The Consett Chronicle

AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM ADVERTISER.

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Business Announcements.

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Witness, J. C. Browne. (Signed) A. ALLISON & Co.

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Business Announcement.

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TEA. We have now the biggest Stock of Tea we ever touched. Every kind, price 1s, 1s 4d, 1s 10d, 2s 4d, 2s 10d. "Hornimans" Agents, "Mazawattee" Teas. Prize Tea at 2s and 2s 6d. See the Prizes.

COFFEE, Choicest Plantation, 1s 8d lb, a very fine flavoured Berry.

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N.B.—The Shops have been recently painted, decorated, and *re-arranged*. Customers will find it much more comfortable and convenient for them.

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SELECTED DAIRY BUTTER, 11d. and 1s.
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12, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

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SWAINSTON'S 1s. 8d. TEA.
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THE BEST OF WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED MODERATE CHARGES

CONSETT CHRONICLE FOOTBALL COMPETITION.

TWO GUINEA PRIZE

CONSOLATION PRIZE FIVE SHILLINGS.

We offer a prize of TWO GUINEAS to the Competitor who gives the results of the whole of the undermentioned Five matches correctly. Should no one name the whole of the Five results correctly a CONSOLATION PRIZE of FIVE SHILLINGS will be given to the Competitor who gives the most correct results.

Cut out the Coupon, and write in the space left for the purpose the number of the Goals you expect to be scored by each Club. Write your Name and Address plainly at the foot, and send the Coupon not later than ONE o'clock on SATURDAY AFTERNOON in each week, to

COUPON EDITOR,
CONSETT CHRONICLE,
CONSETT.

COUPON.

(TO BE CUT OUT.)

SATURDAY, March 6th, 1897.

CLUB.	Goals.		CLUB.	Goals.
WARDLEY		v.	ANNFIELD PLAIN	
HEBBURN		v.	JARROW	
STANLEY		v.	RENDEL	
DIPTON		v.	UNITED A	
TOW LAW		v.	STOCKTON	

On the ground of the first-named club.

NAME ....

ADDRESS ....

The name or names of the successful competitors will be announced in the *Consett Chronicle* every week.

The award of the Editor must be considered final.

Persons in the employ of the Editor are not eligible to take part in the competition.

The matches given in our last week's Coupon resulted as follows:—

LEADGATE PARK	2	AUCKLAND	0
SUNDERLAND	0	SHEFFIELD UNITED	1
SHANKHOUSE	1	STANLEY	4
JARROW	0	HEBBURN	1

CELEBRATED PRIZE FIGHTS

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

BENDIGO AND TOM PADDOCK.

(CONTINUED FROM LAST WEEK.)

31. Wild fighting. Bendy down to avoid.

32. The fighting all one way. Paddock rattling in left and right as before, not giving Bendy time to arrive at the scratch, and almost before "time" was called delivered his one, two.

33. On Bendigo the marks of punishment were not prominent, and he was as cool and quiet as ever. Paddock delivered left and right, and Bendigo fell.

34. Paddock in left and right, as heretofore. Bendigo, retreating, fell back under the ropes. Paddock dropped on him with his knees. Another appeal of foul rejected, on the ground that Paddock's fall was unavoidable.

35. Again did Bendy fall, after Paddock had delivered slightly left and right. This dropping system of Bendy's created a strong feeling of disgust, but it was clear that he was out-fought, and could not resist the vigorous attacks of his antagonist. He was obviously "biding his time."

36. A wild but rattling rally. The men fought and closed at the ropes, over which Bendy hung. Paddock peppered him from above. Another appeal of foul, which the referee again rejected, to the danger of his life. Several of the Nottingham division threatened him with their sticks, charging him with gross partiality, and asserting that the fight had been lost over and over again. The referee repeated his caution to Paddock's friends to restrain his impetuosity, and keep his temper.

37. A lively rally, in which some wild hits left and right were exchanged. Both were down. Another appeal was made, on the ground that Paddock had been using turpentine and resin on his hands, contrary to the 27th rule of the Ring, by which it is provided, "that the use of resin be deemed foul." A suspicion existed that Paddock had been provided with resin in a dissolved state before the fight commenced, and a protest was entered against its use. Paddock was brought to the referee for examination, and there could be no doubt that his hands had been smeared with resin, but whether put on before the fight commenced, or after, could not be proved. The referee pronounced that such practice was foul, but in the absence of direct evidence, ordered that his hands should be washed, and that the fight should proceed—much to the renewed distaste of Bendigo's friends, whose exclamations of partiality were vociferous.

38. The delay occasioned by this examination gave an opportunity for Bendigo to recover his second wind, and come fresher to the scratch, for on time being called he waited steadily for his man, and on his coming in met him with a tremendous hit with his right, on the bridge of the nose, drawing his cork in a most decided manner, the blood came trickling from his proboscis in a purple stream, and after a short rally, both were down. The last hit made a decided turn in "the affairs of man," and more especially in the minds of Bendy's patrons, who cheered lustily.

39. Bendigo again made himself up for mischief, and after stopping Paddock's one, two, he delivered three loud sounding whacks on his ribs, which were heard all round the ring. A rally followed, and Bendy was down. The betting was now evens; Bendy was taken for choice.

40. Bendy came up like "a giant refreshed." He clearly saw he had brought his man to his level. He met him as he came bouncing in, stopped, closed, grappled for the throw, and fell on him. Renewed shouts from the Nottinghamites.

41. Paddock came up, and claret still dropping from his nose. A wild rally, a close at the ropes, and Bendy down.

42. Paddock, on getting to his corner, dropped his head, as if stung by the hits recently received. Still he obeyed the call of "time" as game as a pebble. Bendy, who had also reposed in his corner, got up fresher on his pins, waited for him, again parried his left and right, and once more delivered three heavy body blows with his left, and fell laughing.

43. Bendy up at the usual summons, and steady. Paddock impetuously rushed to the attack, Bendy meeting him left and right as he came in. Paddock hit away left and right, forced him back on the ropes, and fell on him.

44. Again, after a short struggle at the ropes, did Paddock fall over Bendy.

45. A wild rally, in which there were some flying hits exchanged, but Paddock wanted steadiness—he was too impatient—and Bendy played the part of Master Reynard. In the close Paddock was down.

46. The heat of the sun began to tell on both, and each showed symptoms of fatigue. After a short pause there was a lively rally, in which Paddock received another visitation on the left cheek, and Bendy was down.

47. A slight rally, in which exchanges were made; Bendy getting home with his left and going down smiling.

48. 6 and 7 to 4 were now offered on Bendy, but no takers. The fight had lasted 57 minutes. Paddock lost none of his precipitate propensities, he rattled to his man, still fresh on his legs, but wild and passionate. Bendy retreated, Paddock after him; and Bendy, in avoiding, fell. Paddock struck him as he was down, and just brushed the top of his head with his right. Another cry of "foul," but the referee considered Paddock could not restrain the blow, and the appeal was once more rejected; and another urgent caution given to Paddock's seconds to prevent his throwing a chance away.

49 and last. Bendy waited for his man, but did not wait long. Paddock was with him, and after an exchange of blows, Bendy fell on the lower rope, which from being loose, let him down on the ground, and in this position, with his hands up, Paddock deliberately hit him with his right on the side of the head twice. The last and final appeal was then made, and the referee had now no other option than to pronounce "foul," being perfectly satisfied that the man was on the ground when the blow was given.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

COUPON COMPETITION.

A consolation prize of 5s is divided between George Whitfield, 389, South Cross Street, Leadgate; Fred. Lock, Park Terrace, Leadgate; Arthur McGurk, 57, Plantation Street, Leadgate; Owen McKie, 7, Alexandra Street, Consett; and John Overal, 4, Buddle Street, Delves Lane, Consett.

THE PARK VANQUISH THE CUPHOLDERS.

How are the mighty fallen! Last year's English Amateur Cupholders, knocked out in the third round by Leadgate Park. And such was the fact. Auckland returned to their native town, on Saturday last, as temporary holders of the English Amateur "Mug." May they make the most of the remaining time in which it remains at their disposal, and use it well (the cup, I mean; they may please themselves how they improve the time). I hope they won't deal roughly with it (out of pure "cussedness," as the nigger said), nor knock the bottom out, or anything like that, as there's a lot of men at Leadgate waiting to have a drink of "ginger beer" from out thereof shortly. Apart from jesting, Auckland got a good deal of the assumed starch taken out of their "cravats," on Saturday last, and I don't think there was very much love wasted between the teams at the conclusion of hostilities. The visitors, I am inclined to believe, were wont to look upon their opponents as of somewhat inferior rank, both as regards football standard and otherwise, the dressing-room incident to wit. I don't know whether they got the room, but they got the dressing most certainly, and I was richly glad of it. Such bombastic arrogance and presumption by a team of the standard of Auckland is highly reprehensible. One might have thought that it was the Corinthians' eleven, or some other football *elite*, who were coming down to give a benefit match for some local charity, instead of the representatives of a small mining town, of about one score miles away, attending to endeavour to hold their own against the team which they only managed to beat at the "city" of Auckland as late as the previous week by a single point. No, no, Auckland, it won't do. When you come to Leadgate, you will require to come in your true naturalness, and not on the strength of a self-appropriated name. When Leadgate Park beat such combinations as Shankhouse, Grimsby, and Gateshead N.E.R., they don't exactly shiver in their shoes at the prospect of meeting Auckland at Leadgate. Saturday's match, therefore, ought to be an object lesson, from which the "Bishops" may derive material benefit. The general character of the play was not of such a high order as could have been expected from the significance of the match, but a scientific exposition was entirely out of the question, especially during the former part of the game, owing to the high wind which prevailed. Long passing was positively out of the question, and the sphere also dwelt a good deal in touch. The wind abated considerably towards the finish of the first half, and thus Leadgate found themselves minus an element which had largely helped their opponents to force the play in the first half. The sun also retired into seclusion in the second period, thus inconveniencing neither side.

HOW THE HOME BOYS WON.

Well, the reason is this: the Park scored two goals and Auckland didn't. The Park men went upon the field determined to win; they commenced in business-like style, and, moreover, kept it up to the finish, which was everything. With the exception of Lock, every man was game as a bantam when play ceased, whilst the Auckland men were positively laid out, their goal escaping a series of downfalls only by the miraculous, but energetic, saves of Ward time and again. Crowther, in goal, had not much to do; the fact that he maintained his charge intact throughout speaks for itself, and needs no amplification from me. Bell and Foreman offered a sturdy resistance at full back, particularly the former, who played a clean and consistent game throughout, being as clever as usual with his head-work, which is a prominent feature of his play. Foreman was very energetic, and accompanied his energy with dash and spirit, but was hardly so accurate at times as his wont, missing kicks altogether on several occasions. In the half-back line, all three played a good game, with, perhaps, a shade of preference in the case of Bob Forster, who sustained his reputation, of late, by another consistent exhibition. He is, however, still fond of his weight, and, generally speaking, is not slow to put his unusual dimensions in vogue if he can thereby thrust a sprag into the wheel of his opponents. Cartmell and Snowdon played a hard game, and, together with Bob Forster, the home halves succeeded well in breaking up the attacking force of the visitors' vanguard. In the forward rank, there is not a shadow of doubt as to who was the shining light on the day's form, the same being unquestionably found in the representative of Sammy Thompson. The exhibition rendered by the ubiquitous Sammy on Saturday last was quite a unique performance, and worthy of all the praiseworthy encomiums passed upon it by the spectators. Still, with all his aggressive good play on Saturday last, we must still find fault with his judgment on two occasions, when, after distinguishing himself by brilliant runs, and having no one but the goalkeeper to get past, he insisted on dribbling right into the net, and was overtaken and robbed on each occasion, when a shot within the width of the goal-posts would undoubtedly have gone home. A goalkeeper would require to borrow the arms of a windmill to have stopped either of the shots that the home centre could have put across, by reason of his nearness. Lock, too, similarly missed a couple of chances which were sent over to him. Once, with an absolutely clear front, he took aim with his cuddy foot, and missed the sphere entirely, a chance not to be afforded a second time. Slips don't go over at football, George! He, however, on the whole, gave a creditable account of himself, putting through the first goal with a nice shot. Whether he has taken "Derwentwater's" hint or not about offside play, I cannot flatter myself, but this I do know, that on Saturday he kept his place admirably, and if my memory serves me correctly (which I think it does), he kept a clean record, not having to be pulled up on any single occasion for infringing the rule in this respect. Messrs Wilson likewise rendered a capital account of themselves, whilst Crute, the new man, was fairly passable, but no great shakes, being very lightly built. Nowithstanding, however, he is sharp and tricky.

THE BISHOPS' DISPLAY.

The exhibition given by the visitors was in no sense despicable or below form, notwithstanding that their supporters would have us believe so. Ward was a paragon of excellence between the sticks, and kept the home forwards at bay on numerous occasions, picking up, fisting, and kicking out in clean and vigorous fashion. He is an all-round, good custodian, largely proportioned, but active and energetic to "boot." Upton and Lodge rendered yeoman service at back, particularly the latter, although only a substitute in that position. His native sphere is forward, in which position he is also seen to great advantage, being a good sprinter, and well known in this capacity on the running track. It is farewell, ye half-backs, when Mr Lodge gets his toe to the leather. He was in advance of Upton on Saturday, although the latter did not scruple to give his junior partner a bit of fatherly advice now and again. Amongst the half-backs there was not much to choose, Marshall being a selection in the aggregate. The latter, however, was "below par," and did not give anything like the splendid exhibition of half-back play which rendered him such a conspicuous feature on the occasion of the last match between the two teams at Leadgate. In the forward rank there was also a great deal of sameness and similarity of standard, none standing out more prominently than his fellows. Condon shaped very well as a substitute and second team man, whilst Gibson rained in some accurate and well-judged shooting at times, as also did Adams from the right half-back position. Foster was a moderate centre. Widdas rendered good service at times, but the high wind spoilt combination on both sides largely.

THAT FAMOUS VICTORY.

From Auckland town to Leadgate strand,
Journeyed, last week, a football band,
By repute invincible.
Quoth Leadgate lads, we'll box them up,
Make them turn over that cherished cup,
We will, we will, bedad.

Bold Auckland boys, they won the toss,
That, forsooth, was Leadgate's loss,
But undaunted not a wit,
The homesters pluckily buckled to;
Said they: It will never do
To let them on us "sit."

Sammy Thompson banged her down
'Gainst wind and sun, with many a frown
From visitors bequeathed.
And Crowther, too, was there also,
When Auckland back to his toe
Did place that precious globe.

He spurned all comers, cast them out
Without a single solitary doubt;
Back-"Ward," he them did flout.
That cup's not here, you Auckland boys,
Nor it won't be at Auckland, so make no noise,
We're going to rob you soon.

The battle waxed hot and strong betimes,
But neither struck gold, or rung the chimes
Of a goal towards that cup.
Till Thompson at length passed over to Lock,
And the latter forthwith took a stock
Of the situation.

And with unerring skill, and a resolution "I will,"
Drove hard at Ward a Beecham's pill,
Worth a guinea without the box.
Into the net she sailed like wind,
A veritable puff, and an echo behind,
Crying "Goal. Hurrah! hurrah!"

Wilson did likewise on another occasion,
For which, bedad, there was just cause and "raison."
We must win to-day, my boys.
And win we did, by two to none,
That was just how it was done;
We shared the honours and joys.

CONSETT SWIFTS WIN.

Consett Swifts defeated Wardley by three goals to nil. The match was played under the auspices of the Tyneside League, the championship of which, from a Wardley point of view, depended on the result. The visitors arrived minus one of their players, Secretary Simpson having to fill the vacancy. The game was started by Wardley, who scored, but the point was ignored by the referee, owing to the ball having been out of play. After this, the home lads asserted their superiority, and ran out victors by three goals. During the last half, the game became very rough, and nearly led to individual battles, but, thanks to the action of Mr Little, nothing serious occurred.

THE HOMESTERS.

Turning to the performances of the home lads, Highfield, in goal, had not very much work to do, but saved several exceptionally good shots. Joe McKie was the better of the backs, displaying good kicking and tackling powers. Sammy Bond again assisted the Swifts, but did not appear to much advantage. With a little practice amongst his colleagues, however, he should develop into a good back. The halves were an excellent trio, and it would be hard to single out the pick of them. Jack Rafferty played a rare game, but had an easy man to watch in the person of Secretary Simpson. Bob Wake played well, as also did the home skipper, Allison. The forwards gave a grand exhibition of the dribbling code, Turley and Dempsey being the pick of the quintette. Laidlaw played, as one of the spectators remarked, a "horse of a game," while B. McKie did his share of the work. On the whole, the team deserved their victory.

WARDLEY.

The Wardley lads played a rushing game from start to finish, and had hard lines on several occasions. Aiston is a custodian of no mean ability, and had no chance with the goals scored against him. Smith was the better of the backs, although Houldsworth played a sound game. Kerridge played splendidly at half, and Turley found that he was no novice at the game. Cain did not appear to advantage at centre half, but Harker proved a thorn in the side of the home right wing. Batey was the best of the forwards, but was only moderately supported. Gordon, who, I hear, is coming to Consett, played a fair game at centre, but Barkus and Houldsworth were both a bit below par. Annfield Plain will have to play up to their best form at Wardley, on Saturday, if they hope to be returned the victors.

A SPLENDID TRIUMPH.

The second meeting between the Whites and the famous Black Watch—who, by the way, play in white shirts—took place on Oakey's oval, last Saturday, and resulted in a complete reversal of the result of the first encounter. Then Shankhouse carried all before them. On Saturday, they simply never had a look in after the first quarter of an hour. The Stanley team have been showing very shaky form recently, and the handsome victory was very welcome to players, committee, and supporters. In winning the toss, Captain Nicholson undoubtedly made a lucky start, but even after making every allowance for this, the fact remains that on the day's play, the Whites were distinctly the better team, and fully deserved their victory. The visitors are a pretty heavy set of men, but they are not particularly clever, and those who came expecting to see a brilliant exposition of football by the famous Northumbrians must have gone away disappointed. Stanley were stronger than their opponents in every department.

THE GAME.

Winning the toss meant a lot on such a day as Saturday, and this was fully realised by the spectators, many of whom cheered lustily when the "old horse" secured his choice, and played with the wind. For the first quarter of an hour, neither team held much advantage, the weight of the visitors enabling them to bear up bravely against the breeze. Gradually, however, the pace told, and, after some clinking play by the home vanguard, Jimmy Masterman banged the leather into the net. Oh how the people yelled at this initial success, preliminary, as it turned out, of greater things to come. Just afterwards, Tommy Fish added a second point with a fine shot, and Jimmy Howe took the opportunity of recording the third, with one of his special grasscutters (guaranteed to baffle any goalkeeper in the Kingdom). The good things were, however, unfinished, for Sammy Wood wanted to get a finger in the scoring pie. Tommy Fish gave him the opportunity with a splendid pass, and Samuel headed nicely through. Quite a gem of a goal. Lemon time arrived with Stanley in high spirits, and Shankhouse despondent. Not without reason either. During the second half, whilst generally having the advantage, the visitors were rarely really dangerous. Their forwards were weak, and found the home halves and backs too good for them. As a consequence, Emmy Beckwith had an idle time of it. After half an hour's play, the Blacks obtained their one ewe lamb, a magnificent kick from Farmer Robson being mainly responsible for the goal. Afterwards, play was of a give and take nature. The score pretty correctly gives the merits of the contending teams.

SHANKHOUSE.

The losers were without two of their smartest forwards in the brothers Willis, and this probably accounted for the ragged and disjointed play shown by that portion of the team. Gibson was the best of the quiutette, but his partner on the left was of little service. Hume, in centre, stuck too long to the ball. The right wing couple, Gosling and Bamborough, made a few smart runs. Foster was the best of the half backs, his kicking being very powerful. Endean also rendered good service, but age appears to be telling upon the veteran Ritson, and his play showed distinct falling off. Robson was the foremost in the full back line, though he used his weight more freely than he ought to do, and certainly fell out of favour with the home supporters. Briggs is not built for a full back, and I am inclined to think that he would do better as a forward. Gardener scarcely played up to his reputation, though in his favour let it be said that all the goals were got from shots which were extremely difficult.

THE WHITES.

Stanley played a winning game from the commencement, every man on the team appearing bent on victory. The forwards gave a far superior exhibition than on the previous Saturday, and when they got in proximity to the "Blackss" goal they meant business. Jimmy Masterman and Jimmy Howe got on grandly together on the left wing. They passed neatly to each other, and made several speedy runs. The goal scored by Howe was one of the finest that I have seen this season, and would have baffled almost any goalkeeper. Masterman also scored a pretty goal, in addition to which he made some excellent centres. His play was also characterised by more dash and "devil" than in general. Sammy Wood showed great improvement on his form of the previous week. He showed good judgment in his passing, and managed to head a nice goal from a splendid centre by Tommy Fish. The right wingers were also in great form. O'Connor delighted the spectators by a series of brilliant dashes up the wing. His judgment in shooting was, however, not so good as usual, and he still retains the habit of bestowing a trifle too much attention to the man. Jake Dodds played a very useful game. He was quite unselfish, and gave a number of fine ground passes. When near the goal, he did not hesitate to go for the custodian, nor, by the way, did Jimmy Masterman. Nicholson, Fish, and Milburn did well at half-back, the two former especially so. I have never seen Captain Nicholson to greater advantage. He was simply invincible, and in all the encounters with the opposing forwards he came off with flying colours. They hadn't a look in against the "old horse" as Neddy is affectionately termed by Stanley people. Tommy Fish was almost equally conspicuous. He was as sharp as the proverbial needle, and even Gibson, the clever Shankhouse outsider, found his progress stopped time after time through the attention bestowed on him by Tommy. The latter also had the credit of shooting one goal, and was entitled to the lion's share of credit for another. (Fancy a fish claiming a lion's share). The backs made very few slips, and Beckwith was scarcely ever tested. One little whisper, however, I have to make to Emmy, and that is "Don't be quite so eager to leave your goal."

A DRAW AT STANLEY.

Saturday's league game between Stanley A and Tantobie Co-operators was contested in two periods of twenty minutes, the field having to be evacuated shortly after three o'clock to allow the Alliance contest between the Blacks and the Whites to proceed. Tantobie had the wind during the first twenty, and they pressed with a vengeance at the start. A goal was rushed through from a corner, and another point following immediately, the prospects of the Co-operators looked very rosy. The A, however, succeeded in rousing themselves hereabouts, and to such effect that they quickly equalised the score, and at half-time honours—if there were any—were equal. Subsequently, the A held the upper hand, but showed up wretchedly in front of goal. Though the forwards had plenty of chances, they failed to get through, and consequently had to be content with a draw.

THE PLAYERS.

For Stanley, the backs (Chisholm and Watson) both played fairly well. Pyke scarcely played up to form, but Miley Smith made himself quite a favourite by his untiring play at centre half. Billy Aitchinson was playing on the wrong wing (the left), but, nevertheless, he put in some powerful kicking and tackling, and may be labelled "satisfactory." The forwards showed up well in the first half, but afterwards played wretchedly. Henderson was about the best of the bunch. Gailes put in some pretty centres, but both Purvis and Jack Cunningham stuck to the ball too long. Tantobie have to thank their backs and goal-keeper for the result, the whole three exhibiting excellent defence. Athey was the best of the halves, whilst the forwards all played below their usual form.

FOOTBALL UNDER DIFFICULTIES.

Stanley Wednesday are a keen set of footballers, and can enjoy themselves under almost any circumstances. Last Wednesday the call of duty compelled them to travel to Prudhoe, and engage in combat with the mid-week representatives of that pretty little village. The Prudhoe ground is situated on the top of a lofty hill, and with such a hurricane prevalent, as was the case last week, a good deal of time was wasted in chasing down the hill slopes in pursuit of the ball. It was very noticeable that the Stanleyites, with that wisdom for which they are justly celebrated, generally allowed the home players to go in pursuit of the ball on the aforementioned occasions. The high wind interfered materially with scientific football, and the game was largely of a rough and tumble character. The Stanleyites were much stronger than their opponents, and had little difficulty in securing the verdict by three goals to nil.

HOW THE WINNERS PLAYED.

Newton only had three shots to deal with, two of them being "teasers." He did his little well. The backs were idle during the opening half, but were afterwards kept pretty busy. Bell showed some fine heading. Dick Cunningham played a good game at half-back, and Surtees was up to his usual form. The forwards played well together, Paxton and Lawes being especially active. Darney showed up fairly well in the opening half, but got no chance afterwards, owing to play being largely confined to the opposite end. Bobby Whitfield and Jos. Ritson each scored goals, and the former had hard lines in not doing the trick twice.

A HARD GAME AT THE PLAIN.

The newly-formed Wednesday team intends to leave no stone unturned in their efforts to win the Sambotee Cup. Last Wednesday they were without a fixture, but hastily patched up a game against a strong district eleven. The teams were evenly matched, and, though the Wednesdayites were four goals to the bad at the interval, they afterwards succeeded in making up the lee way, a hard game concluding with the score at four apiece. Barrow, late of Heaton Science and Art, and Joe Martin both played brilliantly in the club vanguard, whilst for the variety collection, Walloper, Parker, McLatchie, and Ben Johnson showed up well. John Russell also distinguished himself by some fine goal-keeping.

STANLEY WEDNESDAY COMMITTEE.

The following gentlemen have been appointed as Committee of the Stanley Wednesday football team:—Messrs Jos. Robson, Geo. Sanderson, jun., Ed. Herdman, Wm. Morpeth, and Jos. Bell.

WELL DONE PICKERING NOOK.

Pickering Nook continue to carry all before them, and on Saturday, they romped round Boldon Colliery by a four goals' majority. During the season, the Pickering Nook boys have played sixteen games, and won them all. They have scored 95 goals, and only had 12 goals scored against them. Truly a splendid record.

OUSTON V. BILL QUAY.

The game, on Saturday, with Bill Quay was a well contested one. The wind made matters rather heavy for the home team. The home forwards were strong, and, on the day's play, exhibited more skill than their opponents. Porter was conspicuous with his deadly shots, while Pentland shone out with his smart passing, which at times gained a passage out of scrimmages. The exhibitions he gave were splendid. Wilkinson, the new right winger, rendered a good account of himself, and his work on the wing ought not to be lightly valued. He is a splendid placer of corners, and had it been a fine day, piles of goals would have been scored against the Quay from his steady corner kicking. Clark and H. Dixon need no comment. They, as usual, played up splendidly. The trio of half-backs was strong, Hughes baffling his men with his effective high kicking. Gibbons and Woodward performed well. Williss, the veteran full back of Ouston, was again on the field, and, as usual, played energetically for victory. His colleague, Marriner, played only fairly, but it must be taken into account that this game was his first for some time. He is a promising player, and by practice will shine in the team. Hadley played splendidly in goal.

BILL QUAY.

The visitors were a stalwart set of players. They were, on the whole, behind the home team, although their eleven was good. The game would have been much better had the teams had a fine day, but in face of this fact, the visitors had the assistance of the breeze in the first half, and yet at half-time the score sheet was spotlessly white. The quintette of forwards exhibited good form, but their skill with the ball was behind that of the homesters. Miller, Wright, and Stuart were perhaps the pick, while of the trio of half-backs, Bell played hard to avert defeat. The same may be said of Dempsey. Henning saved some good attempts to score, whilst Ashton showed good form. Punton, in goal, did yeoman service.

FOOTBALL COMPETITION AT OUSTON.

The Committee of the Ouston Association Football Club, having obtained permission from the Durham County Football Association to hold a football competition, on Easter week end, namely, Friday, Saturday, and Monday, invite entries to reach their Secretary, Mr J. Dryden, Pelton, near Chester-le-Street, not later than April 14th. Entrance fee, 2s 6d. The Committee wish it to be understood that all the Ouston teams will be debarred. No gentlemen will be allowed to conduct the games, who are not members of the Northumberland and Durham Referees' Association, therefore teams may rely on a fair game. The prizes are well worth trying for; they are as follows:—1st prize, set of twelve silver medals with gold centres; 2nd prize, set of twelve silver medals with gold centres. The Committee wish to point out that teams who cannot attend on Friday, can do so on Saturday and Monday. A kicking at goal competition will be held on the Saturday and Monday, when a beautiful silver medal will be given each day. In the evening of Easter Monday, a grand ball will be held, when prizes will be given for a waltzing competition. The prizes will be given by two local gentlemen.

RECOLLECTIONS OF THE PAST.

I have received the following letter from a correspondent:—"I travelled from Tanfield Lea with the Cæsars football team, to witness their game with the newly-formed club at the Causey, and, I can assure you, I don't regret the journey I undertook, for it was a glorious day, and, not only that, but my memory went back to the old days, when the Causey boys used to have a splendid team. There came before my mind the names of Snaith, Pharoh, and the jolly host of the Red Row Hotel—Anderson, I mean—who was at that time a most enthusiastic football player, and others who have all retired, and, like myself, have now gone off the stage of action, but still we are left to look on those who are just as eager as ever we were, and I daresay that in the match, of which I was a spectator, some of their sons were taking part, and are determined to raise up a team well worthy of the place they live in, to bring honour to themselves, and to prove to the old ones that they are as good as they were. Now a few words about the Tanfield Lea boys. As I am writing, I am wonder[illegible] if ever they will come to be such a splendid [illegible] as Tanfield twice had. I say twice, fo[illegible] the teams, which represented Tanfield L[illegible] nine or twelve years ago, was one of [illegible] that ever stepped into a field, and could [illegible] beating all the best clubs that then play[illegible] two counties, to wit, Old Dipton He[illegible] Hobson Wanderers, Catchgate, Hams[illegible] Tantobie, Rendel, Old West End (Ne[illegible] and others in this district, and [illegible] proud possessors of two handsome s[illegible] Of course, I am relating these fe[illegible] encourage the young ones, who now co[illegible] Cæsars' team. I have been informe[illegible] have only lost one match this sea[illegible] that the Causey boys had no mean [illegible] meet. When they lined up for the [illegible] occasion, they looked like midg[illegible] with the Causey lads, but I might [illegible] way the Cæsars played astonished me, and the passing of the forwards would put to shame some of the older teams in the district. As one of the Causey boys remarked on the field, they could pass and tackle too well for them, and I quite agreed with him. To speak of the players on the visitors' side first, H. Sams, in goal, had very little to do, but he was always there at the right time, and try as they would, his opponents could not beat him. Of the two backs, S. Christopher and J. Saunders performed their work well, and formed a splendid defence. Of the half-backs—Stanton, H. Christopher, and Jos. Milburn—the two former were the pick, and they worked like niggers, and were always in the thick of the fight. I noted that soon after the game started, Milburn got a severe kick, but stuck to his work like a Trojan. Of the forwards, they all performed extremely well, and, as I have already said, their passing was really splendid. The first goal that H. Christopher got was a grand one, and, rather curious, it was S. Christopher that got the second one, which was nicely placed on his head by Thompson. In the play of the home team, in two or three places, there is room for improvement. Snaith, Thompson, and Carr are only beginners, and, no doubt, they have the making of good footballers in them. The best man on the field was Craig, at back, and the way he put in those huge kicks of his was a treat to witness. Of Anderson, in goal, in the first half he could not be blamed for the shot that passed him. The same may be said of Watson, in regard to the one that he let through. Watson seems to play well anywhere. The others—Bainbridge, Campbell, Graham, and Peart—worked hard to avert defeat. A word of praise is due to Mr T. Pharoh, the referee, for the manner in which he performed his duties, as he seems to take for his motto, 'Justice to all, favour to none.'—Yours, &c., ADMIRER OF FOOTBALL."

STANLEY WEDNESDAY CRICKET CLUB.

During last season, Sam Wood, the popular Stanley professional, scored 348 runs in nine Wednesday matches, and, as two of the innings were incomplete, his average for the season was the magnificent one of 49·5 per innings. Mr Wood was ineligible to compete for the batting prize given by Mr Robert Walker, and the prize was carried off by Mr J. T. Castle, who, however, having won the bat on one occasion, has decided to hand the bat over to the next highest on the list, Mr Joseph Bell. Mr Sam Wood has been elected captain and secretary of the Club for the ensuing season, and has arranged home and home games with Tow Law, Consett, Chilton Moor, and Chester-le-Street. A home fixture has also been arranged with Mr Tom Lambert's Wednesday team and Newcastle Wanderers.

OUSTON CRICKET CLUB.

This club has all dates vacant, and the Secretary wishes me to report that he will be pleased to arrange with other teams. Address letters to, Mr J. Dryden, Pelton, Chester-le-Street.

PROPOSED FORMATION OF A HARRIER CLUB.

I hear that a harrier club is about to be formed in Consett very shortly. There is no reason why Consett should not have such a club, and I hope that a strong one will be formed. A meeting will be held in the Black Horse, on Friday night first, when all intending members are requested to attend.

DERWENTWATER.

FOOTBALL.

ENGLISH AMATEUR CUP.—3RD ROUND.

LEADGATE PARK v. BISHOP AUCKLAND.

(BY "CENTRE-HALF.")

The meeting of these two teams in the third round of the English Amateur Cup Competition was looked forward to with a great amount of earnestness and interest, in Leadgate and the immediate neighbourhood. The home team have been very fortunate in being drawn at home on all three occasions since they migrated from the qualifying rounds into the competition proper, since when they have beaten successively Whitley and Shankhouse, and on Saturday last faced their old opponents "frae Auckland." Last week's match at the latter town was generally looked upon as an index to the character of the then coming contest on Saturday last. The win notched by Auckland on that occasion, by the narrow margin of one goal, was considered indicative of a very tight game, when the Auckland lads came to Leadgate on the following week, and some of the supporters of the latter team, "of a prophetic turn of mind," went so far as to chronicle a certain win for the Park on the strength of the same. I've heard it remarked in football circles that it's worth three goals advantage to play on your own ground, and on this basis one could very readily calculate a win for the Park by two goals. However, it is every way probable that last week's match was no reliable criterion, as some professional authorities were inclined to the opinion that both teams were "coming the dark horse" a little, in order to put one another off guard as far as possible; and that neither team was intent upon winning on that occasion, except by the most minimum margin possible, and as you cannot get a less positive quantity than one, the presumed object was perfectly attained. The intensity and evenly matched aspect of the approaching struggle, therefore, was provocative of its desideratum in drawing together a large concourse of spectators on the Park enclosure to witness the bid of the Park "boys" for "4th round honours" in competition with the renowned "Bishops" and present holders of the Cup. Punctually to time the opposing armies were drawn up in battle array by Referee Hardisby, who utilised a whistle, vice a bugle. The teams faced each other as follows:—

LEADGATE PARK.—Goal, Crowther; backs, Foreman and Bell; half-backs, Cartmell, Forster, and Snowdon; forwards, Crute, R. Wilson, Thompson, J. Wilson, and Lock.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.—Goal, Ward; backs, Upton and Lodge; half-backs, Adams, Chatt, and Marshall; forwards, Allen, Gibson, Foster, Widdes, and Condon.

