2s. During the evening, the genial hostess, Mrs. McElduff, regaled the company with sandwiches and cigars, in addition to generously contributing towards the Fund. The proceedings were brought to a close by a vote of thanks to the singers and Mr. W. Jefferson (Byer Moor) for presiding at the piano, and the singing of the National Anthem.

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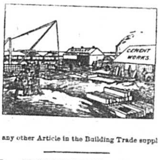

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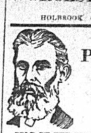

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SOCIAL AT LITTLE GREENCROFT

IN AID OF THE RESERVISTS.

The people of Knitsley and district are probably as loyal a body as can be found in any part of Her Majesty's dominions. Therefore, when every town and hamlet almost in the country is doing something with a view to augmenting the various war funds, it was only natural that the people in the Knitsley district should be animated by the same feeling. It was felt that the most likely scheme to raise a substantial sum would be a social, but here a difficulty presented itself, as there was no building in the locality suitable for the holding of such a gathering. In this dilemma Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, J.P., of Little Greencroft, came to the rescue, and offered the committee the use of his granary free of charge. Needless to say, this generous offer was gratefully accepted, and arrangements were at once put into operation in order to bring off the social at as early a date as possible. The committee entrusted with the carrying out of the arrangements comprised Messrs. Wm. Robinson, F. Todd, G. Stubbins, John Atkinson, and C. Ferguson, with Mr. E. W. E. Balleny as hon. treasurer, and Mr. W. Cheesman as hon. secretary. Invitations were issued to many, but these were necessarily limited, owing to lack of accommodation. The whole of the refreshments were generously given by kind friends. An excellent supper was provided, the wants of the guests being attended to by the wives of the committee and maids from Greencroft Hall. Messrs. Geo. Hardy, jun., and Alf. Thompson were efficient M.C.'s, and altogether a thoroughly enjoyable night was spent. At intervals songs were rendered by several of the company. Before the guests parted, on the motion of Mr. Cheesman, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to those who had given the refreshments, and also to all who had in any way assisted in promoting the success of the gathering. Not the least interesting feature of the function was the presence of Miss Bennington, of Enfield (a guest staying with Mr. R. G. Barclay, J.P., of Shotley Bridge), who is a cousin of Sir George White, the gallant defender of Ladysmith. On Mr. Cheesman mentioning this fact in his remarks, three hearty cheers were given for Sir George. The singing of "Rule Britannia" and the National Anthem brought a very pleasant evening to a close. We understand that after all expenses have been met, there will remain the handsome sum of over £15 to hand over to the fund. This is a result upon which the committee are to be warmly congratulated. Amongst those present we noticed:—

Mr. A. Towns, Consett.
Mr. and Mrs. F. Todd, Knitsley.
Miss Todd, Knitsley.
Mr. Jos. and Miss Stirk, Knitsley.
Misses Aitkin (2), Woodlands.
Miss Robson, Woodlands.
Mr. and Mrs. Stubbins, Knitsley.
Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson, Knitsley.
Miss Turnbull, Woodlands.
Mr. Jas. Wood, Woodlands.
Mr. John and Miss Parker, Crook Hill.
Mr. and Mrs. Rogerson, Boggle Hole.
Mr. John, Miss, and Miss E. Hunter, Grange Farm, Medomsley.
Mr. Jos. and Miss Walker, Medomsley.
Mr. and Mrs. Ross, West Butsfield.
Mr. Geo. Hardy, jun., Knitsley.
Mr. Alf. Thompson, Knitsley.
Mr. E. W. E. Balleny, J.P., Little Greencroft.
Mr. R. G. Barclay, J.P., and Miss Barclay, Shotley Bridge, and Miss Bennington, Enfield.
Mr. R. and Miss Moffitt, Medomsley.
Mr. W. and Miss L. Hunter, Medomsley.
Mr. L. Hunter, Ean Green.
Miss Murray and Miss A. Murray, Pontop Pike.
Mr. Robinson, Pontop Pike.
Mr. A. Davison, Moorside.
Mr. J. Richardson, Knitsley.
Miss Peacock, Greencroft.
Miss Bulmer, Greencroft.
Mr. T. Cheesman, Greencroft.
Miss Cheesman, Castle Dene.
Mr. Geo. Stones, Castle Dene.
Mrs. Parker, Knitsley.
Mrs. Turnbull, Knitsley.
Mr. A. Atkinson, Knitsley.
Miss Edith Ridley, Greencroft.
Mr. W. and Miss E. Richardson, Knitsley.
Mr. A. Matthieson, Templetown.
Mr. R. Anderson, jun., Mosswood.
Mr. W. S. and Mr. J. S. Craggs, Satley.
Mr. Ralph Walton, Lanchester.
Mr. E. Craggs, Red Houses.
Mr. D. Hobson, Red Houses.
Mrs. Earle, David Town Cottage.
Miss Moody, Moorcock.
Miss B. Moody, Moorcock.
Miss H. Moody, Moorcock.
Inspector and Miss Best, Consett.
Miss K. Hockin, Forest Lodge.
Mr. Thackeray, Red Houses.
Mr. H. Atkinson, Knitsley.
Mr. P. Trotter, Knitsley.
Mr. J. Haughan, Knitsley.
Mr. Wm. Haughan, Knitsley.
Mr. Jos. and Miss Jennie Richardson, Knitsley.
Mr. and Mrs. A. Robinson, Greencroft.
Mr. J. Towns, jun., Consett.
Mr. Jos. Robinson, Medomsley.
Mr. I. Brown, Hurbuck.
Miss M. Temperley, Delves.
Mr. and Mrs. A. Hill, Knitsley Mill.
Miss Stirk, Knitsley.
Miss F. Robson, Knitsley.
Mr. T. Oliver, Hurbuck.
Miss Oliver, Hurbuck.
Miss Mary Oliver, Hurbuck.
Miss Bessie Oliver, Hurbuck.
Miss Muir, Consett.
Mr. Kirkpatrick, Humber Hill.
Messrs T. and J. Ridley, Browney Bank.
Mr. J. Dolphin, Consett.
Mr. Lowes, Satley.
Mr. J. T. Mitchinson, and the Misses Mitchinson (2), Parkhead.
Mr. C. D. W. Balleny, Delves Lane.
Mr. J. Stirk, Knitsley.
Miss E. Robson, Knitsley.
Mr. and Miss Farnsworth, Carribees.
Miss Mason, Carribees.
Mr. Tom and Miss L. Hunter, Town Farm, Medomsley.
Mr. Jas. Hunter, Grange Farm, Medomsley.
Mr. and Mrs. C. Weatherell, Knitsley.
Mr. J. and Mrs. Smith, Cornsay.
Mr. Hardy, Cornsay.
Mr. John and Miss E. Temperley, Delves.
Mr. R. and Misses Kirkpatrick (2), Humber Hill.
Mr. W. Stephenson, Leadgate.
Miss C. Taylor, Consett.
Mr. M. Buckham, Satley.
Miss Disberry, Satley.
Miss Lowes, Stelley.
Mr. D. H. C. Balleny, Brooms.
Mr. Hann, Annfield Plain.
Mr. and Mrs. Bone, Woodlands.
Mr. J. and Miss Hall, Broadwood Park.
Mr. C. H. Abbey, Forest Lodge.
Mr. and Mrs. T. Rippon, Butsfield.
Mr. Jas. Parker, Benfieldside.
Mr. Jas. Robson, Knitsley.
Mr. J. Hall, Knitsley.
Mr. T. Bainbridge, Knitsley.
Mr. Forsyth, Knitsley.
Mr. G. Hope, Sheep Walks.
Mr. Wm. Charlton, Ebchester.
Mr. John Sloane, Consett.
Mr. J. M. Aynsley, Consett.
Mr. and Mrs. John Wade, Consett.
Mr. Frank and Miss Wade, Consett.
Mr. W. Ward, Consett.
Mr. Thos. Parker, Crook Hill.
Mr. Tom Wilkinson, jun., Lanchester.
Mr. Burdon, Lanchester.
Mr. Geo. Hunter, Medomsley.
Mr. and Mrs. C. Potts, Low Woodside.
Mr. F. Gascoigne, West Butsfield.
Miss Elliott, Consett.
Mr. L. and Miss Wilson, Donnellyford.
Mr. Tom Hudson, Consett.
Mr. Ed. Porter, Consett.

