COAL & STONE MACHINES.
OSTON'S OAL BORING MACHINES, all Steel, from 20s. to 26s.
BOSTON'S RATCHET STONE BORING MACHINES, with 3 Drills complete, 35s.
THOS. BOSTON,
WHOLESALE IRONMONGER & TOOL MANUFACTURER,
NUN STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
T. Boston received the highest award Silver Medal North-East Coast Exhibition, 1883. Highest Award Bronze Medal Newcastle Exhibition, 1887. 57b

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

ROBERT JACKSON
CHEAP PRINTING & STATIONERY
ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
AGENT FOR DIPTON:—MR. THOMAS CLARK SOUTH MEDOMSLEY COTTAGES.

No. 1,594. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, March 6th, 1891. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

MONEY TO LEND on Freehold Security.—Apply to JOHN G. MURRAY, Solicitor, 42, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Consett.

Contracts.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are invited for the BUILDING OF A HOUSE in Queen Street, Blackhill.

Plans and Specifications can be seen on applying to Mr. JOHN JOHNSON, No. 58, Wesley Terrace, Blackhill.

Tenders will be received up to Tuesday, March 10th, 1891.

No guarantee that the lowest or any Tender will be accepted. 80c

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

TO LET, the TEAM AND SCAVENGER LABOUR for the above Board.

Bills of quantities and specifications can be seen any afternoon or and after Tuesday, the 3rd of March.

Tenders will be received at the Board-room up to 2 p.m. on Wednesday, the 11th of March.

104e THOMAS S. LONGSTAFF, Surveyor.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required in the ERECTION of HOUSE, TWO SHOPS, WAREHOUSES, &c., at Consett, for Mr JOSEPH MURRAY, Merchant.

Drawings, Specifications, and Conditions of Contract may be seen at our Office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed will be received at the above office on or before Tuesday, March 17th, 1891.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

February 25th, 1891. 93e

TO CONTRACTORS.

THE Committee of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, Limited, are desirous of receiving TENDERS for proposed ADDITIONS, and ALTERATIONS to their Business Premises at Annfield Plain.

Drawings, specifications, and conditions of contract may be seen at our office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed, will be received at the above office, on or before 4 p.m., March 17th, 1891.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

February 28th, 1891. 149

TO CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS are desired for Proposed ADDITIONS ALTERATIONS, PAINTING, PAPERING, &c., at Leazes House, near Burnopfield, for Mr W. J. Handcock.

Drawings, specifications, and conditions of contract may be seen at our office, Rose Cottage, Shotley Bridge.

Tenders sealed and endorsed will be received at the above office on or before Monday, March 16th, 1891.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.

February 28th, 1891. 148e

TO BUILDERS AND PLUMBERS.

TENDERS are invited for certain HOT WATER and other PLUMBING, with accessory Builder's Work, at The Firs, near Witton Gilbert, for W. LOCKEY, Esq.

Drawings and Specification may be seen on application to the undersigned, who will receive Tenders up to Monday, 16th inst.

No pledge is given to accept any Tender.

J. W. ROUNTHWAITE, A.R.I.B.A., Architect,
13, St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill.

5th March, 1891.

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union invite TENDERS for supplying the Workhouse at Lanchester with Flour, Groceries; Butcher Meat, Preserved Meat, Coal, Coke, Coffins, &c., for twenty-six weeks from the 26th instant, and also for the CARTAGE of LIMESTONE from the Railway Station to the Workhouse for twelve months from the same date.

Forms of Tenders specifying the quantities of the various articles required may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom sealed Tenders with samples, so far as practicable, should be sent not later than Wednesday, the 18th inst.

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

WM. H. RITSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.

Lanchester, March 5th, 1891.

Found.

FOUND, on 24th February, a Black Springer BITCH. If not claimed in three days will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply, E. Brown, East Kyo. 143e

FOUND, on Monday, between Leadgate and Brooms, a Columbian SPANIEL. If not claimed within three days will be sold to defray expenses.—Apply, *Guardian* Office. 136e

Wanted.

WANTED, SERVANT GIRL—Apply at the Miners' Arms, Highgate, Blackhill. 158e

WANTED, APPRENTICES for the Millinery and Sales.—Apply, FOSTER BROS., Consett.

WANTED, Two Young Ladies for 6d Bazaar. —Apply at *Guardian* Office, Consett.

WANTED, an active, intelligent BOY.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 92e

WANTED, a MAN for a Farm Place; must be a good Ploughman.—Apply to J. TOWNS, Carribees Farm, Consett.

WANTED, Three APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Miss WALTON, 23, Sherburn Terrace.

WANTED, a good GENERAL SERVANT; able to milk.—Apply to MRS LOWES, 1, Medomsley Road, Consett. 170e

WANTED, a Strong LAD for the Grocery Business. — Apply, M. FAWELL, Front Street, Consett. 171e

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT or Day Girl. — Apply at Mrs POWELL'S, 11, Medomsley Road, Consett. 160e

WANTED, a clean, tidy GIRL; character requisite.—Apply, Mrs. MURRAY, Royal Hotel, Blackhill.

SHOOTING.—Wanted, within easy distance of a station on the Consett line, Mixed Shooting on one or two farms.—Apply by letter Box "O," *Guardian* Office. 90c

BEDBURN FACTORY, near Bishop Auckland. —WANTED, Experienced CLOSERS and MENDERS. Also, 20 Experienced KNITTERS. Lodgings free. Free Houses for Families with workers. Nothing but best class of Work and Prices paid.—Apply, W. DODDS & Co. 24e

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE.—WANTED, SERVANTS able to Milk, Bake, Wash, and do General Work.—Apply at SERVANTS' REGISTRY, 13, Front Street, Consett. 86d

Under Distinguished Patronage.

MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 265w

MRS WHELAN'S REGISTRY OFFICE FOR SERVANTS.—Newmarket Street, Consett. SERVANTS supplied with SERVANTS of MISTRESSES every kind, on the shortest notice, and all information obtained.

SERVANTS of all classes suited with situations promptly and without any trouble. Communications by letter or otherwise carefully attended to. 514a

Wanted.

A GOOD Strong GIRL for the Country, (English preferred); character from last situation.—Apply, Mrs LEIGHTON, Killingworth, Newcastle. 139c

WANTED, a HOUSEKEEPER for a Working Man.—Apply, at any hour on Saturday, but only from 11 to 6 during the week, to Jos. REED, Wheatley's Buildings, Dipton, Lintz Green, R.S.O.

WANTED, at the Consett Co-operative Store, a Journeyman GROCER.—Written applications to be sent in, enclosing testimonials, age, and wages expected. 173e

TO TAILORS. — WANTED, a First-class HAND; regular employment, and best prices. Apply, W. E. TURNER, London House, Front Street, Consett. 158e

TO CARETAKERS.—WANTED, at the Consett Co-operative Store, a Man and Wife, as CARETAKER and LIBRARIAN, to reside on the Premises.—Applicants to meet the Committee on March 10th, at 7.30 p.m.

ANNFIELD PLAIN Co-operative Society Limited. WANTED, for the Millinery Department, an APPRENTICE, not to be under 14 years of age (confined to members trading at central).—Apply to the Committee, Annfield Plain, on Monday, March 9th, at 7 o'clock.—W. R. *Pratt*, Sec. 150

LANCHESTER UNION.
NURSE.

THE GUARDIANS OF THE POOR of the LANCHESTER UNION require the services of a FEMALE NURSE for the Infirmary at Lanchester Workhouse. Salary £20 per annum, with rations and residence.—Applications in own handwriting, stating age, not exceeding 40 years, experience, with three testimonials, to be sent to me on or before the 16th instant.

W. H. RITSON, Clerk to the Guardians.

Lanchester, March 5th, 1891.

To Let.

TO LET, a HOUSE and SHOP, suitable for Grocer, Draper, Confectioner, with bake-house at back or warehouse, May Terr, Front Street, Catchgate. Also, LOCK-UP SHOP at Kyo; rent 3s per week; now empty.—Apply, WM. WILKINSON, Ironmonger, Catchgate, Lintz Green.

TO BE LET, from May-day, 1891, TODD HILLS FARM, about 2 miles south-west from Consett, containing 49 Acres of Grass Land. Also, to be LET, from May-day, 1891, in portions, WEST CONSETT FARM. Offers will be received by N. CLARK, Beamish Park, Chester-le-Street, from whom particulars may be obtained. 99e

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a LITTER of St. Bernard Pups at JOHN STATTS, Greencroft. 141e

FOR SALE, excellent COW, time up; and two CALVES.—A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 140e

FOR SALE, PHAETON, in good condition.—Apply to Freemasons' Arms Hotel, Consett.

HAY FOR SALE.—Apply to GEORGE WADE, Butcher, Front Street, Consett. 990d

FOR SALE, Cheap, a few WELSH BIBLES and TESTAMENTS, at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 843d

WASTE PAPER FOR SALE, 1d. per lb., at the *Guardian* Office.

A MERICAN ORGAN FOR SALE, 12 Stops and Couplers. Will be sold very cheap.—Apply, 2, Poplar Street, South Moor Colliery. 152e

TO BUILDERS, &c.—FOR SALE, First-class BUILDING SAND, suitable for Building and Plastering purposes. — Also, PEA GRAVEL.—Apply to W. D. ROBSON, Blackhill. 803d

FOR SALE a Large assortment of CART, GIG, and SPRING CART HARNESS, WATERPROOF GIG APRONS, CART COVERS &c. — The Cheapest Cash Saddlery Warehouse in the North, THOS. OWEN, 57, Side, Newcastle-on-Tyne. T. OWEN has a consignment of Second-hand HARNESS, &c., for Sale.

Business Announcements.

TOWER TEA.
Highest Award, Paris, 1889.
1s 2d, 1s 4d, 1s 6d, 1s 8d, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 4d, 2s 6d, and 2s 8d per lb. Ceylon Tea—Lead Packets, 1s 10d, 2s, 2s 4d, and 2s 8d per lb. Every packet bears an Registered Trade Mark, a Tower, and is signed, "Tower Tea." Local agents:—Consett—M. Fawell, Grocer. Blackhill—J. Palliser, Grocer. Annfield Plain—G. F. Cooke, Grocer. 628d

A BIG DIVIDEND.

THE GREATEST DISPLAY OF TWEEDS & WORSTED PATTERNS in the North of England. ☞ See Windows.
OVERCOATS.
☞ My Leading Overcoat, 30s. Scotch and Irish Tweed Suits, £2 5s., splendid value. Special Fancy Worsted Trousers, 12s. 6d., unequalled. Black Worsted Suits, £2 15s., at desperate prices.

3s 6D. IS SAVED IN THE POUND BY BUYING YOUR SUITS AT J. HUTCHINSON'S, FOR CASH ONLY.
London Fashions Weekly.

J. HUTCHINSON,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

MUSICAL TUITION.

SILVER MEDALLIST OF THE MUSICAL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE, LONDON,
FOR PIANOFORTE PLAYING.

GEORGE DRYDEN (late pupil of Mr. Hemy) Organist of Medomsley Church, having obtained First-class Honours in Pianoforte Playing, also Certificates in Theory and Harmony, as the Examinations (before Dr. E. M. Lott) in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS on the ORGAN, PIANOFORTE, HARMONIUM, and in THEORY. Special Preparation for Examinations.

TERMS ON APPLICATION.

ADDRESS:—No. 1, EAST PARADE, CONSETT

MUSIC EMPORIUM.

T. JONES is now prepared to supply direct from the Manufacturers, PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, and HARMONIUMS at the Lowest Possible Prices.

A first-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.

VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.

BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.

☞ MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.

Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.

PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.

Note the Address:—

T. JONES,
5, CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office),
CONSETT. 902a

OVERCOATINGS AND WINTER SUITINGS.

COMPLETE AND WELL SELECTED STOCK.

J. BRODIE,
FRONT STREET,
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

AND get an Order for One Pound, made Payable to WILLIAM STEWART AND SON, and FOUR SHILLINGS will receive in return, Carriage Paid to any Railway Station or Carrier, 10lbs. of the Cheapest TEA in England, or 5lbs. of INDIAN TEA the Finest Tea in the World. Should it be your pleasure, we can forward Half of each kind as you may direct.

WILLIAM STEWART & SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND SOUTHWOOD ROAD, NEWCASTLE; 3, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; & CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.

KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SIZES TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

SHOW ROOMS, 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE, 1891.

SPRING SEASON.

GEORGE RICHARDSON,

IS DAILY RECEIVING DELIVERIES OF NEW GOODS FOR APPROACHING SEASON. INSPECTION INVITED.

TAILORS, DRESSMAKERS, AND MILLINERS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT.

ESTABLISHED 1830. 101c

MONEY SAVED IS MONEY EARNED.

ROBERT WILLEY

BEGS to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that his carefully-selected STOCK OF GOODS IS OF THE FINEST QUALITY PROCURABLE.

5/- IN THE POUND

Can be saved by Purchasing Goods at this Establishment.

NOTED FOR FRESH COUNTRY BUTTER AND EGGS.

BOTTLER OF BASS & CO.'S INDIAN PALE ALE, AND GUINNESS'S DUBLIN STOUT.

MILD and BITTER ALES ON DRAUGHT.

R. WILLEY,
CONSETT TEA HOUSE,
MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT.

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.

Give the BEST VALUE in

GROCERIES,
PROVISIONS,
FLOUR, AND FEEDING STUFFS,
WHISKEYS,
BRANDIES,
AND OLD PORTS.

200 PAIRS OF BOOTS TO BE CLEARED OUT CHEAP FOR STOCK-TAKING.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—

T. D. DRYDEN & CO.,
WHOLESALE & RETAIL GROCERS and PROVISION DEALERS, AND WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

☞ TAKE NOTICE.—EVERY SATURDAY.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH. FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN
SINGLE TOOTH, from 2s. 6d. A COMPLETE UPPER or LOWER SET, from 20s.
EQUAL TO NATURE IN APPEARANCE.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT
(OPPOSITE MOUNT PLEASANT HOTEL).
ATTENDANCE: EVERY SATURDAY FROM 1 P.M. TILL 6 P.M.
N.B.—Country Patients visited at their own homes by appointment—without extra charge. 858s

ALL OUR CELEBRATED TEAS REDUCED 2d. PER LB.
TEA. TEA. TEA. PHŒNIX BRAND.
ABSOLUTELY PURE COLONIAL TEA AS IMPORTED.

JOHN HUME & SON,
BAKERS AND MILLERS, TEA AND TOBACCO MERCHANTS,
8, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,

Having recently added the Tea Trade to their Business at Consett for the benefit of their numerous Customers, offer the above Brand—the best and Cheapest Tea in the Market—try it.
"PURE" CEYLON TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.
PHŒNIX "ABSOLUTELY PURE" BLENDED TEA, at 2s. 4d. per lb.
GOLDEN TIP "PURE" INDIAN TEA, at 2s. 10d. per lb. Usually sold at 3s. 6d

TOBACCO.

ROBERT SINCLAIR'S GOLDEN TWIST AND ROUGH CUT, 3d. PER OZ.
Flour & Feeding Stuffs of every description delivered to any part of the District at the lowest possible prices.
Sole Makers of the Celebrated "Optimus" Horse Mixture and "Germ Meal."
ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 835b

ESTABLISHED 1817.

TO FARMERS.

GEORGE HOBSON,
MILLER, CORN MERCHANT, SEEDSMAN, &c.,
HARPERLEY & CATCHGATE STEAM & WATER CORN MILLS,

HEREBY GIVES NOTICE, that his 44th ANNUAL DINNER, in connection with the SEED and MANURE TRADES, will be held on WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th, 1891, at Catchgate Mills.

ALL CUSTOMERS, AND INTENDING CUSTOMERS, ARE KINDLY INVITED.

G. H. IS NOW ENGAGED IN

SELECTING SEEDS
FOR THE COMING SEASON,

Every care being taken to select only those qualities which may be relied upon, which his Half-a-Century's experience enables him to do efficiently.

PRICE LISTS WILL BE READY SHORTLY,

Business Announcements.

W. T. SMITH,
AMERICAN DENTAL SURGEON,
OF 19, ELDON SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the Inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he still visits as usual at MR F. JONES'S, No 1, MOUNT PLEASANT, every Monday, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., where he will be pleased to receive as many of his patients as can make it convenient.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH inserted with all the latest American inventions and improvements. They are retained in the mouth by suction (an American invention) without the aid of Springs, Wires, or Clasps of any description, which so often destroy the remaining natural teeth. The mouth is prepared to receive the Artificial Teeth on the American principle, absolutely different from the English, and no cause is permitted to remain which can in any way produce Neuralgia or affect the eye and ear. As diseased teeth and roots are the principal causes of the various ailments of these most valuable organs, the presence of decaying matter in the mouth, as well as the absence of teeth, is more than half the cause of all the diseases that humanity is afflicted with. In America no Surgeon pretends to treat the eye or ear without first having the patient's teeth examined by a Dental Surgeon, and if any found decayed they are either stopped or extracted as found necessary. In almost every instance, where patients have very badly-decayed teeth, they suffer severely from Dyspepsia. When the mouth is thoroughly cleared of the poisonous matter (preparatory for an Artificial Set) many have been thoroughly cured of Dyspepsia and many other diseases even before receiving the Artificial Set. It is therefore easy to understand that the system of leaving all the roots in and placing an Artificial Set over them is very erroneous and injurious to the health. No one should permit the Self-styled Dentist to operate upon them that would give such advice, as that is sufficient evidence that he is not properly qualified for a Dental Surgeon, as the pain of cutting them off is far greater than extraction, as they can be taken out without the least pain by a new system, and without the loss of consciousness.

DOBSON GRADON,
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN,
BLACKHILL.

HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH LEVER WATCHES, £3 6s. 0d.

OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.

WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

The "RALEIGH" CYCLES, surpassed by none, equalled by few.
The "BROOKES" is a deservedly World-renowned Machine.
The "DON," a Perfect Frame, Strength combined with Lightness.
Also, the "MOHAWK" and "RIVAL" Machines.

ALL MACHINES FITTED WITH PNEUMATIC AND CUSHION TYRES.
Excellent Workshops, on the Premises, and reliable Workmen, who execute all Repairs
PNEUMATIC CUSHION TYRES FITTED TO ANY MACHINE.
WRITE FOR PRICE LISTS TO THE SOLE DISTRICT AGENT

J. DUNCAN HODGSON,
SINGLETON HOUSE, NORTHUMBERLAND STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

PIANOFORTES. HARMONIUMS.
AMERICAN ORGANS.

LARGEST STOCK IN THE NORTH. SUPPLIED ON THE EASY PAYMENT SYSTEM AND DELIVERED AT ONCE.

	FROM		FROM
PIANOS	£18 18 0	HARMONIUMS	£4 4
AMERICAN ORGANS	6 6 0	CONCERTINAS (LACHENALS)	1 1
CELESTINAS	5 15 0	CONCERTINAS Do. (ENGLISH)	2 12
MUSICAL BOXES	2 2 0	MELODEONS	2 10 6
AUKEPHONES	2 2 0	ORGAN ACCORDIONS	3 15 0

EVERY INSTRUMENT NEW AND GUARANTEED FOR TEN YEARS.
LIBERAL DISCOUNT FOR CASH.
BE SURE AND SEE OUR STOCK IF IN WANT OF A REALLY RELIABLE INSTRUMENT OR WRITE FOR ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE POST FREE.

JOHN G. MURDOCH & CO., LD., 47, PILGRIM STREET
NEWCASTLE.
AND BRANCHES THROUGHOUT GREAT BRITAIN AND THE COLONIES.

WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER & VALUER, Land, House, Insurance, and Emigration Agent, Share Broker, &c. Intending Emigrants can be Boarded in the finest Ships to America and all our Colonies. Valuations and Auction Sales of Agricultural Stock, Contractors' Plant, Household Furniture, &c., will be conducted with ability and care on Reasonable Terms and prompt payments by
WM. RAW, AUCTIONEER, BLACKHILL.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
HEALTHGIVING.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
STIMULATES DIGESTION.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
A GENTLE APERIENT.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
IS INVIGORATING.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
INVALUABLE TO TOURISTS.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
A BOON TO SAILORS.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
FOR USE IN ALL CLIMATES.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
INDISPENSIBLE IN EVERY HOUSEHOLD.

WEIR'S TONIC SALT.
Sold in
¼ LB. TINS 4d.
½ LB. TINS 8d.
BOTTLES 1s.
May be obtained of
ALL GROCERS AND CO-OPERATIVE STORES.

BRADY & MARTIN, Scientific Instrument Makers SPECTACLES.—Best Glass, from 3s. 6d.; Pebbles, from 2s. 6d.
OPERA GLASSES, MICROSCOPES.
Price Lists on application.
27, 29, and 31, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 141d

THE
MISSES HARKER
BLACKHILL,
TEACHERS OF PIANOFORTE & VIOLIN.

PUPILS carefully Trained for Theoretical and Practical Examinations. Violins, Bows, and Strings from the best Makers. Tutors, Sheet Music, obtained on the shortest Notice.
TERMS ON APPLICATION. ☞ 974d

DONT FORGET!

GEORGE McNEAL,
BILL-POSTER,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

HANDBILLS delivered at 2s 6d per 1,000; BILL-POSTING 1d per Sheet, Kept good for One Month in the district, which comprises Lanchester, Burnhope, Craghead, Flint Hill, West Stanley, Tanfield, Burnopfield, Hobson, Tantobie, Catchgate, Dipton East Castle, &c.

£1 TO £10

MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET, begs to call special attention to the Prices of PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS.

£10 Country Patients calling in the Morning may be fitted with Sets or Parts in time to return the same day. RAIL FARE ALLOWED.

TAILORING (*PAR EXCELLENCE*).

S. SWALWELL,
TAILOR AND DRAPER, DIPTON,
BEGS to INTIMATE that his PRODUCTIONS in CLOTHING are giving unbounded satisfaction to the numerous Customers who entrust him with their Orders.

OVERCOATINGS, COATINGS, SUITINGS, and TROUSERINGS in the Newest Patterns, At LOWEST PRICES, consistent with quality.

A TRIAL RESPECTFULLY SOLICITED.

MANCHESTER CORPORATION CONCENTRATED MANURE.

MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT.
BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c.

ANALYSING ABOUT
33-66 per Cent. of ORGANIC MATTER containing
3·60 ,, of AMMONIA.
5·08 ,, of ALKALINE SALTS containing
0·90 ,, of POTASH.
8·57 ,, of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.
2·50 ,, of SULPHATE OF LIME.

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 50 miles of Manchester in not less than Two Ton Lots, and within 150 miles in not less than Four Ton Lots.—Special quotation beyond 150 miles.

£3 PER TON.

Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made
HY WHILEY, SUPERINTENDENT,
Cleansing Department, Town Hall,
Manchester.
680d

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—Ed. C.G.)

LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than Wednesday mornings.

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

STONEY HEAP WATER SUPPLY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I notice in your report of a recent meeting of the Leadgate Local Board an observation made by Mr Parker that "he believed that Mrs Blench was the actual party who was responsible for this matter."

In well-regulated corporations and public bodies it is the custom to serve notice of required improvements upon the owners of property, where such owners are known, and where they are not known upon their agents. This information I give to Mr Parker by way of a legacy in return for the many kindnesses which my late respected father received at his hands, and for his continued display of malice towards the widow, but which was so totally ignored by the much-respected chairman of the Board. The managers of the Consett Iron Company, Limited, I have no doubt, thoroughly understand their business, and this little matter will have its turn in due course.—Yours, &c., JOHN BLENCH.

THE NATIONAL CHURCH AND THE NATIONAL TITHES.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Thanks to Mr Ross-Lewin for his courtesy in replying to letters that have been written through his rushing into controversy. Your readers will not all agree with him in his affirmation that the irrefragable statements of the Liberation Society have been refuted either at Benfieldside or any other parts of the country. In regard to Wales there was merely a bare majority in the present Conservative-Unionist Parliament against disestablishment in that country, and probably there would have been a majority for disestablishment had not the Irish difficulty detained a good number of Irish members. A large minority voted with Mr Gladstone, the great leader that Mr Ross-Lewin recommends us to follow. In regard to alteration of doctrines the Established Church condemns *now what it once taught*, and it teaches now what it *once condemned*. Its revenues are used for the very opposite of what they were once used. It is kind of my opponent not to attack either Roman Catholics or Nonconformists. In our blindness we thought he was trying to do so all the while. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stones. It is generous indeed of Mr Ross-Lewin to let us alone, if we will only be quiet and do as he tells us, and support his Church as well as our own. In regard to the Act of Edward VI., according to my opponent's own shewing, the tithes were not paid voluntarily over 300 years ago. They were paid by force. It has always been so. It is so in the reign of Victoria, and it was so during the reigns of the George's, the Charles's, the Henry's, and the William's, and it was so in the time of Alfred, and during the reigns of the Saxons. The pious ancestry theory, in the main, is all moonshine and false imagination. If so-called pious kings, nobles, priests, councils, and Parliaments gave revenues and tithes to the Church, it was simply by forcing other people, the farmer, and the labourer, to pay tithes out of the produce of their skill and toil. The tithes used to be paid in kind, or rather the officers of the Church used to come into the fields and take the tenth of the produce of wheat, barley, potatoes, sheep, oxen, and pigs, and of everything but children. What gain could the Church get 350 years ago from the barren lands? What tithes could they then yield? Would they be worth collecting? Who was generous enough to give the tithe of the barren lands to the Church? Evidently the tithes of the barren lands, *if there were any*, were not worth collecting. But the authorities determined to make a law to get tithes from these barren lands. So in effect they said, "You know it is the law of the land to pay tithes, but if you will cultivate those barren lands, you will not be required to pay tithes for them for seven years." When the barren lands yielded nothing, the tithes, of course, would be nothing; but now that a piece of land has been made to yield £50 per year, the farmer must pay £5 to the Church, but as time rolls on, and the land is improved and manured, and machinery is used in its cultivation, the estate yields £500 a year, and the famer must pay £50 to the Church. Have the pious ancestors given this money? No! never. It is the tithe on the labour, skill, and expenditure of the farmer. The pious ancestors, speaking generally, no more gave the tithes than the man in the moon did. The Church not only gets the tithe that it is alleged was given to it, but it also gets the tithe of the produce of the toil, skill, and inventive appliances of the agriculturalist. On some farms the tithes are equal to one-third, and in some cases one-half of the rent, so that the Church, instead of getting the tenth, gets nearly as much as the owner of the land himself. But whether the tithes and other revenues of the Church are of legal or voluntary origin, as they, and the Church as well, belong to the nation, the people, and the Parliament, and the clergy are the servants of the nation, and as the Church and the people are legally the same, the destiny and revenues of the National, or Public, or Parliamentary Church in England, as well as in Ireland, and in Scotland and Wales, should be determined by the electors through their Parliamentary representatives. Therefore all friends of religious equality should vote for such men as Mr Gladstone and Mr Atherley-Jones.—Yours, &c., R. GILLENDER.

Dent, March 2nd, 1891.

THE WATER SUPPLY OF MARLEY HILL.

Mr W. H. Patterson, general secretary of the Durham Miners' Association, requests us to publish the following copies of correspondence that has taken place between himself and the secretary of the Local Government Board *re* the water supply to Marley Hill and surrounding district:—

Durham Miners' Association,
16, North Road, Durham, Feb. 27th, 1891.
To Secretary Local Government Board.

DEAR SIR,—My attention has been called by the workmen of Marley Hill and Andrew's House Collieries to the want of water supply in the district. I may say that for years this has been a serious grievance, and a source from which the inhabitants have suffered great privation causing sickness, fever, and death. The local authorities' attention has been called to this matter again and again, but it seems that all our influence and the influence of the workmen of the colliery brought to bear upon the local authorities has very little weight indeed. We are, therefore, compelled to appeal to a higher source—namely, to the Local Government Board—to send an inspector to inspect the district, and to see for himself the amount of suffering and hardship that are at present existing and have done for a considerable time in the neighbourhood. Your immediate attention to this will oblige yours faithfully, on behalf of the workmen and miners in and about the mines in that district,

W. H. PATTERSON,
General Secretary of the Durham Miners' Association.

Local Government Board,
Whitehall, S.W., 2nd March, 1891.

SIR,—I am directed by the Local Government Board to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo., and to state that the subject to which it relates will receive the attention of the Board.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

HUGH OWEN, Secretary.

Mr Patterson further expresses the hope that, "as this has been a long-continued evil," the district will assist the Local Government Board in every way to obtain a true statement of facts, so that a remedy may be applied.

THROAT IRRITATION AND COUGH.—Soreness and dryness, tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes 7½d., tins 1s 1½d., labelled "JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says: "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr Gordon Holmes Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL & STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES, quickly correct all irregularities, remove all obstructions, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes, 1s 1½d. and 2s 9d. of all chemists. Sent anywhere on receipt of 15 or 34 stamps by the Maker, E. T. TOWLE, Chemist, Nottingham. BEWARE OF IMITATIONS.

"ROUGH ON CORNS."—Ask Chemists, Perfumers, or Grocers for "Wells' Rough on Corns." Quick, complete permanent cure for hard or soft corns, warts, bunions 6½d. and 1s. bottles.

GREAT DECREASE OF DEATHS FROM CONSUMPTION.

The Government returns show a great decrease in this fatal malady since Handyside's Consumption Cure has been discovered, and anyone attending the meeting of Handyside's patients will not be surprised at the result. If Dr Koch surpasses this medicine it will be discontinued, but from appearances it will be as much wanted as ever to build up the constitution. Everyone should write for extracts from ten thousand testimonials.

Price 3s 10d per 2 bottles.

25, Tweed Street, Newcastle.

Mr G. Handyside,

I am glad to say my wife is now restored to health. She has been a sufferer from Rheumatism and Consumption for eight years. I have tried six doctors. She was ordered to the Convalescent Home, and went for three weeks, but it did her no good. Previous to taking your medicine she had been confined to child-bed for three weeks, and could not turn over in bed. The doctor attending to her confinement was very anxious about the state of her health, but could do nothing for her; but after taking your Consumption Cure for two days she was able to get out of bed and walk about, and in about eight days she felt herself well. I recommended it to my wife's sister, and it did her a great deal of good. I think it my duty to communicate to you, so that it may be widely known, as they are completely restored.

JOHN McQUINN.