Auckland won the toss, and Thompson set the sphere in motion for the homesters against both wind and sun. Adams returned the leather with a vigorous lunge, and, aided by the wind, Auckland forthwith carried the play into the visitors' stronghold. Hands off the Park looked dangerous to Crowther's charge, as Upton with a neatly judged kick dropped the sphere into dangerous proximity to the home goal, and Cartmell was obliged to concede a corner in order to save. This was also well put in, but Bell got his head piece to work and placed nicely out of danger. Hands off Auckland provided a corresponding concession to the home men, but the same availed them nothing. Auckland on the wings of the wind were speedily back into home territory, where Foreman saved brilliantly twice in succession, Condon eventually removing the danger by placing past the upright. Again the Auckland men swarmed to the attack, and Foreman headed over the goal line, conceding a corner which was abortive of anything further. Leadgate broke away briefly, but, in the teeth of such a wind as prevailed, were unable to maintain anything like a continuity of attack. Auckland came again, and a shot by Foster (Auckland) was sent straight in. Foreman with ample time and opportunity, foolishly stood out of the way and let it pass on to Crowther. No doubt the understanding was mutual, but desperately risky nevertheless. Two chances are always better than one, and there would have been occasion enough for Crowther's effort if the full back had actually missed it. The goalkeeper, however, picked up with difficulty and threw away, the wind blowing the ball bye, another corner resulting. Lock got possession from the corner kick, and banged the ball down in commendable fashion. Gibson, however, returning the compliment, and following up his opportunity, regained possession, and further followed up the effort with a skilful piece of dodging, his final attempt at goal, however, going bye. A foul off Adams let in the Park, but the latter made amends for the infringement by saving the shot from Lock in capital style, another one by Thompson being manfully rejected by Ward. Lock again drove well home, but Ward threw out in a cool and determined fashion. The visitors changed the scene of action, and Crowther effected a good save from Gibson, who ultimately relieved the pressure on the home goal by driving bye. R. Wilson and Crute broke away down the right. The latter centred with true guage, and Sammy Thompson passed on to J. Wilson. The latter had a shy at Ward, but Upton banged her out. Crute improved a bad position, with a splendid overhead kick, which all but deceived Ward, the latter catching the leather just as it was sailing sublimely under the crossbar at the extremity of the goal. Play was once more transferred into the home quarters, Chatt eventually skying the ball high over the crossbar. Hands off Auckland and a corner off the Park proved of no further service to either side. Joe Wilson made a splendid run down the inside left, but his partner Lock was left lagging in the rear, and the former was ultimately robbed between Adams and Upton, the former banging the ball up the field in aggressive fashion. The same player made a capital shot immediately afterwards, but Crowther proved equal to the demands, and punched it gamely out, but was sorely pressed immediately after, having to pick up the ball backwards and throw out over his head in a frenzy, with "the Auckland men around him." A corner off Foreman [illegible] proved, and then Chatt sent over the [illegible]n undertook a long drive from his [illegible] full back, but timely notice having [illegible]n, Crowther had no difficulty in [illegible]ching the ball and having a drop kick [illegible]lf. End to end play, but the wind [illegible]entioned prevented anything in the [illegible] scientific exposition, and though each [illegible]urn nothing material accrued either [illegible]he other, and the half-way house [illegible]he parties evenly balanced, and the [illegible]oll represented by the score—

[illegible] .... Nil
[illegible]d .... Nil

[illegible]d considerably abated in the last [illegible]f play, and a better standard of [illegible]equently looked for. The climax [illegible] quite as romantic and interesting [illegible] start, seeing that neither side [illegible]aim any advantage whatever. Foster re-started amid the plaudits and encouraging cries of the home spectators. The Park were not long in finding their legs, and things soon began to hum in the neighbourhood of the home defence, Ward having to cast out several shots from the home van very early after the re-start. He, however, maintained his charge intact, and zealously rejected all intruders. Auckland broke away, and by dint of good passing, succeeded in getting into dangerous ground, Allen sending in a regular "hot potato," and Crowther, being well watched by one or two enterprising "Bishops" (without bishoprics), only succeeded in getting the ball away by indulging in a private game at "fives," which brought forth an appeal for foul play, but, as the practice of knocking on (not carrying) comes strictly within the letter of the law, Mr Hardisby (who thoroughly knows his work) took no notice of the appeal. Crute and R. Wilson carried the ball once again into the visitors' domain, and, after some give-and-take play between the home forwards and visitors' halves, Thompson eluded Chatt and Lodge, and put in a grand shot, which all but missed its vocation. Crowther picked up a delicate shot at the opposite end in the nick of time, and threw away. Once more Thompson, who was playing a remarkably abnormal game, made a splendid individual run, eluding the home halves and full backs in conspicuous fashion. With no one but the goal-keeper, however, to pass, he unwisely retained possession too long, and, endeavouring to run the attempt too finely nice, was overtaken and charged off the ball, when an ordinary shot must inevitably have out-reached any goalkeeper. A wasted opportunity with a vengeance. A skirmish in mid-field, then Gibson and Allen executed a bit of combined play, and the visiting forwards had a look in. Foreman missed badly, but Bob Foster had taken the precaution to fall back, and smartly covered, returning the sphere with a huge punt. Crute got in a second shot, which Upton kicked away. Then Thompson and Joe Wilson executed a neat bit of passing, which carried the play well into Ward's goal mouth. Thompson dodged Upton, but Lodge tackled, and Sammy communicated the contents of his toe across to Lock, who, from a favourable position, took aim, landing the ball into the net in unquestionable style, to an accompaniment of cheers from the home spectators, and the chagrin of the Auckland players. "Well played Lock" was heard in more than one quarter; still there was more than one party contributing to the attained success, for although Lock was instrumental in clinching the effort with an unerring shot, the goal was primarily worked out by Thompson, who worked the ball almost solely more than half the length of the field. This reverse roused the Auckland men, who now "slogged in" for all their material worth, and a little horse play was distinctly visible on more than one occasion, but, as it takes two to play at this, it is not to be preshmed that either side was free. The visitors pressed briefly, but Bell, Foreman, and Forster offered a spirited defence, and fed the home forwards well and judgingly, with the result that they were by this maintaining a perpetual onslaught on Ward's fortress, but the latter stood well to his post, and manfully resisted all attempts to lower his colours. Time and patience, however, worketh all things, not debarring goal-getting, and after a series of ejectments from Thompson, J. Wilson, and R. Wilson, the latter caught the ball, and, with an instantaneous return, sent the ball with lightning-like rapidity into the net a second time, completely non-plussing Ward, and amidst a tempest of applause from the delighted "Leadgaters." Auckland were now obviously both outplayed and outstayed, the second point against them being obviously the "writing on the wall," as they only played an unspirited game henceforth to the conclusion. No further scoring was made on either side, and despite sundry irregular breaks away, the "Cupholders" were apparently reconciled to the fact that the battle was lost, and Leadgate Park retired from the scene of warfare on a well-merited and thoroughly earned victory as under:—

LEADGATE PARK .... 2 goals
BISHOP AUCKLAND .... Nil

TYNESIDE LEAGUE.

CONSETT SWIFTS v. WARDLEY BLUE STAR.

[BY "THE BRADLEY BOY."]

These teams met on the Fell ground on Saturday, before a good muster of spectators. The teams had met once prior to the game, when the result was a draw of one goal each. The visitors arrived a man short, and an hour after the advertised time, the teams took the field as under:—

SWIFTS.—Goal, Highfield; backs, Bond and J. McKie; half-backs Rafferty, Wake, and Allison; forwards, Little, B. McKie, Dempsey, Laidlaw, and Turley.

WARDLEY.—Goal, Aiston; backs, Smith and R. Houldsworth; half-backs, Kerridge, Cain, and Harker; forwards, Batey, J. Houldsworth, Gordon, Barkus, and Simpson. Referee, Mr A. P. Little, Leadgate.

Allison, the home skipper, won the toss, and elected to play towards the railway goal. Gordon started operations, and the Wardley lads at once assailed the home goal. Wake shot out, and from the throw in, J. Houldsworth broke away on the right. He gave to Batey, who forced hands off Joe McKie. Kerridge took the kick, and placed well. Allison headed away, and the home forwards made a brilliant incursion into the opposing half. A mistake by B. McKie, however, relieved the pressure, and Batey got away on the right. He ran past J. McKie and centred, Gordon heading through out of the reach of Highfield. The linesman appealed to the referee on the ground that the ball had been over the line. The referee promptly disallowed the point, much to the dissatisfaction of the visitors. Little got away from the goal kick, and getting past Houldsworth, drove hard at Aiston. The Wardley custodian fisted away, but Dempsey got possession of the leather, and after a slight tussle near the upright, the home centre shot past. Play was removed to the home half, by a thumping kick by Aiston, and Batey securing the leather forced a corner. This was grandly placed, and Barkus sent in a nice overhead shot. Joe Allison just saved in the nick of time, and a minute later, the home eleven were penalised for a foul. Kerridge placed splendidly, and Highfield had to negociate a swift shot from the toe of Gordon. He, however, was equal to the emergency, and fisted away in brilliant fashion. Dempsey spurted away, but was pulled up for a foul. Nothing resulted, and Turley got clear past the backs. He, however shot wide, when he seemed certain to score. The goal kick did not give the Wardley lads much advantage, and some exciting play took place near the visiting goal. Laidlaw sent in a high shot, and Cain in trying to save headed into his own goal. The ball fell at the feet of Aiston, but Dempsey rushed in and banged the leather into the net, amid loud cheers. Wardley broke away from the centre kick, and Cain forced Highfield to handle, which he did in a very efficient manner. The home team again got up, and Little forced their first corner. This was cleared in splendid fashion, but Dempsey came away, and was awarded hands. This led to the second goal being scored. Allison placed, and Dempsey securing possession of the leather sent in a high shot, which Aiston caught in his hands. He, however, let the ball drop, and Laidlaw rushing in banged through the second point for the Consett lads. This aroused the Wardley lads, who began to play with great dash, and were not long in being allowed a free kick off J. McKie. Hands off Rafferty resulted, but Little changed the venue of play with a grand sprint up the field. Houldsworth managed to check his progress by kicking the ball into touch. From the throw in, the home vanguard again attacked, and some exciting play was witnessed in the Wardley goal mouth. Hands off Dempsey ended the bully, and J. Houldsworth was injured. He soon recovered, and Turley all but scored at the high end. Highfield had to save from Gordon, and play was raging in the home half when the whistle sounded for half-time, with the undermentioned score—

Swifts .... 2 goals
Wardley .... Nil

On restarting, the homesters pressed, but Smith returned, and Wardley rushing up, tested the home defence severely. Rafferty shot out in order to prevent any disaster, and from the throw in, Dempsey sprinted merrily down the field. Cain interfered, and removed operations to safer quarters. Houldsworth received and sent in a high shot, which Highfield tipped over the bar, thus saving at the expense of a corner. A foul resulted in close proximity to the home goal, but Turley headed out grandly. Dempsey paid a brief visit to Aiston's charge, but Smith sent him back empty handed. Batey responded by a grand spurt, after which he was enabled to force a corner. Although grandly placed, it proved fruitless, as Gordon headed over the bar. The goal-kick relieved the pressure for a short while, and Turley and Dempsey changed operations with some judicious passing. Turley was enabled to get within shooting distance, but he shot very wide. The Swifts kept off the attack, and B. McKie headed in. Smith headed away, and Wardley again got up. Batey secured possession of the sphere, and McKie saved at the expense of a corner. Houldsworth placed nicely, but Batey ultimately kicked past. A short skirmish occurred between two of the players, but the referee interfered. Turley got away, but was grassed, and the home team appealed for a free kick. Dempsey had a shy a minute later, but the ball went a foot wide. Wardley again pressed, J. McKie just saving in time. Turley and Dempsey again changed the scene of operations, and the latter grazed the upright with a daisy cutter. A corner fell to the Swifts, and Aiston had to throw away a hot shot from Turley. A corner again fell to the home lads, but Smith was instrumental in beating off the attack. Batey got away, but not being supported, a grand chance was lost. Play became very exciting, Turley and Cain being desirous of having a pugilistic encounter. The referee, however, replied in the negative, and the battle had to be put off until some other day. Hands off Cain let in the homesters, and Turley was instrumental in scoring the third goal for the Swifts. The ball hovered

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 3.)

FOOTBALL.

(Continued from Page 2).

around the Wardly goal, but the home left outside ultimately succeeded in lowering Aiston's charge for the third time. The Swifts still kept up the pressure, and Turley headed in, but the whistle had previously sounded for off-side. The free kick gave the visitors a slight advantage, but Dempsey secured the leather and, after eluding Cain, drove for goal. His shot went a little wide. Dempsey bent on scoring, ran down the left, and centred. Aiston ran out, but missed his kick, and Little had a rare opening. He, however, shot past, and Turley was making a fine individual run down the field, when the whistle sounded with the score

Swifts	3 goals
Star	Nil

DURHAM AMATEUR CUP.—(4th round).

ALLENDALE PARK v. BIRTLEY.

[By "Upright."]

This important contest in the above competition was brought off on Saturday at Medomsley, before about 500 spectators. A strong wind blew across the field during the first half, and ere the second half commenced, it had almost ceased. Birtley had their full Alliance team with them, whilst the home lot were minus four of their best players, namely, Thompson Walton, Morton Hedley, Tot Houston, and the goalkeeper, Stokoe. This completely weakened the team. The following were the players—

Allendale.—Goal, Bailey; backs, M. Walton and Charlton; half-backs, Forster, Milligan, and A. Hedley; forwards, Jos. Walton, John Walton, Gillender, Robinson, and Glasgow.

Birtley.—Goal, Collins; backs, Bell and Rowell; half-backs, Dixon, Rutherford, and Bell; forwards, Laws, Bolam, Roscamp, Lawson, and Palmer.

Referee, Mr Bryant, Consett.

Allendale won the toss, and elected to play towards the entrance goal. Roscamp set the ball in motion, and Birtley at once attacked the home citadel, but Charlton sent the ball back with a big kick. Arthur Hedley receiving, took play into the Birtley territory, where Rowell kicked out to save. From the throw in, Jos. Walton just missed the uprights with a splendid shot. Bolam broke away with the leather, and with a timely pass to Roscamp, that player put the ball over the cross-bar. Hands off Lawson relieved the danger to the home goal. Bob Charlton placed the kick well down the field, where Joe Robinson failed to score, though in a splendid position for putting into the net. Another very excellent chance for the home lads was spoiled by John Walton being hauled up for handling the ball. Laws broke away from the free kick, but his progress was checked by Milligan, who tackled him like a lion. Play was now in midfield. Bolam broke away at a high speed, and passed to Laws, but the referee's whistle was sounding for offside, when Laws was in a favourable position for notching a point. Hands off Rutherford made matters look rosy for Allendale, and with a neat shot, John Walton was thought to have scored, but the referee gave a goal kick. This, however, did not dishearten the home lads, for they stuck in pluckily, making use of every possible chance. A corner off Matt Walton was looked upon as a certainty for Birtley. After a slight scrimmage, Bolam scored No. 1 for Birtley, with a soft shot. From the re-start, Allendale showed better combination and tackling. The home left broke away in grand style, and were not long in reaching Collins, the custodian, and, with a magnificent pass from Robinson, Glasgow headed past, just missing the upright by a couple of inches. Allendale now had the best of the play, and kept Rowell and his partner on the alert, but they never seemed to be able to pass that great tower of strength—Rowell. It was now drawing nigh half-time, and play began to grow very exciting. A foul off Allendale in the latter's quarters, gave Birtley another splendid chance. Bell placed the ball well into the goal-mouth, where Roscamp scored No. 2 for Birtley. From the re-start, the visitors again broke away, and it looked as if they were going to add to their score, but Matt Walton relieved the pressure by kicking well down the field. Allendale were now in close proximity to the Birtley goal, when the referee's whistle sounded for half-time, with the score:—

Birtley	2 goals
Allendale	Nil.

After a short interval, the game was again resumed, Allendale kicking down the hill. The ball was set in motion, and Allendale broke away with determined dash, and the Birtley goal was bombarded for over five minutes, Rowell kicking into the next field three times in succession to save from the brilliant attacks by the home men. Hands off Allendale, in the home goal, gave Birtley another chance of adding to their score. After a hard scrimmage, Bailey saved splendidly, lying on the ball, but the referee again gave Birtley another goal to their credit, which was received with disappointment by the home supporters. Jno. Walton made a splendid sprint towards the Birtley goal, and when he was within five yards of the goal, Rutherford fouled him, but the referee did not give a free kick. Allendale made another raid on the Birtley citadel, but it was of no avail, as the visiting backs displayed kicking-out tactics. Uninteresting play followed, and when the whistle sounded the score was as under:—

Birtley	3 goals
Allendale	Nil

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

STANLEY v. SHANKHOUSE.

[By "Cross-Bar."]

The return Alliance fixture between these teams attracted an enormous amount of attention, and fully 2,000 spectators assembled round the ropes to witness the contest. When the teams met at Shankhouse, early in the season, the Northumbrians were victorious by the substantial majority of four goals, and they came expectant of another victory on Saturday. The Whites were, unfortunately, unable to place their strongest eleven on the field for the occasion, Charley Crute being absent at Leadgate, whilst Thompson Robson was unable to take his place in the vanguard, owing to an injured knee. Under these circumstances, the home supporters were none too confident of victory. The teams lined up in the following order:—

Stanley—Goal, E. Beckwith; backs, G. Laws and M. Joyce; half-backs, T. Fish, E. Nicholson, and J. Milburn; forwards, P. O'Connor, J. Dodds, S. Wood, J. Howe, and J. Masterman.

Shankhouse—Goal, Gardiner; backs, Robson and Briggs; half-backs, Endean, Foster, and Ritson; forwards, Gosling, Bamborough, Hume, Straker, and Gibson.

Referee: Mr Messer, of Willington.

The field was in excellent trim when Shankhouse started up the hill against the breeze. Straker made away, but was pulled up by Tommy Fish. Wood got down, but found Farmer Robson a stumbling block which he could not pass. Howe, however, came to his aid, and passed the ball to Jake Dodds, but the latter was too excited, and lost a golden chance. After a sharp visit to the home quarters, O'Connor and Dodds came gaily down the home right. Briggs tackled valiantly, and the ball went past. The Referee did not blow his whistle, and, O'Connor centring, Masterman shot through, but the Referee disallowed the point, and granted a goal kick. Stanley pressed, and O'Connor shot, but missed by yards. Hereabouts, the Referee granted several free kicks for fouls—some of which were very doubtful—and as a consequence, he came in for plenty of hooting. Stanley pressed strongly, and Farmer Robson cleared splendidly when the ball was pressed. The ball was returned, and Dodds headed in, but Foster repelled in magnificent style. Shankhouse rallied against the breeze, and gave the home halves and backs some warm work. O'Connor raced away, and passed Briggs, but the burley "Farmer" rushed to the rescue. Willis then changed the scene of battle, and dashed straight for the home goal, but Laws checked his career, and punted the ball into the visitors' quarters. After further play in the visiting territory, Shankhouse made a valiant effort to alter the position of affairs. The right wingers came away splendidly, and Gosling centred to Hume, who headed for goal, but failed in his attempt. The ball was rushed to the opposite end, and O'Connor shot. Gardiner caught the ball, and, eluding a rush by Dodds and Masterman, threw the ball away. It was promptly returned, and O'Connor forced a corner. The same player centred splendidly, and Jimmy Masterman headed a beauty into the net. Re-starting, the Blacks forced the pace, and Willis got into dangerous proximity to the goal mouth, but, after a tough bully with the old horse, he came off second best, and some smart passing by the home vanguard took the ball to the low end. Masterman sent in a capital shot, which passed just over the bar. Still Stanley pressed, and within a few minutes, their efforts were rewarded, Tommy Fish shooting a grand goal, amidst enthusiastic cheering. Re-starting, the homesters pressed severely, and Masterman tried a shot, which passed just over the cross-bar. Gosling and Bamborough caused some anxiety at the high end, but the presence of Joyce acted as a safety valve upon their efforts. Fish was next prominent in assisting Laws to defeat a rush by Willis. Then the Whites had a free kick close to the visiting goal, but Nicholson shot over the bar. A moment later, however, Jimmy Howe shot a magnificent goal, Gardiner having no chance to deal with it. It was a great effort, and deserved the applause which it received. From the centre kick, the Stanley forwards headed bye. Masterman assailed determinedly, and O'Connor had a grand chance to score, but shot over the bar. Another grand assault followed, Masterman and O'Connor each getting very dangerous. Gardiner affected a clinking save, but Fish returned the ball straight for home, and Wood headed through a fourth goal for the Whites. Re-starting, Shankhouse forced a corner, but the Whites retaliated, and Fish, again centring well, Dodds tried hard to add a fifth point, but was beaten by Farmer Robson. The Whites pressed to the interval, which arrived with the score—

Stanley	4 goals

Resuming play, the North men started strongly, and Bamborough had an opening, but shot over the bar. Joyce cleared from an ensuing attack, and Nicholson passed on to the forwards, who, led by Howe and Masterman, made tracks for the Shankhouse citadel. Howe eluded Endean and Robson, and shot in. Gardener caught the ball, and, dodging a rush by Howe and Dodds, threw the ball away. After further smart passing, the ball was rushed to the low end, and Briggs sent in a long daisy-cutter, causing Emmy to handle for the first time during the game. He threw out smartly, but a corner ensued. This was splendidly centred, and a regular bully followed. Martin Joyce headed out, but the ball was returned, and Beckwith fisted out in brilliant fashion. A fine rush by the Stanley forwards took the ball to the opposite end, where O'Connor sent in a splendid centre, which was cleared by Endean amidst some excitement. A rare tussle followed between Robson and Masterman, the result being a corner to the Whites. The Blacks responded vigorously, and hot attacks were made on the home goal, but these were all held in check by the admirable play of Fish, Nicholson, and Laws. Foster tried a long shot, which passed just too high. A couple of corners to the visitors came to naught. Further give-and-take play followed, and Shankhouse ultimately obtained a goal, Straker doing the trick with a shot at close quarters. A splendid kick by Farmer Robson was largely responsible for the obtaining of this point. Stanley came away from the centre-kick, and forced a corner, from which, however, there was no result. Briggs then tried a long shot, but Jacky Milburn headed out of danger, and, the ball being taken to the visiting quarters, O'Connor struck the upright with a stinging shot. Play now became of a wild and unscientific character, big kicking being the order of the day. On the whole, the homesters held the upper hand, although playing against the wind. Joyce defeated an effort by Bamborough, and landed the ball to Masterman, who sprinted gaily down the left, and, disregarding the attentions of Farmer Robson, centred splendidly. The right wingers were not up, or a goal would certainly have ensued. Towards the finish, Shankhouse made a resolute onslaught on the home goal, and, from a free kick, Briggs landed the ball into the centre of the goal mouth. The attack was cleared after some fine heading on both sides, and the game terminated—

Stanley	4 goals
Shankhouse	1 goal.

OUSTON V. BILL QUAY.

[By "Goal Post."]

A friendly fixture took place at Ouston, on Saturday, between the above teams. The muster of spectators was below the average at the beginning of the game, but as it proceeded, more lined the ropes. Two of the regular players on the home side were absent, namely, W Powton and J Carr, to allow Marriner and Wilkinson a trial. Needless to say, these two new men performed splendidly. The remainder of the home team were to order. Punctual to time the teams turned out and lined up in the following order—

Ouston—Goal, Hadley; backs, M Williss and Marriner; half-backs, Woodward, Gibbons, and Hughes; forwards, Wilkinson, Porter, Dixon, Pentland, and Clark.

Bill Quay—Goal, Puntin; backs, Henning and Ashton; half-backs, Dempsey, Bell, and Martin; forwards, Stuart, Gilbertson, Wright, Miller, and Oram.

Referee—Mr J Dryden.

Bill Quay won the toss, and elected to defend the low goal. Ouston started the ball, and hands were soon awarded against the visitors, Willist placing well, but Wright headed out. Play soon came near the visitors' goal. A kick for hands was splendidly taken, but Williss got on first, saving splendidly, but resulted in going out. From the throw in, Ouston got dangerously near the visitors' goal, and a miskick by Clark went into the side of the net. The goal kick was poorly placed, and travelled out of the lines. From the throw in, Ouston assumed the aggressive, and Porter shot for goal, but Puntin fisted out. The visitors got away, but the home back division brought them to a standstill, and several times the Quay goal was in danger. A miskick by Marriner let in the visitors, who went for goal, but Hadley fisted by. Hands were awarded against Ouston. Stuart placed well, but Hughes headed away. From the throw in, the home forwards were on the road for goal, when Dempsey promptly depatched the leather to a neighbouring field. From the throw in, the Ouston men were again pressing. The visitors succeeded in getting the ball out of a scrimmage, and went for goal, Miller shooting wide. Hadley placed the goal kick well to J. Hughes, who headed to Pentland, who by his tricky play passed to the opposing half backs, and when near the visitors' goal, stumbled, when Ashton relieved the pressure, and kicked well into midfield. The forwards took possession, and without much opposition, Gilbertson sent in a rattler, but Hadley banged away in fine style. The "Quay" men despatched the ball to the lines. Hughes, Wilkinson, Porter, and Dixon now made matters rather brisk, and were making tracks for goal, when Dempsey changed the scene, banging the ball to the home goal, when Hadley saved at the expense of a corner. Hughes immediately took possession again, and the visitors transferred the ball to the lines. From a goal kick, Porter went off with the ball, and when near the "Quay" goal, shot, but the strong wind which was blowing at the time, took the ball to the corner. The ball was well placed, and the visitors succeeded in breaking away, but Williss sent back in grand style. Play continued in midfield, neither teams having any advantage, when the whistle blew for half time, with no score. Resuming, Wright set the ball rolling for the visitors, when Ouston immediately got down. Pentland got possession, passed to Dixon, who in turn transferred to Porter, and eventually Pentland shot No 1 into the net for Ouston. Restarting, Ouston were again on the aggressive. From a goal kick, Hadley placed well to Porter, who passed to Pentland, and Dixon gave Puntin a hot shot to keep out, which he succeeded in doing splendidly. Porter showed up well, and took part in some brisk work, when the visitors broke away, Hughes saving splendidly. Ultimately, a miskick by Marriner let Stuart in, and he reached the other end of the field, not without some hard work, and passing to Miller, succeeded in equalising. Restarting, The homesters came away, and within one minute, Dixon headed in No 2 for Ouston. No further score resulted, and when full time arrived the score was

Ouston	2 goals
Bill Quay	1 goal

SAMBOTEE CUP COMPETITION.

SECOND ROUND.

PICKERING NOOK v. BOLDON COLLIERY.

These teams met in the above competition, on Saturday, at the Hobson. The visitors were quite unknown in the competition, having had a bye in the first round, whilst the homesters qualified by beating Grey's National School, Sunderland, by five goals to nil. The Nookites won the toss, and selected the north goal, being a little benefited by the wind. For the first quarter of an hour, the Boldon lads had much the best of the game, and it looked as if the Nookites had met their match. But a change came. Trewick and Hindhaugh got down, and the latter sent over to Randall, who headed a beauty, and before half-time arrived, Trewick scored a second with a splendid long shot. On resuming, the home lads were much too good for the visitors, and had numerous shots, which, in ordinary cases, must have added to the score, but the wind was to reckon with. Eventually, Hardy and Buglass each added one each, making the final read—

Pickering Nook	4 goals
Boldon Colliery	Nil

Remarks:—The Nook played a much-improved game, but special mention must be made in favour of Forster, at back, Davison, at half-back, and the whole of the forwards, particularly Randall, Hardy, Hindhaugh, and Buglass.

DERWENT VALLEY LEAGUE.

STANLEY A v. TANTOBIE CO-OPERATORS.

The return Derwent League fixture was played at Stanley, on Saturday, before 2000 spectators. Stanley played against the wind during the first half. Tantobie pressed, and quickly scored a couple of goals, but, subsequently, the A forced the pace, and Southeron scored. Later, Henderson sent in a stinging shot, and Cunningham attending to the custodian, the score was equalised. At half-time, the score stood two goals each. Play in the second half was of a give-and-take character during the opening. Then the A pressed, and forced a corner, from which Henderson nearly did the trick. Miley Smith sent in a splendid shot, which Gladders fisted out, and further efforts by Smith and Aitchison were also neutralised. Tantobie forwards broke away, but were repelled by Watson and Chisholm, the former sending in a brilliant long shot. A corner resulted, but for some reason the referee gave a goal kick. Capital shots from Purvis and Southeron were cleared by Gladders in brilliant style, and the game ended—

Stanley	2 goals
Tantobie	2 goals

Turnbull Cup.—Brooms R.C. beat Marley Hill, on the ground of the latter, by 3 g[illegible] Croney was the shining light for the vi[illegible]

Cement Rovers v. Chester-le-Stre[illegible] teams met on the Cement ground, on [illegible] when, after an exciting game, the hom[illegible] out victors by 6 goals to 2.

JOTTINGS.

Stanley Wednesday are going in fo[illegible] ing, so as to make themselves fit for [illegible] cup-tie against the Tantobie warrior[illegible] They are using different methods [illegible] Most of the forwards are indulgin[illegible] to an almost unlimited extent. On[illegible] backs goes to Henderson's blacksmit[illegible] and weilds the big hammer, to the [illegible] within half a mile of the place.

debating political questions, and playing draughts, and the third goes fishing in Stanley Burn for an hour daily.

Gill Whaley is a demon goalgetter from penalty kicks. He does not forget to put his boot behind the ball when he takes the kick. The opposing goalkeeper realises that fact.

Stanley have lost the services of George Laws, their excellent fullback. Since his first connection with the club, the Gateshead lad has played consistently, and his place will be very difficult to fill.

Tow Law arranged a Northern League fixture with Saltburn for Saturday last.

The seasiders, however, despatched a telegram, declining to fulfil the engagement.

"The train service is uncertain," said Saltburn.

"It is alright, and you must come," responded Tow Law.

But Saltburn did not come.

Query: Are they afraid to meet the Tow Law boys?

Or do they wish to economise by playing two matches in one day?

Iveston Villa have the following dates vacant, and would like them filled up with moderate firsts or good reserve teams:—March 13th, April 10th and 19th, away, and April 16th, 17th, and 24th, at home. Jos. Clark, Secretary, Iveston, near Leadgate.

Langley Park Wanderers and Consett Swifts' Juniors played on Saturday, on the former's ground, the game resulting in a draw of one goal each.

The Whites were in great form on Saturday, and easily accounted for the Blacks.

Jimmy Masterman played as fine a game as he has ever done for the club.

Neddy Nicholson was also in great form.

The Shankhouse custodian was below his usual form. He is small for the position, but enjoys a great reputation.

"Farmer" Robson lost favour with the spectators for his rough play. I was sorry, however, to hear the hisses, for the dear old Farmer has done good service for football in the North of England.

Jimmy Howe was too tricky for the "big un."

The match has been represented to me as a game between Pit Ponies and Pit Horses. The Ponies won.

The Shankhouse left full back was Briggs. He bore a great likeness to his namesake, the Lancashire cricketer, "Johnny" Briggs.

What is the difference between the sea and the Stanley Football Club? One contains *many* fish, and the other only includes *one* Fish. His name is Tommy.

I hear that Jimmy Rutherford, the South Moor cricketer, has left the district. His loss will be keenly felt by the South Moor C.C.

Emmy Beckwith was not overburdened with work last Saturday.

Stanley A and Tantobie played a draw in their Derwent League fixture.

Miley Smith, late of Stanley Athletic, was in the A team, and played a capital game.

Martin Joyce and George Laws both played splendidly against Shankhouse. What a pity that the latter had to leave Stanley. He has been one of the most consistent players in the team.

Sam Wood and George Stewart, of Stanley, have agreed to play for the District Eleven v. Craghead, in the opening cricket match, at Craghead on Easter Monday.

"Cross-bar" has been defeated by Johnny Darney, and has relinquished the billiard championship of Stanley *pro tem*.

In getting into the semi-final of the English Amateur Cup, Leadgate Park have done the greatest feat ever achieved by a North-West Durham football club.

Wright, of Hetton, who was expected to strengthen the Stanley team next season, has decided to stay at home.

Ouston Reserve lost their friendly game with Chester-le-Street on Saturday, Chester winning by 3 to nil.

Pelton v. Hobson Wanderers.—The Pelton team got severely beaten on Saturday. The score was a most decisive one, viz., Hobson 2, Pelton nil.

Chester-le-Street also got defeated on Saturday at Newbottle. This team has a grand record for home games. The score was a disappointment to Chester, viz., 3 to nil.

Annfield Plain were without a game on Saturday.

They go to Wardley on Saturday, when they will have to play like niggers if they hope to be successful.

Consett Swifts defeated Wardley last Saturday.

The Wardley lads intend to have their revenge on the Celts.

Wardley scored within five minutes of the kick off, but the point was disallowed.

The press box is an inprovement to the Fell ground.

Why not get seats in it like the other neigbouring clubs?

Heaton are to be visited in search of points on Saturday.

The Brooms scholars beat Marley Hill in the first round of the Turnbull Cup.

A meeting is to be held at the Black Horse on Friday for the formation of a harrier club.

Leadgate Park are drawn to meet Stockton in the semi-final of the English Amateur Cup.

Stockton are hot favourites for the final, but the Park will give them a hard tussle for supremacy.

Peter Bell, the renowned half back of Annfield Plain Celtic, has just been married.

Dipton went to Willington last week, but had to return home with a two to nothing defeat.

United A make their appearance on the Dipton enclosure on Saturday.

Hebburn beat Jarrow by one goal to nil, and now head the Northern Alliance table.

Their nearest rivals are United A, who are a point behind the Mid Tyne lads, who have a game in hand.

Birtley beat Allendale in the fourth round of the Amateur Cup by three goals to none.

Pelton had to knuckle down to Hobson, who beat them by two goals to nil.

Mr J. Thompson, of Pontop Rows, has been appointed secretary of Annfield Plain Celtic in place of Mr Henry Maude, who has left the district.

It is rumoured that Jackson, of Shotley, has signed on for the Celts.