TOW LAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

The annual meeting of the above authority was held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday week, when Coun. Atkinson, J.P., presided. There were also present, Councillors Blenkiron, Brewer, Graham, Harrison, and Hall.

Messrs. Hillary and Garraway were re-appointed Surveyor and Nuisance Inspector respectively, and Dr. W. Tiplady was re-appointed Medical Officer.

OVERSEERS.

Mr. T. Hall and Mr. W. Atkinson were elected as overseers of the Parish of Tow Law.

Mr. R. Sproats and Mr. J. R. Wilson were elected as overseers for the South Cornsay area.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. Garraway reported that together with the Surveyor he had opened out what appeared to be a private drain parallel to the main sewer passing down the back of High Street West. Mr. A. Boal stated that this private drain was blocked underneath his warehouse. Owing to the great quantity of goods in the warehouse they were unable to test the truth of Mr Boal's opinion.—It was agreed that the tenants be instructed to connect their drains with the Council's sewer.

A letter was read from Mr. A. Boal, charging the Inspector with neglect of reporting certain breaches of the bye-laws and keeping pigs, etc., by certain other tenants in his neighbourhood, and of his reporting him (Mr. Boal) when he was not guilty of any breach of the bye-laws.

The Inspector admitted that when nuisances were removed promptly on his order he did not deem it necessary to report the cases to the Council, and that owing to the block of traffic by snow some heaps of manure had become a nuisance on the property of Mr. Kirk, but that all cases had been dealt with fairly and impartially.

A list of 47 badly paved yards was then submitted to the Council, and notices to the owners were directed to be served at once.

THE BURIAL GROUND.

The Surveyor reported that the burial ground of the Nonconformists was full, and on the motion of Couns. Graham and Brewer, it was resolved that a committee of the whole Council meet on Saturday, 17th March, to consider the apportionment of the unbroken section of the cemetery on the north side.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A subsidence had occurred on the Sunniside Road, but had been promptly dealt with by the Colliery engineer and the roadmen.

It was agreed to relegate to a committee of the whole Council the fixing of a site for a sewer from Featherstone's field, and the consideration of the drainage from Keeper's Row district complained of by the Rev. R. Marsh, the committee to meet on Tuesday next to inspect.

A letter from the Secretary of the Wesleyan Schools was read complaining that the public scavenger had not emptied the ashpit of the schools, and declined to do so as the ashpit was not included in the notice for which he contracted.

Coun. Graham explained that he had privately engaged to remove the ashes from the School ashpit, and that when he had done the work the secretary declined to pay.

Coun. Brewer then asked whether that arrangement had not been made prior to the taking over of the scavenging by the Council?

Coun. Graham replied that the arrangement was made after his son took the contract for scavenging.

Coun. Sproats asked whether there was not some underhand work here? He had heard that an attempt would be made to unseat Mr. Graham because of the bill sent in to the Wesleyan Committee.

Coun. Brewer asked why the ashes, etc., from the two other schools were removed without charge by the public scavenger, while an attempt was being made to compel the Wesleyan Committee to pay for such removal? He knew that the Wesleyan Committee would not be averse to paying if all were served alike. He contended that it would be better to scavenge the whole of the schools than to pay a School Board rate, and that financially one school needed as much consideration as another.

Coun. Sproats: Is it a fact that the ashes of the Wesleyan School are now being placed in private ashpits?

Coun. Brewer: Why are you not charging the other schools?

A Voice: Because their ashes are being placed in private ashpits connected with the schools.

The Clerk was directed to reply to the communication stating that the school ashpit was not included in the contract for scavenging.

The Surveyor reported some neglect of duty of one of the employees, and the Clerk was directed to write the delinquent a note or warning that the offence be not repeated and that in future Mr. J. Young have full charge of roads under the Surveyor's direction.

DUNSTON.

Proposed Ratepayers' Association.—We understand that a strong feeling exists amongst the ratepayers of Dunston that a Ratepayers' Association should be formed, with a view to securing a better administration of parish affairs.

INQUIRIES INTO LOCAL CHARITIES.

On Tuesday morning, Mr. Coore, barrister-at-law, Assistant Commissioner, held an inquiry in the vestry of Lanchester Parish Church, respecting the various charities for the parishes of Benfieldside, Conside and Knitsley, Cornsay, Esh, Greencroft, Healeyfield, Hedleyhope, Iveston, Kyo, Lanchester, Langley, Medomsley, and Satley. Mr. Coore was met at the vestry by the Vicars of local parishes, and officials of District and Parish Councils.

The Commissioner said this was part of a general inquiry into the Charities of the administrative County of Durham instituted at the instance of the County Council. He had now held inquiries in 23 ancient parishes of the county which represented, he thought, nearly half the total that had to be done. The inquiries were started last May in the City of Durham, and reports were now in course of preparation. The reason for holding such inquiries in an obscure area was that the Charity Commissioners were bound to have a record of the area limited by the founders. The ancient parish of Lanchester was one of considerable complexity and he might just state what townships were comprised in it. They were Collierley, comprised in the Annfield Plain District Council area; Cornsay, and Tow Law, Greencroft, Healeyfield, Iveston, Leadgate and Consett Urban Districts, Kyo, Stanley, Hedleyhope, Langley, Benfieldside, Conside-cum-Knitsley, the rural parish of Knitsley, the township of Medomsley, Satley, and the chapelry of Esh. The only important charity which appeared to be applicable to the whole of the ancient parish was that of Rowland Wilkinson which was now regulated by a recent scheme of the Commissioners established in 1897. By the foundation dated 1624, the founder gave all his freehold land in Satley and Lanchester. When proposals were put before the Commissioners respecting the area intended by the founder's will, the Commissioners, construing the will in a precise legal sense, determined that every township was intended to share. But from certain matters pointed out by Mr. Wm. Logan, who devoted a great deal of time to the matter, the Commissioners felt justified in excluding the parishes of Medomsley and Esh.

