R[...]ERT JACKSO[...]S
CHEAP [P]RINTING & STATIONERY ESTABLISHMENTS,
59, FRONT STREET, and 21, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT.
Agent for Dipton :—MR. THOMAS CLARK South Medomsley Cottages.
Agent for Stanley :—Mr. M. G. ARMSTRONG Newsagent, Havanna Post Office.

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 1,749. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, March 9th 1894. PRICE ONE PENNY.

DOWSON'S, WINTER SALE.
333m BLACKHILL.

Contracts.

TO BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS.—FOR SALE, SAND of superior quality, also GRAVEL for concrete. Sent to any station in Consett District.—Apply G. & H. HODGSON, 8, Studley Terrace, Newcastle. 456n

TO CONTRACTORS.

SEWERAGE WORKS AT SOUTH MOOR.

ON MONDAY, the 12th inst., PLANS and SPECIFICATION may be seen at this office for Sewerage Works, Manholes, Lampholes, &c. at South Moor, and Tenders will be received by the Architect up to Friday, the 16th inst. Quantities will be supplied but no pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

J. WM. ROUNTHWAITE, A.R.I.B.A. Architect, Blackhill.
536n

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE GUARDIANS of the POOR of the LANCHESTER UNION invite TENDERS for SUPPLYING the WORKHOUSE at Lanchester with FLOUR, GROCERIES, BUTCHER MEAT, COAL, COFFINS, &c., for Twenty-seven Weeks, from the 29th instant.

And also for the CARTAGE of LIMESTONE from the Railway Station for Twelve Months from the same date.

Forms of Tender, specifying the Quantities of the various Articles required, may be had on application to the undersigned, to whom sealed and endorsed Tenders should be sent through the post, on or before the 14th instant. Samples, as far as practicable, should be sent to the Union Office, not later than 10 a.m. on Thursday, the 15th instant.

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

WM. H. RITSON, Clerk to Guardians.
Lanchester, March 1st, 1894.

Lost.

LOST at Knitsley, on Saturday last, an ORANGE and WHITE RUSSIAN TERRIER. Detention after this notice will incur prosecution.—Apply 67, FRONT STREET, Consett. 516n

Wanted.

WANTED, a Strong BOY.—Apply G. J. ROBINSON, Grocer, Blackhill. 558a

WANTED a GENERAL SERVANT.—Apply to 31, Newmarket Street, Consett. 544a

WANTED, Two respectable YOUNG LADIES to learn the Dressmaking.—Apply immediately to Messrs GEO. RICHARDSON and SON, Shotley Bridge.

WANTED, a Strong LAD, about 17 years of age, to Drive Milk Cart, and do general Farm Work.—Apply, F. BLAIR, Whinney House Farm, Shotley Bridge.

TAILORS' MACHINIST WANTED by the Consett Co operative Society. Written applications to be sent in on or before the 19th inst., stating wage and experience.—ED. HUNTLEY, Secretary.

WANTED, TO PURCHASE a Four or Five-roomed HOUSE, between the Railway Bridge, Durham Road, and St Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill—Apply, stating full particulars and price, to A B C, *Guardian* Office, Consett. 477a

AGENCY.—For good GENERAL SERVANTS apply at the SERVANTS' REGISTRY OFFICE, 13, Front Street, Consett. 29k

COLLIERY OFFICIALS and MINERS of all ranks and ages. Lessons by Post. The surest road to promotion. Send Penny Stamp for Syllabus. —T. A. SOUTHERN, M.E., late H.M. Inspector of Mines, the Universal Mining School, Derby. 184m

WANTED, a good WHOLESALE AGENT for Consett and Blackhill District; special terms.—Apply, at once, The New Buckingham and Adams Cycle Company, Ltd., Cycle Manufacturers, 35, Westgate Road (opposite St. John's Church), Newcastle-on-Tyne. GEORGE E. SMITH, Manager. Lists free by Post.

To Let.

FLORAL STUDIES, for Painting from, LET OUT ON HIRE, 3d per Week.—*Guardian* Office, Consett. 284n

TO LET, the large LECTURE HALL in Trafalgar Street, Consett, with a good supply of Gas.—For further particulars apply to 69, FRONT STREET, Consett. 519n

BROADWOOD GRASS PARKS.—The Annual LETTING of the above is fixed for Wednesday, April 25th, 1894. Particulars in later advertisement. —JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer. 590n

HOUSE TO LET, Wheatley Hill, near Burnhope, containing Nine Rooms, Stabling, &c., if necessary.—Apply, G. HOBSON, Harperley Mills, Lintz Green. 300m

DETACHED SEVEN-ROOMED HOUSE and GARDEN, TO LET, or FOR SALE, at Ward's End, near Tow Law, with or without 2-stalled Stable or Byre, and Half-an-acre of Grass.—Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett.

TO LET, in May next, the OLD VICARAGE, at Unthank, with or without 10 Acres of Glebe, good Garden, Stable, and Cow Byre.—Apply, Rev R. W. WILSON, Shotley Vicarage, Blackhill. 379n

TO LET, or on LEASE, HOUSE and LARGE GARDENS, &c., lately occupied by Mr Jacob Rowell, at Cleugh Dean, from May 13th.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton, or Mr J. ROWELL, 57, High Friar Street, Newcastle. 481n

SHOOTING.—TO LET 1,000 to 2,000 acres of MIXED SHOOTING (good rabbit ground: last three years' average annual bag over 1,000 head) with Keeper and Cottage, near Knitsley Station Consett Branch N.E.R.—Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN Woodlands, Consett. 501n

TO LET, ROSE COTTAGE, Hare Law. House with 4 Rooms and Back Kitchen, Cow Byre, Stable, Pig House and Hen Houses, large Garden well stocked with Fruit Trees, and a piece of grass land. There can be two more rooms added to suit a good tenant or made into two houses to suit.—Apply to WM. WILKINSON, Woodhouse Close New Colliery, Bishop Auckland. 509n

"BUTE ARMS" Public House, Garesfield Colliery, TO LET, for a term of 5 years, from the 13th May, 1894, on conditions to be obtained on application. Tenders, addressed to the Consett Iron Company, Limited, Blackhill, Co. Durham, and endorsed "Tenders for Bute Arms," must be sent in to the Company's Office, Blackhill, on or before the 31st day of March, 1894. The Company do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any Tender. Any Tender, except in the case of a Firm or Limited Company, must be accompanied by references as to the character and position of the Tenderer. A copy of the Conditions of Letting can be obtained on application at the Offices of the Company, or of Messrs COOPER and GOODGER, Solicitors, 27, Grey Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

For Sale.

BRICKS and DRAINAGE PIPES at DEARNESS BRICK and TILE WORKS, WATER HOUSES. 269k

FOR SALE, SWEDE TURNIPS.—Apply Town Farm, Medomsley. 511n

FOR SALE.—COB, rising 6 yrs., 15 h.h., good Worker in single and double harness.—R. ASHBY, Dene Bank, Allendale Cottages, Medomsley.

CLOCKS, CLOCKS, Clocks FOR SALE, at Wholesale Prices, for Cash, at F WELCH & Co's, Annfield Plain. 891m

TO INNKEEPERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS, &c.—SPIRIT STOCK RECEIPT and DELIVERY BOOKS, with portions of the Act of Parliament affecting the same. Price 1s, or 1s 1d, post free from ROBERT JACKSON, Printer, Bookseller, and Wholesale Stationer, *Guardian* Office, and 21, Newmarket Street, Consett.

For Sale.

OLD LAND HAY FOR SALE.—About 35 TONS of Prime HAY FOR SALE out of Stack standing at Esomside, near Medomsley.—Apply to W. CHARLTON, Medomsley, R.S.O. 457n

FOR SALE, Copyhold House containing 4 rooms with a piece of land adjoining, situate at Maiden Law, near Lanchester, now in the occupation of Mr Thomas Barrow.—Apply to C. CHAPMAN, Solicitor, 22, Market Place, Durham. 502n

TO BE SOLD, by Private Contract, all that valuable CORNER BLOCK OF PROPERTY, situate in Victoria and Raglan Streets, Consett, with a frontage of about 40 feet in each street, consisting of two good Shops, Kitchens, &c., on the Ground Floor, with Two good Rooms each on the Second Floor, and now in the occupation of Messrs John Askew and George Robson, as Tenants thereof, who will on application show the Premises. The Property is situate on a very valuable Business Site, substantially built, with all necessary conveniences thereto belonging.—Apply to WM. RAW, Auctioneer, Blackhill. 476n

JUDSON'S ENAMEL, all Colours, 6d per tin —ROBERT JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, and 21, Newmarket Street, Consett. 427

TO BUILDERS.—FOR SALE, best SNECKED BLOCKING COURSES, ready for Fixing. Also, BUILDING STONE of all Descriptions.—Apply, Mr DENT, Bearl Quarry, Stocksfield Station.

BASIC SLAG.—THOMAS' PHOSPHATE POWDER, also ALBERTS' BASIC PHOSPHATE POWDER, most reliable Manures. SOLE WHOLESALE AGENTS for Messrs Albert, for Four Northern Counties of England, Berwickshire, Roxburghshire, and Scottish Borders:—
LANGDALE BROTHERS
46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

T. OWEN,
WHOLESALE SADDLER, AND SADDLERS' IRONMONGER,
73, & 77, SIDE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

HAVING moved into his NEW and more EXTENSIVE PREMISES, near his Old Establishment (which has had to give way to Railway Extensions), begs to thank the many Customers who have patronised him so well during the last 12 Years, and to inform them that he is still SELLING at the Cheapest Rate, and Lower than his usual Prices, a large Stock of Harness and Saddlery of every Description:—

HORSE CLOTHING, RUGS, STABLE SHEETS, WATERPROOF CART & WAGGON COVERS, LOIN COVERS, GIG APRONS, GIG LAMPS, CLIPPING MACHINES, and all kinds of Stable Requisites.

SURPLUS SALE FOR 30 DAYS.

T. OWEN also wishes to intimate that, owing to the extensive Premises he has acquired, and which are now undergoing important alterations, he will be able to execute any Order, large or small, by which he may be favoured, with great despatch.

Business Announcements.

BOOKS suitable for PRIZES and SUNDAY SCHOLARS can be had at ROBERT JACKSON'S "GUARDIAN" OFFICE, and 9, NEWMARKET STREET CONSETT.