[I was asked to see this lady, it was a serious case. She was labouring under nearly all diseases that flesh is heir to, and, in addition had recently been confined. I asked her husband to feel her pulse, and he was scarcely able. Her heart was nearly motionless. She had been a martyr to Sciatica, the worst form of Rheumatics, for years, and at the time I saw the lady she could not turn over in bed. She told me she had been treated for Consumption for eight years. The lady appears to be delighted at the change, and I am sure if anyone calls she will be glad for the sake of other sufferers, to relate to them the wonderful change.]

25, Tamworth Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
August 8th.

I hereby certify that I have been ill for a year-and-a-half, and have been under four doctors; but I gradually got worse and worse, and the last doctor told me he could do nothing further except order me change of air. I went to the country for three weeks, and came home worse than when I left. I took a vomiting of blood, and lost about three gills. Hearing of your medicine I got two bottles, which in six days did me a great deal of good; and in sixteen days I was quite well.

JANE SNOWDON.

No one believed consumption was curable, and in order to show it was I gave about 200 of my patients a trip from Newcastle to Hexham, so that people could see for themselves. This produced great excitement and two large trains accompanied them. All expected to see a lot of pale-faced consumptives, but were astonished to see them all blooming in health. I gave prizes for dancing and the above lady strongly competed for the second prize. The lady came home to Newcastle in a carriage that was occupied by the reporters, and she looked as blooming and healthy as anyone.

Middle Bridge, near Durham,
July 6th. 1890

Dear Sir,

We send you the following lines to inform you of a wonderful cure your medicine has done to our son. He took very ill and was given up by our doctor, as being in a deep consumption over his whole body, and there was no hope of his life being spared to us. But thanks be to God and your medicine he is getting better every day. We see it is through your medicine that God has given you the knowledge to bring forward for suffering humanity, and we will praise God for you ever before the public. We have had ten bottles of your medicine and our son is now going about and we trust in our heavenly Father that he will be right in a week or two. He has recovered to the astonishment of all around us. May God grant you long life and happiness to make use of your medicine, and we trust in our Lord for all the blessings we have received from His hand. We lost a son 9 years ago, on the 13th November, and we have another son, that received a misfortune in the pit five years ago. He is 22 years of age and they deprived him of his benefit, and we have nothing coming in to keep him. Our kind and loving neighbours have been very good to us, else we could not have got your medicine. But God is good to His own. We think one or two more of your bottles will restore him to his usual health, for the cough and spitting has gone altogether. He has a good appetite for the food such as we can get him. We know that he that giveth to the poor will be rewarded in Heaven, bless His holy name, and may God ever bless you for being the means of saving our son. So no more at present from your loving but humble servants,

WM. and MARGARET TOWART.

The Editor of the *Durham Chronicle* investigated the case, and found that he was now working. The doctor says he will fall away again as a great portion of his lungs are gone; if this is the case, the consumption cure must be more than a miracle to bring a man out of bed with his lungs far gone, and sustain him to work regularly.

23, Tweed Street, Bentinck,
December 19th, 1888.

G. Handyside.

Dear Sir,—I was unfortunate to be crushed between two waggons at Sir William Armstrong's works. I went under medical treatment for about ten months. I was reduced in weight one stone ten pounds: I was fading away. I had neither life nor spirits, and saw no hope of recovery. When I went to the water-closet the pain was dreadful, and I could get no passage without taking heavily of opening medicine, and the pain of passing anything was most severe. I was induced to try your "Blood Purifier," and the effect is most wonderful. I have taken it for six weeks; my bowels are pretty regular, the pain is nearly gone, and I have gained seven-and-a-half pounds in six weeks. I feel now cheerful and happy; the doctors said I would never be able to work any more.

JAMES McNAMARA.

December 11th, 1888.

Knowing Mr McNamara very well, and having attended him during his illness, I have great pleasure in testifying to the immense benefit that he has received from the new medicine that he has been using, and which was supplied by Mr Handyside of Bentick. It is a pity that this medicine has not obtained greater notoriety it would be quite a boon to the public.

REV. FATHER DUNN,
St. Michael's Newcastle.

[After the testimony of the Rev. Father Dunn, I need say little; but it may arouse the curiosity of some to see how well a blood purifier could mend a great crush. It is simply the invigorating of the body by the purification of the blood. If a youth happens an accident, the vigour of his youthful blood brings him round; but if he is old, and his blood is poor he dies. Therefore, anything that will improve the blood, and thereby impart strength to the body, will assist greatly in the recovery as may be seen from the above. All delicate constitutions should take this medicine, it will invigorate the system.

146, Madeline Terrace, Newcastle.
December 10th 1888.

Mr G. Handyside.

Dear Sir,—I have been for several months suffering from serious affection of the glands of the neck, and weakness of the eyes, for which I was under medical treatment, and also in the Infirmary, but without getting much relief. I at length tried Mr Handyside's medicines, and have found them of the greatest benefit. My eyesight is quite restored, the glandular swellings are much reduced in size, and have almost entirely ceased to give out discharges. I attribute the improvement in both cases to the medicines I got from Mr Handyside.

G. FAIRBAIRN.

54, Chaucer Street, Gateshead,
December 15th, 1888.

Mr G. Handyside,

Dear Sir,—Having been ailing for some time from weakness of the chest, I was induced by a friend to try your Blood Purifier. I am glad I did, for after taking the first two bottles I felt great benefit, and would advise all those who are suffering from the same to try it.

I am, sir, yours faithfully,
R. H. WARDLE.

1, Gladstone Terrace, Gateshead,
December 13th, 1888.

I have pleasure in certifying that the case of G. Fairbairn and R. H. Wardle referred to above, are well-known to me, and I can confirm both their statements as to the benefit received from Mr Handyside's medicines.

REV ROBERT STEWART,
Presbyterian Church, Gateshead.

[The above testimonials show what a wonderful blood purifier Handyside's Blood Purifier is. After the impure blood irritated the glands of the neck, the blood purifier put it into a proper state, and took away the irritating acidity that irritated them. They fell to their natural size and the discharge ceased, for the blood became so purified that there were no humours to pass away.] By purifying the blood it cures bronchitis, asthma, indigestion, costiveness sleeplessness, general debility, a weak heart, fits, faintings, change of life, fevers, measles, smallpox, and all things arising from poor and impure blood. Price: 2s 6d per two bottles.

Handyside's Rheumatic Cures needs no testimonials, hundreds have presented themselves in treatment before large public audiences with only one failure. Poor people unable to work for their families, and who had tried all other remedies, I will be glad to pay a portion of their railway fare to Newcastle or London, and cure them free. The rubbing bottles at 1s will cure simple cases, but long standing cases require Handyside's Blood Purifier, price 2s 6d per two bottles.

Those who prefer to take Pills should take Handyside's No. 3 Pills which contain a great amount of Handyside's Blood Purifier. They do not purge the bowels and ruin the constitution like common pills. Anyone who has taken large quantities of purging and Mercurial Pills find to their sorrow that their constitution is gone and they will be compelled to take them as long as they live. They make people better for a short time, as all Mercurial Medicines do, then make them worse than ever. The victims then take more again, they find a temporary relief until their constitution is so much reduced they have to take them so long as they live. When we look at the construction of the stomach it cannot be otherwise. There are millions of small tubes in the stomach no larger than a fine hair to convey gastric juice amongst the food Therefore, when the stomach is irritated by purging Mercurial Pills it has a tendency to close up these small tubes and prevent the natural flow of gastric juice into the stomach, which is the chief agent of digestion. Is it then surprising that those who have been great takers of purging pills should be troubled with broken constitutions? Handyside's No. 3 Pills will not purge or irritate the stomach, they increase the digestion, invigorate the system, and make people more happy and healthy. Those who take Handyside's No. 3 Pills will soon find out which pills are worth a guinea a box. If No. 3 Pills do not gently open the bowels once in three days one of No. 1 Pills amongst No. 3 Pills should be taken, but should be discontinued as soon as No. 3 will do their work. They will give health even to those whose health has been ruined by taking purging pills.

Old people are often costive in the bowels. Three thousand boxes will be given away to them. Those who are able to purchase them should not write for them, as they are by so doing depriving old people out of a medicine that is much needed for reviving their strength. This is a grand female pill, and the best pill for clearing away all obstructions; price 1s per box. Handyside above twelve months ago deposited £1,000, and challenged Sequah and all the doctors in the world combined, and the challenge is still open.

Beware of imitations; none are genuine that has not "Handyside, Bentinck," on the Government stamp. Many lives have been lost by unprincipled chemists recommending their own preparations for the sake of extra profit. Those who have not faith that they are getting the genuine article should write to G. Handyside, Newcastle. It will be supplied at the regular price, carriage paid, with the following guarantee sent with each lot.

GUARANTEE.

So certain am I of the marvellous effect of "Handyside's Consumption Cure," and also his "Blood Purifier," and "Rheumatic Cure," that I hereby certify that if this medicine does not do them more good than any other medicine I agree to return the money. The money, if claimed, will be paid not later than nine days after the goods are sent. Ask any chemist to give you the same guarantee, and this will put a stop to imposition.

679d GEO. HANDYSIDE.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The usual and ordinary fortnightly meeting of the above Board was held on Thursday se'nnight, Mr Geo. Ridley presiding. Present: Messrs John Kirkup, John Hodgson, John Crawford, Peter Oswald, Robert Darling, Peter Hay, Ed. Nicholson, John Crystal, Joseph Witherspoon, B. E. Smith, John Snowdon, Joseph Cook, F. Berkeley and Geo. Swinburne.

SALARIES.

Pursuant to notice, Mr OSWALD moved that the recommendation of the Finance Committee be adopted, and the Workhouse Master's salary be raised from £46 to £50; and the salary of the matron from £30 to £32 18s per annum.

Mr SMITH seconded, and the motion was unanimously adopted.

RELIEF.

Mr Armstrong submitted his reports and accounts for outdoor relief, and other expenses for the Chester-le-Street and Harraton sub-districts as follows:—Chester-le-Street, £60 3s 10d; Harraton, £54 13s 9d.

Cheques for the amounts were ordered and signed accordingly.

THE HARRATON RELIEVING OFFICER.

The CHAIRMAN said there had not been any communication for the Local Government Board respecting the resignation of Mr Turnbull, who had only resigned three of the offices he held under the Board.

Mr HODGSON expressed his astonishment that an advertisement had not appeared for a successor to the appointment.

The CHAIRMAN explained that they could not advertise until they were empowered by the Local Government Board. If Mr Turnbull had resigned the whole of his appointments then they could have proceeded straight away; but they could not under the circumstances.

MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The Workhouse Master (Mr Aikman) reported that the number of inmates in the House that day was 113, as against 109 about the same date last year. During the fortnight 70 vagrants had been relieved, showing an increase of 24 over the corresponding period last year.

THE BOUNDARY WALL.

It was reported that the Workhouse boundary wall was in a delapidated condition, and on the recommendation of Mr SWINBURNE the Master was ordered to have the wall repaired.

The members then sat as the

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY

—Mr Ridley in the chair.

NOT SO FAR ADVANCED.

A letter from Messrs Nicholson and Jennings, electric engineers, was received respecting the introduction of the electric light.

The CHAIRMAN did not know that they were so far advanced. The letter need not be read, but was handed round. The Board did not travel so quickly, nor so much with the times.

The letter was left on the table.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr Duncan reported that during the fortnight there had been registered 34 deaths and 76 births, giving a death-rate of 17, and a birth-rate of 38 per 1,000. He had received 12 notifications, 11 of scarlet fever, and one of typhoid fever. Circumstances over which he had no control had prevented him from presenting his annual report. He asked for an extension of time, which the authority had power to give.

Mr HAY considered that the officer had not done his duty. He would not make a motion, but simply wished to enter his protest against the conduct of the officer.

On the motion of Mr COOK, it was unanimously resolved to grant the doctor other three months in which to prepare his report.

A SALARY.

It was unanimously that the salary of Mr McDonald, water-rate collector in the Washington district, be increased from £20 to £22 10s, as from the 25th of March.

HEALTH RESTORED Remedy Free.—A late sufferer from Nervousness, Weakness, &c. having tried in vain every known remedy, has discovered a simple self-cure which he will send free to his fellow-sufferers. — Address, W. FOX, 1, York Street Southwark, London, S.E. 26g

HYMNS for Sunday School Anniversaries, &c., printed on the shortest notice, and at the *cheapest* rates by ROBERT JACKSON, Consett.

"HOW TO DEBATE."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of fourpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson' bookseller, 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B41 PILLS is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs in either sex (acquired or constitutional, Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY London.

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

On Saturday evening, the annual meeting of the Derwent Angling Association was held in the small hall of the Assembly Rooms, Shotley Bridge. There was a fair number of members present, including Messrs R. Charlton, Consett; N. Brown, Shotley Bridge; J. Ormerod, Blackfine; G. Cancick, Blackhill; R. Frankland, Blackhill; J. Gorman, Shotley Bridge; N. Charlton, Westwood; C. Oley, Shotley Bridge; J. Hetherington, Westwood; B. Peile, Burnopfield; J. Collinson, J. Young, and M. Robson, Blackhill; J. Reader, Consett; and others. The chair was occupied by Mr R. Charlton, in the absence of the president (Mr J. Booth).

The CHAIRMAN said that the time had come round once more when they met together to transact business prior to the commencement of the season. He was pleased to see so many gathered together, as it showed the interest they took in the association. He had to apologise for the absence of Mr J. A. Jack, Blackhill, who had been called away to Scotland.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The CHAIRMAN stated that if there was any gentleman who deserved a vote of thanks it was their president, because he had worked indefatigably in the past for the benefit of the association. If they wanted anything done, and he was asked to do it, he never thought it any trouble.

Mr PEILE proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to Mr Booth for his past services.

This was seconded by a MEMBER, and agreed to.

Mr ORMEROD said, as secretary of the association, he fully concurred with all that had been said about the president. He was a gentleman that did all in his power for the prosperity of the association, and he had used a great deal of influence in getting their deputations extended.

A WORTHY TREASURER.

The CHAIRMAN proposed a vote of thanks to the treasurer (Mr Brown) for the able manner in which he had discharged his duties. He had been treasurer for the association for a good number of years.

This was seconded, and carried by acclamation.

Mr BROWN, in acknowledging the compliment, said that he had been an angler for something like 55 years—(hear)—and the first trout that he ever caught was 13 inches long. (Applause.) He took a great interest in fishing, and always tried to do his best for the association.

THE SECRETARY.

A similar compliment was paid to the secretary (Mr Ormerod), on the motion of Mr CHARLTON, seconded by Mr PEILE.

The SECRETARY said that when he was placed into office, he thought the meeting had picked a very inadequate secretary, but, however, he had done his best. With regard to angling he was a lover of the sport, and all he caught he could say that he got them honestly.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

THE COMMITTEE.

The customary thanks to the committee were passed in the usual way.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The TREASURER (Mr N. Brown) read his report, which showed the association to be in a good financial condition.

	£	s.	d.
Income for last year	13	17	0
Expenditure for last year	12	12	0
Balance on last year's account	1	5	0

The CHAIRMAN: The report is very satisfactory.

Mr FRANKLAND moved that the report be adopted.

This was seconded by Mr OLEY, and carried.

PLENTY OF FISH.

Mr BROWN informed the members that he had heard that there was plenty of fish in the Derwent, and the fresh supply of young fry that they had got and the money they had set apart for the purpose of replenishing the river, he did not think was necessary.

The SECRETARY: We are spending the money for our own good. (Laughter.)

Mr CANCICK: If there is plenty of fish, so much the better.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Report of the Derwent Angling Association.
Season 1890-91.

GENTLEMEN,—In presenting my first annual report as hon. secretary of this association, I am happy to congratulate you upon the improved condition of the river and condition of the fish generally.

Sport during the past season has been of a very high order, and considerably above the average, not only as to the numbers taken, but also in the size and quality of the fish. Many members have had excellent baskets.

The largest number taken by an individual angler seems to be about 600 caught by Mr B. Peile, of Burnopfield. Messrs James Young and J. Gorman appear to have taken the heaviest and largest fish, the former gentleman being an adept at minnow spinning. Mr Robson caught five fish, weighing seven pounds.

The Levenensis, or Loch Leven trout, are now beginning to tell in the size of fish all round. I would strongly advise all members to carefully return to the river all fish under the specified size in a true and sportsmanlike fashion.

The grayling are thriving and multiplying wonderfully, and far exceeding our expectations. We have at least three generations in the river at the present moment.

Many of the members who have tried for grayling during the past winter and late autumn have invariably been successful in taking really good fish. This next season, I anticipate, will be a good one for the winter anglers.

From some reason or other the past season at Waskerley has been below the average, and the quality and condition of the fish taken has been anything but good.

I have heard from good authority that the Water Company are re-stocking the reservoirs, and have built rearing ponds for the purpose of keeping the reservoir well stocked.

I cannot conclude my report without referring to the deputation which we have got renewed by J. W. Silvertop, Esq.

D. ORMEROD, Hon. Sec.

The report was adopted.

THE FRESH SUPPLY OF FRY.

The SECRETARY reported that they had received one-half of the 15,000 fish that they had ordered, and placed them in the river.

Mr CANCICK stated that he, along with the secretary, met the fish at the station, and they placed them in the river tributaries at five different points, and there was not a dead one among the lot. The fish had come from Mr Ford, of Lincolnshire. They were specially intended to improve the breed of fish that they had in the river. What they had in the river was of a small size. Since the fish were put in he had visited the river, and they were thriving well.

AN OLD PRIVILEGE.

The SECRETARY said that the committee had been successful in renewing a deputation which the members of the association had now long enjoyed from the Silvertop family. The committee, a short while ago, passed a vote of thanks to Mr H. T. Silvertop for his kindness, and he (Mr Ormerod) had received the following reply:—

Minsteracres, Riding Mill-on-Tyne,
Dec. 24th, 1890.

SIR,—I have received your letter of the 18th Dec., enclosing the resolution which was passed at the last meeting of the Derwent Angling Association, for which I am very much obliged. I trust the fry may thrive which it has been decided to put into the river. Please express my thanks for the resolution at the next meeting of the members.—Yours truly,

H. T. SILVERTOP.

To the secretary of the Derwent Angling Association.

The CHAIRMAN: It is very encouraging.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—President, Mr John Booth, Summerdale, Shotley Bridge; secretary, Mr D. Ormerod, Blackfine; treasurer, Mr N. Brown, Shotley Bridge; committee, Dr Geo. Renton, Messrs J. Oley, J. Weedy, sen., J. A. Jack, N. Charlton, R. Frankland, J. T. Addison, G. Cancick, C. Oley, J. Gorman, and R. Charlton.

GRAYLING.

Mr PEILE said that he did not believe in the grayling fishing. He thought it was a disgrace to have them in the river, and in fact they ought never to have been placed there. He paid 3s for seven of them, and when the time and trouble was taken into consideration that was spent over them, they were not worth having.

The SECRETARY: You are speaking at the wrong time.

Mr CANCICK contended that they were an improvement to the river, in spite of all that could be said against them.

Mr PEILE: I would like to know how many the members caught during the season.

Mr CANCICK: There have been several caught.

The CHAIRMAN: The river is in a very good condition at the present time.

The SECRETARY: It is.

Mr READER said that the grayling were nothing but a nuisance.

The CHAIRMAN: The grayling are in the river, and we can't put them out.

The subject then dropped.

THE SEASON.

Mr PEILE: Does the season-tickets specify how long the season lasts?

The SECRETARY: Yes; till the 15th Sept.

Mr PEILE: During the last season I have seen men fishing till the 1st of October.

The CHAIRMAN said it was a mistake to fish after the 15th September. They started on the 1st March, and it was not advisable to fish after the date specified.

The SECRETARY intimated that the tickets distinctly stated that the season closed on the 15th Sept. A real sportsman would not kill trout after that date.

VOTES OF THANKS.

A vote of thanks to the landed proprietors and farmers was passed, and a similar compliment to the chairman terminated the proceedings.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

WEDNESDAY, March 4th.—Before His Honour E. J. MEYNELL (Judge).

A DEFECTIVE MEMORY.

MURRAY *v* BRADLEY.—James Murray, of Newcastle, draper, sought to recover £2 16s 8d from Daniel Bradley, a shifter, of Consett, for goods sold and delivered. Mr J. McCartan (Consett) appeared for plaintiff.—Mrs Bradley admitted that the sum of £1 15s—as shewn in her book—was owing, and furthermore confessed that she had had other goods not entered in the book. She had likewise paid 3s, which had not been credited to her, because she forgot to take her book when the money was paid.—His Honour: I can't help that, if you haven't got a receipt.—Judgment was given for £2 14s 8d.

LANDLORD AND TENANT.

MUNCASTER *v* CAMERON.—In this action, Geo. Muncaster, of Spring Gardens, Lanchester, sued Henry Alderson, draper, of West Stanley, for 19s under the following circumstances:—Plaintiff demanded possession of a dwelling-house, being part of the house and shop premises, situate at No. 1, James Street, West Stanley, and was given notice to quit through Joseph Cameron, under whom defendant held the house.—Mr McCartan was for plaintiff, and explained that Alderson was given six months' notice to leave the premises on the 13th October last, the tenancy being determined on the 14th Feb. Defendant, however, refused to leave the house, and accordingly a County Court summons was issued against him. Two days after the summons was served upon defendant, he gave up possession of the house. Therefore the only question to decide was the amount of costs to be paid.—Plaintiff produced the agreement letting the shop and house to Jos. Cameron, draper, and also exhibited a copy of the notice served on defendant. Alderson was the manager for Cameron, and held the tenancy under that gentleman, but had since left his employment. The notice lapsed on the 14th February, and on the 16th ult. plaintiff requested Alderson to move out. The latter, however, replied that he had not any place to go to, and would stay there as long as he liked. Muncaster pointed out that it would greatly inconvenience the incoming tenant, to whom plaintiff had already let the premises, but defendant absolutely refused to quit. Plaintiff allowed him a few days grace, but particularly asked defendant to go out on the Wednesday following. He still declined, and a County Court summons was consequently served upon defendant, who went out on the Saturday night, giving the keys to the ingoing tenant at nine o'clock.—His Honour: Alderson was not a tenant of yours.—Mr McCartan: But he held the premises under our tenant.—His Honour: He was not your tenant, so how can you sue him under the Tenement Act? He was a mere trespasser.—Mr McCartan: Defendant was simply holding the premises under our tenant. Mr McCartan cited a case showing that wherever any person held premises under or through a tenant, plaintiff could proceed against such tenant or such person so neglecting or refusing to quit.—His Honour, having referred to the case in point, concurred with the learned counsel, and told defendant that the only question was whether he ought to pay the costs of these proceedings because he failed to give up the tenancy.—Defendant: I was not Mr Muncaster's tenant.—The Judge: But you were under Mr Muncaster's tenant.—Defendant stated that he did not succeed in getting another house, although he had been striving to do so during the six months. He could not pitch his furniture into the street.—His Honour: That is no excuse in law. You are bound to leave the premises when Mr Cameron gave up possession of the shop. As these proceedings were instituted against you, you will have to defray the costs of such proceedings.—Judgment was given accordingly.

THE ACTION AGAINST THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD:

VERDICT FOR DEFENDANTS.

CRAWFORD *v.* CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.—The action preferred by John Crawford, butcher and auctioneer, of Victoria Street, Consett, against the Consett Local Board, for damages, was argued at the last sitting of the Court, when Mr McCartan appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr J. Strachan, barrister-at-law, Newcastle (instructed by Mr T. W. Welford, solicitor, of Consett), represented defendants. Plaintiff's claim against defendants was that they negligently did open and commence a sewer in and through two fields in the occupation of plaintiff, and in breach of duty to him did leave the said sewer unfenced and unprotected, whereby by reason of his cattle falling into the same, plaintiff had suffered these damages, viz:—August 27th—heifer lamed in back, £4 10s; August 29th—heifer, injured and afterwards threw her calf, £4; August 30th—cow injured, and afterwards threw her calf, £8; total £16 10s.

His Honour said: The defendants, under the powers of the Public Health Act, 1875, caused certain works to be done, which they let to a contractor. Across the plaintiff's grass fields a deep drain, between two and three feet wide, was made. It was left open during its construction, and left unprotected by a railing or otherwise. The plaintiff's cattle got into it, and were injured, and the action was brought against the defendants for negligence. The question I have to decide is whether the defendants are liable for the negligence of the contractor. Generally where works, which can be lawfully done without injury to others, is placed in the hands of builders or contractors, who select their own workmen and servants, and exercise their own control over them, and injury is caused by their negligence, the contractor, and not the employer, is liable; but where the work ordered is in itself unlawful, or a nuisance, or must, in the natural course of things, unless means are adopted to prevent it, cause injury to another, then the employer who ordered such works is liable. I have looked carefully into the cases relied upon by Mr McCartan, who appeared for the plaintiff, and they all appear to me to come under the latter category. In Brann *v.* Peate, 45 *L.J.*, 446, the defendant employed a contractor to pull down and re-build a house, and the place involved excavating the soil for foundations below the level of the foundations of the plaintiff's house adjoining. This necessitated the under-pinning or shearing of the plaintiff's house to prevent injury. This was not sufficiently done, and the plaintiff's house was injured. It was held that the removal of the soil, not in itself wrongful, became so immediately on its causing injury, and having been ordered by the defendant, it was his wrongful act, and he was liable. Dalton *v.* Angus, 50 *L.J.*, 689, and Hughes *v.* Percival, 52 *L.J.*, 719, are to the same effect. In Hall *v.* Sittingbourne Railway Co., 30 *L.J.*, ex. 81, the defendants were empowered to make a swing-bridge over a navigable river; but they were not to open the bridge for longer than a certain time. They let the works, and during the construction of the bridge, owing to a defect in the machinery, would not open, and it was held the defendants were liable, because the construction was a nuisance. Eller *v.* Sheffield Gas Co., 23 *L.J.*, 42, was also a case of nuisance. The defendants employed a contractor to lay pipes in the street. They were held liable for the contractor's negligence, because they had ordered the work, and they had no power to take up streets. Blake *v.* Hurst, 32 *L.J.*, ex. 188, was a case as to whether a contractor, or his subcontractor, was liable for the latter's negligence. The contractor was held so, on the ground that under the circumstances of that case, he exercised control, and the sub-contractor was his servant. In the present case the works were lawful, and done under the powers of an Act of Parliament, and there was nothing in the works which would necessarily cause danger, as in Brann *v.* Peate. The negligence was in not fencing the drain, or taking other precautions to prevent injury to cattle getting into it. The defendants are not liable for that. It becomes unnecessary to consider the question of contributory negligence, also urged as a defence by Mr Strachan. I give judgment for the defendants.

Mr Welford applied for costs, which were allowed by the Judge, except in one case relating to an alleged incomplete affidavit.

His Honour, replying to Mr McCartan, pointed out that laying down the sewerage pipe was not a nuisance to plaintiff, and was work which might be done without injury at all.

Mr McCartan: Supposing plaintiff considers that he has a right to appeal, would your Honour give—

His Honour (interrupting): I think the case too clear to admit of an appeal. I shall not grant permission.

Mr McCartan: But it is a nuisance.

His Honour: It was not a nuisance to plaintiff.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Mr J. S. Murray had forward on Monday 11 fat cattle, which sold at from £12 10s to £19 2s 6d; 65 fat sheep, top—52s. Pork pigs to 65s; bacon pigs to £5 10s; store pigs, 22s to 23s. Cows to £16 15s. Poultry, 2s 9d each. Hay, £2 16s per ton. A quantity of harness, &c., was disposed of at fair prices. A good company of buyers was present, and a fair trade in favour of vendors was experienced. Beef to 8s per stone; mutton, 8d to 8½d per lb; pork 6s to 7s per stone.

TOW LAW PARLIAMENTARY DEBATING SOCIETY.

The usual meeting of the above society was held in the Mission Room, on Saturday night. The speaker took the chair at eight o'clock. Messrs Wm. Coulthard, John Hildreth, Fred Hall, and John McIntosh were proposed and accepted as members, and constituencies allotted.—On the motion of the member for Dublin (Mr Jos. Norman) it was agreed that visitors be allowed to attend the meetings of the society. The committee (appointed at last meeting) reported that no definite arrangement had been come to with the institute committee, regarding the use of a larger room for the meetings. The matter was therefore laid over till next meeting. The question relating to the charges of treason against the Liberals in Canada was satisfactorily answered by the foreign sec. (member for Paddington). The question relating to the state of affairs in Egypt was laid over, as the sec. for War had not the necessary information to lay before the House. The following questions were then asked:—1.—"Why parcels of various kinds, books, packets, &c., are carried on foot on Sundays from Harperley to Tow Law, a distance of three miles, making the postman a beast of burden, where there is no parcels post business done and parcels not delivered until the following (Monday) morning?" 2.—"Will the Postmaster-General ask through the press if the public of Tow Law, Hedleyhope, Sunniside, Thornley, and Satley, would get their parcels posted so as to arrive on Saturdays, and thus relieve the postman of unnecessary Sunday labour?" 3.—"Why does the postman not attend church on Sundays, and ought he to have Sunday as a day of rest, thus relieving him of that toil which unfits him for the cultivation of his moral and spiritual nature, that higher self which is in touch with Deity?" The Bill for the settlement of labour disputes was read a second time, and the House then went into committee on it. Briefly summarised the Bill provides. That the Act has to be applied *only* in cases where existing agencies have failed to effect a settlement. Half the time (during which the notices are running) to be left open for any further efforts to be made from either side to settle the dispute, if not then settled the case to be submitted to a Board of Arbitration, whose decision shall be final. The Board to consist of twelve members of Parliament with a chairman, the selection to be left to the House, but to be of a *fairly representative* character, vacancies from whatever cause to be filled by the Government. No member to have a direct interest in any case submitted to the Board, direct interest applying to such as have shares in the trade. The decision of the Board to stand as a precedent in other cases where similar issues are involved. The Board to sit at the nearest convenient place for those engaged in dispute. Each party to employ and pay its own advocates (lawyers excepted), and the Board to have power to summon any witness, ask any question, or otherwise elicit information to get at the truth, and in case of a tie, the chairman to give the casting vote to determine the point."—The Bill was ably introduced by Mr S. Nicholson (Birmingham), and an intesting discussion was carried on by the Rev. S. Davison (Bishop Auckland), Mr Jos. Norman (Dublin), and others. Mr A. W. Emerson (Thornley) proposed various amendments which were over ruled. The reading of the Bill was dropped at clause seven, and will be resumed at next meeting. Rev S. Davison (Bishop Auckland) gave notice that after the above Bill had been disposed of, he would introduce the following motion:—"Seeing that the great subject of peace has been felt by us to be of supreme importance, the present military system forming a fearful obstacle to the well-being of nations and the spread of the Gospel, and seeing that many disputes have in late years been satisfactorily settled by International Arbitration, we therefore move the reduction of the standing army by 50,000 as a step towards international disarmament."—In his closing address the speaker alluded to the dearth of speakers on questions before the House, and urged members if they valued the welfare of the society to go in more for public speaking, and assured them that their efforts (however small) in this direction would have his best attention. There was a capital attendance, and after a profitable and harmonious meeting, the House adjourned at 10 p.m.