Mr. Logan said the founder took it that Medomsley and Esh were not part of the several parishes of Lanchester, but were entirely separate. At no time since his death had either of these parishes participated under the will.

The Commissioner said in these circumstances the scheme excluded Esh and Medomsley.

Respecting the Cornsay Almshouses, Mr. Lawson, one of the trustees, said the charity was founded by an ancestor of Lord Boyne. There had been a deficit for some time amounting to £98 which had been paid by the present Lord Boyne. He detailed the nature of the charity, and said at the time of the endowment it was an agricultural district, but was now populous.

The Commissioner said he saw some land had been sold under the authority of the Charity Commissioners at Mount Pleasant

Mr. Lawson said that was the reservoir for which they received an annual rent of £20 2s 7d.

The Commissioner pointed out that that item was not shown on the accounts, therefore the deficit paid by Lord Boyne was reduced by that amount.

Mr. Lawson said the item must have been overlooked.

Brief inquiry was then made into the charities of John Clavering and George Smirk—Lanchester Schools. Respecting the charity of Cuthbert Atkinson the Commissioner said there seemed to have been a difference of opinion between the then owner of Woodside, Mr. Balleny, and the Vicar. It was pointed out that £3 was paid.

Mr. T. W. Welford said that Woodside originally was one farm, but was now divided, and the greater part had gone to Mr. Geo. Nicholson, who had not paid anything. He would suggest that Mr. Nicholson, who owned 60 acres, should pay £2, and Mr. Balleny, who owned 40 acres, should pay £1.

The Commissioner said that was really a question between Mr. Nicholson and Mr. Balleny. It was hardly a matter for the Commissioners. As to the present administration of the charity, he understood the Vicar distributed one half and Mr. Balleny the other.

Mr. Balleny said that was so except last year, when he gave the whole amount.

The Commissioner suggested that the Vicar and Mr. Balleny should act together as co-trustees. As a rule they had acted strictly apart.

Mr. Balleny said they had not. Excepting last year, the Vicar had always paid half. The recipients were chosen from the whole of the ancient parish who were not in receipt of poor relief.

The Commissioner: And the Vicar's half is confined to the Ecclesiastical portion?

The Vicar: Yes.

The Charities of George and William Hedley, John Cumming, and Dorothy Greenwell were next inquired into. In the case of John Cumming who left £500 to be applied in keeping the fabric of the Church in repair, Mr. Logan said there had been no occasion to utilise the interest so far, but the necessity would soon arise.

Mr. Brotherhood said there was a balance of between £50 and £60 in hand.

The Rev. C. W. Cooke appeared in reference to Mr. Hedley's Holmside legacy, and said there was now a balance of £112, but they had not been able to spend the income so far. In future they would be able to do so.

The inquiry then terminated and the Commissioner proceeded to Consett, where he held an inquiry in the Urban District Council Chamber. Inquiries were made respecting charities at Medomsley, Castleside, Blackhill (St. Aidan's), and the Consett Technical Institute. In reference to the latter, Mr. Geo. Ainsworth said the Institute had not yet been started. It was only in course of erection.

The Commissioner asked when it likely to be opened.

Mr. Ainsworth said it would be opened sometime this year.

Mr. J. Annandale, replying to the Commissioner, said the Priestman memorial was an endowment of £500, and was invested, under authority of the trust, in debenture bonds in the Landed Securities Company, Limited. That Company unfortunately came to grief and they had only recovered £275. The date of the investment was April, 1891, and the Company went into liquidation in 1894. They had first hold, and expected to recover more.

The Commissioner asked if there was any chance of their making up the whole of the trust money?

Mr. Annandale said he could not say that. They were legally advised as to the investment.

The Commissioner asked if they proposed to take any steps with a view to making up the money which had been lost?

Mr. Annandale said he did not think so. He did not think they were bound to make it up. The balance of the money was actually made up by the Priestman family, who were well known as charitable people.

The Commissioner having stated that he would report in due course, the inquiry terminated.

CHOPWELL.

Reservists' Fund.—The usual fortnightly meeting of the Chopwell committee was held at the Chopwell Hotel on Tuesday, Mr. J. R. Gilchrist presiding. The secretary reported that the sum of £103 16s 3d had been received during the past eight weeks, that is, almost £13 per week had been contributed by the people of Chopwell towards the relief of the wives, families, and other dependents of the local reservists called out for service in H.M. army. This was considered to be highly satisfactory and very creditable to the district, and the secretary was instructed to forward details for publication in the "Consett Guardian." Such details will be found on page 4 of our present issue.

CATCHGATE.

Marriage of Miss Gales.—On Wednesday afternoon of last week a marriage in which considerable interest was evinced was solemnised at the Lanchester Parish Church, the vicar (the Rev. G. Jepson) officiating. The contracting parties were Mr. Geo. Milburn, of Gorcock Farm, Greencroft, and Miss Annie Gales, eldest daughter of Mr. Thos. Gales, of 39, Victoria Terrace, Catchgate. The bride, who was charmingly attired, was given away by her father. Miss Mary Elizabeth Gales, sister of the bride, was bridesmaid, while Mr. Geo. Foggan, of Tanfield, was the "best man." A reception was afterwards held at the house of the bride's parents, where a goodly number of guests assembled to join in the festivities and offer their congratulations to the newly-married couple for their future happiness. The bride and bridegroom were made the recipients of many useful and ornamental presents.

WEDDING AT HAMSTERLEY

On Saturday the marriage of Mr. John Pritchard, of Craghead, to Miss Sarah Jane Mason, eldest daughter of Mr. Matthew and Mrs. Isabella Mason, of Hamsterley, was celebrated at Medomsley Parish Church, the curate, the Rev. A. C. Blunt, officiating. The bride, who was charmingly attired in a brown dress trimmed with white silk, wore a white hat trimmed with orange blossom, and was accompanied by her sister, Miss M. Mason, who was also attired in similar material. The other bridesmaid, Miss L. Holmes, was dressed in a terra-cotta dress trimmed with white silk, and wore a white hat. Mr. M. Gray acted as "best man," and Mr. M. Archer as groomsman. The following is a list of presents:—