JAMES FROSDICK is the only Billposter that has rented Stations within the three Local Board districts of Consett, Leadgate, and Benfieldside. Bills Posted and Distributed at the lowest rates. 588

COCKBURN'S
FOR STATIONERY, CONFECTIONERY. FANCY AND USEFUL ARTICLES,
DIARIES, POCKET BOOKS, DAY BOOKS, LEDGERS, SCHOOL REWARDS, BOOKS BOUND, PICTURES FRAMED,
Spectacles for all Sights.
13, FRONT STREET CONSETT.
Agent for the British and Foreign Bible Society.

WEST STANLEY
COCOA ROOMS, VICTORIA THEATRE,
NOTED FOR DINNERS, TEAS, &c., POT PIES, MELTON PIES, PUDDINGS, CAKES, PASTRY, &c.
SPORTS, BALLS, PARTIES CATERED FOR.
Proprietor, L. W. ROWE,
6721 Late of Consett Cocoa Rooms.

MR. JOHN USHER,
LATE
MR. GEO. RICHARDSON, DENTAL SURGEON, 6, BLACKETT STREET,
£1 TO £10
begs to call special attention to the Prices of his PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH, for first-class workmanship and best material, 2s 6d, 5s, 7s 6d per Tooth, £1 to £10 per Set, being lower than what is usually charged for inferior workmanship and common material. EVERY TOOTH GUARANTEED. PLEASE NOTE THE ONLY ADDRESS. 724h

MUSIC EMPORIUM.

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

A First-class Selection of VIOLINS, MELODIONS, CONCERTINAS, BANJOS, GUITARS, MANDOLINES, &c.
VIOLIN STRINGS of very best quality.
BOOKS, TUTORS, CLASSICAL AND CHEAP MUSIC KEPT IN STOCK.
MUSIC LESSONS GIVEN.
Pupils prepared for Theoretical and Practical Examinations.
PIANOS, AMERICAN ORGANS, AND HARMONIUMS TUNED AND REPAIRED.
Note the Address:—
T. JONES,
CHURCH STREET (near the Post Office), CONSETT. 962a

T. MILNER, A.P.S,
DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST, CONSETT,
FOR
FINEST COD LIVER OIL,
PARRISH'S CHEMICAL FOOD
Extract of Malt and Cod Liver Oil.
INFLUENZA MIXTURE.
BLOOD PURIFIER.
TIC AND NEURALGIA MIXTURE.
Invalid Beef and Malt Wines.
AGENT FOR LAURANCE'S SPECTACLES.
Trusses, Bandages, and Elastic Stockings.
SEE SPECIAL LIST FOR SHEEP DIPS.
Horse and Cattle Medicines, &c.
A Derwent Farmer says "I have used your Farm Bottle for several years for Horses, Sheep, and Cattle, and always recommend it."
Price 1s, and 2s 6d Per Bottle.
POSTAL ORDERS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

Business Announcements.

SEND TO THE POST OFFICE

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

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

MARBLE AND CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95 PERCY STREET.

LOOK TO YOUR TEETH
FOR HEALTH AND APPEARANCE.
FOR EATING AND SPEAKING.
THE BEST QUALITY AT THE LOWEST PRICE.
FIXED TO THE MOUTH WITHOUT PAIN.
COMFORT AND FIT GUARANTEED.
THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.
CONSETT BRANCH.
ATTENDANCE EVERY SATURDAY FROM 3 TO 6 P.M.,
MR. COCKBURN'S, STATIONER, 13 AND 14, FRONT STREET.
(SIDE DOOR).

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.
GEORGE RICHARDSON & SON,
WHOLESALE DRAPERS,
Beg to announce that their
ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE
Will commence on
SATURDAY, MARCH 10th, AND CONTINUE FOR 14 DAYS.
GREAT BARGAINS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

DOBSON GRADON,
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, & OPTICIAN,
BLACKHILL.
HIGHEST QUALITY ENGLISH SILVER LEVER WATCHES, £2 5s. 0d. BEST MATERIAL AND WORKMANSHIP GUARANTEED.
SILVER LEVER WATCHES FROM 20s. ALL WARRANTED
OPTICS A SPECIALITY—EVERY DEFECT OF VISION ACCURATELY TESTED AND CORRECTED.
WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

JOHN HUME & SON,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
CORN MERCHANTS, BREAD BAKERS, AND CONFECTIONERS.
TRY THEIR ORIGINAL
OPTIMUS HORSE MIXTURE,
Which is perfectly cleaned by special machinery. Do not be led away by other and cheaper Mixtures claiming to be the same.
ORDERS TAKEN FOR
BRIDES LOAVES, BIRTHDAY CAKES, SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEAS, &c.
ALL KINDS OF BREAD AND CONFECTIONERY FRESH DAILY.
OUSEBURN MILLS;
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE JOHN GRIFFITHS CYCLE CORPORATION, LIMITED.
Have the Sole Agency in the North (for a term of Years from 1st January, 1894) for the World-Famed
HUMBER CYCLES,
BEESTON AND OTHER GRADES.
Do not be misled by old patterns or poor imitations.
"FACTS ARE STUBBORN THINGS," and the HUMBER SAFETY and the DUNLOP TYRE hold the English Mile Record.
SINGLETON HOUSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

FARMERS
BEFORE GIVING THEIR ORDERS ELSEWHERE WILL DO WELL TO INSPECT
G. HOBSON'S
LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF
ALL KINDS OF SEEDS,
OF THE VERY BEST QUALITY, AT THE LOWEST POSSIBLE PRICES.
HARPERLEY AND CATCHGATE MILLS.
Post: LINTZ GREEN, R.S.O.
PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.
Agent for Agricultural Implements of all kinds, including the
PATENT BROADCAST HAND SEED SOWER.

Business Announcements.

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

RESPECTFULLY begs to inform the inhabitants of Consett, Stanley, and surrounding District that he visits as usual at MRS. JONES', 10, Mount Pleasant, Consett, every MONDAY, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and at MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, Stanley, every FRIDAY from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH

Made with all the Latest Improvements, at the Lowest Possible Price that Good Teeth can be made for with the Best Materials. Old Sets Re-made and Repaired on his own system, guaranteed to be as good and strong as new.

All Teeth Extracted Painlessly by his recent discovery, which is perfectly harmless, thus avoiding the danger of the old system by the use of Cocaine.

W. T. SMITH thoroughly guarantees all his work for 5 years, and a written guarantee will be given when required; and as he has now been practising in Newcastle and District for 15 years, it will be seen that he has a permanent Address at 19, Eldon Square, where he can always be found, as guarantees are of no value from others who have no permanent place, but simply visit the district for a time, and leave no address. Train Fare will be allowed to all Patients desiring to come to Newcastle, where they can, at times, consult me personally.

REMEMBER THE ADDRESSES—
MRS. JONES'S, 10, Mount Pleasant, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY from 11 to 5.
AND AT
MRS. SMITH'S, 48, Long Row, STANLEY, EVERY FRIDAY, from 11 to 5

SALE. SALE. SALE.
THE 2 W.'S
GREAT CLEARANCE SALE
NOW PROCEEDING.
GREAT REDUCTIONS OF WINTER STOCK.
MARVELLOUS PRICES. SEE THE WINDOWS.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
THE 2 W.'S,
24, NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, AND NEWCASTLE.

ARTIFICIAL TEETH.
S. H. HORSEY.
105, SANDYFORD ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE,
ATTENDS
CONSETT every Saturday, at Mr BROWN'S, 8, Newmarket Street, 1 till 5.
STANLEY every Monday, at Mr THOMAS ARMSTRONG'S, Front Street, 1 till 5.
CRAGHEAD every Thursday, at Mr HOPE'S, Grocer, 10 30 till 11 30.
WEST PELTON every Thursday, at Mr BUGLASS, 10, High-Hold, 12 till 1 30.
PELTON FELL every Thursday, at Mr JOSEPH YOUNG'S, 32, North Row, 3 till 4 30.
English and American ARTIFICIAL TEETH at moderate prices, and all work guaranteed.
TEETH PAINLESSLY EXTRACTED, 1s.
S. H. HORSEY takes this opportunity of stating that he is in no way connected with any other firm, and all patients may rely on seeing him personally and not inexperienced assistants. 301n

S. A. FAIRLESS,
WISHES to inform the INHABITANTS of WEST DURHAM that she is now in a position to undertake all kinds of TEAS, PIC-NICS, BALLS, PARTIES, &c. All Goods made on her own Premises, and with the very best Materials. Samples sent on application.
NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
S. A. FAIRLESS,
WEST DURHAM BAKERY, HIGH SPEN, BY LINTZ GREEN. 4481

TAKE NOTICE THAT
JOSEPH MURRAY'S
NEW PREMISES AT HIGH S[PEN]
WILL BE
OPENED
ON THURSDAY, MARCH 15TH, 1894.
WITH A LARGE STOCK OF GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, FLOUR, AND FEEDING STUFFS AT SPECIALLY REDUCED PRICES.
See Small Bills.
THE OLD PREMISES
WILL BE CONTINUED AS A
BOOT, SHOE, AND SLIPPER ESTABLISHMENT,
WHEN WILL BE OFFERED A VERY LARGE STOCK OF THE ABOVE, BOUGHT SPECIALLY FOR THE EASTER TRADE.
COME, SEE, AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELVES. SPLENDID BARGAINS.
JOSEPH MURRAY,
CONSETT, AND SPEN.

MRS CLEMINSON'S SCHOOL, BISHOP AUCKLAND.—English by Certificated Mistresses; Drawing and Painting by the Head Master, Science and Art, Darlington; French by a resident Parisian; Mathematics by a Master and Mistress; Violin and Piano by a Master and Mistresses. Forty-seven University, Local, and other Public Examination Certificates gained during the last three years. The House large and airy; Tennis Lawn and Play-ground.

"SAUCINE," Registered. THIS IS THE SAUCE.
Stomach Persuading.
Liver Invigorating.
Kidney Stimulating.
Nerve Exhilarating.
THIS IS THE SAUCE.
Ask your grocer for "SAUCINE."
Sole maker—J. J. SNAITH, Sauce and Pickle Manufacturer, Tyne Dock, South Shields. 369m

PIANOS!!! ORGANS!!!
WADDINGTON & SONS, 15, PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
Have received SEVENTEEN GOLD MEDALS and other AWARDS at EXHIBITIONS for the EXCELLENCE and SUPERIORITY of their PIANOS
Being large Manufacturers give the purchaser the BENEFIT of BUYING DIRECT from the producer, THUS SAVING the middleman's PROFIT.
We Hold the Highest TESTIMONIAL in the WORLD, given by the distinguished Pianist SIR CHARLES HALLE, and can give 20,000 references to purchasers of their Instruments.
PIANOS From 10s. per Month
AMERICAN ORGANS From 7s. per Month
Second-hand Pianos from £10.
Write or send for Price Lists and Designs.
WADDINGTON & SONS MANUFACTORY, YORK, & AT PARK ROAD, CONSETT.
Manager - JAS. EMERSON
956a

Correspondence.