FLORILINE!—FOR THE TEETH AND BREATH.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of Honey and sweet herbs, is delicate to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d of all Chemists and Perfumers. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London

DRUNKENESS CURED.—A Wealthy American Lady whose only son for years was a slave to Intemperance, Nervous Depression and Exhausted Vitality, after seeking in vain for a cure, and trying all knowing remedies, at last found a simple means that cured and saved him from a drunkard's grave. Anyone suffering or desiring to help others in this worthy cause, by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Mr James Holland, 25, Hart Street, High Holborn, London, will receive this information, free of charge. Mention this paper.

A CARD. — AN IMPORTANT DISCOVERY is announced in the *Paris Figaro*, of a valuable remedy for nervous debility, physical exhaustion, kidney diseases, and kindred complaints. The discovery was made by a missionary in Old Mexico. The Rev. Joseph Holmes, Bloomsbury Mansions, Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C., will send the prescription free of charge, on receipt of a self-addressed stamped envelope. Mention this paper.

PRUDHOE LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—A public meeting was held on Tuesday evening in the United Free Church School-room, Prudhoe—Mr Samuel Little in the chair—at which Mr Marshall, of Harrogate, delivered his interesting lecture, with limelight illustrations, "Irish Places and Politics."

DEARNESS VALLEY BRANCH. — The following alterations came into force on March 1st.—Additional trains will leave Durham for Ushaw and Waterhouses at 9·30 a.m., and 6 30 p.m. On Saturdays trains will leave Durham at 12 40 p.m., 4 35 p.m., and 9 p.m. for Ushaw Moor and Waterhouses. A train will leave Durham (Saturdays excepted) at 1·40 p.m. for the same places. Trains will leave Waterhouses at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. for Ushaw Moor and Durham. Additional trains will leave Waterhouses on Saturdays at 1·15 p.m., 5 p.m., and 9·25 p.m. for Ushaw Moor and Durham. A train will leave Waterhouses (Saturdays excepted) at 2·20 p.m. for Ushaw Moor and Durham.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, February 20th. — Before Ald. W. Jenkins (chairman), Lieut-Col. Leadbitter-Smith, J. W. Walton-Wilson, W. B. Van Haansbergen, W. Green, and F. Priestman, Esqs.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Prior to the commencement of the business of this Court, a special meeting of the magistrates was held in the Justice Room. There were present—Ald. Wm. Jenkins, Lieut-Col. Leadbitter-Smith, J. W. Walton-Wilson, W. B. Van Haansbergen, W. Green, and Frank Priestman, Esqs.—On the motion of Ald. Jenkins, seconded by Lieut-Col. Leadbitter-Smith, Coun. James Annandale, of The Briary, Shotley Bridge, was unanimously elected chairman of the Bench for the West Division of Chester Ward.

TWO TRADESMEN AT VARIANCE AT WEST STANLEY.

Robert Walker, ironmonger, carrying on business at West Stanley, was proceeded against for assaulting Henry Alderson, draper, of West Stanley, on the 16th inst. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared to prosecute.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Prosecutor attested that on the day in question, he was going through his yard when he saw defendant and others standing. He asked them what they were arguing about, when Walker intervened, and consequently struck him in the face, and made his mouth bleed. Prosecutor had to get police protection for the night.—Cross-examined by defendant: Prosecutor alleged that defendant struck him twice, and he did not return the blows. He did not call defendant a d—— liar.—A young woman named Jane Coates and another witness gave corroborative evidence, and said that prosecutor never struck Walker at all.—Defendant said that it was false what had been said. He was only standing talking, when prosecutor used some filthy language about him and his landlord, and called him a d—— liar. After closing time, prosecutor was at Clarkson's public-house, and had a pair of boxing gloves on, and was practising with another man, and challenged defendant out to fight.—The Chairman: We have nothing to do with that.—A witness named Ryan deposed that he was standing talking to defendant about some language that prosecutor had used.—The Magistrates came to the conclusion that defendant was guilty, and fined him 20s and costs.

ASSAULTING A BOY.

Thomas Clayfin, a miner, belonging to Malton Colliery, was summoned for assaulting a youth named Joseph Bramfet, at Malton Colliery, on the 14th inst.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Prosecutor attested that as he was going down the road defendant got hold of him, knocked him down, and then put his knee on his chest and assaulted him.—Cross-examined by defendant: Prosecutor said that he did not break the door of his dwelling-house.—John Coates gave corroborative testimony.—Defendant alleged that he never struck him, but complainant threatened to fell him with a brick when he got hold of him. Complainant was the individual who smashed the door in, and then ran away.—The Bench inflicted a fine of 5s and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Philip Platton and *William Robson*, two young men, were accused by P.C. Eland with committing a breach of the peace by fighting at South Moor, on the 22nd inst.—Defendants were each bound over to keep the peace for six months in the sum of £5 and pay costs.

TRESPASSING.

Richard Marshall and *James Grundy* did not appear to answer a charge of trespassing on a tramway, and doing damage thereon to the extent of 1d each, at South Moor, on the 17th inst.—P.C. Hadwin stated that he found defendants trespassing on the line, and the owners of the colliery wished to put a stop to the practice.—A witness appeared, and stated that the manager did not wish to press the case severely.—Fined 5s and costs each, and ordered to pay the damage.

DRUNKENNESS.

James Wardroper was charged by Inspector Mitham with being drunk and causing a disturbance at Lanchester, on the 12th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

William Killan was proceeded against by Inspector Mitham for being drunk and disorderly at Lanchester, on the 14th inst.—The usual penalty of 5s and costs was imposed.

David Dreaner pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness at Lanchester, on the 14th inst.—P.C. Thurbron stated the facts of the case.—Fined 5s and costs.

David Ross, who did not appear, was charged by P.C. Vickers with being drunk and causing an uproar at West Stanley, on the 13th inst.—Fined 7s 6d and costs.

Wheatley Bell was accused by the same officer with being drunk at West Stanley, on the 14th inst.—Fined 7s 6d and costs.

John Storey was summoned for being drunk and creating a disturbance at West Stanley, on the 14th inst.—P.C. Vickers proved the charge.—Fined 7s 6d and costs.

Joseph Swinton appeared to answer a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Eland, of being drunk and disorderly at South Moor, on the 14th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

John Smith was charged by the same constable with being very drunk at West Stanley, on the 17th inst.—A penalty of 7s 6d and costs was imposed upon defendant.

John Mason was fined 5s and costs for being drunk and creating a disturbance at South Moor, on the 16th February.—P.C. Hadwin gave the facts of the case.

John Flynn was summoned by P.C. Hadwin for being in a tipsy state at South Moor, on the 16th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

Joseph Evans pleaded guilty to a charge of drunkenness, preferred against him by P.C. Hadwin, at South Moor, on the 16th inst.—Defendant was fined 5s and costs.

James Mason was charged by the same officer with being drunk at South Moor, on the same day.—Fined 5s and costs.

Thomas Whitfield pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly at Esh Winning, on the 8th inst.—P.C. Dixon stated the case.—The usual penalty was inflicted.

Thomas Clarke was accused by the same constable of a similar offence on the same date and place.—Fined 5s and costs.

Thomas Bushby was likewise mulcted in a fine of 5s and expenses for being drunk at Esh Winning, on the 8th February.

John Donnolly was charged by P.C. Feasey with being drunk and disorderly at Hedley Hill, on the 15th inst.—Fined 5s and costs.

AFTER KNOWLEDGE.

Michael Kavanagh, miner, was charged by P.C. Feasey with being drunk and creating a disturbance in the public library at Hedley Hill, on the 14th inst. The officer also preferred another charge against the defendant for being drunk and wanting to fight in the village on the following Tuesday afternoon.—The Chairman informed defendant that he had no right to go into a public library to annoy the readers.—For the first offence defendant was fined 5s and costs, and for the second 10s and costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

John Plews, of Hedleyhope, was summoned by Mr Gibson, at the instance of the Lanchester School Attendance Committee, for not sending his two children to school.—Fined 5s, including costs.

Walter Reed was proceeded against by Mr Gibson for not sending his daughter regularly to school.—The father stated that his wife was very delicate, and he was compelled to keep his daughter off school. The child was 13 years of age, and was in Standard V.—Mr Gibson pointed out that the child had not passed Standard IV.—Attendance order made for the child to attend school.

WANTING MORE MAINTENANCE MONEY.

Isaac Miller, miner, living at Langley Park, was summoned by his wife, Rosanna Miller, for more maintenance money to keep herself and her child.—Mr Oliver (Durham) appeared for defendant.—Complainant attested that in August the magistrates made an order that defendant should contribute 5s per week towards her maintenance. Since the order was made a child had been born, and she wished the order to be increased, so that she might keep herself and the child. When she left defendant he was making between £2 and £3 a fortnight, and he was still at the same kind of work. She paid 2s per week for house-rent, and she could not keep herself on the remaining 3s.—By Mr Oliver: Defendant was working at the same colliery, and he was in the same position. He had three children to keep. The last time she appeared at that court she preferred a charge of assault against defendant, and it was dismissed.—Defendant averred that he was only earning £2 16s a fortnight, and from that sum he had to allow something like 9s 10d for schooling the children, bread-baking, washing, &c., and it also included the various allowances at the colliery.—Mr Oliver contended that the child was taken into consideration when the order was made, and that defendant's position was no better, but actually worse. He hoped their Worships would not increase the order under the circumstances.—The Bench, after a short consultation, increased the order by 2s per week more, and remitted the costs.

TWO LUCKY MEN.

William Daley and *John Martin* were summoned by P.C. Hudson with a breach of the peace by fighting at Annfield Plain, on the 2nd inst.—The Chairman said the charge would be withdrawn against the defendants, owing to the officer being at the Silksworth evictions.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, March 2nd—Before Coun. J[illegible] Annandale (in the chair), J. W. Walton-Wilson, Wm. Green, Frank Priestman, [illegible] Watson, and W. B. Van Haansbergen, Esqs.

BREACHES OF THE PEACE.

John Curry and *Daniel McVay* were charged by P.C. Jordison with a breach of the peace by fighting in the vicinity of Medomsley, on the 16th of February.—Bound over to keep the peace for three months in the sum of £5 and pay the costs.

Geo. Jackson and *Wm.* and *John Craven* were summoned by P.C. Richardson with committing a similar offence at Tanfield, on the 15th ult.—Jackson was bound over in the sum of £5 and pay the costs. Warrants were issued against the other two defendants for their non-appearance.

James Harris and *Abraham Wren* were accused by P.C. Curtis with a breach of the peace by fighting on the highway at Dipton, on the 16th ult.—Harris was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and ordered to defray costs.—A warrant was issued against Wren, who did not appear.

NON-APPEARANCE.

Matthew Little was summoned by his wife, Magdaline Little, with committing an aggravated assault upon her on the 21st ult.—As neither party put in an appearance the case was withdrawn, complainant having the costs to defray.

ASSAULTING A WOMAN AT CONSETT.

Arthur Coleman, labourer, of Consett, was summoned by Mary Fant, a married woman, living at Consett, with committing an assault upon her, on the 11th ult.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Complainant attested that on Tuesday night, February 10th, defendant used some very bad language towards her. On the next morning, whilst she was preparing to hang out her clothes, defendant came up to her and assaulted her. Her body was black and blue with the defendant's bad usage. Defendant kicked her severely, and her knees were very much swollen. After she got the line out, he came back again, but she ran away, and would not have anything to do with him.—Cross examined by defendant: Complainant did not call her a w——. Two witnesses were summoned, but neither of them put in an appearance, and Sergt. Tones had to be despatched to procure one of them.—Mrs Parkinson having been procured, she stated that she saw defendant race after the complainant, but did not see him strike her. There was a good deal of bad language used. When she got out complainant was running away.—Cross-examined by defendant: Complainant did throw something at defendant.—Defendant stated that on the 10th ult, he was coming out of a back-bar when complainant called him a lot of bad names. On the following morning, he asked complainant what she meant by the abuse she had used to him on the previous night, and she assaulted him. Complainant threw a bottle at him.—A boy named William Roberts spoke to hearing the language used by complainant on the Tuesday night.—Complainant stated that witness was never present.—By the Chairman: Complainant stated that she admitted throwing the bottle at defendant after he had assaulted her.—The Chairmen said there was no doubt but what defendant had received a considerable amount of provocation, but he had no right to take the law into his own hand. He would be fined 5s and costs.

WHEN SHALL WE LIVE AT PEACE?

Mary Ellensworth, wife of a hawker living at Stoney Heap, was summoned by Mary Kilty, a married woman, living at the same place, with committing an assault upon her, and also with doing wilful damage to glass to the amount of 6s. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Complainant deposed that on the 21st ult., between five and six o'clock in the evening, she was sitting in her own house, when defendant commenced to use bad language towards her because she would not take her whiskey. Defendant smashed three panes of glass, and she had to take refuge in a neighbour's house.—The Chairman: What is the nature of the assault?—Complainant said that defendant struck at her because she would not have her whiskey, and when she did it she said, "You w——, take that." Since the summons had been served defendant had used all kinds of threatening language towards her. She had to leave the house owing to the defendant's conduct.—Cross-questioned by defendant, complainant stated that she was giving the child the breast when defendant came downstairs.—Defendant: The child is very often lying in the middle of the road, and not at the breast. (Laughter).—Cross-examined by defendant, complainant attested that she did not strike her.—Defendant: I thought not. I would strike you if I got a chance. (Laughter).—P.C. Lambert spoke to complainant coming to him, and telling him about defendant's conduct. He went to Stoney Heap, and saw the several panes of glass that had been broken. Complainant was quite sober, and alleged that she had been assaulted by defendant.—Complainant, re-called, stated that the damage committed amounted to 6s.—Defendant alleged that when she came downstairs and offered complainant the whiskey, the latter took up a copper kettle and struck her in the face with it. It was true that complainant had shifted out of the house, but she was going to remove before the affair took place. The defendant averred that the property which complainant was living in was her own, and she was going to put the panes of glass in.—Complainant, again re-called, stated that she paid 5s a fortnight for the house.—Defendant: Complainant would swear her own man's life away.—The magistrates fined defendant 10s and costs for the assault, and inflicted no fine for the second offence, but ordered defendant to defray the costs.—Defendant: That is not a great deal. I will pay the money.—She accordingly paid the fine, and left the dock.

GOING TO DURHAM TO SPEND HIS HONEYMOON.

Walter Cowley was placed in the dock and charged with doing wilful damage to a stone wall, the property of John Hunter, farmer, Medomsley, on Saturday, Feb. 7th. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—P.C. Jordison stated that on this particular night he was on duty on the highway, near Medomsley, about twelve p.m., when he saw defendant deliberately push down four feet of a stone wall. After he had gone a little further on, defendant pulled some loose stones on to the road.—Defendant: I have been summoned under a false name. My name is not "Cowley Eccles."—The officer: You are known by that name. There were other two lads with defendant when he rushed at the wall.—John Hunter, farmer, said the damage done to the wall amounted to 4s. He had suffered great damage by this sort of thing. It was not one day but every day this practice was going on. It was something serious the damage that was done at the week-ends.—Defendant said he was not guilty, and would like to postpone the summons.—The Chairman: You can't do that.—Defendant: I thought not. The damage is only estimated at 2s 6d on the summons.—Mr Hunter: I did not know at the time what the damage would be.—The Chairman said the magistrates were determined to put a stop to this sort of thing. They believed defendant was guilty, and he would be fined 10s and costs, and also pay damage.—Defendant: I shan't pay it. I will go for my honeymoon at Durham. (Laughter).—Defendant was sentenced to undergo fourteen days in gaol with hard labour.

STEALING WATER.

Catherine Swinburne, a married woman, living at Hill Top, Dipton, was summoned for unlawfully taking water from a tap at Hill Top, on February 12th, the property of the Consett Water Company.—Mr Wiles (secretary) stated that defendant had no right whatever to take the water. Defendant had previously paid for the water, but not for the present property where she was now residing.—Defendant stated that she was not guilty, and had always paid for the water.—Sergeant Thornton deposed that on the day in question he saw defendant carrying two pailfuls of water away from a tap. He asked her if she paid for the water, and defendant replied, "No; we don't use much." Defendant had been living at this place for about two months.—Mrs Winter said that defendants daughter came and asked her if they could get the water. Witness replied that they could if they were paying for it.—Defendant said that she wanted to pay for the water, and sent her son to the Company's offices at Consett to arrange about it.—Defendant's son averred that he went to the Consett Water Company's offices on a Thursday, and told them to send the waterman down to their house, as they were taking the water from another party's tap. He was informed that they would send the inspector down. He was sure he delivered his message, and there were two gentlemen in the office.—Mr Wiles said that he had no recollection of seeing the boy before. The amount defendant would have had to pay was 2s 6d a quarter.—The Chairman informed defendant that she should have seen about the water sooner, and fined her 5s and costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

The following two persons were proceeded against by Mr William Ward, at the instance of the Lanchester School Attendance Committee, for not regularly sending their children to school:—*Jon. Johnson*, Dipton, 5s, and *Ann Robson*, Consett, 2s 6d.

Mr David Mole, on behalf of the Collierley School Board proceeded against the following persons:—*John* [illegible] *Whitney*, 5s; *Mary Ann Mandlin*, dismissed; and *Patrick McAloon*, withdrawn.

Mr Alex. McKean, schoolwarden, on behalf of the Benfieldside School Board, summoned the following offenders:—*John Conner*, Blackhill, 2s 6d; *Patrick Murray*, Blackhill, 5s; *John Fitzpatrick*, Blackhill, 5s; and *Mary McCrerey*, Blackhill, dismissed.

BRIDGET CONNOLLY AGAIN.

Bridget Connolly was again summoned by Mr A. McKean for disobeying an attendance order to send her two children to school, which was granted on the 5th January.—Mr McKean said the mother would not send her children to school.—The Chairman (to Mrs Connolly): What do you intend to do?—Mrs Connolly: I will not send the children to school. When their father comes back they shall be sent to school. They could not send the children to an Industrial School, because she had not broken the law.—The Chairman said they would have to send the boy to an Industrial School. The magistrates have given you every chance of obeying the law, and yet you still persist in refusing to comply with it. They were not quite sure about the girl. The boy would have to go to the Workhouse until they got a place in an Industrial School. The case with regard to the girl would be adjourned for 14 days.—After the magistrates had given Mrs Connolly time to consider what she intended to do, the Chairman asked her to tell the Bench what steps she intended to take.—Mrs Connolly: I will not send the girl to school.—The Clerk: You are a silly woman; the boy will be taken from you now.—Mrs Connolly: He will not. If you take the boy you will have to take me.—Inspector Benzies accordingly took charge of the boy, and Mrs Connolly left the court.

LARCENY.

James Rogers, hack-driver, living at Blackhill, was charged with stealing a high level and face strap, from the stables of Messrs A. and J. R. Taylor, contractors, Benfieldside, on Tuesday, April 29th, 1890. Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Robert Martin deposed that he was a cartman for Messrs A. and J. R. Taylor, contracters, Benfieldside. On the night in question, about eight o'clock, the stable was locked up, and the next morning he found that the stable had been broken into, and he missed the high level and face strap.—By defendant: Martin stated that he had suspected nobody.—John Brown, butcher, Blackhall Mill, said he remembered being in the Derwent Hotel, Blackhill, when the defendant offered him the articles for 2s 6d.—James Robson, innkeeper, stated that after Brown made the purchase he handed them over to him.—Sergt. Minto spoke to apprehending defendant and charging him with the theft.—Defendant, in answer to the charge, said that he bought them off a man who was on the road. He gave him 1s 6d for them, and he sold them to Brown for 1s.—The reason he bought them was because they were cheap. They would cost 4s 6d when new.—The Bench inflicted a fine of 10s including costs.

THE FRUITS OF A "LARK."

Joseph Hewitson, a young man of respectable appearance, living in Palmerston Place, Consett, was charged with stealing a whip, the property of William Coates, butcher, Cornsay Colliery, at Consett, on Tuesday evening, February 17th. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared for the defendant.—Prosecutor deposed that on the night in question he was at Consett with a horse and trap, and was waiting in front of the Freemasons' Arms Hotel, in Front Street, ready to convey three young ladies home to Lanchester, who had been to the quadrille party. He missed the whip, which was taken from the socket. The whip produced was worth 3s 6d.—By Mr Welford: Prosecutor would not like to say that the whip was stolen. Defendant was holding the horse; but he could not remember shaking hands with him. He could not say that the whip had been played with before he missed it.—P.C. Bradley stated from information received he went and searched a yard, and found the whip. He charged the defendant with stealing the whip, and he replied "I am very sorry I took the whip; it was done for a 'lark.'"—Cross-examined by Mr Welford: The officer stated that he did not say that if defendant got the whip there would be nothing more said about it. He did not see the whip taken.—Defendant pleaded not guilty.—Mr Welford contended that defendant took the whip only for a "lark," and placed it behind a door till Coates and the Misses Humble got away, and the policeman knew perfectly well that the whip had been taken on these grounds.—Isaac Williamson, living in Nelson Street, Consett, said he was at the dance on the night in question. He saw Coates and defendant shake hands together. He heard a young man shout to the party that he would fetch the whip down the next time he came that way. There were two policemen present all the time. When they were standing at the bottom of the street a policeman came up and asked if the sergeant had passed. The officer spoke to defendant, and Hewitson went and got the whip, and the policeman distinctly said "There would be nothing more about it."—The Chairman warned defendant to be very careful in what he was doing, and dismissed the case.

UNLAWFULLY WOUNDING AT CONSETT.

CHEWING A MAN'S THUMB.

Isaac Wilson, a hawker, hailing from Bishop Auckland, was placed in the dock, charged with unlawfully wounding John O'Niel, lodging-house keeper, Medomsley Road, Consett, on the 26th ult.

Prosecutor averred that defendant came to his house on the day in question, and asked for a bed-and-a-half for himself, his wife, and another man. Prisoner's wife subsequently came into the house with a child. O'Neil's wife told accused that he could not stay there with the child, and gave him the money back that he had paid. Prisoner then commenced to make a disturbance, and then he attempted to put him out. Wilson then bounced prosecutor with his head, and attempted to get hold of the poker, but a woman named King got hold of the weapon. Prisoner next attempted to sieze the fender, but this was likewise taken from him. After this, Wilson got hold of his thumb, and chewed it, and very near bit it off.

Cross-examined by prisoner: Prosecutor said that prisoner did not say that it was very hard to be turned away after paying his lodgings.

George Wilson attested that he remembered the disturbance on the day referred to. He was in the house when the dispute arose. When prisoner came into the house and took a bed-and-a-half for himself, his wife, and another man, there was nothing said about the child. Prisoner came in at the front door, and shortly after, his wife, the child and the man, came into the house by the back door. Witness did not see prisoner pay for the lodgings. The dispute arose about the child. The landlady wanted to pay prisoner his money back. Prisoner tried to get the poker, but a woman put it under her skirt, and then went outside. Accused caught hold of the fender, and swinging it round, it caught witness on the head, thus preventing the blow from striking prosecutor. Prisoner struck O'Neil and the latter said that he was man enough for him, and they both fell unto the table. Prisoner then got O'Neil's thumb into his mouth and bit it. Prosecutor's wife ran and got prisoner off her husband.

Elizabeth King gave corroborative evidence.

Prosecutor's wife proved taking prisoner off her husband.

Cross-examined by accused: Witness stated that she never threw a brown jug at him.

Inspector Benzies spoke to arresting prisoner, and charged him with unlawfully wounding prosecutor. Prisoner replied: "He choked me, and I was obliged to do something in self-defence."

Dr W. J. Shannon, assistant to Dr Geo. Renton, Consett, deposed to attending prosecutor's thumb. He found it just hanging by the skin. The wound would be done by a man's teeth.

Prisoner, in answer to the charge, said he did not know that he had bitten prosecutor's thumb; he was so severely choked.

Wm. Bowman, hawker, testified that on the 26th February he was along with the prisoner. They went to O'Neil's lodging-house. He was present when the dispute took place. Prosecutor got hold of the poker, and had prisoner down on the table, and he would have been choked had he not come to his rescue. Prisoner was black in the face. Prosecutor had his thumb in prisoner's mouth trying to twist his jaw, and he had hold of the handkerchief which was around his neck with the other hand.

The Magistrates committed prisoner to take his trial at the Sessions.

SECOND COURT.

Before J. W. Walton-Wilson, Esq., and H. W. Watson, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following persons were proceeded against for drunkenness:—*Edward Parker*, Consett, 21st ult., 5s and costs; *Peter Grant*, Consett, 14th ult., 5s; *Nicholas Lamb*, Consett, 17th ult., 5s; *Edward McAloon*, Leadgate, 21st ult., 5s; *Michael Hogon* and *Patrick Quinn*, Leadgate, 15th ult., 5s each; *Walter Cowley*, Medomsley, 15th ult., 5s; *Patrick Boyle*, Blackhill, 14th ult., 5s; *Ann McCoy*, Tanfield, 7th ult., 2s 6d; *William Thompson*, Dipton, 15th ult., 5s; *John Morris*, Dipton, 21st ult., 5s; *William Jackson*, Consett, 28th ult., 5s; *John Gillian*, Consett, 28th ult., 5s; *Matthew Glancey*, *Peter Clark*, *Peter McCormack*, and *James Colligan*, Consett, 1st March, 5s each; *Ann McCrorey*, Consett, 2nd inst., 2s 6d; *John Wood*, Consett, 28th ult., 5s; and *John McKenna*, Consett, 28th ult., 5s.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Thomas and *Dominick Bradley*, brothers, were again charged with playing at pitch and toss at Consett, on the 7th February.—P.C. Bradley stated the facts of the case.—Defendants pleaded not guilty, and said they were not present.—They were acquitted.

The undermentioned parties were proceeded against by P.C. Richardson for playing at pitch and toss at Tanfield, on the 8th February:—*Samuel Gibson*, 7s 6d and costs; *Emmerson Bowes*, dismissed; *Matthew Robson*, dismissed; *Thomas Armstrong*, 7s 6d; *William Wallace*, dismissed; and *John Burdon*, dismissed.

CHIMNEY ON FIRE.

Michael Matthews, lodging-house keeper, was charged by P.C. Pemberton with allowing the chimney of his dwelling-house to be on fire, on the 10th ult., contrary to the bye-laws of the Consett Local Board.—Fined 1s and costs.

William Nicholl was summoned for a similar offence, committed at Consett, on the 11th ult.—Defendant failed to appear, and was fined 2s 6d and costs.

OBSTRUCTING THE FOOTPATH.

William Harris, *Adam Bates*, *James Dent*, *Jacob Jenkins*, and *Thomas Quinn* were summoned for obstructing the footpath in Shadespeare Street, Consett, contrary to the bye-laws of the Consett Local Board, on the 15th ult. Mr T. W. Welford, clerk to the Board, prosecuted.—Sergeant Tones proved the case.—Defendants were mulcted in a penalty of 1s and costs.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

TUESDAY, March 3rd.—Before C. J. Backhouse, Esq. (chairman), Rev Chancellor Espin, and Rev T. H. E. Espin.

DRUNK AND DISORDERLY.

Charles Bussey was fined 7s 6d for being drunk on the 21st ult.

Michael McCulloch was also fined 7s 6d for being drunk on the 23rd ult.

A DRUNKEN DRIVER.

James Bowe was charged with being drunk while in charge of a horse and cart on the 20th of last month, and was fined 30s.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Stephen Wilson was charged with committing a breach of the peace by wanting to fight at Tow Law, on the 23rd ult.—Defendant was bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

Thomas Wardhaugh, Wolsingham, late in the employment of Messrs Henry Ingle and Sons, of Leeds, trading as the Alliance Boot Company at Wolsingham, was charged with obtaining from Matthew Carr, of Stanhope, the sum of 10s, with intent to defraud his late employers of the same. He was further charged with having received from a customer during the time he was in prosecutors' service the sum of 5s 10d, and not accounting for the amount to his employers. He was also further charged with embezzling the sum of £6 18s 11d.—Mr Corner, the company's superintendent of branch shops, said that on the 10th of September last the stock in prisoner's hands amounted to £523 16s 9d, and from that date up to November 20th, when prisoner left their service, further stock had been supplied to him, amounting to £211 16s 2d. The firm had during the same time received £142 0s 2d, and on Nov. 20th there was in the shop £540 7s 10d worth of stock. The deficiency amounted to £50 18s 11d.—Prisoner, who has been in the employment of Messrs Ingle for about nine years, was remanded to a special court at Wolsingham on the 24th inst. Bail was allowed, himself in £50 and two sureties of £25 each.—Mr R. G. Wooler prosecuted, and Mr Devey defended.

EDUCATION ACT.

John Bussy, *John Richardson*, *Thomas Gray* and *John Storey* were summoned by Mr Garraway, school attendance officer, for neglecting to send their children to school.—They were each fined 5s except Storey, whose child was in ill-health, and the case was dismissed.

Rev T. H. E. Espin, vicar of Tow Law, took his seat on the Wolsingham Bench for the first time on Tuesday.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL JOTTINGS.

Canon Dunn, Newcastle, Canon Taylor-Smith, Wolsingham, and Canon Greene, South Shields, recently appointed by the Pope, were installed at St. Mary's Cathedral, Clayton Street, Newcastle, in the room of the late Canons Curry (Carlisle), Kearney (The Brooms), and Dr. Wilkinson, whose elevation to the Bishopric created the third vacancy. The formal service appropriate to such occasions having been gone through, Provost Watson, of Tudhoe, who performed the ceremony of installation, congratulated the new canons upon their appointment and upon the great honour thus conferred upon them by his Holiness, the Pope. Mass was then said, Provost Watson officiating as celebrant. The other members of the Cathedral Chapter present were — Canons Thompson, Wrennal, Frankin, Cooke, Rooney, and Waterton.

SANITATION IN DURHAM COUNTY.

MASS MEETING AT THORNLEY.