Miss L. Holmes, bridesmaid, timepiece and glasses.
Misses M. and H. Mason bride's sisters, brooch, case, picture, two glass bowls, glasses and views.
Mr. Matthew Gray, pan and steamer.
Mr. M. Archer, silver teapot
Mr. and Mrs. Pritchard, table-cover and pair of pictures.
Mr. J. Pritchard, set of china.
Mr. Thos. Jones, cheese dish.
Mr. Victor Pritchard, vegetable dish.
Mr. and Mrs. Parkins, dinner plates.
Miss Annie Parkins, bowl and glass dishes.
Miss D. Gray, china dogs.
Mrs. Gray, two pair tea towels.
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Gray, sheets.
Mrs. B. Gray, set of ornaments.
Miss H. Gray, bath and tea towels.
Miss E. Gray, sugar basin and milk jug.
Masters James Gray, Wm. Mason, and David Brown, a kettle
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mason, pair sheets, butter cooler, sugar basin, milk jug, flowered glasses, and wine glasses.
Mr. and Mrs. Morgan, three chair cushions.
Mr. D. Mason, set of pillow cases.
Miss M. Mason, set of pillow cases.
Mr. and Mrs. Cowen, pair hand painted pictures.
Miss Cowen, tray cloth and toilet set.
Mr. and Mrs. Robson, tea cosy
Mrs. Brough and Mrs Howcroft, traycloth and toilet set.
Mr. and Mrs. Whittle, tea cosy.
Mr and Mrs. Robson, tea cosy.
Mr. and Mrs. Walker, teacups and saucers plates, and silver sugar tongs.
Miss Walker, brooch case.
Mrs. Cawthorne, pair of placques.
Mrs. Lee, sugar basin and milk jug.
Mrs. Storey, flower stand.
Mrs. Hughes, glass bowls.
Miss Hughes, pair of pictures.
Mr. and Mrs. Howden, water bottle and jug, and glasses.
Miss Howden, shade ties.
Mrs. G. Adams, dinner plates.
Mrs. Birtley, pudding plates.
Miss M. J. Holmes, set of jugs.
Mrs. Thompson, egg cups.
Mrs. Burn, flower baskets.
Mrs. Dobson, cups and saucers, plates and breadplate.
Mrs. Keenleyside, hand basin.
Miss M. Keenleyside, breadplates.
Mrs. Riggs, breadplates.
Mrs. Barlow, table-cloth, and bath towels.
Mr. and Mrs. Brown, glass bowls and breadplate.
Mr. Stephen Brown, picture.
Mrs. Tom Andersen, set of meat dishes.
Mr. Anderson, cheese dish.
Mrs. Waters, cheese dish.
Mr. Ledger, standing lamp.
Mrs. Ledger, pair of vases.
Mrs. Purvis, breakfast cups and saucers, and glass jugs.
Miss Frances Purvis, flowered glasses.
Miss Armstrong, pair of bowls.
Miss Little, pair towels.
Mrs. R. Armstrong, pair bowls.
Mr. and Mrs. Pewster, pair of plates, cups and saucers.
Mrs. Blacklock, bath towels.
Mrs. Black, bread mug.
Mrs. Rooney, bread plates.
Mrs. Stubbs, glass bowls.
Mrs. Low, glass bowls.
Mrs. Taylor, ornaments.
Mr. and Mrs. Pigg, pair towels.
Miss Fairbridge, brass stands.
Miss Allan, pillow cases.
Miss Sarah Holmes, bath towels.
Mrs. Herron, glass bowls, and half-a-dozen silver spoons.

Consett and District Cricket Club.

Successful Social

In connection with the bazaar scheme of the above club, a most successful social was held on Wednesday night, in the New Town Hall, Consett. There was a large attendance, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The M.C.'s were Messrs J. Askew, F. W. Brodie, R. Marshall, and J. Siddell, whilst Mr. F. W. Brodie acted as hon. sec., and carried out the arrangements in a very able manner. The music was supplied by Messrs J. R. Wood (piano), A. Parker (violin), and J. D. Wray (cornet), whilst the refreshments were catered for by Mr. James, and gave every satisfaction. Amongst those present we noticed:—

Miss Tait, Leadgate.
Mr. J. Tolson, Leadgate.
Mr. E. Hall, Leadgate.
Mr. R. Winter, Leadgate.
Mr. H. Hall, Leadgate.
Miss Jackson, Blackhill.
Mr. Moore, Consett.
Mr. G. W. Ward, Consett.
Mr. J. Sheldon, Consett.
Mr. W. Milburn, Consett.
Mr. R. Charlton, Medomsley, and Miss Hamilton, Blackhill.
Mr. T. Hall, Blackhill.
Miss Brankston, Dipton.
Mr. Joe Wood, Consett.
Miss Routledge, Blackhill.
Miss Turner, Consett.
Miss Dawson, Heaton.
Mr. H. Symington, Consett.
Miss Surtees, Consett.
Miss Symington, Consett.
Mr. S. Aynsley, Consett.
Miss Elliott, Consett.
Miss Spedding, Consett.
Miss Redshaw, Consett.
Mr. Davis, Blackhill.
Mr. E. Pratt, Consett.
Mr. Mathieson, Consett.
Mr. H. Bates, Consett.
Mr. Anderson, Consett.
Mr. W. Scott, Newcastle.
Mr. R. S. Robson and Miss Matthews, Consett.
Mr. Peacock and Miss Smith, Blackhill.
Mr. Davis and Miss Davison, Blackhill.
Mr. W. Robson and Miss Quesick, Consett.
Mr. J. and Mr. G. Hamilton, Blackhill.
Miss Little, Consett.
Mr. T. Hardy, Consett.
Mr. and Mrs. T. T. Grey, Blackhill.
Miss Hogg, Blackhill.
Mr. and Mrs. J. Bates, Blackhill.
Mr. Geo. Chatt, Consett.
Miss Hewitt, Consett.
Mr. Hewitt, Consett.
Miss Hewitt, Consett.
Mrs. and Miss Coltman, Consett.
Mr. R. Marshall, Blackhill.
Misses Eltringham (2), Blackhill.
Mr. Surtees, Consett.
Miss Tones, Blackhill.
Mr. J. J. Raw, Blackhill.
Mr. W. Ward, Consett.
Mr. Aitchison, Blackhill.
Miss Aitchison, Blackhill.
Mr. E. Rawes, Consett.
Mr. F. Walker, Consett.
Mrs. White, Medomsley.
Mrs. Barrow, Consett.
Mr. and Mrs. Lomax, Blackhill.
Miss Adams, Blackhill.
Mr. and Miss McArdle, Blackhill.
Miss Wood, Consett.
Mr. Ayton, Blackhill.
Miss Frankland, Blackhill.
Mr. Thompson, Blackhill.
Mr. Freak, Blackhill.
Mr. W. Rawes and Miss Worth, Consett.
Mr. H. Dowson, Blackhill.
Mr. and Mrs. Brown, Blackhill.
Mr. Jos. Robinson, Medomsley.
Miss Richards, Blackhill.
Miss Edgar, Blackhill.
Mr. R. Saxty, Consett.
Mr. Broadway, Consett.
Miss Wade, Consett.
Mr. Turnbull and Miss Wade, Consett.
Mr. and Mrs. Wade, Consett.
Mr. McTaggart, Blackhill.
Mr. Jos. Barron, Blackhill.
Mr. T. C. Charlton, Blackhill.
Miss Butler, Blackhill.
Misses Liddle (2), Blackhill.
Miss Tuck, Blackhill.
Misses Barker (2), Blackhill.
Miss Dryden, Consett.
Misses English (2), Consett.
Mr. D. Rodger, Darlington.
Mr. Rowe, Consett.
Mr. C. Prior, Consett.
Mrs. Warwick, Blackhill.
Mrs. Patterson, Blackhill.
Miss Wood, Consett.
Mr. W. Walton, Blackhill.
Mr. Oley, Shotley Bridge.
Mr. E. Pallister, Blackhill.
Mr. Charlton, Consett.
Miss Stephenson, Blackhill.
Mr. T. Whitfield, Consett.
Miss Fullerton, Consett.
Mr. Harris and Miss Harris Consett.
Mr. and Miss Macfeegan, Blackhill.
Mr. Lowes, Blackhill.
Miss Davison, Blackhill.
Mr. R. Oxley and Miss Doherty, Consett.
Mr. R. Watson, Blackhill.