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

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

Letters for insertion should reach us not late than Wednesday mornings.

CHURCH AND STATE.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I fail to understand why Mr Mole still maintains the truth of his version of the story of "a leading member of the Methodist Church," as he was not present himself, and his evidence can only be hearsay. I should have been quite justified, if I had chosen to send for this member, and I certainly should not have denied it; but, as a matter of fact, I did not send for him as I had no desire to see him.

Mr Mole insinuated in the *Guardian* of Feb. 16th, that some of the members of the committee got drunk at Hamsterley Hall; he now retires from this untenable position, and suggests that they got drunk after leaving the house at 10 p.m. This statement is ridiculous, as public-houses close in this district at 10 p.m.; moreover, Mr Mole cannot mention the name of anyone present at the supper, who arrived home "half seas over early in the morning."

Anyone who cares to look at Mr Mole's letter in the *Guardian* of January 26th can see what he said about royalties. He pretends, that I misquoted him because I omitted the word *if*. I naturally could not quote the whole letter, and omitted the word if because the sentence was in the indicative mood. Mr Mole now alters the quotation to the subjunctive mood; and, of course, in this case, the word if is required, he also substitutes the word *wages* for *labours*. This change of mood alters both the argument and the grammatical construction of the paragraph, and consequently the argument would run something like the following:—"If the wages of working men were unduly taxed to pay exorbitant royalty rents, &c.," then these men might justly claim to be taxed for the support of both gift and giver." Here Mr Mole gives himself away, as he bases his argument on a pure supposition. In fact his reasoning is of the following type. If England were France, then Englishmen might justly claim to be Frenchmen, which is an absurd argument.

In conclusion, sir, I cannot help drawing a contrast between the acrimony and personalities shown in this correspondence with the gentlemanly and courteous behaviour of Mr Martin, to whom the chapel was first granted. I have, again, looked at his letter of July 3rd, 1877, and the difference is striking.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

J. G. P. Vereker.

Hamsterley Hall, Lintz Green,
March 6th, 1894.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Mr Mole's letter in your last issue compels me to again take up my pen in the interests of truth and fairness. As I said before I can confidently leave Mr Vereker to settle Mr Mole on the points he raises relating directly to that gentleman. On the subject of royalty rents on which Mr Mole persists in dabbling, he seems to me to be completely at sea, and had therefore better begin afresh his study of the subject. Mr Mole is not in the habit of venturing beyond his depth he says. Well, sir, it is the exception which proves the rule, and the exception which I beg to submit to your readers, is the accusation against the members of the Church committee, who attended the supper at Hamsterley Hall. With regard to these gentlemen, I must again state that they reached home perfectly sober and before 11 p.m. And now for the vials of Mr Mole's wrath poured out upon my poor humble self. Straw men! very complimentary, Mr Mole! So far as I understand my bodily construction I seem to be composed of the same stuff as other poor mortals, flesh, bones, blood, &c. A knight in armour fights better and feels safer than our unclad.

Although my armour-clad opponent "Dissenter," from whom I first learnt the art of fighting with my visor down seems to have been vanquished in the fight.

Mr Mole can break his spear if he will, I prefer to keep mine whole (for future use.) "If my falsehoods are so palpable, and my blunders so transparent," (very good, Mr Mole), I (Churchman) would have an easy task in refuting them on a platform. Perhaps Mr Mole knows this phrase, which to me here seems very appropriate:—

> "Convince a man against his will,
> He holds the same opinion still."

I feel very much alarmed lest Mr Mole's mental faculties be upset, as he seems to be completely confused with "Straw men," "Home for Imbeciles," "Limited Liability Companies," "Sergeant Buzfuz, Q.C.," "Pears' Soap," "Cronniwell Chronicle," and "Bogie Men." (We are seven.) However, this internal derangement is perhaps due to a disordered stomach (naturally prevalent at this spring time) and this thought somewhat consoles me. With regard to Mr Ellis's conduct at the Milkwell Burn Chapel, that gentleman gave me a somewhat different version, some little time ago, to that stated by Mr Mole; and I am prepared to accept his statement, seeing that he was present, and Mr Mole was not. As to whether Mr Ellis "won't be happy till he gets" the apology asked for, perhaps Mr Mole had better ascertain the feeling of the committee on that point. From what I know of Mr Ellis he is not in the habit of keeping company with "Bogie Men," and therefore cannot expect that "August assembly" to send out a representative at Mr Mole's bidding. Then I come to two pieces of advice volunteered by Mr Mole for the benefit of Mr Ellis. 1st, Never to attack an opponent anonymously. It strikes me that the letter I saw in the *Guardian* from Mr Ellis was by no means anonymous. If Mr Mole means to imply that that gentleman is the writer of Churchman's letter, he is sadly mistaken. Mr Ellis is not the writer, as you, Mr Editor, are able to testify. Another venture beyond your depth, Mr Mole. 2nd, Mr Ellis is told to get the wool out of his eyes. Rather funny place for wool, Mr Mole. I had always thought the ear, not the eye, was the organ in which wool was inserted and as Mr Ellis has not a bad eye at present he can't, I think, have any wool there. Perhaps Mr Mole made an error and wrote eye for *ear*? The latter part of Mr Mole's letter afforded me intense amusement. After reading it twice, nay thrice, it began to slowly dawn upon me, that perhaps after all a "Home for Imbeciles" would be a very useful institution wherein those men (and if the cap fits let Mr Mole put it on) who bear false witness against themselves may find leisure to obey the 10 commandments without fear of breaking an 11th. If it be true that Mr Mole has "neither said nor written in this affair one syllable of animus" then I must conclude that the letters which bear his name do not come from his pen. Perhaps they are the production of a Limited Liability Company? Mr Mole most strongly protest against the discreditable tactics employed in fighting this matter. So do I, Mr Mole, so do I! Glad to see that you have determined to do so no more, in bidding farewell. Our opponents should never forget that Churchmen have their rights and feelings as well as Dissenters, and whilst some may tamely submit to contempt and scorn, others are not to be trampled upon with impunity (revised edition, for original see Mr Mole's letter last week, page 3). I am sorry to have to say "good bye" to you, Mr Mole, but I suppose if you are desirous of retiring I will have to do so. *Requiescat in pace* (Latin, Mr Mole).—Yours, &c.

Churchman.

March 3rd, 1894.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Will Mr Bromley or any other writer on the above subject, explain how any Non-conformist or other disinterested person subscribes one penny piece towards the maintenance of the established church at the present time? The evidence adduced arises from the fact that centuries ago, kings and rulers robbed and enforced taxes for to sustain the State Church, which is true. But the most of the land which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners hold as church property was voluntary left for that purpose by friends and well-wishers of the State Church. And surely a gentleman ought to bequeath his own estate as he desires and also to make tithe conditions as well. I think at the present nothing whatever is paid out of the exchequer towards the Church. Can anyone prove that there is? The Church is sustained from its own funds.—Yours, &c.,

A Dissenter.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—In newspaper correspondence it seems to be an invariable rule with those whose scholastic attainments are somewhat meagre, to stoop to pusillanimity and abusive personalities when their cause looks less hopeful than they had vainly anticipated. Such being the course Mr Mole adopts, I decline to enter into any discussion with him, and forbear to say anything further on my own account, than that I totally ignore his fallacious and scurrilous remarks about myself in your last issue.—Very faithfully yours,

Wm. M. Ellis.

APPOINTMENT OF RATE COLLECTOR FOR THE PARISH OF TANFIELD.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—According to your columns of last week the Lanchester Board of Guardians will on the 15th inst. appoint some person for the above named office.

I understand there are already several candidates for it who already hold more than one fairly renumerative office in the district. I trust the Guardians will keep this in view when making the appointment as these public positions are in too few hands already. I have no doubt there will be a number of candidates in the district who are quite qualified to manage this office, and who are now earning very much less than the salary which the Guardians propose giving, and which I consider a fairly good one for one person, from some of these I trust the Guardians will see their way to make a selection.

The ratepayers will, however, watch very closely what action the Board may take in this matter.—Yours &c.,

A Ratepayer in the Parish of Tanfield.

THE ANNFIELD PLAIN RAILWAY.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly permit me to make a suggestion with a view to the improvement of the present train service on the Annfield Plain Branch of the North Eastern Railway. It is my opinion, and the opinion of many others, that a train leaving Newcastle for Annfield Plain about 5·30 p.m. would benefit a large number of people such as mechanics' clerks, and others employed at their work until 5 or 5·30 p.m. At present they cannot get a train until 7·30 p.m., and this is so inconvenient to many, that they are compelled to do as they did previous to the opening of the line,—viz., remain at lodgings. There can be no doubt that such a train would pay, take for instance the train leaving Newcastle for Consett at 5·20 p.m. It is very well patronised, and note the difference in population of the two districts!

The usefulness of a train leaving about the time mentioned mentioned must be obvious to the N. E. Railway Company, and I hope the matter will be taken up and laid before the Company in the proper way.

I am personally acquainted with many people who are very much dissatisfied with the present arrangement. Yours &c.,

A Clerk.

THE SPEN ROADS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Knowing that your columns are already overtaxed with correspondence from the Spen district, makes me feel almost afraid to report a serious matter which was allowed to occur on Saturday last—namely, John Jackson's workmen were allowed to stop the main turnpike road at a level crossing directly behind the Bute Arms Inn and farm, or nearly opposite the new colliery offices, the only legal road in getting to Glossop Street and all the surrounding new houses lately built by the Spen Colliery Company; also the main road to Hedley and other places.

I happened to be one of the unfortunates who wanted to travel this way, but on arriving at the scene of action I was told that I must turn back and go along Collingdon Road, then by way of the Old Row (which is a private road), and up that very heavy hill past the present schools. This compelled me to partly disload my cart at the bottom of the hill abovementioned, as I did not feel inclined to task a spring cart horse to take up 16 or 17 cwt. What I am wishful to know is, did the Blaydon Local Board grant John Jackson or his workmen permission to stop the horse and cart traffic on this main turnpike road? If so, then the Board are the offenders. If not, I think the trespassers should be dealt with, for if they wanted to raise the railroad they might have been content with the use of half of the turnpike road at once, then it would not have stopped the traffic.

In conclusion, I may add that never have I before heard of a main turnpike road being totally stopped for the paltry raising of a few railway plates, and my opinion is that the Local Board are the offenders, if they do not look the above matter up. Thanks for insertion of above.—I am, &c.,

W.G.T.

Leases, March 6th, 1894.

