TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

FIXTURES.—Saturday, March 2nd.
Consett 2nd v Hamsterley, at Consett.
Leadgate Exiles 2nd v Trafalgar, at Newcastle.
Leadgate Park v Pelton Fell Harriers, at Pelton Fell.
Medomsley v Newcastle North-Eastern, at Medomsley.
Medomsley 2nd v Lintzford 1st, at Lintzford.
Medomsley Juniors v Hobson Rangers, at The Hobson.
Shotley Bridge St. Cuthbert's v South Shields Y.M.C.A., at South Shields.
Tanfield Lea v Sunderland Olympic, at Tanfield Lea.
Bearpark Rovers v Durham City, at Bearpark.
Pelton Fell Harriers v Sunnybrow, at Sunnybrow.
Pelton Fell Harriers 2nd v Sunnybrow St. James, at Pelton Fell.
Mickley v West Wylam, at Mickley.

DURHAM RUGBY CHALLENGE CUP:
SECOND ROUND.

Consett v Hartlepool Rangers, at West Hartlepool. Referee, Mr C. Mountford; umpires, Messrs M. Hobday and J. Wilson.

Medomsley v Newcastle North-Eastern.—The above teams will meet at Medomsley to-morrow (Saturday). Both teams will be strongly represented, and an excellent game will doubtless be the result. The following team have been chosen to represent Medomsley—Goal, G Beadling; backs, M Charlton (right) and W Cant (left); half-backs, J Wallace (right), W Barron (centre), and G Moon (left); forwards, G Walton (outside right), Rev E G F Macpherson (inside right), J Ross (centre), J Hunter (capt.) (inside left), T D Dales (outside left). Umpire, Mr J Cant. Kick-off at 3.

Medomsley 2nd v Lintzford.—To be played at Lintzford to-morrow (Saturday). Medomsley team—Goal, W G Thompson; backs, J Whiswell (capt.) and R Simpson; half-backs, W Hunter, T Cookson, and M Eccles; forwards, J Hunter, J Hetherington, T Bramley, I Snowdon, and G Smith. Kick-off at 3.15.

Medomsley Juniors v Hobson Rangers.—At The Hobson to-morrow (Saturday). Juniors' team—Goal, M Watson; backs, J T Page and J Wilson; half-backs, J T Thompson, T Graham, and J Bramley; forwards, T Snowdon, R Gillender, R Wilson, J Campbell, and R Wilson (capt).

Bearpark Rovers v Durham City.—These teams will play their return fixture at Bearpark to-morrow (Saturday). A good game is expected, as Durham will be strongly represented, and the home club will put a good team on the field. Bearpark team—Goal, G Strong; backs, J Morgan (capt.) and T Warlow; half-backs, R Hellery, F Morgan, and H Golightly; forwards, T Egglestone, J Warlow, J Carter, J G Warlow, and A N Other. Umpire, Mr R Morton. Kick-off at 2.30.

Leadgate Exiles v Dipton Wanderers.—These teams met on the ground of the former, and an even game resulted in a draw—one goal each. The following were the teams:—Wanderers—Goal, A Temple; backs, J Walker and A Dodds; half-backs, R Wilson, R. Brewis, and T Turpin; forwards, W Turner, D Crozier, J Jardine, J Evans, and E Buck. Umpire, Mr R Freek. Exiles—Goal, H Callaghan; backs, Wm. McGee (capt.) and P Quinn; half-backs, J Monaghan, O Slain, and W Costello; forwards, J Argyle and C Quinn, right wing; J Costello, centre; O Hughes and J McGee, left wing. Umpire, Mr J Jordon.

Wesleyan Chapel.—A concert was given in the above chapel at East Castle, by the Leadgate Wesleyan choir. The chair was taken by Mr W. H. Wright. There was a capital attendance. The programme was opened by the choir rendering the anthem, "The earth is the Lord's," very creditably. Miss M. Bell sung "Consolation" in a manner that received an *encore*. The duet, "O lovely peace," by the Misses Bell, was highly appreciated. The choir gave the chorus, "O Father," most splendidly, and were much applauded. Miss Bell sang "Waft her angels," very sweetly, in correct, and good time, and received an *encore*. The anthem, "In Jewry is God known," was splendidly given, and provoked outburst of genuine applause, being followed by the chorus, "Heavenly Pilot," which was exceptionally well executed. Mr Steward gave "Thou didst not leave" very well. A solo, "O, had I Jubal's Lyre," by Miss Bell, received an enthusiastic *encore*. With other two solos from Miss Boustead and Mr Hedley, the entertainment was brought to a close by the choir giving the chorus, "Hallelujah," most effectively. The proceeds were in aid of purchasing new lamps.

CONSETT LIVERY STABLES.
T. C. RAWES & Co.,
PROPRIETORS.
Have Removed to their New Premises, opposite New Town Hall, Consett.
Horses and Carriages of every description for Hire.
HEARSES & MOURNING COACHES.
UNDERTAKERS AND FUNERAL FURNISHERS. 711y

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

Consett.—17, Pitt Street, 23rd ult., the wife of Paul Burnop, of a daughter.

Ryton.—Greenside, 25th ult., the wife of Robert Bolam, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

Esh Laude.—St. Michael's, 25th ult., by the Rev Samuel Harris, William Avery to Maggie Stoker, both of Ushaw.

DEATHS.

Consett.—4, Harvey Street, 24th ult., aged 43, George, husband of Sarah Parker.

24, Puddler's Row, on the 1st inst., aged 48 years, Arthur Simpson, the beloved husband of Jane Simpson. Interment at Benfieldside, on Sunday, at 2·30. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

Blackhill.—No. 11, Siemen Street, on the 20th ult., aged 7 weeks, Archbold, the infant son of Thomas and Elizabeth Little.

Derwent Hotel, Durham Road, 1st inst., aged 52 years, William Robson, the beloved husband of Ellen Robson. Interment on Sunday, at Benfieldside Cemetery, at Three o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

Blackfine.—25th ult., aged 6 months, Thompson Siddell, son of Robert and Louisa Walton.

Leadgate.—Front Street, 28th ult., aged 64, Jane, the beloved wife of John Lee, fruiterer. Interment at The Brooms, on Sunday afternoon, at Five o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

Iveston.—Aged 82 years, George Rippon. To be interred at St. Ives, on Sunday. Friends please accept this intimation.

Burnopfield.—Grove House, 23rd ult., aged 70, wife of the late Thos. Liddell.

Whickham Grange.—23rd ult., Isabella, daughter of Ann and the late George Armstrong.

Blaydon.—22nd ult., aged 53, Moses, husband of Mary Ann Beadling.

Old Ravensworth.—18th ult., aged 93, William Hall, late of Harley Green Team Colliery.

West Pelton.—18th ult., aged 33, Jane, wife of T. Haddon.

Pelton.—(At the residence of Mr O. Parker), 20th ult., Elizabeth, wife of N. Chapman.

Washhouses, on the 20th ult., Isabella, the wife of T. Morris.

Swalwell.—Quality Row, 20th ult., aged 78, Peter Smith, sen.

Eighton Banks.—25th ult., aged 70, Thos. Coulson, quarryman.

Wylam Station.—27th ult., aged 40, Sarah Grace, wife of Thos. R. Wright.

Pelton Colliery.—(At the residence of Mr S. Leathard), 22nd ult., aged 27, Frances Hannah, youngest daughter of the late Edward Potts, Pelaw Hill.

Durham.—23rd ult., aged 51, Margaret Jane, widow of the late William Henry Ferens.

Woolsington High House.—On the 28th ult., in his 70th year, William Temperley, late of Carribees Farm, near Consett. To be interred at Dinnington, on Sunday, at Two o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

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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The Consett Guardian

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AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

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59, FRONT STREET, and 9 & 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
Agent for Dipton:—Mr. Thomas Clark, South Medomsley Cottages.

No. 1,491. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, March 8th, 1889. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Contracts.

TO CONTRACTORS.

TO LET, the several WORKS required to be done in the ERECTION OF CATTLE SHEDS, at Dipton, for the Annfield Plain Co-operative Society, Limited.

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

Tenders to be delivered at the Office of the Architects, on or before 10 o'clock a.m. on Saturday, March 9th, 1889.

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

JOHN SMITH & SON, Architects.
February 28th, 1889. 924

THE Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union, invite TENDERS for SUPPYING THE WORKHOUSE, at Lanchester, with FLOUR, GROCERIES, BUTCHER-MEAT, PRESERVED-MEAT, COFFINS, &c., for Twenty-six Weeks from the 28th inst.; and also for the SUPPLY of COAL and GAS COKE 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 Tenders with samples (so far as practicable) should be sent not later than Wednesday, the 20th inst.

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

W. H. RITSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.
Lanchester, March 7th, 1889.

Wanted.

DRAPERY.—WANTED, Intelligent and obliging BOY, at Bessemer House, Blackhill.

WANTED, TWO STEADY LODGERS.—Apply, 23, Front Street, Consett.

WANTED, a GENERAL SERVANT; one accustomed to wash and bake; age about 20. —Apply to Post Office, Stanley.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

TO DAIRYMEN.—WANTED, by the above Society, a MAN and WIFE to take charge of and MANAGE A DAIRY FARM, to commence with 10 or 12 Cows.—Applications to be made in writing enclosing Copies of Testimonials, and giving reference for character and experience. Age must be given, and Wage expected. All applications to be sent in on or before March 12th, marked "Dairy," to the Secretary, Consett Co-operative Society. 906

COCKBURN'S REGISTRY OFFICE. FOR SERVANTS, (Established in 1877) 13, Front Street, Consett. A call invited, when best attention will be given. 340w

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WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. Quigley, 14, John Street, Consett. 396v

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BEFORE GOING ELSEWHERE TO BUY,
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A. E. TURNER
ALBION HOUSE,
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To Let.

TO LET, good COTTAGE HOUSE.—Apply, John Bell, Medomsley West Farm.

TO LET, in the New Town Hall Buildings, Middle Street, Consett, one Large Lock-up SHOP, £25 per annum; and also three Lock-up SHOPS, at £18 per annum.—Apply to Thomas Wm. Welford, Jun., Solicitor, Consett. 918

HOUSE and SHOP TO LET, at Lanchester, where a Butchering Business has been carried on a great number of years. Stable, Byre, Coachhouse, and small Garden attached to Premises.—Apply, Thomas Wall, Lanchester. 911

TO BE LET, and entered to on the 13th May next, a good COTTAGE, with TWO ACRES of excellent GRASS LAND, situated at Greenhead, near Black Hedley, at present in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Coulson.—Apply to Mr. Robert Dixon, Woodman, Shotley Hall. 905

TO BE LET, and entered on the 13th May, 1889, SUNNISIDE FARM, near Iveston, in the township of Greencroft, containing about 80 Acres of Arable and Grass Land, together with the Farmhouse and usual Outbuildings, in the occupation of Mrs Eladon. Written offers will be received up to March 15th, 1889, and further particulars given by applying to William Moore, Catchgate, via Lintz Green. 867

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GOOD SEED BARLEY FOR SALE.—Apply to William Haughan, Knitsley Grange.

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A LARGE STOCK of BUILDERS' STORES and SANITARY GOODS always on hand, viz.: Flags, Bricks, Quarls, Fire Backs, Fire Clay, Slag Bricks, Gravel, Cement, Paris Plaster, Hair, Chimney Pots, Sanitary Pipes (all sizes), Junctions, Bends, Tapers, Syphon Traps, Sinks, Gulley Traps, Garden Edging, and all sizes of Field Drain Pipes.

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JOHN HUME & SON'S
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"GERM MEAL."

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You may recollect that some time ago I purchased several tons of your Germ Meal, and as I keep an accurate account of the food used by our cows, its cost, quantity used, and the amount of milk produced per week, it may interest you to know the result.

During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7½ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7½ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16½ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.

I am, yours faithfully,
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BEFORE PURCHASING, SEE THE NEW STOCK OF
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GOLD BANGLES, from 10s. 6d. LADIES' SILVER KEEPER WATCHES, from 25s. 6d. BOYS' SILVER WATCHES, from 27s. 6d.
ANTIQUE SILVER BOWLS, TANKARDS, CANDLESTICKS, TEA AND COFFEE POTS, MUFFINEERS, &c.
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The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH, 1889.

PIGOTT has gone to his last account, and his late allies may breathe a little more freely than they have done for some days. He will make no more revelations; nor, indeed, are these in the least degree necessary to a final judgment on the story of which he was the most prominent figure. There is still poetic justice in the world, and it is impossible to imagine a more ideal retribution than the suicide of this degraded wretch a few hours before Mr. Parnell rose in the House of Commons to receive one of the most remarkable tributes ever paid to any statesman. We do not know whether a sense of shame caused discomfort on the benches where the supporters of the Government sat stolid and silent. But unless they are totally destitute, we will not say of chivalry, which perhaps it is useless to expect from men who slandered Mr. Parnell as long as they dared, but of imagination, they might have had a suspicion that this man they have tried to ruin is far too strong for them, and that all their desperate efforts to crush him will only make his ultimate triumph all the greater. This, at all events, is the confidence which animates the Liberal party. It found most forcible expression in the speech of their leader, whose sure instinct of success is conspicuous in every sentence. We do not know whether Mr. Chamberlain really fancied that his suggestion on Friday night would be gratefully accepted by Mr. Gladstone. Nothing can exceed the self-assurance of Mr. Jesse Collings's relative. The Birmingham oracle still assumes the air of superior wisdom, though nobody heeds it. Mr. Gladstone overwhelmed Mr. Chamberlain with a flood of derision, and so the next speech that Mr. Collings's preceptor favours us with is bound to be charged with venom. Ministers are trying to comfort themselves with their majority of 79, but they can discern little reason for satisfaction in the constituencies. It is there that the ultimate decision lies, not in the present Parliament. Recent events have intensified public feeling against Mr. Balfour's administration, though Unionists who dread a dissolution are still staunch to the man for whom they have broken every pledge. The conspiracy against Mr. Parnell was an essential part of the present system of governing Ireland. Mr. Balfour has no personal responsibility for the forged letters, but the spirit of his policy is calculated to create criminals like Pigott and accomplices like the *Times*. Does the Chief Secretary imagine for a moment that the public will not point the inevitable moral of the Parnell Commission? Does he think they will not see that, while he is punishing men for imaginary crimes in Ireland, the real crime is in England, and the real criminals are amongst the most ardent supporters of his measures? If this fact has not dawned upon him, he will not be kept in ignorance when the whole question is discussed in the House of Commons. When the expected report of the judges on the forged letters is presented, the Opposition will formally indict the Government, and especially Mr. Smith and Sir Richard Webster. Mr. Smith says that the Attorney General has discharged his duties to "the complete satisfaction of the Government," and no doubt Sir Richard Webster will return the compliment by declaring that Mr. Smith is devoted to the service of his country. But these virtuous assumptions are not sufficient. The country wants to know why the Government permitted public officials to collect evidence for the *Times*, to visit convicts in gaol, and to hand over confidential documents to Sir Richard Webster's witnesses. It is evidently the intention of the Attorney-General to shelter himself behind his brief. "My clients gave me their instructions," he will say, "and I had to act on their opinion, and not on my own." But when the chief law officer of the Crown deliberately goes into a political case which is designed to crush the opponents of the Government of which he is a member, he cannot justify by a technical plea of this kind the most criminal recklessness of which a public man was ever guilty.

If Ministers like to imagine that their majority of 79—considerably less, by the way, than the majority of a year ago—has made good their case, they are welcome to this visionary consolation. It will not help their policy in Ireland one iota. It will not enable them to escape the necessity of trying to justify the "indefinite postponement" of remedial measures. Mr. Goschen knows that this is a desperate strait, and he pretended to regard Mr. Courtney's proposal as worthy of grave consideration. What did Mr. Courtney suggest? With a fatuity strange in so clear-headed a man, he proposed that local government should be established in those parts of Ireland which are supposed to be tranquil. In all the districts where the National League either does not exist or has not been proclaimed, let the people have the management of their own local affairs. We are sorry to say anything about Mr. Courtney that may seem offensive, but his idea is simply silly, and Mr. Goschen knows quite well that it is silly. He knows that the moment any machinery of administration was set up, the apparently suppressed branches of the League would simply convert themselves into the local authority. In a very short time all the quiescent districts of Ireland, except in a corner of Ulster, would be more substantially organised for Mr. Parnell's purposes than they are now. That is why the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a burst of candour, declared that, until the Irish people changed their temper, it would be impossible to give them local self-government in any form. Mr. Gladstone described the denial to Irishmen of the rights which are possessed by English citizens, and which will soon be extended to the Scotch, as the worst sort of coercion. The whole Irish policy of the Government is the administration of the permanent Coercion Act. They are afraid to move an inch from this vicious circle lest they should do something to increase the influence of Mr. Parnell. They will go on imprisoning Irish members for offences which have no existence in England, and as far as they dare, they will keep up the practice of treating their political opponents as common felons. They will make no effort to impress the duty of impartiality on the resident magistrates, because those men know that they are the instruments of a political persecution. They will continue the blunders which caused the murder of Inspector Martin for the simple reason that it is impossible for the local officials to shew such respect for the spirit of the law as to abstain from arresting a priest on Sunday. It is in the nature of things that the administration of the Coercion Act should be steeped in party malice; and every month of Mr. Balfour's rule makes the assurance of a final blow to the system at the general election doubly sure.

CASSELL'S BOOK OF THE HOUSEHOLD.—Messrs Cassell and Co. have just issued the first part of this useful work, which is to contain a mass of information of great importance to householders. In this work will be found instructive articles on taking a house, drainage, water supply, heating, and ventilation. The food, wardrobe, health and disease, furniture and furnishing, will also receive due attention. The children will have a series of articles for themselves, and household mechanics will not be neglected. The name of the publishers is a sufficient guarantee that the work will be a reliable volume for reference to householders.

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.

IMPURE LITERATURE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Under the above heading you published a letter last week from a Blackhill correspondent, and in reply thereto I beg to inform the writer that the subject has been denounced from the pulpits of Christ Church, Consett, and St. Aidan's, Blackhill, but I thought, and still think, that the retailers of the articles require as great an amount of attention as anyone else, and it would facilitate the work greatly if this quarter could be successfully assailed. Hoping that the subject will not be allowed to lapse, I remain, yours, &c.,

JOE.

Blackhill, March 5th, 1889.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—I think Mr Taylor deserves every commendation in bringing this subject before the public. It is certainly one of the growing evils of the age, and I trust I may be allowed to suggest some ways and means of lessening its evil effects. The great difficulty is to decide whether a book is or is not impure; and with such numbers of interesting novels, etc, this is no easy task. I think it is agreed that such sensual books as supplied by the French writers, Zola for example, are to be severely condemned. Also, pamphlets sold by so-called professors travelling the country. Newspapers, likewise are not fit to be placed in the way of children, especially when they contain "startling revelations," such as have appeared in recent years. Picture to yourself the following incident which I witnessed some time ago:—The evening paper arrived, and the girl is requested to read to her mother all the particulars of the "Whitechapel tragedy," which they devour with infinite relish. Now these people were devout and regular attenders of a place of worship.

There is a library in Berlin from which no work of fiction is issued unless the borrower proves that he wants it for a scientific purpose. This is a laudable plan, for all our great writers and scholars admit that it is beneficial to a student to read periodically an interesting work of fiction. We are told that Garfield when a student, read a novel every month.

I should lay down the following rule:—"Never read a work of fiction, or allow one in your house, unless the reader can be benefitted by it." There is too little time that we should waste it in task. This is a subject which should have the attention of all guardians of children, for it depends upon how we educate and train the taste of our children, as what they will find pleasure in when they leave home and are allowed to choose for themselves. Ruskin gives some very good advice about books in his splendid work "Sesame and Lilies," where he admits that a right-minded girl should not be debarred from reading a powerfully written book because it contains a little that is not quite proper. I agree with him; and for that reason think some of Ouida's clever books are worth reading.

"Forewarned and forearmed."—And if more of those starting life had been more forewarned they would not have been such defenceless creatures in the day of trial.

I conclude by exhorting teachers and parents to remember that they are responsible for the literary tastes of those under their charge, and, that "Virtue alone gives true pleasure."—Yours, &c,

ANTI-TRASH.

MR CARSS AND THE BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Is it possible that Mr Carss has turned a Tory and is still wearing Radical garments? I have supported Mr Carss for many years, through thick and thin, in his various offices, although he sometimes put my support to a severe strain through his unruly conduct. But I can no longer give him my votes after the miserable figure he cut at the late election of Chairman for the School Board. I have waited and scanned the *Guardian*, week by week, to see if Mr Carss, on reflection, would retract and apologise. The unexpected often happens, but not this time.

I think the Board must have dreaded the outburst of wounded vanity and the unbridled tongue, by the petrified manner in which they voted on the occasion. It is said that drowning people catch at straws. It was very sad to see Mr Carss clutching at Conservative straws: he held because it was the custom to elect Vice-chairmen to be Chairmen, therefore it should be always continued. How often have I heard Mr Carss holding that doctrine up to ridicule in his Radical days—"As it was in the beginning, is now," and so on. Then he held that he was the only member that the ratepayers had elected. I hold all the members were elected, if not by votes, by consent, except Mr Telford, who has been elected by the Board since the election. Is Mr James Annandale not elected to the County Council because there was no contest? When Mr Carss was first elected to the School Board he was in the zenith of his fame, and a member of the various Local Boards. But of recent times every opportunity the ratepayers have had of expressing their opinion they have left him out in the cold. I think Mr Carss lost a splendid opportunity of once more raising himself in the estimation of his fellow-men. No doubt he had some claim to the honourable position, but when he was not elected, if he had turned round to the elected Chairman and congratulated him on his election, and proffered him all assistance in his power, he would have acted more nobly. I must apologise for occupying so much of your valuable space.—Yours, &c,

A RADICAL.

NEW INSTITUTE AT PELTON FELL.

On Saturday afternoon, the new Literary Institute at Pelton Fell was opened by the president, Mr Henry Armstrong, Chester-le Street. There was only a small attendance through the severe weather, snow falling during the greater part of the day.

Mr ARMSTRONG said that some two years ago representation was made to him by the members that the old reading-room was too small, and a new one was required. He advised them to canvass the place and see if the whole of the workmen were in favour of a new room. This was done, and the whole of the workmen with one or two exceptions were in favour of the scheme. He then forwarded the petition to the owners, who gave their consent, and the new building had accordingly been erected to meet the requirements of the place. The Institute comprises a large reading-room, billiard-room, and draught room on the ground floor, and a large lecture-room above to accommodate 500 persons.

Rev H. H. BIRLEY, vicar of Pelton, said it afforded him great pleasure to have to speak to them on this occasion. These buildings were required to bring them as it were "in touch with the times," that they may be able to grapple with scientific subjects, according to the intentions of those statesmen who passed the Education Act some 18 years ago. He hoped the workmen would avail themselves of every opportunity held out to them to improve their condition, for this was a progressive age, and unless they entered the van of progress they would be left behind. He wished them every success in their undertaking.

Rev H. E. SAVAGE, vicar of West Hartlepool, then addressed the meeting. He was very pleased to see old faces again; but it gave him greater pleasure to be there on that occasion, at the opening of this public building. He recollected some eight years ago, when he first came to the village. There was no public building then, but they had since made rapid strides, there being several public buildings now in the place. But this one was the best, he thought, for it was here that men might meet for their social advancement and be able to read all scientific books which would be placed at their disposal. He would urge upon the committee not to leave a stone unturned—if they should fail in one thing, try another—so as to be able to meet the increasing requirements of the place.

Mr JOHN BATEY then gave a short history of the place, extending some 26 years back. It had, he said, been a struggle to keep the Institute open. The faces he saw there that day bespoke intelligence, so that there were good things in store for them in the future. He concluded by moving a vote of thanks to the speakers.

Mr R. H. LONDSDALE seconded, and the vote was carried by acclamation.

A capital tea was provided by Mr Dixon, of Chester-le-Street, and at night the spacious hall was crowded (many having to go away, being unable to get near the door) to hear the entertainment, which was a great success. Notable in carrying out the arrangements were Mr H. Henderson and Mr R. Londsdale, ably assisted by by Batey, the untiring secretary.

A MINER DROWNED AT EAST HEDLEYHOPE.

The body of a miner was found in the colliery pond at East Hedleyhope, near Tow Law, on Sunday afternoon, and was identified as that of John Lockey, aged 48, married, and residing at East Hedleyhope. Lockey spent Saturday night at Tow Law and Crook, and left with others to go home. He seems to have got separated from his companions, whom he left at 9·30 p.m., and it is thought that he missed his way, and fell into the pond. His body was recovered at two p.m. on Sunday.—At the Dearness Valley Hotel, Hedley hope, on Tuesday, Mr J. T. Proud (deputy-coroner) held an inquest on the body of Lockey.—A verdict of "Accidentally drowned" whilst returning home from Tow Law on Saturday night was recorded by the jury. There were no marks of violence found upon the body.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

BENFIELDSIDE.—There was only a small supply of stock forward at this mart on Monday, and included 9 fat cattle, from £12 10s to £19 15s; fat sheep (mostly hoggs), 40s to 68s; 12 cows, up to £19 17s 6d. Pigs sold up to 25s; calves from 13s to 19s 6d. Numerous lots of hay, turnips, harness, and sundries were also disposed of. There was a fair good attendance of buyers, and trade was fairly good, although sheep were not making quite so good prices as at recent sales. Quotation:—Beef, 8s per stone; sheep (hoggs) 9½d per lb.

TOW LAW.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday 25 cows, calved and to calve, up to £19; 6 fat cattle, up to £16 7s 6d; fat sheep up to 60s—top, Mr Holroyd, Hedley Hope; fat hoggs, up to 46s 6d—top, Mr Marley, Eastgate. A quantity of seed oats made 6d per boll.

LOCAL METHODISM.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCHES—CONSETT CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of the above was held in the Dipton Chapel, on Saturday afternoon, under the presidency of Rev J. Martin, Blackhill. Encouraging reports were presented from the various churches. Rev J. Martin and Mr David Mole (Dipton) were appointed to represent the circuit at the district meeting to be held in Brougham Street Chapel, Sunderland, in May.—Rev A. Bromley, of Accrington (Lancashire) succeeds Rev J. Martin.

WHITE - LE - HEAD PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of this circuit was held at White-le-Head on Saturday—Rev M. Johnson presiding.—It was stated that 42 members, including four local preachers, had removed from the circuit during the year. Mr J. Johnson, of Andrew's House, was elected delegate to the district meeting (which is to be held at Hetton in May), and Mr T. R. Oates vice-delegate.

CHESTER - LE - STREET PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.—The quarterly meeting of the Chester-le-Street Primitive Methodist circuit was held on Saturday — Rev John Taylor presiding.—The numerical report showed an increase for the quarter of 46, and for the year of 5. Chapel debt during the year had been paid off to the amount of £187; the value of the connexional property in the circuit being £7,394. Mr C. Briggs, Pudsey, near Leeds, was selected as a hired local preacher for twelve months, the circuit minister having made a liberal offer towards the expense. Rev J. Taylor accepted an invitation to remain a fifth year. Mr F. Knox was elected delegate, and Mr George Hepple vice-delegate to the district meeting.

WEARDALE SABBATH-SCHOOL UNION MEETING.—The half-yearly meeting of the Weardale Wesleyan Sunday-school Union was held in the Wesleyan School-room, Westgate, on Saturday. Rev J. Mackintosh presided. The minutes of the September meeting were read and adopted, after which the statistical reports were read, which showed the various schools to be in a prosperous state, there being an increase of 57 scholars for the past half-year, and also an increase of 14 scholars who are meeting in class, making a total of 181 meeting in class. The reports also showed that there was an increase of 98 books in the various libraries, making a total of 2,284. The school visitors' reports were read by Mr Robert Ridley, Stanhope, Mr J. Featherstone, Lanehead, and Mr G. Hodgson, High House, which showed that the schools were orderly and well conducted. Messrs Wm. Emerson, J. Harrison, J. Thompson, and T. Wilkinson were appointed visitors for the ensuing half-year. Mr Thos. Parker, Eastgate, treasurer was thanked for past services, and re-elected. Essays were read by Mr J. Ward on "Preaching and preachers," and by Mr T. Vickers on "The teachers we need in our Sunday-schools." The Chairman was appointed to read a paper at the next meeting, to be held at St. John's Chapel, in September.—Thanks tendered to the essayists and the chairman closed a very interesting meeting, after which the teachers sat down to tea.

WEARDALE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.—The Primitive Methodist quarterly meeting, Westgate station, was held at Westgate, on Friday afternoon—Rev J. Taylor in the chair, and Rev E. Phillipson, secretary. After the accounts were made up, over £3 remained to the good. Mr Geo. Humble, Lanehead, was appointed delegate to attend the next district meeting, and Mr Wm. Lee, Sidefoot, vice. The laymen in the circuit obtained sanction to form a Laymen's Improvement Association, and Mr R. T. Walton, Rookhope, was elected secretary.

STANLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.—The March quarterley meeting of the above circuit was held at Stanley on Saturday last, Rev J. Magee presided. There was a good attendance of officials. Two local preachers passed on to full plan, and four young men were nominated for the plan. The circut was considered to be in a prosperous condition, for after removing 136 names from the roll book, through removal and other causes, there will be an increase of 20, with a good reserve to report to the District Meeting and Conference. The financial report was considered very satisfactory, after meeting all demands there remained a good balance in the hands of the steward. The total amount of money raised in the circuit for all purposes was £1,247. The debt on the Oxhill Chapel had been paid off during the year, leaving a small balance in hand. Great praise is due to Mr and Mrs Kay and family, Oxhill, for their earnest efforts and assistance rendered to the removing of the above debt from the chapel, and the others express their hearty thanks to them for their kindness. Mr Philip Reay was appointed delegate and Mr E. Pickering vice-delegate, to the district meeting, to be held at Hetton in May. There had also been £30 paid off the circuit house debt during the year. It was decided to hold the demonstration as usual and a committee was arranged to carry it out. Two new chapels had been erected during the year, one at Burhope and one at Greencroft. The circuit is in a fairly good condition all round, and we are looking to God for still greater results.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT.—The March quarterly meeting of this circuit was held at Leadgate, on Saturday. The reports presented showed that the circuit was in a prosperous condition, and the total number of members was 610, with an increase of 10 for the year.—Arrangements were made to transfer the Mickley branch to the Newcastle Circuit II., and since the above meeting this has been accomplished.—Mr G. Hawdon (Consett) was elected the delegate to attend the District Meeting, and Mr Ripley (Castleside) vice-delegate.—The Rev J. Alderson remains another year; while Rev T. J. Watson, of Bishop Auckland, will succeed Rev J. Maffatt, who will leave after July. The remainder of the business was of a formal character.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—Soldiers and Sailors.—These well-known and easily used remedies are especially serviceable and convenient for those who, like soldiers and sailors, are exposed to great changes of climate, and the hardships inseparable from their calling. Many of the diseases engendered in the system from these and other untoward causes can be checked and controlled by attention at their onset, and in Holloway's remedies will be found a ready means of relief, without hindrance from duty. Many a man is invalided and rendered more or less a burden to himself and friends from neglect of the early symptoms of his complaint, which calamity might be averted by timely resort to the use of Holloway's Pills and Ointment.

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

TUESDAY, March 5th.—Before Rev W. P. Wharton (in the chair), and Chancellor Earle.

DRUNKENNESS.

For being drunk the following persons were each fined as under:—*Thomas Marren*, 10s; *James Smith*, 7s 6d; *Joseph Raine*, 7s 6d; *Elisha Carbery*, 8s 6d; *William Humble*, 8s 6d; and *Patrick Carr*, 7s 6d.—To prove Marren's case the police-constable called a boy named Thomas Dobson, 11 years of age, as a witness. He testified to seeing the defendant drunk.—Prior to taking the oath, the Chairman asked the lad if he went to school?—"Yes, sir," replied the boy.—"Do they teach you that it is wrong to tell lies?"—"No, sir."—"Really, do they not?"—"No, sir."—"Do you attend a Board School?"—"No, sir."—"What school do you go to?"—"The Church school, sir."—This reply caused a titter of half-suppressed laughter in Court, the boy giving his replies so innocently and yet so originally.—Defendant was asked if he wished to question the boy?—He replied in the negative. He had questioned the constable, but did not care to ask that boy any questions.

Bridget Doran, of Tow Law, was summoned for being drunk on Feb. 12th.—She had been convicted 12 times for being drunk between 1873 and 1888.—Fined £1; in default 14 days.

BREACH OF THE HIGHWAY ACT.

John Maddinson, Tow Law, was summoned for allowing his horse to stray on the highway, with no one in charge.—Fined 5s, including costs.

DRUNK IN CHARGE OF A HORSE AND CART.

John Anderson, farmer, Wolsingham, was charged with being drunk while in charge of a horse and cart, on the 13th ult.—Fined 15s, including costs.

WAGES CASE.

George Underwood, agent and manager at the Harehope Gill lead mines, Frosterley, was summoned by Andrew White, Saltersgate, for arrears of wages due to the amount of £9.—Prosecutor deposed that he was engaged at £1 per week, and had worked from Sept. 24th till December 22nd at the said mines, and had received £4 on account, but still wanted £9.—The Bench made an order for payment forthwith.—Mr J. J. Devey appeared for plaintiff.

ASSAULTING HER HUSBAND.

Bridget Doran, Tow Law, was summoned by John Doran, her husband, for assaulting him by throwing crockery-ware at him on Feb. 16th, thereby cutting his head severely.—It transpired they had been married 26 years, but had only lived eight years together.—Complainant appeared with a conspicuous plaster on his bald head, and told a pitiful tale.—On being asked if she had any questions to put, defendant said "I admit I tossed the pots at him."—The Chairman: You will be fined £1, including costs, or in default 14 days.—Defendant: I'll be better there than here; thank you, Mr Wilkinson, thank you."—Defendant was marched off by a police officer amid general laughter.

WEARDALE GUARDIANS V ASYLUM INMATES.

John Lockie, an inmate of Sedgefield Asylum, was chargeable to the Weardale Union to the extent of £12 1s 6d. A legacy having been left him of some £300 or more, his executors were summoned by Mr J. G. Bainbridge, relieving officer to the Weardale Union, for the amount due.—Mr Robinson appeared for Lockie.—The Bench made an order for the £12 1s 6d to be paid to the Weardale Guardians.

Ann Jamison, another asylum inmate, who had received a legacy, was chargeable to the Union to the amount of £8 10s.—Mr J. Roddam appeared for Jamison.—The Bench made an order for the £48 10s to be paid over to the Guardians.

GAME TRESPASS.

Thomas Moore, *William Craggs*, *William Hall*, and *Thomas Leyburn* were charged by John T Swainston with trespassing in pursuit of game at Thornley.—Defendants all pleaded guilty, and were each fined £1 and costs.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this Board was held in the Board Offices on Tuesday evening. The members present were Messrs Jos. Ridley (chairman), Wm. Ridley, J. W. Laverick, J. Wild, W. Atkinson, W. R. Teasdale, W. Campbell, and R. Spreats.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector submitted the following monthly report:—

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

GENTLEMEN,—During the month, little could be done. A few notices are pending to remedy nuisances—such as cementing stench traps, re-spouting, &c. A list of complaints and recommendations in your medical officer's annual report has been forwarded to the Weardale Iron and Coal Company by their police-officer, which will no doubt receive attention. Some difficulty is often experienced in the removal of house refuse, especially to rented houses, owing to such quantities of rubbish being deposited into the dunghills. Owing to the roughness of the ashes, &c., the farmers decline to take it away without some compensation. There must either be some cases summoned, or the Board should cart the same away and charge for it, as such places cannot be kept in a clean and tidy condition.—I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. GARRAWAY.

Tow Law, March 5th, 1889.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

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

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

GENTLEMEN,—The two trucks of broken limestone you ordered last month have been received, and nearly all laid on North Road and crossings at Dans Castle and Castle Bank. Perhaps it is owing to the weather that the Weardale Iron and Coal Company have not yet got the Park Terrace Road completed, nor the footpath and kerb raised.

The sewer in Dearness Valley has been attended to again, and will, I think, now meet your approval. In reference to Mr Burrell's complaint, I shall be glad to attend to your instructions as to the drain emptying into his land.

The cemetery footpaths have been re-covered with ballast, and I should thank you to say whether the barrowing and spreading is considered a part of the sexton's duties, or he is to be paid extra for this work.

It is usual at this meeting to issue notices for the re-letting of your team labour at your April meeting.

I have several complaints of a few holes in the street walks, and this should have been remedied, but we are out of flags. If you could get me a few, your roadman can put them in.

I have finished collecting the general district rate, and deposited with your treasurer during the month £42 3s, making a total of £257 4s 6d, and reducing the arrears from £14 19s 2d last half-year to £9 11s 4d. I have done my very utmost to collect these arrears, but failed, and hope in the case of three on the list I lay before you, the necessary proceedings will be taken to recover the same before the audit of accounts.

Monthly Wages Bill.

		£	s.	d.
Main roads:	Manual labour	2	19	0
	Team labour	0	18	4
Other roads:	Manual labour	1	8	0
Gasworks:	Gasman's wages	6	1	0
	Gasman's quarterly allowance	0	5	6
Streets:	Lamplighting	1	2	0
Cemetery:	Sexton's wages	1	12	0
	Manual labour	0	4	6
	Team labour	0	9	0
Establishment:	Office-cleaning	0	7	0
		£15	6	4

Leaving £2 17s 1d in Surveyor's hands.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,

Tow Law, March 5th, 1889. JOHN HILLARY.