KYO.

The Golden Wedding.—Since our publication of the report of Mr. and Mrs. Scott's golden wedding at Kyo, a present of ten dollars has been received from Mr. Edward and Mrs. Margaret Ann Scott, of Vancouver Island, Canada, Nanamo, B.C., and a silver present from Mr. and Mrs. Buckton, of West Stanley.

FOOTBALL.

DERWENT VALLEY FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

The usual monthly meeting of this body was held at the headquarters, Commercial Hotel, Tantobie, on Tuesday night. Mr. W. Hodgson presided, and representatives were present from Tanfield Lea, Byer Moor, Annfield Plain, Burnhope, Lints Rovers, Hamsterley, Marley Hill, Tantobie, Blackhill St. Cuthebrt's and Leadgate Park.

A MOTION RESCINDED.

Mr. Gray (Marley Hill) said that his club was not satisfied with the treatment they had received in their game with Blackhill, who arrived two hours late. The game had been ordered to be re-played on cup-tie terms.

Mr. Dillon (Marley Hill) said that part of their team travelled to Blackhill, and they were fined 10/-.

The Blackhill representative said that only two of the team turned up. At Marley Hill they offered to play 10 minutes each way, and give Marley Hill the points.

The committee rescinded their previous motion, and ordered that the game be re-played at Marley Hill as an ordinary league game.

NOT SATISFIED.

The Annfield Plain representative stated that his club were not satisfied with the decision come to at the last meeting in respect to their game with Leadgate Park.—The committee adhered to their previous decision.

HAMSTERLEY V. BLACKHILL.

Respecting the decision come to at the previous meeting, ordering the above teams to re-play their match, Tantobie forwarded a notice of motion protesting against this as unfair, and asking that the question should be dealt with in proper fashion.—The committee declined to alter their former decision.

MR. GRAY V. TANFIELD LEA.

Mr. N. Christopher referred to the charge preferred against a player named Christopher, by Mr. G. F. Gray, of raising his hand to strike the latter at Tanfield Lea. Mr. Christopher said that it was his brother who was accused of doing this, and he had him present.

Mr. Gray said he had witnesses to prove that this was correct.

F. Christopher (a youth) was then brought into the room, and Mr. Gray said that was not the player. There were three Christophers given on the team.

Mr. N. Christopher said there were only two Christophers playing—himself and the player brought in.

Mr. Gray said that it was the right half who lifted his hand to strike, and his name was given as Christopher.

Mr. Bell (Tanfield Lea) said it was Gardiner who played right half that day.

Mr. Gray maintained that there were three Christophers given to him as being on the team. There was a Christopher playing right half according to the team.

Mr. Bell denied that any player lifted his hand to Mr. Gray, although he heard Gardiner say something about going for him.

Mr. N. Christopher said that Mr. Gray had blamed a lad of 16 for doing this.

Mr. Raw (Blackhill) thought it hard lines for the lad's name to be published through the papers when it was not him.

Mr. Gray said if he could put his hand on the team he would bring it up to the next meeting.

On the motion of Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Sinclair, the matter was deferred till the next meeting.

LOW GOAL POSTS.

Lutz Rovers protested against their game with Hamsterley standing as a league game on the ground that the field was not properly marked, and that the goal-posts were not the proper height. A report from the referee (Mr. Barrow) stated that one of the goal-posts was only 7ft. 5in. at one end, and that the touch-lines were not marked, although there were flags.

Mr. Taylor said he would acknowledge at the commencement that that particular post was low, but they were unaware that this was so. Where the goal stood the ground was boggy, and owing to the wet weather the ground had sank. When they were told the posts were low one of their players pulled it up to the required height, but it slipped down again. One of their players put stones in the hole to keep it up, but the Lintz goalkeeper jumped up and pulled it down again. They had every line marked except the side lines, and these had been trampled out.

Mr. Sinclair said that after the Hamsterley player lifted the post up it was still five inches short.

It was resolved that the game should be re-played on cup-tie terms.

ALLEGED INELIGIBLE PLAYERS.

Hamsterley protested that the result of their Charity Cup-tie with Blackhill last Saturday should not stand, on the ground that Blackhill played two ineligible men—viz., John Johnson and Kelly Johnson; and also that the Hamsterley players had to wait on the ground for some time after the proper time of kick-off.

Mr. Taylor said that the two men referred to played in the last close season. One of them, John Johnson, played in a medal competition at Westwood Band Sports on May 13th of last year, and that made him ineligible to play in the Charity Cup. They had a witness present who had played in the same competition as John Johnson. The other player, Kelly Johnson, played in the same competition, but for another team.

A witness named Sullivan said he played in goal in the competition referred to, and John Johnson played right back. Kelly Johnson also played for a Blackhill team on the same day.

The Blackhill representative said that, so far as they were aware, neither of these players had played in the close season, and both had denied doing so. But for this they would not have played them. John Johnson had played four or five times in the Derwent Valley League, but had not been protested against.

It was agreed that a special meeting should be held on Tuesday first to further consider the case, and to allow Blackhill to bring forward the players referred to.

HOBSON WANDERERS

By nine votes to eight it was resolved that the players connected with the defunct Hobson Wanderers club should be allowed to take part in Derwent Valley League games.

TRANSFERS.

W. Landells was transferred from Langley Park to Burnhope.

J. Morgan was transferred from Consett Swifts to Leadgate Park.

T. Cook was transferred from Leadgate Park to Consett Swifts.

T Taylor was transferred from Allendale Park to Blackhill.

PRO. OR AMATEUR?

On Mr. Bennett mentioning the transfer of Liddle from Stanley to Byer Moor,

Mr. N. Christopher said he could prove that Liddle was a paid player.

The Chairman pointed out that when any club played Liddle that would be the time to bring this forward.

BRAKE FARES.

It appeared that in the cup-tie last Saturday, Hamsterley and Blackhill could not agree upon the amount of brake fare to be paid.

The committee decided that Blackhill should pay Hamsterley eightpence per head.

OUTSTANDING FEES.

Mr. G. F. Gray moved that all outstanding entrance fees and deposits must be paid by Tuesday night; and the motion was carried.

CHARITY CUP.

DRAW FOR THE SECOND ROUND.

The draw for the second round of the Charity Cup resulted as follows:—

Blackhill or Hamsterley v. Leadgate Park Reserve.

Byer Moor or Tantobie v. Marley Hill.

Consett Swifts Reserve or Annfield Plain Reserve and Lintz Rovers receive byes.