He wolud like to play for Annfield Plain when they meet the Swifts.

The Swifts do like their friend, Jackson. They think of the last game of the season.

Bishop Auckland sometimes in football nomenclature are referred to as the "Bishops."

Did you ever hear of bishops playing Football? Odious comparison!

Who says the Park never tried to win the week before last? I do.

"Who are you?" "Leadgetter," but preferably "Goalgetter," and oftener "Coalgetter."

I hear that the visitors from Auckland are rather fastidious.

Inasmuch as Calvert's Hotel was not class enough for them to change at.

Be that as it may, it shewed exceeding bad taste on the part of Auckland to manifest the same in the way they did.

To have gone elsewhere, was their privilege and liberty, but to ask the Leadgate officials to recommend them to another place was "adding insult to injury."

The Auckland skipper was a bit down in the mouth on Saturday over having to relinquish his hold on the Amateur "pot."

No wonder, either; but to him, as to a lot of men, any excuse is evidently better than none.

As evidenced by a remark in reply to a piece of banter on the subject of his defeat, "Oh, you don't play football; knocking men down and kicking them's all you do."

This is all very well, as one side of the question (the Auckland side), but, unfortunately, there are two sides to every queston, and from the Leadgate side, I venture to remark that the home men were no rougher or less scientific in their exhibition.

The game, I admit, was abnormally rough at junctures, but there was no balance of transgression attributable to either side, both teams being equally notorious.

It was simply a case of the kettle accusing the frying-pan of being "black."

We had another splendid exhibition of goal-keeping prowess from Ward, the Auckland "keeper."

We have been favoured with several such displays in the district lately.

The defence of a good goal-keeper is one of the most interesting features of the game, from a spectator's point of view.

The romantic interest increases with the nearness to which the ball approaches the goal line.

A shout of joy or a sigh of relief indicating the suspense under which the party has been labouring.

Lodge was also a sterling good back for a "lodger" having just taken up the position temporarily in the absence of Bousfield.

The question now is, "What price the semi-final?"

I hope to see them make a bold bid in any case, whether at "Home" or "Away."

During the progress of the Shankhouse game, the majority of the Stanley players sustained kicks of a more or less violent nature.

Beckwith, Laws, Joyce, and Fish, escaped without damage.

Nicholson and Howe sustained the most severe injuries.

Tantobie showed excellent defence against Stanley A.

The forwards of the latter team ought to practice shooting. They missed innumerable chances [illegible] Saturday.

FIXTURES.

[illegible] v. Rendel.—An Alliance fixture be[illegible] se teams will be played at Stanley, on [illegible] when the home team will be repre[illegible]—Goal, E Beckwith; backs, M Joyce [illegible] ver; half-backs, T Fish, E Nicholson, [illegible] urn; forwards, P O'Connor, J Dodds, [illegible] Howe, and J Masterman. Linesman, [illegible]

[illegible] A v. Allendale.—At Medomsley, [illegible] will rely on:—Goal, Frazer; backs, [illegible] Chisholm; half-backs, W Aitchin[illegible] and M Smith; forwards, J Gailes, [illegible] W Purvis, R Henderson, and J

Consett Swifts v. Heaton Science and Art.—To be played at Heaton. The following will do duty for the Swifts—Goal, H Highfield; full backs, S Bond and J McKie; half-backs, J Rafferty, R Wake, and J Allison (capt.); forwards, J Little, R Harkness, J Dempsey, B McKie, and J Turley. Linesman, Mr J A Bowen. Referee, Mr J Endean, Newcastle. Leave Consett by 1-35 train for Newcastle. Meet at headquarters at 1 o'clock.

Consett Swifts Reserve v. Allendale Park Reserve.—At Consett, on Saturday. The following will represent the homesters—Goal, S Johnson; full backs, J Laidler and G Wood; half-backs, J Hull, R Bradley, and T Ellis; forwards, J Nichol, J Sheldon, A Roberts, J Rafferty, and G Hamilton. Kick-off at 3 o'clock. Meet at headquarters at 2-30 p.m.

Tantobie Co-operators v. Shotley Bridge Rovers.—The following team will represent Tantobie Co-operators against Shotley Bridge Rovers, at Tantobie, on Saturday first—Goal, J. Gladders; backs, G Middleton and J McKever; half-backs, T A Ridley, J Cockren, and T Atthey; forwards, L Joyce, N Bell, L Reay, Jos Beck, and C Elliott. Reserves, T Hanover and R Atkinson. Linesman, Jos Brown. Kick-off at 3.15.

Annfield Plain Celtic v. Wardley.—The following will represent Annfield Plain—E Lynap, T Moore, J McClatchie, J Coyle, E Buck, R Bell, R Foster, W Ellis, H Bolam, J Lynap, and R Gillender. Reserve, W Parker.

Consett Park v. Byer Moor.—At Byer Moor, on Saturday. Park team—Burnett, Atkinson, Symington (capt.), W Dawson, J Willis, T Carr, Ellwood, Barrow, Graham, Shipley, and Jones. Brake leaves headquarters at 2·15.

CRICKET.

South Moor Cricket Club.—The annual meeting was held at Mr Dixon's, on Monday evening, when a large number attended. The following officers were elected for the coming season:—President, Mr Wm. Welsh; vice-presidents, Messrs Wilkinson and Wilson; captain, Mr Ernest Smith; vice-captain, Mr Wm. Robinson; treasurer, Mr Wm. Brass, committee, Messrs G. Stacey, J. Boucher, T. Gibbon, T. Redley, J. Moss, H. Joyce, E. Beckwith, and J. Nicholson. Secretary, Mr Tom Welsh, Holly Terrace, Stanley R.S.O.

HOCKEY.

Derwent Valley v. Coxhoe Hall.—Played at Shotley Bridge, in delightful weather. The game was a very fast one, Derwent Valley having the best of matters. Wood did some splendid work for the visitors, but nevertheless, the home men were leading at half-time by three goals to nothing. After the interval, Todd got two goals for Derwent Valley, while Wood scored the first and only point for the visitors. Coxhoe pressed towards the finish, but could not augment their score. The whistle sounded with the score Derwent Valley, 5; Coxhoe, 1.

Derwent Valley v. Stockton.—This game will be played at Shotley Bridge, on Saturday, when the following will represent Derwent Valley—T D Dales (capt.), J E Parker, F J Wiggins, H G Young, J M Nicholson, G G Robson, H H Wattsford, J Spencer, J O Todd, J E Thorpe, and C T Foreman. Bully-off at 3·45.

SAD FATALITY AT OXHILL.

THE INQUEST.

Shortly after half-past eleven, on Saturday morning, a terrible accident occurred on the North-Easter Railway level crossing, at Oxhill, by which an employé of the Company, named Wm. Winter, sustained injuries of a fatal character. It appears that the unfortunate man was employed in attending to the gates at the crossing, owing to the cranks being broken, when he was caught by a passing engine, which was drawing wagons towards South Tanfield Colliery. He was terribly cut about the knees, the legs being almost severed from the body. The engine driver (Thomas Cooke, of Loud Bank), the signalman (John Jones), P.C. Wall, and a number of other persons rendered all assistance that was possible, and had the man conveyed to an adjoining stable, where he was laid upon a quantity of straw. He, however, never rallied, and was dead within half-an-hour of the accident. Medical assistance was sent for immedietely after the accident, but neither Dr. Benson nor Dr. Charles was at home, and ere Mr Charles Benson had arrived on the scene, Winter had breathed his last. At the time of the accident, the signalman was employed in pulling another engine with wagons on to the Morrison Colliery line, and did not see the unfortunate occurrence. It is possible that Winter may have had his attention attracted by this engine, and thus stepped into the way of the other engine. Deceased was unmarried, and resided with his widowed mother, in Towneley Street. He was 32 years old.

Mr John Graham, Coroner for North-West Durham, held an inquest on the body of the deceased, on Tuesday morning, at the Police Station, West Stanley.—Mr Robert Kay, colliery manager, Oxhill, was elected foreman of the jury, the other members of which were Messrs Urwin, Errington, M. G. Armstrong, T. Ramshaw, T.W. W. Ritson, Peadon, Kirkup, J. W. Wood, M. Coates, Witty, W. Indian, and Ballan.—There were also present at the enquiry, Inspector Hunt, of Newcastle, and Mr Bone, Permanent Way Inspector, representing the North-Eastern Railway Co., and Messrs J. G. Ridley (Clerk) and Jos. Routledge (Surveyor to the Stanley Urban Council). The first witness called was John Winter, printer, Amble, who stated that the deceased, Wm. Roger Winter, was his brother, and was 32 years of age at his last birthday. He was employed by the North-Eastern Railway Co., and lived at 3, Towneley Street Stanley. Witness was informed that on February 27th, his brother died near the railway crossing at Oxhill, within a few minutes of receiving injuries from an engine. Deceased was insured for a small amount with the Prudential Assurance Company.—The next witness called was Launcelot Coxon, fireman, but the Coroner decided that it would be preferable to hear the evidence of the signalman first, and that person was, therefore, called.—John James, signalman, said that he was stationed at the Oxhill crossing cabin, and lived at the place. The gates at the crossing were worked by a lever, but one of them went wrong on the Monday preceding the accident. It was the east gate which went out of order, and, as a consequence, he was unable to work either gate from the cabin. It was for that reason that the gates had to be opened and shut by hand, and Winter was told off to attend to the gates by day, another man looking after them at night. It was the rule to close the gates before putting the signal boards off, and witness generally gave notice to the man by calling to him from the cabin to close the gates. He (witness) next proceeded to lock the gates with the lever.—The Coroner: Could you do that when the lever was broken?—Witness: Oh, yes. After being locked, the gates could not be opened until released by witness. After closing the gates, deceased generally stepped on to the boxing near witness's cabin. The boxing would be about two feet seven inches in width, and, altogether, there would be about four feet between the cabin and the railings. There was quite room for a man to stand. The accident occurred about ten minutes to twelve on Saturday, the 27th ult., about which time an engine was to travel across the level crossing with some empty waggons. They were going in the direction of South Tanfield Colliery. Witness had no notice of any engine travelling on the down line at the time. Witness called out to Winter, and asked him to put the gates across the roads, telling him Tommy Wilson's engine was coming up. Witness knew nothing about another engine, nor did the deceased. He closed the gates, and came and stood on the boxing, and witness cleared the line for Wilson's engine to come along. The engine passed over the crossing. After the gates were closed, witness got a whistle from 438 (William Reed's engine) that he wanted to come on the down line. At that time, Wilson's engine was about 278 yards away, just passing the intermediate board to the south-east of the crossing. Reed's engine was on a portion of the curve, facing the cabin, and would be from about 150 to 200 yards north-west of the cabin. The whistle indicated that he wanted to pass over the crossing. The board was then against him, and he whistled for it to be put down. Winter was familiar with the working of the line, and knew what the whistling meant. Witness pulled the board off, and so cleared the line for engine 428. Winter ought to have known that the lines were clear for the respective engines to pass the crossing. He would know that both lines would be occupied. The engines would meet a trifle on the east of the crossing. 428 was a light engine, and had the advantage of the distance and a slight fall. He should say that the engines would pass each other about 18 or 20 yards below the cabin. The engine which had the waggons was on the up line. Witness knew nothing of what had happened to Winter till after the accident. He ran down at once, but found the guard, engineman, and fireman of Wilson's engine, 1,652, already there, rendering aid. He was on the west side of the crossing, and was about equal distance between the outside rail and the gate. He was almost in the centre of the gate. Witness did not notice whether deceased had been dragged. One of the men went to the Ox Inn, and got some stimulants. Winter took a little, but appeared to be terribly injured. Witness believed that the down engine must have attracted the deceased's attention, and he had forgot all about the up engine. That was witness's firm opinion.—Mr John Winter: I suppose there would be no negligence on the part of the Railway Company?—The Coroner: Apparently there has been none. I have been very careful to find out what the duties to be performed by Winter were, and how he did them. What was expected, and what was done, and, as far as can be seen, everything appears to have been done properly. The signalman gave him notice that Wilson's engine was about to travel on the up line, and told him that he had to shut the gates. He does that, and Wilson's engine at that time is 277 yards down the line. He has notice brought distinctly to his mind that that engine is to travel. It was perfectly true that at the time the down line was blocked and he had on that line, but after the whistle had been blown by the driver he would know, just as well as the signalman, that there was an engine which wanted to travel on the down line.—Mr John Winter: Did he know that?—The Coroner: He was bound to do so. He was a railwayman, and understood what the board was meant for. I should have been prepared, but for this witness's evidence, that, having had notice that Wilson's engine was to travel on the up line, and knowing nothing of the down line engine but for the blowing of the whistle, to have expected a different case. It would have been quite different had he been killed by the other engine.—Mr John Winter: I suppose that it is in every way likely that he would see the signals?—The Coroner: He had the notice, and I have been careful in getting to know the distance between the outside rail, and the signal cabin boardings, so as to find the space he had to stand on. There is four feet, and that is plenty of room for a man to stand on who is on the look out. If he had forgotten, as the signalman suggests, it alters the circumstances. It is easily done, and every man is apt to have moments of forgetfulness. The man had been working daily from Monday to Saturday, and would be quite competent to do his work.—Mr Bone: He commenced work on Tuesday morning.—The Coroner: And on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and up to the time of the accident, this had been his regular work. He had got accustomed to the work.—Mr Winter: In the usual way, the gates are worked from the signal cabin?—The Coroner: Yes. It is a splendid arrangement, but one, like all mechanical arrangements, capable of going wrong.—Mr Winter: How did my brother close the gates?—The Coroner: He got hold of them with his hands.—The Witness said that he could not get the board off for either the up or down line until the gates were firmly secured. He was positive that the deceased had a warning that both engines were coming.—Mr Winter: Where was he standing?—Witness: He was standing on the boxing when I last saw him.—The Coroner said that the facts were very clear. Their duty was to enquire as to whether there had been any negligence, and they must take nothing for granted.—Mr Winter suggested that the Railway Company ought to have had the gates mended earlier.—The Coroner pointed out that in getting men to close the gates, the Company were simply returning to the arrangement which had existed up to the time of the alterations.—Mr Witty: The levers have only been in use for a short time.—The Coroner said that the lever was a great improvement, but was, of course, apt to get out of order. The man would get accustomed to the work between Tuesday and Saturday.—Mr Indian said that he would like to ask the signalman, through the Coroner, whether it was his duty to tell the man when there was an engine coming either on the up, or the down line?—Witness said that he did not know whether it could be considered part of his duty, but the man was minding the gates, and he (witness) thought it was his duty to give him such information.—Mr Indian: Did you give him notice that the engine was coming down the line?—Witness: I gave him information of the engine coming up, but not of the down one.—Mr Indian: Now, this man had nothing to do with signalling work in general?—Witness: No.—The Coroner: But you will remember that he was acquainted with railway work, and understood the working.—Mr Ritson: Was he given information that the engine was coming down?—Witness: Simply by the whistle.—The Coroner: Does not the engine driver give a peculiar kind of toot?—Witness: Yes. When they want to be to South Tanfield, they give one long whistle. When they want to come to the Morrison Colliery, they give two whistles.—Mr Peadon: You don't work on the block system?—Witness: No.—Mr Peadon: Deceased was killed by the engine of which you gave him notice first?—Witness: I think so, but I cannot say. I did not see him killed.—Inspector Hunt: Was it the usual practice for the deceased to stand on these boardings?—Witness: Yes.—Mr Winter: Do you say that my brother was standing on these boardings when the engine struck him?—Witness: Oh no, sir.—Launcelot Coxon, Railway Terrace, Annfield Plain, locomotive fireman on Wilson's engine, No. 1,652, said that the engine was running funnel first. Witness was on the left side. As they came close to the crossing, witness saw Winter moving off the boxing, and going towards the road. He was very close in front of the engine. Deceased was standing close in front of the left hand buffer. He had his back to witness. Witness was certain that deceased would be struck, and shouted to his mate to stop the engine. He did so at once. Witness applied the brake, and the engine was pulled up with the last waggon just over the crossing. Witness was the first off the engine, and was first to reach the deceased. He was lying just on the spot marked in pencil on the produced sketch. He had a cut on the head, he apparently having been caught by the frame on the back of the neck, and knocked against the rails. He was moving about when witness got to him, and had his back against the gate. He did not appear to have been dragged, but seemed to have been struck just where he was lying. They were going at the rate of ten miles an hour. The light engine had passed them about ten yards before the crossing.—The Coroner said that it seemed that the deceased had been making his way across the line for the purpose of opening the gate. He was proceeding leisurely across the line, having apparently forgotten that an engine was coming up the line. The light engine had already passed him, therefore there was no need for him to trouble about it, and he was waiting for the signalman to unlock the gate. He would never have gone off the boxing with his back to the engine that he knew was coming along the line. It was plainly evident that he had forgotten about it at the time.—Mr Armstrong said that he would like some evidence as to the exact distance between the signal box and the wagonway.—The Coroner said that they had heard that the distance was about four feet, but he would ask Mr Matthew Bone, a permanent way inspector, to give evidence on the matter.—Mr Bone said that the exact measurement between the signal cabin and the rail was four feet five inches.—Mr Urwin: That is from the cabin to the rails?—Mr Ritson: And what is the width of the boxing?—Witness: Two feet ten inches.—Mr Ritson: Two feet seven and a half inches is marked on the plan. What distance would the engine overlap?—Witness: About one foot eight inches.—Mr Winter: Do you think that he would get off the boxing with his back to the engine?—The Coroner: Of course he would not, if he had remembered it. Railway men can forget like the rest of us. Addressing the Foreman: Do you think that there is the slightest evidence of negligence against anybody, bar the poor man himself?—The Foreman: No.—Mr Urwin: I suppose that Winter would be able to see the engine coming from the east side?—Mr Coxon: Oh, yes, if he looked in that direction. There is very little curve.—Mr Urwin: He would be able to see you, and you to see him?—Mr Coxon: Yes.—Mr Ramshaw: I suppose that Mr Winter was near sighted? How far could he see?—The Coroner: Well, really, that does not affect the question at all. We have been told that he had his back to the engine.—Mr Peadon: It would put another face on the matter altogether if he had been killed by the light engine.—The Coroner: Entirely. That was the sort of case which I expected we would have had to inquire into.—Mr Kay asked whether it was necessary to call any further evidence.—The Coroner said that personally he did not think that there was any necessity, but he did not wish his opinion to influence them.—Mr Armstrong said that he was afraid that sufficient provision had not been made for the men to get out of the way. He was not so satisfied as he might have been about the distance.—The Coroner: But if you have 4 feet 5 inches or 4 feet even, that is ample for a man if he takes a proper amount of precaution. Addressing Mr Kay: What is your limit of safety down below? Would you think 4 feet sufficient?—Mr Armstrong and Mr Ritson: The engine overlap reduces it by 1 foot 8 inches, leaving only 2 feet 8 inches.—The Coroner: Yes, but the man has no need to stand broad set.—Mr Armstrong: But he was not expecting the engine.—The Coroner: Yes he was. He was told that Tom Wilson's engine was coming.—Mr Armstrong: But this poor man had forgot.—The Coroner: Yes, that was it.—Mr Urwin: Winter was not compelled to stand on this boxing. If he had removed to the corner of the signal cabin two or three yards away, there would have been plenty of room.—Mr Armstrong: That is satisfactory. I was inclined to doubt about the provision for the man's safety, but I am now satisfied.—The Coroner: There was any amount of provision for his safety.—Mr Bone said that there was a cabin for the use of the gate attendant.—The Coroner said that there appeared to be no doubt that the poor man had really forgotten at the time that the second engine was coming. There did not appear to have been any negligence on the part of anyone.—The jury then retired, and after an absence of five minutes, returned, the foreman intimating that they had given very careful attention to the evidence, and returned a verdict of "accidental death."—The Coroner said that the jury could have come to no other conclusion. It was very much to be regretted, but, unfortunately, they had met with such cases before, and could quite understand that the accident had happened owing to deceased's forgetfulness.—The case was conducted by P.C. Wall of Oxhill. The funeral took place at Elswick, on Tuesday, the cortege leaving Shield Row Station by the 11·38 a.m. train. It was accompanied by a large concourse of mourners and friends.

SOUTH MOOR.

Primitive Methodist Activity.—On Saturday afternoon, a successful public tea was given in the Primitive Methodist School-room by the young men connected with the Society. Subsequently, a grand concert was held in the Infant School-room (kindly lent for the occasion by Mr Jas. Fairley), when the artistes included Miss Cooper, Miss Smith, Miss Lily Welsh, Miss Prinn, Annfield Plain; Miss Wilkinson, Greencroft; Miss Fawcett, Stanley; Miss S. Redhead, Newcastle; Mr George Emmerson, West Pelton; Mr Jos. Lumley, and Mr W. Wadge. Mr Geo. Morrison, of Shincliffe, presided. On Sunday, special sermons were delivered by Mr George Morrison and Mr Redhead. The whole of the

STANLEY & DISTRICT GOSSIP.

[By our own Reporter].

COMPLIMENT TO A LOCAL ARCHITECT.

Mr D. M. Spence, of Hare Law, is an architect of considerable ability and experience, and on Thursday last, at the Haltwhistle Petty Sessions, he was the recipient of the somewhat rare honour of being complimented from the Bench on the excellence of certain plans he had prepared. The plans in question were for extensive alterations which are shortly to be carried out to the old Grey Bull Hotel, Haltwhistle

DEBATING SOCIETY FOR STANLEY.

Happening to be in the Commercial Hotel, last Wednesday evening, I had the pleasure of listening to a capital debate relative to the railway strike, and as speaker after speaker delivered their opinions on the topic of the hour, the question suggested itself to my mind, "Why not form a Debating Society for Stanley?" Societies of this kind are in existence in many towns and villages throughout the length and breadth of the country, and their efforts are of a highly beneficial and educative nature. I am quite certain that there is sufficient talent in Stanley to keep such a society as I suggest on its feet, if it were once floated. Spring will soon be here, and the season of long evenings is gliding rapidly away, so that it might be advisable to defer any action in regard to the matter till next winter. I shall, however, be pleased to hear expressions of opinion on the subject from the people residing in the Stanley district.

MISS ELSIE JACKSON.

It is with sincere regret that I have to announce the death of Miss Elsie Jackson, daughter of Mr Thomas J. Jackson. Little Elsie was a general favourite, and was idolized by her father and mother, who must indeed be well nigh heart broken at the untimely death of their bright and playful daughter. I remember seeing the child at a Wesleyan social, some months ago, when she seemed overflowing with fun and health. Now she has gone to "that better land," and the bereaved parents are left to mourn the absence of a loving child.

THE DANGERS OF LEVEL CROSSINGS.

Last Saturday's calamity at Oxhill added another to the long list of victims of level crossings, and in the present case the circumstances are extremely pitiable, the young man having been, I understand, practically the sole bread-winner in the home which has been made desolate by his untimely end. It is only a few months ago since some alterations were effected at the crossing, and the present gates erected. The Stanley District Council did not approve of the alterations, and agreed, practically unanimously, to point out to the railway authorities "that the alterations were an encroachment on the highway, and that a bridge ought to be erected for the convenience and safety of the public." This communication from the Council is, I understand, still under consideration. It has been for the past two months. Probably this terrible accident will cause the directors to hurry up, and have a bridge erected, so as to prevent further similar disasters.

SECULARISM AGAIN.

Once more our local Securalists are on the warpath, and have completed arrangements for a visit from the Rev. T. Parris, of Tavistock, formerly minister at the Abbey Chapel. Like Mr Joseph Beck, Mr Parris, the late reverend, appears to be rather flexible in his opinions. A man of that disposition is not likely to alter the opinion of people with any firmness of character.

THE TRADESMEN'S BALL.

False rumours of a discreditable character appear to have been pretty freely circulated regarding the recent tradesmen's ball, and, as a consequence, some considerable annoyance has been caused to the committee and officials connected with the ball. Last week, it was my duty to correct one of these misstatements, and this week I find a similar task before me. A writer in a local contemporary has, evidently with the intention of casting discredit upon the ball and all connected with it, referred to the social as a "booze." Naturally, the committee resent such an unwarrantable slur being cast upon them, and at the request of the secretary, I have pleasure in conveying to the public the fact that the statement in our contemporary does not coincide with the truth, and the "booze" existed only in the imagination of the writer. It seems regrettable that writers in the press should not exercise a little more discretion, or, shall I say, common-sense.

THE OXHILL FATALITY.

According to the evidence aduced at the inquest, on Tuesday morning, there appears no doubt that the death of the unfortunate young railway man was due simply to a lapse of memory. He had been told by the signalman to open the gates for the up train. He did so, and then heard (along with the signalman) the whistle of a light engine coming on the down line. The light engine passed the crossing first, and the poor fellow then walked towards the gate, with his back towards the oncoming "up" engine. The fireman saw him, but not till too late, and ere anything could be done, the engine had caught and threw him. The one bright feature about the terrible affair is that there has not been the slightest negligence on the part of any of the railway officials or workmen. A momentary forgetfulness has cost the young man his life. General sympathy is felt in and around Stanley with the sorrowing relatives of the young man, whose promising career has been so abruptly terminated.

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Local postal arrangements do not appear to be perfect. On Saturday last, Mr Graham, the Coroner, despatched a letter from Durham to P.C. Wall, at Oxhill, fixing the inquest on the body of the victim of the Oxhill railway crossing accident to be held on Tuesday morning. The letter failed to reach its destination on Monday, and, as a consequence, considerable annoyance and perplexity was caused to the relatives of the deceased, to the police, and the press. Another case in point is that of a friend of mine, residing at Stanley, who was, on Saturday morning last, the recipient of a small box, supposed to contain a quantity of bridescake. I say supposed because, though the cake was in the box when posted from Blackhill, it had managed to break its bonds and escape before being delivered to the owner at Stanley.

CHURCH HISTORY LECTURES.

The series of Church History Lectures at Stanley continue to meet with very disappointing patronage. Only thirty people were present at Canon Ross-Lewin's recent lecture.

MULTUM IN PARVO.

On the suggestion of Mr James H. Benfold, the Council of St. Andrew's Institute have decided to recommend to a general meeting of members "that the Institute should remain open till 11 o'clock on Friday and Saturday evenings."

A new gasholder has been erected for the Stanley Gas Company. It has a steel tank of 84 feet diameter, with a holder of 80 feet diameter, and ready for telescoping when necessary. The holder is 25 feet deep, and is capable of storing about 120,000 cubic feet, thus trebling the present holding capacity. The work, which has been conducted under the management of Mr Whittaker, is not quite completed, but when it is, the gas works will be the largest in the district. Messrs Clayton, Son, and Company, Hunslet, Leeds, are the contractors.

The Burnopfield Primitives had a "minister's house-warming" last Saturday, when a sermon was delivered by the Rev. H. Youll, of South Shields. Subsequently, a public tea was held, and all went merry as a wedding bell.

Stanley footballers expect to have a couple of points from Rendel, on Saturday. Dover makes his initial appearance for the team, and will satisfy everybody if he plays as well as his predecessor.

JAW BLADES.

The Late Mr Lawson.—The following relatives were present at the funeral of the late Mr Wm. Lawson, in addition to those given last week:—Mr Thomas Lawson, Mr and Mrs Wm. Lawson, Mr and Mrs Geo. Lawson, Mr and Mrs Moses Lawson, Mr Joseph Lawson (Burnhope), Mr and Mrs Marshall Lawson, Skipton (sons); Mr and Mrs Murray, Mr and Mrs Ralph Battensby, Burnhope; Mr and Mrs Smith, Mr and Mrs Newman, Langley Park; Mr and Mrs Jabez Battensby, Craghead (daughters); Mr Robert Murray, Miss Murray, Miss Annie Murray, Mr John Smith, Mr Marshall Smith, Mr John Lawson, and Miss Lawson (grand children); Mr Wm. Hodgson, Tow Law (brother-in-law); Mr and Mrs Moses, Howden-le-Wear (brother and sister-in-law); Mrs McMinn, Mrs Portrey, Mrs Moses, Miss Moses, Mr and Mrs William Hutchinson, Mr Henry Hodgson, Mr Joseph Proud, Tow Law; Mrs Robson, Darlington; Mr R. B. Moses, Mr Mark Moses, Howden-le-Wear; Mr Wm. Moses, Burnopfield; Mr Wm. Smith, Mr Richard Smith, and Mrs Smith, Blackhill (nieces and nephews).

BURNOPFIELD.

Presentation at Leazes Board School.—On Friday afternoon, the teachers and children of the above School had a pleasant little ceremony to perform after the usual school hours. For nearly seven years, Miss E. Burnip has been assistant mistress in these Schools, but has now to sever her connection, as she has been appointed head mistress of the East Stanley Infant School. During these years she has thoroughly established herself as a prime favourite with the scholars, and as soon as it was whispered that a testimonial was afoot, liberal subscriptions came to hand. It was decided, therefore, to purchase something useful, and on Friday Mr R. Abbott, the headmaster, acting on behalf of the subscribers, handed over to Miss Burnip a handsome dressing case in red morocco leather, fitted with every requisite, and a Persian tourist case, also in leather. The articles were supplied by the firm of Bunn and Dick, Newcastle, and are of the finest quality, making a very acceptable gift. In making the presentation, Mr Abbott alluded to the general regret at the severance, after working together so long, and trusted that Miss Burnip would be fortunate enough to be required in Stanley as a great

Business Announcements.

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JAMES FROSDICK

IS the only BILLPOSTER that has rented Stations within the three districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills posted and Distributed at the lowest rates.

VICTORIA DAIRY, CONSETT.

FRESH MILK, TWICE DAILY.

FRESH CREAM AND BUTTER, ALWAYS ON HAND.

G. T. ROBSON,
PROPRIETOR.

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST,
AND
WINE MERCHANT, CONSETT,
FOR WINTER REMEDIES.

Finest New Season Cod Liver Oil.
Parrish's Chemical Food.
Extract of Malt and Cod Liver Oil.
MILNER'S RHEUMATIC EMBROCATION.
MILNER'S COUGH MIXTURE.
Tic and Neuralgia Mixture, 1s. per bottle.
Plasters in great variety.
Chest Protectors, Respirators.
Trusses and Surgical Appliances of every description.
Horse, Dog, and Cattle Medicines.
MILNER'S CONDITION POWDERS for Horses.
Agent for various kinds of Sheep Dips, Oils, Paints, and Colours.
Avenue Liquid Gold for Decorations, 4½d. and 8d. per bottle.
Invalid Port and Sherry Wines in great variety.
MILNER'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE.
MILNER'S COCOA WINE, 2s. and 3s. 6d. per bottle.
Bottled at 7, Shakespeare Street, Consett.
Postal Orders promptly attended to.

FOR
FIRST-CLASS GROCERIES
AND PROVISIONS,
GO TO
GEO. J. ROBINSON,
TEA DEALER, GROCER, AND PROVISION MERCHANT,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

A Large Assortment of
CHEESE, BUTTER, BACON, LARD, &c.,
always on hand.

WM. WHITFIELD
MAKES THE
BEST FURNITURE
In the District, at the Lowest Possible Prices.

TRY WHITFIELD'S BEFORE BUYING ELSEWHERE.
Note the Address:—
WHITFIELD'S,
STANLEY FURNITURE SHOP.

FINE ART GALLERY,
Sadler Street, Durham.

T. RUSHWORTH & SON,
CARVERS AND GILDERS.

PICTURE FRAMES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION MADE TO ORDER.

PICTURES CLEANED, LINED AND RESTORED.

HUDSPITH'S PILE PILLS.

HAVE no equal for PILES, ACHING KIDNEY and SCANTY high coloured URINE; weakness and pains in the BACK. Invaluable to Females and Miners. Absolutely free from Poison.

Supplied in Boxes at 1/1½ and 2/6 of most Chemists, Co-operative Stores, and Drug Store, or Post Free from T. HUDSPITH, Cert. Botanic and F.C. Sm. Lond., Botanist Dispensary, Langley Moor, Durham.

The above may be obtained of Mr. George Patrick, 5, Front Street, Consett.

DURHAM AUCTION MART, Western Hill, DURHAM.

CHARLES TURNER,
AUCTIONEER AND VALUER.

SALES CONDUCTED IN TOWN OR COUNTRY. Prompt Settlements.
Household Furniture in Great Variety, at 10, NORTH ROAD, DURHAM.
Dealer in Pianos and American Organs, Wringing, Washing, and Sewing Machines.

Business Announcements.

EMPLOYMENT FOR SPARE TIME!

When you have Five Minutes to spare, kindly Inspect Wood's
Splendid Show of
Winter Clothing
Their Styles and Prices will fairly astonish you.

J. W. WOOD'S
CLOTHING AND DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT
FRONT STREET, WEST STANLEY.

P. & M. MATTHEWS,
REGISTERED CHIMNEY SWEEPS, BOILER AND FLUE CLEANERS, &c.,
5, GREEN STREET, CONSETT.

All orders punctually attended to.

J. H. COURTNEY,
CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,
HAVELOCK STREET.

DINNERS, from 12 p.m. every day.
BALLS, PARTIES, and all other Social Gatherings catered for at reasonable rates.
Tea Boiler, Ware, &c., on hire.

ESTABLISHED 21 YEARS.

MATTHEW KIRKLAND
(Successor to MR. THOMAS BARRY),
HAIRDRESSER,
VICTORIA STREET,
CONSETT.

UMBRELLAS RE-COVERED & REPAIRED.

THE NEW WOMAN is very much in evidence at

KIRKUP'S

(West Stanley) Cheap Boot and Shoe Mart. That's easily accounted for. She is a firm believer in having up-to-date value for money.

MARTIN BECK,
BILLPOSTER,
21, RAMSEY STREET, STANLEY,
Good Private Stations.

ROBERT MILBURN,
BUTCHER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to inform his customers, and the public generally, that he is removing to newer and more commodious premises, adjoining Mrs. Christopher's Livery Stables, where he trusts to receive a continuation of the patronage which has been so liberally bestowed upon him in the past.

C. LUMLEY,
CLOTHIER AND DRAPER,
SHERBURN TERRACE,
CONSETT,

Has just effected extensive alterations to his premises. An inspection of his large Winter Stock is requested.

BLANKETS A SPECIALITY.

WHEN YOU ARE IN NEWCASTLE,
Call and see your old friend
T. HOFFMAN
(THE HUMORIST),
AT THE
THREE TUNS HOTEL,
NEWGATE STREET.

Ales and Wines of the Finest Quality.
Cigars of the Choicest Brands.

JAMES PALLISER,
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
TEA MERCHANT,
47 & 48, PARK ROAD,
BLACKHILL.