PAYBILL.

The Clerk presented a paybill for £54 18s 10d, which was unanimously passed.

TENDERS FOR TEAM LABOUR.

It was decided to issue notices for tenders for team labour for the next year, the same to be obtained before the next meeting.

ARREARS.

A list of persons in arrears with their general district rate was presented by the collector, and the Clerk was ordered to give the defaulters the usual 14 days' notice.

THE SEWERAGE DISPUTE.

On a report by the Clerk as to the state of the law on the question of the Railway Company's complaint respecting the nuisance arising from the sewerage, it was decided that the Clerk ask the Railway Company's land agent to meet the Board in order to discuss the matter fully.

THE INSTITUTE LAMP-POST.

It was decided to remove the lamp-post near the Institute in accordance with the suggestions of the Board at the special meeting on 20th February.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

The Clerk reported that the retiring members this year were Messrs Wm. Ridley, W. R. Teasdale, and R. Spreats, and the Chairman fixed the following dates for proceedings in connection with the election, viz:—Notice of election, Thursday, March 7th; last day for nominations, Friday, March 22nd; filling up voting papers, Wednesday, March 27th; delivery of papers, Thursday, March 28th; collection of papers, Tuesday, April 2nd; counting papers, Wednesday, April 3rd. By the above programme, ample time is given for any person nominated to withdraw from the election.

ENTERTAINMENT AT CASTLESIDE.

On Saturday night, the amateur talent of Castleside gave a grand entertainment in the Board Schools. The building was packed by a fashionable, and enthusiastic audience. The younger portion there conducted themselves fairly well, although there was an occasionaly "break out" ending with a merry laugh. The entertainment was promoted in order to raise funds for the burial ground—an object which seems to have the sympathy of old and young. The committee are to be congratulated for the manner in which they have worked together, with Mr T. J. Moss as chairman, Mr E. Leybourne as vice-chairman, and Mr T. Duckworth as secretary, during the year, and they can now boast of a churchyard equal to any other in the neighbourhood. This is the first attempt made by the committee to organise a concert for the talent of the village, with the assistance of Messrs R. Ridley (Blackhill), and J. Bell ([illegible] Hill), and it was quite a success. The singing of the Jubilee Temperance Choir, and the playing of the self-trained band of the village was really a treat. The reciting of Miss Carruthers was worthy of the attention she received.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening, said he was glad to see such a large company present who were in sympathy with the burial ground scheme. He heard a voice there say, "Vote for Oliver." (Laughter). Well, he was glad that the voting question was over, he was heartily sick of politics. They were there on that occasion for a social purpose, and politics could not interfere. (Applause). He would not take up any more of their time, but he hoped the younger portion would conduct themselves better. They got a bad name, last time, through the newspapers. (Laughter and a voice "Beardless youths"). He wanted them to redeem their characters. (Cheers). They could laugh and cheer when it pleased them as hard as they liked, but they were not to whistle under any consideration. Referring to the burial scheme, he stated that altogether they had spent about £100, and they had still a balance of £6 15s 9d on hand, in addition to what they would realise that night. (Applause).

The VICE-CHAIRMAN followed with a brief speech, remarking that as the vice-chairman of the committee, he had always tried to do his duty, and he could say that they had worked harmoniously together. He trusted that they would enjoy themselves, and go away benefitted by the entertainment. (Applause).

The first part of the programme was opened by a glee, "Song of the herdsman," from the choir, and was exceedingly well executed. The echo, in response to the choir, was exquisitely performed in an adjoining room, and sounded exceptionally well. Messrs Ridley and Bell favoured with a pianoforte duet, which was rendered in first-class style. The song, "Another day," by Miss Ripley, was executed very well. "The white squall" was sung in splendid style by Mr H. Potts, and received a large measure of applause. The members of the Castleside String Band, on making their appearance with their new helmets, were greeted with a regular outburst of cheering. They rendered "The lion standard" in a very creditable manner, and received a well-deserved *encore*. The part song, "The broken harp," by eight members of the choir, was given very fairly. The "star" of the evening, however, was Miss Carruthers, with her recitation, "The curfew." This young lady is a splendid reciter, and only needs a little more practice to become perfect. The manner in which she held the audience spell-bound while she rendered her piece was something marvellous. Miss Symm, for her song "Caller herrin'," received an enrapturous *encore*, and acknowledged the same by singing "Ye banks and braes" very sweetly indeed. The comic duet, "Love and pride," by Miss Gordon and Mr Bell, pleased the audience immensely, and they were awarded an *encore*. The instrumental selection by the band was given really well, and they were re-called. Part II. was introduced by a quartette, "Sons of harmony," by five members of the choir, which was rather long, and spoiled the effect; but on the whole it was neatly executed. Another pianoforte duet, by Messrs Bell and Ridley, was a performance that evoked prolonged applause, its brilliancy and effect being all that could be desired. The song "Cleverly caught," by Miss Dent, was given in good style, and received the plaudits of the assembly. Miss Carruthers, for her recitation, "Old bachelors," won the warmest encomiums of the delighted audience. The popular song, "Jack's yarn," by Mr B. W. Duckworth, was well worthy of the applause he received. Miss Proud, in "Rory O'Moore," seemed rather nervous, but in the second verse she gradually improved, and, on the whole, was fairly well received. Miss Raine and Dent for their duet, "Over the dancing waves," were enrapturously applauded for their excellent rendition of the piece. The song, "Barney O'Hea," by Miss Symm, was an especial favourite, and the composition was accorded full justice at the hands of the singer, who gave it in such a pleasant manner that she was heartily re-called. She acknowledged the compliment by giving "Coming through the rye" most effectively. The string band next favoured with a polka in good style; after which the choir brought the programme to a close with "Now the bells for departure," which was an admirable vocal effort. Great praise is due to the conductor of the choir (Mr Duckworth), likewise to the leader of the band for the manner in which they wielded the baton. The company dispersed after singing the "National Anthem."

ST. CUTHBERT'S CHURCH, BENFIELDSIDE.

The teachers, scholars, and friends of St. Cuthbert's Sunday School gave a very interesting entertainment, on behalf of the church bells, in the Sunday School, on Monday evening. The room was crowded by a very select and appreciative audience, and many of the scholars that attended had to be seated on the window-sills, these being the only vacant places in the building. At one end of the room was a platform with curtains, kindly lent for the occasion by Mrs Booth. The chair was occupied by Rev Geo. H. Ross-Lewin, vicar of the parish, who had been the chief person instrumental in promoting the entertainment. In his remarks, which were not made until the programme had been gone through, the rev gentleman stated that at the beginning of the winter season it had been intended that they should have a series of social evenings in the shape of entertainments, but owing to the death of the late Mr Jonathan Priestman—a gentleman who was a regular attendant at the church, who was always ready to take part in whatever was good and useful, and whose loss is mourned by rich and poor alike—this plan was given up.—The programme was contributed all through without the slightest hitch, and the whole of the performers did what fell to their lot most excellently. Miss Jackson made her first appearance before a Shotley Bridge audience, and her success was complete. Her rendering of "Excelsior" and "The Kerry dance" secured the well-deserved applause of the company. This lady is a decided acquisition to the amateur talent of the district. Miss Lishman sung "The minstrel boy" in a voice which, though not strong, is very sweet and tuneful. The gentlemen who sang were Rev W. Hermitage and Messrs C. Stephenson, M. Richley, and R. Heymer. Mr Stephenson sang in his usual finished style, and proved that with succeeding years his voice loses none of its charm. Rev W. Hermitage and Mr Heymer both received great applause, while Mr Richley—who has not sung in public since the days of the old Benfieldside Cricket Club—received such a welcome as should tempt him to come before the public more often in the future. The poetical part of the programme was placed in the hands of Mr Joshua Lax, and it could not have been placed in charge of a more competent exponent. His recitation, "The execution of Montrose," seemed to hold his hearers spell-bound, and at its close he was greeted with rounds of applause. All the scholars that took part in the dialogues did exceedingly well; the introduction of the song "His funeral's to-morrow," by Mr J. Barron, in the comedy, "The Irish tutor," was a departure which certainly took with the audience. Miss Falconar's pianoforte solo, and the pianoforte duet by Mrs Barclay and Mrs Brutton, were performed very skilfully. Master George Stephenson executed his part of accompanyist in an efficient manner. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, and it is to be hoped that another entertainment of a like nature will shortly follow this one. The programme is given below:—Pianoforte solo, Miss Falconar; song, "The king's highway," Rev W. Hermitage; dialogue, "Blundering Barney," Masters Dibley and Warrell, and Miss Warrell; song, "After many roving years," Mr Ridley Heymer; song, "Excelsior," Miss Jackson; comedy, "Irish tutor," Masters F. Barron, J. H. Barton, T. R. Pearson, J. Ormerod, and W. Oliver; pianoforte duet, Mrs Barclay and Mrs Brutton; recitation, "Execution of Montrose," Mr J. Lax; song, "The minstrel boy," Miss Lishman; song, "The white squall," Mr C. Stephenson; song, "The Kerry dance," Miss Jackson; song, "The mermaid," Mr M. Richley; song, "The anchor's weighed," Mr R. Heymer; "God save the Queen," the company.

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That gymnastics are necessary to preserve good health.

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GREAT FOOT-RACE AT DIPTON.—The trial heats of Mr Robert Brown's £12 10s 125 yards' foot handicap, were run off at the Dipton Recreation Grounds on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of about 300 spectators. Nearly 100 entries had been received for the event, which were divided into 20 heats. The weather was of the most severe nature, there being a fall of about six inches of snow, but the track had been swept clean and was in excellent trim, there being only a slight covering of snow upon it. Details:—Heat 1—J Johnson, Blackhill, 17½ yards, 1; J Edwards, Durham, 14½, 2; M Clair, Leadgate, 18½, 3; J Leadbitter, Dipton, 19, 4. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 2—C Moses, Tow Law, 19½, 1; J Elliott, Tantobie, 16, 2; G Browning, Crook, 17½, 3. Won by a foot. Heat 3—I Bowman, Dipton, 12½, 1; J Bell, Winlaton, 18, 2; W Evans, Dipton, 20, 3; R Bruce, Consett, 17½, 4. Won by nine inches. Heat 4—W Willey, Leadgate, 16½, 1; H Robinson, Dipton, 19, 2; J Gent, Consett, 19½, 3. Won easily. Heat 5—J Murray, Crook, 17½, 1; R Smith, Crook, 18½, 2; E Burton, Victoria Garesfield, 18½, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 6—T Davison, Castleside, 15½, w.o. Heat 7—P Malone, Marley Hill, 20, 1; T Brown, Dipton, 20, 2. Won by a foot. Heat 8—J Davison, Blackhill, 18½, 1; J G Rain, Victoria Garesfield, 18½, 2; J T Dixon, Gateshead, 17½, 3; T Forster, Annfield Plain, 19, 4; J Brown, Marley Hill, 18½, 5. Won by a yard. Heat 9—J Richardson, Crook, 15, 1; H Applegarth, Leadgate, 16, 2; G Teasdale, Dipton, 7½, 3; A Coulthard, Byer Moor, 18, 4. A close contest, won by six inches only. Heat 10—G Kennedy, Dipton, 19, 1; J Telford, Blackhill, 20, 2; J Stephenson, Tanfield Lea, 19 (disqualified). Won by one yard. Heat 11—E Emmerson, Pea Farm, Stanley, 18½, 1; Jno. Nicholson, Leadgate, 18, 2; M. Hobday, Blackhill, 18, 3. Won easily. Heat 12—J. Redshaw, Durham, 6, 1; W. Wallace, Tanfield Lea, 20, 2; J. T. Armstrong, Dipton, 18, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 13—J. Marley, Durham, 14½, 1; C. Douglass, Blackhill, 10½, 2; W. Hansom, Leadgate, 16, 3; R. Wood, Burnopfield, 17½, 4. Won by a yard-and-a-half. Heat 14—B. Donaghan, Crook, 16, 1; A. Elsdon, Leadgate, 20, 2; T. Gardner, Whickham, 17½, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 15—T. Clasper, Byer Moor, 21, 1; J. Garland, Hobson Colliery, 21½, 2. Won easily. Heat 16—J. Haggerstone, Leadgate, 19, 1; J. Arford, Marley Hill, 20½, 2; H. Benson, Swalwell, 21½, 3; R. Gregg, Winlaton, 15½, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 17—J. Dunn, Prudhoe, 13, 1; J. Fielding, Swalwell, 15, 2; J. Cunningham, Dipton, 18, 3. Won by a-yard-and-a-half. Heat 18—H. Wallace, Consett, 17, 1; J. Gibson, Blackhill, 21½, 2; E. Keith, Burnopfield, 20½, 3. Won easily. Heat 19—J. Robson, Pontop, 16, 1; E. Ashman, Castleside, 15½, 2; G. Watson, Blackhill, 15, 3; T. Davidson, Swalwell, 12½, 4; W. Parker, Consett, 12, 5. An excellent race; won on the post. Heat 20—H. Layton, Hobson Colliery, 18, 1; W. Elliot, Consett, 19, 2. Won easily. Mr M. Snowdon, of Tantobie, satisfactorily discharged the duties of handicapper and referee; while Mr W. Carter, of Dipton, was pistol-firer.—The draw for the final heats afterwards took place at the hostelry Mr R. Brown, Bute Arms, with the following result:—Heat 1—J. Marley, H. Layton, J. Redshaw, G. Kennedy, and J. Haggerstone. Heat 2—T. Davison, J. Bowman, E. Emmerson, J. Davidson, and P. Malone. Heat 3—C. Moses, J. Murray, H. Wallace, J. Richardson, and W. Willey. Heat 4—B. Donaghan, J. Dunn, T. Clasper, J. Robson, and W. Johnson. [The handicap is a very open one, betting ruling at 4 to 1 on the field.

THE FAMILY DOCTOR.—The March number of *The Family Doctor*, which is the commencement of a new volume, is full of useful information. The articles on the proper care of fever patients, leprosy, and an original method of obtaining sleep, are instructive. There is a page for the cook and housekeeper, as well as a mother's page. A novel feature is initiated in the present number—graphology; or, character reading from handwriting.

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SHOOTING HANDICAP AT SLALEY.—A handicap pigeon shooting was held at the village of Slaley on Saturday. The shooting was promoted by Mr W Dodd, village blacksmith, and a plough of his own make was the prize. There were 13 entries, at 2s 6d each, but only seven contested. The shooting took place in a field granted by Mr Robt Jewitt, Rose and Crown Inn. The pigeons were of excellent quality, and some fair shooting resulted, the successful competitor being Thos White, High Fotherley, who killed four pigeons at 19 yards rise, having one lot only, first miss out. T H Parker, Blanchland, was second, he killing three birds. Breechloaders were used.

HILL TOP.—A pigeon shooting sweep, organised by Mr Rowley Bender, which commenced a fortnight previously, was brought off on Saturday afternoon in a field adjacent to the house of Mr R Frieck, Grey Horse Inn, Hill Top, near Dipton. There was a good entry, and a fair muster of spectators was present. Scores:—Our Mary, 21 yards, 0; Vanticle Boy, 17, 1 1 1 0; Bendigo, 17, 0; Wm Thompson, 18, 1 0; Our Mary, 2nd lot, 21, 0; Young Shotton, 17, 0; E Shotton, 20, 1 0; J E Forster, 19, 0; Muggins, 17, 1 1 1 0; Joseph Advance, 17, 1 0; Tiddy Fal-lal, 17, 1 1 1 0; Catchgate Mary, 19, 1 1 1 0; Ned, 17, 1 1 1 1; Stanley, 21, 1 1 1 1; Clogger, 19, 1 0; Gill, 17, 0; Snowdrop, 17, 1 1 1 1; J Meddows, 19, 1 1 1 1; Rap, 19, 1 1 1 1; J E Forster, 2nd lot, 19, 1 0; E Shotton, 2nd lot, 1 1 1 0; W. Taylor, 19, 0; Captain Webb, 20, 0. Stake divided.—Afterwards a small sweep was shot off as under:—Stanley, 21, 1 1 1; Snowdrop, 21, 1 1 0; E Shotton, 21, 0; J Meddows, 21, 0. Mr J Forster acted as referee, and Mr R Burdon as trapper.

GREAT FOOT-RACE AT DIPTON.—The trial heats of Mr Robert Brown's £12 10s 125 yards' foot handicap, were run off at the Dipton Recreation Grounds on Saturday afternoon, in the presence of about 300 spectators. Nearly 100 entries had been received for the event, which were divided into 20 heats. The weather was of the most severe nature, there being a fall of about six inches of snow, but the track had been swept clean and was in excellent trim, there being only a slight covering of snow upon it. Details:—Heat 1—J Johnson, Blackhill, 17½ yards, 1; J Edwards, Durham, 14½, 2; M Clair, Leadgate, 16½, 3; J Leadbitter, Dipton, 19, 4. Won by half-a-yard. Heat 2—C Moses, Tow Law, 19½, 1; J Elliott, Tantobie, 16, 2; G Browning, Crook, 17½, 3. Won by a foot. Heat 3—I Bowman, Dipton, 12½, 1; J Bell, Winlaton, 18, 2; W Evans, Dipton, 20, 3; R Bruce, Consett, 17½, 4. Won by nine inches. Heat 4—W Willey, Leadgate, 16½, 1; H Robinson, Dipton, 19, 2; J Gent, Consett, 19½, 3. Won easily. Heat 5—J Murray, Crook, 17½, 1; R Smith, Crook, 18½, 2; E Burton, Victoria Garesfield, 18½, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 6—T Davison, Castleside, 15½, w.o. Heat 7—P Malone, Marley Hill, 20, 1; T Brown, Dipton, 20, 2. Won by a foot. Heat 8—J Davison, Blackhill, 18½, 1; J G Rain, Victoria Garesfield, 18½, 2; J T Dixon, Gateshead, 17½, 3; T Forster, Annfield Plain, 19, 4; J Brown, Marley Hill, 18½, 5. Won by a yard. Heat 9—J Richardson, Crook, 15, 1; H Applegarth, Leadgate, 16, 2; G Teasdale, Dipton, 7½, 3; A Coulthard, Byer Moor, 18, 4. A close contest, won by six inches only. Heat 10—G Kennedy, Dipton, 19, 1; J Telford, Blackhill, 20, 2; J Stephenson, Tanfield Lea, 19 (disqualified). Won by one yard. Heat 11—E Emmerson, Pea Farm, Stanley, 18½, 1; Jno. Nicholson, Leadgate, 18, 2; M. Hobday, Blackhill, 18, 3. Won easily. Heat 12—J. Redshaw, Durham, 6, 1; W. Wallace, Tanfield Lea, 20, 2; J. T. Armstrong, Dipton, 18, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 13—J. Marley, Durham, 14½, 1; C. Douglass, Blackhill, 10½, 2; W. Hansom, Leadgate, 16, 3; R. Wood, Burnopfield, 17½, 4. Won by a yard-and-a-half. Heat 14—B. Donaghan, Crook, 16, 1; A. Elsden, Leadgate, 20, 2; T. Gardner, Whickham, 17½, 3. Won by two yards. Heat 15—T. Clasper, Byer Moor, 21, 1; J. Garland, Hobson Colliery, 21½, 2. Won easily. Heat 16—J. Haggerstone, Leadgate, 19, 1; J. Arford, Marley Hill, 20½, 2; H. Benson, Swalwell, 21½, 3; R. Gregg, Winlaton, 15½, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 17—J. Dunn, Prudhoe, 13, 1; J. Fielding, Swalwell, 15, 2; J. Cunningham, Dipton, 18, 3. Won by a-yard-and-a-half. Heat 18—H. Wallace, Consett, 17, 1; J. Gibson, Blackhill, 21½, 2; E. Keith, Burnopfield, 20½, 3. Won easily. Heat 19—J. Robson, Pontop, 16, 1; E. Ashman, Castleside, 15½, 2; G. Watson, Blackhill, 15, 3; T. Davidson, Swalwell, 12½, 4; W. Parker, Consett, 12, 5. An excellent race; won on the post. Heat 20—H. Layton, Hobson Colliery, 18, 1; W. Elliot, Consett, 19, 2. Won easily. Mr M. Snowden, of Tantobie, satisfactorily discharged the duties of handicapper and referee; while Mr W. Carter, of Dipton, was pistol-firer.—The draw for the final heats afterwards took place at the hostelry Mr R. Brown, Bute Arms, with the following result:—Heat 1—J. Marley, H. Layton, J. Redshaw, G. Kennedy, and J. Haggerstone. Heat 2—T. Davison, J. Bowman, E. Emmerson, J. Davidson, and P. Malone. Heat 3—C. Moses, J. Murray, H. Wallace, J. Richardson, and W. Willey. Heat 4—B. Donaghan, J. Dunn, T. Clasper, J. Robson, and W. Johnson. The handicap is a very open one, betting ruling at 4 to 1 on the field.

THE FAMILY DOCTOR.—The March number of *The Family Doctor*, which is the commencement of a new volume, is full of useful information. The articles on the proper care of fever patients, leprosy, and an original method of obtaining sleep, are instructive. There is a page for the cook and housekeeper, as well as a mother's page. A novel feature is initiated in the present number—graphology; or, character reading from handwriting.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

FIRST COURT.

MONDAY, March 4th.—Before J. W. WALTON WILSON, Esq. (in the chair), and WM. GREEN, Esq.

THE EBCHESTER ANTI-VACCINATOR AGAIN!

William R. Thompson, a signal-man, employed by the North-Eastern Railway Company, at Ebchester Station, was once more summoned by Mr John Proud, vaccination officer, Shotley Bridge, at the instigation of the Lanchester Poor-Law Guardians, for neglecting to conform to the law and have his two sons vaccinated. Owing to illness, the defendant was not able to appear.—Defendant has been six times previously proceeded against for a similar offence, the last occasion being March 6th, 1888, when the justices made an order for the children to be vaccinated forthwith. It appears that Wm. George Thompson was born at Consett Park on January 14, 1885, and Charlton Bradlaugh was born at Ebchester on April 28th, 1886.—Mr Proud said that defendant had not complied with the orders.—The Clerk of the Court (Mr A. W. Granger) pointed out that the Bench could only issue fresh orders. If the prosecution desired Thompson to be fined for disobeying preceding orders, they must summons him before the lapse of six months. He had had plenty of grace allowed him this time.—The Magistrates granted orders for both children to undergo the process of vaccination within a month.—The Clerk (to Mr Proud): You must take proceedings, when he doesn't obey the orders, within six months.—The officer applied for his expenses, which were allowed.—The following letter, signed by the defendant, was handed to the Bench:—"Ebchester, March 4th.—Your Worships,—I am sorry I cannot attend to-day. I had to go to the Newcastle Infirmary about my broken leg last week, and I cannot so soon ask the Company for leave of absence again. I have already from 1885 to the present time been fined six times, with a total of £6 12s 6d, in respect of my two unvaccinated children. I may respectfully remind your Worships that the Presidents of the Local Government Board, both of Lord Beaconsfield's and Mr Gladstone's last Governments, strongly advised Local Authorities against repeated prosecutions. You will pardon me if I point out that the number of places in the country where prosecutions have been entirely given up in regard to the Vaccination Acts is rapidly increasing. I am only a poor man, but I have a strong objection to vaccinate, and in my heart and conscience I can never do it.—I am, your Worships, respectfully, W. R. THOMPSON."

NON-MAINTENANCE OF A PARENT.

Thomas and *John Parker*, brothers, of Consett, were proceeded against by Mr John Moon, relieving officer for the Western District of the Lanchester Union, for not contributing towards the maintenance of their mother, who has recently become chargeable to the common fund of the Union. They were both single men, and were capable of supporting her.—The Court made orders for the defendants to contribute 1s 6d each per week, and granted Mr Moon's costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

John O'Connor, Shotley Bridge, was summoned by Mr Alex McKean, acting on behalf of the Benfieldside School Board, for his child's non-attendance at school. The officer stated that the defendant's lad was a regular truant. He had only been at school three times within the past six months.—The father said that the boy was sent to school, but would not attend. He had no control over the boy.—Mr McKean applied for the boy to be committed to an Industrial School.—The Clerk: Is the School Board willing to pay 2s weekly towards his maintenance?—Mr McKean: I don't think so.—The Clerk: They did so in the case of the boys Quinn.—Mr McKean: Yes, because their mother was a widow. This boy has a father who is able to support him.—The Clerk: That doesn't matter; the Board must pay, and they have a remedy against the father.—Mr McKean: Does not the Act empower the magistrates to compel the father to pay towards his son's maintenance?—The Clerk: No.—Mr McKean then asked for the case to be adjourned till the next Court day. In the meanwhile he would bring the matter before the Board.—Defendant: I should like the case settled to-day; I shall not be here a fortnight hence.—The Clerk: Oh, we can deal with the case in your absence.

John Smith, of Blackhill, was fined 5s for not sending his child regularly to school.

A "SHINDY" IN BOTTLE BANK.

Susan Boyd, an elderly woman, *Sarah Fitzpatrick*, and *Jane Simpson*, a mother and her daughters, were put into the dock upon a charge of damaging two chairs, of the value of 9s, the property of Jane McElhatton, living in Bottle Bank, Blackhill, on Saturday night, 23rd ult. Defendants denied their guilt. Mrs Fitzpatrick was furthermore accused of assaulting Mrs McElhatton at the same time and place. Defendant admitted striking the complainant.—It transpired that some differences had sprung up betwixt the conflicting parties, and on the night in question the three defendants rushed into complainant's dwelling-house and broke a couple of chairs. She endeavoured to put the women out of the house, when Fitzpatrick gave her a severe thrashing, blacking both her eyes, pulled a quantity of hair (produced) from her head, and illtreated her.—J Earley, complainant's lodger, spoke to seeing the assault committed, and he attempted to thrust the defendants out of the house.—Fitzpatrick: Yes, and you struck at me.—Other evidence having been given, defendants called rebutting testimony.—There was a cross-summons, Sarah Fitzpatrick charging *Jane McElhatton* and *James Earley* with committing an assault upon her on the same occasion.—Defendants said they were not guilty. Mrs McElhatton declared that she merely pushed the complainant out of her house, but did not strike her at all.—Mrs Fitzpatrick explained that some dispute arose with reference to her girl going for the suppers. Earley administered two good "scuds," and beat her upon the face. Fitzpatrick flung something at her, and then catching her by the hair of the head, dragged her about the house. Earley afterwards caught complainant by the neck, and flung her upon her side. She started to scream of "Murder!" when he gave her another "whack" on the back of the neck.—Fitzpatrick: Why did you not apply for a summons when I did?—Complainant: Because I was too ill.—Defendant: You were able to call me on the Sunday.—After other witnesses had been examined, the magistrates considered the testimony so contradictory that they dismissed both charges of assault, each party to bear their own costs. With regard to the damaged chairs, the Bench told defendants that they had no right to enter another person's house. They would have to pay the damage and costs, which ranged from 11s to 6s 6d each.

RICHARD ON THE WARPATH.

Richard O'Connell, a powerfully built person, was brought up on charges of being drunk and disorderly and assaulting P.C. Million and Arthur Muldoon, at Consett, on the preceding Saturday night. Defendant stated, in reply to the charges, "I didn't know anything about the affair till I found myself here."—P.C. Richardson said that about midnight he heard a disturbance in Green street. Defendant was very drunk and creating a loud disturbance.—P.C. Million deposed that he was requested to go inside a private house to eject the defendant. He asked the man quietly to leave, but instead of going he made an attempt to strike at a fellow lodger. Witness interposed, when O'Connell also dealt him a blow upon the chin. He was taken into custody, but resisted with great violence, the police experiencing considerable difficulty in taking him to the police station.—With reference to the assault upon Muldoon, prosecutor gave evidence to the effect that shortly after eleven o'clock on Saturday night, defendant rushed into their house, while under the influence of liquor. He was preparing for bed, while O'Connell sat himself down, and began to smoke his pipe. All of a sudden, he drew the pipe out of his mouth, and threw it at Muldoon, striking him upon the forehead with some force, inflicting a cut. He afterwards hit the prosecutor, and the police were sent for.—Defendant declared that Muldoon knocked him down, and "walked" him all over the house. (Laughter.) Pointing to his bruised countenance, he said: "That wound could not come there by itself." (Laughter.)—Complainant: I never lifted a finger till he struck me.—Thomas Muldoon, a boy, who tendered his evidence in a clear and straightforward manner, said that defendant was going about exclaiming "I want to be at that grey-whiskered old b——" (meaning his father). Defendant bolted into their house, and pulling a pipe out of his waistcoat pocket, threw it at his father, hitting him upon the eyebrow, afterwards dealing him several blows. Witness ran to his father's aid, when defendant kicked him in the stomach. The boy next snatched hold of the coal-rake, and would have attacked O'Connell with the weapon, only some women folk prevented him. Defendant had come down from his own lodging to their house. The "bobbies" were sent for, and as soon as they arrived, defendant was taken away.—O'Connell said that the father and son's evidence was at variance.—The justices fined the defendant in the following amounts:—5s and costs, or seven days' hard labour, for the drunken offence; 10s and expenses, or 14 days, for assaulting the police; and 10s and costs, or another 14 days' imprisonment, for the assault upon the old man. The total penalties amounted to £2 9s 8d.

THEFT OF MONEY FROM BENFIELDSIDE BOARD SCHOOLS.

Stephen Joyce and *Joseph Angus*, boys of 13 years, living with their parents in Wood Street, Shotley Bridge, appeared (on remand) to answer a charge of stealing the sum of 15s 9d, from the Board Schools, Benfieldside Edge Road, the moneys of Mr Philip Teare, head master. Angus attends the Board School, while Joyce is a scholar at St. Mary's Roman Catholic school, Blackhill.—Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared for Joyce.—Mr Teare attested that on Tuesday, 19th ult., between five and six p.m., he left the schoolroom to fetch a book, and might be away perhaps half-an-hour. On Friday afternoon he had the sum of £1 16s 6d locked away in a drawer in his desk. Witness balanced his accounts on 22nd Feb., and found 15s 9d missing. He gave information to the police.—By Mr Welford: Angus might probably know where the money was kept. The school moneys were in the safe under six locks. The whole of the children had been dismissed half-an-hour previous. Some boys were playing in the school yard. There was a pupil teacher at the other end of the school. He made enquiries in attempting to trace the cash, and learnt that Angus had been spending money freely the previous week. He replied that he got it partly from a traveller, and 4d from the little boy Joyce, who did not attend his school. Witness was under the necessity of placing them in the hands of the police.—Sergt. Tate deposed that on the Monday previous he apprehended the two prisoners at Shotley Bridge, and bringing them to Consett Police Station, charged them with stealing 15s 9d out of a desk in the Board Schools, Benfieldside. Joyce replied "I was never there." Angus rejoined "Please, sir, he threw my cap into the room. I went to the desk and got a handful of money. Joyce afterwards went to the desk and got a handful too. We spent some that night and hid the remainder in a wood." Joyce then said to Angus: "You got more of the money that I did." Witness then told Joyce "You admit taking some of the money as well as Angus." The lad answered "We both got a handful." P.C. Vickers was present at the time. (Joyce: I never got any money of him.") He searched the prisoners, and found on Joyce a new pipe, and a box of "cachu" sweets, scented with perfume presumably to take away the smell of the tobacco. On the boy Angus he discovered 1s, and he said it was given to him by Joyce, on Friday night. From enquires made in Shotley Bridge and Benfieldside, witness ascertained that both lads had been spending money very freely at the shops.—Cross-examined: He did not caution the lads before they uttered those statements. Joyce had not made any other assertions to him. Joyce made a statement in the house that Angus gave him the shilling. He believed the boy Angus had been spending the most of the money. They both went into the shop together on the Tuesday night. Every night during the week they spent money.—Mr Welford's defence was that on the evening named Angus asked Joyce to call for him. They played about in the school-yard, and Joyce was never in the schools any further than the porch. Joyce said to Angus, "Wait a minute till I get my hat," which had been thrown into porch, and he afterwards joined Angus, and they went down to Shotley Bridge together. Joyce never knew a single thing about the robbery till the following Friday, when Angus informed him that he had some money, and gave Joyce 4s. It was alleged that Angus and Joyce had hidden the money in a wood; there was a witness, however, who could have disproved this assertion, but the police had gone down and told this party that it was unnecessary for her to come to court that day.—Sergeant Tate: I beg pardon. This person has never been spoken to by us.—Mr Welford: "I can prove what I say.—The sergeant: You cannot.—Upon being charged in court, Angus pleaded guilty, and Joyce not guilty. The former made a statement to the effect that they were both playing in the yard when Mr Teare left the schools. Joyce entered for to look after his hat, and they both grabbed a handful of silver out of the desk.—Mr Welford pointed out that Joyce went to the Catholic Schools, and would not know where the money was kept.—Alexander McKean spoke to seeing Joyce in the porch, and telling him to go home.—By the police: He could not say positively if the lad left the schoolyard. That would be about five o'clock.—Their worships ordered each culprit to receive six strokes from the birch rod. They considered the schoolmaster had acted incautiously in not leaving the money under lock and key. It was a great temptation to the children.—Mr Teare: I never left the money that way before.—Mrs Joyce strongly protested that her son was innocent.

DRUNK.

Patrick Clark was found guilty, upon the evidence of P.C. Lawson and another officer, of being drunk and disorderly in King Street, Consett, on the previous Saturday night. A great crowd tried to prevent the police from locking the man up.—Defendant denied the allegation, and his mother said he was a member of the Total Abstinence League of the Cross.—The Chairman: We can't help it. We can only accept the evidence we have before us. He will be fined 5s and costs.

ACQUITTED.

John Doran was charged with stealing a piece of timber, the property of John Cant, greengrocer, Consett.—Supt. Oliver said that prosecutor declined to identify the wood, accordingly the defendant was discharged.

BREACHES OF THE LOCAL ACTS.

John Draffan, a boy, was placed in the dock charged with knocking at the house doors and causing annoyance to the people living in Tinmill Place, Blackhill, in contravention of the bye-laws of the Consett Local Board.—P.C. Phillipson said that on the night of Feb. 20th, at nine o'clock, he was standing at the corner of the Rose and Crown public-house, when he observed defendant—who was along with other boys—knock at two doors with a thick stick. At one house the inmates set the dog after the boy. There had been many complaints from the residents respecting youths coming from work at four o'clock in the morning and rapping at the house doors.—Defendant confessed his guilt; and his father explained that a statement was made to him that it was a pure accident, accordingly he summoned two witnesses. He learnt, however, that he had been falsely informed, in order that his boy should not be punished.—The Magistrates said this practice was a thorough nuisance, but they dismissed the summons on payment of costs, amounting to 11s 6d.

Richard Simpson, another lad, pleaded guilty to a charge made against him by P.C. Phillipson, of throwing a stone at the door of a dwelling-house in Ledger Terrace, Blackhill, on the 21st Feb.—Defendant explained that he tossed the stone at the wall, but it hit the door.—The Chairman: You have no right to toss stones at all.—The lad was let off on paying 3s 6d as costs.

A woman called *Elizabeth Storey* was next summoned for using obscene language, contrary to the regulations enforced by the Consett Local Board.—P.C. Richardson observed that on the 15th Feb. he heard a disturbance in William Street, Consett, and he learnt that the defendant was quarrelling with her mother, and using abominable language towards her. She was under the influence of liquor, and accused her mother of having taken a pint of whiskey from her son.—P.C. Tomlinson adduced corroborative evidence.—The charge was flatly denied by the defendant, who averred that she was not in the habit of using bad language. She was only advising her mother to return into the house, and told her that if she had not taken a bottle of rum from her son, the police would not have come on the scene, and the son would not have been locked up.—Case dismissed.

"BANISHED FOR 14 DAYS."

Joseph Wm Wilson, a young fellow (who exhibited a lump of sticking plaister on the top of his crown) pleaded guilty to assaulting his mother, Jane Wilson, an elderly person, at Dipton, on the 22nd ult.—Prosecutrix stated that there were other two sons to keep, and a crippled daughter, but the defendant would not do any work. He struck at one of the little boys, and when she remonstrated he likewise hit her and threatened her life. She had put up with a great deal of nonsense from defendant, and wished to be rid of him.—Sergt Thornton testified that he was sent for, being informed that the son was "murdering" his mother. On arriving at the house, he found the son sitting at the end of the table, and blood was flowing from a wound on the top of his head. He declared that he would be "hung for his mother," and that he would "murder her." All the people in the house were under the influence of drink.—Defendant said that his supper was not ready.—It was shown that Wilson had been convicted four or five times previously for various offences.—The Court sentenced him to undergo 14 days' hard labour.—Complainant: I wish to have him banished away from here.—Supt Oliver: He has got banished for 14 days. (Laughter.)

A SQUABBLE AMONGST THE FAIR SEX AT BLACKFINE.