On Saturday afternoon, one of the series of district mass meetings for the promotion of better sanitary conditions in colliery villages was held at the Union Room, Robin Hood Inn, Thornley. Mr John Fleming (Thornley) presided, and the following collieries were represented:—Silksworth, Leitch, Littletown, Monkwearmouth, Sherburn Hill, Trimdon, Castle Eden, North Biddick, Wheatley Hill, Thrislington, and Ludworth. There was in addition a large attendance of colliers from the Thornley district:—The following resolutions were carried:—(1) Seeing the house accommodation and sanitary conditions of many of our colliery villages are deplorable, we determine to use all legitimate means to remedy this state of affairs. (2) That it is the legal right of every colliery workman to be supplied with a proper dwelling-house, and where employers have not sufficient houses, this meeting seeks to compel employers to pay full rent of the workmen's house. (3) That we seek for all bank and underground firemen to work only eight hours a day. (4) It is the opinion of this meeting that when stonemen and shifters are called upon to do week-end work, six hours should constitute a shift; also that the Sunday shift should not commence before twelve a.m., and consist of seven hours.

CHURCH TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

BURNOPFIELD BRANCH.

Several special attractions in Stanley last Monday evening concurred to divert a portion of the audience from their usual attendance at the fortnightly meeting of the above society, still the assembly was a fairly good one. The programme was well up to the usual standard, both in quality and quantity, and was highly appreciated. It was as follows:—Duet, piano and violin, by Miss and Master Burton; recitation, "Live goose and giblets," by Mr A. Simpson; quartette, "The crown of thorns," by Miss E. Ramshaw and Messrs T. Robson, J. Ramshaw and the Rev L. M. Chesters; pianoforte solo, by Mr Bulman; duet, piano and violin, by Mr Witty and Master J. Surtees; song, "Won't you buy my pretty flowers," by Miss Coates. A humorous dialogue afforded great amusement, and a good moral was then given by Misses Smith and Bell, and Messrs J. Ramshaw, A. Simpson and H. Thompson; pianoforte solo, by Miss Burton; recitation, "Peter Perriums and Thisbe," by Mr Ross—*encore*, "The funny little man;" duet, piano and violin, Messrs Witty and Surtees; humorous song, by Mr J. Lumley, *encored*; and a finale duet, by Miss and Master Burton. One new member was accepted.

"RUPTURES."—WHITE'S MOC-MAIN LEVER TRUSS is the most effective invention for the treatment of Hernia. The use of a steel spring, so hurtful in its effects, is avoided a soft bandage being worn round the body, while the requisite resisting power is supplied by the Moc-Main Pad and Patent Lever, fitting with so much ease and closeness that it cannot be detected. Send for descriptive circular, with testimonials and prices, to J. WHITE AND CO. (Limited), Picadilly London. Do not buy of Chemists, who often sell you IMITATION of our Moc-Main. J White and Co. have not any Agents.

SKINNY MEN.—"Wells' Health Renewer."—Greatest remedy on earth for dyspepsia, nervous weakness, indigestion impotence of mind, limb, or vital functions, mental or physical decline. At Chemists.

DURHAM ASSIZES.

The business of the Assizes for the county of Durham was commenced on Friday, in the Courts, Durham, before Justices Matthew and A. L. Smith. Their lordships were accompanied by the High Sheriff (Major W. J. Joicey, Urpeth Lodge), and the Under-Sheriff (Mr J. G. Wilson). The Commission having been formally declared open the business was proceeded with.

THEFT AT CONSETT.

James Hagin (52), labourer, was charged with stealing a pair of boots, the property of Wm. Gilhespy and Sons, at Consett, on February 2nd. Mr Granger prosecuted.—Three months' hard labour.

ALLEGED MANSLAUGHTER AT THORNLEY.

Robert Spence (41), miner, was charged with the manslaughter of Jane Spence, at Thornley, on the 17th January. Mr H. Hamilton prosecuted, and Mr Strachan defended.—Mr Hamilton, in opening the case, said that on the day in question, the prisoner asked deceased for a shilling, and Mrs Spence said—"I will give it you if you will promise to go away." Prisoner then struck Mrs Spence on the shoulder, and her boy, on hearing a scream, looked round, but did not see his mother. He (Mr Hamilton) would show that Mrs Spence was on the ground. The deceased's daughter approached and said to her, "Get up mother." No answer was made, and the woman died there and then. The doctor who saw Mrs Spence, would say the cause of death was stoppage of the heart's action, due to some shock or blow, or fright of some kind. The deceased was a very stout woman, weighing 15 or 16 stones.—Witnesses were called for the prosecution, and his lordship said there was no evidence of manslaughter.—The jury returned a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was accordingly discharged

NISI PRIUS COURT.—(Before Mr Justice A. L. Smith).

BREACH OF PROMISE ACTION

Mary Ann Featherstone, a widow, living at Blackhill, brought an action for damages for breach of promise of marriage, against John Hall, farmer, West Butsfield, near Satley. Mr Manisty was for the plaintiff, and Mr Milvain, Q.C., M.P., and Mr Greenwell for the defendant.

Mr Manisty, in opening the case, said the circumstances of the case did not present any romantic details, nor had he to read to the jury any of the correspondence somewhat usual in those cases, inasmuch as both parties during the time of their courtship were living in the same house. Both were persons of more or less middle age, and the romantic details sometimes present would be absent. Plaintiff, who then resided at Blackhill, on November 11th, 1889, entered the service of defendant's father as housekeeper. At that time defendant was living with his father and assisting him in the management of the farm, which was a farm of somewhat over a hundred acres. Shortly after plaintiff entered the service of the defendant's father, the defendant commenced to pay plaintiff attentions, and, as time went on, his demeanour became more affectionate towards her. Before the death of the defendant's father, which took place on December 19th of the same year, conversations took place between them, and marriage was more than once mentioned by defendant. Plaintiff did not then think he was serious, but after the death of his father, defendant's manner became more marked, and he was in the habit of sitting with her in the kitchen, and bestowed upon her those caresses which were usually bestowed when a man was regarded as a lover. In every sense of the term they kept company together, and evidence would be given of defendant's affectionate demeanour. He (the learned counsel) now came to an incident be would prefer to have left out, but, inasmuch as upon it depended the question of the promise in dispute, he must go into it. A day or two after the death of the defendant's father, after the plaintiff had retired to bed, defendant entered the plaintiff's bedroom, and there most distinctly promised her marriage. He thought there would be no doubt about that, as the servant who was in the room at the time would give evidence in corroboration of plaintiff's story. Defendant on that occasion made the promise, making at the same time certain proposals which plaintiff indignantly resisted, and refused to entertain. Defendant left the bedroom, but early next morning, between four and five o'clock, he again entered the bedroom, and again promised to marry her. A few days subsequently he renewed the promise, and from then until April, 1890, his manner continued most affectionate. On April 11th, the plaintiff left the house, returning the same evening and taking her things away. Upon that was founded the excuse for not carrying out the promise. Subsequently she met the defendant, and asked him whether he was going to carry out his promise. Once he said, "I'll marry you when my father's affairs are settled," and afterwards he said, "I'll marry you on May Day." May Day passed, and, apprehending from his manner that he was not going to carry out his promise, the plaintiff asked him in the presence of a Mrs French when he was going to carry out his promise, and he then behaved in a cruel and cowardly way. Instead of denying the promise, or admitting it, and saying "My affection towards you has grown cold," defendant said "I am not going to marry a drunken woman." Mrs French said "She is not a drunken woman;" and defendant then said "How did she come to fall and break her arm?" When the plaintiff went to fetch her things away she fell as she was getting out of the cart, but there was not the slightest foundation for the statement that she was intoxicated. Now defendant's sole defence was that he never gave the promise at all. He asked the jury to give such damages as plaintiff was entitled to. Defendant had not only broken his promise but had slandered the woman. He believed the defendant was a man of fair, moderate means.

Plaintiff then gave evidence, bearing out the main facts of the opening statement of counsel, and said that defendant seemed to be very deeply in love with her. He sometimes ordered the servants to bed, saying he wished to say something to her, and he sometimes tried to take liberties. He said that, if he only had a place of his own, he would marry her. When he came to the bedroom, he said, "If you will let me come to bed beside you, my dear, I'll marry you." She refused to let him.

In cross-examination, plaintiff said she was 50 years of age, and admitted that defendant had been intimate with her in the byres and other places.

Jane Middleton, a fellow-servant of the plaintiff at the farm, also gave evidence as to the defendant coming to the bedroom, and promising the plaintiff marriage.

In cross-examination by Mr Milvain she admitted having signed a statement in the presence of a solicitor containing statements which were opposed to her present evidence.

The jury thereupon intimated that they had heard enough.

His Lordship: So have I. I suppose you mean a verdict for the defendant?

The Foreman: Yes.

CHESTER-LE-STREET SLANDER ACTION.

Dr David Duncan, Medical Officer of Health for the Chester-le-Street Union, brought an action against Mr Peter Hay, draper, and a member of the Chester-le-Street Board of Guardians, to recover damages for alleged slander. Counsel for the plaintiff were Mr D. S. Waddy, Q.C., M.P., and Mr J. Strachan (instructed by Mr Turnbull, Durham), and for the defendant Mr J. Lawson Walton, Q.C., and Mr T. Willes Chitty (instructed by Messrs Marshall and Graham, Durham). The case was taken before a special jury.

Mr Waddy opened the case. He said the language the defendant had used with regard to the plaintiff was clearly defamatory. The occasion on which the language was spoken appeared to him to have been a privileged occasion, and the main question for the jury to consider was whether the words in question did, or did not, indicate such malice as robbed the occasion of its privilege. Mr Waddy then referred to the first County Council elections, on which occasion the defendant was an unsuccessful candidate, Dr Duncan supporting the successful one, and urged that from this circumstance began the animosity which the defendant had since manifested towards the plaintiff. Subsequently the defendant got a meeting of miners held at Waldridge Fell to consider the question of getting their water supply from the Consett Water Company, and in the end a petition was sent to the Local Government Board, which after referring to the attitude of the local authority on the question, stated, "There is only one reason to our minds that at all justifies their attitude towards us, and this is the sanitary officials have not altogether been doing their duty, for unfortunately the Medical Officer of Health also acts as colliery doctor, and for him to interfere would have a tendency to an adverse effect at the source from which he draws a large portion of his revenue in his practice. At least we know of no other cause why we have not had his help, instead of, judging from his report, his opposition, in acquiring our report." Mr Waddy denied that Dr Duncan had ever mentioned the subject in his reports. The petition was sent down from London to the Board of Guardians and by that means it came before the notice of Dr Duncan. Dr Duncan, who was naturally indignant, offered to have the whole matter thrashed out at a public meeting. The arrangement was that Mr Hay and Dr Duncan should attend the meeting. Just before the meeting Mr Hay sent word that he was in Scotland, and could not come. The meeting was adjourned to a day when he could attend, but a day before the meeting Mr Hay wrote to say he hoped to be better employed, and he would positively decline to meet Dr Duncan for the purpose anticipated. Dr Duncan thereupon cleared himself and his whole reputation, and having done so was quite prepared to let the matter rest. Mr Waddy then referred to three cases of disease which occurred in the union, one of brain fever and two of typhoid fever, but each independent of the other, and then stated that on May 8th, 1890, Mr Hay, at the meeting of the Board of Guardians, sitting as the Sanitary Authority, committed himself to this statement:—"There is a point I would like to speak upon—a serious matter. I do think that something should be done at Chester Moor. We have typhoid and enteric fever there far oftener than we should have, and I am in possession of information, and I speak on the highest authority, that it is only the state of the ashpits that can account for the continuance of typhoid and enteric fever there. Why has not the Medical Officer of Health made a special report of the same as he did last week of the High Flats? Of course, I know that there is a reason why he does not do so, but something must account for the fevers, and it is the state of the ashpits. If I was giving my authority, and I would believe it before that of either the sanitary inspector or anyone else, you would think that nothing else can account for the typhoid fevers and the deaths, and sometimes from the funerals the decease is carried about. It has been carried to Pelton Fell in that way, and has been hushed up in many cases to something amounting to brain fever. It was time that they did something about it." These were the words upon which the action was laid.

Peter Fergnson, newpaper correspondent, who took notes of the defendant's speech; Geo. Ridley, chairman of the Board of Guardians; Thos. Barras, sanitary inspector; and the plaintiff having given evidence,

Mr Walton, for the defence, said the real explanation of the matter was that Mr Hay had come to the conclusion that if the Medical Officer of Health was also the colliery doctor in any particular village he put himself in a very awkward position, which rendered it difficult for him to discharge the duties with the vigilance and energy that he would if he did not combine these two offices. That was his conscientious opinion, and he had a right to express it. He never meant to make a charge of hushing up cases.

The defendant, Peter Hay, then went into the box and when under cross-examination by Mr Waddy he refused to give the name of an informant for the statement he had made.

His Lordship characterised this as gross contempt of court, and said he could commit the defendant if Mr Waddy pressed the point.

The jury intimated they had heard enough to come to a decision, and ultimately a verdict was returned for the plaintiff for £25 and costs.

Saturday.—Before Mr Justice A. L. Smith.

ALLEGED BREACH OF CONTRACT.

In the case of Ferens and Love v. Eveson, without a jury, the plaintiffs, a well-known firm of coal-owners (and owners of Cornsay Colliery), sued the defendant for breach of contract. Mr Manisty was for the plaintiffs, and Mr Chitty for the defendant.—The plaintiffs' case was that the defendant entered into a contract with them to take 300 tons of coke, extending over a period of three months. He was to be at liberty to take the coke away in such portions as he thought fit each month. The plaintiffs had allowed him the greatest latitude, and had not troubled him to take any of the coke until the end of the three months. He had only taken some 27 tons out of the whole quantity, and plaintiffs sought to recover the difference in price between that at which coke was sold in consequence of the defendant not taking it, and that at which they could have sold it had they known sooner that defendant would not complete his contract.—Mr Chitty said it had been laid down over and over again that the measure of damage was the difference between the contract price and market price at the end of each month.—His lordship reserved judgment.

DEATH OF MR JOHN WALTON, OF LANCHESTER.

On Monday, Mr John Walton, joiner and builder, the representative of an old family, was laid to rest by the side of his ancestors in the churchyard at Lanchester. The familar phrase, "a chip of the old block," was peculiarly applicable to him, his great-great-grandfather, George Walton, having carried on the trade of a carpenter at Lanchester nearly 200 years ago. In 1721, when the present front of Greencroft Hall was built with its twenty sash-windows, he did the joiner work, and he also helped to build the west wing in the following year. Labour, as compared with the present rate of wages, was then cheap. Journeymen masons and carpenters received from a shilling to one-and-twopence a day. The man who made and burnt the bricks was paid at the rate of 4s 6d per 1,000. But luxuries were dear. Tea must have been a beverage but little used, since a pound of Bohea cost £1 1s 6d.

COFFEE WAS 6S 8D PER POUND.

A brace of pheasants cost £1 6s, and snuff was a guinea a pound. Brandy was cheap, being rather less than half-a-crown per quart, while a dozen pints of sherry cost 8s 4d. Geese were 1s 3d each, and ducks 6d. It was only in comparative recent times that Lanchester became connected with the outside world by railway, and the new mode of locomotion coming late in life, Mr Walton held it in supreme contempt. The "shoemaker's galloway," he used to say, had always carried him without accident, and he rarely availed himself of the railroad except on a long journey. He could walk the distance between Lanchester and Durham, eight miles, in an hour-and-a-half, and was able to walk down many a younger man long after he had reached the allotted span of human existence. The last time we saw him was in the summer of last year. He was then

RUNNING ACROSS THE VILLAGE GREEN

after a refractory cow, and, in reply to our congratulations on his friskness, expressed his belief that he could still leap over a five-barred gate. The recital of his angling exploits in the days when the Browney was unpolluted was his favourite theme whenever we met him on that river. It was a matter of frequent observation with him that the old families and the trout had disappeared together. Truly a great change has come over the place in a few years Most of the large houses in the neighbourhood of Lanchester are now empty, and except Mr George Taylor-Smith, there is not a magistrate nearer than Woodlands. Mr John Greenwell, of Broomshields, Mr John Clavering, of Greencroft, Mr Geo. Hedley, of Burnhopeside, Mr Taylor-Smith, of Colepike, and Mr De Pledge, are all dead; while Mr Kearney, Mr Talmadge, and Mr Henry Smith are absentees. With Mr Walton

DISAPPEARS ANOTHER FAMILIAR FORM

from Lanchester. He was much attached to the old church, and was fond of relating how one of his ancestors, James Walton, thrashed the parson there. This incident happened in 1575, when one Richard Milner was curate. There had been a long-standing feud between the two, and one Sunday afternoon James and his brother Thomas tackled the parson and his son Michael as they left church. On hearing James threaten to "wap" his father's coat, Michael made for him with a stick, but James having the longer staff warded off the blow. At the same moment the other brother attacked the son from behind, and threw him on to a dung-hill. Thereupon the father threw off his gown, challenged James to combat, and the pair fought lustily till an unlucky blow knocked the curate's staff out of his hand, after which a well-directed crack on the head from the layman's staff terminated the fight.

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(PER ANALYTICAL REPORT.)

BOTTLER OF DUBLIN STOUT & BASS'S PALE ALE, &c.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:

DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

ALL ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO. 280c

THE CHEAPEST

CASH HOUSE FURNISHERS

IN THE NORTH.

THE

CONSETT FURNISHING CO.,

5, FRONT STREET,

CONSETT.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

NEW TOWN HALL BUILDINGS, CONSETT

IMPORTERS

OF

CHOICEST DANISH BUTTERS.

PERFECT QUALITY DIRECT FROM THE FARMERS.

ONLY 1s. 2d. PER LB.

MARGARINES, QUALITY AND PRICES

ONLY TO BE HAD AT THE ABOVE.

TIP-TOP MARGARINE, 8d. PER LB.

DANISH BUTTER COMPANY.

T. MILNER, A.P.S.,

DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST, CONSETT,

FOR WINTER REMEDIES & SPECIALITIES.

FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

Cod Liver Oil and Extract of Malt.

COD LIVER OIL EMULSION. PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD.

Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites.

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT AND MALT WINE.

Invalid Port, and other Wines, recommended by the Medical Faculty.

QUININE WINE prepared according to the Pharmacopœa.

Chest Protectors, Magnetic Belts, Knee Caps, Porous and other Plasters.

Quinine and Iron Tonic, 1s. per Bottle; Blood Purifier, 1s. and 2s. 6d. per Bottle; Balsamic Cough Mixture, 1s. per Bottle; Indigestion Mixture, 1s. 6d. per Bottle; Dandelion and Podophyllin Pills, 1s. per Box.

Prescriptions accurately dispensed according to the British Pharmacopœa.

MILNER'S HAIR RESTORER, 1s. per Bottle. Glycerine of Cucumber, 6d. and 1s. per Bottle.

SCENTED SOAPS, PERFUMES, and TOILET REQUISITES in great variety.

GENUINE HOMŒOPATHIC MEDICINES.

Mineral Waters in Bottles and Syphons.

SHEEP DIPS IN GREAT VARIETY.

PURGING, COUGH, AND ALTERATIVE BALLS FOR HORSES AND DOGS.

ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS FOR HORSES and CATTLE, in Tins 1s. each.

FELLON, CLEANSING, AND NOURISHING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

SEQUAH'S INDIAN OIL AND PRAIRIE FLOWER, 2s. per Bottle.

Handysides and Currie's Medicines.

Postal Orders promptly attended to.

MILNER, CHEMIST & WINE MERCHANT, CONSETT.

Public Notices.

IS the WINNING NUMBER of the Magic Lantern Raffled at Blackhill.

FIRST-CLASS BRAWN, at the Hanging Stone, Greencroft, belonging to JAMES COLEMAN.

LOOK OUT for LANGLEY PARK FOOTBALL SPORTS, on June 20th, 1891. 159a

A PRIZE BRAWN, from Strickland, of Thirsk kept by W. MILBURN, butcher, Consett, at 3d if paid for when served, or 4d if not. 137a

254 IS the WINNING NUMBER of Picture, "Durham Cathedral." Holder of Ticket to apply to N. WEIGHTMAN, Consett Junction.

COLLIERLEY DYKES GOOD INTENT LODGE OF MERCIANS, Dipton, will hold their Annual GALA, TEA, and SPORTS on June 27th, 1891. 92a

WHEAT SHEAF INN, SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE THIRD ANNUAL LEEK SHOW will be held at the above house on October 11th, 1891. The next meeting of members will be held on, April 6th, 1891. 146a

LOOK HERE! The members of the Annfield Plain and Lizzie Cricket Club intend to give a CONCERT on March 14th, 1891, when Mr Jno. NEVINS, of Newcastle, will appear, also Miss EMMA SMITH, from the Empire Theatre. Chair to be taken by Councillor CURRY at 7-30. Tickets to be had from Committee. 144a

AN EASTER TREAT.

A HIGH-CLASS CONCERT will be given in the Co-operative Hall, Annfield Plain, on Easter Monday, when the following artistes will take part:—Miss LILY DENNEWATH, Newcastle; Miss LIZZIE WILSON, Shields; Miss JENNIE HARRISON, Newcastle; Master A. SHOW, Newcastle; Mr. J. REED, Newcastle; Mr. J. J. WALKER, Gateshead; and others. Doors open at 6-30, to commence at 7 o'clock. Adults, Classes, 3s.; Front Seats, 2s.; Back Seats and Gallery, 6d.; Children, Half-price. Proceeds in aid of Free Church, Catchgate. See Bills.

Public Notices.

PHOTOGRAPHY, PHRENOLOGY, &c.

MR A. RAMSDEN is now at Home (Consett). Call and have your Photograph taken. Also, your Character read. PORTRAIT SALOON near the PARK. MAGNETIC APPLIANCES kept in Stock. 167e

CONSETT MISSION BAND,
CO-OPERATINE HALL.
MONDAY EVENING, MARCH 9th, 1891.
POPULAR ENTERTAINMENT.
ADMISSION, 1s. and 6d. 154e

AN ADJOURNED SPECIAL MEETING of members of the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society (central only) will be held in the Society's long-room, on Saturday, March 7th. Business: The consideration of purchasing a plot of ground situated at Medomsley, for New Business Premises.—W. R. Pigg, Sec. 151e

MUSICAL TUITION.

JANE ANNIE HEWITSON (Pupil of Miss Sloane), having obtained First-class Honours, also Certificates in Pianoforte Playing, and Theory, at the Examination held before Dr E. M. Lott, in connection with the Musical International College, London, is prepared to give LESSONS in Pianoforte Playing, Harmonium, and also in Theory.
☞ Terms on Application.
ADDRESS: 26, CORT STREET, BLACKHILL.

RE RICHARDSON SMITH, DECEASED.

ALL PERSONS having CLAIMS against the Estate of Richardson Smith, late of Tanfield, in the County of Durham, Farmer, are requested to send particulars thereof to me, the undersigned, forthwith. Dated the 26th February, 1891.
THOMAS WM. WELFORD,
Solicitor for the Executors, Consett.

RE GEORGE WATSON, DECEASED.

ALL PERSONS having CLAIMS against the Estate of George Watson, late of Tanfield Lane Farm, Tanfield, in the County of Durham, Farmer, are requested to send particulars thereof to me, the undersigned, forthwith. Dated the 26th February, 1891.
THOMAS WM. WELFORD,
Solicitor for the Administratrix, Consett.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741st STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

NOTICE.

THE 6th ANNUAL MEETING will be held in the Small Hall of the New Town Hall, Consett, on THURSDAY, March 19th, 1891, at 7·30.
An APPROPRIATION will be made at the close. Any joining on or before Monday, March 16th, and paying four weeks' Subscriptions will participate.
CHAS. W. ALMOND, Chairman.
WILL ELLIOTT, Secretary.
5, Mount Pleasant, Consett, February 12th, 1891.
Mr John Chaytor will take the Subscriptions in the Stanley District. 984d

TANFIELD FLORAL & HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A MEETING, in connection with the above Society, will be held at the house of Mr. R. Johnson, Peacock Inn, Tanfield, on Monday, March 16th, 1891, at 7 p.m.
This Show will be held on Saturday, September 5th, 1891.
156e GEO. WATSON, Chairman.

SUN FIRE OFFICE.
ESTABLISHED 1710.
Sum insured in 1888,
£327,500,000.

For further information apply to
Mr Thomas Wm. Welford, Jun.
Agent at Consett. 162e

THE RESULT OF THE SOUTH DERWENT BAND'S GRAND PRIZE DRAWING. Winning Numbers:—1st, 5204; 2nd, 2023; 3rd, 5000; 4th, 7824; 5th, 6539; 6th, 2868; 7th, 610; 8th, 7342; 9th, 2082; 10th, 5302; 11th, 6025; 12th, 8402; 13th, 7860; 14th, 5822; 15th, 4814; 16th, 8527; 17th, 2739; 18th, 321; 19th, 3348; 20th, 9956; 21st, 4187; 22nd, 2997; 23rd, 4718; 24th, 5731; 25th, 9302; 26th, 3441; 27th, 2839; 28th, 9087; 29th, 6239; 30th, 5348; 31st, 6017. 157e

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

Sole Lessee & Manager - - - R. J. Brodie.
Acting Manager - - - Mr R. Brown.

OWING to the great success of the Beresford Innes Shakespearean Company, Mr Brodie has pleasure in informing his friends and patrons that he has made arrangements, at an enormous expense, for the appearance for Six Nights longer, commencing Monday, March 9th, of the same Company, when they will appear in the following plays: "RICHELIEU," MACBETH," "LADY OF LYONS," "GREEN BUSHES," &c.

CONSETT JUNIOR OR SECOND TEAM MEDAL COMPETITION, ON GOOD FRIDAY, EASTER MONDAY, AND EASTER TUESDAY.

W. AND T. KNAGGS will give 11 SILVER MEDALS, guaranteed value £3, for Reserve 2nd Junior or Teams who are not in the Durham Association, and who have not taken part in any Competition. Open to Durham or Northumberland. Entrance, 2s. 6d. each Team, taken up to March 23rd. Draw to take place on March 24th. Entries to W. KNAGGS, Front Street, Consett.
A Competent Gentleman will be appointed as Referee, and his decision must be final. 155e

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE VERY REV CANON KEARNEY.

THE PARISHONERS of the BROOMS being about to ERECT a MEMORIAL over the Grave of their Late Pastor, CANON KEARNEY, any Person wishing to Contribute towards the same, can do so by giving their Donation to any of the undermentioned Members of the Committee:—

James McGuckin.	Martin Scully.
James Hogan	John Hunt.
Owen McGuckin.	Edward McGeary.
Henry Cheesmond.	John Eccles.
John Casey.	Wm. Gilliard.
Michael Muldowney.	Matthew Robson.
Edward Quinn.	Owen Hoye.
John Collins.	James Conway.
John Costello.	Edward Grant.

Or to the Treasurer or Secretary.
Rev. FATHER McGARRITY, Hon. Treasurer.
909d ROBERT KELLY, Hon. Secretary.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, MARCH 9th, 1891.—60 to 70 Dairy Cows and Heifers; 25 Fat Cattle; including 14 Prime Highland Heifers; 80 Fat Sheep and Hoggs; 50 Store Cattle, various ages; 8 Finger Calves. Entries to day of Sale. Sale at 10-30 a.m.
J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, MARCH 9th, 1891.

10 Fat Cattle.
70 Fat Sheep.
A number of Dairy Cows.
5 Grazing Steers.
Bacon, Pork and Store Pigs.
1 Strong Dog Cart, 1 Whitechapel, both good as new.
Sett Spring Cart Harness, nearly new, a quantity Poultry, including 30 young hens, mostly Black Spanish and various other lots.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
121e J. S. MURRAY.

A SPECIAL SALE of GRAZING STOCK on Monday, March 23rd, in connection with the usual weekly sale. Early entries solicited.
J. S. MURRAY.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
Appointed by His Honour Judge Meynell to levy Distress for Rent, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

JOHN LOWES,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.
Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.
VALUATION EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC.

Sales by Auction.

By Messrs. A. & R. J. Brodie.

Monday, March 9th, 1891.—Front Street, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture and Effects.

MESSRS. A. & R. J. BRODIE are instructed by Mr. Daniel Smith, who is leaving the district, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION on the Premises in Front Street, Consett (opposite the Fountain), on Monday, March 9th, 1891, the whole of the Superior Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, including:—Mahogany Chest of Drawers; Telescope Dining Table; Superior Mahogany Couch, in Hair; Leather Couch; 2 Easy Chairs, in Hair; 6 Austrian Bentwood Chairs; Mahogany Rocking Chair; 6 Cane Chairs; 4 Chairs, in Leather; Kitchen Easy Chair; Iron Folding Chair; 3 Brass and Iron Bedsteads and and Mattress; Feather and Down Beds; Bolsters and Pillows; Washstand, with Marble Top; Dressing Chest of Drawers; Mirror, in Black and Gold Frame; 2 Swing Glasses; What-not; Three-fold Screen; 3 Dressing Tables; Towel Rail; Night Commode; Walnut Work Table; Cornice Pole and Curtains; 2 Show Bottles; 2 Cases of Stuffed Birds; Kitchen Table; Clock; Carpets and Hearthrugs; Oilcloth and Mats; 15 Pictures; Fender and Fire Irons; Venetian Blind and Curtains; Wire Blind; 2 Coal Vases; Ornaments and Glass Ware; together with the whole of the Earthenware and Kitchen Utensils and Sundries. Also Superior Trichord Pianoforte in perfect order, and the Bed and Table Linen, including Blankets, Sheets., &c.
Sale to commence at 1·30 p.m.
As the Owner is leaving the district, there is no reserve.