THE NOTED GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS STORES AND FLOUR WAREHOUSE.

F. HODGSON,
HAIRDRESSER AND PERFUMER.
STRAWBRIDGE'S NEW BUILDINGS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

TOBACCO AND CIGARS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

F. HODGSON, who for some time carried on a successful Business at Blackhill, requests the favour of a trial.

SHAVING neatly and expeditiously performed.

MRS. CUNNINGHAM, Confectioner, Stanley, thanks her Customers for past patronage, and heartily wishes them the Compliments of the Season. She has pleasure in inviting attention to her Grand Display of Christmas Cakes—the best in the district. Chocolate to suit all pockets—Boxes from a penny to fifteen shillings. When in Stanley visit Cunningham's Dining Rooms. Patronised by Football and Cricket Teams.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

C. F. COOKE,
DRAPER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

BEGS to intimate that he will shortly Open his New and Commodious Premises with a Complete Stock of

FANCY AND GENERAL DRAPERY.

WILLIAM NICHOL,
Saddler and Harness Maker
FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

NEW PREMISES NOW OPEN.

All Kinds of Saddlery and Harness.

REPAIRS NEATLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY EXECUTED.

Business Announcements.

NO SUITS LIKE
R. R. WILSON'S,
PRACTICAL TAILOR,
CATCHGATE,
For Style, Quality, and a Reasonable Price.

FRED CABLE,
NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
Wholesale
MANUFACTURING TINSMITH.

LARGE STOCK of DAIRY GOODS and Milk Bottles, from 1 Gill to 20 Gallons, and all kinds of Kitchen Utensils kept or Made to Order.

Bakery Goods Made to Order.

Established 1854. Workshops—130 Haymarket.

THOS. SWAINSTON,
Complete House Furnisher,

WISHES to Announce to all Furnishing or Replenishing their Homes for the Holidays, that he has a

LARGE STOCK
OF
SITTING ROOM SUITES
AND
BEDROOM FURNITURE,
Bedsteads, Mangles,
CARPETS,
HEARTHRUGS,
Oilcloths, Fenders,
BRASSES,
AND
General Furnishing Hardware,

At Lowest Prices and to suit all Classes.

ALL GOODS MARKED IN PLAIN FIGURES.
2s. in the Pound Discount for Cash.

An Early Call and Inspection is Cordially Invited.

THE ROYAL BLEND
WHISKY

As Supplied to his Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, and the Officers of H.M. Army and Navy. Bottled under the authority of the Honourable H.M. Commissioners of Customs.

ALSO
THOMASON'S
FAMOUS CLENCADEUR.

THOMASON'S
CELEBRATED GLENLIVET.

RODERICK DHU WHISKY.

DREAMLAND,
OR SCOTCH CREAM,

COLERAINE,
As Supplied to the House of Commons.

DUNVILLE'S,
As Supplied to the House of Lords.

FAIRYLAND,
THE CREAM OF IRISH WHISKY,

VAUX'S BOTTLED
ALE AND STOUT,
GILLS, 1s. 9d.; PINTS, 2s. 9d.

Sole Wholesale Agent for Consett and District.

JAMES DALY & CO.,

SPECIALITY:
OUR 3s. QUARTS, IRISH OR SCOTCH.
Quality and Strength Guaranteed.

NOTICE.

Messrs. C. F. & L. COOKE & Co.,
Hosiery Manufacturers,
CONSETT, STANLEY, & BERWICK-ON-TWEED,

RESPECTFULLY intimate to the Public of Stanley and District that they will
OPEN A SHOP at STANLEY, on Friday, March 5th,
With a choice selection of Ladies', Children's, and Men's Machine-Knit Stockings, Underclothing, Children's Pinafores, and Wools and Yarns, at Manufacturers' Prices.

All kinds of Stockings Re-footed and made to Order.

Business Announcements.

☞ JOSEPH MARSHALL & SON Give Presents with all Wedding Rings. ☜

WE Hold the LARGEST SELECTION in the District of ELECTRO-PLATE, JEWELLERY, FANCY CLOCKS, MARBLE CLOCKS, BRONZES, WATCHES, ENGAGEMENT, KEEPER, and DRESS RINGS, SPECTACLES to Suit all Sights. REPAIRS.

JOSEPH MARSHALL & SON,
THE PEOPLE'S WATCHMAKERS,
3, SHAKESPEARE STREET, & 26, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
☞ NOTE OUR ONLY ADDRESSES.

MR. E. J. SLOANE, MUS. BAC.,
L. Mus., National Gold Medallist, Organist of St. Mary's Church, Blackhill.
LESSONS ON ORGAN, PIANO, HARMONY, COUNTERPOINT, CANON, FUGUE, &c.
Pupils prepared for all Musical Examinations.
THE MUSIC SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.

Business Announcements.

HART'S DINING ROOMS,
12, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT
(Opposite Salvation Army Barracks),
Hot Dinners Daily.
Refreshments at Moderate Charges.
Good Accommodation.

Parties, Balls, &c., Catered for.

SENSATION AT DIPTON.

THE GREAT SALE OF THE SEASON NOW GOING ON.

SEIZE this Golden Opportunity, and pay a Visit to

THE NEWCASTLE DRAPERY AND CLOTHING STORES,
FRONT STREET, DIPTON.

Must be cleared prior to Stock-Taking.

STARTLING REDUCTIONS.

J. A. Castl Proprietor.

F. H. REED,
GENERAL AND FANCY DRAPER,
POST OFFICE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN,

SOLE AGENT for the Celebrated "PLATINUM" ANTI-CORSET, and PULLARS' DYE WORKS.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S UNDERCLOTHING.

Extensive and Varied Stock to Select from.

JACKSON GREEN,
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
SATLEY, TOW LAW.
FURNITURE, STOCK, AND ALL CLASSES OF SALES TAKEN.

PROMPT SETTLEMENTS.

Ben Pickard
and all the Federation Leaders, if the question was submitted to them, would agree that **Kirkup**
STRIKES
the iron when it is hot. The public of West Stanley get the benefit of his wide-awake enterprise in Cheap and Reliable Boots and Shoes, such as
John Wilson
himself might wear in the House, and feel proud of his understandings.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

FOR GOOD VALUE IN
HOME-MADE FURNITURE BEST SHEFFIELD CUTLERY, and SILVER-PLATED GOODS, try

JOHN LOWES,
JOHN STREET SQUARE, CONSETT
(Back of British School, Medomsley Road).
The House for Musical Instruments by Best Makers.
PIANOS BY PFEIFFER, STRAUSS, LANGE, &c.
AMERICAN ORGANS BY STERLING.
MELODEONS from 4s. 6d. upwards.
A Large and Varied Stock of WALLPAPERS.

Five Minutes Walk from Consett Station.

NATHAN ELSDON,
MINERAL WATER MANUFACTURER,
ALE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
AND GENERAL AUCTIONEER,

THANKS his friends for past patronage, and, in soliciting a continuance of their confidence, assures them that it will always be his endeavour to give them the utmost satisfaction in all Branches of his Business.

SALES CONDUCTED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS.

Office:—DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

W. LEE,
BUTCHER
(Late Manager to River Plate Co.),
Has commenced Business in
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT
(Next Door to Mr. Simon Rowe's),

AND invites Attention to his First-Class Stock of

PRIME BEEF, MUTTON, PORK, &c.

All Orders promptly attended to.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
THE
AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER,
Valuer and General Commission Agent,
ROYAL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE,
BENFIELDSIDE.

Appointed by His Honour Judge Meynell, to Levy Distress for Rent, under the New L[illegible] of Distress Amendment Act [illegible]

JOHN CRAW[illegible]
AGRICULTURAL AUCTION[illegible]
COMMISSION and EMIGR[illegible]
AND HOUSE [illegible]
VICTORIA STREET, [illegible]
ALL CLASSES OF SA[illegible]
Prompt Settl[illegible]
BAILIFF under the Law of [illegible] Act.
Sale and Emigration Offic[illegible]
Cons[illegible]

Business Announcements.

JOHN LOWES,
Auctioneer & Valuer, STANLEY, R.S.O., Co. Durham.

Valuations effected for Probate. Auction Sales of every description undertaken on most reasonable Terms. Rents and Debts collected.
Agent to Castle Line Shipping Company, also North British and Mercantile Insurance Company for Fire and Life and Ocean Accident Company.

WEST STANLEY PEOPLE ARE CONTINUALLY ASKING, HOW CAN

KIRKUP

Afford to Sell his BOOTS AND SHOES so much Cheaper than others? Small profits and a big turn-over. That is the secret, my worthy friend.

Tuition.

MUSICAL TUITION.

MISS F. L. STELLING, A.L.C.M.,

GIVES LESSONS on the Pianoforte and in Theory. Pupils prepared for Examinations.
Terms on application.
ROGER STREET, BLACKHILL.

ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONY.

LESSONS GIVEN IN THE ABOVE, BY
J. SURTEES,
Member of the Incorporated Society of Musicians, and Organist of Consett Parish Church, at his own or pupils' homes. If desired, pupils are prepared for examinations of good standard. Terms moderate. Address:—
2, CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL.

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS, CONSETT.

Principal, MISS TAIT.

New Term commences on 12th January, 1897.

THOROUGH modern education. Pupils prepared for the Oxford, Cambridge, College of Preceptors, and Music Examinations. A class for Drawing and Painting (oils, water-colours, and monochrome) is held on Saturday mornings, under a trained certificated mistress. Pupils prepared for the South Kensington Examinations in Freehand, Model, Geometry, Perspective, etc. Young ladies not attending the School may join this class. Prospectus on application.

SCHOOL FOR GIRLS,
4, JACKSON TERRACE ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Principal, MISS GRAY.

PUPILS may enter at any time. Classes for Painting, Drawing, and Dancing. Music and French taught. Preparation for English and Music examinations. Terms Moderate.

VIOLIN PUPILS WANTED.

T. H. Wood, Conductor,
NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

For Terms and Particulars
Apply 29, Taylor Street.

MUSICAL TUITION.

GEORGE DRYDEN, A.L.C.M., SILVER MEDALLIST (Organist of Medomsley Church), gives LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and THEORY OF MUSIC.

G.D. devotes particular attention to the Preparation of Candidates for Examinations, his Pupils having gained over 50 Certificates, including The Silver Medallist for 1890; also First, Second, and Third-class Honours in every Grade.

Terms on Application.

Address:—No. 40, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

MISS JESSIE M. NEY
(Pupil of Mr. McConnell Wood),
NEWCASTLE,

GIVES LESSONS in VOICE PRODUCTION and SOLO SINGING, in CONSETT and BLACKHILL on Fridays.

For Terms, apply to the *Consett Chronicle* Office.

Legal.

RE JAMES HUNTER, DECEASED.

ALL Persons having any claims against the Estate of James Hunter, late of Redwell Hall, in the County of Durham, farmer, deceased, are requested to send Notice of their Claims to me, the undersigned, forthwith.

F. BARRON.
Whitehall, Rowley.

I, WILLIAM WATSON, of West Stanley, will not be responsible for any DEBTS that my Wife may contract after this Date, March 1st, 1897.

GEORGE HEPPELL, Deceased.

ALL Persons having CLAIMS against the Estate of George Heppell, late of Espershields, in the County of Northumberland, Farmer, who died on the 11th day of December, 1896, are requested to send the same to us, the undersigned, at once.

BOOTH and LAZENBY,
Solicitors to the Executrix.
Bank Chambers,
Shotley Bridge.

Sales by Auction.

LANCHESTER STOCK MART COMPANY, LIMITED.

Mr. Jackson Green, Auctioneer.

MONDAY, March 8th, at 1-30.

3 Good DAIRY COWS.
The Usual Quantity of FAT SHEEP and HOGGS.
Further Entries expected.

JOHN GIBSON, Secretary.

SATLEY, Near TOW LAW.

SATURDAY, March 6th, at 1-30.

MR. JACKSON GREEN, Auctioneer, is instructed to Sell by Auction (without Reserve), the whole of the HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and Effects, belonging to the late Mrs. Neild; also the FURNITURE and Effects of a Two-Roomed Cottage adjoining. For particulars see Bills.

HIGH SPEN, No. 2, West Street.

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 13th. Important Sale of valuable Household FURNITURE Effects, belonging to Mr C. Emmerson, who [illegible]bout to emigrate.

For particulars see posters.

J. S. MURRAY.

SALE OF PROPERTY and SHARES at the Freemasons' Hotel, Consett, on March [illegible] Other Property or Shares can be included.

J. S. MURRAY.

Sales by Auction.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

Monday, March 8th, 1897.

10 to 15 FAT CATTLE.
1 FAT BULL.
80 FAT SHEEP.
Veal and Keeping CALVES.
DAIRY COWS and HEIFERS.
20 Bags of POTATOES.
HARNESS and Sundries.
Black Retriever DOG, 2 years old, been shot over.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

J. S. Murray, Auctioneer.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.
MONDAY, March 8th, 1897.

35 to 55 DAIRY COWS and HEIFERS.
10 FAT CATTLE.
58 FAT SHEEP and HOGGS.
4 STORE CATTLE.
9 FINGER CALVES.

Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10-30 a.m.

THE SECOND SPECIAL SALE for STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, Thursday, March 11th. Early entries solicited.

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

MESSRS. JOS. AND WM. VICKERS'S SPRING SALE ENGAGEMENTS.

Early in March.—FARMING STOCK, &c., at Rowley Farm, Cornsay Colliery.
March 6th.—HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE and DAIRY UTENSILS, Leazes Farm, Wolsingham.
March 10th.—Second Special Sale for STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, Tow Law Mart.
March 24th.—Third Special Sale for STORE CATTLE and SHEEP, Tow Law Mart.
April 12th.—ANNUAL FAT STOCK SALE, Tudhoe Moor Farm.
In April.—LAND and HOUSE PROPERTY at Witton-le-Wear.
April 21st.—ANNUAL LETTING of Broadwood Grass Parks.
May 5th.—FARMING STOCK and 500 Blackfaced SHEEP, Park Farm, Allendale.
In May.—FARMING STOCK, &c., Rose Hill, Eastgate.

Mart Office, Tow Law.

ROWLEY FARM, NEAR CORNSAY COLLIERY,
One mile from Waterhouses, and three miles from Lanchester Stations.

Sale of Valuable Farming Stock, Implements, Dairy Utensils, Household Furniture, &c.

JOSEPH VICKERS, favoured with a commission from Mr. Wm. Bowey, who is leaving the above farm, will submit for Unreserved Public Competition, on Tuesday, March 9th, 1897, the whole of his Superior FARMING STOCK, &c., comprising:—

8 HORSES.—Lot 1. Very Powerful Bay Draught Horse, "Sam," 5 y.o., 16-3, by "Derwent Lad." 2. Brown Draught Mare, "Meg," 8 y.o., 16hds., a very good sort. 3. Grey Draught Mare, "Fan," 5y.o., 15-3. 4. Grey Harness Mare, 3y.o., 15-2, broken to saddle. 5. Grey Draught Filley, 2y.o., by "Derwent Lad." 6. Brown Draught Colt, 2y.o., by "Derwent Lad." 7. Brown Draught Colt, 2y.o., by "Julian." 8. Half-bred Filley, 2y.o., by "Equal." The Draught Horses are guaranteed good workers, and the Youngsters are very promising.

40 CATTLE.—5 Young Cows, 2nd and 3rd calf, recently calven; 1 S.H. Cow, due to calve at time of sale; 2 Young Cows, due to calve in April; 2 ditto, June calvers; 1 Heifer, in milk; 1 Farrow Cow, forward in condition; 1 S.H. Heifer, 2y.o.; 1 S.H. Steer, 2y.o.; 3 Heifers, 18 months old; 1 Steer, 18 months old; 2 Roan Heifers, 15 months old; 3 Steers, 12 months old; 8 Heifer Stirks, 7 to 9 months old; 2 Steer ditto; 4 Finger Calves; 3 Heifers, spring calvers.

58 SHEEP.—16 Mule Ewes, and Followers, by Leicester Tup; 21 Cheviot Ewes, in lamb to Leicester Tup; 20 Half-bred Hogs, for Grazing; 1 Leicester Tup, two shear.

30 Head of Poultry; Useful Cur Dog; 190 acres of Eatage; the whole of the Implements, Harness, &c.; an extensive assortment of Dairy Utensils; also, a large Quantity of surplus Household Furniture.

Refreshments will be provided on the premises by Mr. Edward Taylor, of Ivesley Lane End.

Sale to commence at 12-30 prompt with the Implements, to be followed in quick succession by the Cattle, Sheep, Horses, Poultry, Dairy Utensils, and Furniture, in the order named.

Mart Offices, Tow Law.

JOHN CRAWFORD'S SALE ROOMS,
VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.

UNDER DEED OF ASSIGNMENT.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by the Trustee, to Sell by Auction, on
Monday First, March 8th,
a Large Consignment of Brass-mounted BEDSTEADS, WIRE MATTRESSES, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, LADIES' CLOTHING, &c. Other Lots too numerous to mention.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

22, MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mrs. E. J. Brown (who is retiring from Business, and has left the Golden Lion Inn), to Sell by Public Auction, on
Wednesday First, March 10th,
the Surplus HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, NEWCASTLE GIG, nearly New; HARNESS, SADDLES, BRIDLES, &c.; Large Fireproof SAFE, made by Phillipson and Son; Splendid Toned PIANO, Iron Frame; Table PIANO; together with 6 Brass-mounted Bedsteads, Quilts, Sheets, Blankets, Chairs, Ware, &c., &c. For full particulars see Posters.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

Public Announcements.

NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
(Also of Royalty Theatre, Barrow-in-Furness, and Theatre Royal, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Acting Manager and Scenic Artist, Mr H. Sharpe

Tremendous Success, and Last Three Nights of Messrs. Eglington & Little's beautiful Western Romance, The

NEW WORLD,
A thrilling Story of Pioneer Life in the picturesque Land of the Setting Sun.

MONDAY, March 15th, 1897,
For Six Nights Only,
Mr. Preston Vasey's Company in the Sensational Drama,
"SAVED FROM THE STREETS."

Mr. SAM HAGUE'S Celebrated Minstrels will shortly appear.

Popular Prices of Admission—Private Boxes, £1 1s.; Single Seats, 3s.; Dress Circle, 2s.; Side Circle, 1s.; Pit, 6d.; Gallery, 4d.

Early Doors Open at 6-45, Usual Doors at 7-15; Commence at 7-30. Plan of the Theatre may be seen, and seats booked, at A. Ramsden's Piano Warehouse by letter or telegram.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.

Lessee and Manager……Mark H. Lindon.

SATURDAY, the Last Night of
"SAVED FROM THE STREETS."

MONDAY, March 8th, and During the Week,
"DONNYBROOK."

CO-OPERATIVE HALL, STANLEY.

LAST THREE NIGHTS,
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY,
MARCH 4th, 5th, and 6th.

Enormous Success of Madame Lemonte's Concert and Vaudeville Company, and "Empire"

ORCHESTRA OF LADIES.

20 STAR ARTISTES. 20

Pauls' Theatrograph. Animated Living Pictures.

Two Grand SACRED CONCERTS on Sunday, March 7th, at 3 and 8.

Public Announcements.

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.

GLEANERS' UNION ANNIVERSARY.

THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY will be Celebrated on WEDNESDAY FIRST, MARCH 10TH, By a PUBLIC TEA and SALE OF WORK, In the NATIONAL SCHOOLS, from Four to Six o'clock.

LIME-LIGHT LECTURE on "PALESTINE," by H. PALMER, Esq., of Medomsley.

SERVICE in Christ Church at 7-30. Preacher, Rev. W. LOVEY, B.D.

Tickets for Tea and Lecture, 9d. ; Lecture only, 3d.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST, 1896.

Morning, 10-30, REV. W. RAISTRICK.

Evening, 6-0, MR. W. BOWMAN (Lanchester).

BLACKHILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

GRAND ORGAN RECITAL,

On WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10TH, by Mr. GEO. DRYDEN, A.L.C.M.

Songs by MISS GRAINGER and the REV. P. CAMPBELL, M.A.

Chair to be taken at Eight o'clock by JAMES ANNANDALE, Esq., J.P., C.C.

Tickets, Sixpence and One Shilling.

LEADGATE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING of the above will be held in the Ante-Room of the Miners' Hall, on THURSDAY Night, March 18th, 1897, at SEVEN o'clock, to take into consideration the question of adding Poultry to the Schedule, when all Poultry Fanciers are invited to attend.

J. A. TURNBULL, Secretary.

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

Positively for One Week only, commencing MONDAY, MARCH, 8TH.

Nightly at 7-45. Doors open at 7-15.

GRAND DAY EXHIBITIONS

On Wednesday and Saturday at 3; Doors open at 2-30.

POPULAR PRICES - 2s., 1s., and 6d.

MR. JOSEPH

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA

SIGHTS OF THE WORLD.

These colossal Excursions are accompanied by POOLE'S VARIETY CONFEDERATION.

Important engagement, at enormous expense of the Improved

CINEMATOGRAPH.

The most marvellous Invention of the present Century.

LORENZO'S CIRCUS, consisting of wonderfully Trained Ponies and Dogs, also the marvellous Boxing Kangaroo.

MISS MAY FINCH, Serio-Comic.

HERR VOGELER, the celebrated Tight Wire Walker.

MR. V. JEAN DE HENAU. This Artist will paint an Oil Painting in ten minutes with his feet.

MR. JAMES CURRAN, one of the actual survivors of the ill-fated "Victoria."

MDLLE. BENA ALADINA, who will introduce her extraordinary Troupe of Performing Cockatoos.

FELIX SOMERS, the Facial King.

MR. FRED MAYER, Guide, Elocutionist, Vocalist, &c.

The Marvellous SALETOS, Continental Gymnasts.

The whole accompanied by a Grand ORCHESTRAL BAND.

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on March 6th, 1897, in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, at 6-30 p.m.

D. ORMEROD, Hon. Sec.

Excursions.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

PANTOMIMES, ELECTRICAL & GENERAL ENGINEERING EXHIBITION, &c., AT NEWCASTLE.

ON Saturday, the 6th of March, an Excursion Train will leave Blackhill, at 2.25 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge, Ebchester, and Lintz Green), for Newcastle, returning at 10.50 p.m. the same day.

THOROUGHBRED AND HUNTERS HORSE SHOW AT THE AGRICULTURAL HALL.

ON Tuesday, the 9th of March, an Excursion Train will leave Newcastle, at 12.5 a.m. (with bookings from Blackhill, Blaydon, &c.), for LONDON, for 2 and 4 Days. Passengers holding 2 days' tickets return from King's Cross Station London, at 11 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10th, and those holding 4 days' tickets at 8.45 p.m., or 10-30 p.m., on Friday, March 12th.

For further particulars see Bills, copies of which may be obtained at the District Passenger Superintendent's Office, Central Station, Newcastle.

GEORGE S. GIBB,

York, March, 1897. General Manager.

Tenders.

LANCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TENDERS are invited for the undermentioned Works, viz. :—

No. 1.—About 630 Yards of Pipe Sewers at Cornsay Colliery.

No. 2.—About 270 Yards of Pipe Sewers at Cowsley Cottages, near Cornsay.

No. 3.—About 160 Yards of Pipe Sewers at Castleside.

Plans and Specifications may be seen on application to Mr. J. E. PARKER, Lanchester, on and after March 1st.

Sealed and endorsed Tenders should be sent to the undersigned on or before March 10th.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

W. H. RITSON, CLERK.

Lanchester, Durham.

STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

TO ROAD CONTRACTORS.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for the execution of the various Works to be carried out in the formation of Carriage Ways and Footways on the following roads, viz. :—

1.—From Stanley Inn to East Stanley Cross Road.

2.—From Louisa Terrace to South Moor Arch, including Macadamizing, Kerbing and Channelling and Ashphalting.

Plans and specifications may be seen, bills of quantities, forms of tender, and other information obtained on application to Mr. JOSEPH ROUTLEDGE, Surveyor to the Council, on Monday the 1st, Friday the 5th, and Monday the 8th March, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., on a sum of £1 1s. being deposited with the Council, which amount will be returned in full, on receipt of a *bona-fide* Tender.

Sealed Tenders, endorsed, "Tenders for Carriage Ways," must be delivered at the Council Offices not later than noon, on Wednesday, March 10th.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

By Order,

JOHN GEO. RIDLEY, CLERK.

Stanley, R.S.O., Co. Durham,
24th February, 1897.

CONTRACTORS wishing to TENDER for the Enlargement to West Stanley Schools, for the Tanfield School Board, must send their Names to the Architects, Davidson and Bendle, 33, Grainger Street West, Newcastle, before Monday, the 8th of March, at 5 p.m., when Quantities will be supplied. Tenders to be in by Tuesday, the 16th.

No pledge to accept the lowest or any Tender.

For Sale.

PRIZE POULTRY FOR SALE.—Two Black HAMBURG COCKERALS; prize strain; parents winners at Crystal Palace, Birmingham, and Local Shows.—WILLIAM WATSON, Tanfield Grange, Tantobie, R.S.O.

FOR SALE BY PRIVATE TREATY, 7¼ Acres of OLD GRASS LAND, being Copyhold of the Manor of Iveston, and numbered 186 on the Ordnance survey of the Township of Iveston. — Apply to BOOTH and LAZENBY, Solicitors, Shotley Bridge.

Wanted.

WANTED, everybody in Annfield Plain to look into C. F. COOKE'S Drapery Establishment on Friday Evening.

Wanted.

WANTED, a YOUTH, as Assistant, and to be generally useful; one accustomed to horses preferred; references essential.—Apply, GEO. R. HOBSON, Grocer, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Catchgate, Annfield Plain, R.S.O.

WANTED, a Strong BOY, as Apprentice to the Corn Milling, and to be generally useful.—Apply, G. HOBSON, Catchgate Mill.

LADIES requiring Good SERVANTS can be suited at once.—Apply, Mrs Scott's Stanley Registry, West Stanley. Established Five Years.

To Let.

TO LET, a HOUSE, central position, in Blackhill; suitable for a Lady with Gentleman Lodgers, or an Architect or other person needing an Office.—Apply, "Box B," *Chronicle* Office.

TO LET, by the Week, LARGE ROOM, suitable for Sales, Bazaars, &c.—Terms on application to JOHN LOWES, Auctioneer, West Stanley.

TO LET, LOCK-UP SHOP and STORE-ROOM, in Front Street, West Stanley.—Apply at the Furniture Shop, Stanley, R.S.O.

TO LET.—SHOP, with double windows, in central position in Consett. For further particulars apply — North-Eastern Breweries, Limited, Blackhill.

Business Announcements.

TO INVENTORS.
OFFICE FOR PATENTS.
ESTABLISHED 1879.
G. J. CLARKSON,
CHARTERED PATENT AGENT,
6, FINKLE STREET, STOCKTON-ON-TEES,
AND
7, CHESTNUT AVENUE, QUEEN'S ROAD, HULL.

Circular of Information Post Free.

PAINLESS DENTISTRY—Comfort and Fit Guaranteed — Prices Reasonable. Attendance every Saturday, 2 to 5-30. Mr. Townend, Dental Surgeon, at Cockburn's, Stationer, Front Street.

Dales' GOLD MEDAL Dubbin

Makes Boots and Harness Waterproof as a Duck's Back and soft as velvet. Adds three times to the wear and allows polishing.

22 Exhibition Highest Awards.

Tins 2d, 6d, 1/-, & 2/6 of all Bootmakers' Saddlers, &c.

GLENDENNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.

3/9 per Bottle. 2/- per Half-Bottle.

Wm. Aynsley, Grocer & Wine Merchant, Consett, Blackhill, Leadgate, and Stanley.
T. Milner, Chemist, Consett.
Jos. Murray, Grocer & Wine Merchant, Consett.
Geo. Pattrick, Chemist, Consett.
Dryden & Co., Grocers & Wine Merchants, Consett.
N. Elsdon, Wine Merchant, Consett.
Richard Murray, Wine Merchant, Blackhill.
J. Snaith, Blue Bell Inn, Lanchester.
Mrs. Glendinning, King's Head Inn, Shotley Bridge.
Mrs. Temperley, Commercial Hotel, Leadgate.
Mrs. Cawthorne, Colliery Hotel, Hobson Colliery.
J. Irwin, Pack Horse, Tanfield.
T. Lumley, Railway Inn, Annfield Plain.
G. R. Hobson, Wine Merchant, Catchgate.
T. Armstrong, Wine Merchant, Blackhall Mill.
Turnbull Bros., Grocers, Burnopfield.
W. Wright, Burton House, Burnopfield.
T. Calvert, Grocer, Medomsley.
W. Dixon, Oak Inn, South Moor.
J. Robinson, Chemist, Stanley & Annfield Plain.
R. Browell, Miner's Arms, Spen.
J. Moses, Post Office, Tow Law.
S. Leighton, Craghead Hotel, Craghead.
J. Whitfield, Forester's Arms, Frosterley.
W. Young, Red Lion Inn, Dipton.
J. Curry, Wine Merchant, Stanhope.
Dover & Co., Wine and Spirit Merchants, Belle Vue House, Dipton.
J. Gladders, Oak Tree Inn, Tantobie.
T. Gatiss, Earl Grey Inn, Kyo.
W. Oyston, Wine and Spirit Merchant, Esh.

THE Consett Chronicle

FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1897.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE PROPOSED WORKHOUSE LAUNDRY.

For some time a Committee of the Lanchester Board of Guardians have been engaged in considering a scheme for the erection of a laundry, but they appear to have advanced no further than to obtain an estimate for the fitting of the necessary machinery. Father Fortin thinks the total cost may amount to £2,000, but this is only an unprofessional opinion, and must be taken as such. In the absence of any really reliable estimate, it is impossible to either condemn or approve the scheme. Unquestionably, a really good laundry—fitted with modern machinery—is a very desirable addition to any Union, but the question of cost must always be seriously considered. Not, be it understood, that we are advocates of a cheese-paring policy. Often-times a handsome initial outlay will amply repay the expenditure involved, and if at an annual cost not greatly exceeding that incurred by the present system, the Guardians can secure a complete laundry for the Lanchester Workhouse, the scheme should be very seriously considered. Till a satisfactory understanding as to the probable cost is forthcoming, nothing, however, ought to be done in the matter.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE.

The Assessment Committee have been playing sad havoc of late amongst the property owners included in their area. Valuations have been increased by astounding leaps, and great has been the outcry on the part of the ratepayers most nearly affected. At the last meeting of the Board, the members decided—as they should have done long ere this—to appoint a professional valuer to assist them in their work. It seems, from a glance at the subject, as though—if the new valuations be correct—that there must have been some negligence in the past. The rateable value of property does not, as a rule, double and treble itself with such wonderful rapidity as is suggested by the returns recently submitted. An old saying advises, "Every man to his trade," and on that ground a professional valuer will do more in a day than the Guardians in two or three generations.

THE RELIEVING OFFICER'S SALARY.

Mr Walton, the relieving officer, applied to the Lanchester Board of Guardians, on Thursday in last week, for an increase of his present salary, and, considering that he has occupied his present position for nearly thirty years, the application is certainly deserving of attention. Mr Walton's duties are at present very onerous, and the population of the area in which his work lies has greatly increased since the appointment was first made. There is much to be said in favour of the suggestion made by Mr Muse, who strongly advocated the appointment of another relieving officer to assist Mr Walton. The latter gentleman has done his duty to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, but the work now seems to be beyond the reach of one officer. The subject is to be discussed by the Finance Committee, who will report to the Board.

EXTRAORDINARY PUNNING BY LANCHESTER GUARDIANS.

Mr Powell now and again enlivens the meetings of public bodies with some excellent humour. Last week, however, at a meeting of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, he deliberately perpetrated a pun. The Board decided to advertise for a fitter, who should act as Boys' Warden. The last official was a painter, but it was deemed expedient that a change should this time be effected. Mr Powell thereupon inquired who would fit into the man's place when he was fitting. This joke was followed in a similar strain by Mr Aynsley and Father Fortin. The climax was reached, however, when Mr Taylor ventured a sally. "If we get a fitter who does plumbing work," he declared, "we shall get into a hole with the plumbers." These grave and dignified public men are growing quite incorrigible.

THE TANFIELD HOSPITAL.

The question of a site for the prop[illegible] hospital is still undecided. Some land [illegible] recommended in the neighbourhood o[illegible] but it is objected that its position [illegible]ficiently central. Mr Taylor, on beh[illegible] Annfield Plain Council, is the princip[illegible] in the way of its acceptance, but reall[illegible] one cannot help thinking, be much b[illegible] last-named authority would definite[illegible] suitable site. It is of no use to obje[illegible] alternative be presented for conside[illegible] haps something concerning the sub[illegible] said at the next meeting of the A[illegible] Council.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CRICK[illegible]

The annual general meeting of [illegible] of this popular Club took place [illegible] evening of last week, when Mr [illegible] secretary, submitted a report which had been prepared with great care, recording the past performances and future prospects of the Club. Unfortunately, the last concert, in which Madame Belle-Cole was the central figure, left a deficit—a very serious matter for a Club that has undertaken a very large scheme for the alteration and extension of its ground. This, however, has been entirely cleared off, mainly through the generosity of the President, who has the Club's interest at heart. It is to be hoped that the Committee will not relax their efforts to make the Blackhill cricket ground one of the best in the North of England. The public would do well to assist the members in striving to promote the interests of a healthy, harmless recreation.

BOWLING GREEN.

The Committee of the Consett Cricket Club have made provision for a bowling green on their ground. Some attempt has been previously made to secure a plot for the use of lovers of this pastime, but without success.

KIT'S WELL ROAD, LANCHESTER.

At the meeting of the Lanchester Parish Council, held on Monday evening, a letter was read from Mr Simey, relative to the above road, and stating that he knew of no Act under which the County Council could proceed in the matter. The remedy, he remarked, rested with the tenants, who could leave their houses, and live elsewhere. Kit's Well Road is between Dorman's Cottages and Lanchester Village. Its condition, as Mr Bowman pointed out, is disgraceful, and application to repair it has been made to the District Council who decline, on the ground that if it is to be done it ought to be by the County Council. The reply of the latter authority is given above. It appears, therefore, that the tenants are to be bandied from pillar to post, the only remedy being that they can, if they choose, give up their houses.

PELTON AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

The Quadrille party of Pelton Lane Ends held their usual weekly dance, on Saturday. Counter attractions were plentiful, but, despite this fact, fifty couples put in an appearance. The music, as usual, was given by Mr D. Liddle's String Band, and the M's.C. taking part were Messrs Watson, Emery, and Forrest. The Committee are to have a late night next Saturday evening, to break up at twelve o'clock.