Margaret Fletcher, a plump-looking woman (who worked herself up to such a pitch of excitement that the dock would hardly contain her) was summoned for having committed an assault upon Elizabeth Richardson, at Blackfine, on the 17th ult.—Complainant's story was that she was going up the garden when she learnt that her little girl had been struck by some other children in Foundry Row. She was proceeding across the field where defendant was hanging out some clothes, when the latter picked up the "cracket" and hit her upon the head with it. She ran away from the clothes line, whereupon the defendant gave her another blow, and then dropped the stool. Defendant swore that she would close both her eyes.—Mrs Smith asked for the case to be postponed, and forked a shilling out of her purse for that purpose. She wished to summons two respectable witnesses.—The Bench: You should have had your witnesses here.—Defendant: I thought it was unnecessary if the woman had only spoken the truth.—Defendant: Were you not coming across my field?—Complainant: No.—Defendant: Did I not tell you that you had no business to come over my field?—Complainant: No, you did not.—Defendant: Did I not say that although you had spoiled the garden produce, you should not damage our field?—Complainant: I was not walking across your field.—Defendant: I need not have spoken, gentlemen, at all, if I only had had my two witnesses here. Elizabeth Robson said she was standing at her own door, when she noticed Mrs Smith run in a most furious manner towards Mrs Richardson, and fell her across the head with a stool. Defendant next seized the woman by the hair of the head, and dragged her about, at the same moment shouting "You b——, if you come here, I'll murder you."—Jane Hunter and Jane Purvis gave confirmatory evidence.—Defendant's version of the affair was that some differences had arisen with regard to the little girls. Mrs Richardson destroyed the stuff growing in the garden higher up, and came down their field. She asked her not to do so, but she retorted "I have as much right here as you." Complainant thereafter doubled her first, and placing herself in a fighting attitude said "Come on, you coward," saying which she hit the defendant upon the breast. The latter returned the blow.—This statement was borne out by Mrs Blanchard and Isabella Smith (defendant's daughter) and another girl. As the last witness was coming past Mrs Robson, this person whispered audibly in her ear "Now be careful what you say."—The magistrates rebuked Mrs Robson for intimidating the witness, and said that her day's fees would not be allowed.—Defendant asserted that this was the second time that complainant challenged her to come out and "fight like the devil." (Laughter.)—The Bench considered the case proved, and inflicted a fine of 2s 6d and costs, the amount totalling £1 8s in all.

HOCKING CRUELTY TO A GIRL:

A PITIABLE STORY.

Mary Coulthard, wife of an army pensioner, living in Green Street, Consett, was summoned for assaulting Matilda Johnson, an illegitimate child, on the 12th and following days of January. Defendant failed to enter an appearance. Complainant seems to be a quite and inoffensive girl, and is 13 years of age. She was but

POORLY CLOTHED,

and had evidently suffered through not receiving sufficient food.

Mr Parsons (Messrs Parsons and Newlands, of Newcastle), said he appeared on behalf of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, an organisation which had been established in London for some time, and had formed branch committees throughout the country. Johnson was

AN ILLEGITIMATE CHILD

of the defendant, and up to within three months ago, lived with her aunt. However, as this person was unable to keep her any longer, complainant was sent to reside with her mother. During that period, she has subjected her daughter to almost daily acts of cruelty——

The Chairman (interposing): Is it a serious case?

Mr Parsons: I'm afraid it is.

The Clerk: Then we had better have the woman here. A

WARRANT WILL BE ISSUED

for her arrest.

The document was accordingly prepared, and immediately put into execution.

Upon the defendant being brought into Court, Mr Parson proceeded to describe the various acts of cruelty perpetrated upon the child, and these facts were brought to the knowledge of some gentleman who was connected with the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The girl had been taken to Miss Watson's Home at Gosforth. He (Mr Parson) hoped the Bench would

INFLICT SUCH A SEVERE PENALTY

as the case deserved.

Complainant swore that during the three months she had been with her mother, she had behaved very badly towards her. (Defendant: "No I have not.") She thrashed her with a brush shank, hit her with a poker, slapped her face, and kicked her upon the body with her boots. On Jan 12th, defendant

BEAT HER WITH A BRUSH SHANK AND A POKER,

hurting her very much. This was during the afternoon while she (complainant) was cleaning the floor. She had not done anything to annoy her mother. On the following morning, defendant

KICKED HER WITH HER BOOTS

upon the back, and slapped her upon the face. She had done nothing to deserve such treatment. On Monday, Coulthard "smacked" her face with her hands, and told complainant to be sharp and get the fender cleaned. A few days afterwards she was seen by an Inspector, and taken away. Her mother declared that

SHE WOULD MURDER HER

if she said anything again to Katie Foy or the neighbours, respecting her conduct. She had been well treated and cared for in the Children's Home at Gosforth. Complainant did not want to go home to her mother; but would much rather stay where she now was.

The Clerk: Would you be

FRIGHTENED TO GO BACK TO YOUR MOTHER?

Complainant: Yes.

Defendant declared that she was out of the house busy cleaning from noon to seven o'clock on the 12th January. She never ill-treated the girl, and she never had any marks of rough usage while she had been with her. She had

DONE HER DUTY TOWARDS THE GIRL.

Complainant said, in reply to defendant, that there was her husband and two little children in the house, besides Mrs Riley upstairs.

Alice Coleman, married, of Bath Lane, stated that the complainant was a quiet, modest girl. She had

HEARD HER SCREAM

while being thrashed and beaten. On the 27th of December, Mrs Coulthard hit the girl with a broom head in an empty house. On the 12th January, between three and four o'clock, witness heard the complainant scream very much. She did not hear anything on Sunday or Monday. She (Mrs Coleman) was present when the inspector examined the girl; her clothing was filthy, and

HER BODY WAS IN AN EMACIATED CONDITION.

She was dressed in nothing but old rags. The child did not get plenty to eat, and witness had to assist her, and feed her with bread for two or three days together. There was

AN OLD SORE OR TWO

upon the child's back. She had remonstrated with the defendant for maltreating her daughter.

Defendant: You have never been in my house within the past six months. I must say that you are

TELLING NOTHING BUT LIES.

Mary Jane Foy, also married, living near Medomsley Road, also spoke to hearing the shrieks of the girl when being ill-used by her mother. She remembered the inspector fetching the complainant to her house, and on examining her, it was found that her

CLOTHING WAS WICK WITH VERMIN!

(Sensation.) There was very little flesh upon her body. Witness did not observe any bruises upon her back.

Inspector McBean, of Newcastle (S.P.C.C.), said this case was reported to him by the local committee, and he investigated the affair. On January 16th, he found the child outside Mrs Foy's house, and taking the girl in, he discovered that she was exceedingly lean and emaciated. There was a

WOUND UPON THE SOLE OF THE FOOT,

which he attributed to wearing bad boots. Escorting the girl to their house, he accused the mother of cruelty to her daughter by illusing her. The step-father was in, and he said: "She has no right to stop here, and if I see her

I'LL KICK HER OUT."

Witness accordingly took the girl to the Home at Gosforth, and he found her to be a gentle and inoffensive child, and truthful and reliable, so far as he could make out. She seemed to be a good worker, and attentive to her duties. Her education had been sadly neglected. She was only in the first standard at school, whereas she ought to have been in the sixth standard. The

GIRL HAD CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED

during the time she had been in the Home.

Defendant stated that they were badly off, as her husband had been out of employment. When her daughter came to her three months ago, she

HARDLY HAD ANY CLOTHES ON,

and her things were ragged and filthy. She had to labour very hard to provide food and clothing for the complainant and her other children.

In reply to the Clerk, defendant said that the magistrates established the paternity of the child, but the father was dead.

Mary Riley affirmed that she had occupied the upper portion of Coulthard's house for 12 months, and she never saw or heard of defendant ill-using and beating the child, nor had she heard her cry or scream. She was a lazy and indolent girl, and would

SET UP A LOT OF IMPUDENCE.

She was a very bad girl. Witness recollected taking the child into her house.

Mr Parsons: That would be when the defendant turned her out?—Witness: She never turned the child out. The mother simply asked me to let the girl stay with us, as she had no bed for her.

The Bench: Did you consider the child was well cared for?—Witness: Well, she

GOT THE SAME FOOD AS THE OTHERS.

The Bench: You heard the Inspector say that the girl's clothing was covered with vermin. Are the defendant's other children in the same wretched condition?—Witness: I can't say anything about that.

The magistrates imposed a fine of £2 and costs; but as defendant could not pay, she was

SENTENCED TO ONE MONTH'S IMPRISONMENT.

Mr Parsons said he did not know whether the worships had any jurisdiction in the matter; but he had been requested to ask that the Society should retain custody of the child.

The Chairman: We have no control over her.

The Clerk: I should think the woman

WON'T WANT THE CHILD BACK AGAIN.

If she does, and fails to send her to school, the girl can be committed to an Industrial School.

A number of ladies and gentlemen concerned in the movement were present in court, and a good deal of interest was manifested in the case.

SECOND COURT.

Before W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq. (chairman), and H. W. WATSON, Esq.

THE DRUNKEN LIST.

William Doughty, Blackhill, was accused by Sergt. Tate of being drunk and disorderly, on the 23rd ult.—Fined 5s and costs.

John Murphy was charged by P.C. Phillipson with being drunk and disorderly in the streets of Blackhill, on the 23rd Feb.—Fined 5s and expenses.

George Wilkinson, a bricklayer, was found guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Phillipson, of having been inebriated at Blackhill, on Saturday night.—Prisoner made a long statement respecting his good conduct; but the magistrates could not consider to let him off, seeing that he had partaken of drink that morning.—Fined 5s and costs, or 14 days.

Robert Cairns pleaded guilty to being drunk and disorderly at Blackhill, on the 16th ult.—Prisoner stated that he had worked 25 years in the neighbourhood, and was well-known, and this was his first offence.—The Chairman: Well we will let you off this time, on account of your good conduct, if you promise not to come here again.—Prisoner: I will, your worships.

Margaret Curnow, hailing from Blackhall Mill, was charged by P.C. Lawson with being drunk and disorderly in the streets of Consett, on the 20th of last month.—Dismissed.

William Daley, Greencroft Cottages, was placed in the dock to answer a charge of drunkenness.—P.C. Lawson stated that he found the defendant, along with several other youths, on the 23rd ult., drunk in the streets of Consett. They wanted to fight, and he ordered them off, but prisoner refused to go.—The Chairman: Is this your first offence?—Defendant: Yes, sir.—The Bench dismissed the case.

Michael Carroll was found guilty, upon the evidence of P.C. Richardson, of being drunk and disorderly at Consett, on the 15th ult.—He was mulcted in a fine of 5s and costs.

George Errington, who did not appear, was fined 5s and costs for being drunk at Leadgate.—P.C. Stubbs preferred the charge.

THE PRIZE-FIGHT NEAR DIPTON.

Simon Doolan and *James Gaffney*, miners, both hailing from White-le-Head, were charged by Sergt. Thornton with a breach of the peace.—The evidence of the sergeant was to the effect that he was on duty between Bushblades and Hare Law, on Sunday afternoon, 24th ult., when he saw a crowd of 500 people witnessing a fight. He got sufficiently near to see the prisoners fighting, but they made their escape. At about 4.30, the sergeant came across the pugilists, who were fighting in a field again Logan House, near Spidgeon's Drift, not far from Harperley Mills.—The Chairman: Are these the two men who were engaged in the prize-fight?—Officer: Yes, sir.—Doolan: The 500 people were not gathered around us. There was a "gambling school" on, and we differed about something that had taken place, and were not fighting for money.—The officer: The men had apparently been fighting some time, and were each severely bruised about the face.—The Chairman stated that they would have to put a stop to this state of things. To be engaged in a prize-fight was a serious affair. They would be bound over to keep the peace for six months in their own recognisances of £10, and to find two sureties of £5 each, and pay the costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

Thomas Regan was summoned at the instance of the Attendance Officer (Mr D Mole) for the Collierley School Board, for not sending his child to school. Defendant stated that the reason the child was detained from school was because it was suffering from whooping cough, and produced a certificate from the doctor to that effect.—Case dismissed.

Jane Brown, widow, Hill Top, Dipton, was charged by the same officer, for not sending her child to school.—The schoolwarden stated that the child attended school very irregularly.—Mrs Brown said that she was in poor circumstances, and could not pay the child's school fees.—The case was adjourned for a fortnight to see if the child attended the school any better.

Michael McCluskey, Greencroft, was proceeded against by Mr D. Mole, for a similar offence.—Mrs McCluskey, who appeared, explained that the child was kept off school for want of boots.—Fined 2s 6d, including costs.

William Harrison, Hill Top, Dipton, was likewise summoned by Mr D. Mole.—Mrs Harrison declared that the child was sent to school every day, but he played the truant. He had been severely punished by his father, and he had promised to do better.—Fined 2s 6d.

George Wilkinson, South Medomsley, was summoned by Mr Mole for a similar offence, but he stated that the Board had looked over the case, and asked of their worships to withdraw it.—Agreed to.

William McCluskey, Dipton, was charged by Mr Wm. Ward, attendance officer under the Lanchester Union School Attendance Committee, with not sending his son to school.—The officer stated that the Board did not press for a conviction, but merely wanted the bench to make an attendance order for the child to attend some school. He had only made a poor attendance for the last five weeks. If the Bench did not grant this, he would have to apply for an order to send the boy to an Industrial School.—A dispute arose between the attendance officer and the mother, relative to the boy's age, after which the Bench ordered the boy to attend the Brooms Roman Catholic School.

An attendance order was likewise made against *Edward Morris*, Dipton, for the better attendance of his child.—Mr Ward applied for the same.

Catherine McAloon, Leadgate, was proceeded against by Mr Ward for not sending her child to school.—The schoolwarden stated that Mrs McAloon's husband was in America; but he believed that she was receiving money from him, and he pressed for a penalty as the child attended school very badly.—Fined 2s 6d, including costs.

Bernard Hassmil, Leadgate, was fined 5s, including costs, for not sending his daughter to school.—The attendance officer observed that the child had not made a full week's attendance for the last six weeks.

Bartholomew Johnson, Leadgate, was similarly dealt with for neglecting to send his child to school.

Charles Pasting, Consett Park (who did not appear), was summoned by Mr Ward for neglecting to send his two children to school.—The officer said it was nothing else but gross carelessness on the part of the mother.—The Chairman: Well, we will have to make her send her children regularly to school.—Fined 5s.

EVENING CONCERT AT STANHOPE.

A grand evening concert and social gathering was held in the Town Hall, Stanhope, on Wednesday se'nnight, under the auspices of the St John Ambulance Association—the Lord Bishop of Penrith presiding. A selection of songs, duets, readings, and a display of ambulance work and presentations, took place in the presence of a large gathering of people, the hall being crowded. Mrs Roddam, New Town Villa, presided at the piano. Subjoined is the programme:—Piano duet, Mrs Roddam and Mrs Eales; ladies' ambulance drill, by Capt. Wedgwood; reading, "The night before Waterloo," Rev A. T. Finch; song, "Only a summer shower," Miss Eales (Windsor). The next feature was a presentation by the Bishop to Dr Livingstone and Dr Robinson, on behalf of the ambulance corps, each of a gold medal, suitably inscribed, in recognition of their valued services as lecturers to the classes of men. Miss Ingo (Stanhope Rectory) also made them each a presentation on behalf of the ladies' classes. Afterwards, Drs Livingstone and Robinson suitably replied. Then followed a song, "Will o' the wisp," by Rev F. Eales (head-master of Wolsingham Grammar School), and a display of practical ambulance work by the classes. Another song was sung by Mr Eales. Presentation of 109 certificates to members of the ambulance classes who have passed was made by Mrs Arnison, Butts Villa, Stanhope. A song was next sung by Miss Eales (Windsor). The principal item of the evening was a laughable ambulance farce. A vote of thanks, moved by the Bishop of Penrith, to all who had taken part in the concert and ambulance work, was carried by acclamation. The audience sung the "National Anthem," and dispersed. There are about 120 ladies and gentlemen in the ambulance classes at Stanhope.

OPENING SALE OF WORK AT MEDOMSLEY.

On Monday afternoon, the Church party in the quaint old village of Medomsley opened a two days' sale of work in their handsome new schools. The room was beautifully decorated with evergreens, flags, &c., and there were two or three exquisite mottoes which attracted no [illegible] attention in the room:—"Success to our sale of work," "Welcome to our friends," &c., being displayed to advantage, as was also the Prince of Wales' feathers. What with the snow outside, and the pretty decorations inside, one would almost imagine it was Christmas or New Year. There were two large stalls, which were heavily laden with goods of almost every description. The stallholders and their assistants were:—Mrs Cockin, Mrs Hedley, Mrs Morris, Mrs John Hunter (Greencroft), Mrs Isaac Hunter (Medomsley), Mrs [illegible], Miss Minto, Mrs Close, Mrs Dale, Mr Jacob Watson; and Messrs Stubbs (2) Scott, Smith (2) Shotley Bridge, and Barker (2), who all worked hard to secure success.

OPENING CEREMONY.

Shortly after three o'clock, Rev W. Cockin (vicar), along with the curate (Rev E. G. F. Macpherson) and Mr Scott, ascended the platform.

The VICAR said it was quite a family gathering he had to address. Most of them would be acquainted with what he was about to state. The sale of work on that occasion was to raise a little money in order to carry out a very important scheme. Owing to the large increase in the infant department of the school, the class-room had become too small, and they were obliged to comply, with the instructions of the Government Inspector to increase the accommodation. The committee had the choice of either bringing part of the infants into the mixed school, or pulling out the end of the class-room with the large window in, and enlarge it. The cost of this would be about £70. Some of them might think it would be a pity to pull down part of such a new building; but they might allow him to state that it was not a great deal they would have to do, and the accommodation would have to be made. He trusted that the necessary money would be raised by that sale of work. As he looked around the room, he could not help but admire the decorations; the ladies had taken very great pains in making everything look so beautiful. The stall-holders had worked hard in getting the things together, and their stalls were richly laden with goods. He hoped their efforts would be highly successful. He had now great pleasure in declaring the bazaar open. (Applause.)

MR SCOTT thought it would be foolish on his part to detain the sale, and therefore he would only say that he wished the undertaking every success. (Loud applause.)

THE SALES.

Business was then proceeded with, and a good "trade" was done, notwithstanding the comparatively small company that was present during the afternoon. Towards evening, however, the attendance was much larger, and the sale of work and its promoters had a business like appearance. Pacing up and down the room were the two charming fortune-tellers—Miss I. Walton and Miss E. J. Calvert—attired in suitable costumes, who were telling the fortunes of old and young by the dozen, thereby adding considerably to the "takings." During the evening, music was supplied by Miss Morris and Mr Scott.

THE ART GALLERY.

This very amusing and diverting resort attracted large numbers. It had been admirably arranged by Mr and Mrs T. D. Dales, who must have worked hard to devise such a novel exhibition and bring it to such a state of perfection. The feature of the proceedings consisted of 32 comical objects, and caused no end of merriment. We give a few of them:—The lay of the last minstrel—an egg; Caught in a squall off Yarmouth—a herring; The "Lost chord"—a piece of cord; Dressed for dinner—three potatoes; Union is strength—an onion; Deserted dwellings of North American natives—oyster shells; Welcoming the h(e)ir—comb and hair; Next to nothing—slate with figure 1; Wood scene, with figures—piece of wood with numbers; Out for the night—candle extinguished; Half-bre(a)d, or, the last of poor dog Tray—two sausages; Pillars of Greece—two candles; Departed spirits—empty whiskey bottle; The silent member—hen's foot; Sweet Auburn—two carrots; The old wood-cutter—chopping-knife; The Red Sea and the plains beyond; The place of skulls near the temples; Swimming match; Patent kid reviver, &c. The "gallery" was really worthy of a visit, and reflected great credit upon its designers. There was also on view a stereoscope, with Mr Jas Smith in charge, who exhibited some very interesting scenes. There was likewise a very powerful microscope exhibited.

The next source of amusement was the performances of

THE TURKISH DWARF.

The company present could not help but pay a visit to this wonderful show, if it were only to recompense the efforts of Mr A. L. L. Thompson, better known as "Black Jack," for way in which he advertised the show. This performance was cleverly got up by Mr T. D. Dales and Mr John Whitwell, along with Mr E H. Hutt, as showman. There was also another great novelty in the shape of a

LIVING WAXWORKS SHOW,

and this was well patronised. The characters represented were as follows:—"Mrs Squeers and her boy," Miss Calvert and H. Milburn; "Moonlighter," Mr T. D. Dales; "Diogenes and his tub," Mr J. A. Thompson; "Lord Churchill" Mr James Cant; "Little boy on the sands," Master Joseph Todd; "Little Jack Horner," A. Thompson; "Mrs Winslow," Miss I. Walton; "The Italian girl," Miss H. Walton; "The Italian organ grinder," Mr George Lane. The showman on this occasion was Mr C. F. Scott, assisted by Mr W. R. Cook. During the afternoon and evening a large proportion of the assemblage availed themselves of the opportunity of partaking of the

REFRESHMENTS

which were provided, presided over by the following ladies:—Mrs Calvert, Mrs Veitch, and Mrs W. Walton. The proceedings were brought to a conclusion with a grand

MAGIC-LANTERN ENTERTAINMENT,

exhibited by Mr E. H. Hutt, with a powerful lamp and a large number of slides, lent by Dr Spencer, Allendale Cottages. There were several interesting photos shown, taken by Mr Hutt, including the Turkish Dwarf, which caused roars of laughter. During the afternoon, Mr E. H. Hutt photographed the bazaar, and also the stall-holders. Great credit is due to the committee in general—including the decorating and amusing—for the way in which they have carried out the arrangements, which were complete. The day's proceedings closed without a single hitch having taken place in the programme. Amongst those who worked energetically during the day, we may mention Revs W. Cockin, E. G. F. Macpherson, Messrs Walton, Wilson, Veitch, A. L. L. Thompson, G. E. Milburn, E. H. Hutt, C. F. Scott, and others. The day's takings amounted to about £22.

The sale of work was continued on Tuesday, when the building was crowded. The wax-works show was again opened, and the figures thus represented were as follows:—"Braw Laddie," "French cook," "Flora (Goddess of flowers)," "Hamlet's Ghost," "Scene from Merchant of Venice," "Babes in the wood," "Little Red Riding Hood," "The man all tottered and torn," "The maiden all forlorn," "Policeman and the little boy," and "The batchelor and his lady love." Mr F. C. Hutt again acted as showman, and caused endless amusement. The "Turkish dwarf" and "The Art Gallery" also attached large audiences during the evening. A concert was likewise given, when the following programme was gone through:—Song, "The Quaker," by Mr R. Chaytor (Cromwell), was given in good style. The two songs, "Anchored," and "The Englishman," by Mr C. Stephenson (Blackhill), were received with general approbation. Mr R. Lowes (Blackhill) contributed two capital songs, "The Friar of Orders Grey" and "Rocked in the cradle of the deep." The song, "Ye banks and braes," by Miss Lumsden (Consett), received the unqualified applause of the audience. The comic song "Killaloe," by Mr Hardwick (Durham University) fairly brought down the house, and the assembly showed their appreciation by giving the singer at the end of each verse a hearty round of applause. A flute solo was given in good style by Mr J. Stephenson (Blackhill). The accompanist for the evening was Master G. Stephenson, who executed his part well. The sale concluded at a late hour, having raised for the day about £24.

STANHOPE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION.

On Monday, the votes were counted at the Board-room, Stanhope, and the result of the poll declared by the returning officer (Mr Lee) as follows:—

ELECTED.	
O. Monkhouse	1,436
Councillor Livingstone	1,393
V. Rippon (Rogerley)	1,190
Major Scott-Jervis	1,160
J. Maddison	948
J. W. Roddam	907
Thomas Peadon	848
Joseph Harrison	764
Roddam (Rookhope)	712
NOT ELECTED.	
James Blenkinsopp	707
T. E. Baty	459
James Smurthwaite	435
Dr Hewitson	408
Stephenson (Swinhope)	399
Stephenson (Rose Hill)	292
John Peart	71
Joseph Rutherford	35

In the parish of Stanhope 1,400 persons polled out of 2,126 on the register, giving a total of 12,151 votes. At Wolsingham, which sends two members to the Board, owing to a small portion of the parish being attached, the result of the poll was announced in the afternoon as follows:—

ELECTED.	
C. Bambridge	220
G. R. Wooler	164
NOT ELECTED	
George Curry	102

PRESENTATION TO REV. W. S. GUEST-WILLIAMS AT BIRTLEY.

On Thursday se'nnight, Rev W. S Guest-Williams was entertained to a complimentary tea in the School-room, Birtley, by his parishioners, prior to his leaving the parish, to take over the care of the parish of Redmarshall, near Stockton. Over 200 of the principal inhabitants sat down to tea, the tables being presided over by Mrs Charles Perkins, Mrs Newall, Mrs Coulson, Mrs Greaves, Mrs R. Wilson, Mrs C. Robson, and Mrs Coates. Subsequently an adjournment was made to the east school-room, which was crowded, for the purpose of assisting in a presentation to the vicar, his mother, and his two sisters. The testimonial to the vicar comprised a splendidly finished secretaire and adjustable writing desk in walnut, which bore the inscription: "W. S. G. W. From the parishioners of Birtley, 1889," and also a handsome writing chair and revolving book-case, both in walnut, and which were supplied by Messrs Robson and Co., Newcastle. A gold cross and chain were presented to Miss Guest-Williams, a gold pencil-case and silver-mounted purse to Miss Mary Guest-Williams, and a church service and hymn-book to Mrs Guest-Williams by the parishioners. A handsome gold cross and chain were also presented to Miss Mary Guest Williams by the members of the St. Mary's Guild. The jewellery was supplied by Messrs Reid and Son, Newcastle, and the total value of the various presents amounted to about £35. Mr Churchwarden Robert Wilson presided, and called upon

Mr R. S. CLEPHAN, Birtley White House, to make the presentation. This gentleman said he had been commissioned by the parishioners of Birtley to express their deep regret at the necessity which compelled their vicar to leave them. When he looked back upon the devotion their vicar had shown during the seven years he had been among them, he hardly knew how sufficiently to thank them. He had brought the people together, and, little by little, had infused something of his own kindly energy and effort into the hearts of all with whom he came in contact. Mr Clephan then referred to the self-sacrificing conduct of the Vicar during the small-pox epidemic which had visited Birtley; how he had grappled with the epidemic, extemporised a hospital, carried the patients there himself, regardless of infection, and done all that he could to alleviate suffering by getting nurses to come and wait upon the sick. Their grateful thanks were due to the Vicar for the many spiritual agencies he had brought into operation in the parish; for his great work among the young, in which he had been devotedly seconded by his mother (Mrs Guest-Williams), and by Miss Guest-Williams and Miss Mary Guest Williams. The St. Mary's Guild had been formed, mission rooms opened at Birtley North Side and Brown's Buildings, besides all those other agencies which tended to deepen the spiritual life of the people. In their elegant, enlarged, and restored church, which their Vicar had been mainly instrumental in having beautified and restored, they had a permanent memorial, the sight of which would long keep green the memory of his work and life among them. He begged, on behalf of the parishioners, to ask their Vicar to accept the articles which stood before him as a memento of their deep affection. He would carry away with him their most heartfelt wishes for his health and happiness in the new sphere to which he was going. Mr Clephan then asked the ladies to accept from the parishioners the several mementoes which he begged to hand them, and concluded by again asking the Vicar to accept their best wishes for the health and happiness of himself and his mother and sisters. (Loud applause).

Rev W. S. GUEST-WILLIAMS thanked his parishioners, and said he would value these beautiful presents, not only for what they cost, but because they would remind him of all the kindness and sympathy he had experienced during the seven years he had lived among them. He went away from Birtley without one sad reflection. He wished them all happiness and success, and he believed there was a glorious future before their parish.

Rev E. DAY next presented, on behalf of the St. Mary's Guild, a gold cross and chain to Miss Mary Guest-Williams.

Canon BLUNT, rector of Chester-le-Street, made a few remarks, after which a vote of thanks brought the proceedings to a close.

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DERWENT ST., BLACKHILL, CO. DURHAM.

All Repairs done on the Premises.

The Best Workmanship guaranteed.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL. 709

THE PHAMPHLET CONTAINING THE WONDERFUL TESTIMONIALS OF

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE AND RHEUMATIC CURE

IS NOW READY,

And can be obtained from any of his Agents or at his Works (by Letter),

1, PORTLAND STREET, BENTINCK, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Everyone out of Health should read them. The Cures are Marvellous, which the local Testimonials will show.

The Medicine was not brought out entirely for money, and it will be given away free to those who cannot afford to pay for it, but cannot be sent.

LIST OF AGENTS FOR THIS DISTRICT:—

Messrs HUGHES and Co., Chemists, Front Street, Consett.
Messrs TAYLOR and Co., Drug Stores, New Arcade, Sunderland.
Messrs MASON and Co., Drug Stores, King Street, South Shields.
R. ROBINSON, Dispensing and Family Chemist, 18, Union Street, North Shields.
R. R. BAINBRIDGE, Dispensing and Family Chemist, 141, High Street, Stockton-on-Tees.
G. T. MARSHALL, Bridge Street, Morpeth.
GEORGE BEST, Chemist and Druggist, Bondgate, Darlington.
T. RIDLEY, The Central Drug Stores, 9, English Street, Carlisle.
T. F. TOWNEND, Chemist, Bishop Auckland.
J. HINTON KENDALL, Chemist, Blagdon Street, and 11, Turner Street, Waterloo, Blyth.
W. R. TAYLOR, The Central Drug Establishment, Corner of Cleveland Terrace and Wilson Street, Linthorpe Road, Middlesbrough.
W. C. BALES, Chemist, Hartlepool.
JOHN WATSON, Chemist, Grainger Street, Newcastle. 792

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!

WE continue to present a Half-Dozen best Nickel Silver TEASPOONS to each PURCHASER of our Standard GOLD WEDDING RINGS.

F. A. AND E. WELCH

WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS, ANNFIELD PLAIN. 990

GIFTS! GIFTS!! GIFTS!!

ROBERT JACKSON, Bookseller and Stationer, 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett, has just received a Choice Selection of Goods suitable for Gifts. Among these will be found the following—

ALBUMS,
PHOTO FRAMES
PURSES,
POCKET KNIVES
STATIONERY CASES,
MATHEMATICAL INSTRUMENTS,
CHURCH, PRAYER BOOKS,
HYMN BOOKS,
BIBLES, &c., &c.

A LARGE STOCK OF GOODALL'S PLAYING CARDS

The Largest Stock in Consett to choose from.

Those contemplating making Presents should vis the Establishment of

ROBERT JACKSON,

BOOKSELLER & STATIONER

GUARDIAN OFFICE, AND

9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT

Public Notices.

NOTICE.—THE BEAMISH FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SOCIETY will hold their ANNUAL EXHIBITION on Saturday, September 28th, 1889.

"CLAREMONT" (Second in Derby), by "Blair Athol" from "Coimbra" by "Kingston."—"Claremont" is 16·1 h.h., immense bone and fine quality, is Sire of several Winners both on the Turf and in the Showyard.—Apply to Mr. MAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett. 931

MRS. SHIPLEY, having taken the Shop formerly occupied by Mrs. Rankin, of Catchgate, intends carrying on the DRESSMAKING. She also will show a choice STOCK OF WOOLS, FANCY GOODS, BIRTHDAY PRESENTS, &c. BABY LINEN, LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING, &c. 926

CHRIST CHURCH, CONSETT.

MISSION SERVICES.

THE REV. W. HASLAM, M.A.,

Will Conduct

MISSION SERVICES, TWICE DAILY, IN THE PARISH CHURCH, CONSETT,

Commencing SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 2nd, at 8 o'clock, and Closing on March 13th.

☞ MRS. HASLAM will hold a MEETING FOR WOMEN every Afternoon, at 3 o'clock, in the Girls' School, West Victoria Street.

For particulars, see small Bills. 912

THEATRE ROYAL, CONSETT.

Lessee . . . . . ROBT. J. BRODIE.

EXPENSIVE AND IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENT FOR SIX NIGHTS ONLY.

COMMENCING MONDAY, MARCH 11th, 1889, OF

MISS EMMA RAINBOW AND COMPANY OF SPECIALLY-SELECTED ARTISTES,

Who will appear in the Thrilling Spectacular Drama

LUCKY STAR.

NEW AND ELABORATE SCENERY.

NEW DRESSES, AND

NEW MUSIC.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Local Board for the District of Consett, acting as the Urban Sanitary Authority with respect to the Pleasure grounds known as the Consett and Benfieldside Park, intend to apply to the Local Government Board for Confirmation of certain Bye-Laws made and passed by the said Board for the Regulation of the said Park, pursuant to the Provisions of Sec. 184 of the Public Health Act, 1875. And NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that a Copy of the Proposed Bye-Laws is open for public inspection by any Ratepayer of the said District, at the Office of the said Board, between the hours of Eleven and Four o'clock, without fee or reward.

Dated 7th day of March, 1889.

THOMAS WM. WELFORD, Jun.,
938 Clerk to the Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

BENFIELDSIDE LOCAL BOARD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the Local Board for the District of Benfieldside, acting as the Urban Sanitary Authority with respect to the Pleasure Grounds known as the Consett and Benfieldside Park, intend to apply to the Local Government Board for Confirmation of certain Bye-Laws made and passed by the said Board for the Regulation of the said Park, pursuant to the Provisions of Sec. 184 of the Public Health Act, 1875. And NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN, that a Copy of the Proposed Bye-Laws is open for public inspection by any Ratepayer of the said District, at the Office of the said Board, between the hours of Eleven and Four o'clock without fee or reward.

Dated this 7th day of March, 1889.

JOHN BOOTH,
940 Clerk to the Board.

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT! LOOK OUT! for Tantobie Reading-Room and Library SPORTS, on Saturday, July 13th, 1889.

W. C. HINDMARCH, Hon. Sec.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TO LONDON FOR TWO DAYS.

ON SUNDAY, the 17th of March, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT at 8·20 p.m., for LONDON, returning from King's Cross Station at 11·0 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19th. See Bills.

NOTICE to the Inhabitants of Annfield Plain, Catchgate, and immediate District. — A PUBLIC MEETING will be held in Mr R. WHEATLEY'S Hall, Catchgate, on Wednesday, March 13th, 1889, to take into consideration the question of a PUBLIC INSTITUTE for the District. The meeting will commence at 7·30 p.m. prompt. All are earnestly invited to attend.

Pro. the Committee,
J. [illegible],
WM. FITZPATRICK,
D. ARMSTRONG,

P.S.—Entrance to Hall by back way.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.

HENRY GEORGE, Esq., Author of "Progress and Poverty," and the great Apostle of Land Nationalisation, is coming to LECTURE at Consett.

Tickets for which may be procured from the following Gentlemen, viz:—JESSE HALL, ANDREW STODDART, C. C. MCCOLVIN, ROBERT SCOTT, EDWARD TELFORD, WILSON CLAYTON, SAM. J. BRODIE.

Front Seats, 1s.; Second Seats, 6d. 930

ANNFIELD PLAIN PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13th, 1889,

A GRAND

SACRED CONCERT

Will be given by the CHOIR of the above Place of Worship, consisting of

ANTHEMS, CHORUSES, SOLOS, DUETS, AND TRIOS.

Conductor, . . . Mr. THOMAS SPARK.
Harmoniumist . . . Mr. JOHN ROBINSON.

Doors open at 6·30; Chair to be taken at 7 o'clock by Mr. P. REAY, Annfield Plain.

Admission—Front Seats, 1s.; Back Seats, 6d. Tickets may be had of any of the Members of the Choir. Proceeds in aid of the New Building Fund

NOTICE.

THOMAS McCOURTY, of Newmarket Street, Consett, has now REMOVED TO HAZEL COTTAGE, BENTON, near Newcastle-on-Tyne, where all communications are to be addressed to. 5th March, 1889.

Parties having neglected to call for their jobs, can get them at my son's, WM. McCOURTY, Optician, Watchmaker, and Jeweller, 150, Westgate Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and any of my late patrons entrusting him with their work, it will be carefully attended to. Spectacles made to order to suit all sights; likewise Optics of all kinds carefully repaired, his workmanship being well known in the District. He has always on hand a select Stock of GOLD and SILVER WATCHES, CHAINS, SEALS, and KEYS, BROOCHES, EAR-RINGS. CLOCKS in great variety. BAROMETERS, and POCKET and TABLE CUTLERY, in fact, all the requisites in the trade. The noted Shop for WEDDING RINGS, all Government Hall Marked. Half-dozen Pure Nickel Silver Tea Spoons given away to each purchaser of a Gold Wedding Ring.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

WILLIAM McCOURTY,
150, WESTGATE ROAD,
Nearly opposite Blenheim Street,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. J. G. Smith.

Consett.

J. G. SMITH is instructed to offer for SALE BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Mrs. Brown's Railway Hotel, Consett, on Monday, the 11th of March, 1889, at 7 o'clock in the Evening, the following

FREEHOLD PROPERTIES.

Lot 1.—FIVE COTTAGES, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, Trafalgar Street, each containing 3 Rooms, and NINE COTTAGES, Nos. 1 to 9, Pitt Street, each containing 2 Rooms, with Outhouses, &c.

Lot 2.—670 Square Yards of BUILDING GROUND, having Frontages to John Street and Pitt Street, on the North-East of Lot 1.

For further particulars apply to Messrs. T. and R. L. Armstrong, Land Agents, 14, Hawthorn Terrace, Newcastle; William Dickinson, Esq., Solicitor, Shotley Bridge; or to the Auctioneer,

3, West Street, Gateshead, 25th, Feb. 1889. 861

By Mr. William Nicholson

Nicholson's Auction Mart, Tow Law.

MONDAY, MARCH 11th, 1889.

Present Entries—

A number of Prime Fat Cattle and Sheep.

Also, the surplus Farming Stock and Implements, the property of Mr Joseph Suddes, Greenfield, who is declining farming.

20 Young B.F. Ewes in lamb.

10 Half-bred Hoggs; 1 New Reaper, for one or two horses, and other farm implements.

There will also be forward a SPECIAL LOT OF GRAZING CATTLE and SHEEP. Several entries of Home-bred Cattle now booked.

Entries taken up to time of sale.

Sale at One o'clock.

WM. NICHOLSON, Auctioneer.