Monday, March 16th, 1891.—Victoria Sale-Rooms, Consett.—Re-James Stansfield. Deceased.—Important Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Household Furniture, including Handsome Walnut Sideboard, with 6 Bevilled Plates, Mahogany Dining Table, Mahogany Drawers, Mahogany Couch, in Hair, 6 Hair-seated Chairs, 3 Windsor Chairs, Brass-mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses, Feather and Down Beds, Bolster and Pillows, Fenders and Fire Irons, Earthenware, Leather Couch, Perambulator, and Kitchen Utensils.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed by the Representatives to remove from Darlington, and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, March 16th, 1891, the Superior Household FURNITURE and Effects. Also, Fine-toned Trichord Pianoforte, in perfect order, Grand Pianoforte, &c.
Sale at Half-past One o'clock exact time. 164e

FOR SALE, Cheap, best quality, Iron Framed Over-strung PIANOFORTE, in perfect order. Another Fine INSTRUMENT, with Brass Pin Plate, Repeater Action, and all the latest improvements. Also, good HARMONIUM, with 9 Stops, by Symes, suitable for a small Chapel or otherwise.—Apply, Brodie, Town Hall, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.—A. & R. J. BRODIE Auctioneers and Valuers, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the SALE OF PROPERTY of every description either by PUBLIC AUCTION or otherwise, on reasonable terms. FORTNIGHTLY SALES held every Pay Monday, at the Victoria Sale-Rooms, in which Furniture or other Goods can be included, or if preferred, will be Purchased for Cash. Bailiffs under the Agricultural Holdings Act, and under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888.
Accident Assurance.—Assurance against Accidents of every kind in the following Offices, noted for prompt settlement of claims—Scottish Accident Assurance Company, Imperial Union Accident Assurance Company.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Mr. John Crawford's Sale-Rooms, 6, 12, and 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to remove and SELL BY AUCTION at the above Rooms, on Monday, March 16th, 1891, a Lot of Splendid New and Second-hand Mahogany FURNITURE.
Anyone disposing of their Furniture can have it sold on reasonable terms at any time.
Sale to commence at One o'clock.
Sale Office, Victoria Street, Consett. 111e

Farm Stock Sale.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr Thomas Carter, Elm Park, near Shotley Bridge Station, who is declining Farming, to SELL BY AUCTION, the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, &c.
Sale will be at an early date, and full particulars given.
Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, AUCTIONEER, 25, Victoria Street, Consett, is prepared to execute all orders for the SALE of FARM STOCK PROPERTY, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE STOCK-IN-TRADE, &c., in the best style, and on reasonable terms; immediate settlement. Mr. John Crawford is appointed by his Honour Judge Meynell to act as Bailiff to levy Distress for Rent in England and Wales, under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Mr. Crawford's Sale-Rooms are open daily to receive Furniture for Fortnightly Sales. People that are leaving the District can have their Furniture turned into Cash at once by applying to John Crawford, Auctioneer, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 903a

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE, &c.

A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station. AUCTION SALES will be conducted in the best style, and upon most reasonable terms. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., can be bought right out for Cash. 34e

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

SALE OF STOCK AT CATCHGATE.
ON WEDNESDAY, the 18th March inst., a SPECIAL SALE OF STOCK will be held at Catchgate, near Annfield Plain. Early entries respectfully solicited.
MR G. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer.

☞ JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER
10, WOOD STREET SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

Business Announcements

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT
BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY
TOWN HALL CONSETT.
☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.
Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property Money received on Loan at 4½ Per Cent. Interest, repayable at Three Months' notice.
ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., F.A.I., Actuary and Public (Incorporated) Accountant, Secretary

STRENGTHENING AND ENERGIZING

GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE.
This valuable preparation is composed of Old Port Wine, Kepler's Extract of Malt, and the Liebig Company's Extract of Beef.
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is strengthening, flesh-forming, and nourishing.
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE, in small quantities, is especially valuable for sick children
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE being easily digested and readily assimilated, is "a tissue former," and "a force producer" of the utmost importance to those who require strength.
GLENDENNING'S LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE is recommended by hundreds of medical men and hospital nurses to their patients, and the Proprietor holds a large number of testimonials in its favour.
Prices: 3s 9d Per Bottle; 45s Doz. Bottles 2s Per Half-Bottle, 23s 6d Doz. Half-Bottles.
Prepared only by W. Glendenning, 9, Grainger Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
SOLE AGENTS:—
RICHARD MURRAY, WINE MERCHANT. BENFIELDSIDE.
MESSRS T. D. DRYDEN & Co., WINE MERCHANTS, &c., FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
THOMAS MILNER, CHEMIST, &c., SHAKESPEARE STREET, CONSETT.
ROBERT ARMSTRONG, WINE MERCHANT DIPTON.
WM. CHARLTON, STANLEY HOTEL, STANLEY.
WM. TAYLOR, RAILWAY HOTEL, ANN FIELD PLAIN.
RICHARD BROWELL, MINERS' ARMS, THE SPEN,
AND
WILLIAM STONES, BURTON HOUSE, BURNOPFIELD. 463c

Business Announcements

"EASY IS THE HEAD THAT WEARS A CROWN"
SUPPLIED BY
E. BROOKS,
HATTER TO TRADE,
57, GREY, and 59, CLAYTON STREETS, NEWCASTLE.

MOST MONEY LENT
On Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, and other Precious Stones, Plated Goods Cutlery, Gems &c., &c., at
J. & E. WILSON'S,
The Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780
12, PILGRIM STREET
FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
Private Entrance: First Six Doors in High Friar Lane
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices!
SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.
OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739

REV A. T. GUTTERY will PREACH in the LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL, on Easter Monday, March 31st, 1891. See Bills. 166e

Local and District News.

CONSETT.

Mr W. Milburn, butcher, of Consett, has a sow which gave birth to a litter of 21 pigs—from his new brawn as advertised in another column — on Tuesday.

We would call our readers' attention to the miscellaneous concert in the Co-operative Hall, on Monday first—at which several artistes of note will appear.

St Patrick's Anniversary.—Lovers of music are promised a treat of no ordinary character, at a concert on March 17th, at the New Town Hall, Consett. The programme is an excellent one, and the performers rank first in the North of England.

It is with sincere regret that we have to chronicle the death, after a brief illness, of another well-known resident of Consett—Mr Henry Taylor—who died at his residence in Sherburn Terrace, and who, for many years was a faithful servant of the Consett Water Company, in the capacity of horse-keeper.

At the Sunderland County Petty Sessions, on Saturday, Mr Samuel Storey, M.P., applied for and obtained summonses for assault against Supts. Jas. Oliver (Consett), and Burrell (Durham). The assaults are alleged to have been committed at Newport Farm in connection with the Silksworth Strike.—The cases will be heard to-morrow (Saturday).

Consett Baptist Band of Hope.—The monthly meeting and entertainment of the above, was held on Monday evening, at Consett, under the presidency of Rev T. Durant (pastor). There was a very good company, and the programme rendered was of a very interesting and enjoyable character after the opening hymn and prayers. The chairman in his usual pithy manner introduced the following programme. Solo, "Go work in my Vineyard," Master G. Farnsworth; violin solo, selection, "Scottish Airs," Mr W. P. Robson; reading, "The Little Hero," Master W. Edwards; recitation, "The Drunkard's Child," Master G. Farnsworth; solo, "Angels ever bright and fair." Master T. Hardy. An able address on the importance of life was given by Mr A. Dobson, of Derwent Cottages, which was much enjoyed by all present. Mr Geo. Edwards, a member, also gave a short address, and the meeting was brought to a close by singing the evening hymn and benediction, a very pleasant hour-and-a-half being spent by all present. Five pledges were taken.

Shakespeare at the Theatre Royal.—A house packed from floor to ceiling greeted the appearance of the "Bereford-Innes" legitimate company on Monday night last, their opening performance being *Richard III*, which was received with marked enthusiasm, the leading artistes being loudly called for at the end of almost every act. Mr G. W. Innes is a fine exponent of Shakespeare, his pourtrayal of the hypocitical Richard being a masterpiece. Mr Forsyth was an able Richmond, whilst the part of Buckingham was done full justice to Mr C. Allan Hineson. Madame Beresford gave a careful rendering of the part of Lady Anne, and as the Duchess of York Mrs Mat Robson was exceeding good. La Petite Violette was very clever as the Duke of York, the way this little lady delivered her lines being highly appreciated. The remainder of the cast was ably sustained by the rest of the company. On Tuesday an equally good house was present to witness *Othello*. In this performance Mr Forsyth as the Moor of Venice had more scope for displaying his ability, and we do not exaggerate when we say that his rendering of the part was a powerful one and well deserving the applause accorded him. Hoderigo, by Mr Chas. Lismane, was also a very agreeable rendition. On Wednesday the audience was almost as large, when was produced *The Lady of Lyons*; Thursday, *Hamlet*; Friday, *The Merchant of Venice*; and on Saturday, *Macbeth*. So successful has this engagement been that Mr Brodie has arranged for the present company to prolong their stay for another week. On Friday next, they will produce for the first time on any stage an entirely new comedy-drama in five acts, entitled *Flies and Spiders*. It is written by Mr James MacCarleton, acting manager for the Bereford-Innes Company. It is brimful of wit, has some thrilling situations, and is altogether a novel plot.

BLACKHILL.

Wesleyan Sunday-School Band of Hope.—The fortnightly meeting of the above was held in the Blackhill school-room on Saturday night, when a varied and interesting programme was given, Mr M. J. Robson presiding. Duets and solos were contributed by Misses Harwood and Smith and were well sung. Quartettes were also rendered, those who took part being Messrs S. Gradon and J. McTaggart, Misses Shimmin and Bell. Violin solos were executed in good style by Mr T. Reid. Recitations were given by Mr Wm. Robinson, of Blackfine. A very instructive address was given by Mr T. Mackay, of Benfieldside. Miss Shimmin accompanied. A collection was taken at the close.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

St Cuthbert's Parish Magazine.—The March number of this local publication contains a further instalment of parish records, a summary of local events for the month, in addition to the "Dawn of Day," for March.

Drunk.—On Saturday morning, at the Shotley Bridge Occasional Court, before Councillor James Annandale, *Richard Berry*, labourer, of Consett, was charged by P.C. Hughes with being drunk and disorderly at Consett on the Friday morning.—Defendant was fined 5s and costs; in default, seven days' hard labour.

Temperance Meeting.—The last of the winter series of temperance meetings was held in the school-room of the Wesleyan Chapel, Shotley Bridge, on Monday evening last, the school-room being well filled. The chair was occupied by Mr Joseph Oley, who in a few pithy and well chosen remarks introduced an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music. The Wesleyan Band of Hope, string band was in attendance, and rendered pieces of appropriate music. Mrs Oley, and Miss Coates, gave two duets, viz., "Days are going by," and "Will you be there and I." The two pieces were highly appreciated. Master Nixon next gave a recitation in capital style and Miss A. Wilson, a solo entitled "Hiding in Thee." Mr Nicholls followed with an amusing recitation entitled "My Beautiful Nose." Mr A. Seed then gave the evening address, basing his remark on the three cities. Miss Wilson, and Mr Geo. Brown acted as accompanist and leader.

TANTOBIE.

Social Tea.—On Monday last, a successful social tea was held at the house of Mr W. Simpson, in aid of Tantobie New Wesleyan Chapel Scheme. The sum of £8 5s was realised.

LEADGATE.

The Fever Hospital.—We are requested by Mr Thos. Longstaff, to correct a statement purporting to be altered by him at the monthly meeting of the Joint Hospital Board at Lanchester, on Feby. 19th, viz.:— that Mr Longstaff said "The matron had used 32 lbs of beef, &c., in *one* week." Mr Longstaff expains that what he actually said was:—"That 32 lbs of beef were used in *three* weeks." He was quoting from the account which was handed to him, dated for Oct. 5th to Oct. 27th, the item being 32 lbs of beef, mutton, and pork, for use of matron. We gladly rectify this error.

FROSTERLEY.

Early Lambs.—Mr Geo. Raine, of Golden Lands Farm, Stanhope, has lambs a fortnight or three weeks old running about with the ewes, and doing well.

Freak of Nature.—At the Tunstall reservoir Wolsigham Park, there is in process a fish hatchery. A quantity of ova of Loch Leven trout is being hatched with a view of stocking the reservoir with a better breed of fish, under the supervision of Mr G. Bewley, caretaker at the reservoir, the ova is being hatched, and most of it has come to life, and the result is a large number of small trout about an inch long. Among them, however, is a natural curiosity. Two fish are joined together, and have two separate bodies but only one tail.

Our attention has been called to a paragraph inserted in one of our February issues, in which we give an account of a certain supper held at the house of an ex-P.C. at Frosterley. We are sorry to find that the paragraph has given offence, as it was only written in a humorous and good-natured manner. It is always a matter of regret, when through the reports that come to hand from various correspondents we hurt the feelings of any-one. We therefore beg to apologise to the worthy ex-policeman and his good lady for anything that has appeared in our columns.

Entertainment.—On Saturday night, a social supper was given in the Endowed School, Frosterley, on behalf of the Church Funds, given by Mrs John Pickering and Miss Dawson, East Biggins. During the supper a variety of music, songs, recitations, etc., were given by the Frosterley Exhibition band. Mrs Crawhall, Miss Littlefair, the Misses Hogarth, Mr Thompson; Mr Bell, Stanhope; Miss Stephenson, Bollihope; Miss Wilkinson, Crook; Mr Moore, Durham; Mr Hall and Mr Rain, Tow Law; and Mr Heslop, Consett. The proceeds amounted to over £15, being the largest ever realised in the district.

TOW LAW.

Canon Taylor-Smith.—The members of the congregation and friends in the late parish of Canon Taylor-Smith, St. Joseph's, Tow Law, have taken occasion of the appointment by the Pope of their late pastor to one of the vacant stalls in St. Mary's Cathedral, Newcastle, to present him with his canonical robes and a purse of gold. The presentation took place on Monday at the presbytery, Wolsingham. The parishoners of Tow Law were represented on the occasion by Rev J. R. Wood, pastor at Tow Law, Mr Leo Wherley and Mr John McCullagh. The very rev canon was for 22 years pastor at Tow Law before removing, through failing health, to his present mission at Wolsingham. While at Tow Law he won the esteem and the affection of all with whom he came in contact. He considerably enlarged and embellished the church, and built the present schools and convent and the presbytery.

WEARDALE.

Weather.—Not in the memory of the oldest inhabitant of Weardale was there ever so little rain in the month of February, not even a shower until the last few hours of Saturday evening, when the sky became overcast about seven o'clock and a few showers fell. The weather during the month was of the finest character—frosty at night, and genial and warm during the day. The land has been in an excellent condition for farmers, and seldom has it worked so well at such an early period of the year. Potatoes this spring are very dear in Weardale, being sold at 10d and 11d per stone.

Presentation to an Ex-Police Sergeant at St. John's Chapel.—On Saturday evening, in the Town Hall, at St. John's, ex-Sergeant William Hardcastle, of South Stockton and West Hartlepool, was the recipient of a handsome testimonial on his retirement from the Durham County Force.—The chairman (Rev R. Shepperd, vicar), said that they had met to give, not only a substantial souvenir of esteem, but also a public recognition to Mr Hardcastle.—Dr Hewitson said Mr Hardcastle was, from his observations in several ways, well worthy of this token of their respect—(cheers)—which would not only be an heirloom, but an incentive to his successor. (Hear hear). He then handed over to Mr Hardcastle the handsome silver tea service for his wife, and a purse of gold for himself.—Mr Hardcastle said he was very much obliged for that unmerited token of their regard for himself and wife. To the gentlemen who had taken the trouble to raise the funds, he tendered his sincere thanks.—At the request of the committee, the Vicar, in a pleasant speech of scriptural purport, presented Mr Hardcastle with a Bible, prayer and hymn book for his little daughter, for whom the ex-officer suitably responded. The tea service bore the following inscription, and was supplied by Mr J. Bee, St. John's:—"Presented to Mr and Mrs Wm. Hardcastle, with a purse of gold, &c., as a token of public esteem on leaving Weardale, in retirement from the Durham County Constabulary, February 28th, 1891."—Votes of thanks closed the proceedings.

STANHOPE.

Ladies' Sewing Meeting Tea.—A ladies' sewing meeting tea was held in the Bank Room, Stanhope, on Saturday evening, in aid of the High Street Evangelical Mission. Miss Bulmer gave the tea. Mr Tom Moore, of Eastgate, and Mr George Peart, and Mr Joseph Temple, of Byers Green, took part in the entertainment in connection with it. Miss Tweddle prepared the tea, which reflected upon her the highest credit. The proceeds realised about £4.

Sudden Death.—A very sudden death occurred at Stanhope on Saturday morning, that of Miss Bessie Urwin, daughter of Mrs Urwin, of the Grey Bull Inn, West End, Stanhope. Deceased took very ill just after getting up on Saturday morning, and presented alarming symptoms. Medical aid was sought at once, but she died almost before it could be procured, from, it is supposed, heart disease.

MARLEY HILL.

Wesleyan Chapel.—A concert was given in the above place of worship at Marley Hill, by the Fellside Wesleyan Choir, on Saturday night It was extremely interesting to hear the young folk give their first concert before a public audience. There was a fair company, and the young people did everything in their power to make the concert a success. The chair was occupied by Mr Storey, of Marley Hill, who gave a very interesting, but short address.

CRAGHEAD.

Temperance Work.—On Saturday evening, the usual temperance social gathering was held in the Hedley Memorial School, Craghead. Before 7·30 about a hundred young people had assembled. Mr Tingle, of Annfield Plain, kindly consented to take the chair in the unavoidable absence of the president, and he made a good "Master of the Ceremonies." The meeting was opened as usual by the singing of hymns from Sankey's collection, prayer, and a short temperance address by the chairman, after which an excellent programme was rendered, which we regret we cannot insert for want of space.

MEDOMSLEY.

Home and Foreign Missions.—On Saturday evening, a meeting was held in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Medomsley. Mr Thomas Simpson, of High Bradley Farm, occupied the chair, and in a homely way introduced the evening programme. Mr F. Davison and Mr P. Graham, were the vocalists of the evening, and rendered valuable service by giving selections of sacred music on the violins accompained on the harmonium by Mr J. P. Bowman. Miss Parker, of Leadgate, gave a recitation with much pathos and effect. Mr Westhorpe, of Leadgate, addressed the meeting, and Mr Nicholls, of Shotley Bridge, was quite at home in his recitations, entitled "Adam and Mary," and "What's the News." The meeting closed by the usual votes of thanks.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday evening, the chairman (Mr Wm. Atkinson) presiding. There were also present: Messrs Ridley, Teasdale, Rowe, Wherly, and Emerson.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr W. Garraway) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Tow Law Local Board.

Gentlemen,—I submit the following report for the month ending February 28th, 1891. The defective drainage from pig styes in St. Albion Street will be reported on by your special inspection committee. Frequent complaints are made by the tenants of Scott's Houses with reference to the overflow from the cellar well becoming stagnant, thus causing an offensive smell, there being insufficient outlet, or the drain being stopped up. The open channel behind the top block of High Street East requires an additional trap, as slops appear to be deposited at night time in the said channel, flowing across the flags in Bridge Street, which is complained of by the tenants. Notice has been served on the agent of the Bishop Auckland Building Society to renew the cellar door on the flags at Wolsingham Road, which was in a very dangerous condition, and has been attended to. A new gully-trap has been inserted behind Thos. Morrell's property occupied by Alex. Beal, after notice had been served. The cleaning out of ashpits and privies during the month has been well attended to, 16 notices having been served relating to the same; but the accumulation of cow manure seems to be on the increase in many parts of the Board's district, and defective drainage from byres. The defective sewer outlet from six houses at Thornley Lane Ends is by the old shaft, there being an easy access by diverting the branch drain into Local Board's sewer.—Yours, &c.,

W. Garraway.

Tow Law, March 3rd, 1891.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The Surveyor (Mr Hillary) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Tow Law Local Board.

Gentlemen,—During the month, the cesspools at Park Terrace and South Bridge Street have been cleaned out, and on Februhry 19th all the sewers were flushed. The sewers at North Bridge Street and West Dan's Castle are nearly full, and I think will have to be opened and cleaned out shortly. The alteration to the sewer at Dan's Castle is progressing very favourably. The old gas retort house has been taken down, but the back wall next the old purifying house is in such a state that I should be glad if you would inspect the place, and instruct me how to proceed further. The wall between the National Schools playground and the cemetery has fallen in one place. Is it our duty to re-build it? I present a new plan of Mr T. Charlton's slaughter-house. W. McMin, of Inkermann, has put up wooden erections but ten yards from the crown of your road, and seems unwilling to remove them without some higher authority than my order. I have been asked whether potters and others ought to sell their wares on the side of your main road, *i.e.*, beside Cattle Mart Inn, without leave or paying. Now that the naming of streets is under your consideration, had not Wesley Street better be called Station Street, as this is the name it has become best known by? This is the time for advertising the re-letting of your team labour for the ensuing year, and I should be glad to make a suggestion or two that might prevent future inconvenience. I have deposited during the month with your treasurer for residuals £15 6s; burial fees, £3; and general district rate, £15 6s 4d, making a total of £271 18s 7d for this rate, and leaving £4 2s 7d arrears, one case especially needing attention.

Monthly Wages Bill.

	£	s.	d.
Sewers flushing	0	7	0
Gasworks: Wages	10	4	6
Public lighting: Wages	1	6	3
Establishment: Wages	0	8	0
Cemetery	3	1	10
Manual labour: Main roads	2	13	8
Other roads	0	15	4
Flagging	2	7	6
Team labour: Main roads	1	8	6
Other roads	0	14	0
	£23	6	6

Leaving £3 1s 11d due to me.
I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
John Hillary.

Tow Law, March 3rd, 1891.

A PAYBILL.

The Clerk presented a paybill for £180 18s 9d, and the same was unanimously passed.

PLAN.

Mr Charlton presented a new plan of his alterations at Dan's Castle, and the same was passed, subject to a certain improvement to be pointed out by the Surveyor.

A COMPLAINT.

The Surveyor having reported a complaint against persons using the piece of ground near the Mart Inn as a place for exposing and selling their wares, the Board authorised the Surveyor to levy and collect fees for the same ranging from 1s to 3s each, according to the size of the space occupied.

ARREARS OF RATES.

A person in arrears with two general district rates was reported, and the Board ordered the usual 14 days' notice, and in default of payment, legal proceedings be taken.

STREET NAME PLATES.

The Chairman and Clerk reported that, in accordance with the resolution at the last Board meeting, they had inspected the streets, and submitted a list of streets which required either additional or new name plates, and the Board decided to purchase the number suggested in the report.

FINGER-POST.

The Board also decided to put finger-posts on the lamp-post at the corner of Wear Street.

SUNDAY LETTER DELIVERY.

A complaint was tendered respecting the inconvenience experienced in the delivery and despatch of the letters on Sundays and the delivery of letters on week days, and the Board unanimously decided that the Clerk should write to the Post-master-General asking that the hour for delivery on Sunday should be from 12 to 12·30, and the hour for closing the despatch-box should be three o'clock in the afternoon, the week-day delivery to be earlier than at present.

MENDING OF A ROAD.

The Surveyor was ordered to put some limestone on the road at the ironworks bridge when the weather is suitable.

DATE OF THE ELECTION.

The Chairman fixed the following dates for the ensuing election, if contested:—

Notice of election	9th March
Last day for nomination	25th ,,
Fill up voting papers	31st ,,
Distribute voting papers	2nd April
Collect voting papers	7th ,,
Count voting papers	8th ,,

The retiring members are Dr Wild, Mr L. P. Wherly, and the third seat is vacant by the death of the late chairman, Mr J. Ridley.

SPECIAL INSPECTION MEETING.

The Board decided to hold a special inspection meeting on Wednesday, 18th inst., at three o'clock, the principal business being:—The pig-styes in front of St. Alban's Street; ashpit behind the Black Horse Inn; old purifying house; cemetery wall; and the question of a footpath through the cattle dock to the railway station for the convenience of persons living in the direction of Dan's Castle.

TENDERS.

The Board decided to ask for tenders for carting road stone for the year.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS.

The following table shows the attendances of the members at 20 meetings held during the past year:—

W. Atkinson (chairman)	19
W. R. Teasdale	20
A. W. Emerson	17
Coniah Rowe	17
L. P. Wherly	16
Wm. Ridley	13
J. W. Laverick	8
Dr Wild	8

The Board then adjourned.

NOTES FROM CASTLESIDE.

[By "Castlesideite."]

Mr John Walker, of Rowley, has a hen which brought out a hatching of eight chickens, on February 28th

A very pleasent evening was spent at Rowley Baptist Chapel, on Saturday night. An entertainment of a pleasing character was given, after which an excellent supper was given by Mrs J. W. Golightly, when the most of those present partook of the good things provided. The supper realised the sum of £4 10s.

The annual missionary meeting was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Allansford, on Saturday night, and was addressed by Rev T. Buttrick (deputation), Sunderland, and T. J. Watson, Consett.

The special services conducted by Miss Hogg in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, are fairly well attended. On Sunday night, the chapel was crowded. Mr J. Pattinson preached his trial sermon on Sunday afternoon, Revs T. J. Watson being present.

I am sorry to learn that some one with little reverance for departed friends has been visiting the graveyard, and with ruthless hands has destroyed the first globe that was placed in the yard some years ago by Mr J. Poole, Consett. Mr Poole has taken great interest in keeping the graves of his friends in order, and, consequently, feels very keenly the damage done to that which has cost him both care and expense. I think the committee's attention ought to be called to the wanton distruction, and steps taken to prevent further damage. Other globes have been broken previous to this one named.

The terrific gale which visited us last week has done a lot of damage to house property in the village. A little girl named Smith, daughter of Mr J. Smith, Rowley, on Wednesday afternoon, was caught by a gust of wind and thrown to the ground, and she received a severe cut on the head.

Miss D. Wailes, of Consett, referred to in last week's notes, was married on Monday, to Mr W. M. Collin, in the Wesleyan Chapel, Consett, by Rev J. H. Taylor. Mr Collin being a native of Blanchland, and for some years a teacher in the Deaf and Dumb School, Moor Edge, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[By "Stanhope."]

The Frosterley Church folks are a go-ahead lot. Whatever they take in hands they invariably do it well. The supper and entertainment, given by Messrs J. Pickering and T. Wilson, in aid of the church fund was a thorough success. They raised the handsome sum of fifteen guineas, since swollen to £16. The popularity of these two gentlemen is guaranteed. They provided the supper, but the public gave voluntarily and freely, and the Frosterley Chuch people have set all the others in the dale an example worthy of imitation.

The entertainment in connection with the supper was also a grand success, both as regards numbers present, and the high class performance of the artistes, who were principally local. The large school-room was crowded. The fact that Mr Thompson, of Shittlehope Burn, was to be present to sing in his own peculiar, quaint, but popular style, was sure to draw a good house. Few humorous singers in Weardale can vie with him in pleasing an audience. There were also others present who were well up in the mystic art of pleasing the public taste. In fact, there was a brilliant array of talent present.

There have been some excellent sewing teas at Frosterley. The Primities have had several which have realised £10 and over, but the Church people have beat them hollow, and now head the list in point of having a successful gathering, both financially, numerically, enjoyment and fun. Much of the success of the gathering may be attributed to the popularity of the vicar, Rev F. C. Jagg, and co-workers—Miss Jagg, Miss Ridley, and Miss Pickering, as well as the popularity of the generous donors, Messrs Pickering and Wilson.

The sewing meeting teas in connection with the Stanhope Evangelical Mission so far have succeeded well. Six teas have realised about £30, which, for a mere handful of members, is considered very good. Certainly, the public have come forward nobly and well. Half of the teas have been given by non-members, and now a number of young quarrymen have come forward and offered to give one. Evidently the public are in sympathy with the mission and its object—the reclamation of the moral wastes of society.

A finer February than the one just closed is not on record. The oldest inhabitants cannot remember such a one. The predictions of some prominent weather prophets have been falsified. No living man can foretell the weather with any degree of accuracy a week ahead. In their attempts many flounder amid the jeers of the sceptical public. Josh Billing's advice to prophets applies with force to weather prophets—"Don't prophecy unless you know."

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

Langley Park Rovers v Leadgate Exiles.—These teams will meet at Leadgate to-morrow (Saturday), when a good game is looked forward to. The following team will represent the Rovers:—Goal, T. Newton; backs, R. Rutter and G. Foster; half-backs, J. Pickering, J. Agar, and E. Shorten; forwards, C. Jackson, T. Dixon, H. Monsey, Jos. Vickers, and J. Gott.

Leadgate Park v Cornforth Church Institute.—These well-known teams will meet to-morrow (Saturday), at Cornforth, when the Park will do their utmost to repeat their previous victory. The Park will be represented by the following team:—Goal, G. Beadling; backs, E. R. Walker and Wm. Foreman; half-backs, C. Burnhope, J. Wilson, and J. Haggerstone (3); forwards, J. Robson and G. Walton, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; J. Hunter (capt.) and H. Wattsford, left wing. Umpire, Mr F. Jackson.

Leadgate Park Reserve v Newcastle Olympic.—This match will be played on the Park ground to-morrow (Saturday), when the following will represent the Park:—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, T. Cairns and A. Graham; half-backs, T. Kennedy, G. Brown, and T. Reed; forwards, J. Todd and J. Cruddas, right wing; J. Haggerstone, centre; J. Day and J. Brown, left wing. Umpire, Mr Wm. Johns.

Medomsley v Tantobie.—These teams will meet on the Medomsley ground to-morrow (Saturday), when the home team will be selected from the following:—A. Little, W. Mansell, M. Charlton, R. Abbott, G. Moon, J. Balfour, R. Cant, J. E. Taylor, R. Campbell, W. Cant, A. Hedley, and J. Veitch. Kick-off at 3·15.

Medomsley v Durham University.—On Friday next the return game between these clubs will be played on the Medomsley ground. The University have a splendid team, being assisted by the brothers Owen (3), two of whom are Welsh Internationals, the brothers Turner (2), of Lincoln County, R. Bousfield, of Durham County; Challen, a brother of the well-known International and Corinthian, and A. Tuson, the crack back of the Dipton Wanderers. Medomsley will select their team from the names given above. Kick-off at 4·15.

Consett Albion v Bishop Auckland Forge Rovers.—The Albion journey to Bishop Auckland to-morrow (Saturday) by the 12·20 train from Blackhill station, with the following team:—Goal, J. Carruthers; backs, W. Bell and T. Skelton (capt.); half-backs, A. Eustace, A. Bell, and C. Ternent; forwards, T. Dunn and W. Atkinson, right wing; T. Watson, centre; R. Harkness and M. Eustace, left wing.

Cornsay Rovers v Dipton Wanderers.—These teams will play their first fixture at Dipton to-morrow (Saturday), when the Rovers will put forth every effort to give their redoubtable opponents a good game. The following will compose the Cornsay team:—Goal, J. McDermott; backs, M. Morrallee and W. Morrallee; half-backs, F. Spours (capt.), J. Raw, and E. Austin; forwards, G. Simpson and T. Kidd, left wing; J. Austin, centre; W. Hendy and J. McGowan, right wing. Reserve, M. Raw. Umpire, Mr H. McGowan.

Owing to great pressure of local news, and the fact that the reports were late in coming to hand, we are obliged to condense interesting accounts of the undermentioned games:—

Consett Cogging Mill Rovers v Newcastle Nursery.—Played at Benfieldside. The Rovers showed much the best form, winning by two goals to nil.