On Saturday evening, the Pelton Church Garden Society held a supper, in the High School, Pelton, in aid of the funds of this body. Mr R. Jewitt gave the supper free, and the thanks of the Committee and members ought to be given to him for his energetic work. Mr Sep. Hall, of Pelton Lane Ends, also worked hard. I trust that the proceeds of this supper will go a long way to putting the Society on a strong footing.

On Saturday evening, Mr Weatherburn, science teacher, gave a lecture, illustrated with lantern slides, in the Miners' Institute, Ouston, on "The Steam Engine." The lecture was much appreciated.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[BY "THE SNEAP."]

By the death of Mrs Elliott, of Dean Howe Farm, near Castleside, another of the oldest and most revered of the inhabitants of this district has gone to eternity. Mrs Elliot died on Wednesday night, the 24th ult., in her 83rd year, after a somewhat prolonged illness. The deceased lady was connected with, and was a very ardent supporter of, the Wesleyan Society at Castleside, and that body has lost in her one who has watched its progress very keenly, and has very materially aided in its development. The interment took place, on Saturday, in the village graveyard, when a large number of friends paid their last tribute of respect to the departed one.

THE GAIETY MAINTAINED.

Dame Rumour whispers in my ear that a number of young ladies in and about Castleside are bent upon having a social evening in a short time in the Castleside Board Schools, and, better still, I learn that it is their intention to entertain a number of their friends to supper, music, and games. It will be remembered that some little time ago, a number of young men promoted a social. This was in every way very successful, but the forthcoming one will, undoubtedly, outstrip by far its predecessor. Readers may rest assured that the "Sneap" will have his eye on the proceedings, either from without or within. He hopes, though, that the young ladies will not, should they overlook him with a card, ask P.C. Johnson to give an eye round the corners, and thus destroy his chance of taking a note or two. In any case, he trusts the social will be what it deserves to be—a great success.

THE GLEE CHOIR.

Readers of the *Chronicle* may not be aware that there exists in Castleside a select or scratch choir, under the leadership of Mr George Raine. This choir, I learn, has been practising for some time a very excellent cantata and choruses, and I suppose it is intended, in a short time, to give the public the benefit of a musical treat. There is some exceedingly fine musical talent in the village, as is evidenced by the fact that Mr Geo. Raine, with his party, brought home from Stanley last summer the much-coveted "tenner," to the extreme delight of the villagers. I am rather expecting that when the choir does make its *debut*, it will surprise the natives.

TANFIELD DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The monthly meeting of this Council was held on Wednesday evening, Mr H. C. Wood presiding. The other members present were—The Rev. T. H. Archdall, Messrs W. Bulmer, A. Davis, W. G. Armstrong, J. Harrison, J. Warwick, W. Holmes, R. Heslop (Surveyor), and T. Armstrong (Clerk).

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.—SERIOUS COMPLAINTS.

Mr Heslop reported that he had served notices upon the owners and lessee of two houses at Black Hill. The houses were quite unfit for habitation. He had instructed Mr Nevens to remove the offensive accumulations at Etherington's Cottages, and had charged the amount to the occupiers, all of whom, with one exception, had paid. He suggested that closing orders should be obtained against Mr Edmondson, unless his property at Burnopfield was put into sanitary condition. He had served notice upon Mr Watson, to have Tanfield Old Hall put into a more satisfactory condition, and to abate the overcrowding; also, to close the rooms which are unfit for habitation. Tanfield Grange was at present unfit for habitation, owing to defective and dangerous walls. Middle Friarside Farmhouse was quite unfit for habitation, owing to defective walls, roofs, and ceilings. Several houses at Tantobie were in a more or less insanitary condition, and the conveniences were very filthy. Many cases of waste of water had occurred in the district. It was decided to obtain closing orders in several cases. The Inspector was instructed to show Mr Watson the required improvements at Tanfield Hall. In respect to Mr Edmondson's property, Mr Davis said that the people were putting ashes outside their houses, and were causing an intolerable nuisance.—The Chairman stated that he was in full agreement with all that Mr Davis had said. He would, however, like the Inspector to communicate with the people before taking closing orders.—The report was adopted.

FOOTPATH TO SOUTH GARESFIELD COLLIERY.

A petition was received from 278 inhabitants of the district, asking for the provision of a suitable footpath to the village of South Garesfield. The petitioners stated that there was a population of 250, and every article required had to be brought through a road on which there was several inches of slime. The condition of the road was both disgraceful and dangerous. The petitioners pointed out that they paid a sum of £400 yearly to the Council, for which they received no return whatever.—Mr Bulmer said that the inhabitants had to take ærial flights to get to the highway. (Laughter). There was no road for the bairns to travel to the school.—Mr Archdall said that he was chairman of the committee when the deputation waited upon them. Since then he had seen a member of the deputation, who told him that Mr Bolam, the land agent, had promised to give the land for the making of the footpath as far as Friarside. The footpath would be a great benefit, and people would use it to get to Lintz Green Station. It would be necessary to pull down a stable at Low Friarside, and the owner was willing to allow this on condition that the Council would build up the gable end.—It was decided that the Chairman should obtain further information to lay before the Council.

MR. BULMER AND THE QUEEN'S REIGN.

Mr Bulmer said that he had a resolution to bring forward, which he would like to be sent to the North Eastern Railway Company through the Council. It might have some influence, especially in the face of the recent accident at Oxhill.—Mr Holmes objected. Mr Bulmer ought to have given notice of the motion.—The Chairman said that the resolution had something to do with the Queen's Commemoration. He would prefer that Mr Bulmer should give notice of it.—Mr Warwick: We want nothing to do with the North-Eastern Railway Company.—Mr Bulmer thereupon gave notice that at the next meeting, he would propose "That we commemorate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in our respective districts by influencing the North-Eastern Rail[illegible] directors to open a booking office at Shield [illegible]tation, on the north platform, believing [illegible]s will prevent any passengers from [illegible] double line of rails, which will ulti[illegible]ean that in case this petition is refused, [illegible]ow that there would be a loss of life at [illegible].—The Council then rose.

KYO.

[illegible]AN ENTERTAINMENT.—An entertain[illegible]iven in the Wesleyan Mission Room, [illegible] evening, the programme consisting [illegible] of solos, duets, violin solos, and [illegible]iven by the East Castle Band of [illegible]orge Dunn officiated as chairman, [illegible]chardson acted as harmonist. [illegible]ere devoted to the Trust Funds.

Late Advertisement.

MONDAY, MARCH 8th, 1897.

N. ELSDON will sell on his Premises, 100 Ladies' and Children's JACKETS, also a Quantity of FURNITURE, 2 Silver LEVER WATCHES.

Anyone with Surplus Stock, cannot do better than send it for sale.

Sale at One o'clock.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

(Before His Honour, JUDGE MEYNELL).

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2nd, 1897.

A COLLISION NEAR STANLEY.

Isaac Brown, miner, Medomsley, was sued by Thomas Wadge, cab proprietor, West Stanley, for £3 19s 6d, as damages to a trap from a collision, which took place on December 13th, 1896. Mr McCartan represented the plaintiff, and Mr Robson (from Mr T. W. Welford's) appeared for the defendant.—The plaintiff stated that on the 13th of December last, he was driving a Whitechapel from Consett to Stanley. There were three men in the trap. On reaching Cement Houses, he saw a similar conveyance coming towards them. He was driving on the left side of the road, but the vehicle that was approaching was on the wrong side. Plaintiff shouted, "Look out," but no notice was taken by the defendant, who drove straight into his trap, the result being that the shafts were both broken, and the ironwork was twisted out of shape. All who were riding in the trap were thrown out.—Cross-examined: Plaintiff was showing lamps. He was sober, and had not touched intoxicating drink for thirty years.—Sergeant Vickers was called to prove a conviction against the defendant for being drunk in charge on the night in question, and corroborative evidence was given by J. Stelling and John Brown, after which the defendant was called, and entirely repudiated the suggestion that he was in the wrong. He was only driving about five miles an hour. He had something to drink at Foster's, but was not intoxicated. The reason he did not bring any witnesses to Lanchester was because Sergt. Vickers had told him that he was sorry that he had taken out the summons, and it would eventually turn out alright.—Thomas Walton, M. Gordon, William Walton, and Robert Gillender, gave similar evidence, but His Honour found for the plaintiff for the amount claimed, to be paid in 28 days.

ACTION AGAINST DIPTON MINERS.

Elijah Johnson and William Slater, were sued by Messrs John Bowes and Partners for arrears of rent accumulated since the closing of the Delight Colliery.—Messrs Alfred Phillipson and Thomas Clark gave evidence, which showed that though the defendants had received notices, they had continued to reside in the workmen's cottages, at Dipton.—The amounts claimed, £13 and £1 7s respectively, were awarded to the plaintiffs.

A MARRIED WOMAN'S "PROPERTY."

Barbara Starford, of Happy Land, near Iveston, wife of a miner, claimed £10 damages from Robert Thompson, of Red House Farm, near Maiden Law, for alleged breach of warranty in reference to the sale of a cow. Mr J. L. Leadbitter (Catchgate) was for the plaintiff, who was questioned by His Honour as to her separate estate. She stated that she had no property in her own right before she married, but had been economical in her housekeeping, and had saved sufficient to buy the cows out of the money her husband had given her from time to time.—The Judge: But it is still your husband's property.—Mrs Starford (emphatically): He has nothing whatever to do with it.—Mr Leadbitter asked His Honour to amend the summons and to make the husband a party to the suit, but he refused to do so, unless the man attended and gave his authority. The case was non-suited, plaintiff having to pay the defendant's costs.

ACTION FOR THE BITE OF A DOG.

Ada Isabella Branch, wife of a miner, residing at Dipton, entered an action against John Thos. Robinson, colliery manager, South Medomsley, for £5 as damages sustained from the effects of a bite from a dog.—Mr Leadbitter, for the plaintiff, stated that he would have to forego the £2 claimed as damages for the shock, and with respect to the items for the torn macintosh, cape, and skirt, they could not prove any previous knowledge——.—His Honour: You cannot prove *scienta*.—Mr Leadbitter: No, we cannot prove that the defendant had any previous knowledge that the dog was vicious, but they were entitled to recover for the damage to the clothing.—His Honour: If you cannot prove *scienta* you cannot show me any authority for sueing for damages.—Plaintiff was non-suited, with leave to bring a fresh action if *scienta* could be established.

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO DEFRAUD CREDITORS.

John Dawson, of South Moor, described as a miner, made application for an order for the administration of his affairs. The applicant, for whom Mr Leadbitter appeared, had accumulated debts amounting to £40 18s 9d, and he offered 10s in the pound.—His Honour, however, pointed out that the majority of the creditors opposed this composition, and Mr Leadbitter, for the debtor, offered to pay 20s in the pound, at 12s per month.—Mr Martin (Nicholson & Martin, solicitors, West Stanley), opposed on behalf of Miss Gray, grocer, South Moor. — James Smith, a local tradesman, who obtained judment against debtor at the last Court, now informed the Judge that Dawson had other sources of income beyond that of a miner. He acted as a pork butcher, and advertised himself as a bicycle agent, and repaired all sorts of machines.—Debtor acknowledged that he occasionally killed a pig for poor people. He was not a cycling agent, but he sometimes repaired old machines.—Mr Smith further declared that Dawson, before filing his request, went to Miss Gray and others, and informed these parties that if they would not press their claims against him, he would pay them every penny that he owed.— Debtor disputed this allegation, which, however, was borne out on oath by Miss Gray.—His Honour said that, in regard to one person at least, the applicant had attempted to commit a fraud upon his own creditors. He had also misdescribed himself as a miner, whereas he derived an income from other sources.—The Judge refused the order asked for.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

WESLEYAN SOCIAL.—As a result of the social and tea, given by Miss Welsh, last Wednesday, the sum of £4 11s has been raised for the Renovation Fund.

MARRIAGE OF A LOCAL TRADESMAN.—On Monday, a marriage was solemnised, at the Muggleswick Parish Church, between Mr Wm. Maddison, butcher, Annfield Plain, and Miss Thompson, Waskerley. The wedding was of a very quiet character.

MARRIAGE OF A LOCAL FOOTBALLER.—On Wednesday morning, a marriage was celebrated at Hare Law Church, between Mr Peter Bell, the well-known half-back of the Annfield Plain Celtic Football Club, and Miss Martha Donaldson Bell, daughter of Mr Thomas Bell, of Pontop Rows. The ceremony was performed by the Rev E. Henderson, curate of Collierley. The bride, who was given away by her father, was dressed in cream, with satin ribbons, and hat of cream velvet, with tips to match. The bridesmaids were Miss M. A. Spark, of Middlesbrough, and Miss M. A. Richardson, of West Kyo. They were dressed in blue, and wore cream-coloured hats. The groomsmen were Mr William Bell (brother) and Mr William Bell (brother of the bride). Amongst the numerous presents received by the happy couple were—Mrs A. Bell, sewing machine; Mrs T. Bell, bed; Mr John Bell, gypsy table; Mr Tom Bell, pair of plates, sugar, and milk jug; Mrs Robinson Bell, half-dozen tea cups, saucers, and plates; Mrs Pickervance, towels; Mrs Handcock, butter cooler; Mrs Lazenby, silver jelly dish; Mrs and Miss Dawson, biscuit jar, butter cooler, sugar, and milk jug; Miss Maddison, silver cruet stand; Mrs Atkinson, pair of plates and wine glass; Mrs Lumley, piano and butter cooler; Mrs Foster, three cups and saucers, basin, and plates; Mrs Freik, pair of bath towels; Miss Freik, jelly dish; Miss M. B. Freik, breakfast cruet; Mrs Heslop, pair of sheets; Mrs Wearmouth, table cloth; Miss Watchman, pair of bread plates; Miss J. Gibson, set of ornaments; Mrs Smith, brushes and pail; Miss Smith, frying pan; Mr and Mrs Ben Johnson, half-dozen silver spoons and bath towel; Mrs Atkinson, pair of plates and wine glass; Mrs Bullerwell, kettle; Miss Martin, jelly dish and wine glasses; Mrs Armstrong, pair of bath towels; Mrs Bainbridge, brass kettle stand; Mrs Dodds, tablecloth; Mrs Jobling, tablecloth and towels; Mrs J. Armour, half-dozen tea cups and saucers; Mrs M. Jobling, half-dozen tea knives; Mrs Jos. Bell, half-dozen silver teaspoons; Miss N. Gibson, pair of tea towels; Miss Stobbs, plates; Miss Pearson, sugar basin and milk jug; Mrs Thompson, flower basket, sugar basin, milk jug, &c.; Miss Learmouth, pair of towels; Miss Mitchell, pair of fancy plates; Mrs Cuthbert, pair of fancy plates; Mrs Horswell, pair of ornaments; Mrs Elliott, pan and steamer; Mrs Brydon, leatherwork; Miss Spark, fancy antimacassar; Mrs W. Vitty, breakfast cruet; Mr I. Wood, sugar basin, milk jug, and plates; and others. The bridescake was supplied by Messrs John Hall and Company.

IMPORTANT TO INVENTORS.—We have received a copy of "A Circular of Information," published by Mr G. J. Clarkson (Original Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Patent Agents, and licensed patent agent, of 6, Finkle Street, Stockton-on-Tees, and of Chestnut Avenue, Queen's Road, Hull). It is a book of twenty-four pages, and treats exhaustively of the requirements of the law in connection with the protection afforded by letters patent. Additional information is also given in reference to what constitutes a trade mark, capable of registration. The work is beautifully got up, and contains a large amount of extremely useful information. It can be obtained, gratis and post free, by writing to either of the above addresses.

TANFIELD.

NEW INFIRMARY FUND.—A meeting was held at Pickering Nook Board School, on Tuesday evening. There were present Mr H. C. Wood, J.P. (presiding), Mr Dawson (Honorary Secretary), Rev. T. H. Archdall, M.A., Mr B. Mason, Councillors Rodham, Turnbull, and Warwick, Messrs Braidford, Abbott, Jackson, and some other members of the Committee. The total sum collected in the urban district of Tanfield is £257, after deducting all expenses.—Mr Archdall proposed votes of thanks to the Chairman and the Secretary, which were seconded by Mr B. Mason, and Councillor Turnbull respectively, and carried by acclamation.

STANLEY.

LATE FOOTBALL.—The Alliance Committee have decided that the fixture between Stanley and Gateshead N. E. R., which was stopped ten minutes before time on account of darkness, shall be replayed at Gateshead, on cuptie terms.

CO-OPERATIVE UNION.—A meeting of the employees of the West Stanley Co-operative Society, was held on Wednesday night, Mr Eli Hawes presiding; when addresses were delivered by Mr McLean, of West Pelton; and other gentlemen showing the advantages of the Amalgamated Union of Co-operative employees. It was decided to form a branch of the Union at West Stanley.

FOOTBALL.—The following team has been chosen to represent Stanley Wednesday, next Wednesday:—Goal, C Lambton; backs, J Bell (captain), and R Cunningham; half-backs, J Surtees, J Robinson, and Isaac Newton; forwards, J Paxton, J Ritson, R Whitfield, R Lewes, and T Masterman.

DEATH OF MISS ELSIE JACKSON.—Miss Elsie Jackson, the only daughter of Mr Thomas J. Jackson, printer, died on Sunday, having been ill with scarlet fever for several days. The interment took place on Wednesday, at St. Andrew's Church, and in the presence of a very large gathering of friends. General sympathy is felt with Mr and Mrs Jackson, in their bereavement.

POLICE NEWS.—At Stanley Police Court, on Monday, before Mr George Ridley, penalties of 5s and costs, with the option of seven days' imprisonment each, were imposed upon Thomas Barlow, Joseph Barlow, and George Reay, for being drunk in Front Street, on Saturday evening.—Robert Whittaker, for a similar offence, was fined 2s 6d and costs.—P.C's. Robson, Simpson, and Iceton proved the cases.

LECTURE AND COFFEE SUPPER.—On Saturday evening, Miss Johnson, who is conducting a series of revival services at the Primitive Methodist Church, lectured on "Hodgkin Casson," before a large attendance. Subsequently, a well attended supper was given, the tables being presided over by Mrs Buglass, Mrs Thompson, Mrs Lindon, Mrs Clough, Miss Scott, Miss Armstrong, and the two Miss Heys.

ACCIDENT IN THE STREET.—On Monday afternoon, as the scholars of St. Joseph's School were leaving, a boy named James Welsh, son of Mr Laurence Welsh, of Douglas Street, Stanley, was running across the street, when a trap proceeding down the road, knocked him down, and ran across his right foot and shoulder. The person in the trap proceeded straight on his journey, and a number of the boy's schoolmates had to assist him to his home. He is progressing favourably.

RACE MEETING.—A meeting of the Stanley Race Committee, was held at the Bird Inn, on Tuesday night, when on the recommendation of the Sites Committee, it was agreed that the races should be held on Easter Monday, on a site at Shield Row, within 200 yards of last year's site. The site chosen is on land belonging to Mr J. Watson. Amongst those present at the meeting were Mr T. C. Rawes, Consett; Mr S. Leighton, and Mr T. Simpson, Craghead; Messrs M. H. Simpson, J. Lowes, Geo. Watson, Jos. Watson, J. Laybourne, H. Lindon, G. Lee, and M. Coates, Stanley.

MARRIAGE OF CAPTAIN CROSSLING.—Considerable interest was taken locally in the marriage between Captain Thomas Crossling, of the 1st B.D.L.I., and Miss Marget Leak, late infant schoolmistress at East Stanley Board School. The wedding took place at Rawdon Parish Church, near Leeds, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. S. H. Mills, in the presence of a very numerous company of friends. Numerous presents were received. A large party was held at the residence of the bride's parents, and, subsequently, the happy couple left for London, where the honeymoon is to be spent.

VICTORIA THEATRE.—An exceptionally fine performance is being given this week by Mr Preston Vasey's clever company, of an interesting piece entitled, "Saved from the streets." All the members seem so thoroughly suited to their respective parts, that it would be invidious to particularise, but the two waifs, Ive and Jim, are portrayed in truly artistic manner by Miss Frances Ferina and Miss Marie Sariva, the first-named executing a pretty dance, which, with her piquant style, at once won the hearts of her audience. Comedy and music enliven the drama, which is staged in a first-class style, the scenery being extremely realistic.

ACCIDENTS AT THE SOUTH TANFIELD COLLIERY.—A couple of accidents occurred recently at the South Tanfield Colliery, though happily neither of them are likely to have a fatal termination. The first happened last Friday, when a coalhewer named John Smith sustained severe injuries to the head through a fall of stone. He was rendered unconscious, and had to be assisted to his home at 54, Oxhill. He made very satisfactory progress towards recovery, and was able to resume work on Monday. In the second case, the injuries are, we regret to say, of a more serious nature. The victim is a putter lad named Thomas Smith, and early on Monday morning he received a nasty kick on the shoulder from a horse. He, however, remained at his work, and was engaged in loosing the horse about twelve o'clock, when it again kicked him, this time inflicting a serious wound on the back of the head and the neck. He was carried in an unconscious condition to his home at 18, Oxhill, where he was attended by Doctor Anderson.

DRAUGHTS HANDICAP.—The draw for the draughts handicap, in connection with the Stanley Draughts Club, was made last Saturday, and resulted as follows:—

CLASS				CLASS
20	G. Armstrong	v.	W. Harrison	18
14	C. Dowse	v.	P. Logan	11
20	W. Thompson	v.	D. Wilkinson	16
25	P. Malone	v.	W. Kennedy	16
30	T. Oswald	v.	L. Lowes	30
28	F. Willey	v.	J. Cutter	30
11	H. Pendleton	v.	J. Flynn	20
12	R. Pendleton	v.	J. Tomkins	12
30	G. Watkins	v.	J. H. Benfold	17
30	T. Errington	v.	Isaac Harkness	5
18	R. Barron	v.	G. Mains	30
30	C. Lambert	v.	J. Spedding	18
14	R. Parker	v.	T. McLaren	6
10	J. Littleton	v.	J. Clark	5
16	R. Davis	v.	W. Drugan	17
22	W. Robson	v.	J. Armstrong	20
26	J. Bell	v.	F. Southgate	20
22	J. Ivery	v.	J. Alderdice	9
26	R. Bell	v.	C. Ross	7
9	J. Walker	v.	J. Routledge	18
12	P. Coleman	v.	J. Macguire	16
10	J. Turner	v.	J. Pallas	30
26	R. Bell	v.	T. Murray	30
18	B. Piggins	v.	G. Tinning	16
9	H. Jackson	v.	G. Grey	30

Players residing at a distance, are requested to attend at the Stanley Hotel, next Saturday. Mr J. Clark officiates as handicapper.

BILLIARD HANDICAP.—A billiard handicap was recently promoted at the Joicey Square Reading Room, the first prize being a guinea cue, presented by Messrs Burroughs and Watts, of London. The second and third prizes were respectively of the value of six and three shillings. The games were played 200 up, and the entries numbered 27. Appended is a list of the results—First round, F Bowden (scratch) beat William Clark (10) by 13; James Smith (owes 20) beat John Bulman (10) by 35; R S[illegible]r (80) beat George Wilby (25) by 22; John Ord (10) beat John Smith (70) by 41; Wm. Emmerson (25) beat Thomas Stobbart (25) by 73; Thomas Lee (5) beat James Fitcher (20) by 16; Richard Cox (60) beat Jos. Winwood, junr. (55) by 18; Harry Curry (40) beat George Bird (owes 20) by 31; George Urwin (45) beat Thos. McGuire (70) by 12; Thos. White (owes 10) beat Reuben Bird (60) by 14; John Welsh (45) beat William Dodds (25) by 1; Robert Thompson (owes 10) beat Richard Sanderson (25) by 14; F Harrison (scratch) beat Thos. Lynn (45) by 47; J Winwood, senr., a bye.—Second round, Bowden beat Winwood, senr. by 18; Smith beat Scorer by 35; Ord beat Emmerson by 25; Cox beat Lee by 36; Urwin beat Curry by 31; Wright beat Welsh by 45; Thompson beat Harrison by 18.—Third round, Smith beat Bowden by 75; Wright beat Urwin by 57; Ord beat Cox by 30; Thompson a bye.—Fourth round, Smith beat Thompson by 50; Ord beat Wright by 29.—Final, Smith beat Ord by 57. Third prize to be played for by Thompson and Wright.

MR LEMONTE'S VARIETY COMPANY.—As will be seen by a glance at our advertising columns, Madame Lemonte's famous Ladies orchestra and variety company, are this week appearing nightly in the Co-operative Hall. The company is one of exceptional excellence, and we strongly advise our readers to take the opportunity of witnessing at least one performance. The first part of the programme is rendered by the ladies band, consisting of twelve performers, under the conductorship of Madame Hansford. The soloists are Miss Grace Beresford, (violin); Miss M. Tomlinson, (cornet and post horn); Miss Bessie Knill (mandoline); Miss Lillian (soprano); Miss Della Swarbrick (Ballad Singer); Miss Gracie Mervyn (Comic skipper and skirt dancer); and Miss Lillie Milton, (the clever child impersonater). The whole of the artistes are thoroughly proficient in their work. The other attractions include Lemonte, the wonderful quick-change artiste. Perhaps, however, the most taking part of the whole programme, is the performance of Professor Hampson's happy family of dogs, cats, rats, birds, mice, and monkeys. The animals have attained a wonderful state of perfection. Mr Robert Pearson causes much amusement as a comic ventriloquist, and much interest is bestowed on the autograph, a recent invention, somewhat similar to the cinematograph. A couple of grand sacred concerts are to be given in the hall on Sunday afternoon and evening.

TANFIELD SCHOOL BOARD.

A meeting of the above Board was held on Tuesday evening, at the Urban District Council Office, Stanley, Mr H. C. Wood presiding. There were also present the Rev T. H. Archdall, the Rev Jas. Thompson, Messrs W. Bulmer, J. Green, M. G. Armstrong, B. Mason, and W. H. Ritson (clerk).

SECULARISTS AND THE SCHOOLS.

Mr Cruddas, Secretary of the Stanley and Oxhill Secularist Society wrote asking the Board to allow the Society the use of a schoolroom for a couple of hours or so, on Saturday or Sunday nights. A class room capable of holding thirty or forty people would be suitable for this purpose.—The Chairman said that there could be little objection to allowing the Secularists the use of a school on Saturday nights.—Mr Armstrong: We ought to know what school they require.—The Chairman said that he was opposed to allowing the Secularists the use of the schools on Sundays.—Several members pointed out that the Stanley Schools were all engaged on Sundays.—The Clerk was instructed to reply, asking for such definite information as to the time and school which they required, also to state that the Board had no objection to allowing the Society the use of a schoolroom for Saturday night meetings.

THE WEST STANLEY SCHOOLS.

A letter was received from Mr Wm. Johnson, of Dipton, stating that he had made a mistake in the amount of his tender for the extensions to the West Stanley Schools, having committed two errors, which affected the tender to the amount of £104 11s 3d, making the full amount £3323, as against £3220, the original accepted tender.—After considerable discussion, Mr Armstrong moved, and Mr Archdall seconded, that the amended tended be accepted.—The Chairman said that, in his opinion, the only honourable course for the Board to adopt was to allow every one of the original contractors to re-tender.—Mr Severs agreed with the Chairman. The other contractors were just as much entitled to amend their tenders as Mr Johnson. He proposed that the whole of the original contractors be asked to supply amended tenders.—Mr Green seconded the amendment.—On a division, there voted for the amendment—Messrs Wood, Severs, Green, and Mason; against—Messrs Armstrong, Archdall, Thompson, and Bulmer.—The Chairman gave his casting vote in support of the amendment.—Mr Armstrong: Is it not rather a farce to confine it to the contractors who have already tendered? I move that the contract be open, and that advertisements be inserted in the newspapers. It is just as well to have more contractors in the field.—Father Thompson seconded, and the proposition was adopted.—It was agreed to advertise in the Newcastle dailies and the Consett newspapers.—This concluded the business.

DIPTON.

THE DIPTON WOUNDING CASE.—At the Durham Assizes, on Wednesday last, before the Lord Chief Justice, Louisa Ann Slater (26) was charged, under circumstances already reported in our columns, with causing grievous bodily harm with intent, to Martha Ann Slater, at Dipton, on October 29th.—Mr Hedderwick, M.P. (instructed by Mr T. W. Welford), prosecuted, and Mr Simey (instructed by Mr J. McCartan) defended.—The jury found prisoner not guilty, and she was discharged.

WESTWOOD.

CONCERT.—On Saturday, a successful tea and concert were held in the Westwood Board Schools, on behalf of the Armenian Relief Fund, promoted jointly by the Westwood Women's Liberal Association, and the Hamsterley branch of the Derwent Valley Habitation of the Primrose League. The tea was entirely provided by members belonging to the two Associations. There were four tables, presided over by Mesdames Surtees, Van Thelier, Pumphrey, Ridley, Coxford, Mulholland, Armstrong, and Miss Davison, ably assisted by Mesdames Charlton, Hetherington, Armstrong, Stonehouse, Brown, Cawthorn, Morgan and Luckley. At the concert in the evening Mr Palmer (Medomsley) presided, and Messrs Chaytor and Storey were responsible for the programme.

BLACKHILL.

ORGAN RECITAL.—Our readers will observe that an organ recital will be given in the Presbyterian Church, on Wednesday next. The programme is well arranged, being interspersed with songs, and promises to be a great musical treat.

DEATH OF MRS TROTTER.—We regret to have to announce the death of Mrs Trotter, the wife of Mr Andrew Trotter, which took place on Wednesday last. The deceased lady was universally esteemed, and her demise will be everywhere regretted.

BILLIARD HANDICAP.—A billiard handicap took place in the Mechanics' Institute on Tuesday evening, between a team from that Institute and one from the Consett Reading and Recreation Rooms. The result was a victory for the homesters by 57 points. The following were the individual scores:—R. Forster (100) beat W. Atkinson (87); C. Merritt (100) beat J. Barrow (20); J. W. Bryant (100) beat F. Brodie (74); J. Siddle (100) beat S. Raynor (84).

LEADGATE.

LATE FOOTBALL.—The Exiles have arranged for a visit from that strong Newcastle team, Rutherford College. The kick-off is fixed for 3-30 and the home team will be—Goal, Callaghan; backs, J. Brannen and W. McGee; half-backs, P. Matthews, T. McGrachan, and J. Haggan; forwards, M. Brannen, P. Haley, M. Doyle, J. McGee, and B. Rogers.

We call our readers' attention to the entertainment promoted by the Leadgate Exiles' A.F.C. They have engaged, at great expense, the services of the world-renowned wizard, conjuror, and entertainer, Professor Lenton, of London. His skill is described by the entire Press as simply marvellous. Two splendid prizes are also offered for a singing contest. The entertainment will commence at 7-30 p.m. on Wednesday next, March 10th, 1897, in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate.

CONCERT.—A successful promenade concert was held in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate, on Monday evening. The hall was crowded to excess, and it is expected that a handsome sum will be realised. Amongst those present were Revs T. Varley, R. Tuson, C. Shrewsbury, Councillor and Mrs G. Nicholson, J.P., Councillor and Mrs Whitfield, Councillor T. Foreman, Mr F. Harrison, Miss Harrison, Mr C. T. Foreman, Mr W. Gardiner, Mr J. Thompson, Miss Little, Miss M. Nicholson, Mr and Mrs Grainger, Mr J. E. Parker, Miss Parker, Miss N. Robson, Mr Jos. Sloane, Mr J. O. Todd, Mr and Mrs Kinleside, and others. The Rev C. Shrewsbury in a neat little speech opened the concert. He expressed regret at the unavoidable absence of Messrs Wild and Stephenson, and concluded by asking the Consett Amateur Orchestra to open the programme. The artistes were Miss Bell, Chester-le-Street; Miss Power, Leadgate; Mr J. B. Robson, Mr Kennedy, Mrs Goulden, Mr J. Davis, and Miss Coulthard. The programme was as follows:—Overture, band; selection, band; song, "The Holy City," Miss Bell; song, "Rocked in the cradle of the deep," Mr Kennedy; song (comic) encored, Mr Davis; song, Mrs Goulden; promenade polka, orchestra; song, Mrs Coulthard; song, Miss Bell; song (comic), encored, Mr Davy; song (encored), Miss Power; "God save the Queen." The concert, which was a very good one, concluded at about 10 p.m.

CONSETT.

LAW OF DISTRESS AMENDMENT ACT.—Messrs J. S. Murray, T. D. Dryden, and W. Rowe were, on Wednesday last, appointed as bailiffs under this Act.

POOLE'S MYRIORAMA.—This celebrated entertainment will be given next week, at the New Town Hall, when a long, interesting, and varied programme will be given.

NEW THEATRE.—Visitors at this place of amusement are this week treated to a very realistic glimpse at the ways and wonders of the "New World," which includes some taking variety work, the specialities introduced by Mr Frank Stanert and Miss Jeanna Binns being particularly excellent. The acting throughout is good and the scenery attractive.

THE RAILWAY EMPLOYEES STRIKE.—Meetings of the members of the local branch of the A.S.R.S. were held on Thursday evening in last week, and on Sunday afternoon, when resolutions were adopted confirming a determination to stand by the decision of the main body of men, after the conference between the directors and the mens' representatives, on the 12th inst.

RAILWAY APPOINTMENT. — Mr Alexander McAdam, formerly of Percy Main and Bedlington, who has acted as a booking clerk at Consett Station since its opening in August last, has obtained an important appointment on the Cape of Good Hope Government railways, and will set sail on the 20th inst.

WESLEYAN CHURCH SOCIAL.—A social gathering, promoted by the young ladies of the Church and Sunday Schools, was held on Wednesday evening, in the New Schools. There was a good attendance, presided over by Mr Ed. Hobday, Consett. A miscellaneous programme of music, &c., was rendered during the evening, and refreshments were served up in good style by the young ladies. There was a good attendance, all seeming to thoroughly well enjoy themselves. The proceeds were in aid of the young ladies' stall, to be held in connection with the large bazaar, to be held in the spring of 1898, and we have no hesitation in saying that the young ladies will have materially benefitted financially as the result of last night's social gathering. The following contributed towards the evening's entertainment—Recitations, Miss Graham and Mr G. T. Broadbent; pianoforte solo, Mr Wm. Bacon; pianoforte duet, Misses Dunn and Hobday; solos, Misses Walton, Lowrey, and Parsons. The Consett Sunday School Orchestra, under the conductorship of Mr Joseph Spence, rendered various selections of music at intervals, in an inspiring fashion. Mr John Davison presided at the piano for the Orchestra, and Mr Wm. Bacon accompanied the vocalists.