Date not fixed. Mrs Elsdon's Farm Stock at Sunniside, Iveston.

917 W. NICHOLSON, Auctioneer.

By Mr. John Crawford.

Bell's Houses, Crawcrook.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr. G. Bell, who is emigrating, to SELL the whole of his valuable Mahogany FURNITURE, on Monday, March 11th, 1889.

Full particulars see Posters. 929

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed by Mr. Charles Docherty, of the Mason's Arms, Middle Street, Consett, who is Emigrating, to SELL the whole of his Valuable Mahogany FURNITURE, BAR UTENSILS, and EFFECTS, on Monday, March 18th, 1889. Full particulars in next issue, also see Posters.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Victoria Street, Consett. 801u

JOHN CRAWFORD,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER & FURNITURE AUCTIONEER
25, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT
Business done promptly, and on reasonable terms.

By Mr. George R. Hobson.

Fortnightly Sale.

Town Hall Sale-Room, Catchgate. — Saturday, March 16th, 1889.

MR. G. R. HOBSON, instructed by Mr. James Hamilton, who is about to Emigrate, and others, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION a large quantity of excellent Household FURNITURE, and Miscellaneous EFFECTS, comprising—3 Chests of Mahogany Drawers; Chest of Tallboy Drawers; Ash-fronted Press; Half-dozen Hair-seated Chairs, Mahogany; Gentleman's Mahogany Arm Chair; Eight-days' Mahogany Cased Clock; Small Chest of Bed-room Drawers; 12 Windsor Chairs; Desk Bed; Singer Sewing Machine in perfect working order; Swing Looking Glass; Mahogany Centre Table; Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating, W. Taylor, patent, in perfect working order; Longsettle; Kitchen Table, with Two Leaves; 4 large Pairs of Painted Washstands and Dressing Tables; Iron Half-Tester Bedstead, with Hangings; Rabbit Down and 4 Flock Beds; Bolsters, Pillows, &c., together with a large quantity of other Sundries.

Sale to commence at 6 p.m.

Sale Office, Town Hall, Catchgate.

JOHN LOWES,
AUCTIONEER & VALUER, STANLEY, R.S.O.

Auction Sales of every description undertaken on the most reasonable terms. Prompt settlement.

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC. 653y

Sales by Auction.

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

Wednesday, March 20th, 1889.—Little Greencroft, near Consett.—Sale of Fat Cattle, Milch Cow, Horse and Cartwright's Cut Timber.

MESSRS A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed by R. W. E. BALLEST, Esq., to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at Little Greencroft Farm, on Wednesday, March 20th, 1889, as follows:—

800 12ft Larch and Scotch Rails.
800 5ft Larch and Scotch Posts.
500 feet of 1 inch Larch and Scotch Deals, together with a quantity of Cartwright's Cut Timber, &c., comprising Cart Shafts, Sheaths, Harrow, Boles, &c.

One Stack of Old Land Hay, and a quantity of New Land Hay, in lots to suit purchasers.

Also—
9 Prime Fat Cattle.
2 young Geld Cows, very forward in condition.
1 Excellent Milk and Butter Cow, third Calf, and at profit.
1 Superior Draught Horse, 6 years old, 16 hands high; good and quiet in all yokes.

Sale to commence at Half-past One o'clock.

☞ The attention of Farmers, Butchers, and Cartwrights are specially directed to this Sale; as the Live Stock are in excellent condition, and the Sawn Timber is of first-class quality.

Thursday, March 28th, 1889.

MESSRS A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to offer for SALE BY AUCTION, on the above date, the Freehold DWELLING-HOUSE, now in course of completion, in George Street, Consett; also, the Freehold DWELLING-HOUSE, situate No 2, St Aidan's Street, Blackhill, as now occupied by Mr RAMSAY, Registrar of Births, &c., at the house of Mr PATRICK COYLE, Mount Pleasant Hotel, Consett. Further particulars in future advertisement, or from the Auctioneers, Town Hall, Consett.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

ADAM BRODIE and ROBERT J. BRODIE, Members of the Institute of Auctioneers and Surveyors, and of the Institute of Estate Agents, are prepared to execute all Orders for the SALE of FARMING STOCKS, HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, STOCKS-IN-TRADE, and other Property, in the Best Style, and on Reasonable Terms. Being professionally associated with the above-named Institutions, they are unable to *tout* for commissions as many others do, but they will be glad to execute those with which they may be favoured on Reasonable Terms. Distress for Rent, under the Agricultural Holdings (England) Act, 1883, and also under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888, duly carried out.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—A. and R. J. BRODIE, Certificated Auctioneers, Town Hall, Consett.

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

High House, Rookhope.

MR A. PHILLIPSON has received instruction from the executors of the late Mrs Hannah Phillipson, to SELL BY AUCTION, on Tuesday, the 19th day of March, all the FARMING STOCK, and IMPLEMENTS, consisting of—1 Cow, three years old; 30 Sheep; 1 Useful Sheep Dog; 14 Hens; 2 tons of well-worn Hay; 1 Good Coup Cart; Cart Harness and Cover; Saddle and Bridle; Hay Sledge Forks; Rakes; Hay Spade; Gripe; Spade and Shovels; Hay and Corn Troughs; Hurdles; Barrow; Hay Racks and Cow Bands; Churn; Butter Tub; Scales and Weights; Milk Bowls, &c. Also the following household

FURNITURE.

1 very good Eight-days' Clock, Half-chest of Drawers with Desk Top; Half-chest of Drawers with Press; 2 Feather Beds; Down Bed; Iron Bedstead; Polled Bedstead; Desk Bedstead; Blankets; Sheets and Quilts; Sofa; Longsettle; Mahogany Table; 2 Round Tables; Kitchen Table; Square Table; 2 Arm Chairs; 5 Kitchen Chairs; 6 Bedroom Chairs; Washstand; Cupboard and set of shelves; 2 Looking Glasses; Form; 2 Fenders and Fireirons; Carpet and Hearth Rugs; Pictures and Ornaments; Spoon and Knife Case; China; Pots; Pans; Trays, &c; Wash Tub and Staff; 2 Sides and 2 Hams of Home Fed Bacon.

Furniture sale to commence at 12·30. Stock and implement at 2·30.

MR ALFRED PHILLIPSON will also SELL BY AUCTION on March 20th, all that messuage of FREEHOLD LAND, DWELLING-HOUSE, COTTAGE AND OUTBUILDINGS, Consisting of 4 Acres of Good Grass Land with right on Stanhope Common, Dwelling-house, Cottage, Hay House, Cow Byre and Stable, with Outbuildings, situated at High House, Rookhope, in the Parish of Stanhope, and County of Durham.

Sale at Mr Cruddace's Inn, Boltsburn, Rookhope, to commence at 2 p.m. prompt.

Grove House, Burnopfield. — Wednesday and Thursday, March 13th and 14th, 1889.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, honoured with instructions from the Trustees of the late Thomas Liddell, will SELL BY AUCTION, at the above place and date, the whole of the very Valuable Household FURNITURE and EFFECTS, comprising, Choice Mahogany Bookcase and Cheffioneer; excellent Mahogany Centre Table; 10 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Easy Chair, in Hair-seating; 3 Easy Chairs, in Leather; Lady's Folding Chair; Smoking Chair; Invalid Chair; Invalid Carriage; substantial Mahogany Sofa, in Hair-seating; Mahogany Circular Table, with Folding Leaves; Mahogany Side Table; Fancy Work Table; small Round Table; Mahogany Folding Table; Mahogany Card Table; 2 Square Tea Tables; Useful Writing Desk, with Drawers; superior Mahogany Press; strong Chest of Mahogany Drawers; Painted Sideboard; 2 Painted Cupboards; Magnificent Mantel Mirror, in Gilt Frame, 5ft. by 4ft.; Eight-days' Clock; Ornamental Clock; Half-Tester Brass Bedstead, with Spring Mattresses; French Brass Bedstead, 3ft. 6in.; 2 French Iron Bedsteads; 3 Pairs of Straw Mattresses; 4 Feather Beds, with Pillows and Bolsters; Bed Valance and Side and End Bases; 2 Eider Down Quilts; Lot of Blankets, Quilts, and Linen; choice Painted Wardrobe; 2 Towel Rails; Night Commode; Kidder Carpet; Brussels Carpet; 2 Tapestry Carpets; Floor Oilcloths; Passage Do.; 2 Passage Carpets; 5 Hearthrugs; 6 Cushions; 7 Pairs of Window Shades; 3 Window Curtains and Rollers; 2 Venetian Blinds; 6 Brass Cornice Poles; 2 Brass Cornices; 5 Pairs of Shade Holders; Lots of Odd Pieces of Carpet and Oilcloth; Washstand; Figure, on Stand; 3 Flower Vases; 17 Brass Stair Rods; Lion Ornament and Bracket; Bronze Figure; 2 Fancy Match Boxes; Writing Case; Pair of Lustres; several Choice Ornaments; Brackets, with Drawers; Magnifying Glass; Old-fashioned Goblets; 3 Door Mats; Chimney Board and Fringe; Zinc Blind; 2 WorkBoxes; 2 Inkstands; Pair of Plated Candle Sticks; Ornamental Mirror; Table Mats; Spring Balance; Screen; Cruet Stand; Plated Tea Pot; Sugar Basin and Cream Jug; Plated Server; Fruit Stand, with Globe; Hot Water Can; Bed Pan; Paraffin Stove; 2 Spittoons; 4 Trays; 3 Racks; Music Stool; Chamber Ware; Lot of Crockery and Glass Ware; Set of Old-fashioned China; excellent Sitting-room Fender and Steel Fireirons; Bed-room and Kitchen do.; Ash Pan; Coal Vase; 6 Metal Pans; Brass Wash Basin; Foot Bath; Tins and Brushes; Kettle; Tidy; 4 Flat Irons; Large Tin Box; 2 Hand Screens; Call Bell; Leather Bag; Horse Sheet; Passage Lamp; Umbrella Stand; Meat Covers; Hand Lamp; 2 Paper Racks; Garden Tools; Pair of Steps; Short Ladder; 2 Poss-tubs and Staffs; Clothes Baskets; Hedge Shears; Patent Wringer and Mangle; 2 Garden Seats and Vases; Large Set Pot; Useful PONY PHÆTON; 120 Vols. of Books, in beautiful condition, and by standard authors; 50 Pictures, in Oil, Wool, &c., very choice selection; Large OIL PAINTING, 7ft. 3in. by 5ft. 6in., subject—"THE WRECK OF THE GREAT YARMOUTH;" also a very large quantity of small Articles too numerous to particularise.

Sale to begin each day at Twelve o'clock.

Sitting-room and Best Bed-room Furniture, Oil Paintings, and Library, First Day. 2 Bed-rooms, Kitchen, and Washhouse appointments, Second Day.

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

ASSISTED PASSAGES TO CANADA. Cheap Rates to America by the WHITE STAR, AMERICAN, and other popular Lines. Also Lowest Possible Fares to the AUSTRALIAN COLONIES, SOUTH AFRICA, and other parts of the World. Auction Sales carried on efficiently and upon the very Best Terms.

All Emigrants and Luggage taken to the Railway Station Free of Charge; and for the most useful and reliable information and assistance, apply at once to A. PHILLIPSON Auctioneer, and Emigration Agent, Dipton 486x

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

A WEEKLY SALE every Monday for Fat and Store Cattle and Sheep, Dairy Cows, Horses, Conveyances, Farm Produce, &c., commencing at 12 o'clock with Cows, Fat and Store Stock to follow. Entries should be sent on Wednesday each week.

JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer.

Grove Villa, Tow Law. 685

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John S. Murray.

MONDAY, FIRST, MARCH 11th, 1889.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

FAT CATTLE and SHEEP, CALVES, PIGS, DAIRY COWS, HAY, OATS, TURNIPS, POULTRY, BACON and HAMS, HARNESS, and SUNDRIES.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

914 JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

Wednesday First, March 13th, 1889.

MR. RALPH ATKINSON'S SALE OF FARM STOCK, HORSES, COWS, GRAZING STOCK, SHEEP, PIGS, FARM IMPLEMENTS, DAIRY UTENSILS, &c., at High Glebe Farm, Whickham.

JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

Royal Auction Mart Sale Office, Benfieldside.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,
AUCTIONEER,
AGRICULTURAL VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

☞ JOSEPH OLEY,
THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
16, 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 repayable as arranged, or for fixed period.

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A., Secretary.

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. 739y

LIEBIG'S

EXTRACT OF BEEF AND MALT WINE

(GLENDENNING'S).

MADE FROM GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT, LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF BEEF, AND KEPLER MALT EXTRACT.

THIS valuable preparation is composed of a stimulative, a nutritive, and a digestive.

Thus the invalid has here "tissue formers" and "force producers" in a form ready for and easy of assimilation into the system.

Those in the enjoyment of good health need at times a concentrated nutritive digestive food, and in no other preparation will they obtain these requisite qualities in so large a degree.

Recommended by the Medical Profession, who have found it to be a valuable aid in their dietic treatment

Prepared only by William Glendenning, Newcastle on-Tyne.

PRICE 3/9 PER BOTTLE, or 45/- PER DOZEN.
" 2/- PER HALF BOTTLE, 23/6 PER DOZEN HALF BOTTLES.

AGENTS ... Mr. RICHARD MURRAY, Wine Merchant Benfieldside.
" ... Mr. T. SUDDES, Station Hotel Langley Park.
" ... Mr. WILLIAM STONES, Burton House, Burnopfield.
" ... A. R. FLEET, Wine Merchant Birtley.
" ... Messrs. ROBINSON & Co., Chemists and Druggists, Chester-le-Street.

What a beautiful carriage
Where did you get it?
From ALFRED BOAG,
St. Mary's Place, Newcastle.
I was perfectly astonished to see his Stock of New and Second-hand Carriages and Harness, and more so when I heard his prices. Thanks for his address. I want my carriage repaired and painted. Good morning. 716a

TO ADVERTISERS.

ALL Orders for Advertisements for insertion in the *Consett Guardian* must be WRITTEN, and sent in not later than EIGHT o'clock on Friday mornings to ensure publication.

WE use great care to secure the correct printing of advertisements; but we cannot be responsible for inaccuracies nor from any consequences arising therefrom.

PARTIES making inquiries by letter respecting advertisements must enclose an addressed stamped envelope.

IT is contrary to Post-office Regulations for letters to be addressed to initials or fictitious names at any Post-office. Advertisers are desired to bear this in mind.

APPLICANTS for situations and others who reply to advertisements are recommended to forward copies of their testimonials, and not the original documents.

A paper pattern of the Carina Mantle is presented to the readers of Weldon's Ladies' Journal for March (3d.), also a choice plate of Costumes, Coats and Jackets. Millinery lessons are continued, instructions being given how to make the Empress Bonnet, also further designs and instructions for folding Finger Napkins. The number is fully illustrated in the usual good taste and style characteristic of Weldon's publications many pretty designs for Spring wear will be found for Coats, Jackets, Mantles, Costumes, Fashions for Children, French Millinery, with complete instructions for cutting out and making up at home, short articles on Beauty in Dress, Fancy Work and Cookery form a most interesting issue.

WELDON'S PRACTICAL CROCHET (7th series), is the subject of March number of Weldon's Practical Needle-work, containing upwards of Thirty Choice Wood Engravings, with instructions how to crochet Caps, Gloves, Petticoats, Antimacassors, Edgings, Pellisse, &c.

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 a 3s. 6d. per Bottle. Wholesale depot removed to 33, Farringdon Road, London

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH, 1889.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGO."]

THE VICAR ON THE WARPATH.

The Vicar of Consett appears to take a rather despondent view of the result of his labours when he says that his warnings and exhortations for the past quarter of a century have been nothing else than wasted breath. Of course Mr Steggall knows better, for if it be true that in the vast domain of nature there is no annihilation, if the tiny insect—frail tenant of an hour—exist in another form after its ephemeral life has fled, what shall we say of those influences which are the fruit of the highest and best impulses of the soul? Perish every expression and thought that is ignoble, but let the pure remain to refresh and vivify the heart. It would no doubt be much more encouraging could our guides in spiritual concerns witness palpable proof of the fruit of their labours from day to day and from week to week; but however desirable such a condition of things would unquestionably be, the history of the chequered past proves that the innate perversity of human nature is such that it is very unsafe to judge at all times from appearances. A very good watchword for the men who in their day and generation put forth their strength to direct the wayward steps of the thoughtless multitude is the rousing sentiment of the popular American poet:

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TANFIELD PARISH CHOIR CONCERT.

The members of this choir gave a concert in the National Schoolroom, Tanfield, on Wednesday se'nnight. The chair was occupied by the vicar (Rev T. H. Archdall, M.A.) The audience was large and the music of an excellent order. After a few introductory remarks from the Chairman, the concert opened with the glee, "See our oars," which was sung—as were all the glees—with great sweetness and precision. Mr Lowe followed with "Paddy's wish," which was very well received. Miss Smailes, too, received the same compliment for her song "Tit for tat." Mr Allan was equally successful in the "Jolly coppersmith." Next came the humorous quartette "Dame Durden," by Misses Mossam and Smailes, Messrs Lowe and Eltringham, which caused great amusement. The song, "The complaints," by Mr Todd, gained rounds of applause, and was *encored*. Miss E. Smailes sung very nicely "Far away." The duet, "Upper ten and lower five," by Messrs Lowe and Allan (in character) received a well-merited *encore*. The glee, "The legend of the bells," closed the first part of the programme. Part II. opened with the glee "Hark! the lark." Mr Lowe next gave "Old Brown's daughter," which was loudly applauded. The vocal waltz, "Spring is coming," was sung exceedingly well by the choir. Next came the song "Kyrie Eleison," beautifully sung by Miss Mossam, and the refrain being taken up by the choir in an adjoining room, added considerably to the effect. The humorous quartette "Pro phundo basso," by Misses Newell and Mossam, Messrs Allan and Todd, well merited the burst of applause with which it was greeted; as also the song "No, sir," by Miss Smailes, both being repeated. The duet "Fairy revels" was very sweetly sung by Misses Burnip and Smailes. This was followed by Mr Todd singing "At it again," which was vociferously *encored*. The glee "Good night to the day" closed the second part of the programme.—A vote of thanks to the choir and organist was proposed by Mr Arkless, seconded by Mr Tennent, and carried unanimously.—This was responded to by Mr Hinkley, who had acted as accompanist during the evening.—After singing the National Anthem, a most successful concert was brought to a close.—The parishioners of Tanfield are to be congratulated on the efficiency of their choir, who were able to give so complete a concert.

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. 675

Local and District New

CONSETT.

Last (Thursday) night, the Consett
Methodist Choir held their annual sup
School-room. There was a numerous a
of members and friends, and the viands
were of the choicest quality.—Games were
in at the close.

THE FORTHCOMING LOCAL BOARD EL
It has been finally settled by the Irish p
Mr James Daly, grocer, Shakespeare
Consett, should be nominated as their
for the forthcoming election. This gentle
his consent to stand yesterday (T
morning.

AN AMBULANCE NOTE.—As an instanc
skill displayed by our local ambulance
may state that a tramp had his head
several places during a row in Tate's
house, Consett, early on Sunday morning
Main, who has only attended a single
class, bandaged up the wounds remark
with an ordinary piece of cloth.

THE COURT MINSTRELS.—On Mond
Tuesday evening, upon the occasion of th
visit of Messrs Livermore Bros. renown
Minstrels to Consett, the New Town H
filled by large and thoroughly appr
audiences. The minstrels, all attired
costume of George IV., performed a ne
original programme thoroughly well, a
confirmed all anticipations of last week
audiences were delighted with the bill
provided.

THEATRE ROYAL.—This week Mr J. P
more's popular London company has
every night in Sandamore's original dr
Metal, which has been reproduced in
successful manner. The leading rôle
ably sustained by Miss Marie Moore as
and Mr Tom Morton as "Bouse," Mi
Geraldine also personates the character of
Twaddle" to perfection, while the acting
rest of the company leaves nothing to be
A chief characteristic of the play is the rep
of "Thistle" by a real performing
The Theatre has been largely patronised
doubt the audiences will be greatly augme
two next nights.—Next week, the lessee (M
Brodie) has entailed extra expense in
Miss Emma Rainbow's company to pay a
visit to Consett in the thrilling drama o
Star.

SALVATION ARMY.—On Saturday, Sund
Monday, the corps at Consett were favoure
a visit from the Newcastle Songster troupe
the charge of Capt. Fiorrie Gregory, who a
large congregations to hear them.—On M
night, the songsters gave a very amusing
the greatest novelty that has ever been
Consett, was the grand gigantic ex-jai
demonstration, when torch lights, carried
members, a war-chariot, and a mounted
headed by the brass band paraded the st
Consett. Inside the barracks, Capt. Hopk
Torquay hero, attired in the prison dres
with a host of other ex-jailbird, including C
Clough, the notorious wrestler, gave some
revelations, which they had gone throug
finished-up by telling the audience wh
religion of Jesus Christ had done for
Councillor Archbold, Jarrow, presided o
gathering. During the procession, on We
night, a girl named Gregory, living in T
Street, was knocked down by the horse rid
the Lieutenant, in Victoria Street, a
seriously injured. She was carried
Crawford's shop, and from thence conveyed
where she received medical attention.
other accidents occurred.

LANCHESTER.

"NOTHING BETTER TO DO."—At Lanc
on Monday—before Rev J. P. De Pledge
Carroll (42), a tramp, was charged with dis
conduct in the Workhouse. The man
mitted into the casual ward on Saturday
and while lodged in the cells he pulled off
his clogs and threw it through the window
ing a square of glass. When asked by the
(Mr W. Brotherhood) why he had done so,
replied: "Well, I had nothing better
(Laughter.)—He was committed for 14 day
hard labour.—On leaving the Court, prison
a profuse bow, and, addressing the magi
said: "Thank you, sir; I'm much obli
you."

JUVENILE ENTERTAINMENT.—On Monday
a musical sketch styled a "Kinderpiel,
friends and new faces," was given in the N
Schools, Lanchester. The room was crowde
many persons failed to get admittance.
entertainment was an unparalleled success
one present being delighted. The fol
characters were impersonated:—"Sister
Miss E. Hodgson; "Mistress Mary," Mis
Buckham; "Humpty Dumpty," Master
Puckering; "Jack and Jill," Master E.
and Eva Dixon; "Mother Hubbard,"
Featherstonehaugh; "Little Boy Blue,"
Wm. Waugh; "Little Jack Horner," Mast
Jackson; "Little Red Riding Hood," Miss
Dunn; "Little Bo-Peep," Miss E. D
"Soldiers," Masters Davison, Toward, W
Pratt, and Spark. Also, chorus of chi
During the programme, the following
introduced:—(1), Vocal valtz, "Swinging,"
chorus; (2), Vocal valtz, "See Saw,"
chorus; (3), Mr Lawrence's pupils; violins,
A. Dunn, Master John Wilson, Tom Wilso
C. Laidler; piano, Master Selby W
"American," "Fairyland Waltz,"
Favourite Gavotte," "Lanchester Quadr
The whole of the programme was excel
rendered, thanks to the efficient conductor (
Dunn, schoolmaster). The little ones o
violin played with considerable care and
which reflected great credit upon Miss Law
their leader. Miss Dixon (The Lodge) accomp
on the pianoforte. The proceeds were in
children's summer treat. Hearty votes of t
to Mr Dunn, Miss Dixon, and children, f
rare treat which they had given, were propos
the vicar (Rev F. W. Glynn), to which Mr
responded, and thanked the audience, on be
the children, for their patronage and sup
The National Anthem closed the procee
which has been deemed the best entertai
ever given in Lanchester.

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Rev J. Taylor, Tow Law, preached two ex
sermons in the above chapel at Quebec. Th
gentleman in the evening took his text fro
Luke xvi., verse 16—Lazarus and the rich
Mr R. Wynn officiated at the harmonium,
there was a fair attendance at each service.
choir, under the leadership of Mr W. Tu
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tions were in aid of the trust funds.

WEST PELTON.

JUBILEE MARRIAGE CELEBRATION.—Mr Th
Taylor and his wife, Mary, of Eden Hill Cott
near West Pelton, celebrated the 50th annive
of their wedding day on the 25th February.
have lived during that time in this imme
neighbourhood. Mrs Taylor's brother, who
only recently ceased working, resides in the
house. The united ages of these three pe
amount to 220 years.

BLANCHLAND.

THE SEVERE WEATHER.—Since the adve
March the weather in the Blanchland Distric
been of a very stormy character. The rep
falls of snow have accumulated on the groun
the depth of about eight inches. The snow
not drifted, and throughout the country-side
main and bye-roads are all open, and traffic th
is uninterrupted. The frost is also very
though not unseasonable, and will be of servi
checking the too early vegetation that arose
the remarkably mild weather preceding.
tainly the storm, as yet, bears no comparis
its last two antecedents. This is the first tip
the winter that farmers have been necessitat
"hay" their sheep on the fells, and fortun
they are sufficiently provided with fodder to c
however rigid and protracted the winter ma
after this advanced date. With the open we
previous and the unusually heavy crops of
season, hay is very plentiful, so that a repet
of the farmers' sad experience in this
locality during the memorable late winter is
to be avoided.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH, 1889.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGO."]

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Local and District News.

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AN AMBULANCE NOTE.—As an instance of the skill displayed by our local ambulance corps, we may state that a tramp had his head cut in several places during a row in Tute's lodging-house, Consett, early on Sunday morning. Sergt. Bain, who has only attended a single ambulance class, bandaged up the wounds remarkably well with an ordinary piece of cloth.

THE COURT MINSTRELS.—On Monday and Tuesday evening, upon the occasion of the return visit of Messrs Livermore Bros. renowned Court Minstrels to Consett, the New Town Hall was filled by large and thoroughly appreciative audiences. The minstrels, all attired in the costume of George IV., performed a novel and original programme thoroughly well, and fully confirmed all anticipations of last week. The audiences were delighted with the bill of fare provided.

THEATRE ROYAL.—This week Mr J. Pitt Hardacre's popular London company has appeared every night in Sandamore's original drama, *True Metal*, which has been reproduced in a highly successful manner. The leading *roles* are capitally sustained by Miss Marie Moore as "Rags," and Mr Tom Morton as "Bones." Miss Grace Geraldine also personates the character of "Jenny Tweddle" to perfection, while the acting of the rest of the company leaves nothing to be desired. A chief characteristic of the play is the representation of "Thistle" by a real performing donkey. The Theatre has been largely patronised, and no doubt the audiences will be greatly augmented the two next nights.—Next week, the lessee (Mr R. J. Brodie) has entailed extra expense in engaging Miss Emma Rainbow's company to pay a return visit to Consett in the thrilling drama of *Lucky Star*.

SALVATION ARMY.—On Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, the corps at Consett were favoured with a visit from the Newcastle Songster troupe, under the charge of Capt. Fiorrie Gregory, who attached large congregations to hear them.—On Monday night, the songsters gave a very amusing concert, the greatest novelty that has ever been seen in Consett, was the grand gigantic ex-jail-bird-demonstration, when torch lights, carried by the members, a war-chariot, and a mounted officer, headed by the brass band paraded the streets of Consett. Inside the barracks, Capt. Hopkins, the Torquay hero, attired in the prison dress, along with a host of other ex-jailbirds, including Capt. Tom Clough, the notorious wrestler, gave some startling revelations, which they had gone through, and finished-up by telling the audience what the religion of Jesus Christ had done for them. Councillor Archbold, Jarrow, presided over the gathering. During the procession, on Wednesday night, a girl named Gregory, living in Trafalgar Street, was knocked down by the horse ridden by the Lieutenant, in Victoria Street, and was seriously injured. She was carried to Mr Crawford's shop, and from thence conveyed home, where she received medical attention. Several other accidents occurred.

LANCHESTER.

"NOTHING BETTER TO DO."—At Lanchester, on Monday—before Rev J. P. De Pledge—*John Carroll* (42), a tramp, was charged with disorderly conduct in the Workhouse. The man was admitted into the casual ward on Saturday night, and while lodged in the cells he pulled off one of his clogs and threw it through the window, breaking a square of glass. When asked by the Master (Mr W. Brotherhood) why he had done so, Carroll replied: "Well, I had nothing better to do." (Laughter.)—He was committed for 14 days, with hard labour.—On leaving the Court, prisoner made a profuse bow, and, addressing the magistrates, said: "Thank you, sir; I'm much obliged to you."

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QUEBEC.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday, Rev J. Taylor, Tow Law, preached two excellent sermons in the above chapel at Quebec. The rev gentleman in the evening took his text from St. Luke xvi., verse 16—Lazarus and the rich man. Mr R. Wynn officiated at the harmonium, and there was a fair attendance at each service. The choir, under the leadership of Mr W. Turner, rendered choice hymns and anthems. The collections were in aid of the trust funds.

WEST PELTON.

JUBILEE MARRIAGE CELEBRATION.—Mr Thomas Taylor and his wife, Mary, of Eden Hill Cottages, near West Pelton, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding day on the 25th February. They have lived during that time in this immediate neighbourhood. Mrs Taylor's brother, who has only recently ceased working, resides in the same house. The united ages of these three persons amount to 220 years.

BLANCHLAND.

THE SEVERE WEATHER.—Since the advent of March the weather in the Blanchland District has been of a very stormy character. The repeated falls of snow have accumulated on the ground to the depth of about eight inches. The snow has not drifted, and throughout the country-side the main and bye-roads are all open, and traffic thereon is uninterrupted. The frost is also very keen, though not unseasonable, and will be of service in checking the too early vegetation that arose from the remarkably mild weather preceding. Certainly the storm, as yet, bears no comparison to its last two antecedents. This is the first time in the winter that farmers have been necessitated to "hay" their sheep on the fells, and fortunately they are sufficiently provided with fodder to do so however rigid and protracted the winter may be after this advanced date. With the open weather previous and the unusually heavy crops of last season, hay is very plentiful, so that a repetition of the farmers' sad experience in this wild locality during the memorable late winter is likely to be avoided.

BLACKHILL.

The Rev James Martin, United Methodist Free Church Minister, Blackhill, has accepted an invitation to the Ipswich Circuit to succeed Rev J. Prater in August.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—An entertainment was held in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Blackhill, on Monday night. There was a very large audience, the chapel being well filled. Mr Thomas Davis occupied the chair. An interesting and varied programme was gone through, and a very enjoyable evening spent.

FATAL RESULT OF AN ACCIDENT.—About 6 30 on Friday morning, William Robson, landlord of the Derwent Hotel, Durham Road, Blackhill, expired from the effects of an accident, at the age of 52 years. It seems that during the hay season last summer, he fell off the top of a cart of hay and injured himself internally. He has lingered up to the present—a period of nearly six months. The remains of the deceased were interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon.

AMBULANCE CLASSES.—On Thursday se'nnight, in connection with the St. John Ambulance Association, Dr Geo. Renton commenced to give a course of five lectures on ambulance instruction in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill. About 100 students joined the class, principally employed at the Consett Iron Works and the Shotley Bridge Paper Mills; also a number of police-officers and railway servants. In the course of his address, the doctor treated exhaustively on the subject of "Physiognomy and anatomy."

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHOIR.—The members of the above choir held their annual coffee supper at Blackhill on Thursday se'nnight. There was a large company, supper being partaken of by over 70 persons. After justice had been done to the good things on the tables, which were presided over by the Misses Macdonald, Richardson, M. Maneylaws, S. Maneylaws, Cranston, and Hull, games were commenced, and all present joined heartily in. Fruit was distributed after supper. The company broke up by singing "Auld Lang Syne," a happy and enjoyable evening being spent.

LOCAL CLERGY AND DANCING HOUSES.—At a parochial mass at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, Blackhill, on Sunday, Rev James Foran referred to the pernicious habit of dancing, which he had heard was being very profusely indulged in at Blackhill and Consett at present, and said if the portion of his people, whom he had heard were visiting these dancing houses, did not give it up, he would adopt strong measures to try and compel them to do so. He was also shocked that the girls who attended those places did so with the knowledge and approval of their mothers. He wished to warn mothers against the result of such encouragement, and predicted that if they allowed it to go on it would bring unhappiness and misery to their homes.

UNITED METHODIST BAND OF HOPE.—A Band of Hope entertainment was held in the United Free Church, Blackhill, on Saturday night, when a good programme was given. The meeting opened with a hymn and prayer, a solo was then given by Miss English in capital style; recitation, Master J. Tindall; reading, Mr Matthew Bell, was very well done; a dialogue was rendered in capital style by Misses E. and L. English; solo, Miss Cannel; a recitation was then given by Mr E. Evans; a piece was then sung by the company; a dialogue was given by eight characters, the different parts being impersonated well; recitation, Mr Edward Tindall, was also given, afterwards a quartette was sung. Mr Tindall (who acted as chairman) spoke for some time on the work of temperance. He said the object of giving these entertainments was not only to try and sober the drunkard, but to bring him to a knowledge of Christ, which was the most important. He himself had been a drunkard, but now he was trying to banish the cursed liquor which was the ruin of thousands of souls. The chairman closed his remarks by saying that the company were willing to do anything to further the cause.—A number of pledges were taken, and the singing of the doxology brought the meeting to a close.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

ST. CUTHBERT'S PARISH MAGAZINE for March contains an article on confirmation, chronicle of the past two months, and a further instalment of Old Parish Records. The general portion of the Magazine is, as usual, full of interest and instruction.

ASSAULT ON THE POLICE.—At the Shotley Bridge Courthouse, on Wednesday—before Councillor Jas Annandale—*Charles Grant*, a Consett youth (who was apprehended by Sergt. Bain on his release from Durham gaol on Tuesday morning), was brought up charged with having assaulted P.C. Richardson, at Consett, on the 26th August last.—Prisoner was remanded on bail till Monday, the 11th inst.

LEADGATE.

COFFEE SUPPER.—On Monday evening, the Primitive Methodist body of Leadgate, held a coffee supper in connection with their sewing meetings. There was a good company present. The proceeds go towards helping forward the bazzar they contemplate holding.

GUESSING COMPETITION.—Seeing the great success that William Hutchinson and Company have had with their guessing competition at the Consett shop, they have resolved to try the experiment at their Leadgate branch, and we urge our readers not to miss this opportunity of trying their luck.

A TRADESMAN'S AFFAIRS.—At Newcastle Bankruptcy Court on Monday,—before Registrar Ingledew—Percival Hall, grocer and fruiterer, Leadgate and Weardale, came up for his first examination.—Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) appeared for the debtor, who said he commenced business in 1887, without capital. His books were more memoranda than anything else, and he had no book showing his income and expenditure. His liabilities were £137 17s. 4d., and his assets were £35 16s. 6d., leaving a deficiency of £102 0s. 10d. He had been sold off; there were two or three executors in. His takings were £7 a week, and his profiits about 30s. His household expenses were £2 a week. He had his wife and three children and father to keep, and formerly his brother. He had known for some time he was insolvent, but expected things improving.—The examination was adjourned.

ILLNESS OF SERGT. GREEN.—We regret to hear that Sergt. Walter Green, one of the officers shot by a man named Swaddle, at Dunston, in July last, is lying ill at his residence in Front Street, Leadgate. It will be remembered that Swaddle, after shooting at Green and P.C. Lindsey (now stationed at Tantobie), jumped into the river and attempted to drown himself. Dragged out of the water, he went straight to the railway, and, laying himself in front of an approaching engine, was cut in two. Sergt. Green was ill for a considerable time, but subsequently recovered, and it was thought that he had got quite better. He was removed from Dunston, where he had been stationed, to Leadgate, in October last. It is stated that his present illness arises from the result of the shot wound inflicted when the murderous attack was made upon him at Dunston. He is being attended by Dr Richards (Shotley Bridge) and Dr Allan (Leadgate). A quantity of skin has peeled off the wound, and it is certain that the pocket of the belt saved him from the full effects of the pistol shot. It is said that the Sergeant occasionally takes a stray shot-corn out of the flesh. He is not in immediate danger, and lies in pretty much the same condition. Sergt. Green has been incapacitated from discharging his duties for five weeks. He has become very popular with the residents of Leadgate.

OXHILL.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Sunday, at Oxhill, two sermons were preached in the afternoon and evening by Mr Philip Reay, Annfield Plain, to large congregations.—On Wednesday night, the Annfield Plain Orchestral Band gave a concert in the same place of worship to a crowded house. The programme given by the performers was the same as reported in our last week's issue. The cornet solo by Mr A. Forster, and the playing of Mr W. Waugh on the clarionet was greatly admired.

STANHOPE.

SEWING MEETING.—The Stanhope Primitive Methodist ladies' sewing meeting last week realised £6. Tea was provided by Mrs John Elliott, Crawleyside. That of Saturday evening realised £5. Tea was provided by Mrs Joseph Spark. Mrs Sparks set out at tea was acknowledged by experts to be the best yet given by any of the others, eclipsing even that of Mrs Watson, who up to that time was the leading star.

WEARDALE.

WESTGATE ANNUAL FAIR.—The annual fair for the sale of horses, cattle and sheep at Westgate, Weardale, was held on Thurs[illegible] se'nnight, when owing to the blinding snowstorm [illegible] the stock offered for sale brought large prices, as f[illegible]rmers from a distance were unable to bring their stock.

SUDDEN DEATH.—The death of [illegible] Littlewood, of Crawleyside, better known as "S[illegible]ndy," took place very suddenly on Saturday morni[illegible] last at his residence. Deceased was at work in the Ashes limestone quarry in the fore part of the week, but took a fit from the result of which he gradually sank and died.