Medomsley v Durham University.—Played at Durham, a good game resulting in a draw of one goal each.

Football.

** Secretaries of football clubs would greatly oblige us by despatching their reports so that they may reach our office not later than *Wednesday* morning.

ASSOCIATION.

Tow Law Blues v Cornsay Wanderers.—Played at Tow Law, the home team winning by three goals to one.

Byer Moor Reserve v Ebchester Swifts Reserve.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by two goals to one.

Streetgate Rising Star Juniors v High Row Juniors.—Played on the ground of the latter, and resulted in a victory for the visitors by three goals to one.

High Row Strangers v Causey True Blues.—Played on the ground of the former, the home team winning by one goal to nil.

Hedley Hill Fell Harriers 2nd v Parkwood Rovers 2nd.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a win for the home team by two goals to one.

Hedley Hill Fell Harriers v Parkwood Rovers—Played on the ground of the former, in two thirties, and after a one-sided game resulted in a win for the Harriers by four goals to nil.

Castleside Rovers v Consett Bachelors.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the Rovers by three goals to none. J. Cody kept goal well for the visitors.

Dipton Rockets v Dipton White Stars.—Played on the ground of the former, and after a very pleasant game resulted in a win for the Rockets by two goals to one.

Hobson Scratch v Hobson Rangers.—Played on the ground of the latter, and after a good game ended in a victory for the scratch team by three goals to two.

Kepier School (Houghton) v St. Oswald's College (Tynemouth).—This return match was played at Tynemouth, the visitors being victorious by three goals to nil.

Pelton Fell Harriers Juniors v Chester-le-Street Excelsiors.—Played at Chester-le-Street in windy weather, and after a well-contested game resulted in a victory for the Juniors by three goals to one.

West Stanley Temperance v Newbottle Wanderers.—Played on the Newbottle ground. After a pleasant and well-contested game the score stood:—Stanley Temperance, one goal; Newbottle Wanderers, one goal.

Medomsley Church Choir v Shotley Bridge Rovers.—Played on the latter's ground at Shotley Spa, and resulted in a victory for the Rovers, after an exciting and well-contested game. Score:—Shotley Bridge, three goals; Medomsley, one goal.

Cornsay Rovers v Burnhope Warriors.—Played on the ground of the former in two thirties. Cornsay had the best of the game throughout, and were very unlucky in not scoring more often. When time was called the result was as follows:—Cornsay, one goal; Burnhope, nil. The Rovers were represented by the following team:—Goal, J. McDermott; backs, M. Morallee and J. Austin; half-backs, A. Hendy, E. Austin, and F. Spours (capt.); forwards, W. Hendy and J. McGowan, right wing; J. Austin, centre; G. Simpson and T. Kidd, left wing. Umpire, Mr H. McGowan.

Stanley Young Temperance v Stanley Young Wanderers.—This game was played on the ground of the former, in windy weather. The visitors won the toss, and played with the wind. In the first half neither side scored. After the kick-off in the second half the visitors pressed, but were beaten back, and then the home team got a nice run and scored No. 1. Not long after they pressed again, and scored again. Nothing further resulted, and the final score was:—Young Temperance, two goals; Young Wanderers, nil.

Blackhill Park v Blackhill Violets.—Played on the Park ground, and resulted in a victory for the home team by five goals to two. Hobday, Murray, Smith, and Thompson showed the best form for the visitors, while all the winners played well, especially H. Tindle, who defended his goal capitally. Teams:—Park—Goal, H. Tindle; backs, F. Kempster and J. Brown; half-backs, J. Fiddess, E. Tindle, and J. Maughan; forwards, T. Robinson, W. Leybourne, A. Atkinson, J. Butler, and W. Newbould. Violets—Goal, J. Brannigan; backs, G. Robson and T. Sheldon; half-backs, J. Price, G. Bell, and O. Murray; forwards, W. Smith, R. Mackenzie, H. Hobday, G. Thompson, and T. Lumley.

Flint Hill Albion v Tantobie Royal Stars.—Played at Flint Hill in two thirties. The home team won the toss, and elected to play with the wind in their favour. Ramsey scored the first goal for the home team in about ten minutes from the start, and soon after the same player added another goal for the Albion. This put the visitors on their mettle, and their right wing had a good run up, but shot too high. The Albion still pressed, and with a fast shot from Wells succeeded in scoring No. 3. The home team added another goal to their score in the first half. In the second half the game was more evenly contested, Pace saving in grand style for the Albion. About five minutes from time Dawson scored a grand goal for the Stars, and when the whistle blew the scores read as under—

Albion ....Four goals
Stars ....One goal

The following team represented the Albion:—Goal, C. Pace; backs, T. Johnson and R. Ramsey; half-backs, J. Ramsey, C. Lynch, and A. Morris; forwards, W. Wells, J. Grix, W. Johnson, T. Reynoldson, and R. Wilson.

Tow Law v St. Helen's Rovers (Auckland).—Tow Law journeyed to St. Helen's to try conclusions with the Rovers of that ilk. The Rovers had previously this season beaten some good teams, and as the visitors had to play substitutes in place of Potts and Watson, who were both indisposed, the result was booked a very open thing. Play commenced by the home team kicking off with the wind in their favour. They were immediately dispossessed, and the ball was at once taken down the field, and Graham scored with a splendid shot about thirty seconds from the start. This early reverse seemed to surprise the natives, and they played up for the next few minutes with great determination, but could make no impression on the Tow Law defence. The visitors then assumed the aggressive, and playing a nice combined game, added two more points before half-time, when the score stood—

Tow Law ....Three goals
Rovers ....Nil

Changing ends, the game was little better than a farce. The Tow Law forwards simply played with their opponents, and scored other three goals in the easiest possible manner. No further scoring took place, and the game ended as under—

Tow Law ....Six goals
Rovers ....Nil

Leadgate Park v Gateshead Town.—Played on the Park ground in two thirty-fives. Gateshead won the toss, and elected to play with the wind in their favour. Some fast play was shown by both sides, and Hunter did a lot of useful work in goal. Half-time arrived without either side scoring. After the interval, the Park began to press, and C. Foreman scored the first goal. This wakened the visitors up, and Hunter had to handle. The home forwards made a run down, and A. Burnhope scored No. 2 from a pass by Robson. After this a lot of give-and-take play took place, and Cairns making one of his characteristic kicks, landed the ball into the goal-mouth, and A. Burnhope taking charge of the goalkeeper, the ball went through. No further scoring took place, and a pleasant game ended as below—

Park ....Three goals
Gateshead ....Nil

The Park team was as follows:—Goal, J. Hunter; backs, T. Cairns and Wm. Foreman; half-backs, C. Burnhope, J. Wilson, and J. Haggerstone (3); forwards, J. Robson and Geo. Walton, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; H. Wattsford and C. Foreman, left wing. Umpire, Mr F. Jackson. Referee, Mr Wm. Brears, Leadgate.

Leadgate Exiles v Jarrow St. Bede's.—Played at Jarrow. The "Saints" won the toss, and elected to play down the hill. W. Costello kicked off in the presence of about three hundred spectators. The Exiles at once became very busy, and swarmed round the home goal, but some capital shots were ably dealt with. The home team then paid a visit to the other end, but McGee was on the alert, and transferred play to midfield. The forwards got possession, and coming up with a rush, shot into goal, and Callaghan banged the ball and goalkeeper through in grand style. From the kick-off play was very even for a time, but the Exiles again forced the play, and a scrimmage in front of goal ended in the ball being shot through. Off-side was claimed, and what seemed to be a legitimate goal was disallowed, greatly to the surprise of the visitors. The home team now warmed up, and did all they knew to equalise, but the defence was too good. The Exiles again carried the leather up the field, and the "Saints" goal was again captured. Half-time arrived soon after, with the score standing as follows—

Exiles ....Two goals
Jarrow ....Nil

The home team commenced the second half with great vigour, and kept the visitors' backs in plenty of work; but they were all equal to the occasion, and forced their opponents into their own quarters. The home goal was several times in jeopardy, but no further scoring took place, and a very pleasant game ended as under—

Exiles ....Two goals
Jarrow ....Nil

MR W. KNAGGS'S JUNIOR COMPETITION.

The semi-finals of the above competition, which has aroused much enthusiasm amongst the juniors, were brought off at Blackhill before a large number of spectators. Results appended: Blackhill Park beat Consett Albion by two goals to one; Blackhill St. Mary's beat Consett Swifts by four goals to nil. The final tie will be played at Consett on Saturday, March 14th.

RUGBY.

Benfieldside Rovers v Blaydon Juniors.—Played at Blaydon, and resulted in a victory for the Rovers. J. Seed kicked two splendid goals for the winners. Score:—Benfieldside, two goals and five minors; Blaydon, two tries.

THE DURHAM CUP.

First Round.

Houghton-le-Spring v Consett.—Played on the ground of the former before a very large attendance. The visitors were represented by what was practically a second team. Consett kicked off with a strong wind blowing against them. Bassett got the ball from the kick out, and succeeded in making a fine run in. Clark succeeded with the place kick. Immediately after re-starting Gregory received the ball from a neat pass by Hugill, and managed to get over the line. Clark, however, failed to convert. The Consett men were not playing well together, and their defence was not up to their usual form, for during the first half they were scarcely ever able to save any organised attempt at their goal line by the home team. Gowland got the ball from a throw out, which occurred just after the kick out from half-way, and got nicely over amidst loud applause. Clark took the place kick from a difficult angle, but failed. The home team still pressed, but they kicked too hard, and had they passed a little more would have scored major points when minors were only added. Hugill, one of the home three-quarters, made one or two nice runs, and he and W. Johnson showed some fine play. On changing ends after half-time, the Consett men seemed determined to take advantage of the wind, and played very strongly. The two Stubbs obtained a try between them, but Anderson failed with the goal kick, and this was the only point they got, for even against the wind the Houghton men obtained three tries, two of which were secured after brilliant runs by N. Smith. Final score—

Houghton.........2 goals, 6 tries, 8 minors
Consett........................1 try, 1 minor

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[By "Off-side."]

THE EXILES BEAT THE "SAINTS."

Leadgate Exiles paid their first visit to Jarrow on Saturday last to bring off their return fixture with the St. Bede's club of that name. The latter played the Exiles at Leadgate on New Year's Day, and were only defeated by a goal, consequently they fully expected to turn the tables on their own ground; but the Exiles had always a little the best of the play on Saturday, and gained a meritorious victory by two goals to nil. The winners all showed good form. The back division played splendidly, especially McGee and Thompson, the latter having never been seen to better advantage. T. McGraham took Callaghan's place in goal, and is likely to become a fixture in the first team. Callaghan and Monaghan figured on the right wing, and could the latter's position be filled up at half-back, he would make a capital forward. I am very glad to see J. McGee coming back to his old form, and could he be induced to take a little more practice, he would make one of the best forwards in the district. Hewitson played a very good game at half-back.

—o—

TOW LAW AMUSE THEMSELVES.

I have some amusing particulars to hand respecting the match between Tow Law and St. Helen's Rovers, which was played on the latter's ground on Saturday. Playing against the wind in the first half, Tow Law worked in earnest, and scored three goals, which were the result of good combined play. Crossing over, the visitors' team underwent a thorough change. Ward (centre half) went into goal, Keogan (centre forward) took centre half, and Hildreth (goal) acted as centre forward. Ward, finding that his office was a sinecure, put his coat on and went and played cards with some of the spectators in the hedge-side. Temperley and Wilson, the full backs, laid down on the field, and after a few minutes Temperley was found to be asleep. Oh! what a burlesque! During this performance the forwards and halves were hammering away at the home goal, but the wind nullified their efforts to a great extent. As it was, they scored other three goals, and finally ran out the easiest of winners by six goals to nil. Tow Law have a hard battle in prospect to-morrow (Saturday), when they meet Darlington St. Hilda's, who last week defeated West Hartlepool N.E.R. at Hartlepool. Stick in, Tow Law, and do your best.

—o—

A REPLY TO LANGLEY PARK.

With respect to the complaint preferred against the League of the Cross last week, the latter's secretary addresses the following letter to Mr Agar (hon. sec. Langley Park Rovers):—

Sir,—In reply to your letter of Feb. 27th, I wish to draw your attention to facts, not fabrications. Firstly—With respect to Nov. 22nd, you say you had no fixture with us for this date. We have a fixture-card, and we have a fixture for that date with your club; and what's more, we have a post-card dated Nov. 18th, received from William Shorten, cancelling the match for Nov. 22nd, as you say you had a fixture with Tanfield Lea for the date mentioned. Secondly—You refer to the match played on Sept. 6th, when you inquired for the secretary, and he could not be found. It so occurred that the member you asked was your humble servant, and as to your vacant dates, I handed you my pocket-book, and you wrote the following dates:—Oct. 11th and 18th, Dec. 25th, Feb. 7th. Now, you say you wrote to the secretary, and he had not principle enough to reply. I say he did reply, and told you where we had to journey to on that date, which the fixture-card will prove. The sharp note you sent was received all right. I did not faint at the sight of it, but was amused; and as for such business being published to all impartial readers, they, having read both sides, will soon be able to form an opinion of your mode of doing business. Now, to be plain, and come to a close with this reply, will you show principle enough to arrange to meet the sporting editor of the *Consett Guardian* at the office of this paper, and show all correspondence and fixture-cards, and let the editor decide who is to blame? Hoping you will fix a date to suit the editor—I am, yours respectfully,

Thomas Kane,
Secretary Consett League A.F.C.

—o—

"OFF-SIDE" PULVERISED.

I submit the following letter to my readers with fear and trembling:—

Sir,—In your report of the Exiles v Wanderers' match, in last week's *Guardian*, you state that one of the Wanderers' full backs fisted a ball out of the goal-mouth. As this statement is a pure falsehood, may I ask you to be honest enough to withdraw it? During the whole of this season we have repeatedly suffered injustice at your hands, and only ask now that you should confine yourself to truth, or otherwise leave us alone, as we have found that those who make most mischief in football circles are those who know least about the game.—Yours, &c.,

Half-Back.

[After the above severe castigation, I scarcely have enough temerity to write another line. However, such an unfair and utterly uncalled-for attack must not be allowed to pass unchallenged. With respect to the first part of "Half-back's" epistle, I may state that the incident referred to in my notes was supplied me by a gentleman who witnessed the game. He also mentioned the name of the Dipton player whom he alleged to be guilty of the unsportsmanlike conduct in question, but I refrained from publishing it. I have forwarded "Half-back's" letter to my informant, and doubtless he will have something to say on the subject in our next issue. Concerning the latter portion of the above communication, I most emphatically and distinctly deny that I have ever been guilty of the least injustice to the Wanderers. Why should I? Most of the reports of the Wanderers' matches—and in some cases the notes also—have been furnished me by the late secretary of the Dipton club, and consequently, to follow out "Half-back's" reasoning, Mr A. Tuson will be surprised to learn that he has been guilty of injustice to his own club. I should also like to ask "Half-back" who gave him the authority to crow so loudly on behalf of the whole of the Wanderers? The latter have in Mr H. Maude, their hon. sec., a gentleman who is quite as able and equally as willing as "Half-back" to defend the good name of his club, when required; and I trust "Half-back" will pardon me when I say that it would have shown better taste (to put it mildly) on his part—or on the part of those who inspired him—if he had allowed the proper club official to move in this matter. My endeavour has always been to impartially comment on each club's doings, and I leave it to my readers to judge between "Half-back" and myself, being quite content to abide by their verdict. In conclusion, I may remark that I have always had, and have still, a great admiration for the Dipton club; and notwithstanding "Half-back's" ill-mannered and ill-natured attack, I hope to have the pleasure of chronicling and commenting on many future victories for the Wanderers].

—o—

MEDOMSLEY SHOW GOOD FORM.

Medomsley encountered Durham University on Saturday at Durham, and surprised the 'Varsity by the excellent game they played. The match, which was fast and exciting throughout, ended in a draw of one goal each. The home team are a splendid lot, especially in the back division. Owen is one of the best backs who ever kicked a ball. Of the halves, the Owens (2) were the pick, although Tuson played a good game, but he shows to greater advantage at full back. Turner and Challen were the best of the forwards, their overhead kicks, which they frequently indulged in, often surprising the visitors.

—o—

Coming to the local team, Little in goal played a splendid game, often clearing with three or four of the opposing forwards on him. Mansell and Charlton played better than they have ever yet done. Charlton seems to be coming back to his old form, and his team should go up higher in the Junior Cup competition. Of the halves, only Balfour played up to form, and he clearly showed what an acquisition he is to the Medomsley club. R. Cant was indisposed, and ought not to have played. Campbell and Taylor were the best of the forwards, but all did well. Hedley and Veitch played capitally to each other, but they shot badly. W. Cant in the centre passed and tackled well, but might feed the left wing a little more, seeing that Taylor looks so well after his partner.

—o—

A CHANCE FOR THE RESERVES.

I am pleased to see that Mr W. Knaggs, of Front Street, Consett, is promoting a competition for reserve teams, 2nd teams, and those who have not taken part in a 1st team competition. The prizes offered are 11 beautiful silver medals, and as I have had an opportunity of viewing them, I am in a position to state that they are well worth winning. They have been supplied by Messrs Marshall and Sons, of this town. This competition should produce a large entry and good sport, as the conditions appear to me to be just the thing to suit a number of our local teams. The tournament is fixed to take place on Good Friday, Easter Monday, and Easter Tuesday. I trust that Mr Knaggs will receive that measure of support from our second-rate clubs which his enterprise warrants. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

—o—

A CORRECTION.

Dear Sir,—Allow me, through the columns of your valuable paper, to make a contradiction in reference to the match between Consett White Stars and Quebec St. Michael's 1st. The "Saints" reported it as a win for them by one goal to nothing; but the real score was a draw of one goal each.—Yours, &c.,

John McGuckin.

—o—

MATCHES WANTED.

Hobson Rovers (A) wants matches for the remainder of the season. Ages, from 15 to 17. The Rovers B team also want matches. Ages, 12 to 14. Apply to Jos. Maddison, 56, Front Street, Hobson, Lintz Green.

—o—

Owing to severe pressure on our columns, I am reluctantly compelled to hold over two or three letters till next week.

Cricket.

Craghead Cricket Club 2nd eleven wish to arrange matches with any other second teams for the ensuing season. Chas. Pomeroy, jun., secretary, 17, George Street, Craghead.

Craghead Tonic Solfa Cricket Club would like to arrange matches with moderate second teams; ages 15 to 18. Address, Martin Dodds, Craghead Colliery.

The Beamish True Blue Cricket Club would like to arrange matches with any junior club; ages from 14 to 17 years. Secretary, F. Kay, 18, Eden Place, Beamish.

Volunteer Intelligence.

4th B.V.L.I.—Beamish V. Company.—The annual meeting of V. Company shooting club was held on February 24th, when the following officers were elected:—President, Major Humble; vice-president, Lieu. C. Ritson; captain of the team, Sergt. T. Wrangham; secretary and treasurer, Corp. G. Lee; committee, Corp. J. Johnson, Corp. A. Kerr, Priv. W. Kay, Priv. Jackson, Priv. E. Wilson, and Sergt. Inspect. Yates. The report was read by Corp. Lee for the last year ending September 1890, which was very satisfactory. The club seems to be prospering every year as it continues. The financial affair are everything that could be expected, the funds amount to over £4, and 30 new members have been enrolled. He hoped that the club would have the same success that has attended it during the three years that it has been formed. All communications must be addressed to Corp. Geo. Lee, No 1, Kip Hill, Chester-le-Street, Durham.

Sporting Items.

Pigeon Flying at Cornsay.—The pigeon main from Appleby's Houses, distance two miles, to the respective dove-cots, at Cornsay, was successfully brought off on Saturday afternoon, for £5 with 3s entrance added to the sweep.—There were 23 entries, and the results are as follows:—Leadbitter's Morning Star, 2 minutes start, 2 mins. 6 secs., 1; Thompson's Sun-flower, 2 mins. 8 secs., 2; J. Clark's Red-light, 2 mins. 10 secs., 3. Mr J. Minto acted as referee and timekeeper.

Pigeon Flying at Quebec.—On Saturday afternoon, the pigeon flying handicap—a distance of two miles—from Appleby's White Houses to the dovecotes at Cornsay was brought off, before a very fair number of spectators. The sweep was for £5, with an addition of 5s entrance. Result:—Bell's Unlucky Bird, 2 mins. 46 secs., 1; Cloudy Sandy's Dragon, 2 mins. 49 secs., 2; Donnigan's High-flyer, 2 mins. 54 secs., 3. Mr Edward Donald was timekeeper and referee.

Rabbit Coursing at West Stanley.—On Saturday night, at the Stanley Hotel, £10 a-side was posted for W. Harrison's Pedlar to give Henry Bolam's Little John (late Tit Bits) six yards start in 21 courses, for £50, at Bill Quay, on March 14th, in the grounds close to Pelaw Main Station.—At the same house, £5 a-side was posted for a match between J. Naisbitt's Hammer Lane and J. Waugh's Ingomar, to run on the same day the best of 15 courses, for £40. Mr George Megginson is appointed stakeholder for both matches. The final desposits are to be posted one hour before the advertised time of running.

Cycling Notes.

Formation of a Cycling Club for Allendale Cottages and District.—A largely-attended meeting of cyclists in the Medomsley district was held at Mr R. M. Rutherford's Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley, on Tuesday evening, for the purpose of forming a cycling club. Mr Geo. Hunter, Medomsley, occupied the chair. After it been unanimously decided to form a club under the name of "Allendale Cottages and District Cycling Club," the following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President, Mr J. H. Morris (Medomsley); vice-presidents, Dr. Charles (Medomsley), Mr W. R. Cooke (Westwood), and Mr W. Morris (Medomsley); captain, Mr John Proud (Allendale Cottages); vice-captain, Mr Robt. Bell (Allendale Cottages); treasurer, Mr R. M. Rutherford (Medomsley); secretary, Mr John Geo. Rutherford, 133, Allendale Cottages, Lintz Green; buglers, Messrs Ralph Calvert and Thos. McDonald (Allendale Cottages); committee, Messrs A. Hume (Allendale Cottages), Wm. Bell (Derwent Cottages), T. Stoddart (Medomsley), W. Egglestone (Allendale Cottages), John Eccles (Medomsley), J. Wilkinson (Allendale Cottages), and J. Ross, jun. (Medomsley). The subscription was fixed at 2s 6d per annum, and about 30 members were enrolled. It was decided that the first run should take place on Good Friday, the venue selected being Durham, and the members will leave the headquarters (Royal Oak Hotel) at 9 o'clock a.m. The meeting was of a very enthusiastic character, and the club gives promise of becoming a great success. Any gentlemen wishing to join the club are requested to communicate with the secretary.

Mrs. S. A. Allen's World's Hair Restorer never fails to restore grey hair to its youthful colour. It acts directly upon the roots of the hair, invigorating them, cleanses the scalp, removing dandruff, rendering the hair soft, silky, and glossy, and disposing it to remain in any desired position. It has hosts of admirers, male and female, young and old. Sold by Chemists and Perfumers. 875

"Buchu-Paiba."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. Newbery and Sons, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London.

[NOW FIRST PUBLISHED.]

SLAVES OF FATE,

BY J. MONK FOSTER.

Author of "For Love of a Lancashire Lass or, Queen of the Factory,' "A Miner's Million," "A Pit Brow Lassie," "Passion's Aftermath," &c.

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PART IV.—The Mills of God.

CHAPTER I.—The Stone Seekers.

A virgin forest in the highlands of Brazil, through which a clear shallow river glided noiselessly on its way, almost hidden from the sunlight by the dense growth of vegetable life which springs from each bank of the stream, and which afforded shelter and sustenance to myriads of tropical animals.

What a scene of wild and extravagantly luxurious beauty that stretch of primeval woodland presented!

Trees of every height, shape, and colour reared their heads to the cloudless skies—slim-trunked symmetrical myrtles, gnarled and grotesquely distorted euphorbias, great cabbage palms and giant figs, towering laurusis and colossal bignonias: but most beautiful of all were the acacias, mimosas, and lasiandras, with their drooping stems and silken plumy crowns.

And every tree, dead or alive, was draped with indescribably beautiful epiphites, creepers, air-plants, and parasites, which bound the whole forest together with living ropes of green, studded with innumerable flowers, among which flocks of gaudily plumaged birds were darting hither and thither, each making its peculiar cry.

Here and there little rivulets cut a way for themselves through the soft soil, the gorgeous flowers, filmy ferns, and feathery mosses, and the trickle of the waters over their sandy and pebbly beds was pleasanter than music to the ear.

The spot just described lay near the foot of the Sa das Almas Mountains, and the stream was a small tributary of the Rio Pardo. The nearest native village was thirty miles distant, on the banks of the main stream; and yet in the midst of this primeval wilderness, so far removed even from Brazilian civilization, a couple of Englishmen and three natives were permanently located.

Who these Englishmen were and how they happened to be there the patient reader will learn presently. That some business of importance had brought them to the heart of that tropical forest and kept them there a month or more may be assumed.

There was a small natural clearing on the northern side of the stream, just where it bent suddenly in its course and ran in a direct southerly direction toward the Rio Pardo, and here a couple of tents stood, while not many yards away from the canvas habitations the five men who lived therein were all busily at work on the bank of the stream.

Three of the men—one English and two natives—appeared to be bent on deepening the water-way, for with the aid of a long rope and a rather primitive iron scoop they were dredging the shallow river, and had been so engaged for the past thirty or forty days.

But a careful observer would have at once noticed that the dredgers had a more important object in view than that of increasing the depth of the river, for every scoopful of sand and pebbles that was drawn out was immediately carried to and deposited in a large shallow trough where the other two men were at work washing and sifting the material dredged.

The learned reader will have already divined that the two Englishmen and their companions were in quest of diamonds. That was the fact. But who were these adventurous Britons who had thus buried themselves in the wilds of Western Brazil that they might rob the rivers of their precious store of gems?

That great-limbed and heavily-bearded fellow who directed the operations of the other two dredgers was George Chester, whom we last saw in the Church at Cressingham, and his chum, the other white man, who was washing and carefully examining the river gravel was a Cornishman, named Luke Trevannion.

How the two came to be friends and to wander so far afield may be told in a brief space.

After witnessing the marriage of Diana Fell and Sir Godfrey Sherstone, George had left the village and gone to Liverpool; and two days later he set sail for New York. But ere he quitted his native land he wrote a long letter to his old friend, Marcus Grantley, explaining the cause of his sudden departure, and asking him to take care of his unfortunate father for their friendship's sake.

When Chester arrived in America a fortnight later he was undecided as to what he should do and where he should go. He had rushed away from England in order to put the ocean between himself and the false, heartless woman who had ruined his life's best hopes; and on reaching New York with his misery still heavy upon his heart he lingered there for a while neither knowing nor caring where to turn his feet next.

In this mood he lingered on in the city, and his little fortune of a few pounds grew less day by day.

One evening he chanced to drop into one of those dancing and drinking saloons which are pretty common in the lower purlieus of the great American seaport, and there it was that fate threw him against the Cornishman, Luke Trevannion.

It was rather late at night when George entered the saloon, which was crowded with all sorts of nationalities—both men and women—and dancing and drinking were being most lavishly indulged in by the regular *habitues* of the place.

Dropping into a seat George ordered some refreshment, and as he sat watching the proceedings he became interested in a couple who, having just finished dancing, seated themselves at a table near and cooled their parched throats with ices and "cocktails."

The man was a tall slip of a young fellow, about twenty-seven; fair-faced as a woman, brown eyed and brown haired; his companion a remarkably beautiful brunette of the demi-monde class.

George soon noticed that another man was watching the couple besides himself. This was a dark-bearded foreign-looking man with sallow skin and brilliant black eyes, who, seated at the other side of the narrow room, regarded the late dancers with a most diabolical scowl.

Suddenly the latter individual left his seat, crossed the room, and seated himself beside the pretty girl and her companion. The next moment the two men were quarrelling; there was a volley of curses, the flash of a knife, and the foreigner was lying on his back with the weapon still clutched in his fingers.

George had knocked the man down just in time to avert a tragedy and save the fair-faced man's life. A minute after they were out of the den, and Luke Trevannion was thanking his countryman for his timely help and well directed blow.

After this little episode the two men went and had a drink together—under such circumstances they could not, as Englishmen, do less than toast each other.

Then it came out that Trevannion was on his way to one of the diamond diggings near Diamantina, where he had obtained an appointment, and that he was to set sail for Rio de Janeiro on the following afternoon. He had already spent a year or two in Western Brazil, among the diamond mines, but getting homesick had returned to Cornwall. Now he was eager to be amidst the Brazilians again.

Of course, Chester exchanged confidence for confidence, and when Trevannion learned that Chester was bound for nowhere in particular he insisted that they should go together to the city of diamonds. There was plenty of work to be had there by all who were willing to labour, and he would assure his friend of employment.

George had no objections to urge against this proposal. To him Brazil was as acceptable as any other portion of the great American Continent, and so he and his new friend journeyed first to Rio de Janeiro, and then to Diamantina together.

Soon after reaching their destination at the city perched high amidst the mountains, George, as Trevannion had predicted, obtained work at one of the diamond mines in the neighbourhood. The labour was not over arduous for a man of his strength and nature; the wages were such as to enable him to live fairly well, and so he settled down to his new life among strangers and in strange places.

This change was just the very thing that was required to cure Chester of his heart troubles and despondency. Planted for the first time in the midst of a people and country whose ways were entirely new to him, he was perforce lifted out of himself and his sorrows, and in a little while he had so far conquered the pain which had driven him from England that he could afford to smile at the past.

He found life among the Diamantists rather pleasant than otherwise. The women were most beautiful and coquettish, the men were courteous and hospitable; the scenery around was of the most magnificent and interesting kind; and, in addition to all this there was quite a small colony of his own countrymen living and working in the city.

And so month after month slipped away and George Chester and Luke Trevannion remained at Diamantina. That the former thought often of those he had left behind him in England passes without saying; still he had been months in Brazil before he put pen to paper.

When he did write it was to his old friend, Marcus Grantley—as there was absolutely no one else to whom he could send a line. But no reply ever came to his epistle. Whether or not it had reached its destination he could not tell.

In this way ever a year passed, and then came the change which resulted in George Chester and Luke Trevannion leaving the mines at the City of Diamonds, and betaking themselves to the Brazilian wilds, in which the reader saw them at the beginning of this chapter.

After a year spent in the diamond diggings, the life began to pall somewhat upon Chester, and he intimated to Trevannion that he was thinking of quitting Diamantina and proceeding to some other portion of the American Continent where it might be possible to better his position and increase his means.