OBITUARY ANNALS
OF
NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

[ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.]

In these papers it is proposed to give some account of the most remarkable occurrences in the whole area of the Lanchester Union during a period of sixty years, beginning in 1837, and bringing the record down to the present time. It is believed that they will prove of interest to most of the readers of the *Consett Chronicle*, and their kind co-operation is requested in making the record as complete as possible. The utmost care has been taken to give nothing that would be likely to cause offence or give pain. Many of the events chronicled will be within the recollection of some of our older readers, and we shall be glad to receive additional facts relative to any of the events or people mentioned. The record has been compiled with great care, and the names and dates may be accepted as absolutely correct. With a view to making this department of the *Chronicle* interesting, the Editor will be glad to answer, free of charge, inquiries respecting the date of the death of any person in North-West Durham during the period covered by the record.

1837.

18 August, Robert Maughan, 27, labourer, Logan House, killed by the falling of a pully.

20 August, Margaret Beckwith, widow, Shotley Bridge, aged 90, accidentally burnt to death.

16 September, James Wilkinson, aged 29, a student at Ushaw College, died of small pox.

25 September, Jonathan Reay, aged 4, killed by a grindstone falling upon him at Esh.

29 September, William Smith, aged 3, burnt to death at Shotley Bridge.

5 November, Samuel Chaytor, clock and watchmaker, Dipton, aged 67.

19 November, Anthony Cummings, shoemaker, Clough Dene, aged 94.

13 December, Ann Wilkinson, aged 94, burnt to death at Esh.

1838.

7 Jan., William Wood, farmer, Toft Gate, chapelry of Tanfield, aged 78.

21 Jan., Thomas Bowes, 36, and Featherston, Hodgson, 21, both of Annfield Plain, killed by the falling of the roof at Pontop Colliery.

30 Jan., Joseph Wright, overlooker, Kyo, aged 84.

2 Feb., John Shaw, aged 35, engineman, killed by the fly wheel of the engine at Annfield Plain.

13 Feb., Fenwick Charlton, pitman, Havannah, aged 90.

25 Feb., George Williams, aged 45, gardener, Satley, died from exposure.

28 Feb., Margaret Taylor, Cornsay, aged 92.

5 March, Anthony Surtees, gentleman, Hamsterley Hall, aged 71.

13 April, Robert Gibson, pitman, Beamish, aged 93.

13 May, Thomas Turnbull, butler, Tanfield, aged 83.

17 May, Hannah Egglestone, aged 6, burnt to death at Esh.

5 June, Margery Cheesmond, widow, Priestfield, aged 72.

7 June, Joseph Collinson, aged 6, Annfield Cottages, killed by a coal wagon.

9 June, John Railton, cartwright, Rowley, aged 92.

17 June, Andrew Summerson, brickmaker, Hagg House, Medomsley, aged 95.

23 June, Mary Robson, aged 5, burnt to death at Medomsley.

24 June, Elizabeth, wife of John Robinson, farmer, Lanchester, aged 87.

24 June, John Thirlwell, farmer and innkeeper, Shotley Bridge, aged 73.

11 July, Margaret, wife of William Turnbull, late sexton, Tanfield, aged 74.

19 July, Dorothy, widow of Peter Rodham, Bushblades, aged 72.

2 Aug., Ralph Hull, farmer, aged 90, died at Cornsay Alms Houses.

10 Sept., Jane Brady, Boundary House, chapelry of Tanfield, aged 86.

30 Sept., Stephen Smith, pitman, Fondly Set, aged 86.

12 Oct., Mary Ann Greener, aged 2, burnt to death at Lanchester.

23 Oct., George, aged 9, son of William and Ann Harbottle, Annfield Plain, killed by coal wagons going him.

5 Nov., Thomas, aged 10, son of Thomas and Ann Durance, killed at Pontop South Pit.

26 Nov., Isabella, wife of John Stobbart, White-le-Head, aged 86.

23 Nov., George Wailes, farmer, Fines House, aged 68.

1 Dec., Sarah Marshall, aged 65, burnt to death at Muggleswick.

16 Dec., George Clennell, Low Kyo, aged 81.

1839.

4 Jan., Ann Hunter, widow, Dipton, aged 82.

16 Jan., Elizabeth Gray, widow, Ewehurst, aged 92.

26 Jan., Elizabeth Harrison, widow, Clough Dene, aged 88.

26 Jan., Joseph Richardson, farmer, Stannifordam, aged 88.

4 Feb., Joseph Gibson, 21, farmer, Rowley, accidentally shot.

5 Feb., Margaret Wilson, Cornsay Alms Houses, aged 100.

11 Feb., John Oswald, 32, brakesman, White-le-Head, accidentally killed.

13 Feb., James Murton, aged 11, killed in the pit at Shield Row.

28 March, William Brown, pitman, Patrick's Close, aged 95.

2 April, Ellen Heatherington, widow, Iveston, aged 99.

25 April, Thomas Manners, aged 13, Snow's Green, killed by a tub in the pit.

21 May, John Smith, Brooms, aged 80.

6 June, Emanuel Leybourne, mole catcher, Tanfield, aged 88.

18 June, John Teasdale, aged 36, Catherine his wife, aged 33, and George, 5, their son, killed by lightning at Tantobie.

29 June, Stephen Maughan, gardener, Beamish, aged 82.

5 July, William Patterson, farmer, Beamish, aged 76.

6 July, Miss Mary Mole, Kip Hill, aged 85.

20 July, Henry Hodgson, aged 14, killed at Annfield Plain.

4 August, Walter Armstrong, schoolmaster, Tantobie, aged 40.

14 August, William Anderson, Donley Ford, aged 84.

21 August, Michael Bates, aged 82, farmer, Low Stanley, killed by a cart.

3 November, John Thompson, aged 12, killed by falling down the shaft at South Tanfield.

21 December, Catherine Mains, widow, Bryan's Leap, aged 82.

184o.

30 January, William Turnbull, sexton, Tanfield, aged 78.

3 Feb., Joseph Shevels, labourer, Wallnook, aged 91.

18 Feb., Jane, widow of Thomas Forster, Tantobie, aged 83.

28 Feb., William England, 68 years, woodman, Lanchester, accidentally killed.

8 March, William Dargue, shoemaker, Cornsay, aged 94.

8 March, Mary, wife of George Renoldson, farmer, Oxhill, aged 74.

4 April, Jane, widow of Robert Watson, Tantobie, aged 78.

6 April, Jacob Milburn, gardener, Low Collierley, aged 75.

8 April, Isabella, wife of Richard Asquith, Ewehurst, aged 81.

11 April, Ann, wife of John Richardson, White-le-Head, aged 76.

15 April, Tamar, widow of John Dixon, tailor, Dipton, aged 85.

16 April, Elizabeth, wife of Andrew Robinson, farmer, Barcus Close, aged 66.

21 April, George Renoldson, farmer, Oxhill, aged 84.

22 April, Sarah, widow of Henry Richardson, Crook Bank, aged 84.

30 April, William Reaveley, farmer, Low Collierley, aged 79.

20 May, William Leybourne, farmer, Horsley Hope, aged 95.

25 May, Margaret, widow of George Wigham, farmer, Hare Law, aged 70.

6 June, Eleanor, widow of John Williamson, farmer, Marsfield, aged 90.

14 June, Margaret Scurfield, aged 19, Shield Row, "being lunatic, put herself down a pit."

17 June, John Simpson, pitman, Kyo, aged 81.

2 Aug., John Summerbell, labourer, Ushaw, aged 91.

3 Aug., Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Trenholme, Causey Hall, aged 74.

8 Aug., John Gardener, farmer, Blackhill, chapelry of Tanfield, aged 74.

3 Oct., Anthony Shotton, farmer, West Nook, chapelry of Collierley, aged 73.

3 Nov., Elizabeth Robinson, aged 2, accidentally drowned at Medomsley.

13 Nov., William Sanders, aged 21, killed by falling down the pit at South Moor.

11 Dec., William Wailes, farmer, Kyo, aged 76.

1841.

2 Jan., Sarah, widow of Anthony Wild, pitman, Shield Row, aged 86.

11 Jan., Eleanor, widow of John Wright, Burnopfield, aged 74.

16 Jan., John Orm, aged 21, labourer, White-le-Head, killed by coal wagons passing over him.

8 March, Matthew Bates, aged 11, crushed to death at Kyo.

13 March, Mary, widow of Thomas Gray, paper maker, Shield Row, aged 72.

18 March, Stephen Handcock, farmer, Dipton, aged 64.

28 March, Thomas Gowland, aged 13, killed in the mine at Medomsley.

23 April, Elizabeth, widow of Wm. Reaveley, farmer, Low Collierley, aged 78.

1 May, Isabella, wife of Joseph Rodham, pitman, Tantobie, aged 77.

20 May, Mary, widow of John Wilkinson, pitman, Bushblades, aged 80.

25 May, Elizabeth, widow of Anthony Young, blacksmith, Sheep Hill, aged 78.

28 May, Robert Bessford, pitman, Dipton, aged 71.

10 June, Anthony Hedley, aged 64, registrar of births and deaths, killed by falling from his horse. Mr William Walton Thompson, Clerk of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, and father of the present Registrar of Marriages, was appointed in his place the same year.

28 June, Morton John Davison, gentlemen, Beamish Park, aged 63.

19 Aug., Barnabas Edward Smith, aged 21, colliery viewer, Annfield Plain, accidentally killed by falling down a pit.

10 Sept., Margaret, widow of Philip Lawson, farmer, Lanchester, aged 90.

28 Sept., Mary, wife of Edward Mosley, pitman, White-le-Head, aged 74.

7 Oct., Thomas Hogarth, blacksmith, Kyo, aged 78.

23 Oct., Ann, wife of William Lish, mason, Eden Hill, chapelry of Tanfield, aged 73.

4 Nov., Margaret Ann, aged 3 years, and on the following day, William, aged 10, daughter and son of Matthew Johnson, farmer, West Nook, Collierley, died of scarlet fever.

12 Nov., John Iley, aged 14, Derwent Cottages, killed by a drum on the railroad.

1 Dec., Sarah, widow of John Dobie, Tanfield, aged 86.

12 Dec., Peter Robinson, waggonway wright, Tontobie, aged 61.

24 Dec., George Alsop, aged 61, millwright, Dean Hold, killed by a water wheel.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

Correspondents favouring us with their communications, are requested to give the number of the query to which reference is made.

1. LOGAN HOUSE.—Logan House is mentioned as being in the parish of Lanchester. Can any correspondent identify it?

2. CLOCK AND WATCHMAKERS. — Samuel Chaytor, clock and watchmaker, died at Dipton in 1837. We should like to know something about this gentleman.

3. BOUNDARY HOUSE.—This place is mentioned in 1838 as being situated in the chapelry of Tanfield. Where is it, and why was it so called?

4. FONDLY SET.—Can any correspondent give the derivation of this name? The inference is that it was some house placed in an unsuitable situation.

5. ANTHONY SURTEES, OF HAMSTERLEY.—We should like to have some account of this gentleman, who died in 1838.

6. MORTON JOHN DAVISON.—Some particulars of this gentleman, who died at Beamish Park in 1841, would be interesting.

7. THE DOBIES OF TANFIELD. — Elizabeth, widow of John Dobie, died at Tanfield in 1841. Was her husband connected with the famous Tanfield clockmakers?

BEEF AND MALT WINE.

A CHAT WITH MR. GLENDENNING.

This week we are issuing a full-page advertisement—the first that has ever been published in this district. As will be seen by glancing at the page indicated, this advertisement is from the enterprising firm of Messrs. Glendenning, of Newcastle.

Believing that our readers would be interested in the *modus operandi* of the manufacture of the justly famous Beef and Malt Wine, a representative called upon Messrs Glendenning with the object of eliciting some particulars. He was courteously received by Mr G. H. Glendenning, who readily promised all the information that he could impart, "though," he remarked with a significant smile, "you must not enquire into any of our secret processes."

We assured him that this was farthest from our thoughts, and then enquired when the large and ever-increasing business asssciated with the name of Glendenning was founded.

"In 1867," was the reply, "by my father, Mr W. Glendenning. The first shop we occupied was in Clayton Street, from which, however, we quickly moved into Grainger Street West, or, as it was formerly called, St John's Lane. We were the second to occupy a shop in that street after it was re-built. Subsequently we moved into our present premises."

"I believe your business has developed with great rapidity?"

"That is true, and now we are compelled to build new premises where our factory now stands in St Mary's Place."

"I understand that the new building will be large and commodious, and, in fact, an ornament to the town?"

"Let me show you a plan," replied Mr Glendenning, producing a prettily-framed picture, "which has just come from the architects. You will see that it is of two stories, and some of its dimensions may be gleaned from the fact that it is to cover 2,000 square yards, at a total cost of £12,000. Mr H. Graham is the architect."

"It certainly looks well," was the remark of the *Chronicle* representative. "Can you give me some idea of the general arrangements?"

"Well, it will, of course, contain very large cellars for storage purposes, and the principal room will be 100 feet in length. But perhaps you would like to have a glance around the present factory?"

To this we gladly consented, and on the way to St. Mary's Place, which is about a quarter of an hour's walk from Grainger Street, Mr Glendenning gave us some idea of the magnitude of the business. "We employ four travellers," he said, "and have between twelve and fourteen hundred agents in every part of England and Ireland. Quite recently, we ordered 3,456,000 bottles, two tons of pink paper, and 250,000 capsules. We are just issuing some new circulars—our own designs. One, which represents an ancient witch reciting her incantations, sings the praises of our beef and malt wine. We have ordered 2,500,000 copies of this, in addition to half a million of another equally effective circular, which recommends our Coca wine."

"I suppose the beef and malt wine has many striking medicinal properties?"

"Oh, yes; and not very long ago, we received a communication from a local doctor, informing us that it had been the means of restoring a child, whose wasted form indicated the likelihood of a speedy death, to health and strength again. Similar testimonies, quite unsolicited, are continually being sent to us. You will have noticed that the *Lancet* has given us a good word.

By this time, we had reached the factory, which, speaking generally, was completely congested with goods used in the business. Bottles and casks are to be seen on every hand, to say nothing of the pile of pink paper, to which reference has already been made. Every inch of the floor seemed to be occupied, and as the *Chronicle* representative carefully picked his way through the various rooms, he was continually in dread lest an unexpected slip should land him, like a bull in a China shop, in the midst of a mass of breakables. Navigated by Mr Glendenning, however, he safely passed all the rocks and shoals, and was able to gather a general idea of the various processes in operation. The basis of the beef and malt wine, we may say, is old port, which is shipped direct from Oporto to Messrs Glendenning's. This is allowed to mature in large casks, holding about forty or fifty gallons each, after which a compound, extracted by a secret process from beef jelly and malt, is added. It may be mentioned, by the way, that Messrs Glendenning have a standing offer to supply any doctor with half a bottle for the purpose of analysis. The coca wine is prepared from the leaves of the Erythroxylon Coca—a shrub cultivated in South America. This is a powerful and natural stimulant for both body and brain.

We paid a visit to Messrs Glendenning's laboratory. Here we saw the founder of the firm, who is an amateur chemist, busily engaged. He received us cordially, but we did not remain long, for here the secret processes, already indicated, are carried on, and as human nature is undeniably curious, we fled from temptation, and, after tasting a glass of the celebrated Beef and Malt Wine, turned our feet in the direction of the Central Station.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The monthly meeting of the above body was held on Thursday, Mr William Logan presiding. There were also present the Rev P. C. Fortin, and Messrs G. Hobson, A. Kuhlmann, J. W. Taylor, Jas. Oliver, E. Sloane, J. Green, E. Wigham, Wm. Bulmer, Wm. Young, E. Nicholson, R. Kay, T. Lowdon, Braidford, G. D. Powell, R. Burleigh, W. Collier, W. Gray, W. Indian, T. Longstaff, W. Aynsley, Pumphrey, T. J. Muse, G. Wailes, V. Dunn, Wilkinson, Miss Gibson, Miss Pelle, Mrs P. Taylor-Smith, and Mr W. H. Ritson (clerk).

A NEW MEMBER.

The Chairman said that he was pleased to welcome a new member, in the person of Mr Venice Dunn, of Consett. He believed that he would prove an acquisition to the Board. (Applause).

MASTER'S REPORT.

Mr Brotherhood reported that the father of the lad, Philip Ward, had written, stating that he had paid the railway company the fare to Middlesbrough. He sent the boy off on the 8th. On the 16th, he admitted a boy, named James Scott, aged four years, whose father had been sent to gaol for three months.

ALTERATIONS TO THE INFIRMARY BUILDINGS.

The Chairman intimated that, together with the Local Government Board Inspector, he had gone through the whole of the plans for the alterations to the Infirmary buildings, as approved by the Visiting Committee, and the Inspector had expressed himself as generally satisfied with the scheme. He suggested that some of the windows in the wards might be closed up. Mr Rounthwaite thought the suggestion a very good one, and had carried it into effect. The only other point of controversy was the covering in of a space between the old block and the new Infirmary.

Mr Green enquired the amount of the Architect's estimate.

The Chairman: It is not made out yet.

Mr Powell: Who is the architect

The Chairman: Mr Rounthwaite. I would suggest that the matter be referred to him, so that he can prepare his specifications and forward to the Visiting Committee.—This course was agreed to.

LAUNDRY ALTERATIONS.

Father Fortin, speaking on behalf of the Visiting Committee, said that some time ago, they received a plan for a laundry from Messrs Summerscales, of Keighly, which did not meet with the approval either of the Local Government Inspector or the Committee. The great difficulty that they had had to deal with was that the Inspector insisted upon such an arrangement of the new laundry and wash-house, as to make it absolutely unnecessary for any of the women to be in the same yard as the men. According to the position of the present buildings, this was impossible, because the laundry, wash-house, and boiler-houses were all in the old women's yard. This was a very serious difficulty, which they had tried to obviate. They had applied to the North-Eastern Railway Company, and after some trouble and delay, they had succeeded in obtaining the offer of a large piece of ground at the east end of the building. Unfortunately, in the draft agreement, there was a clause which simply nullified the whole thing, and this was that either party might determine the agreement by giving the other one calendar month's notice, and on receiving such notice from the North-Eastern Railway Company, the Guardians must remove the fence, which was to be erected, or in the event of their failure to do so, the North-Eastern Railway Company could do so at the expense of the Guardians. It was impossible for the Committee to ask the Board to spend £2,000 on the understanding that the arrangements could be cancelled at a month's notice. He had seen Mr Cudworth, one of the railway engineers, who said that it was possible to have the conditions amended. The Board could not possibly take the ground on these conditions. Mr Cudworth had suggested that some members of the Board should interview Mr Harrison, the chief engineer, and see if some better arrangement could be come to. The whole matter had been carefully considered by the Visiting Committee, and on behalf of that Committee, he (Father Fortin) suggested that some one should be authorised to interview Mr Harrison, and see if a better understanding could be arrived at.

Mr Powell said that there was another difficulty besides the one suggested by Father Fortin, with reference to the Railway Company. £2,000 seemed to be a large sum of money to spend on a laundry.

The Chairman said that £2,000 meant a yearly interest of £80, and that sum would pay for a very large quantity of washing without troubling to erect a laundry.

Mr Green said that Father Fortin expressed regret that they were getting on so slowly. He (Mr Green) was very sorry that they were not stopped altogether. They could get the washing done in the village for £80 a year.

The Chairman said that the conditions were the same as were usually enforced by the North-Eastern Railway Company.

Mr Taylor: What is the estimate for the building?

Father Fortin: We have not obtained one.

Mr Aynsley thought that it was £300.

Mr Taylor: How do you arrive at the £2,000 then?

Father Fortin said that the £2,000 was his own estimate, but the only distinct tender that they had obtained was £600 for machinery.

The Chairman said that the main difficulty was not with the Railway Company, but with the Local Government Board Inspector, who insisted upon the sexes being kept entirely apart.

Mr Kay: What were the North-Eastern Railway Company's terms?

The Chairman: They only asked an acknowledgment of twenty shillings a year.

Father Fortin said that it was the best arrangement that they could come to. The only difficulty in his mind was the month's notice.

The Chairman said that the first thing for them to do was to get a clear and distinct estimate of the entire expense. If the scheme was going to cost £2,000, he thought that the laundry work should be sent out. The Railway Company would not allow them, at the most, a lease of longer that three years. It seemed to him to be a piece of waste land, which would never be required by the Railway Company, and notice of one month was, in his opinion, as good as one of twenty-one years.

Mr Kay: I think so.

Mr Wood: Have the Guardians come to a decision to build this new laundry?

The Chairman replied in the negative. A plan had been prepared by Messrs Summerscales, and from it, it would be possible to get fairly accurate estimates.

Mr Wood said that, first of all, they wanted to know whether they had decided to build a laundry. He protested strongly against the manner in which they conducted business on the Board. They had matters brought up as of small expense, but they gradually grew, and they never knew where they were until they had run themselves into very great expense.

Father Fortin said that the Committee had been unable to do anything until they knew whether they could comply with the conditions of the Railway Company.

Mr Wood thought that they ought to take the opinion of a competent man to see if they could not get a laundry erected upon their own ground.

Miss Gibson: This has been gone into very carefully.

Mr Wood: What is the result of the enquiries?

The Chairman: The result is the recommendation of the Committee to purchase land from the N.E.R. Company.

Mr Lowdon proposed, and Mr Wood seconded, that plans be obtained from Messrs Summerscales before taking any further action.—The motion was unanimously adopted.

APPOINTMENT OF VALUER.

The Chairman stated that the members of the Assessment Committee had made application for permission to appoint a person to value the works of the Consett Iron Co. As there were two or three appeals from publicans to be heard at the forthcoming Quarter Sessions, he suggested that the valuer appointed should be empowered to attend to that work at the same time. The Assessment Committee had not treated the publicans any different to the other classes in the district, and they quite thought that the matter ought to be fought out at the Quarter Sessions.

Mr Taylor: Has the Assessment Committee ever engaged a professional valuer previously?

The Chairman: Many years ago.—On the proposition of Mr Nicholson, seconded by Mr Muse, it was agreed that the Committee should be empowered to engage a professional valuer.

APPLICATION FOR INCREASE OF SALARY.

Mr Ralph Walton, relieving officer, made application for an advance of salary. The population in the North-East part of the district had increased enormously, and there had been a corresponding increase of work.

The Clerk said that Mr Walton's present salary was £140 per annum.

Miss Gibson: Does he not get his travelling expenses allowed?

The Chairman: No; postage is allowed, but he has to pay his own travelling expenses.

Mr Taylor: Is there not a commission allowed upon the collections? What does that amount to?

The Clerk: Less than £10 a year.

Mr Muse said that seeing the district was increasing in population so rapidly, he thought that it would be advisable to divide it. He suggested that a committee should be formed to see how the division could be effected.

Mr Gray supported the suggestion.

Mr Powell: Has the area increased?

Mr Muse: The area cannot increase, but the population in the area is much larger than formerly.

Father Fortin said that he was strongly in favour of Mr Muse's suggestion. Instead of increasing the salary, they ought to divide the district. The Craghead district, with a population of 1000, had recently been added to the area, and the work would be much better done by two men than by one. The relieving officer ought to go round the district pretty frequently, and see the old people, and it was almost impossible that this could be done under the present circumstances.

Mr Wood: How long is it since the salary was fixed?

The Chairman: Some three or four years ago, when the officer received an increase of £20 per annum.

Father Fortin: How long has Mr Walton been engaged?

The Clerk: For 28 or 29 years.

Mr Wood proposed, and Mr Taylor seconded, that the Finance Committee should be empowered to go into the entire question with reference to the relieving officers and their districts.

Mr Aynsley enquired whether there was any suggestion that Mr Walton was not doing his duty?

Father Fortin entirely repudiated that he had suggested anything of the kind. He certainly held no such opinion.

Mr Aynsley said that according to Father Fortin, two men would have more time to visit the sick and the poor.

Mr Wood's motion was unanimously adopted, and on the suggestion of Mr Taylor, it was agreed that the report of the Committee should be printed for publication amongst the members.

OFFICIALS AND THEIR EMOLUMENTS.

Father Fortin said that the committee, appointed for the purpose, had gone very carefully into the question of emoluments, and had considered what had been done in other places. They had taken as their basis the amount allowed by the Local Government Board. The officers concerned were the master and matron, the assistant matron, and the nurses, the boys' warden, the tailor, and the shoemaker. The nurses in the hospital, he might add, had declined to avail themselves of the Superannuation Act. With reference to the Master, who had had eighteen years' service, and who was paid £100 a year, they found that his rations were valued at £52, lodgings at £20, and fire and lighting at £8, making a total valve of £80. The matron, who had £50 salary, was entitled to precisely the same amount. The assistant matron received a salary of £30, and for lodgings and rations, she was entitled to £45. The nurses were entitled to the same amount, and the boys' warden, with a salary of £30, was entitled to £30 emoluments. The shoemaker and tailor were entitled to £20 8s.—The report was adopted.

RESIGNATION OF THE BOYS' WARDEN.—WANTED A FITTER.

The Chairman said that the boys' warden had sent in his resignation, which would take effect in a fortnight. The Workhouse committee suggested that a fitter should be advertised for, instead of a painter.—It was decided to advertise, according to the suggestion of the committee, the salary offered to be £40.

Mr Powell: Who will fit into his place when he is engaged in fitting? (Laughter).

Father Fortin: The same person who fitted into the painter's place, when he was painting. (Renewed laughter).

Mr Aynsley thought that the greatest difficulty would be, to get a fitter to fit into the place at the salary offered.

Mr Taylor: If we get a fitter who does plumbing work, we shall get into a hole with the plumbers. (Laughter).

ANOTHER RESIGNATION.

Nurse Holt sent in her resignation, and it was decided to advertise in the "Hospital" for a successor, at a salary of £30 a year.

HEDLEY HOPE ASSISTANT OVERSEER.

The Chairman said that the Board had experienced a great deal of trouble with the Hedley Hope Assistant Overseer, his monthly statements being usually late in arriving.

The Clerk was instructed to write to the Assistant Overseer on the matter.—This concluded the business.

LANCHESTER JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held on Thursday afternoon, Mr W. Logan presiding. There were also present the Rev P. C. Fortin, and Messrs H. C. Wood, L. Nicholson, W. Young, R. Kay, G. D. Powell, T. J. Muse, J. Oliver, W. Bulmer, J. Green, Collier, R. Burleigh, W. Gray, and W. H. Ritson (clerk).

THE TANFIELD HOSPITAL SITE.

The Chairman stated that he had communicated with Mr Nathaniel Clark, agent for Messrs Joicey, with reference to obtaining a suitable site for the Tanfield hospital; and had received a letter from that gentleman, dated Feb. 10th, stating that he was in a position to offer the Board a plot of land in proximity to the village of Tanfield, at a price of £150 per acre. The Board would be expected to undertake to erect and maintain a fence, and to compensate the tenant for any way-going that she might be entitled to. The total cost of the land would be £484 5s 6d.

Mr Taylor said that the Annfield Plain Council were not altogether satisfied. They thought that a more convenient site could be chosen—a site more in the centre of the district concerned.

Mr Powell suggested that the matter should stand over for two months.

Mr Wood did not think that there was any reason to adjourn the matter time after time. If the Annfield Plain Council were dissatisfied, the only thing for them to do was to suggest an alternative site. In his own mind, he was convinced that no objection could be raised against this site, which could not with equal reason be urged against any site that was likely to be chosen. Mr Taylor would bear him out when he said that the one selected was almost equally convenient for the Annfield Plain district, as for the other districts concerned.

Mr Kay thought that the site was very centrally situated.

Father Fortin was prepared to support an adjournment.

On the proposal of Mr Powell, seconded by Father Fortin, the matter was adjourned for one month.

LANGLEY PARK HOSPITAL.

Dr Wilson reported that during the month there had been one patient admitted to the above hospital, suffering from measles.—No report was to hand from Dr Renton regarding the Leadgate hospital.

CARETAKER'S SALARY.

The caretaker of Leadgate Hospital made application for an increase of salary. It was stated that at present he received 25s weekly, with 5s extra when nursing was necessary, and a fee of 2s 6d for every patient. This salary was given for the services of the wife as well as those of the husband. The application was made in a letter of great length, and it was decided to respond, by granting an increase of 5s per week.—This concluded the business.

STANLEY TRADESMEN'S BALL.

A meeting of the General Committee connected with the above ball was held at the Commercial Hotel, on Thursday evening, Mr William Turner, President of the Committee, occupying the chair. There were also present—Messrs W. Aynsley (Secretary), Jas. Green (Treasurer), A. H. Swinburn, Mark Coates, Matthew Coates, J. Orr, junr., M. H. Lindon, W. Armstrong, W. Bell, G. Sanderson, junr., B. Johnson, and J. Coyle.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr Aynsley reported that the receipts from the recent ball amounted to £29 18s 6d, and the expenses reached the sum of £27 5s 8d, leaving a balance in hand of £2 12s 10d. (Applause).

Mr Johnson suggested that the balance should be forwarded to Mr Riley Lord, Secretary of the Newcastle Infirmary Fund.

Mr Lindon supported this suggestion, but several of the other members expressed the opinion that it would be advisable to retain a balance in hand, and it was ultimately agreed that £2 should be paid into the Bank.

PRESENTATIONS.

Mr Swinburn proposed that the Committee make some small gifts to the Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, as a mark of appreciation of the manner in which these gentlemen had performed their duties. (Cheers). He himself had occupied one of the offices on a previous occasion, and he knew that there was a great deal of work connected with them. (Hear, hear). He suggested that as the whole of the gentlemen were smokers, it would be fitting to present each of them with a cigar-holder and case. None of them had large moustaches—(laughter)—so there was not much chance of them being burned. (Renewed laughter). He believed that they were all trying to induce their moustaches to grow, but as he was not an agent for hair restorer, he could not advise them as to which was the best kind to use. (Loud laughter).

Messrs Bell and Johnson supported the motion, which was unanimously adopted, it being agreed that the articles should be purchased from the establishment of Mr Fred. Simpson.—Messrs Swinburn and Mark Coates were appointed to purchase the articles.

THANKS TO THE OFFICIALS AND HELPERS.

On the proposition of Mr Mark Coates, seconded by Mr Lindon, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the President, Secretary, and Treasurer.

Mr Turner, in responding, said that their last ball was one of the most enjoyable that he had ever attended. He did his best to carry out the duties connected with his position, and was able to lay the flattering unction to his soul that after finishing with the ball, he went to work the same morning. (Laughter).

Mr Aynsley and Mr Green also responded.

Mr Swinburn congratulated Mr Turner upon the manner in which he had conducted the ball.

Mr Aynsley proposed a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Coates for supplying the Committee with rosettes free.

Mr Coates said that it was really his wife and daughters who deserved their thanks. He thought that he could guarantee to supply the rosettes for their next ball at the same price—(laughter)—so they need not trouble to engage anyone else.

Mr Sanderson proposed a vote of thanks to the M's.C., coupling with the proposal the name of Mr John Coyle. This was the first year that Mr Coyle had assisted them as M.C., and he thought that he was justified in saying that they could not have a better man for the position. (Applause).

Mr Coyle, in responding, said that he had never missed a tradesmen's ball, though this was the first time that he had officiated as M.C. at one. He had tried to do his best, and was pleased if his efforts had given satisfaction.

Mr Aynsley proposed a vote of thanks to Mr Bell for the manner in which he had decorated the Hall, which had this year been adorned for £1 10s, this being only half the amount of the lowest cost of any previous year. Every credit was due to Mr Bell and his assistants for the excellent manner in which they had performed their work.

Mr Bell, in replying, said that he took it as an honour to be empowered to do the decorations. He was very pleased that their efforts had given satisfaction to the Committee and the public.

THANKS TO THE PRESS.

Mr Swinburn proposed a vote of thanks to the newspapers for the services they had rendered to the Committee.

The vote was enthusiastically adopted, and was acknowledged by the representative of the *Consett Chronicle*.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

ENTIRE HORSE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL SHOW.