THE WAYLAID FARMER.—Mr J. Lowther, the Weardale farmer, who, with his wife was illused, by a lot of youths the other Saturday night, has compromised the affair with the youths on their paying for the spoilt hat and torn dress. They pleaded drunkenness. It will not come into court.

WHICKHAM.

CONCERT AND KINDERSPIEL.—The scholars of the Parochial Schools, Whickham, assisted by a few friends, gave a most successful entertainment in the school-room. The chair was occupied by Canon Carr. The parts allotted to the children, who appeared in costume, were performed in capital style, and reflected great credit upon the master, Mr R. Ord Castles, and his assistant, Mr Ashcroft. Miss Lena Harbottle's singing and pianoforte playing was highly appreciated. Words of commendation are due to Messrs J. Weightman and G. E. Turnbull, whose singing and selections on the violin respectively were loudly applauded.

USHAW MOOR.

THE PRESIDENT OF USHAW COLLEGE.—Better accounts as to the health of Dr Lenon are to hand.

LINTZ COLLIERY.

The many friends of Mr Robert Clark, of Lintz Green House, will be glad to know that his health has somewhat improved during his sojourn in Egypt.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

At the Chester-le-Street Congregational Church the pastor (Rev R. Crookall) unveiled a stained glass window, erected by the members of the church to the memory of their pastor, Rev Henry Oakley, who held the pastorate for twenty-two years.

BENEFIT CONCERT.—On Saturday night, a concert was given in the Co-operative Hall for the benefit of the widow and family of the late Mr John Nicholson, who was killed by a fall of stone at Ushaw Moor on the last day of last year. Mr Nicholson was himself an accomplished singer, and was ever ready to render any service to charitable and useful objects. Local talent, among whom Mr Nicholson was a prime favourite, were well represented by Mr H. Price, Miss E. Davison, Mr Shotton, Mr Davison, and others; Mr Tom Robson, Sunderland, the well known clog-dancer, was also present, and was well received. The concert was a capital success. Mr George Pickering was chairman.

HORSE SHOW.—A show of entire cart horses took place on Wednesday at Chester-le-Street in very disagreeable weather. Twelve hosses were entered for the competition, and a close contest for the prize—£50 and the privilege of travelling the Chester-le-Street district—took place between Home Secretary, a bay horse rising four years old, the property of Mr A. B. Matthews, Newton Stewart, N.B., and Cromwell, a dark brown rising seven years, owner, Mr Reston Mather, Provanhall, Shettleston, N.B. Ultimately the award was given to Home Secretary, a decision which seemed to give general satisfaction. The judges were:—Mr Henry Potts, Harbour House; Mr T. Hall, Fatfield; and Mr John Snowball, Usworth. Mr J. Brewis, Waldridge, acted as secretary.

BLAYDON.

CONVERSAZIONE.—On Wednesday se'nnight a successful conversazione in connection with Blaydon Church was held in the Church Schools, under the management of Mrs Green, who was ably assisted by Mrs Henry Dalton, Mrs Bowey, Mrs Viner, Miss Reay, and Miss Beddle. The large school was transformed into a drawing-room, the floor being carpeted and the windows draped with curtains, while chairs and tables were scattered carelessly around. Palms and other plants interspersed added a pleasing feature to the scene. The walls and tables were adorned with pictures and curiosities lent by various members of the congregation. So great was the change effected that the old school-room could scarcely be recognised, and the elegant dresses of the ladies, with all the varied surroundings, made a bright picture on which the memory will pleasantly linger. A selection of music, recitations, &c., were given by the Misses Carr, Noble, and Venndt, the Rector, Mr Hardwich, Shotton, Mr R. Donald, Cullercoats, and Messrs W. Hawdon, J. Smith, J. Forster, Jarrett and Viner. Mr H. Dalton delighted the audience with a specimen of his skill in legerdemain, several of his tricks being quite new and specially prepared for the conversazione. An electrical nosegay and other appliances and microscopes were exhibited by Mr D. R. Green, which afforded great amusement. Refreshments, consisting of tea, coffee, chocolate, cake, fruit, and jellies, were served at nine o'clock.—The Rector (Rev M. Green) proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies and gentlemen who had carried out the evening's arrangements.—This was seconded by Councillor Paxton, and carried unanimously.—The Curate (Rev D. Williams) responded on behalf of the ladies. At 11 o'clock the National Athem was sung, bringing to a close a most social evening.

CATHOLIC MEETING AT STELLA.—On Sunday night, a large and enthusiastic meeting was held in the Catholic Schools, Stella, for the purpose of forming a Catholic Registration Association. Mr O'Neil (Addison) occupied the chair, and was supported on the platform by Canon Wrennall, Father Cusack, Mr Wilson, Mr Spoors, and Mr McAleenan.—The Chairman said they were gathered together that night to form themselves into an association in order that every Catholic entitled to a vote might have his name placed on the register. It had been decided to take up the name of the Stella Registration Association, which name, he thought, was a very suitable one. The position in which the Catholic body was placed at the present time was rather peculiar. They (the Catholics) could not grasp any power, and they seemed to be going on very loosely. They had a right—and it was their duty to a great extent to be prepared—to look after the Catholic interest as well as any other class of people. The chairman then explained the working of the association. Mr Wm. Wilson (secretary *pro tem.*) having read the rules, Canon Wrennall, who was greeted with cheers, said the idea of that organisation was to bring them together, and unite them so that they might direct their power in the interest of religion. They must no longer remain hidden in the background. The Catholic people in this country must begin to assert their position and authority. There were matters that came before them now in which they could do a great amount of good. (Applause.)—Mr McAleenan moved the adoption of the rules, and Father Cusack seconded the motion, which was carried.—The following resolution was proposed by Mr McGuiness, and seconded by Mr Spoors:—That this meeting ask the Catholics of the parish of Stella to join the Registration Association, and to give it all the support they can.—The resolution was carried with great enthusiasm.—The officers were elected as follows:—President, Hugh O'Neil; vice-presidents, Ed. Aiston and Felix McGuiness; committee, M. Dempsey, T. Donnelly, G. Scott, J. McBride, W. Scott, and R. Spencer; treasurer, A. Taylor; secretary, W. Wilson; assistant secretary, J. Spoors.—About 50 members were enrolled.

LANGLEY PARK.

CONCERT.—On Monday night, a very successful concert was given in the Langley Park Schools, the proceeds being devoted to the artistes who proffered their services at a benefit concert held in the same place six weeks ago. In the absence of Mr William Logan, the engineer (Mr Hebburn) was called upon to preside. The place was completely filled, and a comprehensive programme was gone through in a most satisfactory manner.

WOLSINGHAM.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The son and heir of Mr T. E. Fenwick, Mayfield, Wolsingham, has very generously offered the sum of £5 to the Wesleyan Sunday-school committee for the purpose of replenishing the library with a selection of good, sound, healthy works, as an inducement for the scholars to leave off the penny trash that is becoming far too common in this country, the only condition to the gift being that a suitable place be provided for the books to be kept in.

SPEN COLLIERY.

THE LATE JAMES ROBINSON.—At a public meeting recently held at the Spen, it was decided to erect a memorial stone in memory of the late James Robinson, of Spen, who was drowned when trying to rescue another boy who was in danger of being drowned by the breaking of the ice on Spen pond. A committee was appointed, with Mr A. Eltringham as secretary. We understand that £13 have been collected in Spen, and further subscriptions will be thankfully received by the secretary, or by Mr John Tucker, of Victoria Garesfield.

BURNHOPE.

NEW CHAPEL.—The opening services in connection with Burnhope Primitive Methodist Chapel were continued as follows:—On Saturday night, a concert was given in the chapel by the Stanley Primitive Methodist choir, after which a public coffee supper was held. There was a fairly good attendance, although the weather was very inclement.—On Sunday, sermons were preached, morning and evening, by Mr J. Johnson, Causey, and in the afternoon, by Mr T. Thornton, Gateshead. The collections were £8. The opening services altogether will realise over £40, and they hope of a successful bazaar in the near future.

WATERHOUSES.

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, NEWHOUSE.—On Sunday, Bishop J. Wilkinson, of Crook, delivered two excellent sermons in the above place of worship in the morning and evening. Miss Jackson officiated at the organ, and there was a large congregation at each service. Miss Sheedy conducted the choir, who chanted principally in Latin. In the evening, His Grace took for his subject "Love your holy mother and the holy Church."

DIPTON.

SUDDEN DEATH.—On Tuesday morning, a middle-aged woman, named Mrs Carter, of Aitkin's Cottages, Dipton, died very suddenly. It appears that on the morning in question she was busy talking with a neighbour, who said that, to her mind, she looked quite well, and was going about doing her work as usual, when all at once she fell down, and died before medical aid could be procured. She expired from an affection of the heart.

TOW LAW.

An excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music was given in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law, on Saturday night, by the Stephenson family from Frosterley. There was only a scanty audience, but the concert was much appreciated.

CONCERT.—A concert of vocal and instrumental music was given in the Mechanics' Hall, Tow Law, on Shrove Tuesday night, by the choir and friends of the Church of St. Philip and St. James, Tow Law. The vicar (Rev T. E. Espin) occupied the chair. The proceeds are to be devoted to the choir and organ fund.

MARRIAGE.—A large number of parishioners assembled in Tow Law Church, on Wednesday morning, to witness the marriage of Miss E. E. Smith, Tow Law, to Mr R. Lawson, Medomsley. The ceremony was conducted by Rev W. Downard, curate, and at the close, on behalf of the teachers and scholars of the Church Sunday-school, he presented a beautiful bible and Church service to Mrs Lawson, who for several years has been a much-respected and attentive teacher.

BAND OF HOPE FESTIVAL.—A most successful festival in connection with the Church Band of Hope, Tow Law, took place on Monday, in the Mechanics' Hall. This society has been carried on most efficiently for over ten years, under the leadership of Messrs Rawes and Pattinson, and with such good results that a number of ladies who were much interested in it determined to encourage the society by giving the children a tea, and this they carried out on the most generous scale. The following ladies provided a most inviting spread, and attended to the wants of the children:—Mesdames Learoyd, Blenkiron, Wetherall, C. Hall, Rawes, Potts, Hull, Sherrington, Ellison, Mackintosh, Jos. Hall, J. Hall, Fleming, and Miss Pattinson. Oranges were provided by other kind friends. Various friends belonging to other societies dropped in during the afternoon, and a very enjoyable time was passed by old and young. In the evening, a public meeting was held, presided over by Rev T. E. Espin, vicar, and attended by a crowded audience. The platform was occupied by about 130 members of the Band of Hope, and the following programme was given in a most hearty style:—Opening hymn, "Rescue the perishing," and prayer; a short and lively address from the vicar, who was in his element among the crowd of children; instrumental trio by Messrs J. and F. Mackintosh and C. W. Pattinson; dialogue, "Who will help?" by Misses Hall, Wetherall, Hall, and Wilson; song, "Dreaming of home," Miss E. Hepple; recitation, "Britain's reproach," Miss M. Hall; dialogue and song, "Our temperance year," by 12 boys; violin solo (*encored*), Master W. Bailey, Crook; a very earnest and powerful address by Rev F. Newsome, Fence Houses; song, "Bird of the greenwood," Miss Ellison; recitation, "The maid of the inn," Miss Mabel Temperley; instrumental piece, "Annie Spray," quadrilles, Mr T. Macdonald and Masters T. Macdonald and C. W. Pattinson (*encored*); recitation, "Little Emily's speech," Miss Emily Tait; dialogue, "The children's pleadings," by 13 little girls; a rousing song, "Men for the times," by the Band of Hope. A hearty vote of thanks was given to the chairman, Mr Newsome, and to the ladies for their excellent tea, the most successful meeting yet held in connection with the Band of Hope was closed by hearty cheers for the conductors and the singing of the doxology. The festival is intended to be held annually, and its effect has been most inspiring both to the children and their friends.

CATCHGATE.

BETHANY CHAPEL.—The Christian Lay Church people at Catchgate have for the last few weeks been holding special services. The preacher is Mr J. Garner, Halifax, and he is attracting large crowds to hear him.

UNITED METHODIST FREE CHURCH.—A lecture in connection with the Annfield Plain Young Men's Christian Association was given on Wednesday night, at Catchgate, by Mr T. A. Douglas, late principal of the Grammar School, Newcastle. The lecture was a very interesting one, and was well patronised. The chair was taken by Rev James Martin, Blackhill.

WEST STANLEY.

BEAMISH PARISH CHORAL FESTIVAL.—On Monday evening, the third annual festival of the united Church choirs of the parish of Beamish was celebrated in St. Andrew's Church, West Stanley, with manifest heartiness. The special hymns—including 516, which was sung as an anthem—were chosen from "Church Hymns," and the manner in which they were given reflects much credit on the two choirmasters, Messrs T. Darney and J. Robinson, for their indefatigable and successful efforts to promote the efficiency of the choirs of this church. The service was choral throughout. The preacher was Rev H. H. Birley, M.A., Vicar of Pelton, who delivered a telling and suitable sermon from I. Chron., c. xvi., v. 29—"Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness." The offertory was for the funds of the proposed Church Institute. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, the attendance was good, indeed notably better than that of last year.

UNOBTRUSIVE ZEAL IN A GOOD CAUSE.—At a time when methods of obtaining money for religious purposes are greatly multiplying—and we are painfully bound to add in many cases are degenerating in moral tone—it is refreshing to find amongst them one that commends itself by accomplishing several pleasing and beneficent ends, whilst it is free from the objectionable associations which may with only too much justice be alleged against some of the methods employed. The quiet yet effective method to which we refer has been signally illustrated a few days ago in the splendid financial result of a tea and supper generously provided by Mr Charles Scott, of Oakey's Pit, at his own house, and at his own expense. The usual charge for a public tea was made, and so well and numerously did the people of Stanley and district respond to his invitation, and support him in his effort that, after counting up the proceeds after the last comer had finished his supper, he found himself in a position to hand over to Rev J. Clennell, vicar of Beamish parish, for the funds of the proposed Church Institute the handsome sum of £9. This method, has the advantage of bringing together the people of the parish, irrespective of their denominational preferences, and so improving the feeling of brotherly kindness. It also affords opportunity for the formation of new acquaintances, furnishes occasion for pleasant and profitable chat, and helps decidedly to strengthen the bonds of charity and common fellowship. At the same time it has none of the associations of a morally detrimental, or distinctively worldly character and tendency, as often involved in the methods employed, and which point to the false principle of "the end justifying the means" as lying at the root of such methods. The plan followed by Mr Scott, however, whilst it combines several solid advantages, can be kept free from anything which would lay it open to the charge of being questionable or subverting the sacred use of the money, and deserves to be emulated, whilst his comely wife and those who so ably helped her bountiful provision, who shared the labour and anxiety, and rejoiced with her at the splendid result merit the highest praise.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

LITERARY AND DEBATING SOCIETY.—The weekly meeting of the members of the Ryton Literary and Debating Society was held on Friday night in the Wesleyan Lecture Hall, Lane Head. There was a fair attendance. Mr H. Stevens was voted to the chair.—The debate on "Free Education," which was to have taken place that night, was adjourned, owing to the inability of the members of the Blaydon Debating Society to attend.—During the evening, a good programme of songs, readings, and recitations was gone through, contributed by Mr H. Stevens, Mr A. Watson, Mr H. Wilson, Mr Elsworth, and Mr J. Scott, and each gained the applause of the audience.

LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—At Ryton, on Monday night, a meeting was held in the Thorpe Schools, for the purpose of forming a Liberal Association. Mr Nisbet occupied the chair. It was decided to form an association to be called the Ryton Liberal Association. Mr Nisbett was elected president, and Mr Westgarth vice-president, and Mr Wilson secretary and treasurer. The president and secretary stated that they had been in communication with several gentlemen, who, during the next few weeks, would attend and address meetings under the auspices of the association, and these would be announced shortly.

BOUND TO HIT HIM.—On Tuesday, at Gateshead County Petty Sessions, *James Dodds* was charged with assaulting Thomas Smith, at Ryton, on 23rd ult.—Complainant stated that he was in the Cross Inn, Ryton, when defendant came in, and asked him if he still thought he had a right to work in the part of the pit where he was. He replied that he thought he had a right, upon which the defendant struck him, blacking his eye and swelling his face.—Defendant stated that he "treated" the complainant, but the latter aggravated him so that he was "bound to hit him."—The Chairman: And we are bound to take notice of it.—Other evidence having been given, the Chairman said: We have no doubt you struck complainant. You have been too honest for your own case. You know you told us "I was bound to hit him." (Laughter.) You will be fined 6d. and costs.—16s. in all—and will be bound over in your own recognizance of £5 to keep the peace for six months.

GREENSIDE.

ASSEMBLY.—On Friday evening, the first session was brought to a close by a successful ball, which was held in the National Schools, Greenside. There were 20 couples present. Mr Tate acted as M.C., and the music was supplied by Miss Tate (pianist) and Mr Forster (violinist). This is the first assembly held in Greenside, and it proved quite a success. This is attributable to the very lively interest taken in it by Rev R. M. Nason, rector. Dancing commenced at nine o'clock by Miss Nason and Mr Wright, and was continued till twelve o'clock, when those present partook of an excellent supper, provided by Miss Turner, Ryton. The members took the opportunity of showing their appreciation of the gratuitous service rendered by Mr Tate, both as teacher and musician, by making him the recipient of some very useful and instructive books, numbering 16. The presentation was made by Mr Wright. Mr Tate thanked the subscribers in a few appropriate words. Dancing was resumed and kept up with much spirit till 5 30 in the morning.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—On Saturday, in this Chapel at Allendale Cottages a most interesting lecture was given by Rev R. Hind, of Durham, on the subject of "Savanarala, or, the Florentine Prophet." The chapel was filled long before the time for opening, in expectation of hearing Mr J. Coward, J.P. (Durham), lecture upon "Christmas Evans, or, the apostle of wild Wales." Notwithstanding the disappointment, the eloquence of the lecturer commanded the rapt attention of the company for an hour and twenty minutes. The lecture is a capital one, and the lecturer displayed a great deal of ability in its deliverance. The gathering was ably presided over by Mr W. H. Hedley (Medomsley), who, in his closing remarks, expressed his high appreciation of the lecture.—On Sunday, Rev R. Hind preached two impressive sermons—morning and evening, while Mr J. H. Wheeler gave an excellent discourse in the afternoon. The total proceeds amounted to £10.

DERWENT COTTAGES.

ENTERTAINMENT.—The Leadgate Primitive Methodist Band of Hope gave an entertainment, comprising songs, solos, and recitations, and a dialogue, "The reformed drunkard," in the Derwent Cottages Wesleyan Chapel, on Monday evening. The chairman was Mr J. Maughan. Votes of thanks brought the proceedings to a close.

ESH COLLIERY.

BALL.—The second annual ball was held on Monday evening in the Catholic School-room, Esh, kindly lent for the occasion, when there was a fashionable muster of the lovers of terpsichore. The room had been decorated with artistic taste by Mr C. Ritson, whilst the smaller school-room was fitted up as a refreshment buffet and was attended by Mrs Currie. Precisely at nine o'clock, Col E. Leadbitter-Smith. (Flass Hall) and Mrs Wm. Towns, Esh, led off with the country dance "Triumph." A *recherche* programme was ably performed by the Sacriston Band under the leadership of Mr Waite, and dancing was kept up with great spirit till 6 a.m. on Tuesday. The arrangements were of the most satisfactory kind, and Mr H. Morin, the obliging M.C., is deserving of thanks for his assiduous attention to the visitors. Amongst those present we noticed the following—Dr Mackay, Mr C. E. Parkin, the Misses Daglish, Miss MacDonald, Mr and Mrs W. Towns, Mr J. Towns, Mr W. Maynard and Miss H. Forster, Mr J. Robson and Miss Johnson, Mr Alf. Morin and Miss Morin, Mr H. Smith and Miss Smith, Messrs A. and C. Morin, Mr J. Oyston, Miss Sadler, Mr Dunn and Miss Dunn, and Mr A. Marley.

ANNFIELD PLAIN GAS COMPANY (LIMITED).

The 18th ordinary general meeting was held at Kyo, on Monday evening—Mr. Geo. Hobson (chairman of the directors) presiding. There was a good attendance of shareholders. The report (as given below) was adopted unanimously—"The directors have the pleasure to submit the following statement of accounts for the year ended November 30th, 1888. During the year the directors have continued the work of relaying mains, &c., the cost of which has all been paid out of profit and loss account. The balance of profit and loss account is £138 2s 9d, out of which the directors recommend a dividend at the rate of five per cent (free of Income Tax), payable on March 5th. The remainder to be added to depreciation account. The directors who retire by rotation are—Messrs J. Cawthorn, G. Muncaster, and J. P. Forster; they are eligible for re-election.—(Signed)—George Hobson, Chairman."—Some of the shareholders desired to know if steps could not be taken to light up the streets of the village of Annfield Plain?—The Chairman explained that for some years the company had been prepared to offer a good supply of gas on the best of terms if anyone would guarantee to bear the cost of erecting lamps and covering the expense of the gas consumed. However, no action had been taken to give the necessary undertaking. Different schemes had been improvised, and it was the duty of the people interested to take the matter up, and then the company would be quite willing to meet them on the most favourable terms. A committee ought to be formed to get the area defined, and carry out other preliminary proceedings.—No definite course was decided upon at the meeting, which concluded with the usual expressions of thanks.

Trade Notes.

The Consett Iron Company's shares have this week risen to £24.

TOW LAW.—At present there is much activity at the collieries in the district of Tow Law. The coke[illegible] are kept busy, and empty trucks are to be seen standing ready to be filled when there is an opportunity for so doing. In brickyards they appear to be brisk upon the whole. Every branch of industry, to a certain extent has revived.

WEDDING EPISODE AT LANCHESTER.

Yesterday (Thursday), Thomas B. Johnson, a porter at the Consett and Blackhill Goods Station, living at Blackfine, and his housekeeper, Mary Ann Chambers, travelled by rail to Lanchester, accompanied by another female, to be joined in matrimony at the Registry Office, having previously published the banns [illegible] to be married at the Wesleyan Chapel there. The parties, it will be remembered, played a conspicuous part at a Coroner's inquiry held at Blackhill, into the suspicious circumstances attending the death of Johnson's child. On arriving at the Registry Office, however, the "Archbishop" declined to have the ceremony performed within the ecclesiastical precincts of his "Cathedral." There was no alternative but for the disappointed couple than to telegraph to Consett and secure the services of Rev T. Broadbent, who arrived by the 1 30 train, and performed the rite in the Wesleyan Chapel.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting took place yesterday (Thursday)—Mr Wm. Logan (vice-chairman) presiding. Amongst those present were: Rev Canon Kearney, Councillors R. Murray and J. A. Curry, Messrs J. Wilkinson, G. Hobson, T. Siddell, John Collinson, W. H. Hedley, J. T. Todd, J. Lax, R. Robson, T. Pringle, W. Rutherford, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson).

THE VACCINATION PROSECUTION:

IMPORTANT DISCUSSION.

Mr SIDDELL drew attention to the fact that William Thompson, signalman, Ebchester, had again been summoned before the Consett Bench by Mr John Proud, vaccination officer, for neglecting to have his two children vaccinated. This was the sixth or seventh occasion that he had been fined for the same offence. The man declared that he would not have his children vaccinated. It was evident that Mr Proud had obtained the approval of the Guardians before taking these proceedings—at least he told the magistrates so—but he (Mr Siddell) had no recollection of any such circumstances. He considered that in a case where a person had been fined six or seven times, he should not again be brought before the court without the authority and consent of the Board.

Mr COLLINSON said that when this person was first summoned before the magistrates, Mr Proud was authorised by that Board to do so.

The CHAIRMAN observed that he remembered Mr Proud making application to the Board on two or three occasions, and he was granted the necessary permission. He had no recollection, however, of any authority being given by the Board in the present instance.

Mr HEDLEY: That is Mr Siddell's point.

The CHAIRMAN: If our vaccination officer draws our attention to any particular case, we may be bound to comply with the law, and order him to prosecute the offender on the first instance, but we are not obliged to continue to order him to proceed against the same individual in subsequent cases.

Mr COLLINSON: Oh, yes, we are. In the case of the Guardians at Keighley, in Yorkshire, the Local Government Board compelled the Board to prosecute non vaccinators, and if I remember aright, some of the Guardians themselves were imprisoned for disobedience.

Mr SIDDELL: Not for ordering the parents to be summoned six or seven times in succession.

Mr WILKINSON: It only makes the case far worse if a man defies the law six or seven times.

Mr SIDDELL said he had read in the papers a statement to the effect that out of 56,800 children examined, only 5,000 had been previously vaccinated.

Mr WILKINSON: They are bound to be vaccinated.—That is the officer's fault.

Mr SIDDELL: No. They had been vaccinated, and afterwards took the small-pox!

Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE: How long had they been vaccinated? I understand that persons have to be re-vaccinated every 14 years—(a voice: Seven years)—for the operation to be effective.

Mr SIDDELL: That is only the statement of the doctors. In such fine towns as Harrogate and other health resorts, the doctors have been using glycerine (instead of the proper matter) for vaccinating the higher class of persons.

Mr DE PLEDGE: Do you want to prove that vaccination is unnecessary, Mr Siddell?

Mr SIDDELL: I want to show that it is not proper that Mr Proud should persistently prosecute a man without the knowledge or authority of the Guardians.

The CHAIRMAN said he had been informed by the Clerk that Mr Proud applied for and obtained the requisite sanction of the Board six or seven months ago, but owing to the illness of Thompson's children he had delayed taking out the summonses.

Mr SIDDELL: The man himself has been laid up because of a broken leg.

The CHAIRMAN: Probably that is the reason.

Mr HEDLEY: I think in such cases we ought to have a separate application and give distinct authority before any proceedings are taken, and especially for the prosecution of a man who has been fined and convicted half-a-dozen times previously. I think myself that it is nothing else but persecution to fetch a man up half-a-dozen times in respect of the same offence. After a person has paid a large amount in fines and penalties, and suffered himself to be brought to the Court, he must have the courage of his convictions. Mr Thompson has acted consistently, and he is entitled to some consideration for his convictions.

Mr DE PLEDGE: But he has no right to do harm to his neighbours.

Mr SIDDELL: That is a matter of opinion.

Mr DE PLEDGE: I think this discussion should not go forth to the world, as it will tend to stop people having their children vaccinated.

Mr HEDLEY: I am only speaking my own personal opinion.

The CHAIRMAN: Well, Mr Proud won't take further proceedings against the man without consulting this Board.

Mr COLLINSON: But I think we ought to settle the question whether Mr Proud really had the authority of the Board or not.

Canon KEARNEY: Has not Mr Proud a general authorisation to prosecute such defaulters?

The CHAIRMAN: He cannot summon any person without the authority of this Board.

The discussion then dropped.

INMATES OF THE HOUSE.

Week ending Feb. 28th	165
Corresponding week of last year	179
Week ending March 7th	169
Corresponding week of last year	189
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	17
Corresponding fortnight of last year	26

CONTRACTS FOR PROVISIONS.

The Clerk was instructed to advertise for tenders for supplying the Workhouse with the necessary provisions, fuel, &c., during the incoming six months.

A DISORDERLY VAGRANT.

The Master (Mr W. Brotherhood) reported that a tramp named John Carroll broke a square of one of the windows of a separate cell, and had been committed to prison for 14 days.

THE REGISTRY OFFICE.

An application was made by Mr R. Walton, deputy registrar, for the Board to re-paper and furnish the Register Office at Lanchester, with new linoleum, the present article having served for 14 years.

The Board granted the request, and advised Walton to exercise as much economy as possible.

A NEW FOOTPATH

The Workhouse Visiting Committee recommended that tenders be obtained for constructing a cemented footpath about four feet wide, with stone kerb cornering at the corner of the fumigating ward, and ending at the boys' playground, a distance of about 80 lineal yards.

This was carried.

DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL.

The Durham County Council met for the second time in its provisional capacity on Monday. The meeting was held in the Shire Hall, Durham, and was presided over by Mr John Lloyd Wharton, M.P. The business commenced punctually at 11.30, the following members being present:—The Marquis of Londonderry, the Right Hon. the Earl of Ravensworth, Sir H. Havelock-Allan, Bart., M.P., Capt. Beckwith, Sunderland; Mr W. Crawford, M.P., Durham; Mr David Dale, Darlington; Mr Thomas Bell, Gateshead; Colonel Cowen, Blaydon; Major W. J. Joicey, Chester-le-Street; Mr W. Jenkins, Consett Hall; Mr J. Laing, Sunderland; Mr R. Ord, Ferryhill; Mr A. Pease, Darlington; Mr J. Richardson, Northallerton; Mr R. Richardson, West Rainton; Mr W. H. Richardson, Jarrow; Mr Utrick A. Ritson, Newcastle; Rev A. D. Shafto, Durham; Mr J. Shields, Durham. Councillors—Mr J. Annandale, Shotley Bridge; Mr R. Armstrong, Fence Houses; Mr W. Armstrong, Wingate; Mr C. Berkley, Marley Hill; Mr E. J. J. Browell, East Boldon; Major Burdon, Castle Eden; Mr C. S. W. Corbett, Fence Houses; Mr J. A. Curry, Collierley; Mr T. Douglass, Crook; Mr A. W. Elliot, Willington; Col. Eminson, Mr J. Feetham, Darlington; Mr W. H. Fisher, West Hartlepool; Mr C. F. Forster, Hebburn; Mr J. T. Forster, Lanchester; Mr J. Fowler, Durham; Mr C. Furness, West Hartlepool; Mr S. Galbraith, Brandon; Mr M. Gray, Greatham; Mr F. Greenwell, Durham; Col. Gregson, Sunderland; Mr R. Handyside, Jarrow; Mr W. F. Hall, Haswell; Mr J. Horsley, Hartlepool; Mr W. R. L. Hopkins, Witton-le-Wear; Mr C. E. Hunter, Chester-le-Street; Mr N. B. Lamb, Bishop Auckland; Col. Leadbitter-Smith, South Durham; Mr J. Longford, Bishop Auckland; Mr W. Lishman, Witton-le-Wear; Mr J. Lisle, Great Usworth; Dr Livingstone, Stanhope; Mr E. G. Marshall, Ferryhill; Mr Wm. Morson, Ferryhill; Mr H. T. Morton, Fence Houses; Mr R. Murray, Consett; Mr T. Nelson, Norton; Mr G. Nicholson, Leadgate; Mr W. J. Oliver, Darlington; Mr J. W. Page-Page, Stockton; Mr A. M. Palmer, Newcastle; Mr A. S. Palmer, Washington; Mr Wm. Palmer, Silksworth; Mr W. H. Patterson, Tanfield; Mr W. W. Pattinson, Gateshead; Mr Wm. Paxton, Blaydon; Mr G. Pears, Witton-le-Wear; Mr J. A. J. Pease, Darlington; Mr T. Richardson, jun., Yarm; Mr J. Ridley, Tow Law; Mr W. Robinson, Hetton; Mr T. Robson, Fence Houses; Major Ropner, Stockton; Mr J. Samuel, Stockton; Mr W. T. Scarth, Teesdale; Col. Sheppee, Birtley; Mr J. Shiel, Durham; Mr J. B. Simpson, Blaydon; Mr T. W. Stewart, Hebburn; Mr F. Stobart, Fence Houses; Mr R. Thompson, Whitburn; Mr W. Watson, Barnard Castle; Mr J. Widdowfield, Darlington; Rev E. A. Wilkinson, Spennymoor; Mr J. Wilson, Durham; Mr L. Wood, Chester-le-Street; Mr G. H. Wraith, Spennymoor. There were five aldermen and five councillors absent.

The aldermen sat together in the Queen's Counsels' seats, with the exception of the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, who betook himself to the "well" of the court and placed himself in propinquity to the Clerk of the Council (Mr Ralph Simey). Lord Ravensworth and Sir Henry Havelock-Allan sat together, and were frequently in conversation. The reporters were again assigned to a lofty position in one of the galleries, where they once more experienced the utmost difficulty in hearing. The first duty to perform was the

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Lord LONDONDERRY proposed, without comment, the election of Mr John L. Wharton as the permanent chairman of the County Council.

Ald. RICHARDSON (Stockton) seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously, and with applause.

In acknowledgment of the honour, the CHAIRMAN said he had a confident hope that the new popularly-elected County Council would be conducted with the same feeling, the same punctuality and despatch, with the same idea to do their duty, as had characterised the public business of the county in times gone by. It would be proved by the action of the Council that Parliament acted wisely in transferring the work from a nominated body, as in the past, to a popularly-elected body in the future. (Applause.) He knew he could rely with every feeling of confidence upon the action of those who had become members of the Council to do their duty without fear or favour, without bias, and with the single idea of conducting the affairs of the county to the benefit of all and sundry of the ratepayers. The Chairman then took the declaration of office.

CURIOUS POINT AT JARROW.

The CHAIRMAN said the borough of Jarrow was not divided into wards under the Act, but was left undivided. Three councillors were elected for the undivided borough, and, consequently, when one of these gentlemen was elected an alderman they were met with the difficulty that there was no one portion of Jarrow to elect a new councillor. They had applied to the Local Government Board, with the result that the borough of Jarrow in its entirety must elect another councillor to fill up the vacancy.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr HORSLEY (Hartlepool) asked if he would be in order in nominating a vice-chairman?

The CHAIRMAN said he would, and

Mr HORSLEY moved that Ald. David Dale be appointed vice-chairman to the Council. Mr Dale, he said, was a gentleman fully able to discharge efficiently the duties of the office of vice-chairman.

Dr LIVINGSTONE (Stanhope) seconded the proposition.

Mr DALE said the motion took him entirely by surprise, and he felt he was unprepared to accept the nomination. He felt the duties of the offices he held would draw too largely upon his time to allow him to efficiently discharge the duties of vice-chairman of the County Council. He begged, therefore, to be excused.

The Earl of RAVENSWORTH moved that the Rev A. D. Shafto be elected vice-chairman of the Council. Mr Shafto was the fittest man, he submitted, for the office by reason of his long experience of county matters and the enormous amount of labour and time he had placed at the disposal of the county in the discharge of the duties which had devolved upon him. (Hear, hear.)

Mr W. F. HALL (Haswell) seconded the nomination.

Mr HORSLEY proposed that Ald. Arthur Pease be vice-chairman.

Mr LINGFORD seconded.

Rev A. D. Shafto withdrew his name.

The name of Mr Arthur Pease was put to the Council, and he was elected vice-chairman *nem. con.*

Mr PEASE said after consultation with his friends, he had decided to allow his name to go forward. He felt the difficulty of his position, inasmuch as he was not a county magistrate, and therefore not familiar with the duties of such an office. But at the same time he highly appreciated the confidence the Council had placed in him. He could assure the Council it would be his earnest endeavour to discharge the duties of the office of the vice-chairman of the Council to the satisfaction of the members. (Loud applause.)

The CHAIRMAN thanked the Council for having elected as vice-chairman a gentleman in whom he had such confidence as he had in Mr Arthur Pease. (Applause.)

WHAT THE ELECTIONS COST.

The Clerk submitted the following statement of the cost of the elections:—Totals—Contested divisions, 3,394*l* 18s 1d; uncontested divisions, 313*l* 2s; total, 3,708*l* 0s 1d. Returning officers' extra charges, 83*l* 19s 6d. Boroughs—Darlington, 133*l* 15s; Durham, 24*l* 14s; Hartlepool, 21*l*; Jarrow, 116*l* 0s 6d; Stockton, 273*l* 19s 9d; West Hartlepool, 139*l* 11s 10d; total, 709*l* 1s 1d; grand total, 4,501*l* 0s 8d. Contested divisions—Barnard Castle, 90*l* 5s; Bishop Auckland, 95*l* 9s; Bishopwearmouth, 118*l* 7s 6d; Blaydon, 124*l* 18s; Brandon, 116*l* 17s 6d; Chester-le-Street, 107*l* 2s 8d; Consett, 83*l* 12s 6d; Coundon, 110*l* 15s; Easington, 103*l* 12s 6d; Eldon, 94*l* 14s 6d; Elvet, 115*l* 3s 6d; Esh, 118*l* 7s; Ferryhill, 102*l* 13s; Greatham, 113*l* 13s; Herrington, 95*l* 4s 3d; Hetton, 127*l* 12s 6d; Houghton-le-Spring, 116*l* 5s 6d; Hunwick, 111*l* 11s; Lanchester, 129*l* 18s 5d; Leadgate, 107*l* 14s; Rainton, 106*l* 13s; Ryhope, 114*l*; Sedgefield, 117*l* 12s; Shildon, 110*l* 8s; Spennymoor, 92*l* 12s 6d; Stanhope, 127*l* 4s; Washington, 111*l* 9s 9d; West Auckland, 118*l* 9s; Willington, 109*l* 2s; Witton-le-Wear, 104*l* 18s; Wolsingham, 95*l* 13s 6d—total, 3,394*l* 18s 1d. Uncontested divisions—Aycliffe, 16*l* 5s; Benfieldside, 14*l* 15s; Birtley, 15*l* 1s; Collierley, 15*l* 13s; Crook, 15*l* 3s; Edmondsley, 14*l* 9s; Felling, 15*l*; Haswell, 14*l* 9s; Hebburn, 14*l* 9s; Lambton, 14*l* 9s; Norton, 14*l* 9s; Ryton, 15*l* 9s; Seaham Harbour, 15*l* 1s; Sherburn, 14*l* 9s; Southwick, 14*l* 9s; Tanfield, 15*l* 5s; Teesdale, 15*l* 9s; Thornley, 14*l* 9s; Tudhoe, 15*l* 1s; Weston, 14*l* 9s; Whickham, 14*l* 19s—total, 312*l* 2s. Particulars of boroughs—Darlington, No 1, 12*l* 7s; Darlington, No 2, 12*l* 7s; Darlington, No 3, 12*l* 7s; Darlington, No 4, 96*l* 14s; Durham, No 1, 12*l* 7s; Durham, No 2, 12*l* 7s; Hartlepool, No 1, 10*l* 10s; Hartlepool, No 2, 10*l* 10s; Jarrow, 116*l* 0s 6d; Stockton, No 1, 84*l* 10s 3d; Stockton, No 2, 95*l* 9s 3d; Stockton, No 3, 83*l* 14s 3d; Stockton, No 4, 10*l* 10s; West Hartlepool, No 1, 68*l* 12s 4d; West Hartlepool, No 2, 61*l* 3s 8d; West Hartlepool, No 3, 9*l* 15s 10d; total for boroughs, 709*l* 1s 1d.