The re-arrangement of postponed fixtures and the appointment of referees for next month concluded the meeting.

MEDOMSLEY SCHOOL BOARD

The monthly meeting of this body was held in the Board Room, Medomsley, on Thursday night—Mr. H. Palmer, J.P. (chairman), presiding. There were also present—The Rev. W. Cockin, Mr. W. R. Cooke, Mr. R. Moffitt, Mr. W. Robinson, Mr. W. Hogg, Mr. J. W. Jamieson; and the Clerk (Mr. J. H. Coupland.)

A TEACHER APPOINTED.

There were four applicants for the post of assistant teacher in the Mixed Department of the Westwood Schools, and Miss K. Ward, of Frosterley, was appointed at a salary of £45 per annum.

TEACHERS' REPORTS.

Mr. J. W. Daniels (headmaster) reported the illness of several of the teachers. The attendance had only been moderate in consequence of the stormy weather during the past month.

Miss M. J. Watson (head mistress) reported the average to be very low. Since the weather improved the infants were coming up in good numbers.

HEATING THE SCHOOLS.

A letter was read from Messrs. Walker, Newcastle, stating that with respect to the proposed improvements in heating the school, they would forward an estimate of the cost to the Board in due course.

After some discussion, it was decided that the work should not be undertaken until the midsummer holidays.

TAXATION OF LAND VALUES.

A letter was read respecting the Conference to be held on the above subject, and it was ordered to lie on the table.

This was all the business; and the Board soon after adjourned.

AROUND THE DISTRICT.

(By "Wanderer.")

WHEN DOCTORS DIFFER.

On Thursday last, the Magistrates at Lanchester had several cases of alleged sheep scab before them. I say alleged because there was a difference of opinion among Veterinary Surgeons in, at least, one of the cases as to whether it was scab or not. How many people know what sheep scab is, and how many know when sheep are really affected by it? In the prosecution under notice—a prosecution, by the way, in which Inspector Waller ought to be thanked, because of the tendency it has to clear the way—there were two Veterinary Surgeons against other two. If members of the Royal College who have not only passed their examinations but have had years of experience in a technical as well as a practical way, cannot agree, how can amateurs be supposed to know the ins and outs of the disease or whether it is existent or non-existent? Clearly they must assume a knowledge, and that is what I am going to do and run the risk of it.

* * * *

WHAT IS SHEEP SCAB?

Two of the "Vets." referred to the discovery of a parasite, but was the parasite so found really indicative of sheep scab? Is it not possible that they may have been mites of the acarina order which includes ticks? May it not have been the itch mite which causes the disease known as scabies? Let me assume that the answer to this question is "possibly." If so, can scabies be classified as scab? I am not sufficiently acquainted with notifiable diseases between farmers and the police, but I have an impression that while scab is a notifiable disease, scabies and ticks are not. On this point I may be wrong, just as a Veterinary Surgeon may be wrong in describing scabies as scab. Possibly it may be a distinction without a difference except in a legal point of view. Scab is really a skin disease, and a horrible disease. It is like itch in man or mange in dogs, and it may be caused by contagion, filth, or poverty. The acari causes the animal to seek relief by rubbing against any hard object, but as this rubbing does not take place until twelve days after the attack the difficulty of detection on the part of farmers becomes apparent. At the same time I am inclined to be a trifle rough on farmers and breeders. When they see or suspect something wrong with any portion of their stock their duty, in their own interests, is to send for a "Vet." at once. Do they do so? Unfortunately in the majority of cases the answer is "No." They prefer to tinker on their own methods until they find themselves enveloped in a storm, and then they cry out for help. This may be plain speaking, but it is true, and I, for one think that Inspector Waller has rendered a valuable service to the farmers themselves by the action he has taken.

* * * *

CUT AND DRIED.

There may be some justification for holding inquiries into local Charities, but there is no justification for them being converted into farces. A Commissioner receives a brief in which is contained all the information he is sent in search of, and practically he knows more about the local charities than those resident in the locality do. He knows exactly what questions to ask, and what answers should be given. He requires no copies of deeds and no detailed information because he already has them. He knows more than the whole of the "locals" put together, and yet this is called an inquiry. Schoolboys sometimes trace maps on a window pane and get flattering marks for the excellence of their work. When I ask a question it is because I want to be enlightened by the answer and not because I know what the answer ought to be. Mr. Coore, without a doubt, merely carried out instructions he had received, but I fail to see what good is likely to result from his labours.

* * * *

THE MILITIA.

I have been asked whether the militia can be compelled to go on foreign service. According to the Army Regulation Act of 1871, "The militia cannot be compelled to leave their own country unless in case of invasion or actual rebellion within the realm, nor in any case to march out of the Kingdom. In all cases of actual invasion, or imminent danger thereof, and in all cases of rebellion or insurrection the Sovereign may embody the militia and direct them to be led into any part of the Kingdom." The conditions of army service have altered of late, and I am not prepared to decide the question of compulsion or otherwise. Perhaps some of my military readers will send in a note on the subject. My own feeling is that voluntary action has completely placed conscription "hors de combat."

* * * *

INTERESTING TO STUDENTS.

I would strongly recommend all who can to attend the Consett Church Hall on Monday night, when the Rev. A. Watts will continue his lecture on the Church in Britain. The title belies the interest in the subject as can easily be gathered from a brief summary of the first portion. Dealing with St. Columba's life on Iona, the lecturer gave an account of the state of Christianity in these islands at that time, 560, A.D. Christianity only existed in Ireland, parts of Scotland, and Wales, and the rest of the country was heathen. The spread of the religion of Christ through the country was largely due to the missionaries from Iona. Columba was an Irishman of royal birth, and was born in the 6th century. He was a scholar, a poet, and a painter. The circumstances through which he decided to devote his life to missionary work were these:—He borrowed a manuscript from his teacher, St. Finian, and made a copy without his permission. St. Finian claimed both, and a dispute arose. The matter was laid before the King, and he decided in favour of Finian, on the principle that, as to every cow belongs its calf, so to every book belongs its copy. Columba was not satisfied with this decision, and the matter ended in a tribal war, in which ten thousand were killed. Columba was held responsible for the bloodshed, and to atone for this, he decided to devote the remainder of his life to winning souls for Christ, equal to those who had been killed. After the example of his Master, he chose 12 companions, and they went over to Scotland in a coracle made of wickerwork, covered with ox hides. They landed at the Island of Iona, and there they founded a monastery, which became a great school from which men went to all parts of the country preaching the gospel and founding the Church. Iona is three miles long and one mile broad. The lecturer gave an interesting account of the island, which is one of three spots which Americans visit when in this country—the other two being Westminster Abbty and Stratford-on-Avon. The lecture was beautifully illustrated by lime-light views, which were exhibited by Mr. H. Palmer, of Medomsley. The next lecture will be in the Church Hall on Monday next, at 7.30 p.m. The subject will be St. Aidan and Lindisfarne.

* * * *

FOUND IN AN ASHPIT.