CHURCH AND STATE AND CAPITAL AND LABOUR.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—I expected from the elaborate effusion we got in the *Consett Guardian* of February 16th that some very interesting things could be drawn from Mr George Neasham, and that he only need be asked a few plain questions to which I longingly hoped to get plain answers. But alas! I am one that seemingly has been misled, and if he cares more to insinuate, and impute, and try to annoy, than to prove and disprove arguments, I will seek another teacher. I don't want any information about sarcasm, neither do I agree to his clairvoyant conclusions as to what I think; and I dispute what he says when he says, "I as one of the humble poor do not, either directly or indirectly, support the Established Church, for I hold as a sound cardinal principle that wealth is the product of labour, and that the wealth of the Established Church is to a large extent money misappropriated, and ought to go as better remuneration for the labour that produces it." So now, can and will you, Mr G. N., upset and explode that principle, and never bother about me as a person. I assert that every *bona-fide* wage earner gets less than his fair share of the wealth we produce by reason of such legal systems of robbery as the Established Church. Again, if purgatory is not a fit subject for newspaper controversy, why did he introduce it? I am not a believer in such humbug, neither am I a Darwinian, so he can keep his hat on; and to his advice referring me to the youngest boy in the village school for a reply to my question, I have done so, and the little boy says, "Aw divvant naw what a man of substance is," so will you please, as an author, kindly inform me. I am not used to work with or live among men of straw. Perhaps if he will come over to West Stanley and give us a display of his eloquence and oratory in the open air, he may see a man of straw in some of our big shop windows. I dispute his assertion that "Our ancestors were as pious and honest as the present generation of men, and came by their property honestly." If he is so sure of this, let him if he can (for he is an author) give us the history of the acquisition of land, especially the origin of the monopoly, and as to his reference of me and to the many working men of West Stanley to know how they managed to get their land, &c., I don't want to know how they got their small portions, but how they whom they bought of got it for to sell, and when and how it first came in possession by them or their ancestors, and why my ancestors did not get some. We have been forgotten, and somebody else has got my share. Is that right, Mr G. N.? His No. 6 and No. 7 answers may fairly be included in his No. 5 reply. Now, again, he says my other questions he has previously dealt with. Has he told us—"By whom and by what means was the property that was bequeathed to the parish churches, in pre-Reformation times, taken from them?" I fail to see it, and wish to know. Again, has he told us—"How much do the Bishops receive, and what honest work do they do for it?" I say "No," and he, like many more, would much rather that the truth was not told about such things. He does not, because he dare not, inform us how much the Bishop of Durham, and all other Established Church Bishops get per annum, nor what work they do for their wages. Again, I asked—"Why should this particular Church receive State patronage or cognisance more than any other?" But on this he is silent, and why? Another question unanswered is—"Will either Mr Neasham, or anybody else, kindly enlighten us why, and when, and by whom, were the Ecclesiastical Commissioners appointed? Were they appointed by the State, and did they take over the Church properties in the name of, and on the behoof of the State?" Now then, Mr G. N., tell us if you can, or dare. As yet, I decline to accept his gratuitous advice to rid myself of Socialistic, levelling ideas. I am not possessed of "levelling" ideas; and what does he mean, I wonder, in saying—"There is, and always has been, a preponderance of good over evil?" Are there more good men and habits among mankind than evil ones? I have been always taught that "man is prone to evil, as the sparks fly upward, that there is none righteous—no, not one." That all mankind everywhere are told to "cease to do evil, and to *learn* to do well." Now, here I am in a fix to know which to believe—Mr Neasham or the Bible; and if the millenium, when it comes, is to be a time, as Mr G. N. puts it, when men will generally, one and all, be pickpockets, may it stay away is my prayer. Yes, indeed, I am poor, and work hard, and it does not make my lot and labour better or lighter knowing that many more are ditto, and as I am a miner (a shifter), working always at night, and sleep a little by day, will Mr G. N. tell us if I and he can "swop" labour and wages, so that if his work is probably more exhausting than mine, as he says, he may be blest by the exchange. The cap does not fit poor Jaques—as per the little effusion in rhyme. Hoping that you, Mr Editor, will allow Mr G. N. and your other readers to see this, and he, G. N., to come again—I am, yours, &c.,

George Jaques.

West Stanley.

BENFIELDSIDE SEWERAGE SCHEME.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—Would you kindly allow me a small space in your paper this week to protest against the precipitating or sewerage beds that the Benfieldside Local Board intend laying down immediately opposite Highgate. The piece of ground that has been surveyed for this scheme is in close proximity to a large population, and within 20 yards of the public highway. It seems to me that they are going to create a great nuisance instead of avoiding one.

Again, this scheme would dispose of the sewerage from Blackhill only, consequently the sewerage from Benfieldside, Cutlers' Hall, Baxter Burn Snow's Green, Shotley Bridge, and Shotley Grove, would still remain to be dealt with.

There was a petition presented to the Board, signed by 120 ratepayers living in this particular part of the district. This alone shows the great objection there is to the project. In conclusion, I hope our Local Board will deal with the whole of the district, have one sewerage scheme, not two and carry it away from the sight of the inhabitants altogether. Yours &c.,

R. Marshall.

March 7th 1894.

CONSETT COUNTY COURT.

Wednesday, March 7th.—Before His Honour, E. J. Meynell (Judge.)

"LIKE MILK RUNNING FROM A COW."

Coulthard v. Dover.—John Coulthard, draper, &c., Dipton, sued Francis Dover, a miner, for £1 3s 6d. for goods supplied. Mr J. L. Leadbitter (Catchgate) appeared for the plaintiff, who stated that the articles were sold to defendant's daughter and his wife, in Dover's presence. There was a dispute relative to 6s 3d, which he had knocked off the debt.—Defendant averred that he did not get anything from Coulthard. He was not responsible for what his daughters bought—one having been married about six years, and the other some three months. His wife likewise died on January 10th, 1893.—By Mr Leadbitter: He had made payment on account of 12s 6d or 15s. This money was for goods got by his wife before her decease.—His Honour: Did you get any bill or account from the plaintiff?—Defendant: No.—His Honour: Then how did you know how much you had to pay?—Defendant: Well, it's just been like milk running from a cow. I've been blind, and I paid anything they asked. (Laughter.)—His Honour: If you did not get the goods, why did you pay for them?—Defendant: Oh, just to keep him quiet.—Plaintiff stated that he sent Dover an account.—His Honour said that he must have some evidence that the daughters were authorised by defendant to procure these things.—Plaintiff stated that the goods were got for the wife's funeral. Defendant was present when his daughters purchased the articles.—The Judge adjourned the case for further evidence, and advised defendant to bring his daughter.—Defendant: She can't come this far. She is now at Lamesley, near Birtley.—His Honour replied that defendant could please himself whether he brought his daughter or not.—Defendant said he would not pay anything. About nine months before his wife died he went to plaintiff's shop, and stopped him supplying goods to his daughters on credit.—Plaintiff answered that defendant did [illegible] three months after his wife died.—Defendant asked for the production of a letter written to Mr Leadbitter.—His Honour read the epistle, which stated that Mr Coulthard had sent him a bill for £1 12s odd.—The Judge thought that defendant said he had not received any account from Mr Coulthard.—Defendant: I hav'nt got any bill; my daughter has it.—The case was accordingly adjourned.

A MINER'S DEBTS.

Nevin v. Derby.—John Nevin, butcher, &c., sought to recover £8 4s from Peter Derby, a miner.—His Honour: How is it that you allow a miner to get so much in your debt?—Plaintiff: The debt accrued during the miners' strike in 1892.—Mrs Derby exhibited a book, showing that £8 5s 6d was due.—Plaintiff explained that since the pass-book was made up, Mrs Derby had got other things, and had paid 2s on account.—Mrs Derby did not dispute the account, but said that she paid 2s which plaintiff would not deduct from the account.—The Judge pointed out that Nevin had given defendant credit for that sum, and found for the plaintiff for the full amount, to be repaid at 4s per month.

NOTES FROM STANLEY DISTRICT.

["By Observer."]

The West Stanley Co-operative Society held a special meeting on the 28th ult., to consider the advisability of commencing a bakery department. It seems other societies have done fairly well in this particular branch of business, and the Stanley committee of management, after due consideration of the matter, recommended it to the society's members, assured of it turning out a successful investment. The matter was discussed at some length, and several members thought the scheme would prove a failure, inasmuch as the majority of members' wives bake their own bread, consequently the demand would not warrant expending a large sum of money on plant, &c., for its formation. It certainly requires serious investigation prior to a conclusion on the matter, and the meeting wisely left its confirmation to the quarterly meeting, which will be held shortly. Another item on the programme of business was the consideration of some private property for sale adjoining the society's premises. This was considered favourable on account of its situation, for it has a front view and likewise much convenience at the back for extensions. It was decided to purchase the property, which has been the residence of Mr Joseph Whaley, carrier, who was its owner.

The accident at the Louisa Colliery has caused a deep sensation amongst miners in the district, and various comments are offered to the public as to the cause thereof. We shall be better able to judge on the whole after the coroner's verdict. The two unfortunate individuals, Barron and Neal, were buried on Monday afternoon. The pits worked two hours sooner to enable all the men and boys to show their last respects to their fellow workmen, who were so suddenly called away from activity to the stillness of death. The funerals were well attended, which bespeaks a fellow-feeling amongst miners. We offer our sympathy to the bereaved parents and families, who have been deprived of their loved ones at a time when hopes were brightest. Both parties were young and healthy, with every prospect of active service for many years. I have not given a description of the accident as it will be in the *Guardian*, also the inquest.

Mrs Henry Hardy, Poplar Street, South Moor, gave a tea on the 28th ult., which proved a great success. Wesleyans from various places patronised the scheme, and about £8 was realised. The proceeds were on behalf of the new Wesleyan Chapel.

The Railway Company are to be requested to arrange better train service. It seems that dissatisfaction is felt on account of the trains not running at more suitable times for certain classes. I have no doubt that further facilities will be conceded by the directors after they see the railway in full operation. Time will cure many ills.

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

THE WEEK.

THE CROAKER FROM CANADA.