The third annual shown of the De Entire Horse Association, took pl afternoon at Consett, in the Vic lent for the occasion by Mr J gate showed a considerable fal pared with last year's show, £3 15s, whilst that of the pr £6 8s. There were six entries actually entered the field. amining the horses, the judg by the professional service Leadgate, selected Mr John Currah," and "Exhibitor's extra inspection, and hav opinion of Mr Foreman, th tually awarded to "Prin officials, who gave every manner in which they d were:—Judges, Messrs Charlton, ecklees; R. Swinburn, Hedley; R. Gledstone, ghfield; T. Walker, Medomsley; and T. H. Smi , Tanfield; Stewards, Messrs J. Whitehead, Con ett; Robinson, Tanfield; T. Snowball, Hedley; T. Hunter, Grange, Medomsley; and R. Dixon, Broad Oak; Gatekeepers, Messrs Wm. Ramsay, Blackhill, and Geo. Hunter, Medomsley; Veterinary Surgeons, Messrs Foreman, Leadgate; Secretary, Mr Robt. Moffitt, Medomsley. — After the decision was announced, the officials and members of the Association adjourned to Mr Wylam's Freemasons' Arms Hotel, where a capital dinner, catered for by the host and hostess in unexceptional fashion, had been provided. After the repast, Mr Charlton was elected to the chair, and Mr Gledstone to the vice-chair. There were also present:—Messrs W. Archer, No Place; G. Hunter, Medomsley; J. Crawford and J. Whitehead, Consett; T. Richardson, Cronkley; J. Pattinson, High Waskerley; R. Dixon, T. Snowball, W. Robinson, T. H. Smith, T. Walker, W. Ramsay, J. Hunter, and R. Swinburn, Hedley; W. R. Trotter, South Acomb; and R. Moffitt (Secretary).—The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been heartily honoured, the Secretary said that he was sorry to have to say that Mr Crawford was unable to remain with him. He would, therefore, deviate slightly from the programme which had been arranged, and at once propose Mr Crawford's health. He was sure they all felt grateful to that gentleman for having obliged them by allowing them to use his field in which to hold the show. (Applause). He did not think that a better place could have been obtained. Had it not have been for Mr Crawford, they would have been upon the horns of a dilemma, and he felt sure they would all fully appreciate Mr Crawford's generosity. (Applause). —The Vice-Chairman endorsed all that the previous speaker had said. He believed that Mr Crawford had acted in a very generous manner. A good field was a great help to the Association, and was indispensable to a good gate. They had not on this occasion taken as much as they had done formerly, but they must remember that there were several things they had to take into account. The railway strike undoubtedly kept many entries back, and they could not expect the public to pass through the gates to see three or four horses. However, he had great pleasure in supporting what Mr Moffitt had said, and he thought it was just possible that Mr Crawford might let them have the field gratis. (Applause).—The toast having been duly honoured, Mr Crawford, in responding, said that a few days ago Mr Wylam and another member of the Association waited upon him to see if he would let them have the use of his field for the show, at as low a figure as he possibly could. "Very well," he replied, "it is for a good purpose, I will charge you a guinea, and give you half of it back." Mr Wylam pointed out that the Association was labouring under disadvantages, whereupon he (the speaker) said, "Well, I'll let you have it for half-a-guinea, and give you half of that back." He now thought that, as the gate had been so poor, they might as well take the other half. (Applause).—The Chairman proposed the health of Mr Trotter, remarking that out of the three shows which had been held, Mr Trotter had furnished them with two winners, and had that day obtained second honours. He might say that if the horse had not unexpectedly turned lame, Union Jack would have been the winner that day. At a former meeting, Mr Trotter had given them a very fair offer, and, had it been accepted, he had no doubt but that they would have secured a good horse, and been more than compensated for the gate money. However, they had done everything for the best, and he hoped that the winner would give universal satisfaction. (Applause).—The Secretary said that he was afraid they had made a mistake, for if they had taken Mr Trotter's offer, they could have had not only Union Jack, but probably even a better horse. He was sorry that the people of Chester-le-Street had forestalled them in their show, but they would have to see that that did not occur next year. He had great pleasure in supporting the toast, which the Chairman had proposed, and heartily wished that Mr Trotter had carried off the prize. (Applause).—The toast was well received, and Mr Trotter briefly responded, and remarked that he could not help regretting the fact that his horse had not won. He hoped, however, that the one which had proved successful would give general satisfaction. (Hear, hear). He believed that his horse was absolutely sound. He had had a long experience with the steed, and thought that they could not have had a grander animal than Union Jack, who had already been put to the test. It was undoubtedly hard lines to have £50 almost taken out of the palms of one's hands, but men who were not prepared to lose, should never keep horses. (Applause). Seeing that his horse had turned temporarily lame, he did not see how the judges could have come to any other decision, and he could only express the hope that he would be successful on a future occasion. (Applause).—Mr Whitehead proposed the health of the judges, and remarked that their task had proved a very difficult one. The difficulty had been greatly increased by the small number of horses from which they had to make a selection. Undoubtedly, they had done their best, and their services had been very highly appreciated. (Applause).—The toast was accorded musical honours, after which the Chairman responded, and said that when Mr Whitehead declared that the duties connected with the judging were very onerous, he had spoken the naked truth. They had tried to do what was fair and just, and he believed that had there been fifty judges, instead of five, the decision would have been the same. He was not sorry that they had made a change. Speaking without the slightest prejudice against Mr Trotter, he believed that their decision that day would be the means of increasing the number of entries for the next show. (Applause). The other judges likewise responded.—Mr Swinburn then proposed the health of the stewards, humorously remarking that on the show ground, they were absolutely indistinguishable, owing to the absence of badges. (Laughter).—The Chairman then proposed "The Derwent Valley Entire Horse Association," and coupled with the toast the names of the Secretary, Mr Moffitt, and the treasurer, Mr Ramsay. To these gentlemen's tact and energy, he remarked, much of the success that had attended the Society's efforts was due. Mr Ramsay's work had not been excessively heavy, but the secretary had had a great deal to do, and had done it well. (Applause). He was sure that they would all join with him in wishing both the gentlemen, whose names he had mentioned, a long and prosperous life. (Applause).—The toast was heartily drunk, and the Secretary responded, and said that his office had certainly not proved a *sinecure*. It had taken them all their time to make headway, and he was afraid that unless the farmers rallied around the Association in greater numbers, they would have to take a back seat. Personally, he felt that he had done his best to raise the finances, but unless he was better supported he would be compelled to sever his connection with the Association. He had written 164 letters for six attendances, and he thought that was not creditable to the farmers of the district. He had been hauled over the coals, by a gentleman who, he believed, could scarcely tell a Shire from a Clydesdale. (Laughter). He thanked them for the way in which they had drunk his health. (Applause).—Mr Ramsay also responded, and said that what he had been able to do for the Society was really a pleasure. He had its interests at heart, and trusted that its usefulness would still further be increased. (Applause). — The toasts of "The Chairman," "The Vice-Chairman," "The Press," and "The host and hostess" were also proposed, honoured, and responded to.—The gathering shortly afterwards dispersed with the singing of "Auld Lang Syne."

CONSETT AND DISTRICT CRICKET CLUB.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the members of the above Club, took place in the Station Hotel, Blackhill, on Thursday evening in last week. The president (Mr J Eltringham), presided, and there were also present—Mr W. Ramsay (hon. sec. and treasurer), Messrs. A S Godfrey (capt.), W E Brown, J J Raw, J Turnbull, W D Robson, J Siddle, F Brodie, M Williamson, T T Gray, E Carlill, W B Foggon, E Palliser, A Smith, T Lynn, W Leybourne, G Morland, W Fixter, T D Robinson, R Heymer, R Marshall, S Aynsley, H Dowson, &c.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

The Secretary (Mr W. Ramsay) then presented his annual report, which read as follows—"The success which has attended the efforts of the Consett and District Cricket Club during the past season, has certainly been unique and unprecedented in the annals of cricket in this district. Never before has this Club taken up such a commendable position in the county as it holds at present. To maintain, and, if possible, improve upon this, it has been deemed advisable to make improvements in the ground, and a scheme has been set afoot by which, not only is the present ground to be enlarged, but a bowling green is being laid to accommodate and provide amusement for the older members of the Club. This, of course, will entail considerable expense, which is in the meantime provided for by guarantors, but which, it is hoped, will be met by the public in a generous spirit, and will also tend to materially increase the membership. The performances of the first team will long live in the memory of the supporters of the Club, and the splendid results are attributable to the resight, energy, and judgment of the redoubt- ble skipper, Mr Godfrey, who, backed and ably upported by such good men and true as Messrs. iddell, Wood, and Richardson, has been able to lace his Club fourth in the first-class cricket of urham. Mention should also be made of Martin, e professional, who has helped in no small ree to obtain these results. The splendid ling of Mr Godfrey and the magnificent ex- itions of batting by Messrs. Siddell and Wood, ecially the former, with two centuries to his lit, are noteworthy points in the past year's ormances." One particular fact is especially worthy of e. On looking at the League table it will served that Consett stands higher than—in at the top of—any and all of its League opponents. Surely this in itself speaks volumes. During the forthcoming season there will be increased competition in the Senior League owing to the County Committee having augmented the number of competing clubs. The Wednesday team has also been almost equally successful as the first, but the second team, however, has not, unfortunately, succeeded in maintaining such a praiseworthy reputation. This should be reversed, which it is believed will be the case in the ensuing year. It has been, to a large extent, the creature of circumstances, owing to its having very often to reinforce the first. The amalgamation of the several local clubs in order to produce a good Wednesday combination, has justified the most sanguine anticipations and puts that team in a foremost position as to wins and draws. In connection with the Wednesday contingent, a splendid outing and match has already been arranged with Harrogate, for the 14th July, 1897. During 1896, there has been a considerable influx of new blood. The increase in membership, means, an improved subscription, which, together with the gate money, has made the income from all sources greater than in former years. The Entertainment Committee has also added its quota to the general funds. By the interesting programme recently given by Mr Lindon Travers, in St. Aidan's Hall, a balance of £8 6s 5d was netted, and the same Committee also engaged Madame Belle-Cole and party to provide the Club's annual concert, on January 11th. I regret to say that here we experienced a loss of £3 8s 2d, towards which Mr F. Priestman generously subscribed 10s, whilst your estimable President insisted that the Club should be freed of any loss, and again showed his practical sympathy and deep interest in the club by defraying the debit balance. The second team players also, being desirous of assisting the Club, arranged a social in the Town Hall, Consett, which was held in December last, from which was netted the sum of £2 7s. The number of members at present on the roll stands at 94, and from the step taken by your Committee in the laying of the bowling green as part of the extension scheme entered into, a very great influx of members may be looked for. From recent issues of our local newspapers, the members will have had an opportunity of examining the excellent list of fixtures for the ensuing season, and seeing that we are this season to be assisted by the well-known Durham County wicket-keeper, T. Lambert, I am sanguine that the results of the past year will be fully maintained. In securing such an acquisition, it is only due to point out to the members that this has been obtained through another example of your President's earnestness for the well-being and success of your Club. With the extensive alterations and improvements to the ground, there is every hope that it will be the battle-field of some of the county matches in the near future. It is with pleasant recollections that I record the entertainment given by Mr Richard Murray, at Ford Hall, to the first team on their visit to Sunderland. The weather was terribly unpropitious, but once arrived at Mr Murray's residence, this did not interrupt the general enjoyment. After partaking of a substantial and excellent dinner, the several members of the company contributed toward the harmony of the proceedings, and many speeches were made commendatory to the Club."

The Secretary then concluded his report by giving the records of the three teams.

The Chairman said that he thought the thanks of the Club were due to the energy and industry of their Secretary, in compiling such an elaborate and faithful report. (Hear, hear). They ought to congratulate themselves upon having the doings of the Club put before them so well. There was no doubt but what the first team had done exceedingly well, and it was, he felt sure, a source of gratification to all. He hoped that the second team would show themselves as well upon the field in the coming season as they did that evening at their annual meeting. There was great credit due to them for being present that evening. He hoped that better luck would await them in the coming season's engagements. However, he thought that it was not altogether their fault. He would suggest that a secretary and captain be elected to look after them, for he thought that if this course was adopted, the success of the second team would be possible. He attributed the success of the first team largely to the efforts of the Secretary and the Captain. He hoped that the first team would secure for themselves even greater honour. (Applause). They could rest assured that no lack of energy would be spared by the Captain to make the Club more efficient. He (the chairman) felt confident that if they elected him again, they would have the pleasure of seeing that he was the best captain they could get. (Applause).

The Secretary's report was then adopted, on the proposition of Mr Godfrey, seconded by Mr Marshall.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer (Mr W. Ramsay), presented his annual financial statement, which showed the expenditure to be £341 6s 10d, and the receipts £307 6s 7d, leaving a balance due to the Treasurer of £34 0s 3d. Alluding to various items on the year's expenses, Mr Ramsay said that there was £5 17s 6d due in outstanding subscriptions. They had taken more gate money last season than ever they had. As far as subscriptions were concerned, it was gratifying to note the prompt manner in which the members of the second team paid their fees. The reason for the deficit in the balance sheet was the heavy expense entailed in the extensive alterations to the ground.

The Chairman said that he was afraid that some of them would think that they were in a rather bad position. The new ground, of course, entailed an additional expense. However, to keep up the calibre of a Club like theirs, money was indispensable. If they did not advertise the Club matches they could not expect to get good "gates." They had done better last year in that respect than ever they had before. He hoped that every member would take a personal and lively interest in the success of the Club.

Replying to a question anent the Club railway fares, the Chairman said that it was difficult to get the whole of the members to away matches.

Mr Godfrey alluding to the charge made by members losing time from their work, said that there was no objection to making an allowance to those who really felt the loss of wage. But they must not pay a man for time lost when he was in receipt of an excellent wage.

The balance sheet was then adopted, after a short discussion.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

The members then proceeded to elect officers, committees, and officials, with the following result—President, Mr Jos. Eltringham; vice-presidents, Rev. C. Shrewsbury, Dr Macintyre, Mr J. Annandale, J.P., Mr J. Lax, J.P., Mr G. Ainsworth, J.P., Mr J. Heymer, Mr C. Parnaby, Mr H. Holliday, Mr J. Scott, Mr J. Dixon, Mr R. Park, Mr J. G. Murray, Mr R. Murray, Mr J. Petherick, Mr G. Eltringham, Mr T. L. Gledstone, Mr J. A. Jack, Mr T. D. Dryden, Mr W. E. Brown, Mr George Neasham, and Mr J. Davis; captain, Mr A. S. Godfrey; vice-captain, Mr G. Walton; second team captain, Mr J. J. Raw; second team vice-captain, Mr G. Morland; Wednesday team captain, Mr R. Marshall; general committee, Messrs J Siddle, W B Foggon, M Williamson, G T Hyden M Hobday, E Carlill, S Aynsley, T D Robinson, and A Wood; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr W Ramsay; hon. assistant secretary, Mr F Brodie; auditor, Mr E Carlill; match committee, Messrs. Jos. Eltringham, A S Godfrey, G Walton, W E Brown, W B Foggon, R Marshall, J J Raw, F Brodie, R Heymer and W Ramsay; ground committee, Messrs J Eltringham, R Park, A S Godfrey, G Walton, W Ramsay, T T Gray, W B Foggon, T D Robinson, W E Brown, and G T Wilson; professional and groundsman, Mr Jas. Martin; collector, Mr J Richards.

A PRESENTATION.

Mr W. Ramsay, on behalf of Mr J. W. Forster, of Shotley Bridge, presented Mr J J Raw with a cricket ball, for his splendid bowling performances in connection with the second team.—Mr Raw gracefully acknowledged the gift.

SEASON TICKETS.

It was resolved to issue season tickets for admission to all matches except professional's benefit, and special fixtures. The price to be 4s, the same as last year.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman for presiding, terminated the proceedings.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

LECTURE ON "TENNYSON."—In connection with the Mutual Improvement Society of the local Wesleyan Church, the Rev. J. A. Dixon, of Stanley, lectured on Monday evening on "Tennyson, The Lincolnshire Lad, and the Poet Prince." Mrs Dixon sang "Too late," and "Crossing the bar," productions of the late Poet Laureat. The lecture was very attentively listened to by a large gathering.

TANFIELD LEA.

WESLEYAN ACTIVITY.—The Wesleyans of Tanfield Lea have—as was recently announced in the *Chronicle*—found it necessary to take steps to secure an enlargement of their chapel, and on Saturday and Sunday last, services were held, the offertories at which were devoted to the Building Fund. On Saturday afternoon, the Rev George Hepplewhite, of Jarrow, formerly a pitman at Tanfield Lea and Beamish, preached to a large congregation. Tea was subsequently provided, at which the tables were presided over by Miss Armstrong, Miss Keskeys, Miss E. Rowe, and Miss Greener, these ladies receiving assistance from the following members of the sterner sex:—Messrs J. W. Keskeys, John Bulmer, John Greener, and Joseph Greener. Full justice was done to the excellent spread provided. In the evening, a public meeting was held under the presidency of Mr C. F. Cooke, of Annfield Plain (circuit steward), at which addresses were delivered by the Rev George Hepplewhite, the Rev J. A. Dixon, Stanley; Mr D. M. Spence, Hare Law; and Mr Joseph Humble, Stanley. The choir sang a number of popular hymns, which were well received. Mr Wm. Hall acted as leader, and Mr Jas. Greener officiated at the harmonium. The tea realised about £3 13s, and during the meeting the sum of £30 12s 6d was promised towards the Building Fund. On Sunday, special sermons were delivered by the Rev J. A. Dixon. The whole of the services were extremely successful.

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Yours truly,

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I am, yours sincerely,

WM. S. MARSHALL.
M.B., C.M.

P.S.—You can use this letter in any way you choose.

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LIST OF AGENTS.

Annfield Plain	- T. Lumley, Railway Inn.
	J. Robinson, Chemist.
Beamish	- W. English, Wheat Sheaf Inn.
Bearpark	- R. Temperley, Auton Style Inn.
Birtley	- McGregor & Co., London House.
Blackhill	- Wm. Aynsley, Grocer and Wine Merchant.
	R. Murray, Wine Merchant.
Blackhall Mill	- J. Armstrong, Wine Merchant.
Burnopfield	- Turnbull Bros,, Grocers, &c.
	W. Wright, Burton House.
Catchgate	- G. R. Hobson, Wine Merchant.
Chester Moor	- W. Bell, Colliery Inn.
Chopwell	- John Dobson, Chopwell Inn.
Consett	- W. Aynsley, Grocer, &c.
	T. Milner, Chemist.
	Jos. Murray, Grocer, &c.
	G. Pattrick, Chemist.
	Dryden and Co., Grocers and Wine Merchants.
	N. Elsdon, Wine Merchant.
Cornsay Colliery	J. Bowes, Royal Oak Inn.
Craghead	- S. Leighton, Craghead Hotel.
Croxdale	- Mrs. Vickers, Colliery Inn.
Dipton	- G. Murray, Grocer, etc.
	W. Young, Red Lion Inn.
	Dover and Co., Wine and Spirit Merchants, Belle Vue House.
Esh	- W. Oyston, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
Frosterley	- J. Whitfield, Foresters' Arms.
Hobson Colliery	Mrs. Cawthorne, Colliery Inn.
Kibblesworth	- J. Heath, Plough Inn.
Kyo	- T. Gatiss, Earl Grey Inn.
Langley Park	- J. White, Langley Park Hotel.
Lanchester	- J. Snaith, Blue Bell Inn.
Leadgate	- W. Aynsley, Grocer, etc.
	Mrs. Temperley, Commercial Inn.
Medomsley	- T. Calvert, G[illegible]tc.
Newfield	- H. Robson, N[illegible]
Sacriston	- J. Stevenson, [illegible]
Shiney Row	- R. Wilson[illegible] Arms.
Shotley Bridge	Mrs. Glend[illegible] Head In[illegible]
	Walter Roc[illegible] Inn
South Moor	- W. Dixon, Oak Inn.
Spen	- R. Browell, Miners' Arms
Spennymoor	- T. A. Burdon, Chemist
Stanhope	- J. Curry, Wine Merchant
Stanley	- J. Robinson, Chemist.
	J. Chaytor, Grocer, etc.
	W. Aynsley, Grocer, etc.
[illegible]nfield	- J. Irwin, Pack Horse Inn
Tantobie	- J. Gladders, Oak Tree Inn
Tow Law	- J. Moses, Post Office
Ushaw Moor	- J. Temperley, Flass Inn
Waterhouses	- Geo. French, Station Hotel
Witton Gilbert	- W. Hnnter, Three Tuns Inn.
Wolsingham	- T. Wiseman, Wine Merchant.

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LETTERS to the EDITOR.

KISSING AND DANCING AT SOCIALS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—In the last issue of your valuable paper, two letters appear, seemingly in favour of dancing at socials in connection with our churches, and, because I and others are not in favour of dancing at Christian gatherings, we are termed hard-backed, stiff-necked, pharasaical humbugs, and accused of trying to drive the young from our churches. Sir, I fail to see how dancing is going to help the young in the Christian life. If your correspondent, "Sancta Vita," is a follower of Christ, he will know that Christ's kingdom is spiritual. It is not of this world. Where, then, is he going to get spirituality out of a Methodist social, at which about 50 couples are present, and where the night is partly spent in dancing. Sir, can we not be sociable and pleasant without indulging in such a worldly pastime as dancing? I have been at some very pleasant gatherings, where dancing has not been part of the programme. For the edification of "Tow Law Methodist," I might say I am not one of those old fault-finding Methodists, but a young man, scarcely ever finding fault with anyone, longing for old Methodist times back again, in place of this new Methodism. Sir, the greatest point is this, what influence has dancing among Christian people upon the world, or non-Christians? I find it has an evil influence, and this was the reason I introduced the above subject in your valuable paper. One great Christian writer has said, "A man's first care should be to avoid the reproaches of his own heart. Next to escape the censures of the world. A man is more sure of his conduct when the verdict he passes on his own behaviour is thus warranted and confirmed by the world." Sir, as you know, there has been a war raging at West Stanley for some time between Christianity and Secularism. Now, this dance business has been a "dainty morsel," as "Sancta Vita" terms it, for Secularists, and non-Christians in general. I am now speaking from personal conversation with such. Sir, a Christian who longs for the prosperity of his Church, cannot help but speak out when he hears it condemned, and its progress hindered by the conduct of some of its members. Non-Christians say Christians ought not to dance. Some of them have been to the ball room, and have seen the conduct of some of the dancers. They have also heard ministers, local preachers, etc., speak out strongly against it, as a place which is of Satanic origin. Now, Sir, they want to know what difference there is between dancing at the above place, and dancing at a Methodist Social. I fail to answer this question. Probably some of our dancing Christians, or promoters of the same, will answer it for me. I thank you for publishing my last letter, and trusting you will find space for this one.—I remain, yours faithfully,

METHODIST.

East Stanley, March 1st, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—I have a pleasing recollection of the celebration of the centenary of the birth of the Scottish poet, Burns. The proceedings in Newcastle and elsewhere were of a joyful and brilliant character. But there was a class of people who stood afar off and looked on with the utmost aversion and contempt. Not a finger in such a pie. No; there was pollution in the lightest touch. But that was thirty-eight years ago, and the world with its people have wonderfully changed since then. But I have not changed, excepting that I am thirty-eight years older in 1897 than I was in 1859. The people to whom I refer designate their tactics progress. I wonder if it is? We miners have a ready knack of saying that we sometimes progress a bit backwards. This, Sir, has been brought to my notice through a placard announcing that a lecture would be given—subject: "The Scottish Poet" — in a Primitive Methodist Chapel in this neighbourhood by a notable lecturer from a seaside town. All the world was going to be at that meeting, because the greatest working-man poet that ever lived was going to be spoken of there. So say that particular class of people now. All right, the meeting has been held, and great things were said of the great poet. But, Sir, that is not where I am drifting. The one great question with me is, how has all this been brought about? In exoneration many things are said, amongst which not the least is that men were more easily persuaded to imbibe—get dead drunk, if you will—in the century before this than now. Thirty-eight years ago Methodist people did not accept that logic, but they evidently believe it now. Our poet (or Scotland's) sang long ago, or rather set others singing, "Give him strong drink until he wink." This was terrible in the ears of Methodism, and could not be tolerated in her domain, and, notwithstanding that the poet drew upon Scripture for the then offending lines, the fact did not lighten the amount of iniquity that rested upon his head. Then there was an occasion on which three persons met to boose—and why should they not? The law did not prohibit it. It was not the juice of the grape they were going to imbibe, it was an extract from humble barley, which was to the religious mind excellent in puddings, but highly objectionable in an intoxicating draught. One Willie had distilled from that apparently innocent grain, "maut"—a peck of it—a liquor which was calculated to make friends jovial when they meet. Rob and Allen, it is said, went to see; at all events they were there. It is not a poetical fiction, but a fact. The night was an eventful one. The first to propose a parting was to be a coward and a loon, and the last man falling beside his chair was to be the hero of the evening. There was no stated hour of closing, neither did a policeman wait outside to collar them and drag them to a court-house to hear "fine and expenses" jink upon the counter. The moon rose beautifully in the sky to "wile them home," but they cared not a cockle for that. She had to "wait a wee," and "how many horns" the fair crescent had they could not tell, for they were not able to count them; such was their condition before the moonlight waned into bright day in the morning. All this and much more was awfully repugnant to Methodism thirty-eight years ago, but certainly not now. But there is another scene memorable in the life of the poet different from what I have attempted to describe. It was a humble cottage scene, not of conviviality, but of devotion of the most genuine kind. And this is pre-eminently the ground work of the adulations of the people in question at this day. I have been led into the above train of thought by the several letters appearing in the *Consett Chronicle* on the subject of dancing at "Methodist Socials." But I find that the good or evil resulting from the same, and also whether it is right or wrong to dance at all, I must leave to the judgment of your Methodist readers. At any rate, Sir, this is a world of incessant change—evolution, if you will—and we are either to proceed with the times, or trail lazily behind. I am not myself a dancer, either in pumps, clogs, pattens, buskins, or goloshes. I am not skilful in the "poetry of motion," and I do not "trip the light and fantastic toe"; but I am yet to be convinced that our best thoughts are incensed up to God on the dancing stage, or in the ball room. No; gay couples do not assemble there for such a purpose. But your correspondents say that a "Methodist Social" is not a "ball room." Ergo: it is rather like one. In past years, the communion to which I belong, held annually a "summer gathering" in a beautifully wooded dell. This was a meeting of devotion, with singing of hymns, and of prayer, with addresses. There was also a tea, after which a pleasant evening was spent with a little footballing, &c., both ladies and gentlemen joining in the game. But all that is now changed. Is it evolution? There are instead "galas" and "fetes" with various exciting "sports." Call them profane, if you will—but devotion there is none. I have years ago turned my back upon our "Summer gatherings" to seek by myself the seclusion of the wooded district, there to sing alone the words of an excellent lady, who passed away well nigh two centuries ago—"I search Thee in the flowery meadows, and listen for Thee among the murmuring springs."—I am, yours truly,

JOHN ROWELL.

Twizell, March 1st, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—Will you allow me to give you a Methodist's experience? I was naturally born in Psalms 51 c. 5th verse, and for some years lived in Ephesians 11th c, 12 v, and walked in Ephesians 11th c, 2 v., and my conversation was like Ephesians 11th c, 3 v. A truthful description of me is in Isaiah 1st c, 16 v., and Romans 3rd c, 10-19 v. My wages I found in Romans 6th c, 23 v., which was not enough to live upon. Not liking my master, I knocked at Matthew 7th c, 7-8 v., and found the way in John 14th c, 6 v. I made a discovery at John 3rd c, 3 v., and heard of a mansion being prepared at John 14th c, 2 v., by one who lived at Hebrews 4th c, 14 v. I found where the building was at 1st Corinthians, 6th c, 19 v., and that it had but one door which was in John 10th c, 9 v., one knocker, which I found in Luke 11th c, 9 v. My conversation now will be found in Philippians 3rd c, 20 v., and the cause of my rejoicing in Colossians 1st c, 13-14 v. My present address is Ephesians 2nd c, 16 v. Please attend to what the servant says at Luke 14th c, 17th v. Call any day at Proverbs 8th c, 33-34 v., for instructions, and when 1st Thessalonians 4th c, 16-17 v., comes to pass, I shall be caught up and afterwards be at Revelations 19th c, 1-9 v., and be found joining in the song at Revelations 5th c, 9 v. How all this comes to pass you will find in John 3rd c, 16 v., and in 1st Timothy 1st c, 15 v. I trust you may believe the record in 1st John 5th c, 11-13 v., and rely upon John 9th c, 20 v., for present joy and future peace known in 1st Corinthians, 15th c, 3-4 v. And may you ever walk in Ephesians 5th c, 2 v. Methodist rule is that no person must be admitted as a member nor be allowed to remain one, who attends vain or worldly amusements, wastes his time at public houses, buys or sells smuggled goods, vends or sells obscene works or pictures, fortune telling books or ballads, or any others of an immoral tendency, or who is dishonest in his or her dealings, or otherwise immoral.—I am, yours faithfully,

GEORGE MORGAN.

Smith Street, Tow Law, March 2nd, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—I have read with deep interest, the discussion by "Methodist" and others, in the two last issues of the *Chronicle*, on the above subject. For one, I am in favour of the Church providing innocent amusements for the young, nor do I see the least harm in doing so, providing they are kept within proper limits. "Methodist" condemns such, because they are not taught in the Word of God. May I remind him that David, the street singer of Israel, danced before the Lord, with all his might, when he brought the Ark of God from the house of Obed Edom? We do not read that the Lord was displeased with David for doing so, and did not Miriam, the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, "go" out, and dance with all the women with timbrels in their hands, and at the deliverance of the Israelites from the bondage of Pharaoh, and ought not the Church to rejoice and be glad to see our young members of the Church and Sunday School, who have not been entangled in bondage of sin, enjoying themselves, even in innocent amusements? I, for one, do and will rejoice. Did not our Lord, when He entered upon His public ministry, go with His disciples to a marriage feast in Cana, and even made water into wine? Dr. Farrar tells us in his Life of Christ, that it was the custom in those days at marriage feasts to have music and dancing for several days. Our Lord was called by the Scribes and Pharisees a glutton and wine-bibber—a friend of publicans and sinners. I am afraid there are too many Pharasees at the present day. It is said by Christ that the children of darkness are wiser in their day and generation than the children of light. So it is to-day. The former spend a lot of money in providing music halls, and other sorts of amusements, to allure our young people from the paths of virtue, while our Churches spend very little, and they are only open a few hours on the Sunday, and generally closed through the week. I hold, Sir, that it is the duty of Churches to provide suitable places for our young people to go on week-day evenings. Do not many of the scholars of our Sunday Schools come into the world with dwarfed intellects and sordid minds by the vicious habits of their parents? We can only get at those by cultivating the social side of their nature. Are the Churches doing this? I answer, no. This is the missing link.—I remain, yours &c.,

PRIMITIVE.

Tow Law, March 2nd, 1897.

NEATEST DRESSES AT BALLS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

DEAR SIR,—I wish to contradict a report in yours of last week, which stated that Mrs R. Stockburn was the judge of the neatest dress at the ball held in the Co-operative Hall, Pelton Lane Ends. Had Mrs Stockburn accepted the office, her decision would have been different to the result arrived at by some thirty of the dancers present out of some forty or fifty couples, and her decision would have given more satisfaction to the majority present. However, as I wish to contradict the report, I take it for granted that your correspondent has been actuated by a certain amount of spite, calculated to injure our position in the eyes of a certain section of the public. If otherwise, I shall esteem it a favour to let our name remain dormant until we ask for it to be brought prominently before the public. Hoping, Sir, you will give the same publicity to this denial, as to the report from your correspondent, I am, yours obediently,

R. STOCKBURN.

Chester-le-Street, March 2nd, 1897.

RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—"Ratepayer" was quite right in regard to the formation of a Ratepayers' Association for Stanley and district, in his letter contained in your last issue. I think he might have included the cement footpath. It is used for wheeling coke, flour, groceries, sawdust, &c., in barrows, and although it has only been laid eighteen months, if the traffic continues for other eighteen months, it will be to relay, and who will have to pay the piper? Why, the poor ratepayer, as usual. Then there are the main roads to look after. We have a rake, to be drawn by a horse, which is very little used, and also a brush, which, in my opinion, would be best set up in Front Street, with a glass case over it, as it is no use in Stanley, except as a nuisance and a waste of the ratepayers' money, because a cart could be emptied sooner, as it need not keep two men and a horse twenty minutes using it, as I have seen several times. I see by the papers that the foot road is to make to East Stanley, and I ask, what is the use of making it, now that the ground is full of pit falls? Let it settle, and then make it. But never mind, it is the ratepayers' money, not my own. And then there are the pigs. I would like to know how near a public road, footpath, or house they can be kept without being a nuisance. —I am, yours truly,

RATEPAYER No. 2.

Front Street, Stanley, March 2, 1897.

WAGES OF CO-OPERATIVE EMPLOYES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—In your last week's issue, your Pelton correspondent has informed the public that the average wage of journeymen employed under the West Pelton District Co-operative Society is 26s per week, which statement is not true. Your informant has ignored the fact that in addition to the lowest wage, which is 26s per week, married men have their coals—(the best kind)—supplied free, and others who do not get coals are allowed 2s per week instead, and are paid for all overtime exceeding 48 hours per week. By inserting this in your next issue, you will greatly oblige.—For the Committee,

G. BOWMAN.

Pelton Lane Ends, March 2nd, 1897.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT CHRONICLE."

SIR,—In your issue of February 26th, 1897, under the heading of Pelton and District Notes, your correspondent states that I informed him that the average wages paid to the journeymen in the service of the West Pelton Co-operative Society, was 26s per week. Now, Sir, this assertion requires a slight alteration. In the course of our conversation, I informed your correspondent that the actual money receipts of many of the servants of the afore-named Society were 26s per week (not the average wage as it appears in your columns), and that in the opinion of the members of the above branch, it was considered very inadequate remuneration. Hence our application for an advance of wages. Anticipating the publication of this slight correction in your next issue, and apologising for the encroachment on your valuable space.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

JOHN McLEAN.

West Pelton Branch, March 1st, 1897.

THE CHARGE AGAINST A BLACKHILL YOUTH.

(BY OUR OWN REPORTER).