Mr OLIVER (Darlington) moved the adoption of the resolution. In reference to one matter he thought a large amount had been spent unnecessarily. In the No 4 ward of Darlington, which he contested, his opponent unfortunately died some hours before the opening of the poll. The Returning Officer allowed the poll to be opened, and after it had been opened for a number of hours it was closed. By that, he thought an amount of money had been wasted.

Mr JOHN WILSON (Herrington) asked whether the charges would be taxed in reference to their gross amount or the items in detail.

The CHAIRMAN: The very object of taxation is that the account should be examined in detail. I have no doubt it will be examined in detail in taxation. If the accounts are right there will be no reduction.

Mr WILSON: Would it not be as well if we had them in detail? There is only a general statement that the elections have cost so much. The mover of the motion only asked that the gross amount be taxed.

Mr OLIVER: I objected to the total charges for the fourth division of Darlington.

Mr WILSON: That is for one division. If I knew what the cost of Herrington division was I might object to that to.

Mr SAMUEL (Stockton): I understand that the motion before the Council is that the taxing master should have the power, because he is the proper person to tax. It is impossible for any member of this Council to know whether the charges are proper legal charges or not. I don't see any harm or objection whatever to passing the accounts to the taxing master for the purpose. (Hear, hear).

Mr WILSON: Is it competent for to make any remarks. (Cries of "No.")

The CHAIRMAN: Certainly not.

Mr WILSON: The chairman is quite enough to say "No," if gentlemen would not speak so soon. (Laughter).

The CHAIRMAN, in answer to a question, said the Returning Officer was appointed by Parliament, and and they had no power in the matter.

BRINGING THE ACT INTO OPERATION.

The meeting then proceeded to appoint a committee to confer with the committee appointed by Quarter Sessions, to make arrangements for bringing the act into operation.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that the magistrates had appointed a committee of 17, including himself, on behalf of the Quarter Sessions. The committee was as follows:—Messrs W. T. Scarth, Rev G. P. Wilkinson, Rev W. Mayor, Mr K. Walker, Mr J. Feetham, Rev A. D. Shafto, Lord Ravensworth, Mr R. C. Walker, Captain Beckwith, Mr J. Annandale, Rev J. Bethune, Mr E. J. J. Browell, Mr C. Backhouse, Mr J. Richardson, Colonel Briggs, and Chancellor Espin.

Captain BECKWITH asked how long the committees would sit.

The CHAIRMAN: Up to the 7th of November.

Mr SAMUEL suggested that the committee appointed by the Council should consist of lay members only, that was, that there should be no county magistrates upon it, and it would be very unfair to appoint more magistrates on the committee when they had already appointed 17 to meet the Council Committee. (Hear, hear.)

Rev A. D. SHAFTO thought they should not be magistrates. They would have too many magistrates if they were.

Captain BECKWITH remarked that out of the committee appointed by the magistrates ten were members of that Council.

The following gentlemen were then elected upon the committee: Messrs Arthur Pease; Richard Murray, Benfieldside; W. F. Hall, Haswell; W. R. Hopkins, Witton Tower; J. A. Curry, Dipton; John Shiel, Elvet; W. Armstrong, Wingate; J. Horsley, Hartlepool; S. Galbraith, Brandon; C. Furness, West Hartlepool; R. Richardson, West Rainton; R. Handyside, Jarrow; T. Bell, Whickham; G. Nicholson, Leadgate; W. Crawford, M.P., Durham; E. G. Marshall, Sedgefield; and Alderman Forster, Durham.

PRIVATE LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

In reply to Ald. W. H. Richardson, the CHAIRMAN said so far as the Clerk of the Council and he could see, there was no provision in the Act for County Councils taking over private lunatic asylums.

The Clerk: It is only pauper lunatics.

The CHAIRMAN had no doubt the point would be taken up at once in the House of Commons. It might have been intentional that the inspection of non-pauper lunatic asylums should still continue in the hands of the magistrates; but he should be glad to ask the President of the Local Government Board.

MAIN ROADS.

The Council proceeded to the appointment of a committee to consider the question of main roads, and to report thereon to the first meeting of the County Council.

The Clerk (Mr Simey) intimated that it would be necessary on the 1st of April to take over and make arrangements for the repairing of the main roads.

Mr ARTHUR PEASE moved that the following gentlemen, members of Highway Boards, compose the committee in question:—Captain Beckwith; Major Burdon, Castle Eden; Mr John Feetham, Aycliffe; Mr F. Greenwell, Durham; Mr W. T. Scarth, Teesdale; Mr Lindsay Wood, Hetton; and Rev A. D. Shafto.

Mr U. A. RITSON seconded, and the motion was carried.

STANDING ORDERS.

The following gentlemen were appointed a committee to draw up a set of standing orders for consideration at the first meeting of the County Council:—Rev A. D. Shafto; Mr J. Samuel, Stockton; Mr J. Feetham, Aycliffe; Mr W. T. Hall, Haswell; Mr T. Crosby, Stockton; Mr W. W. Pattinson, Felling; and Alderman James Fowler.

EX-OFFICIO COMMITTEEMEN.

It was decided that the Chairman and Vice-chairman be *ex-officio* members of all committees.

PERMANENT COMMITTEES.

The Council then proceeded to divide its members into permanent committees, and the following names were decided upon:—Finance Committee, County Rate Committee, County Boroughs Assessment Committee, County Borough Financial Adjustment Committee, Standing Joint Committee, Asylum Visitors' Committee, Industrial Schools Committee, Works Committee (highways, bridges, police stations, &c.), and Executive Committee under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Acts, 1878 to 1886.

APPOINTMENT OF SELECTION COMMITTEE.

It was next decided to appoint a committee to divide the County Council into the permanent committees; to consider when the ordinary council meetings should be held; and to consider what provision should be made for the payment of the police force and other periodical payments falling due before the second meeting of the County Council. Upon this Selection Committee the following gentlemen were elected:—Messrs W. H. Fisher, W. H. Richardson, T. Richardson, jun., John Feetham, John Wilson, James Laing, David Dale, C. E. Hunter, John Shiel, John Widdowfield, A. S. Palmer, Joseph Richardson, F. Stobart, Colonel Eminson, W. F. Hall, the Rev A. D. Shafto, John Shields, and Mr Lindsay Wood.

On the motion of Mr DAVID DALE, seconded by Mr RICHARDSON, it was decided "That it be a recommendation to the committee to place every member of the Council on some committee."

THE COUNTY OFFICIALS.

Mr J. A. PEASE gave notice that at the next meeting of the Council he would move—

"That a return be made to every member of the Council showing the name, the office, and remuneration, and perquisites, if any, of every person employed by or responsible to this County Council other than those who are in receipt of weekly or fortnightly wages."

This was all the business before the Council.

The CHAIRMAN: The next meeting of the Council will be held on the 1st of April. (Laughter).

The Council then adjourned.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A HAMSTEELS TRADESMAN.

On Saturday, Mr John Ward, shop-keeper and boot-dealer, Hamsterley Colliery, who had been his usual rounds, was driving down the bank near the village, in his conveyance, accompanied by a young man, when he suddenly became very cold. He handed the reins to his companion, and alighted from the conveyance to walk. He had not proceeded far when the young man looked round and perceived deceased stagger and fall. The young man ran to his assistance, and, taking him by the arm, endeavoured to help him up. Finding that Mr Ward could not speak, he became alarmed, and ran to the village to procure assistance to convey him to his home. Dr Kirtland was sent for, and soon appeared on the spot, and pronounced the man to be suffering from a severe attack of appoplexy. Several attempts to restore the dying man were made, but without avail, and he succumbed after three hours' illness. Deceased was well-known throughout the district, and much respected, and much sympathy is expressed for his bereaved widow. His death was most unexpected, as he appeared to be in perfect health. It is remarkable that the deceased had been a resident of Quebec for seven years that very date. Several of the villagers took off their coats to wrap over deceased whilst he was being conveyed to his home, notwithstanding the severe weather.

"BUCHU PABIA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. At Chemists. F. NEWBERY and Sons, Agents, 1 King Edward Street, London.

"HOW TO BEHAVE, price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

The first School Board election in Weardale was on March 9th, 1874. There were ten candidates for seven seats. The total number of votes given was 11,267. The following are the particulars of the polling:—

	Good votes.		Tendered votes.		Total.
ELECTED.					
George Race, jun. (U)	1,236	...	116	...	1,352
Thomas Livingston (U)	1,187	...	123	...	1,310
J. C. Cain	1,180	...	94	...	1,274
Rev R. Waters (D)	1,137	...	37	...	1,174
John Featherstone (U)	1,130	...	98	...	1,228
J. V. Walton (U)	1,119	...	117	...	1,236
J. R. Crone (U)	1,069	...	93	...	1,162
NOT ELECTED.					
J. J. Roddam (U)	1,054	...	93	...	1,147
V. Rippon (D)	1,044	...	74	...	1,118
Rev R. Maughan (D)	255	...	11	...	266
Total	10,411	...	856	...	11,267

On the poll day at the recent County Council election in Weardale, one of the candidates went to a customer and said: "My missus has some work for you." "Ah!" said the dame, "but our Joe's been up voting; ye're owre lang. He's voted for 'tother." The bait did not take; the hook was visible.

An amateur gardener in Weardale, the other day, was sent to prune, tie up, and dress the raspberry bushes in a certain publican's garden. Being somewhat a novice at the business, he cut off all the canes—both last year's and the fruit-bearing ones of the season—he cleared the job of canes. There is sure to be a good crop of fruit there.

Many people in Weardale are surprised to find Councillor Livingstone one of the candidates for the School Board election, as it was generally understood if he got on the County Council he would clear out of all or most of the other offices he held on the various Boards.

St. Valentine has not been duly honoured in Weardale this year. There has been a considerable falling off in the valentine business. A well-known wag at the East Lane, Stanhope, got one tied to the door handle. Being a vegetarian, a sheep's head was tied to the door-sneck on the morning of the 14th—a somewhat significant valentine.

A story is told in a local contemporary of last week of a farmer in Weardale losing his watch and finding it the other day in a hay-stack which he was cutting for fodder after six months missing. A Bollihope leadminer even beat that story. He was filling a waggon with stones and rubbish (known locally as "deeds") in the mines. His watch unnoticed by him slipped out of his pocket, and with the shovel he filled it into the waggon with the "deeds." At the tip-end on the "deed heap" he heard it ticking among the rubbish, and found that he had lost it. However, he tipped the waggon, and to his joy and surprise found his lost timepiece going all right.

The School Board contest in Weardale is over, and the results are a surprise to many. It is often the unexpected that happens in elections. Mr Monkhouse, contrary to expectations, has again headed the poll by a substantial majority. It was thought, as there were so many other candidates at the high end of the dale, his chances were slender this time. This has been one source of his success. Many of Major Jervis's supporters, who otherwise would have plumped for him, split and helped Mr Monkhouse. Mr Jervis also came well up, all things considered. He had over 100 plumpers, and the number of his votes reached four figures. The number of votes given to this brace of candidates were 2,605. Their party are in high jinks at their success, for they know they have a brace of heroes who can both talk and act as well. They will be heard and their power felt after this.

The clique party were dropped on, and are much chagrined at the success of these two. At one time they thought to run nine candidates, but they have to be content with a much less number than that. The Rookhope people kicked over the traces of the wire pullers, and elected a man of their own—Mr Roddam, of Wolf's Cleugh—who undoubtedly will serve them well, and prove worthy of the honour they have conferred upon him. As the Caucus party did not elect him, but pushed him over the nest edge, it is just possible he may join cause with Ook and Jervis.

The success of the young squire of Frosterley in polling so many has given great satisfaction to many, and is a source of gratification to numbers in that locality. He is a young fellow of considerable promise, and it is believed will develope into a good public man. Frosterley is proud of its achievement in securing two representatives, and is no less proud of returning a young squire than in returning a real working-man candidate. For the first time in the history of the Board a working-man has been returned. The ratepayers have thus got the thin end of the wedge in, and it is to be hoped they will drive it up. Can they not elect a working-man as a Guardian? Why should working-men representatives not be upon every Board? The working men can do it if they like.

The success of Dr Livingstone is a thorough surprise. Very few ever believed he would be in at all. The question has often been asked: Where has the doctor got all his votes? Even his own party were surprised, and he was surprised himself. To come within 44 votes of heading the poll was to play a very good game. Mr Roddam and he ran together, and they scored 2,290 votes between them. Two heads are better than one, both in council and in fight; and, as the old woman said, "Aye, hinny, twee heeds is better than yan, even if they are sheep heeds."

Much regret is expressed at Mr Blenkiron being out just by five votes. Many also are very sorry at the ill success of Dr Hewitson, as few men are more deserving of honour than he who has done so much for Weardale. Many also wished Mr Smurthwaite a seat on the Board, as he was likely for making a good School Board member. Under the cover of the ballot his men have not gone for him altogether as plumpers. It is evident they have split much.

Much pleasure is evinced at the success of Mr Peadon in securing a seat on the new Board. He is a very able and intelligent man, and has the courage of his convictions, and the ratepayers have confidence in him. So have they in Mr Harrison. The new Board is thought to be a very good one in point of selection, and compares very favourably with previous ones.

Wolsingham has done well in reversing the order of things there. It has sent the young squire in at the head of the poll, and given the Nonconformist party the seat that they were entitled to. Instead of being represented by two Churchmen as heretofore, they now have a Churchman and a Dissenter, and have a fair share of representation for each party. Wolsingham Dissenters could run a Guardian, too, if they choose. It is to be hoped they will.

The new Board now consists of 11 members. Wolsingham parish sends two for the contributory district of White Kirkle, and Stanhope parish nine, six of whom are Churchmen and five Dissenters, although it is to be hoped that these distinctions may not be known on the Board, but that all may work harmoniously for the general good.

Great credit is due to the returning officer (Mr Lee) and his staff of workers for the courtesy and consideration shown to all. In Mr Lee the public have implicit confidence. They can trust him for doing the thing that is right upon all occasions, and that is something worth recording for a public officer of his class.

There is one feature in connection with elections which ought to be brought before the public. There should be a change of men now and then at the polling booths. Why should the same class of salaried persons be chosen upon every election occasion? They are already in receipt of good salaries, and it is hardly fair to be always greasing the fat sow's leg. There are plenty of intelligent working men in the parish, some with large families and small earnings, who would do with a day in the polling booth, and the day's pay would be a help to them. The salaried men should do it free, being parish servants and well paid.

Great anxiety was manifested at Stanhope on Monday towards noon to know the result of the poll. While the votes were being counted, groups of persons gathered in the vicinity of the Board-room. Some two or three wags got into Johnny Baker's room (which adjoins the Board-room) to intercept the news first hand. While waiting there, they concocted a ruse upon Stanhope's champion pig feeder by getting up a paper with the candidates names on it and the number of votes secured by each candidate, Major Jervis standing at the head with over a thousand votes. This was sent out just before twelve o'clock to the pig feeder and given into his hands. The others who were standing around saw it and ran. Jack glanced at his favourite man at the top of the list, heading the poll, and then off with his hat and in stentorian tones awoke the echoes of the valley by loud hurrahs for Jervis. Thunder is said to be heard ten miles away, but Jack's hurrahs were heard further then that. People ran to see Jack hurrahing and waiving his hat anxious to hear the result. Housewives left their washing, and policemen, shopkeepers, and lots of others ran and found it all a farce. Jack soon saw them laughing, and knew he was duped, and he then beat an inglorious retreat home amid the laughter of those around.

The latest and best from Weardale is a wedding. A bald-headed man married a spouse who had been a shopkeeper in a neighbouring dale. After retiring to rest she went into dreamland, and the mind, quick and active even while we are sleeping, revisits scenes of the past. She was serving a customer in the old shop. At the same identical moment, getting her hand on her leigelord's head, said: "What did ye say? A blether of lard do ye want? Well, here's a fine 'un. Will ye hev it all, or may aw cut it?"

The Primitive Methodist ladies' sewing meeting at Stanhope on Saturday evening was, in point of the set-out at table, the best yet held. The viands were of the choicest quality, and the neatly arranged tables would have graced the dwelling of a prince. Mrs Joseph Spark has topp'd the tree and out-distanced her rivals. To lump it, Eclipse was first and the rest nowhere.

CO-OPERATION *VERSUS* PRIVATE ENTERPRISE.

AN INTERESTING TEST.

"On Thursday, February 21st, a number of commercial travellers connected with the flour, grocery, and provision trades found themselves dining together at the Royal Hotel, Morley, near Leeds. Amongst the topics of conversation was that of Co-operation *versus* private traders, and the advocates of both systems decided that locally a novel and interesting test should be applied. An ordinary small family order for groceries was drawn out, mutually agreed upon by the disputants, and dispatched to the Central Co-operative Store in charge of a servant girl, who had 10s given her to pay for the goods. On her return it was found the cost of the goods at the Co-operative store had been 8s 1½d, as the girl's change amounted to 1s 10½d. The same list was then sent to the grocer's shop nearest to the hotel, and the girl returned with goods similar to those which she had previously purchased at the Co-operative store. This time, however, she informed the company that the order had come to 5s 11½d, returning 4s 0½d change. The goods costing 8s 1½d at the Co-operative Store were then compared with those supplied at 5s 11½d by the private trader, and it was decided by the practical men present that the articles at 5s 11½d were superior in quality to those for which 8s 1½d had been charged. Both lots of goods have been left in charge of the landlady of the Royal Hotel. It is surely for the public good that the fact—the undisputed facts—above mentioned should be widely known. The gentlemen too who conducted the test appear to have been animated by a strict sense of honour in carrying it out, and it will be readily recognised that their only desire and aim has been to act consistently with truth and justice."—*Grocers' Journal*, March 1st, 1889.

CHURCH MISSION AT CONSETT.

The twelve-days' mission at Christ's Church, Consett, which is conducted by Rev W. Haslam, M.A., was commenced on Saturday night. The rev gentleman, who preached to a good congregation, took his text from Romans, i. 14, "I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise and to the unwise." He asked what St Paul meant by using the word "debtor"? The best way to find out the meaning of a word or phrase of which we are not sure is to see how it used in other places. In the 8th chapter of Romans it means that we are debtors to God. That is a very important and vital point. In the true gospel of God we are all debtors to God. Man's religion makes God his debtor, whereas the the true principle of gospel liberty is that God has done everything for us and brought us under obligation to Him, and it is our duty to offer up thanksgiving, live good, and thankful lives. A Christian life is really a life of duty to God. But man's religion works upon the opposite principle. But in what respect are we debtors to other people? In this way, we are saved, but not for ourselves only, for we are to rescue the perishing and care for the dying. If God has saved us He means us to be witnesses of that salvation to somebody else, and in this way souls will be brought from death unto life, and from the power of Satan to God. If we keep the salvation of God to ourselves we do not really keep it, but lose it. When we carry it to others then we keep more for our selves. We should tell others about this salvation which God has given to us. God employed other people to bring it to us, and we should take it to others. The great object of a mission therefore is to save souls. But we do not want to do this by ourselves. In this we should have the aid of all believers in Christ, and the believers should be roused that they will so help in the work of the Lord. Remember that people are dead in sin until they are brought to the life which is in Christ. It is this deadness of sinners that the gospel has come to meet. But it is not the deadness of sinner that opposes the spreading of the gospel; but the coolness of believers. A revival means a revival of God's work in the believers. So that the first thing to be aimed at in a mission is the rousing of all believers. A believer's life is a very happy one if he only lives it for the saving of other people's souls. Now what will God think of those believers who instead of working for Him, live only for themselves. St. Paul says he was a debtor to the learned (Greeks) and to the unlearned (Barbarians), and many of them would know men of these descriptions who were dead in sin. He knew a gentleman who understood fifteen languages, but who only knew the words and not the spirit of the gospel. Believers very often tried to show people that they were ignorant. But that was the wrong thing to begin. They should show them that they were positively on the road to hell before they tried to show them the road to Heaven. Many of them forgot that they could do business with God just as well, and in the same way that they did business with people on earth. He hoped that all believers would join in trying to save souls and that many would be brought from death unto eternal life.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame." *Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Afternoon Chocolate Essence. 886

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

WEDNESDAY, March 6th.—Before His Honour R. J. MEYNELL (Judge).

HE WENT TO PRISON.

CHAYTOR v RODDAM.—John Chaytor, grocer &c., West Stanley, proceeded against John Roddam, miner, South Pontop Colliery, Annfield Plain, upon a judgment summons.—Defendant said that he paid regularly till September last, when they were laid off work in consequence of foul air in the pit.—His Honour: You have paid nothing since, although I reduced your instalment to 2s per month. You have been receiving £7 wages per month.—Defendant: I have not.—His Honour: You have had plenty of money to pay. You are committed for 30 days.—Defendant: Very well, I'll gan to gaol.

THE DEBT GOT NO LESS.

HALL v SMALL.—In this case, John Hall, grocer, Annfield Plain, sued David Small, a pitman at East Pontop Colliery, on a judgment summons.—Defendant said he had already undergone two months imprisonment in respect of the same debt, and his family were almost on the verge of starvation. The debt never got any less.—His Honour (having examined the books): This money has become due since you were committed to prison. You have received £3 in three pays, and if you don't settle, you will have to go to prison again. You have plenty of money to pay with.

A CONTRACTOR'S DEBT.

DUNN v SMITH.—Wm Dunn, of Rowlands Gill (who was represented by his wife Sarah), sued George Smith, Blackfine, a contractor employed by the Consett Iron Company at the Steelworks, who was also brought up on a judgment summons for neglecting to keep up his payments.—Defendant's wife Mary asserted that there was too much money to pay every month.—His Honour: I don't think it is. Your husband is making 30s per week.—Questioned by Mr J. McCartan, Consett, (who appeared for plaintiff), Mrs Smith denied that her husband had some building sites for sale or that he possessed building materials or plant.—The Judge committed him to 30 days.

NON-PAYMENT OF BUTCHER'S BILLS.

MURRAY v. GOULDING.—John Murray, of Clipheaton, Northumberland (formerly in business in Derwent Street, Blackhill) sought to recover £3 13s 3d from Frederick Golding, of Benfieldside Edge Road, for butcher's meat supplied. Mr T. W. Welford (Consett) represented the plaintiff whose wife proved the case, the account dating as far back as 1878, various sums having been paid on account.—Defendant's wife averred that she paid the money to Mr Armstrong (Mrs Murray's father) when he delivered the meat.—His Honour: Then you should have produced your receipts.—Mrs Goulding: But Armstrong never gave me any receipts.—His Honour: Then you should not deal with such a person.—Mrs Goulding: We settled up before we left Blackhill ten years ago.—Judgment for full amount, repayable at 4s per month.

A LONG MEMORY.

MURRAY v. CLARK.—The same plaintiff claimed £6 2s 8d from a man named John Clark, employed by the Consett Iron Company.—Mrs Clark said that according to her memory she only owed £3.—His Honour: You must have a good memory to recollect all these transactions.—Mrs Clark explained that she sold a pig to Mr Murray, and had not received credit for it.—The Judge gave a verdict for plaintiff for the full amount, to be repaid in monthly instalments of 5s.

AN ASSIGNEE'S CLAIM.

LEADBITTER v. WALKER.—George Leadbitter, accountant, Catchgate (assignee of the book-debts of Emmanuel Maddison, grocer, formerly of Dipton), entered an action against Wm. Walker, miner, Flint Hill, for the payment of £16 11s 4d.—Mr Welford was for plaintiff, and Mr Maddison proved the sale and delivery of the goods.—Walker repudiated the debt, but as he could not point out where the books were at fault, a verdict was delivered for £16 11s 4d, to be paid at the rate of 18s a month.

A DOCTOR'S CLAIM.

O'BRIEN v ECCLES.—Dr T. M. O'Brien, practising at Catchgate, preferred an action against Robert Eccles, miner, for the recovery of 10s 6d, due for professional attendance to defendant's wife. Mr J. McCartan (Consett) was for plaintiff, who said that on September last, he attended Mrs Eccles during her confinement, and for several days afterwards. He had sent his account to defendant, but the money had not been paid.—Eccles admitted that the plaintiff attended his wife, but he had been very neglectful. He (defendant) went to work about ten o'clock, and about two o'clock he was summoned home. The doctor had to be sent for three times before he came to see his wife.—His Honour: How did the doctor neglect your wife?—Defendant: He delayed in coming, and I had to call in another medical man.—By Mr McCartan: The time he referred to was when his wife took ill the same night. The doctor had attended previously to the confinement, and he visited his wife for ten days afterwards.—Ordered to pay 10s 6d in twice.

ON THE WRONG TRACK.

CHAYTOR v ASKEW.—John Chaytor, grocer, West Stanley, sued Joseph Askew, miner, of Stanley, for £5 5s, goods supplied to Margaret Askew, now deceased. It was shown that defendant was the deceased's grandson, and acted as her executor.—His Honour said that plaintiff had no evidence. He non-suited Mr Chaytor, and allowed defendant his costs.

APPLICATION FOR A NEW TRIAL.

RICHARDSON v GLENDINNING.—At the previous sitting of the court, George Richardson, draper, &c., Shotley Bridge, obtained a verdict against John Glendinning, farm hind, living near Hexham, for the sum of over £2 due for draperies supplied. Mr J. McCartan, on behalf of Mrs Glendinning, applied for a new trial, the woman stating that she had travelled from Ebchester Station—having stayed at Broad Oak all night—by the 10·30 train. When she reached the court at 10·45, the case had been disposed of.—His Honour acceded to the request, but informed Mrs Glendinning that she ought to have been at the court by ten o'clock.—The claim was proved by Jonathan Richardson, son of the plaintiff. Mrs Glendinning produced certain receipts, but witness declared that one of the signatures was not his handwriting, nor of any one connected with their establishment. His Honour scrutinised the bill, and said that it had evidently being signed and settled at the same period that the account was made out, and with the identical pencil.—Wm. Kirsopp stated that in November last he went to Hexham, and saw defendant, who promised to come and pay the bill.—He offered him 14s 8½d, but witness refused to accept that sum.—The defence was that Glendinning did not get the man's blue jacket and one or two other articles. Kirsopp offered to take 14s 8½d in settlement of the account, but Glendinning declined to pay the money and promised to call at the shop for that purpose. He did so on the following Saturday, and plaintiff refused to accept that sum.—Mrs Glendinning admitted that she received a bill for £1 0s 8d, and she sent a letter to plaintiff intimating that she was not able to pay just then, but when she visited her aunt's at Broad Oak she would endeavour to settle up.—His Honour: But if you were only owing 14s 8½d, why did you offer to pay the full account?—Mrs Glendinning: I'm not a good scholar, and could not say exactly what I wanted to be at.—In the result, the Judge found for the plaintiff for 14s 8½d, at 3s a month.—Defendant had to pay the expenses of the new trial.

ADMINISTRATION ORDER.

Re JOHN JOSEPH HODGSON, miner, Hill Top, Dipton.—This was an application under the provisions of the new clause of the Bankruptcy Act of 1883, which only came into force last month. Mr Welford appeared for the debtor; while Mr McCartan represented Mr N. Herdman, Kyo, one of the creditors. Hodgson's total indebtedness amounted to £18 15s 11d, and he offered to pay 4s in the pound in instalments of 5s every 28 days. His wages averaged 17s 6d per fortnight.—A majority of his creditors accepted this composition, and the Judge made an order accordingly.

"DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE."—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, jack-rabbits, gophers. 7½d. and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

TOWLE'S PENNYROYAL AND STEEL PILLS FOR FEMALES quickly correct all irregularities, and relieve the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex. Boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere for 15 or 34 Stamps by the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln.—BEWARE OF IMITATION.

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

Tow Law beat Crook, at Crook, by four goals to nil.

Bearpark Rovers 2nd beat Esh Albion by two goals to one.

Burnmoor beat West Pelton, at Burnmoor, by one goal to nil.

Edmondsley Strangers II. beat Pelton Fell Harriers II. by four goals to two.

HEXHAM EXCELSIOR v STOCKSFIELD.—This match was played at Hexham, and resulted in a draw, each side scoring one goal.

STANHOPE v WOLSINGHAM.—Played at Stanhope, and resulted in a victory for Wolsingham by three goals to nil.

BIRTLEY ALBION v GATESHEAD ALBION 2ND.—Played at Gateshead. Birtley had matters all their own way, scoring one goal in the first half and five goals in the second, thus winning by six goals to nothing.

TANFIELD LEA JUNIORS v TANFIELD LEA ROVERS' JUNIORS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by 12 goals to nil. The winners are the original Juniors (ages from 13 to 15), and the losers are a new Junior team (ages from 15 to 17).

RUGBY.

CONSETT 2ND v HAMSTEELS 2ND.—Played at Benfieldside, a good game resulting in a victory for the home team by one goal, four tries, and three minors to nil.

DURHAM RUGBY CHALLENGE CUP:

SECOND ROUND.

HARTLEPOOL RANGERS v CONSETT.

These clubs met in the second round of the County Cup ties on the Rangers' field in snowy, cold weather, though the ground was fairly playable. Consett kicked off against the wind, the ball being well returned, and from a free kick the Rangers sent it close to the Consett goal, where several scrimmages took place, a try being early registered by Emmerson for the Rangers, but Fleming failed at goal. A scrimmage, which followed on the Consett line, ended in favour of the latter, and after a short delay, caused by an accident to a visitor, the Rangers scored a try, and getting a free kick nearly dropped a goal. From another free kick, Consett returned well, and the Rangers shone to advantage in a scrimmage which followed. Consett being awarded a free kick gained nothing material, and the Rangers, from another, added a minor, quickly followed by another. Consett profited nothing from a free kick, but Carroll soon added a try for the Rangers though Dixon's kick failed, and nothing more occurring during the first half, the score stood—

Rangers ....2 tries and 3 minors
Consett ....Nothing

Thompson resumed for the Rangers, and by quick following up the return was stopped, and although a scrimmage was early formed in the Rangers' end, they added another minor. Snow now set in with severity, and little could be seen of the play; but Horsley succeeded in gaining a try, Fleming's kick failing. After the addition of a minor, just prior to the call of time Heppenstall secured a try, which Fleming successfully converted, leaving the final score—

Rangers ......1 goal, 3 tries, and 9 minors
Consett ....Nothing

Teams:—Rangers—Back, T Mulvey; three-quarter backs, R Dixon, J Bongey, and A Burdon; half backs, J Nesbitt and R Forcer; forwards, C Thompson (capt.), T Fleming, P Carroll, W Horsley, J Heppenstall, T Emmerson, R Robinson, J Hastings, and R Mulvey. Consett—Back, J Aitken; three-quarter backs, P Gibson (capt.), T T Gray, and J Wilson; half-backs, L McTaggart and J Anderson; forwards, W Fiddes, J Fiddes, W Turnbull, J Forrest, A Ward, A Struthers, N Scott, J Patterson, and C Dibley. Umpires, Messrs M Hobday and J Wilson; referee, Mr C. Mountford.

JOTTINGS.

Pelton Fell Harriers 2nd have March 16th vacant at home, April 27th away; and the 3rd eleven have March 16th away, 23rd home, April 13th away, 20th and 27th home.—Address Wm. Lowther, 34, Grange Terrace, Pelton Fell, Chester-le-Street.

Mr J. Smith, captain and secretary of the Tanfield Lea Football Club, and one of the best centre forwards in the district, got his collar-bone broken whilst playing in a practice game on Saturday.

Tanfield Lea Juniors have a good record. Since they started they have played seven matches, winning six and losing one, and scoring 38 goals to three. The following are the teams they have played against:—

	Tanfield. Goals.		Opponents. Goals.
Kyo Juniors	4	......	0
Hobson Juniors	4	......	0
Medomsley Juniors	10	......	0
Newcastle Juniors	2	......	0
Scotswood Juniors	1	......	3
Tantobie Juniors	5	......	0
Tanfield Rovers' Juniors	12	......	0

SHROVE TUESDAY AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Tuesday, the good folks of Chester-le-Street held their great annual football carnival. Almost the entire male proportion of the community turned out to participate in the time-honoured game. An enormous number of visitors also poured into the old cathedral city by road and rail, and notwithstanding the unfavourable atmospheric conditions, the streets were thronged the whole afternoon with the players and sightseers. The first authentic record of football as she is played at Chester-le-Street is contained in the chronicles of the town, which state that the parish clerk, Mr Pybus, threw out the football on Shrove Tuesday, about 80 years ago. Mr Fairless, a saddler, who subsequently emigrated, was the next person to occupy the post of honour; and since that time three successive generations of the Murray family have supplied the leather for the historic fray. Punctually at one o'clock, Mr Joseph Murray, Newcastle, walked to the brow of the hill which marks the line of demarcation between Up-Street and Down-Street territory, and after a short address, during which he asked the players to keep the ball in the front street, threw it into the throat of the bank amid tremendous cheering. For the first time in the history of the present generation the Upstreeters immediately checked the downward progress of the ball, and to the surprise of everybody forced the ball to the extreme south end of the town. About three o'clock the Downstreeters succeeded in getting the leather to the north end of the town, and some most amusing scenes took place in the burn, several of the players getting a good ducking. About four p.m. the Upstreeters began to play in earnest, and gradually forced the ball towards the steep bank which has been the scene of so many memorable football encounters. Inch by inch the Upstreeters forced the leather up the steep hill, and, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of their rivals, they ultimately forced the ball over the crest of the hotly-contested hill. A wild hurrah announced that this tremendous task had been once more achieved by the stalwart Up-street champions. Immediately on reaching level ground the Upstreet men made rapid progress, and rushed the ball past the Conservative Club, and to the extreme high end of the town. From this time until six o'clock the ball remained upstreet, as the Downstreeters were absolutely unable to make any impression upon their rivals. Prodigies of valour were performed on every hand; many a gallant warrior bit the dust (or rather licked the mud), caps, ties, and leggings flew about all over, and so heavy was the pressure at one place that the players actually pushed over about five yards of iron railing, with about a foot thick of solid masonry. Opposite one house in the front street several windows were broken, but everything was taken very good humouredly. The Upstreeters ultimately won a capital game, and the ball was handed to Mr Murray at the Crown Inn. A number of the West End associates from Newcastle attended the game, and partook of dinner at the Lambton Arms.

LEADGATE EXILES v MEDOMSLEY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—A week or two since I noticed a correspondent enquiring in your paper if a goal could be scored from an unplayed-goal-kick, which occurred in the return match between the above clubs. Being somewhat interested in the subject, I quote the ruling on the point of the *Athletic News*, undoubtedly the best football journal in the world:—"No; a goal *cannot* be scored from a goal-kick, which is a free kick, and in the case you mention the result would be a corner." Therefore, the match is a moral victory for Medomsley by two goals to one.—Yours, &c.,

A SPECTATOR.

Consett, March 5th, 1889.

THE MONTHLY CHRONICLE of North-Country Lore and Legend for March fully maintains the position already secured by this popular magazine. The articles are supplemented by thirty-three excellent engravings of places familiar to north-country men.

IN AN EVIL MOMEN

BY

HARRY BLYTH.

AUTHOR OF

"A Wily Woman," "The Bloom o' the
"When the Clock Stopped," "Magic Horse

CHAPTER XXXI.

HOPE AT LAST.