Mr. Goldwin Smith is again predicting woes to this unfortunate island. He has revisited England at a considerable absence, and is aghast at her political deterioration. He was always in a pretty bad way, especially in the days when Disraeli described Mr. Goldwin Smith as "that wild man," but now she is toppling over an abyss, or several abysses. It is a little odd that Mr Smith, who lives contentedly enough in Canada, should believe us to be in a much worse state than the inhabitants of that colony. At least our public life has not produced a Mercier. Our statesmen do not receive money from persons pecuniarily interested in public works. Our parties occasionally call one another hard names, but nobody suggests that this or that Minister is feathering his nest with public funds. Our judicial system is so impartial that an American litigant gets a verdict in an action for libel against the British Museum. But apparently it is not injustice or peculation that Mr. Goldwin Smith dreads in our destiny. It is revolution. The politician who wants the United States to annex Canada is afraid of the break-up of this Empire. He sees "domineering violence" looming on the horizon. Indeed, we must go back to the alarms of 1832 to find any parallel to Mr. Goldwin Smith's prophetic eloquence. In that year there were many estimable persons who said that England was no longer fit to live in. Her sun had set; a revolution had destroyed her capacity, her dignity, and her fame. Since then equally awful things have happened so often that most people have grown quite callous. We are afraid that nobody will be much impressed by the portentous warnings which Mr Goldwin Smith supposes to embrace the whole range of statesmanlike sagacity. Common experience teaches us that a nation passes through many processes of evolution, and that the habit of striking an awe-struck attitude and shrieking that some particular process means red-ruin has become slightly ridiculous by frequent repetition. The men who really serve their country do something better than pay it periodical visits for the purpose of telling us that it is on the eve of final degradation.

ANIMAL IMMORTALITY.

Canon Wilberforce has been expatiating lately on the immortality of the lower animal kingdom. He has come to the conclusion that animals will share the joys of the next world. It would be useless to ask for any evidence, theological or otherwise, for this belief, Canon Wilberforce has no evidence; he founds his faith on a surmise as to the "Divine mind." It would be so pleasant to find one's favourite dogs and horses in the Elysian Fields that Canon Wilberforce thinks this must be part of a supernatural design. Such was the simple creed of the Red Indian, but it is a little odd to find an Episcopalian clergyman annexing the theology of the noble savage. Naturally Canon Wilberforce's theory commends itself to some vegetarians, who find their objection to butcher's meat strengthened by the suggestion that the ox and the calf may be found browsing on the shores of the river of life. This idea, however, has not yet reached Mr. H. Hills, President of the Vegetarian Federal Union, who, as a breeder of cattle, has been explaining to Mr. Labouchere why he does not turn his animals into food. He breeds sheep and Highland cattle solely to gratify himself with the spectacle of their ruminant happiness. He wants to break down the common prejudice that the only use for such animals is to be "sold and butchered." "I am closing certain pastures for hay, and have a larger head of stock than I care to keep through the summer; but rather than kill my animals I would gladly sacrifice my hay. As a matter of fact, I have received applications from all parts of the kingdom for the sheep I am willing to part with. Other would-be purchasers have given me guarantees that they will not sell any of these sheep, or their progeny, to the butcher to be killed for the meat market, and have bound themselves under a penalty of £1 for every breach of this agreement." There is a touching simplicity in the belief that it will not be worth the while of the purchasers to pay the penalty and break the agreement, and that it will be possible to discover in every case that such agreement has or has not been kept. Does Mr. Hills propose to employ an army of travelling inspectors? The prospect of sheep and cattle multiplying in the land to the detriment of the coarse appetite for mutton and beef is in its way as delightful as Canon Wilberforce's vision of the future state. Mr. Hills and the Canon ought to be congenial Bo-Peeps of the Vegetarian Federal Union.

FEROCIOUS FOOTBALL.

A great deal has been written of late about the growing violence of football. There are people who regard this game, in its modern development, as a brutal exercise of thews and sinews, and as a fruitful source of bad blood and breaches of the peace. It seems that this criticism has excited strong resentment, which reached a climax in an action brought at Manchester by a football club against the *Birmingham Gazette*. A certain game had been described by our contemporary as "mere brutality," and one of the clubs concerned felt constrained to vindicate its character by going to law. The result is not likely to encourage any further enterprise of a similar character. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiffs with one farthing damages, the obvious meaning of which is that people who play at bowls must expect rubbers. Football players, of all men, ought to be least sensitive to criticism, especially as nothing is more notorious than the increase of popular interest in football in exact proportion to the recklessness of the game. No one can glance at the casualty list of football for a single year without coming to the conclusion that this is about the roughest pastime in which our athletic youths can engage. Unfortunately, it is made even worse in this respect by the patronage of a certain section of the public who would be equally devoted to prize-fighting if the law would sanction that manly sport. The habit of physical violence is stimulated by the excitement of betting; and it frequently happens that the spectators, not content with the tumbling in the field, show a strong inclination to damage the referee. It was contended for the defence, in the case to which we refer, that the plaintiffs had suffered no loss from the alleged libel. Indeed, to say that this or that club plays a very rough game is to give it a very good advertisement. It is too much to expect that the verdict of the Manchester jury will check the ferocity of the football field, but it ought to teach some of the champions of the game that they cannot enjoy all its fiercest joys, and then pose as the gentlest of their species.

DERWENT ANGLERS' ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the above-named association, which now consists of over 100 members, was held in the Temperance Hall, Shotley Bridge, on Saturday evening, under the presidency of Mr Geo. Cansick, Blackhill. There was a numerous muster of members from all parts of the Derwent Vale.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

After the confirmation of the minutes, the hon. treasurer (Mr Nicholas Brown) presented his financial statement, which was of a very satisfactory character. The Association commenced the year 1893 with a fair balance above the general expenditure.

The Chairman mentioned that the expenses had been light during the past season, on account of the Association not having put any trout into the river. They had had a highly successful season, the fish being bigger and better than were ever caught in any previous year.

On the motion of Mr Peile, seconded by Mr Weedy, the statement was accepted as satisfactory.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The Secretary reported as follows:—

Gentlemen,—In presenting my report for the season of 1893, I wish to suggest to the ticket distributors that it would be well if they sent in their books and moneys some weeks before the annual meeting, and then I could compare the number of tickets sold in former years. The past trout season has been the most uneventful one perhaps for years, owing to the excessive drought. The fish taken, on the whole, were less in number than they have been for some time, but the quality, condition, and size was perhaps about the average of previous seasons. At Waskerley matters were much the same as in the Derwent. The past spawning season seems to have been a very favourable one, the small tributaries being well filled with spawning fish, and the high waters at the time of spawning taking the spawning fish back to the river before poaching operations could be indulged in. The fish in the lower reaches are still few in number. They never seem to have recovered from the great destruction of a few years ago. As to the latter part of the season, which is devoted to grayling, we have not much room to complain, as fair numbers have been caught. The grayling are promising excellent sport for the winter anglers. It has now been arranged that the Lord Crewe Hotel, Blanchland, become a free fishing station for visitors, the present tenant paying the Association for the privilege.—Yours, &c.,

D. Ormerod, Hon. Sec.

The report was adopted.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The customary votes of thanks to the officers for the past year were carried *nem. con.*

A similar compliment was paid to the various proprietors for the privileges they had granted to the Association during the year.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The undermentioned officers were chosen for the coming season (which commenced on March 1st):—

President—Mr John Booth, Summerdale, Shotley Bridge.

Treasurer—Mr N. Brown, Shotley Bridge.

Secretary—Mr D. Ormerod, Blackfine.

Committee—Dr Geo. Renton, Messrs Jos. Oley, G. Weedy, J. A. Jack, N. Charlton, R. Frankland, J. T. Addison, G. Cansick, C. Oley, J. Gorman, and M. Charlton.

TICKET SELLERS.

The following members were appointed ticket sellers for the undermentioned districts:—

Shotley Bridge—Mr N. Brown, Front Street, Shotley Bridge.

Blackhill—Mr Geo. Cansick, No. 17, Roger Street, Blackhill.

Ebchester—Mr N. Charlton, No. 61, Dean Bank, Allendale Cottages.

Lintz Colliery—Mr Weedy, Lintz Colliery.

Blanchland—Mr Robt. Hutchinson, Garden House, Blanchland.

THE PRIVILEGES OF THE MEMBERS.

The Chairman pointed out that the Derwent anglers had the privilege of fishing right from Blanchland almost down to the Tyne, whereas in the Tyne and Wear these were only small stretches of a mile or so and there granted to anglers.

THE GRAYLING QUESTION AGAIN:

SHOULD THERE BE TWO LICENSES?

The Secretary inquired if any member had anything to bring forward for the benefit of the Association?

Mr Peile: It will be the question of the grayling again! (Laughter.) Speaking for himself, he considered that the Association should issue two licenses—one for trout and the other for grayling. As it stood at present it was a compulsory thing, and the license for simply trout fishing was too high. He was not a lover of the grayling, and he did not consider they were worth the pepper and salt that was used over them. If an angler wanted to fish for grayling let him have a license for the same. If for trout let him do the same thing. His contention was that a trout in the same stream [illegible] they found a grayling they would not find a trout in the same stream.

The Chairman said he could contradict what Mr Piele had just said. He had caught both grayling and trout in one stream.

Mr Peile: I must say you were a lucky man. (Laughter.)

Mr W. Jenkins, jun.: I have caught trout and grayling in one stream.

The Secretary pointed out that a minute was passed on February 25th, 1888, stating that the price of tickets should be left with the committee to be permanently settled, and could not now be tampered with by the members and their annual meetings. The price of tickets was 4s for the season and 1s 6d for day tickets.

Mr Peile: I maintain a full meeting can rule a committee.

Mr W. Jenkins, junr.: May I ask for the names of the committee to be read.

The Secretary complied with the request.

The Chairman: According the motion you cannot move in the matter.

Mr Peile said that he wished for two licenses instead of one, and that they should make a reasonable charge for the same.

The Secretary said if they commenced to cause contention with the present one, the association would be no use at all. If they split the price of tickets their funds would very soon be exhausted. The reason the price of tickets was raised was through stocking the river with fish.

Mr Peile said that those who lived near the higher reaches of the river had better opportunities, because they had all the fish. If they sent them down the lower portion of the river they would get poisoned.

The Chairman: We cannot help it if the fish make for the higher reaches of the river.

The Secretary said that Mr Peile could live in a district where there was no fish.

Mr Peile: You are now insinuating. I have come here for justice.

The Secretary: Go on then.

Mr Peile proposed that there be two licenses. This was seconded by a member.

A Member failed to see why they should not reduce the price of tickets when the association was so strong and their funds healthy.

The Secretary: We are £20 off the sum yet that was expended in re-stocking the river with fish. It would be nothing more nor less than foolishness and madness to reduce the price of tickets. Why not, as true sportsmen, support their Association?

Mr Jenkins: How many watchmen have you?

The Secretary: There are 10 altogether.

Mr Jenkins: Do you consider they do their duty?

The Secretary: Yes; as far as we know.

Mr Jenkins said he had seen several queer cases on the river last season. There were many people fishing without licenses.