On Tuesday, at the Durham Assizes, before the Lord Chief Justice, Arthur Hogg (17), a cartman, was charged with committing an unnatural offence with a mare on the 26th of December, 1896.—Mr Marwood prosecuted, and Mr Hans Hamilton (instructed by Mr T. W. Welford) defended.—Mr Marwood briefly opened the case by stating that the prisoner stood charged of a horrible crime with a mare, concerning which he would not go into the details. The jury must hear the evidence for themselves. The act, on which the charge was founded, was alleged to have taken place between 3-30 and 4 p.m., in Taylor's Lane, Consett, on the 26th of December, 1896.—Mr Holliday, the first witness called, stated that he was the manager of the Consett Iron and Steel Works, and lived at Beech Grove, Blackhill. He remembered the 26th of last December. On the afternoon of that day, between 3-30 and 4, he was in a place called Taylor's Lane.—His Lordship: Were you walking?—Witness: No, I was riding.—Witness (continuing) said that he saw a cart on the right hand side, turned into the hedge, and a man leaning over the animal's back. As he (witness) got close up, he exclaimed, "I've caught you," and the man turned round in a very startled manner. Witness did not then know whether the animal was a mare or a horse. Witness noticed that the man's clothes were disarranged, and asked him his name, but received no reply. The man remained in the same position until witness came up to him.—By the Judge: Witness was sure that the man was acting indecently.—Witness (continuing) said that the man was leaning on the haunches of the mare. Witness asked him his name a second time, but he did not answer, and, taking up his reins, commenced to move. Witness then went to the other side of the cart, and saw the name "Stephenson, Blackhill," painted upon it. He proceeded about forty or fifty yards, till he came to a cross lane, where he found witnesses who could identify the man. These witnesses were coming in a contrary direction, and he (Mr Holliday) asked them to notice the time. Witness was proceeding to state what he said, when Mr Hamilton interposed, objecting to anything being given as evidence, which was not said in the presence of the prisoner.—Witness (continuing) stated that the men's names were William Black and McLatchin.—Mr Marwood: On the 4th January, did you go to Stephenson's?—Witness: No, I did not.—His Lordship: Did you give information to the police?—Witness: The first information I gave was to a magistrate on Sunday, the 27th of December, and it was probably on the following day that I gave information to another magistrate.—His Lordship: Well, did you give information to the police yourself?—Witness: No.—Witness (continuing) said that he next saw the prisoner with two or three other cartmen. He did not remember the day, but it was about the 4th of January. He then identified him.—His Lordship: Where was that?—Witness: Against my own office.—Witness (continuing) said that there were three or four men, and the prisoner was amongst them. He had no doubt as to his identity.—Mr Hamilton then commenced the cross-examination. You say you spoke to the magistrates on Sunday and Monday. Were they the gentlemen who tried the case in the Police Court? was the first question.—Witness: I would not like to say.—Mr Hamilton: Who were the magistrates?—Witness: I first mentioned it to Mr John Thurlow Potts.—Counsel: Did you know whether or not Mr Potts was on the bench when you gave your evidence?—Witness: Yes, I believe he was.—Counsel: Was Mr Davison the other magistrate to whom you mentioned the case?—Witness: No, I did not say anything to him, but to Mr Ainsworth.—Counsel: Was Mr Ainsworth on the bench when the case was considered?—Witness: Yes.—Counsel: How long have you lived in this neighbourhood?—Witness: About two years. I came in the month of July, 1894.—Counsel: How many cases have you brought before the magistrates during that time?—Witness: If this is to be counted as one, I have had two.—Counsel: I believe the previous case was dismissed?—Witness: Yes.—His Lordship: What was the case?—Witness: A girl letting off fireworks. (Laughter).—Counsel: I believe you reported the case, but the girl was discharged?—Witness: Yes.—His Lordship: It was a very stupid action if she did it. Fireworks are dangerous for persons who are driving;—Witness: The magistrates discharged the girl owing to the absence of corroborative evidence.—Counsel: We are very much obliged for that admission. Do you remember saying in the Police Court that you did not know whether or not the animal was a horse or a mare, or if an act of the kind alleged could have been committed?—Witness: I believe that I did say something of the sort.—Counsel: Will you swear that the prisoner's legs were not in the cart?—Witness: Yes.—Counsel: You remember a police officer coming to you on a Sunday?—Witness: I cannot say when.—Counsel: Now, what was the date? Was it seven, or eight, or nine days after the 26th?—Witness: I cannot remember that, as I did not take any particular notice.—Counsel: Did an officer suggest that some men should pass your office in their carts, so that you could identify them?—Witness: An officer suggested that I should have an opportunity of seeing if the prisoner was the man I had seen in Taylor's Lane.—Counsel: Were you in the office on the 4th of Jan., and did you see a cart pass?—Witness: No.—Witness, in reply to other questions, said that when he saw the men, who had been obtained for purposes of identification, they were drawn up against his office, to which he was driving in his brougham. He did not remember how many carts there were.—Counsel: Now, be careful, Mr Holliday. A great deal depends upon your recollection.—Witness: Oh, yes; I understand that, but I do not remember whether there were three or four carts, but I know that there was only one man in each cart.—Witness, in the course of further cross-examination, said that he described "the young man" to the magistrates. He did not look closely at the men against his office, because he knew the prisoner immediately.—Counsel: Do you mean to say that you did not look at the other men?—Witness: I may have done so, but I did not examine them closely as there was no necessity.—Counsel: I believe that the place, where you allege the act to have been committed, is near a large shale heap?—Witness: Yes.—Counsel: And it is used a great deal?—Witness: I should say very little.—Counsel: Oh, that is your opinion. You use it a good deal, I suppose?—Witness: Yes, nearly every day.—Counsel: Is it a road where the track is much worn?—Witness: It is rutty, I should say.—Counsel: Is it not a good, metal road, sir?—Witness (hesitatingly): Yes.—Counsel: Is it not near your own ironworks, sir?—Witness: Yes.—Counsel here produced a photograph, and, handing it to Mr Holliday, enquired if it showed the road and the shale heap.—Witness: I should say that this probably is the shale heap and the road, but it does not represent the exact place in which I first saw the cart. It is a portion of the road, displaying the shale heap.—His Lordship: It appears to be a very good photograph.—Counsel: Is it a hard road?—Witness: I should say so, as far as that part of it is concerned. It is a good one, but it swerves very much.—His Lordship: Perhaps, Mr Hamilton, you will soon let us into the secret of the relevancy of these photographs?—Counsel: Were you riding in the road?—Witness: I was riding in the carriage. (Laughter).—Counsel: You did not ride on the grass, I suppose?—Witness: No.—Witness, replying to further questions, said that he stopped two men at the top of the road, and made a statement to them, wishing them to identify the prisoner.—His Lordship: You have no doubt as to his identity?—Witness: Not the slightest.—John McLatchin said that he was a hawker, and lived at Stoney Heap, near Leadgate. At about 3.50 on the afternoon of December 26th, his attention was attracted by hearing Mr Holliday shout. Witness was then close to the slag heap on the main road. Witness left his horse and cart, went over to Mr Holliday, and saw the prisoner driving a horse and cart. The latter came along to where witness was standing.—His Lordship: Have you any doubt as to the prisoner being the man?—Witness: No.—Cross-examined: It was not very light at the time.—William Black said that he was a miner, and lived at 94, Front Street, Leadgate. On the 26th of December, at about 3.50 in the afternoon, he was on the main road between Consett and Castleside, and near Consett Junction. That was not far from Taylor's Lane, and he was at the point where the main road crosses when Mr Holliday ran up to him. He saw the last witness there.—His Lordship: Then there were three of you altogether?—Witness: Only two.—His Lordship: There was Mr Holliday, yourself, and Mr McLatchin; that makes three.—Witness: Oh, yes. (Laughter).—Witness (proceeding) said that he saw a cart coming behind Mr Holliday. It had to pass them on its way, and witness saw prisoner was in charge. He had no doubt as to the man's identity.—Cross-examined: Witness next saw the prisoner at Consett. He was then amongst others. He was asked by the magistrates to identify him. The prisoner was then standing amongst seven or eight others.—Counsel: At that time, Mr Holliday had given his evidence?—Witness: I do not know.—Counsel: I suppose that the prisoner had been charged before the magistrates?—Witness: I believe so.—Replying to His Lordship, witness swore that he had no doubt as to the prisoner being the man.—Thomas Young was then called, Counsel stating that, although his evidence was not amongst the depositions, notice of his appearance as a witness had been given to the prisoner.—Witness was then sworn, and stated that he lived at 8, Eltringham Terrace, Blackhill. He worked for Mr Stephenson, and knew the prisoner, who was in the same gentleman's employment. On the afternoon of the 26th of December, witness went into a field with two cart loads of manure, one of which was in the prisoner's possession. The field was at the rear of Mr Holliday's house. This took them along Taylor's Lane. The prisoner was behind a bay mare, which had some white on its feet, and a white ridge on its face. They set off about 3-15 p.m., and came out of the field together. When outside, they then separated, going in two different directions.—Cross-examined: Witness had been a cartman fifty-two years in the same employ.—His Lordship: How old are you?—Witness: I am sixty-three.—Witness (continuing) said that he had since examined the cart which was in the prisoner's charge. The photograph (produced) represented the mare and cart of which Hogg had control.—His Lordship: Let me see this work of art? (Laughter).—Witness said he helped to yoke the mare on the afternoon in question, in the ordinary way as shown in the photograph. When she was put back, the hair of the tail touched the back of the cart, which tilted up. He had measured the distance between the back of the horse and cart when the mare was drawn forward, and it was about three or four inches.—Counsel: Seeing that you measured the distance as you have described, and having had a long experience, do you think it possible for the prisoner to have acted in the manner described.—Witness (emphatically): Nothing of the kind, for, if he had done so, she would have kicked his brains out. I would not like to have done it. (Laughter).—Counsel: Do you think it was physically possible for the man to have taken the position stated by Mr Holliday?—Witness: Not at all possible.—Counsel: How long has this mare been used by Mr Stephenson?—Witness: About two years.—Witness (proceeding) said that he himself had not driven the mare a great deal—only half a day occasionally. She would not allow anyone to interfere with her.—Counsel: Does she kick if she is tampered with?—His Lordship: That was the witness's first reason why the act could not have been committed.—Sergeant Tones next gave evidence, and stated that on the 2nd of January, he had an interview with the prisoner, who then told him that on the 26th of December, he took two loads of manure across to Consett Grove. Witness inquired what time he left the house, and prisoner replied that it was some time after dinner. In answer to another question, the boy's father said that the mare the boy had driven was the one that was then yoked to a brake.—His Lordship: It is not necessary to go into all the details which appear upon the depositions. I have read them myself.—Witness (proceeding) said that he arranged for the prisoner to be with several others at Mr Holliday's office, where he was identified, and subsequently arrested. When charged, prisoner made no reply.—Cross-examined: Witness went to make enquiries at the house of the prisoner's grandfather, when the father was present. He asked the prisoner questions, although he had not cautioned him, not then having any charge against him.—Counsel: Do you mean to say that you went to the house without knowing what the charge was?—Witness: I did not know that he was the man.—Counsel: Then why did you go to that house?—Witness: I was told that the offence had been committed by one of Mr Stephenson's cartmen, and went to find out which one it was.—Witness (continuing) said that the question he asked was about the mare, and the animal was pointed out to him, after which the father and the prisoner drove the brake away.—His Lordship: This witness does not seem to be against you, Mr Hamilton, and I would reserve my indignation for someone else. (Laughter).—Witness, in reply to further questions, said that the matter did not come to his knowledge until the 2nd of January, when he received information from his Superintendent, who, he understood, had been told of the affair by the magistrates. Witness had been in Consett seven years, and knew the prisoner to be very respectably connected. He had borne an excellent character, hitherto.—Mr Marwood: That is the case, my Lord.—Mr Hamilton then commenced his speech for the defence. He had witnesses in Court, he said, to bear testimony to the prisoner's character, but as the officer, Sergeant Tones, had spoken so highly of him, he did not think it would be necessary to call them. The young man in the dock was in a very serious position, being on his trial for a horrible crime. He saw from the calendar, that the prisoner was only 17 years of age—barely on the threshold of life.—His Lordship: Of manhood, perhaps, but past that of life.—Counsel (resuming) said that was what he intended to say. Touching on the evidence, Counsel said that Mr Holliday was the chief, and only material witness. According to his testimony, he was riding along Taylor's Lane, when he came up to the prisoner from behind. He was not riding on the grass, but on the hard road. Did they not think that if the prisoner had been doing what was alleged, he would have moved his horse long before Mr Holliday came up to him? Then his learned friend had called Mr Young, who had had 52 years' experience as a cartman, and ought to know something about carts. That witness had told them that he had helped to yoke the horse, and that it was physically impossible for the prisoner to have committed the act with which he was charged. They would see from the photographs, which had been produced, that the prisoner could not possibly have been guilty of the offence. Mr Young had actually measured the distance between the cart and the mare, when the latter was pulling forward, and it was only about three or four inches. He asked them to say that they believed the evidence of Mr Young, who had told them that the act was physically impossible. He had told them also that if interfered with, the animal would kick. Was it not possible that Mr Holliday might have been mistaken? They had his evidence alone, and on that evidence were asked to convict a young man of respectable character. There had been no corroboration except to show that he was there, and he (the Counsel) would not dispute it. It would be foolish to do that in the face of the evidence that had been tendered. Before they convicted, the jury ought, beyond all reasonable doubt, to be satisfied of the prisoner's guilt. The evidence tendered by Mr Young, and that given by Mr Holliday were conflicting. Would it not therefore be better to say that the latter gentleman was mistaken? Commenting on the action of Mr Holliday in not going straight to the police, Counsel contended that Mr Holliday's giving information to the magistrates in the first instance, conclusively proved that that gentleman had some doubts as to the prisoner's guilt. Mr Holliday had previously brought a little girl before the magistrates for letting off crackers. The case was dismissed, owing to the want of corroborative evidence. Was Mr Holliday corroborated now? No; they were asked to convict a young man on the evidence of a single witness. He asked them after seeing the photographs, and after hearing what Mr Young had said, to say that Mr Holliday was mistaken. The act was said to have been committed in the afternoon of the 26th of December, when it was said to have been getting dusky, and Mr Holliday might not have seen very clearly, and he asked the jury to say that they were not satisfied with the evidence, and to bring in a verdict of acquittal.—His Lordship, in summing up, said that the excellent character, which the prisoner had hitherto borne, ought very properly to be taken into consideration by him at a later stage—if that stage was reached—in the proceedings, but the jury must not allow that to outweigh clear evidence, if they believed that that which had been given was such. The real question was whether or not Mr Holliday was a reliable witness. For some time, during the hearing of the case, he thought that the defence consisted of a reliance upon the want of complete identification, but it appeared that he had been mistaken, and it was admitted that the prisoner was in charge of a horse and cart, on the evening of the 26th of December, and was proceeding along Taylor's Lane in the direction of the main road. The question was, therefore, reduced as to whether or not the jury were satisfied that the prisoner actually committed, or attempted, the offence. They had three courses open to them. They could find the prisoner guilty of the act; they could find him guilty of the attempt; or they could acquit him. According to Mr Holliday, between 3 and 4 p.m. on the 26th of December, he was riding up Taylor's Lane, when he saw in front of him, down by the hedge on the right hand side, a horse and cart, with a man sprawling over the haunches of the animal. When he approached nearer, the man turned round in a startled manner, and Mr Holliday exclaimed, "Now, I have caught you." Mr Holliday had sworn either what was true, or what was false—that was for the jury to decide. Mr Holliday then asked the defendant's name, which he refused to give, after which Mr Holliday went in search of evidence of identification. This was the evidence in chief. After referring to the manner in which the prisoner was identified, His Lordship then went on to refer to the prosecution of the girl for letting off fireworks. This was stated to have been dismissed for want of corroboration, but probably it was owing to the fact that the Magistrates looked upon it as a very trivial offence. He confessed that he did not know under what Act the proceedings were taken.—Counsel: The Highways Act, my Lord.—Well, he must say that the practice was a very dangerous one to those who happened to have charge of horses. After the evidence of identification, tendered by a hawker, named McLatchin, and a miner, named Black, they came to Mr Young's evidence. Here, for the first time, they began to realise what the defence was, namely, that the act with which the prisoner was charged was a physical impossibility, both on account of the temper of the mare, and the relative position of the cart. The jury were the judges of that question, and if he offered any opinion on the matter, it must be understood that it must not be taken as a guide, but to assist them in coming to a decision. If anything he said did not commend itself to their judgment, they were by all means to reject it. It had been suggested that the hairs of the mare's tail touched the cart. That might be true, and yet it might not be very difficult to commit, or, at anyrate, to attempt to commit, the act when the mare was standing forward. This again was a matter for the jury to consider. The contention that the act was a physical impossibility, was no answer to the allegation that an attempt had been made, though it might appear to be ineffective. In conclusion, if the evidence of Mr Holliday appeared to them to be of a reliable character—and they had no reason to suppose that he had taken the trouble to come to that Court with any other purpose than to punish the prisoner for an offence he believed had been committed—they could scarcely come to any other conclusion than that the prisoner was guilty either of the actual offence, or the attempt.—The jury then retired to consider their verdict, and, after a brief absence, found the prisoner "Guilty of the attempt."—His Lordship, in passing sentence, said that it was a very painful thing for him to have to deal with a man like the prisoner, against whom nothing discreditable had hitherto been known. This kind of offences, however, must be stamped out. They were a disgrace to any community. He was very averse to treating a man, convicted for the first time, with severity, but giving every consideration to the character which the prisoner had previously borne, he felt compelled to send him to prison for three months with hard labour.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

QUADRILLE PARTY.—On Friday last, the above party held their annual ball in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, and this, like all previous efforts, proved an unmistakable success, and reflects great credit upon the committee, who have all worked so harmoniously together. This ball is looked upon as one of the events of the year, and a large number paid for admission to the gallery to witness the opening. The hall was most tastefully decorated, and has seldom, if ever, been seen to better advantage, or been more admired than on this occasion. The decorations were in the hands of Messrs Richardson & Son, to whom every praise is due. As a spectator from the gallery remarked, one could almost fancy they were in "Fairyland." The music was supplied by the party's own orchestra—Messrs T. Nixon, W. Stockdale, and J. Vasey (violins), J. Wray (cornet), and F. Barron (piano)—who all deserve great praise for the excellent manner in which they performed. The refreshments were supplied by Mrs Surtees, who must be congratulated, as she omitted nothing that could be desired, and fulfilled her contract to everyone's satisfaction. In addition to the ordinary decorations, there was a grand display of flowers and plants, kindly lent by a gentleman of the village, to whom the committee wish to tender their best thanks. A well-arranged programme was provided, the opening dance being a polka, which was led off by Mr J. Postle and Miss Ward at 8.30, after which dancing was kept up with great vigour until about 3.30 the following morning. The M's.C., Messrs Postle and Milburn, performed their duties in a most efficient manner, and were ably assisted by the following stewards—Messrs J. Bruce, H. Lishman, W. Vasey, M. Grant, and W. Downs. There were, in all, 47 couples present, namely:—Mr J. Bruce and Miss Milburn, Mr A. Milburn and Miss Strachan, Mr J. Postle and Miss Ward, Mr W. Stockdale and Miss Elliott, Mr W. Gorman and Miss Jewitt, Mr R. Judge and Miss McKean, Mr J. Jackson and Miss Grant, Mr J. E. Walton and Miss Nixon, Mr M. Grant and Miss Rennison, Mr A. Turnbull and Miss Henderson, Mr T. Ellison and Miss Downs, Mr W. Smurthwaite and Miss Ramsay, Mr R. Rae and Miss Thompson, Mr R. Simpson and Miss Cockburne, Mr W. Cooke and Miss Robson, Mr J. Cooke and Miss Bruce, Mr C[illegible] and Miss Galley, Mr J. Scott and Miss [illegible] Mr J. Homler and Miss Bumphe[illegible] McTaggart and Miss Lodge, Mr W. [illegible] Miss Ellison, Mr T. Moreland and Miss [illegible] Mr R. Maughan and Miss Armstr[illegible] Johnstone and Miss Clarke, Mr H. L[illegible] Miss M. Barron, Mr J. Barron and [illegible] Mr J. Milburn and Miss Armstro[illegible] Stephenson and Miss Gibson, Mr W[illegible] Miss Robb, Mr J. Bates and Miss Glen[illegible] T. Carruthers and Miss Walker, Mr [illegible] Miss Elliott, Mr G. Beck and Miss [illegible] W. Waggot and Miss Heyward, [illegible] and Mrs Lishman, Mr H. Surte[illegible] Barron, Mr W. Vasey and Miss [illegible] Lowden and Miss Bedingfield, [illegible] and Miss Judge, Mr J. Brown [illegible] Mr N. Oley and Miss E. Thomp[illegible]

CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The usual monthly meeting of the above Council was held on Wednesday evening, the Chairman, Mr J. W. Davison, presiding. There were also present, Messrs W. Aynsley, G. D. Powell, J. Lowes, J. Kempson, T. Dunne, R. C. Foster, J. Scott, G. T. Hyden, H. Holliday, Dr. Macintyre, J. Daly, A. Robson, and H. Foggan (Deputy-Clerk), and W. Rippon (Surveyor).

SUGGESTED TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The Chairman said that a letter had been received from the Committee of the Consett Science and Art Schools, stating that a deputation would wait upon the Council, and requesting that they might be favoured with an interview.—On the motion of Mr Hyden, seconded by Mr Dunne, it was decided that the request be granted.—The deputation, consisting of Mr G. Ainsworth, Mr J. Petherick, and Mr A. Stoddart, subsequently entered the room, and, addressing the Council, Mr Ainsworth said that they were a deputation from the Committee of the Consett Science and Art Classes. Perhaps, before he told them the immediate object of their visit, he might give them a short *resumé* of the history of the work done by the classes. Prior to the passing of the Technical Education Act, in 1890, two classes were carried on in Consett—one in the British Schools, and the other in the Co-operative Hall. When that Act was passed, in order to receive grants from the funds of the County Council, it was found necessary to fuse the two classes into one. They were then carried on under one Committee. He might perhaps remind them that some consideration had formerly been given to the desirability of building some institution for technical purposes. Some of them said that it would be better if the matter were allowed to stand over, because, after further experience, they would be able to say whether the classes—which were then young—would be appreciated and supported. If they found that such was the case, they would be able to approach the Council and the public generally, with a much stronger scheme. They had carried on their classes, unostentatiously, perhaps, but efficiently and satisfactorily. Some three or four years ago, when the question of making a presentation to the late Mr Jenkins came up for consideration, there was a suggestion, which came from the directors of the Consett Iron Company, that some permanent institution should be established to perpetuate the memory of the late manager, and he thought that the Company would liberally contribute to such a scheme. The classes, he had referred to, had gone on well, but the Committee had come to the conclusion that they had not been so successful as they might have been, if they had had more suitable premises than they now had in the British Schools, and the Co-operative Hall, neither of which were specially adapted for the purpose, and they considered that their students were working under a disadvantage. They had now come to the time when they thought that something could be done by way of erecting a permanent structure for the classes, and they attended that night to ask the Council to assist them. They might enquire how the money was to be provided. Well, the deputation had not come with a cut and dried scheme, and had not gone into any elaborate details because they first wanted to know if the Council would assist them with their support. He would like to refer them back to the period when the institution was first suggested. The Council was then good enough to pass a resolution that they would be prepared to levy a rate, not exceeding 1d in the £. They had, he believed, that power, and he thought that the resolution was still on the minute book. The Committee would like to know if the Council would endorse that promise. They would first look for support from grants, awarded by the Education Committee of the Durham County Council. How much they would amount to, he was unable to say. Then, he believed that they would get something from the Science and Art Department. The maximum allowed by that body was £500, but he did not suppose that they would receive that amount. (Laughter). The Consett Iron Company would, he believed, be prepared to support such a fund by a liberal contribution. They would also look for assistance from such friends, as would be willing to help them. After these sources had been exhausted, they would probably have to borrow any other money that would be required, and they would look for the sum raised by the rate of one penny in the £1, or less, to pay the interest. Such was a bare outline of the suggested scheme. Their object was to see if the Council approved of the project, would give the Committee their support, and were prepared to continue their promise of assistance from the rates. Moreover, the Committee thought that if anything was proposed for Consett, in commemoration of the Queen's Jubilee, a worthy object might be found in the erection of such an institution as the deputation had brought before the Council. He thought that nothing which could be suggested, was more likely to prove of more permanent benefit to Consett. It was an object that appealed to the whole district, and was worthy of every consideration. The Committee appealed to the Council as a representative body in the town. They thought that Consett was deserving of an institution of that kind—(hear, hear)—and there was nothing in any other way which appealed to the young people when they left the elementary schools. He hoped—although the scheme was not definite—that the project would be favourably received. There might be formed an organised day school into which, when children left school, after passing the sixth standard they could be received, and there have a scientific, and practically a secondary, education. They might ask whether there was any necessity for taking such a step. He could only tell them that their classes had for the last five years averaged from 200 to 250 attendances. They would have had larger classes, and would have taught other subjects, but for want of proper accommodation. Other subjects were very desirable and necessary, and if the institution he had referred to was erected, they would be able to teach them, and carry on an organised Science School, for which purpose the institution would be necessary.—Mr Scott: Could you give us a hint as to the probable cost?—Mr Ainsworth: I am afraid not. That would depend on how the matter was taken up, and what the requirements would be.—The Chairman inquired if any scheme had been formulated?—Mr Ainsworth said that they had talked over the matter, but they wanted some idea of the support they would receive. They had practically nothing definite, or finite. If he could tell the Committee that the Council approved of it, they would probably form a Committee to consider the question. As they knew, two of their members were officially on the Technical Instruction Committee, and he believed that they were in accord with his views. With regard to the expense, they would have to cut their coat according to the cloth they could get. As he viewed the matter, it was very desirable that the scheme should be carried into effect, particularly with an industrial population like Consett.—The Chairman: Can you suggest what the Consett Iron Company would do in the matter of a site?—Mr Ainsworth: I am afraid not. I would prefer that the question should be discussed on general principles.—Mr Aynsley inquired if it would cost more than £5,000?—Mr Ainsworth: I do not think so. My idea was that the Chairman might call a public meeting to take the matter up with as much *eclat* as possible.—Mr Stoddart also addressed the Council, and said that, speaking as a working man, he had no hesitation in stating that there was a general feeling in favour of the scheme as outlined by Mr Ainsworth. He had no doubt but that, if the institution were established, it would prove a success.—Mr Holliday: Do you mean financially?—Mr Stoddart: I mean numerically, but I think that it would be a success in every way.—Mr Petherick also spoke, and stated that one of the students at the art classes obtained the second highest award in the county of Durham.—The Chairman: Does the County Council give any assistance?—Mr Ainsworth: Oh, yes. We could not carry on without them. We get both grants for attendance and for results. Our present classes are a financial success, and I believe that the proposed institution would be self-supporting.—The deputation then withdrew, and Mr Hyden supported the project, and was proceeding to make a speech, when Mr Holliday expressed the hope that he would not detain the Council long, as no business had been done, and speeches should be reserved for a public meeting.—It was eventually decided, on the motion of Mr Powell, seconded by Mr Kempson, that the Council accept the recommendation of the deputation with reference to a Technical Educational and Science and Art Institute, and that they help the movement to the utmost limit in their power.—A Committee, to confer with that of the Science and Art Classes, was appointed, consisting of Messrs Foster, Dunne, Powell, and Aynsley.—The deputation then withdrew.

MARKETS.

TOW LAW.—ANNUAL BULL SALE.—The annual sale of bulls, in connection with the above mart, was held on Thursday, in conjunction with the first special sale of store cattle for the season. Prizes of £2 for the first, and £1 for the second, were given by Mr Vickers, the auctioneer, for shorthorn bulls under eighteen months. A number of very good animals competed, and Mr M. R[illegible]dwell, Eastgate, secured both first and [illegible]rizes with a pair of roans with good [illegible]. The judges were—Mr J. E. Nicholson, [illegible]ouse; Mr J. Dunn, East Lodge, Crook; [illegible] Wm. Hall, Cowpen Bewley; and their [illegible]gave general satisfaction. Two bulls, [illegible] Mr Dalkin, Westgate, and Mr Stephen[illegible]ling Gate, were highly commended. [illegible] prize bull was bought by Mr William [illegible]mbleton, for £18, and the second prize [illegible] Isaac Allanson, Beechburn, for £15 5s. [illegible]s ranged from £8 10s to £15. There [illegible]d show of store cattle, which met a [illegible]vy, dull trade, under the adverse [illegible] a very wet day and the railway [illegible] former causing stock to look their [illegible]he latter preventing them being sent [illegible] numbers in the mart were 58 bulls, [illegible], and 318 store cattle. Geld cows, £8 [illegible]hree-year-old steers to £15 15s; do. [illegible] 10s; stirks, £3 to £10 10s.

TOW LAW, March 1.—Although Darlington fair was being held, Mr Vickers had forward a large entry of stock, and there was a numerous attendance of buyers, trade all round being good. The numbers forward being 48 dairy cows and heifers, 11 fat cattle, 10 calves, 55 fat sheep and hoggs. Cows made up to £20 10s; fat cattle to £18; calves to 42s; fat hoggs to 35s 6d, from Mr W. A. Holmes, Esh Hall; to 31s 6d, from Mr Jas. Hall, Harperley; fat sheep to 45s, from Mr H. Brownless, Wolsingham; fat black-faced wethers to 28s 6d, top Mr T. Walton, Allergill.

BENFIELDSIDE, March 1.—There was a capital entry of stock at this mart on Monday, of extra good quality, for which trade was excellent, although cattle were about 10s each less than last week, when, however, they were exceptionally dear. The numbers forward were 26 fat cattle, 2 fat bulls, 5 cows, 2 calves, 135 fat sheep, 3 store cattle, 1 horse, and an extra large entry of poultry and turkeys. Fat heifers from Mr Wm. Johnson, to £17; from Messrs Annandale, £16 5s, £16 12s 6d, and £17 15s; from Mr George Hardy, £14; Mr R. Anderson, £13 7s 6d to £15 2s 6d; John Pattinson, £13 7s 6d; Messrs Graham, heifers to £16, bullocks to £20; Mr George Hardy, bullocks to £15 12s 6d; Mr E. Murray, bullocks to £14; heifers £14; Mr George Nicholson, bullocks, to £15; Mr Whitfield, bullock, £15 5s; bull, £19; Mr J. Wall, bull, £12 17s 6d; Mr R. Gledson, heifers, £12 15s to £14 15s; Mr W. Potts, £10 17s 6d to £12 7s 6d. Sheep 49s to 60s; hoggs, 46s 6d, from Mr Brewis and Mr R. Dixon; Scotch wedders to 39s, from Espershields. Poultry up to 2s 6d each; turkeys, 5s to 6s 3d. Store cattle to £8 5s each; calves, 25s. There was a brisk trade, and a good finish.

LANCHESTER PARISH COUNCIL.

The last meeting of this Council was held in the Schools, Burnhope, on Monday, Mr J. R. Ritson presiding. There were also present—Messrs Knowles, Gray, R. Innes, Gibson, Chapman, Hartley, Bowman, and Thompson (Clerk).—A letter was read from the District Council, stating that if land of the required width were given by the adjoining proprietors for a road from Burnhope Vicarage to Burnhope Flat, the proposal of making the road would be entertained.—It was decided that Miss Allgood should be approached on the subject.—Some discussion then took place about the condition of Kit's Well Road, and a communication from the County Council stating that that authority had no power in the matter was read.—Mr Bowman remarked that the road mentioned was in a disgraceful state, and they, as the representatives of the ratepayers, ought to make the road independent of anyone. Had any of the members had children going to school, they might perhaps have known a little more about the state of the road, which was extremely bad. It was ultimately decided that the owners of Cornsay Colliery should be written to, and their assistance asked in making the road to the houses where their workingmen resided.—It was decided that Craghead's claim for a balance due to them in September last, when their parish was created, should lie over until an official application was received.—The contractor for the Haugh's footpath tendered his account, and it was decided that he be asked to complete the footpath at the same rate as had been agreed, a cheque, for the amount of tender £5 10s 8d, being signed.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought a prolonged meeting to a close.

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Births, Marriages, & Deaths.

Marriages.

MATTHEWS AND COOK.—At St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Blackhill, on the 1st inst., Patrick Matthews to Teresa Cook, both of Consett.

McGOWAN AND BULMER.—At the Register Office, Lanchester, on the 3rd inst., Joseph McGowan to Esther Annie Bulmer, both of Annfield Plain.

BELL AND BELL.—At Hare Law Parish Church, on the 24th ult., by the Rev. E. Henderson, Peter Bell to Martha Donaldson Bell, both of Annfield Plain.

MADDISON AND THOMPSON.—At Muggleswick Parish Church, on the 1st inst., W. Maddison, Annfield Plain, to Miss Thompson, of Waskerley.

CROSSLING AND LEAK.—At Rawdon Church, Leeds, on the 2nd inst., by the Rev. S. H. Mills, T. Ernest, second son of the late Thomas Crossling, Newcastle, to Marget, youngest daughter of J. and E. Leak, Rawdon.

ROBERTS AND McVAY.—At the Brooms Church, Leadgate, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. D. O'Kelly, William Roberts to Bridget McVay, both of Leadgate.

COLEMAN AND McHUGH.—At the Brooms Church, Leadgate, on the 1st inst., by the Rev. D. O'Kelly, Edward Coleman, Hanging Stone, to Annie McHugh, of Flint Hill.

SANDERSON AND FOREMAN.—At the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Stanley, by the Rev. E. Campbell, William Sanderson, of Tantobie, to Martha Foreman, of White-le-Head.

Deaths.

At Medomsley, on the 4th inst., aged 66 years, William Taylor, builder, Medomsley. To be interred at Medomsley on Sunday at 3 p.m. Please accept this intimation.

At 57, Durham Road, Blackhill, on the 3rd inst., aged 52 years, Elizabeth (Bessie) the dearly beloved wife of Andrew Trotter. Interment at Benfieldside, Sunday, March 7th, at 2-30 prompt. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

At Langley Park, on the 25th ult., Ellen, infant daughter of Ellen Nicholson.

At South Moor, on the 26th ult., Moses, infant son of John Nicholson.

At 33, Walton Row, Blackhill, on the 23rd ult., aged 40 years, Mary Ann, wife of Patrick Clark.

At Dean Howl, Castleside, on the 24th ult., aged 83 years, Jane, widow of the late Matthew Elliott.

At 519, North Cross Street, Leadgate, on the 25th ult., aged 17 years, John Thomas, son of Geo. Coulthard.

At 446, Bradley Square, Leadgate, on the 27th ult., aged 7 months, George William, son of Frederick Robinson.

At Low Westwood, on the 27th ult., aged 40 years, Mary, wife of William Breen.

At 8, Tin Mill Place, Blackhill, on the 1st inst., aged 73 years, Mary, widow of Edward Spencer.

At Plantation Street, Leadgate, on the 1st inst., aged 22 months, Joseph, son of Michael McHugh.

At Satley Grove, on the 3rd inst., aged 72 years, Ann, the beloved wife of John Pearson. Interment at Satley to-day (Friday), March 5th, at 3 o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

At 3, East Stanley, on the 1st inst., aged 32 years, John William Proud.

At Dipton Cottages, Kyo, on the 2nd inst., aged 11 months, Samuel, son of Robert Beckham.

At Fanny Pitt Houses, Stanley, on the 2nd inst., aged 11 months, Elizabeth Jane, daughter of Thomas Elliott.

At Oxhill, on the 27th ult., aged 32 years, Roger Winter.

At Front Street, Stanley, on the 27th ult., aged 4 years, Elsie, daughter of Thomas J. Jackson.

At Dipton, on the 1st inst., aged 4 months, Elizabeth Jane, daughter of Thomas Chapman.

At 58, Catherine Street, Kyo, on the 28th ult., aged 58 years, Ann, wife of James Todd.

At 1, Laxey Street, Stanley, on the 27th ult., Joseph, infant son of Douglas Henderson.

At 40, Joseph Street, Kyo, on the 25th ult., aged 49 years, Dorothy, wife of Charles Foggan.

At Hamsterley Colliery, on the 1st inst., aged 5 months, Matthew, son of Robert James.

At Dobson Street, Blackhill, on the 2nd inst., aged 20 years, Margaret Ellen, wife of Albert Coates.

At 5, Tin Mill Place, Blackhill, aged 48 years, Jane, widow of William Lee.

At 83, Benfieldside Edge, aged 10 months, Elizabeth, daughter of J. A. Wilkinson.

IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of Ann, the beloved wife of James Bailey, who died March 2nd, 1896.

A loving mother, true and kind,
She was to us in heart and mind;
A loving, careful wife as well,
When she on earth with us did dwell.

Dear husband, sons, and daughters, do not weep,
Whilst sweetly in the dust I sleep;
Mourn not for me, nor sorrow take,
But love each other for my sake.

JAMES HOPE,
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