"There is a marked improvement in t
woman. I am inclined to think that she wil
yet."
"Do you really think so, Dr. Dodder?" L
clasping her hands. "If she did, how
lighten my sorrow! It would be a great co
to be able to think that all this trouble and
had benefited somebody."
"If Jane Seaton does recover her reason,
have you, and you alone to thank for it.
not one woman in a thousand that wo
exhibited the patience, the love, and the
that you have shown. Professional nur
keepers are so good in these cases. Their
—when they are kind—is mechanical; and
half-witted creatures here come to regard
machines. The fresh, spontaneous interest
have brought to bear upon this poor woman
a wonderful effect. But, while you are
back her reason, don't neglect your own
You have stayed too much with her.
looking very ill."
The doctor regarded her gravely; he spo
much sadness.
She met his gaze with a sweet, wan smile
"It is not easy for me to feel well."
"I cannot bear to see you so plaintive
signed. Surely, surely, there must be some
you."
"I fear there is none, unless——" she pa
"Unless what?"
"It is nothing. I am mad to harbour suc
But as I have sat and watched and talked
poor woman, a wild thought has now an
thrilled me."
"Will you not tell me what that thought
"Not now, doctor—not now. I do not
dwell upon it myself, because when it is sha
as I feel it will be—the disappointment wi
bitter and so hard to bear."
"You rest your hope upon Jane Seaton?"
Lily bowed her head.
"You believe that when she recovers her
she will be able to destroy Gregory Axon's
over your father?"
"You have guessed my thought, doctor."
"Humph!"
"You do not encourage my hope?"
"I dare not," he said kindly. "I dread t
what effect another disappointment might ha
you."
"I want you to promise me one thing," L
after a pause.
"What is that?"
"You must not let Mr. Axon take th
woman away—not on any excuse."
"I can easily promise you that, for I h
determined that she should not leave here t
his power. I saw from the first that he hat
and wished her dead. Indeed, had he f
willing tool in me, she would not be alive no
Lily shuddered.
"How dreadful!" she exclaimed. "Th
woman, seems to realise that he is her enem
she trembles when I mention his name."
"Have you ever spoken of him to her?"
"Yes."
"Be careful—it is dangerous. I once ask
if she remembered him, and she flew at m
wild cat. Had I been alone she would c
have injured me."
"That is a long time ago," said Lily.
forget that she is much better now. I alway
her to speak of him; in what other way can I
hope?"
"You do not know yet how Gregory Ax
wronged me. I first agreed to take charge
poor woman with the hope that through
might one day strike him, but up to the pr
have been disappointed. It is curious that th
idea should have struck you."
"Can we both be wrong?" Lily murmure
pray to heaven that we are not."
Ever since Dr. Dodder had proposed to h
she should try the effect of genial compani
combined with music, upon Jane Seaton, Li
devoted herself to her task.
At first the duty was hard and unpleasant e
The woman would have none of her, and a
music she howled as a dog might. Bu
exampled patience, and Lily's sweet singing, gra
softened her. For a little time after she had
brought to allow our heroine to be in the same
with her, she would scowl at Lily and say unpl
things to her: but it was noticed that if that
lady stayed away she grew fidgety, and at le
came about that she would ask for her, and re
take her food unless in her company.
She grew very docile at last, and devotedly at
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"I am going to London. I do not know wh
shall return."
The doctor eyed him keenly.
"You must be careful," he said.
"I will be very careful," was the answer.
"No violence—no violence to yourself," Do
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"Do you promise me?"
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seen his sister."
"His sister! But surely she has not illused h
[illegible]?"
"[illegible] owes his wounds to him. She

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

Tow Law beat Crook, at Crook, by four goals to nil.

Bearpark Rovers 2nd beat Esh Albion by two goals to one.

Burnmoor beat West Pelton, at Burnmoor, by one goal to nil.

Edmondsley Strangers II. beat Pelton Fell Harriers II. by four goals to two.

HEXHAM EXCELSIOR v STOCKSFIELD.—This match was played at Hexham, and resulted in a draw, each side scoring one goal.

STANHOPE v WOLSINGHAM.—Played at Stanhope, and resulted in a victory for Wolsingham by three goals to nil.

BIRTLEY ALBION v GATESHEAD ALBION 2ND.—Played at Gateshead. Birtley had matters all their own way, scoring one goal in the first half and five goals in the second, thus winning by six goals to nothing.

TANFIELD LEA JUNIORS v TANFIELD LEA ROVERS' JUNIORS.—Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in a victory for the home team by 12 goals to nil. The winners are the original Juniors (ages from 13 to 15), and the losers are a new Junior team (ages from 15 to 17).

RUGBY.

CONSETT 2ND v HAMSTERLEY 2ND.—Played at Benfieldside, a good game resulting in a victory for the home team by one goal, four tries, and three minors to nil.

DURHAM RUGBY CHALLENGE CUP:
SECOND ROUND.
HARTLEPOOL RANGERS v CONSETT.

These clubs met in the second round of the County Cup ties on the Rangers' field in snowy, cold weather, though the ground was fairly playable. Consett kicked off against the wind, the ball being well returned, and from a free kick the Rangers sent it close to the Consett goal, where several scrimmages took place, a try being early registered by Emmerson for the Rangers, but Fleming failed at goal. A scrimmage, which followed on the Consett line, ended in favour of the latter, and after a short delay, caused by an accident to a visitor, the Rangers scored a try, and getting a free kick nearly dropped a goal. From another free kick, Consett returned well, and the Rangers shone to advantage in a scrimmage which followed. Consett being awarded a free kick gained nothing material, and the Rangers, from another, added a minor, quickly followed by another. Consett profited nothing from a free kick, but Carroll soon added a try for the Rangers though Dixon's kick failed, and nothing more occurring during the first half, the score stood—

Rangers ....3 tries and 3 minors
Consett ....Nothing

Thompson resumed for the Rangers, and by quick following up the return was stopped, and although a scrimmage was early formed in the Rangers' end, they added another minor. Snow now set in with severity, and little could be seen of the play; but Horsley succeeded in gaining a try, Fleming's kick failing. After the addition of a minor, just prior to the call of time Heppenstall secured a try, which Fleming successfully converted, leaving the final score—

Rangers ......1 goal, 3 tries, and 9 minors
Consett ....Nothing

Teams:—Rangers—Back, T Mulvey; three-quarter backs, R Dixon, J Boagey, and A Burdon; half backs, J Nesbitt and R Forcer; forwards, C Thompson (capt.), T Fleming, P Carroll, W Horsley, J Heppenstall, T Emmerson, R Robinson, J Hastings, and R Mulvey. Consett—Back, J Aitken; three-quarter backs, P Gibson (capt.), T T Gray, and J Wilson; half-backs, L McTaggart and J Anderson; forwards, W Fiddes, J Fiddes, W Turnbull, J Forrest, A Ward, A Struthers, N Scott, J Patterson, and C Dibley. Umpires, Messrs M Hobday and J Wilson; referee, Mr C. Mountford.

JOTTINGS.

Pelton Fell Harriers 2nd have March 16th vacant at home, April 27th away; and the 3rd eleven have March 16th away, 23rd home, April 13th away, 20th and 27th home.—Address Wm. Lowther, 34, Grange Terrace, Pelton Fell, Chester-le-Street.

Mr J. Smith, captain and secretary of the Tanfield Lea Football Club, and one of the best centre forwards in the district, got his collar-bone broken whilst playing in a practice game on Saturday.

Tanfield Lea Juniors have a good record. Since they started they have played seven matches, winning six and losing one, and scoring 38 goals to three. The following are the teams they have played against:—

	Tanfield. Goals.	Opponents. Goals.
Kyo Juniors	4	0
Hobson Juniors	4	0
Medomsley Juniors	10	0
Newcastle Juniors	2	0
Scotswood Juniors	1	3
Tantobie Juniors	5	0
Tanfield Rovers' Juniors	12	0

SHROVE TUESDAY AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Tuesday, the good folks of Chester-le-Street held their great annual football carnival. Almost the entire male proportion of the community turned out to participate in the time-honoured game. An enormous number of visitors also poured into the old cathedral city by road and rail, and notwithstanding the unfavourable atmospheric conditions, the streets were thronged the whole afternoon with the players and sightseers. The first authentic record of football as she is played at Chester-le-Street is contained in the chronicles of the town, which state that the parish clerk, Mr Pybus, threw out the football on Shrove Tuesday, about 80 years ago. Mr Fairless, a saddler, who subsequently emigrated, was the next person to occupy the post of honour; and since that time three successive generations of the Murray family have supplied the leather for the historic fray. Punctually at one o'clock, Mr Joseph Murray, Newcastle, walked to the brow of the hill which marks the line of demarcation between Up-Street and Down-Street territory, and after a short address, during which he asked the players to keep the ball in the front street, threw it into the throat of the bank amid tremendous cheering. For the first time in the history of the present generation the Upstreeters immediately checked the downward progress of the ball, and to the surprise of everybody forced the ball to the extreme south end of the town. About three o'clock the Downstreeters succeeded in getting the leather to the north end of the town, and some most amusing scenes took place in the burn, several of the players getting a good ducking. About four p.m. the Upstreeters began to play in earnest, and gradually forced the ball towards the steep bank which has been the scene of so many memorable football encounters. Inch by inch the Upstreeters forced the leather up the steep hill, and, notwithstanding the utmost exertions of their rivals, they ultimately forced the ball over the crest of the hotly-contested hill. A wild hurrah announced that this tremendous task had been once more achieved by the stalwart Up-street champions. Immediately on reaching level ground the Upstreet men made rapid progress, and rushed the ball past the Conservative Club, and to the extreme high end of the town. From this time until six o'clock the ball remained upstreet, as the Downstreeters were absolutely unable to make any impression upon their rivals. Prodigies of valour were performed on every hand; many a gallant warrior bit the dust (or rather licked the mud), caps, ties, and leggings flew about all over, and so heavy was the pressure at one place that the players actually pushed over about five yards of iron railing, with about a foot thick of solid masonry. Opposite one house in the front street several windows were broken, but everything was taken very good humouredly. The Upstreeters ultimately won a capital game, and the ball was handed to Mr Murray at the Crown Inn. A number of the West End associates from Newcastle attended the game, and partook of dinner at the Lambton Arms.

LEADGATE EXILES v MEDOMSLEY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—A week or two since I noticed a correspondent enquiring in your paper if a goal could be scored from an unplayed goal-kick, which occurred in the return match between the above clubs. Being somewhat interested in the subject, I quote the ruling on the point of the *Athletic News*, undoubtedly the best football journal in the world:—"No; a goal *cannot* be scored from a goal-kick, which is a free kick, and in the case you mention the result would be a corner." Therefore, the match is a moral victory for Medomsley by two goals to one.—Yours, &c.,

A SPECTATOR.

Consett, March 5th, 1889.

THE MONTHLY CHRONICLE of North-Country Lore and Legend for March fully maintains the position already secured by this popular magazine. The articles are supplemented by thirty-three excellent engravings of places familiar to north-country men.

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IN AN EVIL MOMENT!

BY

HARRY BLYTH.

AUTHOR OF

"A Wily Woman," "The Bloom o' the Heather," "When the Clock Stopped," "Magic Morsels," &c.

CHAPTER XXXI.

HOPE AT LAST.

"THERE is a marked improvement in the poor woman. I am inclined to think that she will recover yet."

"Do you really think so, Dr. Dodder?" Lily cried, clasping her hands. "If she did, how it would lighten my sorrow! It would be a great consolation to be able to think that all this trouble and suffering had benefited somebody."

"If Jane Seaton does recover her reason, she will have you, and you alone to thank for it. There is not one woman in a thousand that would have exhibited the patience, the love, and the courage that you have shown. Professional nurses and keepers are no good in these cases. Their kindness—when they are kind—is mechanical; and even the half-witted creatures here come to regard them as machines. The fresh, spontaneous interest that you have brought to bear upon this poor woman has had a wonderful effect. But, while you are winning back her reason, don't neglect your own health. You have stopped too much with her. You are looking very ill."

The doctor regarded her gravely; he spoke with much sadness.

She met his gaze with a sweet, wan smile.

"It is not easy for me to feel well."

"I cannot bear to see you so plaintive—so resigned. Surely, surely, there must be some hope for you."

"I fear there is none, unless——" she paused.

"Unless what?"

"It is nothing. I am mad to harbour such a hope. But as I have sat and watched and talked to that poor woman, a wild thought has now and again thrilled me."

"Will you not tell me what that thought was?"

"Not now, doctor—not now. I do not dare to dwell upon it myself, because when it is shattered—as I feel it will be—the disappointment will be so bitter and so hard to bear."

"You rest your hope upon Jane Seaton?"

Lily bowed her head.

"You believe that when she recovers her reason she will be able to destroy Gregory Axon's power over your father?"

"You have guessed my thought, doctor."

"Humph!"

"You do not encourage my hope?"

"I dare not," he said kindly. "I dread to think what effect another disappointment might have upon you."

"I want you to promise me one thing," Lily said, after a pause.

"What is that?"

"You must not let Mr. Axon take that poor woman away—not on any excuse."

"I can easily promise you that, for I long ago determined that she should not leave here to be in his power. I saw from the first that he hated her, and wished her dead. Indeed, had he found a willing tool in me, she would not be alive now."

Lily shuddered.

"How dreadful!" she exclaimed. "The poor woman, seems to realise that he is her enemy, for she trembles when I mention his name."

"Have you ever spoken of him to her?"

"Yes."

"Be careful—it is dangerous. I once asked her if she remembered him, and she flew at me like a wild cat. Had I been alone she would certainly have injured me."

"That is a long time ago," said Lily. "You forget that she is much better now. I always coax her to speak of him; in what other way can I test my hope?"

"You do not know yet how Gregory Axon has wronged me. I first agreed to take charge of this poor woman with the hope that through her I might one day strike him, but up to the present I have been disappointed. It is curious that the same idea should have struck you."

"Can we both be wrong?" Lily murmured. "I pray to heaven that we are not."

Ever since Dr. Dodder had proposed to her that she should try the effect of genial companionship, combined with music, upon Jane Seaton, Lily had devoted herself to her task.

At first the duty was hard and unpleasant enough. The woman would have none of her, and at her music she howled as a dog might. But unexampled patience, and Lily's sweet singing, gradually softened her. For a little time after she had been brought to allow our heroine to be in the same room with her, she would scowl at Lily and say unpleasant things to her; but it was noticed that if that young lady stayed away she grew fidgety, and at length it came about that she would ask for her, and refuse to take her food unless in her company.

She grew very docile at last, and devotedly attached to Lily. Occasionally she would talk coherently and with sense for some time at a stretch; but as a rule her ideas were in a hopeless state of confusion, and the past a blank. Still, the progression had been so steady and marked that they were justified in thinking that she would ultimately recover.

She was a short, thin woman. Her eyes were small, and her face extremely pallid. She had a pinched nose; her hair was jet black. She had evidently experienced too much suffering for her face to be a very attractive one; but notwithstanding her somewhat repellent appearance, Lily felt irresistibly drawn to her. And when, after some little time, she discovered that this woman was connected in some way with Gregory Axon, her interest and her anxiety were doubly increased.

It was a good thing for the poor girl that she had Jane Seaton to occupy her time and take up her thoughts. It prevented her from dwelling too much upon her own misery, and it made her dreary, rayless days pass more quickly.

No wedding ring graced Jane Seaton's finger, and they were unable to discover whether she had ever been married. In all her ravings she never spoke of her husband. But this went for nothing, for it frequently happens in cases of insanity that the past is never alluded to. The attack appears to have swept the mind of all recollection. Now that she was better she had steadily refused to tell Lily whether she had ever had a husband; perhaps the poor thing could not tell her.

About Gregory, too, she would say but little. When she did speak of him it was generally to the effect that he had been wrongfully punished—that he had died an innocent man—which proved conclusively that her weak mind was again wandering.

During the time that Gregory was maturing his little scheme for depriving Mr. Barr of all he possessed, a great change came over Dodder's man—poor Mary Hope's brother.

He was frequently away from the asylum for days together, and when he returned he was moody, sullen; evidently weighed down by a great grief.

The doctor knew the man's nature, and he neither questioned nor chided him.

"In a little time," Dr. Dodder said, "he will tell me what it is that has grieved him."

One day he came to his master and said, helplessly, dolefully:

"I am going to London. I do not know when I shall return."

The doctor eyed him keenly.

"You must be careful," he said.

"I will be very careful," was the answer.

"No violence—no violence to yourself," Dodder continued, in a commanding tone.

"No—no violence to myself;" as the man answered he hung his head.

"Do you promise me?"

It was a long time before he answered.

"I promise you," he said at length.

"I believe you, and I can trust you. You may go."

The unfortunate man did not remain away long. On the second day he returned, but in a wretched plight. His clothes are torn and his face was badly cut and bruised. He volunteered no explanation as to how he had met with his injuries.

The doctor dressed his wounds, and allowed him to remain undisturbed in his room.

"What can have happened to him?" Lily asked wonderingly.

"I am afraid," the doctor answered, "that he has seen his sister."

"His sister! But surely she has not ill-used him so frightfully?"

"[illegible] owes his wounds to her. She is a [illegible], poor, vile woman—and I fear, beyond all reformation. I expect that he has been striving to win her from her evil ways, and so has infuriated her. Some day you shall hear her sad history. Poor fellow! her cruel blows will not alter his love for her."

"Sometimes, in my selfishness," Lily murmured, "I fancy that I alone have a heavy sorrow. Alas! each one seems to carry a mighty burden."

"He will not leave me," the doctor muttered sadly, "until I die."

Two days after this Lily, in a great state of excitement, sought her kind friend.

"At last," she cried, her face all ablaze with the grand tidings, "we can break Gregory Axon's power."

He saw her flushed cheek, and her wild, starting eyes, and a sudden fear seized him.

"Has her trouble and have her surroundings made her mad?"

There can be no doubt that insanity is contagious. Did anyone yet ever meet a man who had passed years in the society of lunatics that was quite right in his head? "Mad-doctor," is the best of all terms to use when speaking of the proprietor of a lunatic asylum. Ten to one he is a little bit touched himself.

"Are you sure? Do not deceive yourself."

The doctor spoke warningly.

"I do not," Lily cried, wildly. "All is now clear; our trouble is at an end. You, too, at last will be able to strike Gregory through your patient."

The doctor still regarded her doubtfully.

"Do not be frightened—do not fear that I am deceived. Come with me now and see Jane Seaton. A gleam of reason—perhaps brief—has been vouchsafed her, and she can tell us wonderful—glorious things!"

"How did this come about?" he inquired, as he followed the excited girl.

"You know," Lily went on, leading the way, "that I talk to the poor thing about everything that happens—I am glad of a subject sometimes. To-day I told her about Mary Hope, and the cruel way that she had treated her brother. At the mention of Mary Hope's name it seemed as though a mist had fallen from her eyes—as if she had awakened from a dream. Hush! She is coming to the door to greet us."

When Dr. Dodder and Lily Barr left Jane Seaton's room they left it with a glad smile on both their faces.

Lily immediately wrote a letter to Mr. Wicks, and, as she closed the envelope, she cried:

"Thank God! I shall see my father now."

CHAPTER XXXII.

MR. BLEND AS THE GOOD SAMARITAN.

MR. WICKS sat at his table with an open letter before him. As he read it he rubbed his hands; and his manner and the expression of his face evinced the most lively satisfaction.

"Well, well," he muttered. "So we shall catch the fox after all. Thank goodness! Providence does not always let rogues have altogether their own way. After all, little Lily Barr has done more than all of us. 'Gad, I always thought her a brave, clever little woman, but I never expected that she would alone be able to defeat Gregory Axon. Hullo, Tom, is that you? Come in, my boy! Come in!"

Mr. Wicks rose from his chair, and greeted the young surgeon heartily.

Tom was excited; two hectic spots glowed on his pale cheeks.

"I've had a letter," he cried.

"Of course you have," responded the lawyer, with great gaiety.

"But I do not understand it," Westall went on; "and I do not dare to hope."

"Then you haven't half the pluck I thought you had. Show your letter to me. Ah, just so! From Miss Barr. All trouble is now at an end, she says, and she bids you call at once upon me, and do exactly as I direct. Now, sir, do you mean to tell me you are afraid to hope after reading *that?*"

As he spoke he handed the letter back to Tom Westall.

"Mr. Barr has had one too," said Tom.

"And how did he take it?"

"It seemed as though he had been suddenly aroused from a deep sleep. He is all excitement, and he is waiting with the utmost anxiety for my return. I can see by your manner that you have some important news. Pray do not keep me any longer in suspense—surely we have all had sufficient of that."

"What I know I will tell you briefly. Miss Barr has, in some unaccountable manner, made a grand discovery concerning Gregory Axon. She declares that her father has now no need to fear him, and that she can punish him with a long term of imprisonment for his past extortion. She adds that soon I shall know the whole strange particulars. Meanwhile, I am to give her an exact account of how matters stand at this present moment. This I did yesterday. She received my letter in the afternoon, and here is her reply. You see it is her wish that when Axon meets Marl to receive the proceeds of Mr. Barr's cheque, we all be present. She will appear upon the scene, accompanied by Dr. Dodder and another, to denounce Gregory, and make her father free for ever. The scheme has not my entire approval. I should prefer the business to be done in a quieter way, but in a case of this kind I must not interfere. All the glory belongs to Miss Barr, and we must let her carry the thing through in the manner she thinks best."

"I trust that she's not deceived ——"

"Why, man, instead of hopping about this office with joy as I expected to see you, you look as glum as a mute, and apparently anxious to throw cold water on the whole thing."

"No, no," said Tom, "I am overjoyed; but the good news has come so suddenly that I can scarcely realise it yet. I can't help feeling nervous too about poor Mr. Barr. If you had seen his awful excitement as I saw it this morning, you would dread to contemplate a disappointment."

"So much would I dread it that I wouldn't contemplate it," said Mr. Wicks, smilingly.

"And where are we to meet to-morrow?"

"That is undecided. I expect Marl here every minute. It will rest of course with him."

"Well, Marl, and what's the news?" Mr. Wicks asked, when at length his clerk walked gingerly into the office. Since the improvement in his raiment, Mr. Marl had assumed a jaunty and a juvenescent air.

"Everything is going on tip-top. I'm to draw the money out of the bank to-morrow, and then, if I may so express myself, the band will play, the curtain will fall, and the little farce will be over."

"Where is Gregory Axon now?"

"Well, Gregory," said Marl, shaking his head solemnly, "is a bit of a puzzle. I can't make him out at all. What's come over him the last few days is more than I can understand. He's as nervous as a cat—starts at the slightest noise; and if he takes a nap, he wakes up from it gnashing his teeth and with wild cries."

"Conscience," Mr. Wicks suggested.

"No, sir; brandy, I think, sir—for he does nothing but pour that stuff down him all day long. He seems frightened to move out too. He's taken a room in the Holloway-road, and he says he's not going out of it till he meets me to receive the money. Directly he gets it, he's going to take the train for Dover and then on to France."

"Where do you propose meeting him?"

"He says Charing-cross Railway Station. It will be handy for the train."

"Precisely. A spot that will suit us remarkably well also. I suppose there will be no difficulty in engaging a private room in the Charing-cross Hotel for the afternoon?"

"None in the world."

"Very well then. You see to that. You can easily persuade Gregory to have a parting dinner with you, and so arrange with him to meet you in the hotel instead of at the station."

"That will be simple enough. What time shall we say, sir?"

"Three o'clock."

"Three o'clock it shall be."

"By the way, Marl, does Mr. Axon carry any weapon?"

"No, sir," Marl replied with a significant smile, "he does not. I took particular care to make the inquiry. If," he went on slowly, "he was in the habit of carrying a revolver, I should be *non est* to-morrow; he'd put a bullet through me as soon as look at me when he discovers how he's been done."

"I wouldn't get too near him as it is," said Mr. Wicks with a smile.

"I won't. With all that brandy in him, he will be like an enraged tiger."

"I'm not so sure of that," said Tom. "It's my belief that he'll show the white feather."

"To-morrow then, at three o'clock, you and Mr [illegible] will meet [illegible] Charing-cross Hotel. Good-bye, my boy!"

As Mr. Wicks shook the surgeon's hand, there was a suspicious huskiness in his throat, and for a moment his eyes grew dim.

Tom's heart beat quickly, as he hastened home to convey the good news to Walter Barr.

Mr. Stivey Blend passed that evening in the company of Gregory Axon in his dreary room in the Holloway road. As he was walking home, in the early hours of the morning, he was stopped by a woman in the Goswell-road, who very piteously begged a trifle from him to secure a night's shelter. The wind was keen, and the poor creature was wofully sadly clad. She looked weak and hungry, and pinched with the cold. Stivey had naturally a tender heart; on occasions like the present, when he had imbibed a considerable quantity of liquor, his generosity was boundless. It unfortunately happened that he had only half-a-crown in his pocket, for he had taken the rare precaution to leave the bulk of his money at home.

"There," he said, "that will make you all right for to-night, and, if you happen to be in the neighbourhood of Charing-cross Station to-morrow afternoon, about half-past three, I'll see if I can't find you a trifle more."

The woman thanked him. It was not often she met with such considerate, unselfish charity, and she resolved that on the following day she would be at the place he had named.

"He ain't the sort," she muttered as she drew her shawl closer round her shivering body, "to give me a journey for nothing."

(To be continued.)

TORMENTED BY HYMN SINGERS.

This charitable American lady was the wife of a missionary on board. There were some six or seven of them, and they sang such doleful hymns, vulgar, sugar-and-watery sort of negro-minstrel melodies with sacred words adapted to them. There is nothing to my mind so uncongenial as the commonplace hymn-tune—the hymn-tune that smacks of the bones, banjo, and tambourine. Still on Sunday evenings up and down they paced, singing these claptrap tunes in strong and vigorous tones. At last they began "God Save the Queen." "Ha!" we exclaimed, "at last there is a straightforward, simple melody, and, moreover, it shews that the end is at hand." Not a bit of it. They had adapted words to it of their own, and the end was as far off as ever. There was a silent, but humorous Scotchman on board, and never a word spake he, but he silently went to his cabin. Still on and on went our loud-voiced minstrels, up and down, up and down, regardless of the feelings of quiet elderly ladies in the saloon, writing letters to the friends to whom they had said good-bye for years or for ever; regardless of the sick people moaning in their berths. Suddenly there stole on our ears a faint, weird sound. Not pig killing on Sunday? No! nearer and nearer it came. The relief of Lucknow! 'Twas the bagpipes!! Blessings on your head, my bonnie Scotch laddie! Blaw your pipes!! Hoot awa'!!! That "Hieland Lament" did it. We saw our American cousins no more for twenty-four hours.—*Corney Grain. By Himself.*

WHY SPRING DID NOT COME.

One day the Giant came back. He had been to visit his friend the Cornish ogre, and had stayed with him for seven years. After the seven years were over he had said all that he had to say, for his conversation was limited, and he determined to return to his own castle. When he arrived he saw the children playing in the garden. "What are you doing there?" he cried in a very gruff voice, and the children ran away. "My own garden is my own garden," said the Giant; "anyone can understand that, and I will allow nobody to play in it but myself." So he built a high wall all around it, and put up a notice-board:—

TRESPASSERS
WILL BE
PROSECUTED.

He was a very selfish Giant. The poor children had now nowhere to play. They tried to play on the road, but the road was very dusty and full of hard stones, and they did not like it. They used to wander round the high wall when their lessons were over, and talk about the beautiful garden inside. "How happy we were there," they said to each other. Then the Spring came, and all over the country there were little blossoms and little birds. Only in the garden of the Selfish Giant it was still winter. The birds did not care to sing in it as there were no children, and the trees forgot to blossom. Once a beautiful flower put its head out from the grass, but when it saw the notice-board it was so sorry for the children that it slipped back into the ground again and went off to sleep. The only people who were pleased were the Snow and Frost. "Spring has forgotten this garden," they cried, "so we will live here all the year round." The Snow covered up the grass with her great white cloak, and the Frost painted all the trees silver. Then they invited the North Wind to stay with them, and he came. He was wrapped in furs, and he roared all day about the garden, and blew the chimney-pots down. "This is a delightful spot," he said, "we must ask the Hail on a visit." So the Hail came. Every day for three hours he rattled on the roof of the castle till he broke most of the slates, and then he ran round and round the garden as fast as he could go. He was dressed in grey, and his breath was like ice. "I cannot understand why the Spring is so late in coming," said the Selfish Giant, as he sat at the window and looked out at his cold white garden; "I hope there will be a change in the weather."—*The Happy Prince and Other Tales. By Oscar Wilde.*

In a bookseller's catalogue lately appeared the following item: "Memoirs of Charles I.— with a head capitally executed."

Scene: House in West End. Mr. Robertson (with six eligible daughters, to old bachelor): "Mr. Jones, why do you never get married?" Mr. Jones: "Because I wouldn't marry a lady I couldn't respect, and I couldn't respect any lady who would marry me."

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THE UNEMPLOYED IN EAST LONDON.—At a time when much thought is being given to this matter, a practical suggestion may be of service. Last year more than £500,000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country, so true is it that "evil is wrought by want of thought, as well as want of heart." If all consumers would purchase Bryant and May's matches, that firm would be enabled to pay £1,000 a week more in wages, and large numbers of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism.

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.

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"HOW TO DO BUSINESS," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street Consett.

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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, Lincoln. 23c

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Railway Time Table.

CONSETT BRANCH.

STATIONS.	WEEK DAYS. A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE Dep.	6 10	9 45	11 0	12 15	3 30	5 25	7 30
Scotswood ,,	6 17	9 49	11 7	12 22	3 37	5 32	7 37
Swalwell ,,	6 24	9 54	11 14	12 30	3 43	5 37	7 44
Rowlands Gill ,,	6 34	10 3	11 24	12 39	3 56	5 46	7 54
Lintz Green ,,	6 40	10 9	11 30	12 45	3 59	5 52	8 0
Ebchester ,,	6 52	10 18	11 40	12 55	4 12	6 1	8 10
Shotley Bridge ,,	6 56	10 26	11 44	12 59	4 16	6 5	8 15
CONSETT Arr.	7 5	10 37	11 56	1 5	4 25	6 16	8 26
CONSETT Dep.	7 20	10 34	...	1 17	3 36	6 36	...
Knitsley ,,	7 31	10 45	...	1 28	3 38	6 44	...
Lanchester ,,	7 36	10 56	...	1 38	3 45	6 56	...
Witton Gilbert ,,	7 38	[illegible] 3	...	1 50	3 52	7 1	...
Aldin Grange ,,	7 45	11 11	...	1 57	4 0	7 9	...
DURHAM Arr.	7 50	11 17	...	1 59	4 5	7 15	...

	A.M.		A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
DURHAM Dep.	7 35		11 30	2 35		5 20	8 10
Aldin Grange ,,	7 39		11 37	2 41		5 27	8 11
Witton Gilbert ,,	7 40		12 5	2 48		5 35	8 2[illegible]
Lanchester ,,	7 50		12 15	2 55		5 45	8 3[illegible]
Knitsley ,,	8 2		12 25	3 5		5 56	8 4[illegible]
CONSETT Arr.	8 13		12 34	3 18		6 5	8 5[illegible]
CONSETT Dep.	8 15	9 5	12 40	3 25		6 10	9 [illegible]
Shotley Bridge ,,	8 20	9 10	12 45	3 30		6 15	9 [illegible]
Ebchester ,,	8 24	9 14	12 49	3 34		6 19	9 11
Lintz Green ,,	8 34	9 24	12 58	3 44		6 29	9 21
Rowlands Gill ,,	8 39	9 29	1 3	3 50		6 34	9 2[illegible]
Swalwell ,,	8 47	9 37	1 10	3 57		6 42	9 3[illegible]
Scotswood ,,	8 54	9 44	1 16	4 4		6 49	9 4[illegible]
NEWCASTLE Ar.	9 5	9 55	1 26	4 15		7 0	9 5[illegible]

SUNDAYS.

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
NEWCASTLE ...	7 30	7 20	CONSETT ...dep.	8 35	8 20
Scotswood	7 37	7 27	Shotley Bridge ...	8 40	8 25
Swalwell	7 44	7 34	Ebchester	8 44	8 29
Rowlands Gill	7 54	7 44	Lintz Green	8 54	8 39
Lintz Green	8 0	7 50	Rowlands Gill	8 59	8 44
Ebchester	8 13	8 0	Swalwell	9 5	8 55
Shotley Bridge	8 19	8 4	Scotswood	9 14	8 59
CONSETT ...arr.	8 30	8 10	NEWCASTLE ar.	9 25	9 10

MARKET TRAINS ON SATURDAYS.
First second, and third class return tickets will be issued on Saturdays by the following trains:—

	A.M.	P.M.		A.M.
NEWCASTLE ..	7 10	4 5	DURHAM ...dep.	7 55
Scotswood	7 17	4 22	Aldin Grange	8 1
Swalwell	7 24	4 29	Witton Gilbert ...	8 9
Rowlands Gill	7 34	4 40	Lanchester	8 20
Lintz Green	7 40	4 46	Knitsley	8 32
Ebchester	7 53	4 59	CONSETT and a	8 45
Shotley Bridge	7 59	5 5	BLACKHILL d	8 50
CONSETT and a	8 5	5 12	Shotley Bridge ...	8 55
BLACKHILL d	9 20	...	Ebchester	8 59
Knitsley	9 32	...	Lintz Green	9 9
Lanchester	9 41	...	Rowlands Gill	9 15
Witton Gilbert ...	9 50	...	Swalwell	9 23
Aldin Grange	9 59	...	Scotswood	9 29
DURHAM ...arr	10 5	...	NEWCASTLE dp	9 40

SALTBURN, STOCKTON, & DARLINGTON BRANCH

STATIONS.	WEEK DAYS. A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
NEWCASLE dep.	...	6 10	...	11 0	12 15	...	5 25
CONSETT	...	7 17	...	12 15	3 0	...	6 15
Rowley	...	7 26	...	12 23	3 8	...	6 23
Burnhill	...	7 36	...	12 33	3 18	...	6 33
Tow Law	...	7 47	...	12 45	3 30	...	6 45
CROOK ...arr.	...	7 59	...	12 57	3 42	...	6 57
,, dep.	7 20	9 1	11 16	1 0	3 56	5 20	7 0
Bishop Auckland	7 37	9 20	11 35	1 24	4 16	5 35	7 25
Darlington	8 20	10 0	12 10	1 55	5 5	6 46	8 15
Stockton	8 46	10 20	12 40	2 25	5 34	7 16	8 41
Middlesbro'	9 5	10 40	12 50	2 35	5 45	7 30	8 5[illegible]
SALTBURN	10 10	11 14	1 26	3 9	6 19	8 6	9 26

STATIONS.	WEEK DAYS. A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
SALTBURN dp.	5 40	8 5	9 52	11 10	1 40	3 46	5 40
Middlesbro'	6 17	8 40	10 25	11 48	2 18	4 18	6 15
Stockton	6 27	8 48	10 32	11 56	2 21	4 26	6 22
Darlington	7 10	9 20	10 52	1 45	2 55	4 55	7 20
Bishop Auckland	7 42	9 46	11 28	2 15	3 25	5 31	7 46
CROOK ...arr.	8 4	10 8	11 52	2 33	3 44	5 50	8 10
,, ...dep.	8 8	...	11 56	2 37	...	5 51	...
Tow Law	8 20	...	12 5	2 49	...	6 3	...
Burnhill	8 35	...	12 18	3 2	...	6 16	...
Rowley	8 45	...	12 28	3 9	...	6 23	...
CONSETT ...arr.	8 55	...	12 38	3 17	...	6 31	...
N'WCASTLE ...	9 55	...	1 26	4 15	...	9 53	...

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June 13, 1888.

LATER.

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The "BEAUFORT HUNT" MILL, price 45s., carriage paid, sent on Month's trial. Crushes Oats, Beans, Indian Corn, Barley, &c. Send for lists of these also, Chaff Cutters, Cake Breakers, &c., to makers—
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ADVICE TO MOTHERS!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d. per bottle.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

The usual monthly meeting of the Consett Local Board was held in the Board-room on Wednesday evening. Present:—Ald. Wm. Jenkins (chairman), Councillor Richard Murray, Messrs Thos. Siddell, W. Aynsley, J. Collinson, J. W. Davison, Geo. Wade, J. Calvert, G. Ainsworth, Wm. R. Taylor, Jos. Murray, the Clerk (Mr T. W. Welford), and the Surveyor (Mr W. Rippon).

MR RIPPON'S APPOINTMENT.

The Clerk read a letter from the Local Government Board approving of Mr Rippon's appointment as inspector of nuisances, dairies, cow-sheds, &c., but pointed out that after this year this appointment would have to receive the sanction of the County Council.

Mr R. MURRAY: Does this letter mean that the Local Government Board accepts the appointment from 25th December, or from the day of appointment?

The Clerk: They sanction it from the day of appointment.

The CHAIRMAN: That means that we will not receive payment for the six weeks between December 25th and February 7th. I think the Clerk should appeal to the Local Government Board.

This was agreed to.

HIGHWAY REPORT.

The Roads Committee recommended the Board to kerb, channel, and cement the part of Knitsley Lane between Back Palmerston Street and Front Palmerston Street, the owner paying one-half the cost of cementing.

DEPUTATION TO THE N.E.R. DIRECTORS.

The Clerk had sent a communication to the directors of the North-Eastern Railway Company, asking them to name a day on which they could receive a deputation from the Consett Local Board in order to consider the subject of better accommodation and train service at Consett and Blackhill Station. The directors had simply acknowledged the receipt of the letter.

It was agreed that the Clerk should press for a suitable reply to his communication.

SEWERAGE SCHEME.

The Clerk informed the Board that he had applied to the Local Government Board for sanction to borrow £10,800 for the carrying out of the sewerage scheme, and for £6,200 to buy land—£6,200 to be repayable within a period not exceeding 50 years, and that for sewerage, £10,800, to be repayable within a period not exceeding 30 years.

The CHAIRMAN: You will see that we have now the power to borrow a very large sum of money; we must spend this money in an economical manner. What is the next step for us to take? Shall we borrow the whole sum—£17,000—or, say two-thirds of it? I hope we will not need the whole of the £17,000.

Mr R. MURRAY: I should say borrow £6,200 first.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we should borrow the money slowly. The landlord will want his money. If the current expense for the land is £6,200, should we get that sum as a distinct thing for 50 years, or should we get say £12,000.

Mr AINSWORTH: We shall want £2,200 absolutely, and in a few months something else, and the same a few months later, so if we could get the £6,000 now, and the rest by instalments as we need it, I do not see why we should get it in a lump sum.

The CHAIRMAN: Shall we try and get the money in that manner, for it is no use getting the money to let it lie in the bank when we do not need it.

A letter was read from Mr Robinson, the engineer, pointing out that the land would now need to be in the possession of the Board, to begin working, and that he would have all the working plans ready in about two months.