Mr Peile: Quite true. The keepers gave people leave to fish in the tributaries which should be reserved for spawning purposes.

Mr Weedy said it was correct.

The Chairman said the proprietors must have given leave or else they would not be allowed to do such.

Mr Weedy said that there was a minute to the effect that they should not fish in the tributaries.

After Mr Jack had explained how it came about that such a motion had to be passed,

A Member pointed out that there was a motion before the meeting.

The Secretary said that such a motion could not be accepted.

Mr Peile: I will now move that the price for the license be 10s for the season.

The Secretary: You can't do that.

Mr Peile: Why not?

The Secretary: I have already told you.

The Chairman: You can have the chair, Mr Peile.

A Member: I don't see why the Chairman has the right to vacate the chair till the business is concluded.

After some conversation between the Secretary and Mr Peile, the latter calmed down, and said if they could prove to him that the motion was illegal, he would withdraw the same.

The Secretary: I have already explained it once. The price of tickets has been permanently settled.

Mr Peile: Will you take another motion. I will move this question goes back to the committee.

The Chairman: Very good. I will now take the chair again, and put the motion if it finds a seconder.

A Member: Can you allow an angler to take the grayling during the trout season.

Mr Brown: No. It will be taking them during the close season.

The Secretary said that as soon as the rules of the association could not be properly carried out, the proprietors would withdraw their privileges, and then there would be no Angling Association.

Mr Peile: My motion is to the effect that the price of license be referred back to the committee for consideration for the year 1893.

Mr John Carnall seconded.

The motion was carried, 11 voting for the same, and 6 against.

THE POLLUTION OF THE RIVER.

A Member inquired if anything was being done with respect to the pollution at the lower reaches of the river. He was thoroughly convinced that it could be put right.

Mr Peile said it was desirable that the lower reaches of the river should be put right so as to get the fish to live there.

The Chairman said they could not do anything.

Mr Peile said that so they were getting any trout in the lower portion of the river. It was not justice to them as anglers.

The Chairman said that all they could do was to keep the river stocked with plenty of fish.

The Secretary said that from inquiries he found that there was a considerable improvement with respect to the pollution. The sediment complained of was practically removed.

Mr Jacks: We cannot move in the matter. If anyone was caught poisoning the river for the purpose of killing the trout, then they had the power to interfere.

The matter dropped.

DAY TICKETS.

A short discussion took place with reference to day tickets, after which a vote of thanks was accorded to the Chairman, and the proceedings terminated.

SHOCKING FATALITY AT A WEST STANLEY COLLIERY.

TWO MEN KILLED IN A PIT CAGE.

On Saturday afternoon Mr John Graham, coroner, opened an inquest at the Stanley Hotel, West Stanley, touching the deaths of John Barron, (34), a rolleywayman, living at Louisa Terrace, West Stanley, and John Neal (17), an engine-plane lad, of South Moor, both of whom were killed in the Louisa Old Pit Shaft West Stanley, (owned by the South Moor Coal Company) by the fall of a large stone shortly after four o'clock on Friday afternoon.

Evidence of identification was given by Miles Barron, miner, and John Neal, miner, and the Coroner observed that this was a peculiarly sad case, that two deaths should have occurred at one and the same time and from the same cause, and from what he should assert was a very unusual cause. The shafts were above all parts in the pit, as far as his own experience went, particularly looked after. Necessarily that must be the case, inasmuch as all men and boys must ascend and descend, and all material worked should pass up and down the shaft. As they might be aware, persons were specially detailed to look after the shafts, and keep them right. He was quite prepared to suppose that in the present instance there had been the usual course of examination—indeed, he had seen the report of the men's inspector's—and the jury might see it at the colliery office—to the effect that they had examined the shafts since the accident, and were quite satisfied as to its condition. Unfortunately, by some means or other, a large stone, three-cornered shape, weighing about 60lbs, fell from the north-east side of the shaft, and struck the top of the cage, at the south-west corner, as it was ascending. The cage had two decks containing four men in each compartment. The stone, which must have got dislodged near the top, must have fallen a distance of several fathoms, travelled from one side of the shaft to the other, gained a good deal of velocity in its descent, and moreover had to meet the force of the ascending cage, therefore they might safely imagine that the blow would be a tremendous one. The cage was fitted with a steel top, of a thickness supposed to be sufficient for the purpose. The force had been so great as to bulge the top in, and also break one of the iron supports underneath. The cover of the cage was knocked out, the rivets destroyed, and two other supports also damaged. The mere fact of the stone falling on the south-west corner of the cage, was to kill Barron because he happened to be sitting underneath. Neal, who was at the west side, was by some means knocked out of the cage, and fell down the pit-shaft. The other two men in the top deck happily escaped without injury. He (Mr Graham had had the particular cage brought to bank, and one of the workmen was good enough to get inside to show him how Barron would be sitting, and his bread reached close to the under part of the cover, and would therefore feel the full effects of the blow. The origin of the accident would require the most careful and searching investigation, and as none of the miners' inspectors could be present that day he suggested that the inquest should be adjourned. Mr Bell, the chief inspector, was from home, and Mr Walker, his assistant, was engaged elsewhere.

It was decided to adjourn the inquest till Thursday, at the Co-operative Hall, the Coroner observing that some of the miners might like to be present.

HANDYSIDE'S CONSUMPTION CURE

It is now about four years since this marvellous medicine has been introduced to the public, and all have a good name for it who have taken it for Consumption, Tumours, Lupus, Cancer, Influenza: anyone can satisfy themselves of the fact by going to any of G. Handyside's shops, and hearing what the people say who have taken it. But, when the lungs are nearly all eaten away with Consumption, it will not put new lungs in, therefore, when the lungs are gone, it will only ease the cough.

The BLOOD FOOD prepared by G. Handyside, is simply a vegetable extract, and thereby God's natural remedy for building up the body, and when the body is strong it defies all disease. It contains no medicine, and therefore cannot ruin the constitution as doctors' medicines do. Everyone should take it for Indigestion, Costiveness, Sleeplessness, Dizziness of the Head, Fits, Asthma, Bronchitis, Change of Life, and it is a most marvellous thing for Influenza. Delicate people should take it forever.

HANDYSIDE'S RHEUMATIC CURE does not fail once in a hundred cases, when it is applied according to directions. 20,000 people have been rubbed at Handyside's Rooms, and 99 out of every 100 have been cured, but a good many who rub themselves have failed, because they did not go by the directions. Whenever it fails they should communicate with Mr Handyside.

The Pills prepared by Mr. Handyside, are a highly concentrated vegetable extract, they contain no medicine, therefore cannot ruin the constitution, same as other medicines do. They build up the body by their easy digestion and highly nutritive properties. They have only been known to the public for 5 months, and some of my agents sell at the rate of 20,000 boxes of these pills per annum, and as each box contains four times the quantity of the average of other makers, makes the sales fully 80,000 boxes per annum for one agent to sell out of one shop. They are not much advertised, as the people who take them advertise them. Some people who first take them are astonished that they do not purge. This is their great value: they do not weaken the constitution by purging. This is a very different result from that of medicine, as medicine never fails to ruin the constitution, and everyone who has taken it will bear this out. These pills invigorate the constitution, strengthen the digestion, thereby build up the body and guard it against all disease. They will be sent without the money, carriage paid, to any one on trial. If they do not do more good than any other pills, no money is required. If you cannot get them from your chemist, write to G. Handyside, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

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, removes 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.

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 £300 000 worth of foreign matches were purchased by inconsiderate consumers in this country it is 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 a large number of the unemployed in East London would thus be provided with work, instead of swelling the ranks of pauperism. 305

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Football.

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

ASSOCIATION.

SPEN ALBION v GREENSIDE.—Played on the Spen ground, and resulted in a win for Greenside by three goals to two.

TOW LAW CELTIC v TOW LAW ROVERS.—Played on the former's ground, and ended in a win for the Celtic by six goals to one.

ESH TRUE BLUES v CORNSAY ROVERS.—Played on the former's ground, and resulted in a win for Esh by three goals to two.

HOBSON WANDERERS 2ND v CORNSAY ROVERS 2ND.—Played at Cornsay, and ended in a win for Hobson by two goals to nil.

MARLEY HILL ST. CUTHBERT'S v DENTON BURN.—This return match was played on the latter's ground, and after a pleasant game the "Saints" were victorious by two goals to nil.

HEDLEY HILL FELL HARRIERS v CORNSAY RISING ROVERS.—Played on the former's ground, and ended in a victory for the Harriers by four goals to one. G. Tomlinson played a splendid game in goal for the winners.

OAKEY'S LILYWHITES v LEADGATE PARK RESERVE.—Played on the Park ground, and after a very pleasant game the Lilywhites won by two goals to none. The visitors were short of a goalkeeper, but secured the services of H. Devine, who saved the few shots that reached him in good style.

HEDLEY HILL TERRACE RANGERS v WILLINGTON RANGERS.—Played on the ground of the former. The visitors played with a strong breeze in their favour in the first half, and scored soon after the start. Then the homesters took up the running, and forced a corner, from which A. Tomlinson equalised, and the score was unaltered at half time. On resuming, the home team romped round their opponents, and scored six goals in quick succession. The visitors were never dangerous in this half, and a one-sided game ended as under—

Hedley Hill ....Seven goals
Willington ....One goal

WEST STANLEY ATHLETIC v MARLEY HILL TEMPERANCE.—Played on the former's ground. The visitors won the toss, and decided to play with the breeze in their favour. M. Hardy started for the home team, but the Temperance soon got possession and began to press, the shooting of the forwards, however, being weak. From a goal kick, S. Renfrey got hold and passed over to Chater, who dribbled well towards the visitors' goal, but was repulsed by the backs. The Temperance made many a break away, but were unable to score, and half time was called with the score standing—

Athletic ....Nil
Temperance ....Nil

After a short rest, the visitors re-started the game, but the Stanley forwards quickly got possession and made for the Temperance goal, and gained a corner, which was neatly placed by Handy, and Chater shot through, scoring the first goal for the Athletic. The home forwards now began to pour in shots, Henderson shooting a grand goal. Wheatley added No. 3, and Renfrey shot a fourth from a corner nicely placed by Handy. The home team had a goal by Wheatley disallowed, and then the visitors broke away and scored through the custodian falling down. Smith shot No. 5 for the home team, and Henderson added a sixth. Result—

Athletic ....Six goals
Temperance ....One goal

LEADGATE WEST END v SHOTLEY BRIDGE ROVERS.—Played on the former's ground. The visitors won the toss, and took advantage of the breeze. Milburn kicked off for the home team, who took the leather straight to their opponents' goal, where, after some narrow escapes, it was cleared. Shotley coming away at a good pace, got close in to the West End citadel, where one of their forwards, who was clearly off side, received and sent through, no goal being allowed. The home team now attacked strongly, and gaining a free kick for hands in the Rovers' goal, the globe was passed to Pescod, who banged it through, scoring No. 1 for Leadgate. Midfield play then ensued till half-time, when the score read—

West End ....One goal
Rovers ....Nil

The home team had much the best of matters in the second half, with the exception of a few minutes at the commencement. Shield sent in a long shot for West End, and Milburn taking the goalkeeper, the ball rolled through, scoring No. 2 for Leadgate. The visitors' backs and custodian were kept busy until the finish, but they defended splendidly, and the final result was—

West End ....Two goals
Rovers ....Nil

Referee, Mr T. Hewitt.