This intimation caused Trevannion to observe that he also had a desire to make a fortune much more rapidly than was possible in Diamantina, and he suggested that they should leave the city together and go prospecting for diamonds on their own account in the neighbourhood of some of the mountain streams lying around them.

He added that the precious stones were known to exist throughout the whole province of Bahia, and that hundreds of the smaller tributaries of the great rivers had never been visited by diamond seekers. Chester jumped at the suggestion, and it was agreed, there and then, that they should act upon it with the least possible delay.

A month after this the two friends, each well armed and provisioned, rode out of Cidide Diamantina, and striking a northerly route along the western bank of the Rio Jequittinhonha, passed on the third day Sa Nornega, two days later Gras Mogor, next the head waters of the Rio Pardo, and then skirting the foot of the Sa das Almas range, were in the vicinity of the country they intended to prospect.

Coming upon the stream described at the commencement of this chapter, the prospectors made a halt, and resolved to try their luck. Accordingly they pitched their tent there, procured the help of three natives from the village already mentioned, constructed the rough dredging apparatus adverted to, and settled down to the work before them.

The position of the two adventurers was not by any means disagreeable. The climate was all they could desire; there was abundance of fresh water near at hand; the river was teeming with edible fish; in the woods about them there was plenty of wild duck and pigeon; from the Fazienda near the head of the Rio Pardo they could obtain farina—a rough kind of native bread—and all else they required in the shape of dry beef, or pork, sugar, spirits, tobacco, and tea.

During the four or five weeks they had been located here no great gems had been revealed in the pan. As Trevannion had had a much wider experience of diamond washing than Chester, he had been installed as "pannier," while Chester looked after the dredging.

But if no very valuable stones had been discovered as yet, the work had proved fairly remunerative, almost every haul of the rough scoop bringing up a few small diamonds, and this gave them hope that some day a splendid gem, which would mean a fortune for them both, might be revealed in the washing pan.

CHAPTER II.—Fortune Brings Foes.

Another month had slipped away, and still Chester and Trevannion remained on the bank of the river. It was evening, the day's work was just finishing; George had made his last cast for the day with the dredge, and its contents of glittering sand and pebbles had just been deposited upon the rough table near the trough; the natives had gone to their hut to prepare their evening meal, and the two Englishmen were standing beside the pan in which the diamondiferous stuff was washed.

"What luck to-day, Luke?" George Chester said to his chum as he leant carelessly against the table and fanned his sunburnt face with his broad hat.

"Have those fellows gone?" Trevannion asked, turning and glancing round somewhat apprehensively in the direction of the hut.

"They are getting supper ready, I suppose. But why do you ask, Luke?"

"It's come at last, George!" Trevannion cried in a low, intense way. "Didn't I tell you it would if we only had patience!"

"What's come?"

"Fortune—a fortune for both, I tell you, old fellow! What do you think of that? I've found a stone worth thousands. I can't show it you here. I've been half frightened to death for the last half-hour," Trevannion went on in the same intense tone, "because I fancied that that black fellow, Joaa, saw the stone flash in my hand. Come to the tent and I'll show you."

They strolled carelessly toward the tent as if nothing unusual had happened, looking in through the open doorway of the other hut as they passed.

When they were safely within their own canvas Trevannion drew forth the gem he had found and handed it to his mate for inspection.

A thrill of surprise and joy ran through Chester as he handled the precious stone. It was about the size of a robin's egg, of the most perfect water, with not a flaw in it. For a moment or two he turned the jewel over in silence, and the splendid stone sparkled and coruscated and sent forth flashes of light as if its heart was a mass of white flame.

Then with a deep drawn breath of excitement he handed it back to Trevannion, merely saying "What is it worth, Luke?"

"Thousands of pounds—perhaps ten—maybe twenty. I found it in the last panful. Others, too. See," and he handed forth half a handful of smaller stones.

"Joaa," Trevannion continued, "saw several of these, and I saw the cupidity they aroused in him. I tell you, old man, that if those fellows in the hut there only knew what we have found to-day they would murder us while asleep."

"Perhaps they do know, and may try it on to-night," George replied. "I wish we were safely out of this with what we have got."

"Nonsense, George. I don't mean to run away from a river of wealth like that one there seems likely to prove to us, eh?"

"Just as you think best, Luke," George responded. "But if those fellows there suspected this find; or if the Quilomberos"—black banditti of the woods—"get wind of our doings we may expect a row. Anyhow, whoever troubles us will get a warm reception."

"Rather," Trevannion answered with a smile. "And now for something to eat."

Another week or two slipped away and the two stone-seekers continued at their occupation. The finding of the great diamond had proved to be only the beginning of an era of good luck, for day after day gem after gem had been scooped up from the river sand, and Chester and Trevannion had now won for themselves a considerable fortune provided they were only able to turn into cash, at the ordinary market price, the diamonds in their possession.

Night after night they half resolved to cease all further work and quit the place at once; but their cupidity seemed to grow at the same rate as their wealth increased, and it seemed so very hard to them to leave the spot until they had rifled the mountain stream of all the precious stones it contained.

And as their store of sparkling gems augmented their fears for its safety grew also. They were well aware of the fact that there were hundreds of men—natives and foreigners scattered about the country around them who would not scruple for a moment in taking their lives and those of their labourers in order to obtain possession of their rare and valuable stones.

Another fear also gave the two Englishmen some anxiety. In coming to the river and dredging it as they had done without first apprising the Government officials of their intention they had broken the laws of the country.

In prospecting for diamonds the regular custom of the Province was that the prospectors should have notified the Government of their desire to work the river bed and to have asked for a concession to do so.

And had they taken this, the ordinary course, they would have had to specify the limits of the extent they proposed to exploit. Then the same would have been put up at public auction, and knocked down to the highest bidder; and this course would scarcely have suited our friends, as they had no notion of staying at that particular spot had it not proved so rich in gems.

Still they had clearly set the law at defiance, and it was quite possible that their gems might be confiscated by the Government if the affair reached the right quarters. To prevent their hired servants from telling tales they had given them a fair share of the spoil, and their only fear now was that the natives had not held their tongues.

At last the stream seemed to be exhausted of its precious and beautiful stones, and then they decided to hie them thence. The conclusion was come to one evening after a day's work which had yielded not a single stone; but they did not apprise their servants of this resolution.

On the following morning they would set their faces homeward, and each of them retired to his hammock that night with his brain filled with visions of a future life of ease, and of the friends they had left behind them nearly two years ago in dear old England.

. . . .

It was midnight. A full moon sailed through the cloudless vault of Heaven, and the black shadows of the trees were silhouetted on the surface of the river near which the diamond-seekers peacefully slept, dreaming of the land they were to set out for on the morrow.

Now and again a faint splash might have been heard as some great fish leapt to the surface of the stream and fell back again; then the cry of some beast of the forest went up to the stars and even the howling of wolves occasionally disturbed the silence of the night.

About the tent in which the Englishmen lay several dark forms were stealthily creeping. Now they were in the shadow of the frail canvas house, and the pale moonbeams glinting now and again on the long knives gripped in their hands bespoke the deadliness of their errand.

Now they were inside the tent and noiselessly groping for the men they had come to slay and plunder.

There was a moment's silence—then a sudden uproar. George Chester had jumped from his hammock and was shouting:—

"Luke! Luke! For goodness sake waken! We are being robbed! Ah!"

The next moment George felt a knife pierce his left arm, then he grappled with his assailant and burst through the tent opening into the moonlit clearing.

The struggle was over in a moment. There was the sharp report of a revolver, and the robber whose blade had stung Chester was lying on his back with a bullet in his brain.

Then came another rush through the doorway of the tent—four of them this time—Trevannion, another white man and two blacks. Without a moment's hesitation George levelled his weapon and fired right into the body of one of the natives, who dropped instantly with a loud curse. Then he turned and sent a bullet after a flying form, but the leaden plug missed its mark and the dark figure disappeared amidst the shadows.

Turning to help his friend, George saw a knife gleam in the air, descend swiftly, and bury itself in the undermost of the two struggling white men on the sward. His heart leaped to his throat. Trevannion was murdered. He raised his revolver again, but dropped it suddenly. His friend was standing before him unharmed.

"Thank God you are right, Luke!" George cried. "This way. There may be more of the devils about."

They ran to the river side, toward a point where the trees clustered on the water's edge, and diving into the undergrowth lay still. Half an hour passed, but they could see nothing, hear nought save the voices of the night and the moans of the wounded robber into whom Trevannion had plunged the knife.

While the darkness lasted they remained hidden, fearing that some of the would-be assassins were still lurking about, and conversing in whispers of their almost miraculous escape, and wondering who their assailants were.

At last dawn broke, the moon sank beneath the horizon, and as the red rays of the newly-risen sun lit up the forest they came from the bushes among which they had crouched so long and examined the prostrate forms of the three midnight plunderers.

The wounded white man was a complete stranger to both George and Luke, but the two dead natives whom the former had shot were found to be two of their late servants.

"Give me a drink!" the wounded man cried, speaking to the intense surprise of Chester and Trevannion in the purest English.

"A drink!" Trevannion burst forth indignantly. "It's a bullet you deserve!" Still he went at once to the tent for a tin pannikin, and going to the nearest rivulet brought the helpless scoundrel some water.

As Luke raised the man's head and held the can to his lips George took note of this stranger's appearance.

He was stoutly built, rather obese, considerably under the average height, had a short beard of reddish hair, a hawk-like nose, and seemed to be about forty years of age.

Although the stranger had connived at their robbery and murder they could not leave him there to die, and taking off the man's upper garment they examined the wound. Trevannion's strong hand had driven the long knife deep into the man's right side, just under the shoulder, penetrating the lungs, and it was clear that he could live only a short time.

They carried him into the tent, bound up the wound as well as they were able, and administered to him a little whisky. But they could only make death a little easier to the poor wretch; they could not stay its approach, for even now the blood was oozing in a thin stream from his cold and ashy lips.

"Are you an Englishman?" George asked.

"I am," the man answered; "but tell me," he pleaded, "is there any hope of my life?"

They shook their heads ominously.

"Is there no doctor near?"

"Not within thirty miles," Trevannion replied, and the dying wretch groaned in his agony.

"What prompted you to attempt to rob and murder us?" George asked.

"Your diamonds. I bought a stone or two from one of your servants at the Fazienda when he came there for provisions, and he told me of all the wealth you had accumulated."

"It was Joaa," said Trevannion.

"Yes" and the man closed his eyes wearily.

"Give him some more whisky, Chester." Luke cried.

George held the whisky bottle to the man's lips and allowed a considerable portion of its contents to pass down the sufferer's throat. The fiery liquor revived him almost instantly and he opened his eyes again and gazed fixedly upon George Chester, who was kneeling before him.

"Chester?" he murmured musingly, "Chester? Is your name Chester? My God! I once helped to ruin a man of that name. But it wasn't my fault—it wasn't my fault. I was only a tool, after all, in Roger Fell's hands. Only his tool! Only his tool!"

"Good Heavens!" cried George, bending near to the groaning man. "What are you speaking about? Did you know Roger Fell and my father?"

"Your father? Who was he?" and the man gazed even more intently than before into George's agitated countenance.

"Frank Chester, Roger Cumberland Fell's cousin."

"Frank Chester? Did he live in Wales, and was he ruined through speculating in Welsh mines?"

"Yes. Was he the man whom you and Roger Fell ruined?"

(To be continued.)

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THE SUCCESS OF LIPTON.

The annual social gathering of the employés of Mr. T. J. Lipton, the well-known provision merchant and tea planter, was held on February 24, in the Grand National Halls, Glasgow, over 2,000 being present. Mr. Lipton presided, and in his address gave several interesting particulars of his extensive business. At the outset, he stated that the amount of business that was now being done was eight times more than it was four years ago, and to further indicate the rapid increase, recalled the fact that about fifteen years ago there was only one small shop in Stobcross Street, Glasgow, in which he discharged the duties of clerk, window dresser, salesman, and—when occasion required—light porter as well, and many a night he slept in the back shop. The staff numbered two, and he was one of them. Now they have above 100 establishments, and employ, at home and abroad, over 5,000 hands. Having got shops in all the most important centres in Scotland and England, they have recently increased their establishments across the Channel, and have opened in the leading towns in Ireland with most conspicuous success; and he, as a native Irishman, mentioned this as the most gratifying circumstance in his whole business career. Speaking of recent extensions, he expected to open a new Liverpool warehouse, with a floorage of 65,000 square feet, in eight or ten days, and at present in London, where business has only been commenced within the last four years, four blocks are being built, which, when completed, will be among the largest premises in the Metropolis, the floorage being 130,000 square feet. Did time permit, the Chairman stated he might give some idea of the workings of his vast tea estates and factories in Ceylon; but this was such an inviting subject he dared not enter upon it. He mentioned, however, that he was now selling upwards of two million packets of tea per month, and the sale was jumping up all the time. Organisation has had much to do with his success, and in this connection mentioned that, although his Store in Newry was completely burned the other afternoon, Mr. Williams, the outside manager, with assistance from Belfast and Dublin, was able to open a large new establishment the following morning, while the fire brigade was still playing upon the smouldering ruins of the old buildings. In regard to shortening the hours of employés, he said it had his very cordial support. His opinion of the remedy was to have a compulsory early closing law, including a weekly half-holiday, which is observed by many of his branches. He concluded a happy speech by giving some advice to his assistants. Thereafter a most enjoyable evening was spent.

GOVERNMENT INQUIRY AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Mr Arnold Taylor held a series of inquiries at the Guardians' Room, Chester-le-Street, on Friday se'nnight, respecting applications from the Rural Sanitary Authority for provisional orders to borrow moneys in respect of proposed sewerage and sewage disposal works at Witton Gilbert, Sacriston, Daisy Hill, Edmondsley, and Birtley, and also for extending the sewage disposal areas at Chester-le-Street. There was a large attendance of ratepayers from the various districts, especially from Chester-le-Street, including Mr George Ridley (chairman of the Authority), Messrs H. Wallace (who also represented Lord Ravensworth), Peter Hay, Joseph Witherspoon, B. E. Smith, and other members of the Sanitary Authority, a deputation from the Chester-le-Street Ratepayers' Association, the sanitary officials, and others.

The proposals respecting Witton Gilbert, Daisy Hill, Sacriston, and Edmondsley were not, however, opposed.

In respect of Birtley, Mr D. Balfour, C.E., explained the nature of the proposed scheme, which provided for a complete system of sewerage for the village and sewage disposal works upon the banks of the Team.

Mr H. Wallace said he appeared on behalf of Lord Ravensworth, not to oppose the scheme, because it was to the advantage of his lordship, who was a large owner of both building and agricultural land in that district, to have the health of the village preserved, and, if possible, improved, if for no other reason than that stated. He wished to point out to the inspector the danger of all their plans being upset and their costly works being rendered useless at almost any time by pitfalls. Mr Wallace then produced a plan of the colliery workings under the proposed site for the sewage disposal works, and showed how the ground in that neighbourhood had fallen in many places to a depth of three feet. He only wished to warn them.

Mr Witherspoon considered this pitfall question a serious matter.

Mr Balfour explained the nature of the proposed additions to the Chester-le-Street sewage areas, which consisted of an additional two acres of land, already the property of the township.

Mr J. W. Luccock, chairman of the Chester-le-Street Ratepayers' Association, together with a deputation from that body, opposed any extension until the existing areas had been put in proper order.

Mr Witherspoon, a member of the Authority, protested against any further expenditure for extensions until it had been proved that the present works would do what they were originally intended to do. They had always failed, and instead of filtering the sewage in eight hours, they did not do it in twenty days. They were not filters at all, and never would be until they were thoroughly drained and cropped.

Messrs G. Pickering and J. Turnbull also opposed the extension on the same grounds.

Mr G. W. Barker, secretary of the Ratepayers' Association, described the place as a pestiferous swamp that filled the air with unhealthy exhalations. He urged that they should visit the grounds, and take an object lesson.

After hearing further objections of a like nature, an adjournment was made to the grounds, where again the proposal was most vigorously opposed.

Mr Pickering asked the chairman of the Authority at whose suggestion the proposed expenditure was proposed?

The Chairman: It came before the Authority as a recommendation from the Chester-le-Street Sanitary Committee.

Mr Pickering: Was the committee composed of old women and drapers? They had better have the opinion of Mr Wallace, a gentleman of acknowledged skill and ability, and withal a practical man.

At the request of the Chairman, Mr Wallace, as a thoroughly disinterested party, gave his opinion. He had never seen such a God-forsaken place in his life. He believed, however, that, under proper management, their present areas were quite sufficient. But they were altogether wrong. He would recommend a complete system of under drainage, with judicious and suitable cropping. He would also plant an osier bed in the low-lying lands. That carried out, as he had suggested, would enable their present areas to deal effectually with all the sewage from Chester-le-Street with further extension, and would not be very costly.

The inquiry then closed.

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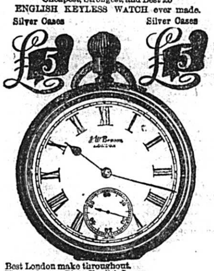


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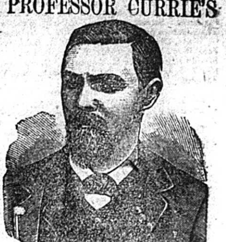
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Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it *will positively restore in every case Grey or White hair* to its original colour without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your Chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," sold by Chemists and Perfumers everywhere at 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London.

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WHEN ALL OTHER MEDICINES FAIL THEY ARE SURE TO CURE.

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Are made from the choicest gums, herbs, and balsams that South America can produce. These Mixtures were known to the South American Indians hundreds of years before the white man placed his foot upon their shores. These are the remedies which Professor CURRIE offers to you for the cure of disease—and when properly used, they never fail. He tells you through the Press, by his bills, and from the platform in public lecture halls throughout the country, that these testimonials are genuine.

And he stands alone to-day in this Country as being the only manufacturer of medicine who

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TO ANYONE FINDING HIS TESTIMONIALS NOT GENUINE.

Do not be fooled and deceived with accounts of sympathetic yarns, and overdrawn tall talk, but read the Testimonials of honest men living in your district, many of whom have been suffering for years, and judge for yourselves.

TESTIMONIALS.

Rev. Father Toner, D.D., Hebburn-on-Tyne, September 20th, 1890, says:—I know of no medicines which have performed such miraculous cures as your famous South American Mixtures and Pills.

A MINISTER'S TESTIMONY.

The Manse, Wallsend, May 28th.

Dear Sir,—I am able to testify that James Kennedy was suffering from long-continued Rheumatic Pains, and that through your South American Embrocation, as he informs me, he is now feeling better, and is able to attend to his ordinary duties.

Yours faithfully,
William Stuart,
Minister of the Presbyterian Church of England Wallsend-on-Tyne.

Rev Father Rafferty, Felling-on-Tyne, September 27th, 1890, says—It is astounding the wonderful amount of good done in my parish through the medium of your South American Mixtures and Pills. You are rightly termed the public benefactor.

DYSPEPSIA.

Mr Patrick Carling, Secretary Miners' Association, Blaydon, June 17th, 1890, writing, says:—Kindly allow me to add a word or two more in praise of your wonderful South American Mixtures and Pills. I have recommended them to a great number of people since last writing to you, and with the very best result. They ought to be in every house throughout the country. They are worth their weight in gold.

DYSPEPSIA.

Mr Lancelot Slowther, Royal William Hotel, Cox Green, County Durham, August 5th, 1890, says:—After being unable to follow my employment for three years, during which time I suffered most severely from Dyspepsia, Pain, and Weakness at the Stomach and Heart, Nervousness, and Sleeplessness. I tried doctors in Newcastle and Sunderland, and various other remedies, but all to no purpose; I seemed to get worse every day. At last, my mother, who had been bedfast for about 3 years with Chronic Rheumatism, and whom your South American Embrocation cured in four months, advised me to try your Medicine. I obtained a bottle and a box of your South American Cuyuni Mixture and Pills from Chester-le-Street Store, and felt relief from it. I continued taking it for sometime, and I now feel a new man. I am well-known here, having lived all my life in this neighbourhood, and the people marvel at the change which they see in me. You can make what use you wish of my name, and I shall be glad to answer enquiries, for I firmly believe that I would have been dead long ago, had it not been for your wonderful South American Cuyuni Mixture and Pills.

SCIATICA PAINS.

Mr. William Millar, No. 9, Hedley Hill, near Tow Law, June 16th, 1890, says:—I was off work for five weeks from Sciatica Pains and could obtain no relief from any medicine until I received a bottle of your South American Embrocation. I only used it three days, when I was able to go to work. All the pains have entirely left, but I shall never be without a bottle of it in the house. It is the best remedy in the world.

LUMBAGO AND SCIATICA.

16, Low Westwood, by Ebchester, County of Durham.

Dear Sir,—I have suffered (more or less) for 20 years from Lumbago and Sciatica Pains. Many remedies I have tried in that time, and some have remedied the pains, but my legs were always quite dead and numb. But after using one of your 4s bottles of South American Embrocation and Pills the pains and deadness were quite removed. I have praised your Pills and Embrocation to others, and I will ever praise them.—From your well-wisher,

William Twentyman.

Professor Currie.

P.S.—You can make use of my name as you like.

ASTHMA AND BRONCHITIS.

82, Argyle Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne, February 23rd, 1889.

Dear Sir,—Having being a life long suffer from Asthma and Bronchitis, I can testify to the fact, that your South American Mixture and Pills is the best remedy I have ever used, and I shall never be without them. I know many others who have derived the same amount of benefit from their use.—Yours gratefully,

Wm. Harpin.

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Are a specific remedy for all impurities of the blood, all manner of fluxes, all irregularities of the system, general debility, dyspepsia, sleeplessness, nervousness, pain and sourness of the stomach, liver complaint, etc., etc.

THE SOUTH AMERICAN MIXTURE AND PILLS

Are a specific remedy for all diseases of the chest and lungs, bronchitis, asthma, consumption, tightness of the chest, difficult breathing, wheezing, etc., etc.

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Is a specific remedy for all manner of pains and aches, rheumatism, sciatica, neuralgia, tic-doloreux, sprains, bruises, stiff and swollen joints, also for sore throats, toothache, etc., etc.

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Delay is dangerous. All suffering from Nervous Disorders, from whatever cause arising, should consult Prof. Currie at once.

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CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of this Board was held on Wednesday night, in the Board Room, Parliament Street, Mr Wm. Aynsley presiding. The members present were: Messrs J. Collinson, G. Wade, Geo. Ainsworth, A. D. M. MacIntyre, Jas. Daly, the Clerk (Mr T. W. Welford), the Board's engineer (Mr R. Robinson), the treasurer (Mr T. L, Gledstone), and the Surveyor (Mr Wm. Rippon).

THE VOTE OF CONDOLENCE.

Mr T. SIDDELL wrote thanking the members of the Board for their manifestation of sympathy.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The following accounts were recommended for payment :—

	£	s	d
Mr Rippon wages	38	14	1
Mr Rippon's salary	37	10	0
Mr T. W. Welford	16	14	2
Mr T. L. Gledstone	2	10	0
Messrs Ord & Maddison lime-stone	19	7	0
Mr W. Westgarth, kerbing	2	17	0
Consett Water Company, fire-plugs	10	17	11
Knight and Co., stationery	0	12	0
Mr T. L. Gledstone, hospital	29	13	8
Mr Joseph Dent	5	13	6
Messrs Westgarth and Brown	10	18	7

We also recommend the following accounts for payment under the sewerage works account :—

	£	s	d
Mr W. Westgarth	9	2	1
Messrs Torrence and Best	303	1	8
Mr T. W. Welford	0	12	0

The Consett Iron Company's accounts amounting to £40 7s 1d and £1 14s 8d were referred to the Board for consideration.

The report was adopted, and cheques for the various items were signed.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Building committee meeting, held on Monday, March 2nd, 1891. Present: Mr R. Murray (chairman), Messrs G. Wade, J. Daly, and W. Aynsley.

The committee recommend that the Consett Iron Company's block plan for 85 houses in Albert Row, Edith Street, Constance Street, Brickflat Row, and the Cross Street be passed and stamped, subject to the street in Albert Row being shown is not less than 36 feet, wide) and a duplicate of the same being supplied.

The committee recommend that the Consett Iron Company's plan for one eight-roomed house, and 21 four-roomed houses, adjoining Albert Row, be passed and stamped, subject to duplicate being supplied.

The committee recommend that Mr T. J. Jackson's plan for a house in Park Terrace be passed and stamped, subject to duplicate being supplied.

The committee recommend that Mr J. Walton's plan for two five-roomed houses in Taylor Street be passed and stamped, subject to the bed-room being ventilated to the satisfaction of the Surveyor and a duplicate supplied.

The committee recommend that Mr S. Brodie's plan for three houses in Taylor and Palmerston Street be passed, subject to a duplicate being supplied.

On the motion of Mr MACINTYRE, seconded by Mr DALY, the report was adopted.

PLANS.

The whole of the plans mentioned in the above report were stamped, subject to recommendations attached thereto being carried out.

It was recommended that the street in Albert Row, which the Consett Iron Company were about to form, should be nothing less than 36 feet wide.

THE SEWERAGE SCHEME:

EXTRA WORK QUESTION.

Mr Robinson reported as follows :—

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of the 5th inst, in reference to Mr Best's letter to you of the 12th of January, in which he complains that he has had no opportunity of checking the monthly claims for extra work before they are presented to the Board for payment, I have to say that there is not the slightest reason for his complaint. Every pay-sheet for extra work that has been presented to the Board for payment since Messrs Torrence and Best took up the contract except the first one, has been preceded by a claim delivered to me by their agent, to whom I usually give notice by letter that I shall require it not later than a certain date—generally two or three days before the end of the month, and it rests with him entirely to send it earlier if he choses. As a rule, however, a contractor holds his claim back to the last moment so that he may be able to put into it, as near as may be, all the work that he does within the month. But for this, and the fact that the extra work in this contract can usually be fully detailed in the written order that must be given by me, before it can be entered upon, I should prefer that Messrs Best and Torrence would observe on the printed form I send their agent with and send to me their claim for extra work at the end of every week, in keeping with the requirements of specifications. If they were to do this they could have ample time for checking each week's sheet after it had been examined by me, or (seeing that that they are so few extras), if they would let me have a monthly claim, as heretofore, but a clear week before the end of the month, I think there need be no difficulty in then having ample time to examine any alterations I might make in it before they would be required to present it for payment. It is a matter that rests entirely with themselves, but it is not a matter that Mr Best is so solicitous about. What he is really striving for is to have his agent sign the pay-sheet for extra work as payments on account, only as is done in the case of the contract work, with the full knowledge no doubt, that such payments carry with them the privilege of reviewing hereafter every item. If you permit their agent to receive payment for extra work without his giving a receipt in full discharge, you set aside one of the most important clauses of the specifications and open the door to such claims for extra work as the contractors may at the conclusion of their contract think fit to prefer. Messrs Best and Torrence are fully acquainted with the terms of their contract, for their solicitor made a copy of the specification for their use in Edinboro, and I consider that is of the utmost importance that the Board should not listen to any suggestions whatever, however plausible they may be, that involve a departure from the terms of the contract.

Mr AINSWORTH proposed that a copy of Mr Robinson's report on Mr Best's letter of the 12th of January be sent to Messrs Best and Torrence, with an intimation that the Board quite agree with the tenour of the report, and fail to see why Messrs Best and Torrence should not after satisfying themselves of the correctness of the accounts, give a receipt in full for these payments, and at the same time remind them that the cheque signed in their favour in January last is still lying with the Board, although ample time has elapsed for them to have checked the account.

This was seconded by Mr MACINTYRE, and agreed to.

THE CATCHWATER DITCH QUESTION.

The following letter was read on this question—

Darlington, March 4th, 1891,

SIR,—I am in receipt of yours of the 5th of February, enclosing Mr Best's letter of the 12th of January in regard to the catchwater ditch, and I herewith hand you the copy correspondence that was laid before the Board on the 7th of January.

Whether it be thought necessary to re-open this question, after the resolution of the 7th of January thereon, or not, I think it would be as well for the Board to have the correspondence read for the advantage of those present, who might not have been at the January meeting.

I am still of opinion that the carrying out of this ditch, in accordance with the order given to Mr Waddell, is part of Messrs Best and Torrence's contract, which I feel bound to enforce, unless the Board thinks fit to rescind the resolution of the 7th of January, and grant Messrs Best and Torrence their demands, as set forth in Mr Best's letter of the 29th December, 1890, and let it be done by day's work.—Yours &c.,

T. W. Welford, Esq. ROBT. ROBINSON.

It was agreed to let the matter lie over for the present.

APPOINTMENT OF ARBITRATOR.

The Clerk read an agreement which had been drawn up with regard to the appointment of Mr N. Clark, Beamish Park, as arbitrator in the case of settling what damages Mr John Crawford, butcher, Consett, had sustained to his land through the sewerage scheme.

On the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr COLLINSON, the agreement received the seal of the Board.

It was agreed that the Clerk should attend the arbitration on behalf of the Board, and call necessary witnesses.

DAMAGES.

The Clerk read the following letter which he had received :—

Consett Sewerage Work,
February 20th, 1891,

DEAR SIR,—Yours of the 9th inst., seeing the great loss Messrs Torrence and Best are at over this unfortunate contract, I hardly think the Board will hold them liable for any damage to land over this contract.—Yours &c.,

T. JAMES.

LOOKING AFTER THEIR RIGHTS.

The following letter was read :—

Consett Ironworks, 4th March, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—I must very respectfully press the Local Board to see that, through their engineer, acting in the execution of the sewage works, the surfaces of the Consett Iron Company's fields, through which the main pipes, &c., are carried, are restored forthwith. The spring is advancing, and the land ought certainly by this time to be left clean and in a permanent condition for grazing purposes. The Consett Company have no desire to press unduly upon this point, but there seems to be no vigour put into the work. A dozen labourers for a short time would soon complete what we are looking for. Further, there is the qustion of the fence wall between the Consett general office and Consett Hall, and the ground generally in the locality of the fence walls is left with no apparent attention or desire to get the land fences, &c., restored to their original condition. Again, there is the highway from the Consett general offices towards the town of Consett. The engineer, I believe, admits that a narrow cart-road might be made to restore to some extent the vehicular traffic in this neighbourhood. Is there any reason why this portion of the highway should be encumbered for so many weeks with apparently no aim of restoring it? The money loss to the Company is becoming serious, and we beg that you will move your engineer to restore forthwith as far as possible.—Yours, &c., W. JENKINS.