The CHAIRMAN: May I ask in what state we are with regard to the land and the tenants? We must be careful as to how we take the land from the vendor. Then we must make sure in what position we stand to the tenants, and consider their interests, and we must also be careful how we should let the land so as not to make any break in the rent and thus cause a loss to the Board.

Mr AINSWORTH: We are now in possession, I expect.

The Clerk: We are responsible now; we pay Mr Taylor 3½ per cent interest on the land from November.

The CHAIRMAN: When shall we be actually in the position of landlord and have the land in our own possession?

Mr TAYLOR: In May.

The CHAIRMAN: Then as a starting point we must fix how we shall deal with the existing tenants.

Mr COLLINSON: We should form a committee to look after that.

Mr R. MURRAY: Yes.

The CHAIRMAN: We are all of one mind that we must proceed with the work. If so, we must immediately discharge our obligation to the vendor, then we must consider the situation of the tenants, and then the letting of the land. The possession is already taken, but we want possession free from any obligation to existing tenants.

Mr R. MURRAY proposed, and Mr TAYLOR seconded, that the committee to arrange for the settlement of the land be composed of Messrs Collinson, Ainsworth, Davison, Wade, J. Murray, the Chairman, and the engineer (Mr Robinson).

Carried.

Mr AINSWORTH: Is this to be a permanent or temporary committee? Is it formed to manage the farm, or only to arrange with the existing tenants?

Mr TAYLOR: You will need to treat with the existing tenants, and also arrange about the re-letting of the land.

Mr AYNSLEY: There is a great portion of the land you can let at May.

Mr R. MURRAY: Then the committee will have to arrange with new tenants.

The CHAIRMAN: They will have to let the land to the best advantage of the Board.

Mr DAVISON: The land we want to irrigate will not be of much use to a tenant, as we will have to break it up.

Mr AINSWORTH: But surely we will not let a lot of the land lie idle?

The CHAIRMAN: It will be to let again to the present or new tenants.

Mr AINSWORTH: Suppose we find that we do not want some portion for two or three months, what have we to do with this portion?

The CHAIRMAN: Mr Robinson will describe to us what portion of the land he wants.

Mr R. MURRAY, No doubt the committee will use it to the greatest advantage of the Board.

Mr AINSWORTH: I think the duties of the committee are too vague and indistinct. I think the committee should be a permanent one.

Mr COLLINSON: Do you want a permanent committee to let the land?

Mr AINSWORTH: I want a permanent committee to farm the land.

The CHAIRMAN: Suppose this committee be asked to advise the Board at the next meeting as to the advisability of appointing a permanent committee?

This was agreed to.

CONVEYANCE OF THE LAND.

It was proposed that the Clerk be instructed to prepare the necessary agreement for the conveyance of the land from Mr Taylor to the Board, and that he be allowed £40—not including the price of the stamp—for doing the same, to which all the members agreed.

WHERE TO GET THE MONEY.

Mr COLLINSON proposed that the Board should apply to the Public Works Loan Commissioners, asking them the terms on which they could let the Board have the loan of £17,000.

Mr J. MURRAY: I think we need only apply for the £6,200 at present, as that is all we will want in May.

Mr AYNSLEY: Why not ask for it all while asking for the £6,200?

On the motion of Mr AINSWORTH, which Mr DAVISON seconded, it was agreed to apply to the Public Works Loan Commissioners for their terms for the loan of a sum not exceeding £17,000, £6,200 to be repayable in 50 years, and £10,800 in 30 years. The first to be supplied at once, and the latter to be supplied in sums of £2,000 at such intervals as they may be required by the Board.

This was agreed to.

It was also agreed to advertise the loan in the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* on six successive days.

THE NEW MEMBER.

A letter, dated 2nd March, was read by the Clerk, which he had received from Mr Potts, in which he said that after due consideration he had decided not to accept the appointment to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr Thomas Dunne.

The CHAIRMAN then read the resolution which had been passed at a meeting of ratepayers held in the Co-operative Hall, protesting against the action of the Board as being illegal. After doing so, he said he wished it to be distinctly understood that he found no fault with, and made no comment on, the action taken by his colleagues at the Board at its last meeting, as there was still a vacancy through Mr Potts declining to become a member of the Board.

The Clerk read a communication from the Local Government Board, dated 4th March, stating that they would recommend that Mr Dunne's seat be not filled up till the forthcoming election, as the proper time for such election had elapsed, and therefore no appointment could be made without an order from the Local Government Board. With this was enclosed a copy of a letter which Mr Jesse Hall (Secretary of the Co-operative Society) had sent to the Local Government Board pointing out the custom of the Board in electing the next member on the list who had been unsuccessful, and also the illegality of the present appointment without an order from the Imperial Authority.

The CHAIRMAN: Then we cannot appoint a person to fill the vacancy unless we get the necessary order.

The Clerk: That is so.

Mr COLLINSON: We have always elected the next on the list.

The CHAIRMAN: That is a custom we have established ourselves.

Mr COLLINSON: Then we must ask the Local Government Board to appoint a time in which we can fill the vacancy.

The Clerk read a letter in reply to the Local Government Board's communication, asking them to issue the necessary order for the filling up of the vacancy on the 1st May next.

The Clerk said that the Board did not see how the recommendation of the Local Government Board could be carried out, as the notice for the election would be published on the 8th inst., and would set forth that four members would retire by rotation, and that under section 2, rule 65 of the Public Health Act, 1875, a vacancy caused by a member who died or resigned should be filled up by the Local Board. Also, if five members were to be elected at the forthcoming election, how would the voters distinguish which had to be elected for three years, and which member for one year only to succeed Mr Dunne?

Mr SIDDELL proposed, and Mr CALVERT seconded, that a draft of the Clerk's letter be sent to the Local Government Board, asking them to extend the time in which to elect a member to the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr Dunne.

Carried.

THE PARK.

The Clerk informed the Board that the Park Bye-laws were now ready and all that was necessary was to advertise them.

Mr COLLINSON proposed that the Clerk be instructed to issue the needful advertisement.

This was seconded by Mr MURRAY, and agreed to.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE'S

account was for a total of £124 12s 6d.

The CHAIRMAN proposed and Mr WADE seconded that it be passed.

Carried.

MR DODDS'S LETTER.

A letter was read from Mr Dodds, of Pasture Drift Road, pointing out that he was not able to get his cellar drained as the cellar floor was 5ft below the level of the ground, while the main sewer was only 3ft below it.

The Surveyor was questioned on the subject, and explained that when the drain was put in it was not intended that those houses should have cellars.

The CHAIRMAN: When the Board passes a plan do we commit ourselves to drain it? This drain is 2ft above the floor of the cellar. Now who is to blame for this oversight?

The Surveyor: When that drain was put in I understood that no cellar would be allowed to be made.

Mr COLLINSON: If a man puts in a cellar he ought to know how to drain it. We have put in a drain to drain a person's cellar.

The question was referred to the building committee for them to report on it at the next meeting.

MORE LIGHT FOR PUDDLERS' ROW.

A letter from the inhabitants of Puddlers' Row was read asking that a lamp be placed at the top of the Row.

After discussing the question Mr AYNSLEY proposed and Mr SIDDELL seconded, that the subject be left in the hands of the Lighting Committee. This was agreed to.

STEAM ROLLER.

The Clerk read a letter from Mr Wear, the owner of the steam roller, intimating that he was desirous of being employed in this district for a short time.

The CHAIRMAN thought it would be very economical in the long run if the different Boards would unite and get a steam roller for themselves; but doubted whether they would ever reach that stage of unanimity which would render this possible. If this was done we would have better roads and it would be more economical.

Mr COLLINSON: We would certainly have better roads, but I do not think it would be more economical.

The CHAIRMAN: In my native district they had the same idea, but now they have steam rollers there and they find it more economical as well as having better roads.

It was proposed by Mr MURRAY, and seconded by Mr AYNSLEY, that the Surveyor be asked to prepare an estimate of the cost of cementing the road abutting Pasture Drift Road, and submitting it to the next meeting.

Carried.

SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

To the Chairman and Members of the Consett Local Board.

GENTLEMEN,—The whole of the roads in your district are in a good state of repair, with the exception of a portion of Castleside Road, opposite to Puddlers' Row, which requires kerbing and channelling very much, and it would be a decided improvement if this portion of the footpath was cemented also. The same remarks apply to a portion of Knitsley Lane, commencing at a point near the Primitive Methodist Schools and terminating at a point near the Consett Iron Company's railway. I have received from Messrs Ord and Maddison 100 tons of rough limestone, which is being broken for immediate use. The main sewer behind George St. has been extended, and the drains from the new property, lately built, connected to it. Also the crossing in Ridley Street, Blackhill, has been put down as ordered by you. I have repeatedly inspected your district and found the ashpits as a whole free from accumulations of house refuse, and the closets clean. I have sold to Mr Dolphin 60 cubic yards of sewerage manure. The following amounts have been paid to the treasurer:—General district rate, £25 3s 0d; market tolls, 16s 3d.—I am gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM RIPPON.

Consett, March 6th, 1888.

CONGRATULATION TO MR JENKINS AND MR MURRAY.

On behalf of the Board Mr AYNSLEY rose to offer their congratulations to Mr Jenkins on being raised to the Aldermanship, and to Mr Murray on being elected a member of the Durham County Council. All the members of the Board were glad to hear of the honour done to their chairman, for they knew that his great abilities deserved acknowledgement, and fitted him to the highest position to which he might be raised. As regards Mr Murray they all knew what a painstaking man he was, and how he interested himself in all that concerned the district, and they all hoped that both gentlemen would long be spared to fill the offices to which they had been elected.

In his reply, Alderman JENKINS said he had listened to their words of congratulation with feelings which partook of the nature both of pleasure and regret. He had entered into the contest very unwillingly, and had opposed Mr Murray on special grounds. He had been strongly opposed to coming forward as a candidate for the County Council, for by so doing he would oppose a gentleman with whom he had been friendly for many years; and it was only after a great deal of pressure had been brought to bear on him, and after being strongly urged by many ratepayers, that he came forward. Even when elected an Alderman, he was not very desirous of occupying that position, but was content to remain as a County Councillor, and told the Council that he did not think his constituents would be dissatisfied with him if he remained a plain Councillor. But he was told that if he accepted the Aldermanship he would have two strings to his bow, as there would be another Councillor elected. He looked upon being elected an Alderman, as the representative of this district, as a post of great honour. He was not a native of the place, but he had been here for 20 years, and had worked for 20 years of his mature life in the district, but had never expected that he would be the Alderman of that district in preference to any other person. He felt the honour, and thanked them for their congratulations. He hoped that he would do credit to the Aldermanship, as he hoped he had done credit to himself and the district in the 20 years which he had lived in that district. (Hear, hear).

Councillor MURRAY said he did not think it was necessary for him to say much. He was very glad that Mr Jenkins had expressed a good feeling towards him. In the contests he had fought against Mr Jenkins and Mr Davison, he felt sure that both those gentlemen would say that he had fought fairly and had not hit below the belt. In the two elections he had obtained the friendship of many people whom he had not known well before. During both contests no unpleasant words had fallen from his lips, nor had he experienced any from his opponents. In the first instance he was satisfied in being beaten by a better man than himself, and in the last instance was more highly satisfied in being victorious. (Hear, hear).

The meeting then terminated.

Late Advertisement.

WANTED a Good GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply to the Guardian Office.

WANTED, a Strong SERVANT GIRL.—Apply to GIDEON MURRAY, Dipton.

TO LET, and entered on immediately, a COTTAGE HOUSE, containing Three Rooms with large Garden.—Apply, G. MAKEPEACE, Todd Hills, near Consett.

WANTED by WM. HUTCHINSON AND CO. Drapers, 4, Middle Street, Consett, an ERRAND BOY, also two smart Girls as APPRENTICES.

"TABLEAUX VIVANTS" AT DIPTON AND LEADGATE.

The Public Hall at Dipton was packed by between 800 and 900 people on Saturday night, when the first exhibition of *tableaux vivants* or "Living waxworks" was given by the members and friends of St. John the Evangelist's New Church at Dipton, in aid of the funds for liquidating the debt resting upon the sacred fabric. It will be remembered that a similar entertainment was organised last year, and was reproduced with a great measure of success in Dipton, Consett, Leadgate, and the surrounding places, the performances being witnessed by over 1,600 persons. Judging from the inaugural entertainment, there is every prospect of the present entertainment being overwhelmingly successful. There are 67 figures, arranged into different groups so as to represent all classes in the British Empire, attired in appropriate costumes. Each group is brilliantly illuminated with the tableau light, and coupled with the brilliancy of the dresses, and their glittering embellishments, the effect is considerably heightened. The following is the classification of the figures:—

GROUP I.

"Britannia," Miss Cooper; "Joan of Arc," Miss G. Cater; "Rock of Ages," Miss Gillies; "Father Christmas," Mr H. Prevell; "Grace Darling," Miss Robinson; "Little Hero," Mr J. J. Hardy; "Health Crowning," Miss G. J. Harrison, "Beauty," Miss Teasdale; "Robber," Mr F. Hardy, "Queen Margaret," Miss Pringle," and "Little Son," Master R. Maude; "Old Man," Mr W. Daglish, "His Wife," Miss Thornton, "Little Boy," Master Riddle, and "The Prodigal," Mr F. Turnbull; "Florence Nightingale," Miss Compton, "The Wounded Soldier," Mr R. Simpson, and "Comrade," Mr H. Teasdale.

GROUP II.

"Columbus," Mr J. R. Curry; "Mary Queen of Scots," Miss Robinson; "May Queen," Miss Coulthard, "Attendant (1)," Miss Goodway, "Attendant (2)" Miss M. Cragie, "Attendant (3)," Miss A. Ramsey, "Attendant (4)," Miss Adams; "King Alfred," Mr J. Thompson; "Prince Charles," Mr Henry Maude, "Flora McDonald," Miss G. Cater; "Dick Whittington," Miss C. Thornton; "Rebecca," Miss Kidd, and "Rowena," Miss G. Prevell; "Cleopatra," Miss Prevell; "Justice," Miss Gillies; "Jack Sprat," Mr F. Turnbull, "His Wife," Miss F. Rumney; "Shoe Black," Master William Prevell.

GROUP III.

"China," Miss Pringle; "Hindoo," Mr Hy. Maude; "Red Indian," Mr F. Turnbull; "England," Miss F. Prevell; "Australia," Mr F. Hardy," "New Zealand," Mr Ward; "Scotland," Miss P. Murray; "Ireland," Miss E. Coulthard; "Cape Colony," Mr H. Teasdale; "Wales," Miss L. Murray; "General Gordon," Mr R. Simpson; "Canada," Miss B. Kennedy; "Cyprus," Miss Thornton; "Buffalo Bill," Mr J. R. Curry.

GROUP IV.

"Uncle Toby," Mr Robinson, "Nephew," Master W. Prevell, "Neices," Miss A. Prevell, Miss Ramsay, and Miss Adams; "Mother Siegal,' Mrs Curtis; 'Fortune Teller,' Miss Robinson, and "Victim," Miss Chapman; "Happy as a King," Master R. Maude; "Queen of Hearts," Miss E. Chapman, "The Knave," Sambo; "Guy Fawkes," Mr J. Hardy; "Beggar Maid," Miss G. Prevell, "King Cophetua, Mr W. Hardy; "Tom Thumb," Master A. Murray, "His Wife," Miss C. Kerr; "County Councillor," Master A. Coulthard.

Mr H. Prevell, head master of the Collierley Board Schools, acts as *entrepeneur*, and favours with an interesting and lucid description of each figure; while his assistant (Mr George Thornton) as "Sambo," with his face blackened, produces roars of merriment by his unexhaustible store of wit and humour. Selections of violin music were given at intervals by the Messrs Duncan. The *finale* was a magnificent sight, when every one of the figures assembled themselves on the platform and sung the National Anthem. The representation of the picture of "Uncle Toby" with his little family around him, was really a treat, and the others were equally as good. The entertainment proved to be such an unparallelled success, that the energetic Vicar (Rev R. Tuson) has made arrangements for its reproduction at an early date at Annfield Plain, Tantobie, and Burnopfield. The ladies and gentlemen who have been instrumental in providing such an admirable evening's entertainment for the delectation of their patrons, deserve every encouragement for their commendable endeavours, and we can only express the fervent hope that the debt resting upon the church will be considerably reduced if not entirely diminished.

The entertainment was reproduced on Tuesday night, in the Infants' School, Leadgate. There was a very good company present. The figures on this stage were shown off to advantage, and looked ever so much better than they did at Dipton. The dressing of the individuals we might say is a great improvement from last year. They seem to have got a great deal more knowledge as to what is really wanted. Messrs Prevell, Stephenson, and Maude have taken a great interest in getting up this entertainment, and deserve our highest praise. The audience was very enthusiastic, and many said that it was really the best entertainment that had been given in the neighbourhood. We wish our Dipton friends every success.

NEW LITERARY INSTITUTE. — On Saturday afternoon, a new Literary Institute was opened at Pelton Fell Colliery. The proceedings commenced in the afternoon, when the president (Mr H. Armstrong), the vicar of Pelton Rev H. H. Birley), and Rev E. Savage, of Hartlepool (late vicar of Pelton), addressed the meeting.—Mr J. Batey, secretary, gave a brief outline of the progress of the institute, since its commencement 26 years ago.—A tea and entertainment followed.—The building comprises large hall and rooms for reading, smoking and billiards.

TO-MORROW'S FOOTBALL.

FIXTURES.—SATURDAY, MARCH 9TH.

Consett v Tyne Dock, at Tyne Dock.
Consett 2nd v Durham City 2nd, at Consett.
Medomsley v Durham University, at Durham.
Leadgate Exiles v Worswick Rovers (Newcastle), at Leadgate.
Leadgate Park v Cornsay, at Leadgate.
Lintzford v Sunderland Olympic, at Sunderland.
Bearpark Rovers v Sunderland St. Cuthbert's, at Bearpark.
Tanfield Lea v Dipton Wanderers, at Dipton.
Hamsteels v Durham Y.M.C.A., at Durham.
Pelton Fell Harriers v Newfield Wanderers, at Newfield.
Hamsterley v Mickley, at Hamsterley.
Mickley 2nd v Newburn 2nd, at Mickley.
Birtley 2nd v Sunderland St. Bennett's, at Birtley.

MEDOMSLEY v DURHAM UNIVERSITY.—These teams will meet on the University ground to-morrow (Saturday). Unfortunately, the visitors will not be able to play their full strength, but will place a good team in the field and do their utmost to give their strong opponents a good game. The following will play for Medomsley—Goal, W G Thompson; backs, J Whitwell (right) and W. Barron (left); half-backs, J Wallace (right), M. Charlton (centre), and G Moon (left); forwards, G Walton (outside right), Rev E G F Macpherson (inside right), J Ross (centre), J Hunter (capt.) (inside left), T D Dales (outside left). Umpire, Mr J Cant. Kick-off at 2-30.

LEADGATE PARK v CORNSAY.—In this match, to be played at Leadgate to-morrow (Saturday), the following will represent the home team:—Goal, R Westhorpe; backs, J Wilson and A Graham; half-backs, R Dixon, T Hewitt, and T Makepeace; forwards, J B Robson and A. Burnhope, right wing; F Jackson (capt.), centre; W Dixon and T Kennedy, left wing. Umpire, Mr W Brears.

BEARPARK ROVERS v SUNDERLAND ST. CUTHBERT'S.—The latter team will journey to Bearpark to play the Rovers to-morrow (Saturday). The visitors will be strongly represented, and as the home club (who have one of the best local teams in the county) will place a good eleven in the field, an excellent exposition of the dribbling code should result. Bearpark—Goal, G Strong; backs, J Morgan (capt.) and T Warlow; half-backs, R Hellery, F Morgan, and H Golightly; forwards, J Warlow, J Carter, T Egglestone, T Reed, and J G Warlow. Umpire, Mr R Morton. Kick-off at 3.

TANFIELD LEA v DIPTON WANDERERS. — These teams will meet at Dipton to-morrow (Saturday), when a good game should be witnessed. Teams:—Tanfield Lea—Goal, T Christopher; backs, J Robbs and W Milburn; half-backs, J Brown, J McDonald, and J Gailes; forwards, J Leadbitter and T Robson, right wing; R Holmes, centre; J Milburn and N Gailes, left wing. Umpire, Mr J Ridley. Wanderers—Goal, A Temple; backs, J Walker and A Dodds; half-backs, R Wilson, R Brewis, and E Buck; forwards, W Turner, D Crozier, J Jardine, J Evans, and J Walker. Umpire, Mr R Freck.

CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY WEARSIDER].

Shrove Tuesday football has been the all-absorbing topic this week. The battle between the Upstreeters and the Downstreeters was fought out in earnest on Tuesday, and we—the Downstreeters—were thoroughly beaten from start to finish. Not that our opponents had a sort of runaway win by any means. The battle was the hardest and keenest ever seen, and although our side did all they knew to win, it was of no avail—we were defeated, and we must accept our defeat with the best possible grace, giving every credit to our victorious opponents for their plucky and fair play, and hope to wipe out the defeat next year.

There are any number of incidents showing how good-naturedly this battle royal is fought out; but one of the most striking occurred at the Workhouse. Late in the afternoon, when the excitement was at fever pitch, and the players were each and all literally boiling over, the ball by some means got kicked or thrown over the Workhouse rails, where the bairns were assembled to see the fun. Now if the ball had gone into anybody's front garden, scores of eager players would have swarmed over the palisading without ceremony. But in this case not a man attempted to climb the rails, or even to go through the gate. All hands stopped, and the bairns began to kick the ball about; but the Master appeared on the scene and threw the ball back into the street. A few knowing ones, however, quickly sent the ball into the front again, and all the children had a kick, also had the female officials of the House, amid the laughter and enjoyment of the crowd.

All sorts and conditions of men, from the street corner man to the professional gentleman join in the game. It is a mighty leveller for the time being is our Shrovetide game. At one time, just under the window of the Crown Inn, there was a great scrimmage, and in the midst of it could be seen a "bobby," a soldier, a post-office messenger, and a North-Eastern porter, all in one miscellaneous heap, and all sporting the livery of their respective positions. A little further away, and you might have seen a dominie in collision with one of his pupils. Ever and anon, in the midst of the almost hatless crowd, you could observe a bald head bobbing up and down, and from among the legs of the men would creep half-a-dozen youngsters who were determined to "have their kick." Shift the kaleidoscope, and you see a civic dignitary from a neighbouring city, pushing into the crowd to have one—just one kick. Five minutes later, you find him gasping for breath against a barricaded window. His "corporation," which is of aldermanic proportions, fails to support the wish of his heart.

"Off 'she' goes"—the ball is always spoken of as "she"—and the time we have been commiserating with the "Alderman" "she is gone up street." But she stops in the neighbourhood of the King's Head, and some adventurer in search of fame and beer—boldly kicks her into the house, where she was welcomed by the feminine portion of the establishment, and two minutes later the blushing maiden appears at the door and kicks her out again. A little further up—for she is still going "up-over"—a member of the masher fraternity essays a kick, but he collides violently with a hardy workman, and down he goes among the mud, which is three or four inches deep. His fancy stick, with shepherd's crook handle, flies in one direction, his dandy hat in another, and when he manages to get himself gathered up the game is far away from him, and his appearance is anything but satisfactory—if we may judge from his lisping mutterings.

But one might go on for ever almost, recounting the little funniosities of the game. The most satisfactory feature of the whole matter is that there never is a serious accident. People get themselves kicked and pulled about, and all stiff and sore for a day or two, but no thing of the nature of a permanent injury happens, although there are hundreds of players and thousands of spectators.

Joseph Moore, a prominent inhabitant of Indiana, and agent for the Connecticut Life Insurance Company of Hartford, is a defaulter for 500,000dol. He has made over his property, thus reducing the deficiency to 400,000dol. It is stated that he had been speculating.

The Shrewsbury police are busily engaged in endeavouring to discover the perpetrator of an outrage upon Mrs. Burton, of Longnor Hall. When walking in the fields near to her residence, she was overtaken by a man, who addressed her in an insolent manner and savagely assaulted her. She screamed for assistance, whereupon the fellow tried to force his cap into her mouth, and to throw her down. After a severe struggle she was able to release herself, and the miscreant decamped.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT. — Soldiers and Sailors.—These well-known and easily used remedies are especially serviceable and convenient for those who, like soldiers and sailors, are exposed to great changes of climate, and the hardships inseparable from their calling. Many of the diseases engendered in the system from these and other untoward causes can be checked and controlled by attention at their onset, and in Holloway's remedies will be found a ready means of relief, without hindrance from duty. Many a man is invalided and rendered more or less a burden to himself and friends from neglect of the early symptoms of his complaint, which calamity might be averted by timely resort to the use of Holloway's Pills and Ointment.

LADIES' COLUMN.

The thermometer is always an important consideration when the first Court Drawing-room is held. This year, in spite of the weather warnings, ladies hurried up to London to be present at the first State ceremonial of the present year. The Queen, it is known, will be at Biarritz when the second Drawing-room is held, and those *debutantes* who wish to be able to say afterwards that their presentation at Court was made to her Majesty in person, made a point of going to Buckingham Palace on Tuesday last. Though the personal popularity of the Princess of Wales is beyond all question, so long as Queen Victoria is sovereign of England she holds the first place in public life.

The West End streets were all life and bustle on Monday from an early hour, while crowds of people were on foot betimes to obtain a glimpse of the two Empresses on their drive from Paddington to Buckingham Palace. The intention of the Imperial ladies to drive to Fulham to see the statue of the late Emperor Frederick at Mr. Boehm's studio was not generally known, so the human tide flowed down into Bond-street and the adjoining streets where the dresses for the following day were being packed and despatched.

Not for many seasons have the Court milliners had so few dresses on view, but this is accounted for by the number that had been made last year for the Drawing-room the arrangements for which were cancelled at the last moment. The most beautiful of the new dresses were those in which gold and silver brocades played the greater part. The finest trains were of cream satin with a silk brocade design thrown up lightly, outlined with silver, just sufficient to give brilliancy, but yet scarcely defined, only very delicately indicated. Brocades in which the silver or bullion thread was interwoven in masses have quite disappeared, and these light and elegant varieties taken their places. The heavy designs lent themselves badly to such ornament as flowers, feathers, lace, or ribbon. The tracery pattern, on the contrary, make a beautiful background for huge bunches of ostrich tips mixed with bows of satin ribbon placed at intervals down the sides of the long trains.

One very pretty Court dress had a skirt of white tulle, plain, but very full, finished round the bottom with a broad hem with three rows of floss silk heading it. Over the skirt fell front panels of ivory white faille française, which fell apart in the centre, revealing the tulle skirt, the opening bordered with broad white ostrich trimming which was repeated on the bodice and sleeves. The skirt was decorated with small bunches of green grapes and vine leaves, informally arranged upon the fronts and sides.

Though the Court trains are as long as ever, there is a slight reduction in width, which is in favour of the wearers when they have to be carried up on the arm. Three widths of broché are now enough for a train, between the outer silk and the lining a thick wadding being inserted to prevent roping, and a thick ruching of tulle or silk—if the latter, a glacé silk, pinked out and quilled thickly in what is called a chickory ruching—which keeps the train from dragging close to the ground.

Details of Court dresses may not interest every reader; but bouquets, for the sake of the delicious flowers of which they are composed, come home to everyone. After visiting several showrooms in Bond-street last Monday, we ended our afternoon at the famous florist's to whom so many wedding and Drawing-room orders are entrusted. In no social custom of the present day have such advances been made as in bouquets. Long ago, families with fine conservatories and skilful gardeners prided themselves on the display of flowers they could make on such a great family occasion as a wedding. When real orange blossoms had to be imported for the bride's dress and bouquet, the fact was announced in all the fashionable journals, and the bride was considered to have touched a very great altitude above other brides of her own social standing. Steam and the parcels post have bridged distances, and luxury has crept on apace. The family gardener would no more be trusted to mount the bouquets than would the lady's maid be permitted to make the wedding dress. The florist is an artist, and he makes his designs, and mixes his colours subtly, with great intent and purpose.

For such an occasion as a Court Drawing-room, the bouquets are kept carefully concealed from the audacious copyist who hangs about ready to pirate a grand model. Being trusted visitors, we were allowed to hang over a staircase rail and peep down the steps to the lower story, where the work was being done. The blended fragrance of quantities of delicious flowers ascended, preceding the assistants who carried up, far enough for us to see and admire, the huge globular masses of flowers, rich in varied colours, with the bows and ends of watered ribbon which now it is usual to mix with the flowers. The flat table-topped bouquet is dead and gone. The cruel destruction of flowers by cutting off the heads and impaling them on wires is now looked upon as a barbarism. Nature, who grows the flowers on graceful willowy stems, is allowed to assert herself, and the flowers are arranged in groups massed at the stems in what professionals call a "loose bouquet." "The new colours in the dresses," said the artist, in an anxious voice, "are a perpetual anxiety. We are obliged to keep pace with both the milliner and the dressmaker. Orchids are very valuable and very costly, but then they endure. Our bouquets can be worn several times if necessary, and they travel all over Europe without fading." No lady now carries a bouquet of miscellaneous flowers. In the old Minerva Press novels the heroine used to go out with her scissors and snip off blossoms in the greenhouse. Conservatory is a term comparatively modern. The artist's heroine always brought in her flowers in her lap, which, considering appearances, was not quite conventional. No modern head gardener would allow such marauding, nor would a young lady venture on such an undisciplined description of bouquet. The artistic florist is now a necessity, the outcome of modern civilisation.

Our first visit was to the Goupil Galleries to see the collection of Corôts. The modern French artists, especially those of the school of taste calling themselves *Impressionistes*, have a manner of talking of themselves as if they had invented art. Therefore it is good to go and study the works of the early French painters from whom these ungrateful moderns have learned so much. Corôt dates back as an individual to the last century, as an artist to the early days of the present one. In 1875 he died, after 78 years of life and more than half a century of such work as modern France is not likely to see again. "Corôt," says the catalogue," was the artist poet of the morning and the evening, the delightful painter of twilight, of rosy dawn, and dewy eve; he was the man of all others who could paint the atmosphere, the aqueous vapours of the rivers and lakes, and the mists of the valley; and who could invest every landscape he produced with a romanticism which is thoroughly wonderful."

From the Corôt collection we moved on to the Fine Arts Society's rooms, to see a collection of Dutch pictures, the choicest specimens of the modern school, pictures which would require a whole column devoted to their eulogy alone.

At Messrs. Dowdeswell we had Mr. A. Ludovici's series of oil sketches of London Life, the homely subjects seized in everyday street life, in the West-end thoroughfares, in the East-end, or behind the scenes of pantomime rehearsal.

Entirely different in thought and in expression were the artists who hung the corridor walls also in the Dowdeswell Galleries. Mr. B. J. M. Donne has searched the Austrian and Italian Tyrol for subjects, and those who know how he loves and lingers in Alpine scenery will understand the fascination exercised by his collection. On the opposite wall we were again at home in Mr. C. E. Hern's "London Churches," the exteriors of the buildings which we pass by so often, yet cease to note how picturesque many of them are. Mr. Hern has drawn all the styles and all the periods from Sir Christopher Wren to Sir Gilbert Scott, and drawn them charmingly. AURORA.

ANNFIELD PLAIN AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[BY "ANNFIELDITE."]

The Durham County Council have held their adjourned meeting, and I am pleased to know that our local men are so deeply interesting themselves in their new sphere of labour. Mr J. A. Curry, it may be said, is trying his best to understand what are the wants of this district, and I feel sure he is just the man to look after the interests of the people who have elected him, and I know of no man who is more disposed to help the local interests of his constituents. He is of Methodist descent, and does not forget to acknowledge the same in more ways than one. I hope he may long continue to act in the honourable position of County Councillor. There is great praise due to him for his earnest and persevering efforts since he came as a young man into this neighbourhood. He is a go-ahead kind of man, and a truly working-man's friend and representative on the School Board, Board of Guardians, and County Council, and will do them great credit in these positions.

The Primitive Methodists at Greencroft have succeeded in building a beautiful and comfortable chapel in which to worship, and it reflects great credit on them. This has been a long-felt want in this little village for many years past. I felt pleased the other day when I entered this neat structure and saw how well it was adapted for both Sunday School and chapel services. I thought what great changes since the first time I was at that place some 30 years ago. I hope the friends will be able to do a good work now that they have got such a commodious place in which to worship. I hear it is to be opened by Rev J. Taylor.

The Annfield Plain Orchestral Band had a good "do" last week in the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Annfield Plain. They do well do those young men, and are a great blessing to the district. They deserve the sympathy of all around. I suppose they are not quite up to the mind of the Salvation Army "captain." He was seeking their help, but could not tolerate their profane music. I can only say that it would be well if the Army had music in any way equal to it.

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Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

CONSETT.—Delves Terrace, 28th ult., the wife of William Johnson, mason, of a daughter.

Gibson Street, on the 4th inst, the wife of James C. Hudson (foreman at the *Guardian* Office) of a son.

TOW LAW.—Dans Castle, 21st ult., the wife of R. Wilkinson, of a daughter.

Bridge Street, 22nd ult., the wife of John Elliott, of twins—sons.

Grove Road, 24th ult., the wife of William Hope, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

BLACKHILL.—St Mary's Roman Catholic Church, 28th ult., by Rev Father White, William McElevey, of Newcastle-on-Tyne (formerly of Consett) to Bridget McKenna, of Consett.

LANCHESTER — Register Office, 2nd inst, Mark Watson to Isabella Eastwood, both of Redwell Hills. — Same day, Stephen Brown, Blackhill, to Jane Robinson, Castleside—Same day, John Ferguson to Mary Blackburn, Catchgate.

CHESTER-LE-STREET. — Register Office, 16th ult., Frederick Nayler to Elizabeth Warren, both of Waldridge.—Same day, Thomas Hall to Margt. Fletcher, both of Lumley.—Same day, John Pounder to Annie Robinson, both of Sacriston.

Wesleyan Chapel, 18th ult., by the Rev J. V. Sutton, Mark Cheetham, of Grangeville, to Jane Wass, of Moss House, Pelton.

PELTON FELL.—Wesleyan Chapel, 16th ult., by Rev J. Charlesworth, Mark Richardson, West Pelton, to Miss Isabella J. Robson, Brecon Hill.

DEATHS.

CONSETT.—2, Front Street, on the 8th inst, aged 8 years, Margaret Elizabeth Wiles. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday, at Half-past Two. Friends please accept this intimation.

CONSETT—Church Street, 3rd inst, aged 42, Jane Barrow, milliner.

BLACKHILL.—3, Bessemer Street, on the 5th inst., aged 84 years, Mary, widow of the late Rev Moses Lupton. To be interred at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Saturday afternoon, at three o'clock. Friends please accept this intimation.

6, St George's Place, 2nd inst., aged 79, Joseph Smart.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE—6, Wood Street, 2nd inst, aged 57 years, Ellen, the beloved wife of John Wood.

EBCHESTER—5th inst, aged 69, Alice, wife of William Snowdon.

WINLATON—27th ult, aged 67, Jane, widow of the late Thos. Wainright.

SWALWELL—28th ult, aged 80, Hannah, wife of the late Ralph Thynn.

MARLEY HILL—High Row, 4th inst, aged 24, Annie, wife of Thomas Hardy.

PRUDHOE STATION.—4th inst, aged 20, Elizabeth, daughter of George Hodgson.

CRAGHEAD—23rd ult., aged 26, Gertrude wife of Hugh Young.

BURNOPFIELD—Queen's Head Inn, 27th ult., aged 55, Elizabeth, widow of the late Matthew Hetherington.

28th ult, Arthur, husband of Robina Mullen.

RYTON—Barmoor, 28th ult, aged 52, Charlotte Mary, widow of the late Henry Lawson, Crawcrook.

EDMONDSLEY—26th ult, aged 70, Catherine, wife of Mr Wm Graham.

WYLAM—Daniel Farm, 3rd inst, in his 88th year, William Johnson.

PELTON—20th ult wife of Mr N. Chapman.

WEARDALE—Eastgate, 19th ult., aged 73, Thomas Phillipson.

Windy Side, 15th ult., aged 50, Joshua Dawson, leadminer.

Newhouse, 3rd inst, aged 59, Margaret, widow of the late Robert Hedley

CHESTER-LE-STREET. — 14th ult., aged 84, Simon Robinson.

18th ult., aged 52, Robinson Simpson.

18th ult., aged 81, George Moore.

18th ult, aged 79, Miss Hannah Pearson.

25th ult., aged 83, James Box.

LUMLEY.—17th inst., aged 84 years, Mrs Isabella Jackson.

26th ult., aged 63, Alice, wife of John Anderson.

PELTON FELL — 23rd ult, aged 27, Frances Hannah Potts.

(Residence of John Ramsay) 3rd inst, aged 74, John Raine.

2nd inst, aged 62, William Longridge

ALDIN GRANGE—Jane, wife of Robert Kell

QUEBEC.—Front Street, William, husband of Agnes Ward.

OUSTON—1st inst, aged 68, Eliza, wife of Thomas Turnbull.

ANDREWS HOUSE—4th inst, aged 3 years, Miles, youngest son of Ralph Robinson

NEW WASHINGTON—Branch of the Birtley Co-operative Society, aged 36, suddenly, John George Taylor, late manager

HARLOW MANOR—28th ult, aged 67 years, John Milling.

AUSTRALIA—Jan 22nd, aged 35 (killed by a fall of stone in the pit at Lithgow), Thomas Stokoe, late of Urpeth

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the 28th inst.; and also for the SUPPLY
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various articles required, may be had on a
to the undersigned, to whom Tenders wi
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