LINTZFORD v GATESHEAD ALBION.—This match was played on the former's ground in two "30's." The visitors started against wind and sun. The home halves dispossessed them, and gave to the front rank, who shot over the bar. Lintzford pressed heavily, and after fifteen minutes' play Walton shot a beauty. Taylor followed with three more points, the score at half-time being—

Lintzford ....Four goals
Gateshead ....Nil

It was expected that the visitors, now they had got the wind behind them, would rub off some of the adverse score. Thos. Seath re-started for the homesters, and the Albion gave Abbott and Richardson a warm ten minutes. They were equal to the task, however, and repulsed all attacks. Lintzford now took up the running, points being added by Dixon, T. Seath, and Taylor (2). The Albion were never really dangerous except once, when they charged the custodian through, but he gave a corner to save. Time arrived with the score reading—

Lintzford ....Eight goals
Gateshead ....Nil

The Lintzford team was—Goal, L. Taylor; backs, R. Abbott (capt.) and Wm. Richardson; half backs, J. Seath, E. Stobbs, and J. Musgrove; forwards, J. E. Taylor and W. Laysben, right wing; Thos. Seath, centre; Dixon and Walton, left wing.

SOUTH MOOR HEDLEY ROVERS v HIGH FELL TEMPERANCE.—Played at South Moor before about 800 onlookers. The home team won the toss, and started with the sun and wind behind them. Even play was the order for a while, and then Dodds, with a clever dribble, worked the globe well down to the visitors' quarters, and Walton getting hold drove it grandly into goal. The ball was returned, but Dodds ran in and banged it through amid loud cheers. Wilson was prominent for the Temperance with a grand run, but McBride came to the rescue and stopped his progress. From a foul close in, Whitfield sent in a splendid oblique shot, scoring No. 2 for the Rovers. The play continued to be in favour of the home team, who gave their opponents' defence plenty of trouble. Rostron sent in a fine shot, which was scrimmaged through. The visitors broke away with a rush, and Morris (the Rovers' custodian) had to kick out for the first time. The home forwards were nicely fed by the halves, and Dodds receiving a fine pass, scored a fourth goal with a terrific shot. Half-time score—

Rovers ....Four goals
Temperance ....Nil

On resuming, it was thought that the visitors would fare better with a strong wind in their favour. High Fell commenced with a grand combined run, which was stopped by Robinson, who gave a corner, which was cleared. The Rovers' forwards going away with a good passing run, gave the visitors' defence a lot of trouble, but the danger was cleared. Even play was the order for a time, and then the Temperance sent in a splendid shot, which was only just cleared. The visitors continued to keep the Rovers on the defensive, but the latter's halves played grandly, and try as they would, High Fell could not score. The home team secured a corner, which proved useless, and after some midfield play Whitfield drove the leather against the cross-bar with terrific force. After a capital run, W. Dixon sent grandly into the visitor's goal-mouth, but it was cleared in smart fashion. The game finally resulted—

Rovers ....Four goals
Temperance ....Nil

IVESTON VILLA v LANGLEY PARK ALBION.—This game was played at Langley Park in beautiful weather, before a good muster of spectators. Wardle (the home captain) won the toss, and elected to play down the slope, and Young started the globe for the Villa, but the Albion forwards immediately obtained possession and ran well down into the Villa quarters, where they were met by a sturdy defence. Thompson relieved, and from a nice pass by Young, Tweedy and Temple came away in a splendid run, but Shorten removed the danger with a long kick, and play again settled down in the Iveston half. The Albion at this period pressed severely, but the visitors' halves and backs were in grand form, robbing the opposing forwards again and again, and as a consequence Hansom was seldom troubled, although he cleared one or two difficult shots in good style. From a capital pass by Foster, Smith put in a grand single-handed run, and had passed all opposition when the whistle went for a foul, Miller having accidentally collided with one of the home halves—a case of very hard lines for Iveston. Several corners were taken by both teams, and although the Albion had many good openings, they spoiled their chances by wretched shooting, and at the interval the score was—

Villa ....Nil
Albion ....Nil

With the hill in their favour, the Villa at once began to press, Young feeding his wings in beautiful style, and several shots were sent in, but the home defence was very sound. The Albion right wing came away, and for a time Gales and Thompson were kept busily employed, but they did their work in grand fashion. Temple and Tweedy raced away, Shorten conceding a corner to stop them. Temple placed well, and Foster shot in, Young forcing both ball and goalkeeper through, thus drawing first blood for the Villa. The visitors now played a very fine game, the halves dropping the leather into goal time after time, but the backs and custodian performed splendidly. Smith at length getting possession, dodged close in, and sent in a terrific shot which the goalkeeper only partly saved, and Young again put through, scoring the second goal for Iveston. The visitors continued to press, and held the advantage till the close, a very pleasant and well-fought game ending as under—

Villa ....Two goals
Albion ....Nil

The Iveston team was as follows:—Goal, Hansom; backs, Gales and Thompson; half-backs, P. Foster, McEnaney, and Haughan; forwards, "Smith" (capt.) and Millar, right wing; Young, centre; Tweedy and Temple, left wing.

LEADGATE EXILES v. TOW LAW.

These teams met on the ground of the former in fine weather, before about 500 spectators. Tow Law won the toss, and W. McKie kicked off for the home team towards the entrance goal. Play at once became fast, McGrachan being early prominent for some splendid work, while Temperley was kicking strongly for the visitors. Coulson forced a corner after a capital run, but McGee cleared, and some tricky work by Conroy enabled the Exiles to attack, a corner resulting. This was well placed, and Conroy gave the home team a rare chance to score, but the ball was allowed to roll past. McIntosh and Wilson were now conspicuous, and only determined play on the part of McGrachan and Monaghan kept them from scoring. Conroy and the brothers McKie made some good runs, but the defence of the Tow Law halves and Temperley was grand. Simpson kicked well up the field, and a misunderstanding between Monaghan and McGee enabled Coulson to get clear away and shoot a splendid goal. Half-time score—

Tow Law ....One goal
Exiles ....Nil

On resuming, the home team pressed, and secured a number of corners, but could not break through the splendid defence. Callaghan saved well at the other end from Coulson and McIntosh, and then the Exiles were awarded a free kick for a close in. W. McKie made a good attempt to score, but Allison conceded a fruitless corner. From a free kick, McIntosh raced away, and beating the home backs (who were lying a long way down the field), scored with a rather soft shot. Before the finish the visitors registered a third goal, and the result was—

Tow Law ....Three goals
Exiles ....Nil

The Exiles' team was as follows:—Goal, H. Callaghan; backs, J. Haggan and Wm. McGee; half-backs, P. Rogers, T. McGrachan (capt.), and Jas. Monaghan; forwards, Peter McKie and Jas. McGee, right wing; W. McKie, centre; T. Conroy and J. Hill, left wing. The Tow Law team was—Goal, J. H. Allison; backs, J. W. Temperley and R. Thompson; half-backs, W. Waites, Thos. Waites, and Wm. Simpson; forwards, J. Coulson, N. Rippon, R. Wilson (capt.), T. Potts, and J. McIntosh. Referee, Mr J. Ross, jun.

DURHAM JUNIOR CUP.

THIRD ROUND.

LEADGATE PARK v. HOBSON WANDERERS.

These teams met on the Park ground before a good gathering of spectators, several of whom travelled from the Hobson to see their favourites play. The visitors won the toss, and the home team defended the entrance goal against a strong wind. Play opened fast, the visitors, if anything, having slightly the best of matters. Shot after shot was sent in at Crowther, who saved his citadel from downfall on several occasions. At last, from a well-placed corner, the visitors scored their first point. This success seemed to spur on the Hobson, who scored again from a scrimmage. From the centre kick, the Wanderers' defence was troubled, but only for a short time, as the visitors attacked and notched the third point. This reverse roused the Park, and Willey, taking a pass from John Wilson, passed to Graham, who gave to Burnhope, and then the trio dribbled past the backs and scored in somewhat easy fashion, after a tiring race up the field, Burnhope doing the needful. The call of half-time found the score—

Hobson ....Three goals
Park ....One goal

With a lead of two goals the Hobson were thought to be on the right side; but the home team, now having the breeze to help them, attacked very strongly, and rained in shots upon Keith. Four passed him, being scored by Burnhope (3), Graham, and Wilson. The Wanderers were played almost to a standstill, and the brothers Wilson and Willey never allowed them to become dangerous in this half. Mansell and Foreman at back defended stubbornly all through the game. Result—

Park ....Five goals
Hobson ....Three goals

The following team represented the Park:—Goal, J. Crowther; backs, F. Foreman and Wm. Mansell; half-backs, John Wilson (capt.), Robt. Wilson, and J. T. Willey; forwards, W. Bell and R. Graham, right wing; A. Burnhope, centre; T. Foster and Jos. Wilson, left wing. Linesman, T. Reed. The Wanderers' team was:—Goal, N. Keith; backs, H. Nevin and W. Henderson; half-backs, J. McNeil (capt.), Wm. Liddle, and M. Smith; forwards, W. Hindhaugh and J. T. Bell, right wing; E. Henderson, centre; J. M. Maddison and J. Lown, left wing. Referee, Mr J. Gibbon, Gateshead.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE.

DIPTON WANDERERS v. RENDEL.