Mr C. D. W. Balleny, land agent, on behalf of the Company attended the Board, and in answer to the different questions he was informed by Mr Robinson that the letter would have due attention.

THE CLERK OF THE WORKS.

This letter was also read :—

10, Durham Road, Blackhill,
March 3rd, 1891.

GENTLEMEN,—In the published report of the County Court proceedings against your Board instituted by Mr Crawford, he makes a most unjustifiable and impudent statement that I went to his door, kicked it, and used bad language towards him. To those of you who know me, I trust it is unnecessary to say that I am not in the habit of using abusive language at any time, and to the others I can do no more than simply say that his statement is absolutely without any foundation, in fact. What I did say is already known to your Board from my report to you in regard to his claim.—I remain, &c.,

(Signed) WILKINSON WESTGARTH.

The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr Westgarth stating that the Board was satisfied with his statement.

OBSTRUCTIONS ON THE PUBLIC STREETS:

A RATEPAYER SPEAKS HIS MIND.

The Clerk read the following letter :—

12, Harvey Street, Consett,
4th March, 1891.

SIR,—The writer of this note wishes a hearing at this Board meeting concerning certain obstructions that are allowed on the public streets of Consett, and under your jurisdiction, and wishes to object to the same for reasons he will then and there explain.—Yours truly, JOHN BATES.

Mr Bates was called in, and said that he wished to speak to the Board about the bills they posted in the district giving notice to the police to prosecute all persons obstructing the footpath. Now, then, his son happened to be one who had been prosecuted for standing on the footpath at one of the corner ends. He thought this was hardly fair that the Board should only prosecute one kind of obstruction. He wished the Board to take steps and remove all furniture, draperies, boxes, and other things that were standing on the street. They allowed furniture sales to be conducted in Victoria Street and other places. What he wanted was for the Board to remove all these obstructions. Why did they allow them to go on? While the alterations to the Freemasons' Arms Hotel in Front Street were going on, they advertised to hold the pig market in Harvey Street, but it was objected to by the Inspector. This, he considered, was disgraceful, considhring the amount of space they had for holding the same. He thought it was ridiculous to think that his son should be fined for only standing on the street, whilst they allowed these other things to go on. They had bye-laws, and why not go by them in all things?

The CHAIRMAN said that he did not see that these goods, &c., were detrimental if they were not occupying too much of the footpath.

Mr Bates: They were occupying the footpath.

The CHAIRMAN: I quite believe that the Board has the power, but would it be judicious to do so?

Mr Bates: There were five of these lads altogether fined, and he did not think it was right, when they allowed these other things to obstruct the footpath, and they ought not to be there. It was a glaring thing in Victoria Street, There were several things standing on the footpath for the space of four feet in Front Street the other night, and perhaps you will hear something further about it.

Mr DALY: I have been summoned for having a box on the footpath.

Mr Bates: How does it happen that the Co-operative Society in Newmarket Street can carry on such an extensive business, and they don't make an obstruction?

Mr WADE: It is a more important and narrower street.

Mr Bates: That is not the question; it is a public street. They had to do with the obstruction.

The CHAIRMAN: Have the members any questions to ask Mr Bates? If not, they would take his complaint into consideration.

Mr WADE: It is quite correct; something should be done.

Mr AINSWORTH said they always liked to do what was right and just.

Mr COLLINSON said they understood from what Mr Bates said that he was in earnest, and he expected the Board to do their duty.

Mr Bates: I am speaking for a few ratepayers.

The Surveyor said that an advertisement was put into the paper by several ratepayers that the pig market would be held in Harvey Street. The people that came to the market shifted to this place, but he told them that the place set apart for the market was in Front Street, and until definite instructions were given from the Board, the market would be held at that place. He had received several complaints about people obstructing the footpath on a Sunday night, and when the notices were posted up from time to time the police acted upon the instructions.

Mr AINSWORTH: The goods ought to be stopped as well. They had no right to obstruct the footpath.

The CHAIRMAN: It would not be right to stop sales.

The Clerk: It was impossible to get along Victoria Street on a pay Monday.

Mr AINSWORTH: Suppose you prohibit these sales, all other sales would have to be stopped.

The CHAIRMAN: These people who have consignments ought to provide sale-rooms. Other persons having sales it was quite different, but for consignments proper accommodation should be provided.

Mr DALY: They ought to try to keep the footpaths clear.

Mr COLLINSON said that he moved once in the matter, and he got into grief with his neighbours. Everyone of them ought to be treated alike, or the street would become impassible. Another thing they ought to stop, and that was the opening out of goods outside. It was dangerous this paper flying about.

Mr AINSWORTH: What Mr Collinson had said was quite correct They ought to make everybody alike. The rule was always broken by somebody, and then it went on.

The Surveyor stated that he did not think they could stop people from opening their goods out on the street.

The CHAIRMAN: Are we going to take action, or say that the Surveyor use his best endeavours to see that the footpaths were not obstructed?

Mr DALY: That will not do. If the Surveyor summons a party, then he might be found fault with.

It was agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the Surveyor to deal with.

ELECTRIC LIGHT FOR TOWNS.

The Clerk read the following letter :—

Newcastle-on-Tyne,
Feb. 17th, 1891.

DEAR SIR,—We are at present submitting to several towns in the north a scheme for lighting their towns by means of electric light, and we shall be glad if your Board will allow us to submit to them a similar scheme for lighting Consett.

In outline the scheme is as follows:—We would undertake to put down an electric lighting station complete, with engine, boiler, and dynamos, to supply and feed as many arc lamps of 2,000 candle-power nominal as are requisite for the efficient lighting of the streets, together with all necessary lamp posts, poles, wires, &c., and to work and maintain the same at our own cost, on payment by the Board of a yearly rental, which would include the redemption of the plant at the end of a term of years agreed upon, at the end of which term the whole of the plant would become the absolute property of the Board. By the scheme it would not be necessary for the Board to obtain borrowing powers to purchase the plant, as the payment could be extended over such a number of years that it could be redeemed out of the rates.

Such is briefly the scheme we would submit to your Board, but it would be modified to suit local requirements. Our representative will be glad at any time to meet you or any of the members of your Board, and explain the matter more fully. We may add that we are at present lighting the township of Cowpen (Blyth) under a somewhat similar scheme.—Yours, &c.,

NICHOLSON AND JENNINGS.

The CHAIRMAN: I presume we have given our contract to the Gas Company for this season?

The Clerk: Yes.

Dr MACINTYRE moved that the Clerk reply, stating that the Board had contracted for the gas this year, but the Board were quite prepared to receive any offers they would make with regard to lighting the town with electric light.

THE NEW WEST DURHAM RAILWAY.

The annexed communication was received from the North-Eastern Railway Co. :—

Engineer's Offices,
Newcastle-on-Tyne, March 2, 1891.

DEAR SIR,

Proposed new Railway between Stanley and Consett.

Referring to your letter of the 28th ult., far from the railway being abandoned, I have instructions to get plans prepared for it at once.—Yours, &c.,

CHAS. A. HARRISON.

CONSETT HALL ROAD.

It was agreed that the Clerk write a letter to Mr Robinson, calling his attention to Consett Hall road.

TENDERS FOR TEAM LABOUR.

It was resolved that tenders should be advertised for for the team labour during the next 12 months.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

GENTLEMEN,—Strict attention has been given, during the past month, to the roads and streets in your district, which are in fair good order, with the exception of a portion of Consett Hall Road, where the new sewer has been put in. On this portion, a quantity of rough broken slag has been thrown on the surface, and allowed to roll about during the late dry weather. I was given to understand that the limestone would be used, but none has been put on as yet, and the season for putting same on is nearly over. I shall be glad to have your instructions as to what is to be done in respect to this road, so that it may quickly be put into proper order for the ensuing summer months. I also beg to draw your attention to the man-hole covers on this road, the bars of which, in my opinion, are too wide apart, and the casting itself ought to be encased in a solid block of stone set properly level with the road, in order to prevent accidents to vehicles. With regard to these covers on highways generally, I ask you to consider the advisability of having close-fitting covers for this particular part of the district. I have found by experience—as an Inspector of Nuisances—during the last 10 or 11 years, that in the early morning, after a hot summers' day, noxious gases hang around this part of the district, whilst at other places a short distance, a free current of air has been in motion. This, I opine, is due to the high slag-heap on each side of the road. If you allow open covers in any highway it ought to be where the wind gets a full and uninterrupted sweep over them, and not in a contracted place, like Consett Hall Road. The footpath on the side of the highway has been improved and a portion of it covered with limestime chippings, which are coming to hand slowly. The contract for team labour will expire on the 25th inst. and your instructions are required as to asking for tenders for the work during the following 12 months. The putting of the street name-plates and numbering the houses therein are being preceeded with, 47 streets having been completed, and the remaining few will be done, and the whole in order previous to the census being taken.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

There is a quantity of sewerage manure at present on the benches of your settling ponds, for the disposal of which I will need your instructions. I have repeatedly inspected your district, and find it in good sanitary condition. Your main sewers are also in good working order.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The following amounts have been paid to the treasurer :—

	£	s	d
Durham County Council: Half of your inspector's salary	50	0	0
Consett Iron Company: Half cost of fence on east side of Pasture Drift Road	69	11	9
General District Rate	11	9	0
Market tolls	1	5	0
Penalties	0	1	3
Total	£162	7	0

Gas burnt during the month —224 hours.

WM. RIPPON.

SETTLING PONDS.

The Clerk was instructed to write to Mr T. R. Dolphin, farmer, Dyke Nook, asking him if he required the sewage manure at present in the benches of the settling ponds. If not, to advertise for tenders for the same.

THE NEW URINAL.

Mr DALY said that people living in Shakespeare Square were complaining about the nuisance that was going on owing to the want of the new urinal. He thought something should be done.

The Surveyor thought it was too early to start with the urinal while the frost continued.

The CHAIRMAN: I suppose the contractor is ready to proceed?

The Surveyor: The contractor will commence with the work as soon as the Board is willing. The frost will spoil a portion of the work if they start with it now.

CRAWFORD V THE BOARD.

The Clerk informed the Board that Judge Meynell at the County Court had given judgment in favour of the Board.

NEW DRAINS.

It was agreed that the drains for new buildings about to be erected should be put in at the expense of the Board.

THE CENSUS.

The Surveyor asked if it was the wish of the Board to have the census of the district taken separately?

The CHAIRMAN: It would be a nice thing to get the Local Board district taken separate from the whole township.

The Surveyor: Mr Ramsay, registrar, is the man that has the thing in hand.

The CHAIRMAN thought it best to instruct the Surveyor to see Mr Ramsay, and get the census taken separately.

Agreed to.

The Board afterwards arose.

A GRAND
EVENING CONCERT
Will be given in the
NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT,
ON TUESDAY, MARCH 17th, 1891,
When the following Artistes will appear :—
Madame HALL-ATKIN, Soprano.
Madame SUTHERLAND, Contralto.
Mr. J. SLOANE, Tenor.
Mr. T. L. CAMPION, Basso.
Master R. SMITH, Clarionet Soloist.
Mr. FRANK B. MULLEN, Humorist.
Mr. E. J. SLOANE, Pianist.
Doors open at 7, to commence at 7·30 prompt.
FRONT SEATS, 1s. 6d.; SECOND SEATS, 1s. BACK SEATS, 6d.
A few Reserved Seats at 2s. each may booked up to March 16th, on applying to Mr E. Sloane, Music Establishment, Blackhill. 163e

SAD BURNING FATALITY AT CORNSAY COLLIERY.

On Friday, Mr Coroner Dean received information that Mary Maude (48), of Cornsay Colliery, had died from the injuries she received on the 24th ult. About six o'clock on the morning in question, deceased got out of bed to see her two sons off to work, and on returning upstairs she placed a lighted candle on the floor. By some means or other, the night-dress of the deceased caught fire, and she was immediately enveloped in flames, sustaining fearful injuries. Dr Kirkland was soon in attendance, but despite his efforts, the unfortunate woman died on Thursday morning last week, having suffered dreadful agony.—On Saturday afternoon, Mr Proud, coroner, held an inquiry at Mr J. Coates', Royal Oak Inn, touching the death of Mrs Maude, who met her death as stated above. After hearing the evidence adduced, the jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death."

DEATH OF MR THOMAS WILLIAMS, OF CONSETT.

It is with unfeigned regret that we have to announce the death of Mr Thomas Williams, vice-president of the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the North of England Manufactured Iron and Steel Trades, at his residence, West Victoria Street, Consett, on Monday afternoon, at the age of 42 years. Mr Williams had been out of health for some time, but his demise has come upon us

SOMEWHAT SUDDENLY.

He was a native of Cradley, Staffordshire, and came to this neighbourhood something like ten years ago, and commenced to work for the Consett Iron Company as puddler. After he had resided in the town of Consett for something like two years, the workmen soon found in Mr Williams a man who had an

EFFICIENT AND EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE

of the details of their trade, and they elected him their delegate at the time when Consett was passing through one of its greatest crisis—viz., the transition from iron to steel manufacture. Mr Williams displayed a good deal of spirit and energy in bringing about this transition, and the manner in which he worked for the benefit of his fellow-workmen, soon began to win their confidence and esteem. During Mr William's career he had held

VERY MANY IMPORTANT OFFICES,

as he was a man that was well-liked wherever he went. In 1872 Mr Williams became secretary of the Elseca (Yorkshire) Lodge of the Ironworkers' Association, and secretary of the Bishop Auckland Lodge in 1880. He was chosen a member of the Consett Lodge in 1883. He was elected lodge secretary of the Consett branch in July, 1883, and also operatives' representative in 1885. He was placed on the standing committee in 1888, and duly elected vice-president of the Board of Arbitration and Conciliation for the Manufactured Iron and Steel Trades in 1887, and elected auditor for the Board of Arbitration in 1888. In these offices of trust Mr Williams rendered

SERVICES OF THE GREATEST VALUE

to the workmen and the trade generally. Mr Williams rendered valuable assistance in the establishment of the Consett Mechanics' Association a few years ago, and was always ready and willing, even at a sacrifice to himself, to give the benefit of his wisdom and experience. In every instance where disputes had arisen and had been brought before the management of the Consett Iron Company, they were

ALWAYS SUCCESSFULLY SETTLED,

mainly through the endeavours of Mr Williams. The deceased gentleman soon proved himself, in whatever he took in hand, to be a trustworthy and efficient representative, and he gained the confidence and goodwill of both masters and men. He was a leader of workmen who thoroughly grasped and and mastered the details of the employes' case, in every instance, before laying the matter in dispute before the employers, and was prepared by sound argument to convince the employers of the

EQUITY AND JUSTICE

of the workmen's demands. He always treated his subject in a comprehensive and exhaustive manner, and so gained for the men victories. Perhaps the greatest inspiration of Mr Williams's life had been to

ELEVATE AND IMPROVE

his fellow-men's condition—to raise the low and to protect the high—to keep every man in his own position, and to act justly and fairly between the employer and employed. Looking into the earlier life of this gentleman, we find that he had been

CONNECTED WITH THE IRON TRADE

since he was seven years of age. The conditions of labour were vastly different at that period to what they are at the present day. He worked in the mills when only seven years old, and wrought from five o'clock in the morning till six at night. Many times has he related over the story, telling those around him that if it was a cold, rough, winter's morning, with snow on the ground, he had to get on his father's back and be

CARRIED TO HIS WORK.

Mr Williams has many a time asservated that it was brought prominently before his mind that it was a hard condition of life that before his physical frame was beginning to be developed, his body should have been stunted by having to

EKE OUT A LIVELIHOOD

with the rest of his father's family at so early an age. Ever since then his sole desire has been to remove these great hardships and scandalous burdens, to render labour more easy of accomplishment, to try and improve the condition of life, and his ambition was to leave the

WORLD BETTER THAN HE FOUND IT.

He fought bravely for combination and organisation, and he was what was termed a steadfast trades' unionist. Mr Williams was the means of getting a sliding-scale adopted for the men, by which they could only suffer a reduction when a diminution of market prices of the manufactories warranted it. At the time when Mr Williams had

FINISHED HIS CAREER AS MEN'S REPRESENTATIVE,

and had been chosen as vice-president of the Board of Arbitration and Conciliation, the members of the Consett branch of the Associated Iron and Steel-workers of Great Britain, and the members of the Consett Mechanics' Association, and the general body of workmen assembled together, and, in recognition of his past services, presented him with a very handsome illuminated address and a purse of gold. Although Mr Williams ceased to act as the workmen's representative, he still, up to the time of his death, assisted the workmen with his advice and counsel. He did not perform his duties in a hasty and bombastic manner, but always

ACTED SHREWDLY AND JUDICIOUSLY.

The workmen have never had cause to regret the manner in which Mr Williams discharged his duties for the benefit of the trade generally. He was a man that fought the battles of the working classes honestly and fairly. He was a staunch

RADICAL POLITICIAN,

and at the general election in 1885, Mr Williams rendered good service in furtherance of the candidature of Mr L. A. Atherley-Jones, member for this division. He leaves a widow and one child.

The report of the funeral, which took place yesterday (Thursday) will appear next week.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—It is with extreme regret and deep sorrow that I learn of the death of Mr Thomas Williams, the vice-chairman of the Board of Arbitration and Conciliation. He was a man of rare abilities, sound judgment, and wise discretion, and used these combined attributes with great effect on all questions that came before the Board of Arbitration and Conciliation, and I have some apprehension that the operative members of the Board of Arbitration will have some difficulty in selecting a member to fill the position with equal ability, discretion and fairness.—Yours &c., THOS. SIDDELL.

March 3rd, 1891.

CATARRH OF THE BLADDER.—Stinging, irritation, inflammation, all kidney and kindred complaints, cured by "Buchu-paiba." At chemists. Newbery and Sons, Agents, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

BEAMISH, PONTOP AND CONSETT AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

A copy of the subjoined communication has been addressed to Mr John Kirkup, of Pelton House, near Chester-le-Street :—

The Institute of Journalists, Northern Counties' District.
40. Marine Approach, South Shields,
February 18th, 1891.

Dear Sir,—At the last meeting of the committee of the Northern Counties' District of the Institute of Journalists complaints were made of discourteous treatment of representatives of the press at the last annual show of the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society, and I was instructed to send you following resolution :—

"That this committee expresses its disapproval of the manner in which the representatives of the press were treated in the last annual show of the Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society, by being refused by the secretary—although repeated applications were made for it—the list of awards, and the committee would express the hope that in future such facilities may be afforded the press representatives as will enable them to discharge their duties without loss of time, and without being put to the trouble of having to go round the exhibits to obtain the list of awards."

I am, dear sir, yours obediently,
D. JAMIESON, hon. sec.

The Chairman, Beamish, Pontop, and Consett Agricultural Society.

CONSERVATISM IN NORTH-WEST DURHAM.

MEETING AT TANTOBIE.

On Wednesday evening, Mr J. Royston Booth (sub-agent of the Conservative party in this district) delivered an address in the Co-operative Hall, Tantobie, on "Unionism and the masses." There was a good attendance.

Mr W. BELL (Tantobie), took the chair, and intimated that at the close of Mr Booth's address discussion would be invited.

Mr BOOTH said he was quite sure that he need not appeal for a fair hearing. He congratulated the people of Tantobie on the fair hearing they had given to Mr Neale last week. He gave them credit for affording that gentleman one of the

FAIREST HEARINGS

he had ever heard. (Hear.) He was not going to touch upon the Irish question that evening. When Mr Neale was down there he had said all that was required on that subject, and he (Mr Booth) considered it was time to consider what had been done for England and Scotland, and leave the Irish question out of the way for a time. Their Radical friends said that Ireland blocked the way, and until Home Rule was carried no legislation would be passed for the benefit of England. But he contended that they had passed measures for the good of England. The present Government had had to

ENDURE OBSTRUCTION

of an unparalelled character. Mr Labouchere whom he (Mr Booth) supposed was considered one of the Liberal lights—said in the House of Commons that he considered it to be a duty to prevent the Government bringing in any legislation for the good of the country. That was an instance of the obstruction the Government had met with. He (Mr Booth) maintained that the present Government was the best the country had ever seen. The first point for them to consider was

THE STATE OF THE COUNTRY

from 1886 to the present time compared with that from 1880 to 1885. In the latter period men were working—especially in the manufacturing and mining districts, very short time, and in some cases no time at all. They also found large numbers of soup-kitchens, and he always thought that where there were these kitchens there was great poverty in the district. Soup-kitchens were all very well in their way, and were excellent institutions when needed; but he thought they as working-men would much rather prefer a state of trade that enabled them to

EARN GOOD AND HONEST LIVINGS

than see soup-kitchens scattered about. (Applause.) They would find that there had been a very great difference in trade since the present Government came into power. Some people might say that the Government had nothing to do with the state of trade; but he would give them the opinion of a great statesman—Mr Gladstone—who said in 1879 that the Government had a great effect on the state of trade. They might ask how he arrived at that conclusion. Mr Gladstone said it was on account of wars, which

CAUSED A WANT OF CONFIDENCE

and prevented capitalists from investing their money, and consequently caused bad trade. The Liberal Government went in in 1880 pledged to preserve peace, and everyone knew that they did not keep that pledge. Mr Gladstone says wars and rumours of wars caused bad trade, so we need not wonder that from 1880 to 1885 we had bad trade. (Hear.) Had there been any improvement under the present Government? Yes, gentlemen, there had. When Mr Gladstone left office trade was very low, now it was

HIGHER THAN IT EVER HAD BEEN.

It had increased by £120,000,000. A great deal of that large sum had gone in wages, thus improving the condition of the working classes. Many who were idle had also found employment, and he considered the Government deserved every credit for such a satisfactory state of things. (Applause). The Unionist party was the party of retrenchment. He did not believe in retrenching working men's wages. There were many ways in which they could retrench without touching the wages of the working men. (Applause). They knew that the

LABOUR QUESTIONS

were now coming to the front. He was very glad to see it, as the Unionist party had nothing to fear from such questions coming to the front. The legislation they had accomplished from 1885 to 1890 eminently fitted them to deal with any question that might come forward. He maintained that the present Government had done justice all round. What had they done for the miners? They had passed a Mines Regulation Bill in 1887. He was not going to say that the Bill was perfect, but he would give them the opinion of one they all respected—Mr Burt. Speaking in Edinburgh, the latter gentleman said it was the

BEST BILL OF THE KIND

that had ever been passed by the British Parliament. (Hear). He thought they would agree that Mr Burt was a person qualified to speak on the subject. Mr Burt also said in the House of Commons that Mr Matthews had done all he could to make a good measure, and his remarks were supported by Mr Abraham, Sir Joseph Pease, and Sir Hussey Vivian—all Liberals. During the first year of the Bill's operations the accidents in mines were 1,000 less. (Applause). Mr Booth dwelt on the advantage the labourers had obtained by the passing of the

ALLOTMENTS ACT,

and said he considered it was the duty of any Government to try and make the people happy. If a Government did its utmost to make the people happy it was fulfilling the first function of a Government. (Applause). Mr Booth also pointed out the benefit which had accrued from the passing of the Merchandise Marks Act, Railway Rates Act, and the Technical Instruction Act. Their soldiers and sailors were also receiving a share of attention, and the Government were now engaged in seeing that our soldiers

WERE BETTER HOUSED AND FED.

They had also endeavoured to cater for the sailors by passing the Merchant Shipping Act. Mr Booth likewise touched upon County Councils, the New Education Code, the Housing of the Working Classes Act, the Weights and Measures Act, the Margarine Act, the Open-Spaces Act, the Railway Regulations Act, local taxation, free education, and wound up an eloquent and interesting address by asking his audience to support the present Government, who had really proved themselves the friends of the working men. (Applause).

The CHAIRMAN inviting discussion, Mr H. NICHOLSON mounted the platform, and delivered a rather lengthy speech, in which he endeavoured to refute the arguments of Mr Booth.

Mr BOOTH replied, and scored some excellent points, for which he was loudly applauded.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the proceedings.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE IN WEARDALE.—Supt. Snowden, who now occupies the place of Supt. Liddle, at Stanhope, entered on his duties at his new station this week, and was present at the Wolsingham Petty Sessions on Tuesday.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

BY "ANNFIELDITE."]

COLLIERLEY BURIAL BOARD.

The inquiry now is—when is the new cemetery going to be finished? The Board is in its third year of existence, and but little has been done. The chapel building and laying out of the ground has been in the hands of the contractor over twelve months, and apparently will be for some time to come.

THOUGHT-READING EXTRAORDINARY.

On Saturday night last, Mr J. W. Hornsby gave one of his popular and entertaining exhibitions of thought-reading in the Co-operative Hall. There was a fair company present to witness his performance. Some believed; others were doubtful. The proceeds were for the benefit of the Choral Society. It is to be hoped this society will survive the deficiency of the past year.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION.

There is great need of more house accommodation in this district. Many persons have been waiting long for a place of abode, and this much-felt want might soon be met but for the lack of building sites; and yet there is an abundance of land on all sides that is doing little or nothing for anyone. It is said that this land belongs to two or three persons who are not disposed to help the district by selling any portion.

SERVICE OF SONG.

The Leadgate Primitive Methodist choir gave a splendid service of song on Saturday night, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Greencroft, entitled "Which is the hero?" The connective readings were given by Miss Waggott. Mr T. Soulsby acted as conductor, and Mr R. Daglish presided at the harmonium.

STANLEY CIRCUIT.

The Sunday School Union held its yearly meeting and council on Saturday last, at Stanley—the president, Rev J. Magee, in the chair. There was a good representation from all the schools. The various reports were received, after which the election of officers took place for the next year, and resulted in the re-election of all the officers. Tea was provided by Mrs R. Brown, of Stanley, after which a public meeting was held, when solos, recitations, readings, and addresses were given by Mr L. Reay, of Stanley, and others.

EVANGELISM.

Mrs Coates, of Hull, commenced a mission last Saturday evening, in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain. The services on Sunday and during the week were of a rich and powerful nature.

GREENCROFT BOARD SCHOOL ENTERTAINMENT.

Last Wednesday night, the children of Greencroft Board School gave an excellent entertainment. The infants sang their simple songs and went through their drill in an admirable manner, as did also the adult scholars, thus evincing the great interest the head master and teachers are taking in the children who attend this school. One person said it just looked as if Miss Knifton, the infant mistress was pulling a string, and the infants proved so much for her training ability. The Co-operative Hall was crowded, and the receipts, which amounted to over £10, were for the children's treat and library.

DEATH OF AN OLD INHABITANT.

Mr Thomas H. Gatiss, one of the oldest workmen at the Pontop Colliery, has lately passed away. He had worked for the Marley Hill Coal Company over 50 years, and occupied the same house all that time, with the exception of the time it was being re-built about five or six years ago. He was a true type of the old miner of the past age, and was much respected by all who knew him. He took a great delight in the garden connected with his house. He was able to follow his employment until a week or so before Christmas of last year. Since that time he has gradually weakened, and quietly passed away on Wednesday morning at the ripe old age of 73 years.

JOHN WESLEY'S CENTENARY CELEBRATION.

The centenary of the Rev J. Wesley's death was celebrated in Annfield Plain Wesleyan Chapel, on Monday night, when the Rev F. R. Smith gave a lecture on the life of Wesley, illustrated by lime-light views by Mr James Smith, of Annfield Plain, who gave a clear view of all the chief scenes in the life of Wesley.

WOLSINGHAM.

On Saturday, the Bishop of Durham held a confirmation service in Wolsingham Parish Church. Fifty candidates were presented, of which Wolsingham supplied 46, Frosterley 3, and Tow Law 1. After the confirmation the Bishop gave an address to the lay helpers.

T. C. RAWES & CO.,
CAB PROPRIETORS AND
FUNERAL FURNISHERS.
Supply the Best and Cheapest HEARSES and MOURNING COACHES.
Special terms for Brakes for Trips during the Summer Months.
Coffins and every necessary supplied on the Shortest Notice. The strictest regard to Economy being specially observed.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

BEAMISH VIEW—3rd inst., the wife of P. Bolam, colliery manager, of a son.

WEARDALE—Westgate, 1st inst., the wife of John Roseby, Gosforth, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

CONSETT—Wesleyan Chapel, 2nd inst., by Rev J. H. Taylor, M. W. Collin to D. Wailes, both of Consett.

LANCHESTER—Register Office, 28th ult., J. W. Collings to Sarah Wright, both of South Moor. —Same day, G. Temperley to J. Smith, both of Annfield Plain.—2nd inst., George Hudson to Mary Carr, both of South Moor.—4th inst., John Graham, of Leadgate, to M. Thompson, of Medomsley.

TOW LAW—Parish Church, 4th inst., by Rev T. E Espin, William Craggs to Florence, daughter of Mr John Watson, both of Tow Law.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—3, West Victoria Street, 2nd inst., aged 42, Thomas Williams.

9, Sherburn Terrace, 3rd inst., aged 58, Henry Taylor. Interment at Benfieldside, on Friday, at 2·30. Friends, please accept this, the only intimation. 168e

BANTLING COTTAGES—5th inst., aged 19 years, William Campbell, beloved son of John and Teresa Campbell. To be interred on Sunday at The Brooms. *Cortege* to leave the residence at Four p.m. Friends, please accept this, the only intimation.

LANCHESTER—26th ult., aged 74, John Walton, builder.

ANNFIELD PLAIN—Clavering Place, 28th ult., aged 24, Bessie, wife of William Bragg.

BIRTLEY—Mount Pleasant, 28th ult., aged 56, John Varey Henderson.

NEW ZEALAND—West Port, 9th January, aged 40, J. R. Smailes, son of the late Joseph Smailes, Tow Law.

BUNDANBA, Queensland, Australia—6th January, aged 4 years, Charles Robert, youngest son of Matthew and Mary Watson, late of Leadgate.

In loving memory of my dear husband, John Bell, 18, Foundry Row, aged 37, who died 7th March, 1890.
"We have to mourn the loss of one we did our best to save."

In loving memory of George Stobbs, the beloved husband of Ellen Stebbs, who died March 6th, 1890.
"Gone from sight, but still to memory dear."

In loving remembrance of Isabella, beloved wife of William Thompson, Delves Terrace, who died March 3rd, 1890.
"Gone, but not forgotten."

GEORGE AND J. HOPE,
MONUMENTAL SCULPTORS IN MARBLE, STONE, AND GRANITE,
CEMETERY ROAD, BLACKHILL, AND BURNOPFIELD.
INSCRIPTIONS neatly executed in Town or Country. Special Designs and Estimates on application.

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