The working-section of the populace of the Spen are an industrious class, and no one will deny that they spend freely, but we are afraid that certain of the inhabitants of this village upon the hill must plead guilty to the charge of extravagance—at least I am lead to this inference from what a "Guardian" reporter has just been told. A person whose duty it was to clean out the ashpits informed our representative that on a certain occasion he found nine loaves of bread in one of these receptacles, whilst in another he discovered thirteen tea cakes—a rather unique find. But perhaps this was the sequel to a gossip with a neighbour, or the result of some damsel's first attempt at bread-baking.

BIRTLEY.

Wesleyan Church.—On Monday afternoon a successful tea, generously given by Mrs. Wm. Smith, was held in the Wesleyan Church, Birtley, the proceeds being in aid of the heating apparatus. A large company sat down to tables under the charge of Mrs. Lawson, Mrs. J. Lawson, Mrs. T. Ward, Miss Forster, and Mrs. Stockdale. The tea realised about £6.

Death of Miss Edith Turnbull.—We record with regret, the death of Miss Edith Turnbull, second daughter of Mr. Robert Turnbull, of Sydney House, Birtley, which sad event took place on Wednesday week, after an illness extending over eleven months. The deceased, who was 29 years of age, was a Sunday School teacher at the Wesleyan Church, and also a staunch supporter of the temperance cause. For some time Miss Turnbull presided at the organ at the weekly Band of Hope entertainment. The deceased was a great favourite with all, and her demise has occasioned much sorrow. The remains of the deceased were laid to rest in Birtley Churchyard on Saturday afternoon amid many manifestations of regret. The members of the Band of Hope attended the funeral in large numbers.

NOTES FROM LEADGATE.

[BY "GEORDIE."]

A BANK FOR LEADGATE.

We are certainly getting on. The latest addition is a bank, which has just been opened as a branch by that enterprising body, the North-Eastern Banking Company. I understand that Mr. T. L. Gledstone (the respected manager at the Consett branch) has tried for some years to get a branch established at Leadgate, and I am pleased to see that his efforts have at length proved successful. Capital premises have been secured from Mr. Ralph Birtley, just opposite the Post Office, and these have been admirably fitted up to meet all requirements. I had a look in the other day, and was quite surprised to find what a natty little place had been made. One of Griffiths' best safes occupies a prominent place on the premises, whilst all the other accessories necessary to the business are of the most approved pattern. The bank is open daily from ten to twelve o'clock, and should prove a great boon to those tradesmen and others who in the past have had to travel to Consett when they wanted to transact any business with the North-Eastern Banking Company. Mr. Gledstone is giving the branch his personal supervision, so that clients can rely upon being treated in the most courteous and genuine fashion.

AN ELECTION.

I notice that we are to have a fight this year for the three seats on the Board of Guardians. The retiring members—Rev. Father Magill, Mr. Luke Nicholson, and Mr. T. S. Longstaff—are to be opposed by Mr. J. W. Winter and Mr. H. Whitfield. What the outcome will be it is hard to say. Mr. Winter at any rate is sure to receive a lot of support, and I should not be surprised were he to oust one of the old members. Who that one will be I should not like to take it upon me to say. I have heard a number of people express the hope that Mr. Longstaff will be returned, as it appears that this gentleman has done a deal of good work on that most important body—the Assessment Committee—a committee upon which every member of the Board of Guardians is not qualified to sit. So far as I can discern we shall have a pretty exciting contest, and it is not an easy matter to name the three successful candidates. The election will take place on Monday week.

ASPHALT INSTEAD OF CEMENT.

Our Councillors have decided to follow the lead set by Stanley and Annfield Plain, and, instead of cementing the remainder of their footpaths, to asphalt them. On the score of economy nothing can be urged against this proposal, but whether in the long run it will prove to be the cheapest mode of doing the work is another question. We can only hope that it may. The estimate for the cementing was £1,500, whereas asphalting is only expected to cost £300. This is a considerable difference. I am told that the experiment has answered all right at various places where it has been tried, so if this is the case there is no reason why it should not prove satisfactory at Leadgate. I understand that under the altered state of affairs there will be no borrowing of money, but that the work will be done out of the rates. This will please those gentlemen who like to pay as they go on.

DRAWING NEAR.

The time for the appointment of chairman of the Council is drawing near, and I think it can be taken for granted that Mr. Palmer will be re-elected. I know that some members of the Council do not approve of this course, but the difficulty is to get anyone to appose the present chairman. Therefore I should not be in the least surprised were Mr. Palmer to be re-appointed to the chair unanimously. In conversation with one of our councillors the other day, he expressed the opinion to me that it was about time the Council had another dinner. As he pointed out, there has not been one since the new line was opened out, and that was a very enjoyable little gathering. Perhaps Mr. Palmer will take the hint, and, on his re-election, invite his colleagues and the officials of the Council to a spread. It would be sure to prove a popular event. Failing this, why not let our councillors organise a function of this kind themselves? It would do no harm, and might be productive of much good.

AN EXCITING ADVENTURE.

The renewal of the snowstorm recalls to my mind a story I heard in connection with the former storm. It appears that a party of convivial spirits were returning home from a jolly gathering at Stanley, where they had had a "high old time." A well-known handler of the ribbons in Leadgate was entrusted with the duty of piloting the party safely home—and likewise the horses and brake. I understand that he was given to do this because he was the most sober member amongst the company, but this I cannot vouch for. All went well until the Loud was reached, and then there was a sudden stoppage. It was found that there were not exactly breakers ahead, but a full-sized snowdrift. Volunteers were called for, and our noble party turned out for the purpose of lifting the brake and horses over the drift. After some superhuman efforts this was safely accomplished. However, our Leadgate friend was deprived of the ribbons, another driver being installed in his place. It seemed unlikely that there would be any further disaster until, just when within sight of home—to be correct, near the railway bridge, close to the Jolly Drovers—another mishap took place, and our friends (most of whom were sleeping peacefully) suddenly found themselves flying through space. It was another snowdrift.

TO THE RESCUE.

Fortunately, the pitmen were just proceeding to their work on the fore-shift, and the cries for help brought them to the rescue. A curious sight met their gaze when they turned their lights upon the party. Our heroes were lying about in all directions, and it was at first thought that an earthquake had taken place. However, on examination they proved to be little the worse. A few of them had partly wakened up, and the rescue party were implored to bring one gentleman a "whiskey and soda," another wanted to sing "Queen of the Earth," whilst a third asked to be left alone till breakfast time, when he mumbled incoherently something about wanting "shops and ships." (It was afterwards discovered that he meant chops and chips.) Ultimately, after much hard work—and not a little hard swearing—our friends were hoisted once more into their conveyance, and set off rejoicing. No more accidents occurred to disturb them, and all reached home in safety but little the worse for their exciting adventures.

CHANGES.

I am pleased to hear that Mr. George Walton, of Medomsley (formerly of Leadgate), has secured a highly remunerative position—at Ravensworth, I believe. The appointment is an exceedingly good one, and Mr. Walton is to be congratulated upon having been the successful candidate. He will be succeeded at Medomsley by Mr. W. Hogan, of Leadgate. The Medomsley Cricket Club will miss Mr. Walton's services. He had been elected captain for the ensuing season. Mr. Walton will leave for his new home with the best of good wishes from a large number of friends and acquaintances.

MAKING THEIR MARK.

I am always pleased to hear of old friends who have left the district getting on well. This is the case with Mr. J. B. Robson, of Leadgate, now resident at Swalwell, who is making his mark in the scholastic profession. Just recently Mr. Robson—who acts as head master of the evening school at Swalwell—organised a concert amongst his students on behalf of the War Fund, and the event proved to be one of the most successful and enjoyable ever brought off in the district. Mr. Robson is a splendid musician, and, with the able assistance of another old local man (Mr. J. R. Curry, of Dipton) the performers had been trained to perfection. Mr. Curry is also an accomplished musician, and on this occasion presided at the piano, Mr. Robson conducting. I congratulate my old friends, Messrs Robson and Curry, on their success, and both are pretty certain to make their mark in the profession they have chosen to follow.

BLANCHLAND.

Lecture.—On Saturday evening a lecture was given in the Primitive Methodist Church, Ramshaw, to a large audience, by the Rev. J. B. Nightingale; subject, "Tongues of Fire." Mr. Geo. Lowes, of Consett, occupied the chair, the lecture was much appreciated. On the motion of Mr. W. Pears, seconded by Mr. J. Ridley, thanks were accorded to lecturer and chairman. A coffee supper to which a good company sat down, followed.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

Twentieth Century Fund.—Our attention has been called to the fact that in our list of 20th Century Fund subscriptions, that from Allendale has been overlooked. We have pleasure in rectifying the omission by stating that Allendale has already paid £50 12s 0½d out of 66 guineas promised. The total amount now raised is over £330.

DIPTON.

Primitive Chapel.—On Wednesday evening a lecture was given in the Dipton Primitive Chapel by Capt. A. Thompson, of the Salvation Army. The subject of the lecture was "From the altar steps to the Army platform." Mr. Geo. Harris, Burnopfield, presided over a fair audience. The proceeds were in aid of the local corps now forming in the village.

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STANLEY.

Widows and Orphans.—On Saturday morning an amusing comic football match was decided at Stanley by the members of Messrs Silvester's Company, and the working-staff of the Victoria Theatre. The players were grotesquely attired and their antics caused much amusement. A well-contested game resulted in a draw of two goals each. The proceeds, which amounted to about £1, were handed over towards the widows and orphans.

Wesleyan Church.—On Wednesday afternoon a successful tea, kindly given by Mrs. Joseph Routledge, was held in the Wesleyan Church, West Stanley, in aid of the forthcoming Easter Carnival. A fair company sat down to tables presided over by Mrs. Jackson, Miss Thompson, Mrs. Routledge, and Miss L. Routledge. In the evening a well-attended entertainment took place, at which solos were rendered by Miss Bell, Mr. and Mrs. Lowes (Annfield Plain), and Mr. Ed. Reay (Stanley). Mr. George Dunn, of Kyo, favoured with an admirable recitation. A shooting gallery also formed an attractive feature. The gathering was highly successful.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Births.

LEE.—Castleside, Watergate, on the 7th inst., the wife of Mr. Joseph Lee, of a daughter.

Marriages.

BYRES—JACKSON.—Castleside, St. John's Church, on the 10th inst., by the Rev. J. Ingham, vicar of Muggleswick, Mr. William Byres, to Miss Elizabeth (Tissie) Jackson, both of Castleside.

BAINBRIDGE—YATES.—Castleside, St. John's Church, on the 14th inst., by Rev. J. Wallis, vicar, Mr. Hougen Bainbridge to Miss Elizabeth Yates, both of Castleside.

HILL—DAVISON.—Consett Baptist Church, on the 17th inst., by the Rev. T. Durant, pastor, Mr. Stafford B. Hill to Miss Eliza Davison, of Castleside.

Deaths.

COATES.—Cornsay Colliery, on the 11th inst., aged 80, William Coates.

FOSTER.—Westgate, on the 15th inst., aged 70, William Foster.

HANDS.—Bog Pit, on the 13th inst., aged 8, John Hands.

HOBDAY.—No. 3, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill, March 21st, 1900, aged 17 years, George Edward, the beloved son of Michael and Sarah Ann Hobday, to be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery on Saturday. Cortege to leave the residence at 2.45. Friends accept this the only intimation.

KIRSOPP.—93, Pine Street, Teams, on the 1st inst., W. Kirsopp, late of Blaydon.

KELLY.—Blaydon Bank, on the 19th inst. at the residence of his brother-in-law, James Converty), Patrick Kelly.

REAY.—West Kyo, on the 18th inst., aged 78, John Reay.

ROWELL.—Prudhoe-on-Tyne, West Wylam, on the 17th inst., aged 54, John Rowell.

RUTHERFORD.—West Black Dene, Upper Weardale, on the 17th inst., aged 79, William Rutherford.

RIDLEY.—Frosterley, Peak Field Farm, on the 17th inst., Mrs Ridley, wife of Matthew Ridley, farmer.

ROBSON.—March 16th, at 22, Belle Vue Terrace, Consett, the residence of her son-in-law, Jesse Hall, jun., Margaret Robson, aged 64. Relict of the late John Robson; was interred at Blackhill Cemetery, Monday, March 19th, 1900.

SOUTHRON.—Darlington, 9, Portland Place, on 15th inst., Venerable Thomas Southron, aged 81.

THOMPSON.—Stanhope, The Square, on the 14th inst., aged 44, Joseph Thompson.

WARD.—Beamish, on the 17th inst., aged 1 months, Arthur Ward.

WALTON.—Frosterley, Hill End, on the 19th inst., aged 30, Sarah Walton.

WOODHAM.—Stanhope, on the 17th inst., Mr Woodham, of Bellingham-on-Tyne (Nurse Woodham's father.)

WHITE.—Died at Chicago, March 2nd, William, husband of Hannah White, and son of the late Joseph White, Sherburn Terrace.

In loving memory of our dear father John Satterthwaite, who died at Dipton March 23rd, 1899.
Ever remembered by his son and daughter.

In loving memory of my dear husband, Robert Gibson, who died Feb. 27th, 1898.
Farewell dear wife, a long adieu
I can no longer stay with you.
But God has promised that he would
bless the widow.
Gone but not forgotten.

In loving memory of Elizabeth, beloved wife of Thos. Gallacher, of Blackhill, who departed this life March 23rd, 1898.
Ever remembered by her loving family.

In affectionate remembrance of our dear mother, Elizabeth Swinburn, who died at Cutlers' Hall, March 21st, 1898.
You are not forgotten Mother dear.
Nor ever wilt thou be;
For with your daughters' fondest love,
We will remember thee.
Loved in life; remembered in death
by her daughter.

In loving memory of our dear son, Jacob Turnbull, who died on March 21st, 1899, aged 23 years.
He was so long with pain oppressed
That wore his strength away;
It made him long for endless rest,
That never can delay.
Ever remembered by father and mother, brothers and sisters.

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