This fixture was played on the Rendel ground, and attracted a large crowd, it being the first visit of the Wanderers to Benwell. Smith kicked off for Dipton against a strong west wind. Buck returned a grand shot from Wardropper, and midfield play followed. Hughes and Gardiner got away on the visitors' right, but were stopped by Redpath. Wood then got close in, and scored the first goal for Rendel after about six minutes' play. A foul against the Wanderers was well placed by Bell, a corner resulting, but Campbell sent behind. The home team now attacked strongly, and the Dipton defence was sorely troubled. The latter, however, proved sound, and defied the supreme efforts of the home forwards to break through. Redpath was prominent with some clever tackling, and forced a corner, from which Walker and Crosier came nicely away, but Campbell saved just in time. Henderson and Wood returned, and Redpath placing well into the goal-mouth, a second point was notched for Rendel. The home team were now swarming round the Dipton fortress, and gave Freek some hard work. Wood, Henderson, and Jackman came near scoring, and Purvis tried a long shot, Jackman rushing up and putting through No. 3. The home team secured a corner, which was grandly cleared by Rowell, but it was returned by Wardropper. Southern fired in a hard shot, but Rowell made another good save. A foul against the Wanderers was well placed by Wardropper, and a fourth goal resulted. Score at half-time—

Rendel ....Four goals
Dipton ....Nil

On play being resumed, the visitors now had the sun and wind behind them, and at once made tracks for the Rendel goal, the globe going past. Purvis placed well into midfield, McGann and Jackman getting off on the right, but Buck stopped them, and the leather again settled in the home quarters. Bell and Campbell, however, were in good form, and frequently repulsed the visitors' forwards when a score appeared certain. The Wanderers now played splendidly, and deserved success, Campbell heading away a stinging shot from Smith. Rendel retaliated, and Purvis shot in, but Freek saved cleverly. A good rush by Wood, Henderson, and Jackman was nicely checked by Rowell, and then Gardiner and Hughes initiated an attack on the Rendel goal, and only the splendid defence prevented them from scoring. Collins conceded a corner, and Walker sent the ball a few inches over the bar. Wood forced a corner at the other end, and Freek saved from Henderson. The game was very fast and exciting, both sides showing good form. A foul in front of the home goal was cleared, and Purvis made a capital run, passing to Wood, who sent in a good shot. This was cleared, and Dipton once more pressed, Collins saving his charge in excellent fashion twice in quick succession. A corner for the visitors was got away, and then Freek cleared cleverly at the other end. Final result—

Rendel ....Four goals
Dipton ....Nil

The following represented the Wanderers:—Goal, R. Freek; backs, T. Rowell and T. Turpin; half-backs, F. Harle, E. Buck, and R. Coates; forwards, C. E. Hughes and S. Gardiner, right wing; Wm. Smith, centre; D. Crosier and T. Walker, left wing.

RUGBY.

BLACKHILL ROVERS v. HOUGHTON.

The return fixture between these teams was played on the ground of the former at Blackfine, before a good number of spectators. The visitors came short, but obtained substitutes, while three of the team originally selected by the home club had to be replaced at the last minute. The Rovers commenced the game against hill and wind, and for a time play was of a give-and-take character, but the home team were the first to settle down. It was quickly evident that the struggle would be a keen one, the forwards on both sides playing finely, but on the ball becoming loose the Blackhill combination was far in advance of their opponents. Aided by the breeze, however, the Houghton men gradually worked their way down the field, and Wheatley was almost over from a fine rush. From the ensuing scrummage the Rovers came away, and Dickinson receiving a grand pass from Tweedy, ran strongly through the visitors' backs, but Wheatley saved in capital style. Then Tweedy attempted himself to score, and handing his men off looked as if he would succeed, but unfortunately lost the ball. The Houghton forwards relieved well, and forced their opponents back to their own lines, where, the leather coming out to one of the three-quarters, he dropped a splendid goal, but Davison having touched it in its flight, the score was disallowed. At the interval the record stood—

Rovers ....Nil
Houghton ....Nil

On resuming, the visitors held their own for a while. The home team improved, however, rapidly working their way to the Houghton "25," where a combined rush by the Rovers' forwards completely overpowered the defence, and Lumley scored a try. Tweedy took the kick, and very cleverly converted. The kick-off brought no relief to the visitors, as from the first scrummage Anderson passed to Tweedy, and he, after dodging two or three opponents, gave to Dickinson, who ran on till tackled, then transferred to Taylor, who was only held on the line. A minute later, however, Aitken scored, and Tweedy again placed a goal. While the Rovers were still pressing, Wheatley came away finely and brushed aside several opponents, but when looking dangerous Askew came across the field and effected a fine tackle by grounding the burly Houghtonian. Some fine passing among the Blackhill backs fairly bewildered the visitors' defence, Stobbs scoring an easy try, but the kick at goal failed. The visitors were now completely beaten, and were penned in their own quarters for the rest of the game, time being called, with the play within a yard of their line. Final score—

Rovers ....Two goals and one try (13 points)
Houghton ....Nil

FOOTBALL JOTTINGS.

[BY OFF-SIDE."]

TOW LAW V. LEADGATE EXILES: CONDITION WINS TOW LAW THE GAME.

It was decidedly a good move on the part of the Exiles' committee to secure a visit from the Junior Cup holders of last season, seeing that there was scarcely any matches of importance to be played in the district on Saturday. The result was a pretty large gate and a capital game. It may appear surprising to most people to find that a team capable of beating Tow Law on their ground should in turn go down at home before the "red and blacks." Yet such was the case, and the explanation is a simple one—viz., one team was in condition and the other was not. The visitors had evidently laid themselves out to have revenge on the Exiles for their defeat in the Senior Cup, and they may be fairly said to have caught the "greens" napping. They appeared almost as fresh at the finish as when they started, whereas, on the other hand, several of the home team had hung out signals of distress long before the whistle put an end to hostilities.

I have never seen the back division of the Exiles play such a weak game as they did on Saturday. True, there was one noticeable exception, and that was McGrachan, who was a long way the best man on his side, and did as much work as two or three men. Had all his colleagues been in as rattling form as the centre half, the home team would not have been defeated. Considering that he has been playing forward all the season, Callaghan shaped very creditably in goal, although he might possibly have saved the second goal. McGee was much the better of the backs, Haggan being completely out of form. I have already referred to McGrachan, who was fairly well supported by Monaghan; but young Rogers, although he played very pluckily, was not clever enough for the smart couple opposed to him. The forwards, for once in a way, were the best part of the team. I liked Conroy and W. McKie best, the former giving his *confreres* some beautiful passes, and displaying all his old judgment. P. McKie and McGee were also very good, but the latter was inclined to be selfish. The old weakness—inaccurate shooting—still sticks to them, however.

Previous to Saturday, I had not seen the Tow Law men since they encountered the Park, at Bishop Auckland, in the final of the Junior Cup. They are a very clever team—better, I think, than last season—and had they been in for the junior pot this year, they would just about have landed it again. Allison was not very sorely troubled in goal, but dealt with two or three shots in a workmanlike style. Temperley was in magnificent form at back, and was easily the best man in that position on the field. I did not think his partner was any "great shakes." It would be difficult to find three better halves than the brothers Waites and Simpson, who played a splendid game; and for a lot of hard and effective work, done in a quiet manner, commend me to Simpson. The forwards passed and combined in rare fashion. The pick of the bunch, in my opinion, was McIntosh, who was in grand trim on the outside left. If he takes care of himself, he should make a name before long. Coulson also was very conspicuous, and the skipper (Wilson) set his men a capital example in the centre, working like a nigger. As I have remarked above, the whole team appeared to be in the pink of condition, and to this—and the mistakes make by the Exiles' defence—they undoubtedly owe their victory. The game was a very pleasant one, and I hope to see the Tow Lawites in our district again before the season closes.

ANOTHER UNBEATEN RECORD GONE.

Previous to last Saturday, the Langley Park Albions could boast of that rare treasure—an unbeaten record. However, on that date the "Villans" of Iveston appeared at Langley Park, and shattered that spotless record. "They came, they saw, they conquered." The result of the game came as a great surprise, not only to the Albions, but also to the Villa, who astonished both themselves and their warmest supporters by the grand display they gave. The Albions have a splendid record, having played eleven games, and up till Saturday had never been beaten, and the Villa deserve the greatest credit for being the first to break their record, and more so, as the game was played on the Albion ground.

Turning to the Villa players, Hansom (goalkeeper) did his work well, clearing several ugly shots in good style, while Thompson and Gales never made a mistake at back, their kicking being strong and clean. The halves worked very hard, and took no little share in the honours of the victory. To particularise any of them would be unfair when all did so well. The forwards were all good; Smith and Temple on the extreme wings dribbled and centred in grand style, while Millar and Tweedy rendered them every assistance. Young in the centre was most unselfish, his passing and shooting also being remarkably good. The Albions took their beating like men, and treated the Villa team with the greatest hospitality and kindness.

AN EASY THING FOR LINTZFORD.

The visit of Gateshead Albion to Lintzford last Saturday was eagerly anticipated, as a good game was looked forward to. However, as events turned out, the home team had matters entirely their own way, putting on four goals in each half. The winners played a capital game. T. Seath, a junior, showed good form in the centre, while the other forwards did their work in excellent fashion. The shooting especially was a great improvement on previous displays, J. E. Taylor being credited with no less than five of the points scored. The halves tackled and kicked admirably, and Abbott and Richardson played their usual safe and strong game at back. Luke Taylor had only two shots to deal with between the sticks.

For the Albion, Henderson and Brown at back played a sturdy game in the first half, and were the best men on the side. The goalkeeper stopped some scorching shots, those that got past him being quite out of his reach. The halves were a very even trio, but the front rank did not shine, the home halves completely bottling them up. Neither team was fully represented.

WEST END BEAT THE ROVERS.

Those strong junior combination, Shotley Bridge Rovers and Leadgate West End, met on the West End ground last Saturday, the home team winning a good game by a majority of two goals. The winners, without exception, were in their very best mood. Sisterson was a thorough success in goal, while the backs (Pescod and Bromwell) were in splendid trim. The halves proved a proper stumbling block to the Shotley forwards, while the home attack combined and shot well. The Rovers' custodian saved his charge grandly on several occasions, being effectively supported by his backs and halves. The forwards lacked combination, and passed very faultily.

HEDLEY ROVERS WIN COMFORTABLY.

The recent re-organised South Moor Hedley Rovers were visited by High Fell Temperance on Saturday, and easily disposed of the "blue-ribbon" men. The Rovers have now got a capital eleven together, and should win many more matches before the season terminates. The most prominent of the winning side last Saturday were the brothers Dodds, A. Rostron, Whitfield, and Robinson, who played a splendid game, and deserve a special word of praise.

AXWELL ROVERS' CLUB.

A concert was held on Saturday evening in connection with the above club in the Board Schools, Swalwell. Mr W. G. Grace, Whickham, occupied the chair. The following artistes rendered a programme of vocal and instrumental music:—Miss Blackbird, Miss Shield, Mr J. Lumley, Mr J. Overton, Miss Curry, Miss Atkinson, Mr A. Bright, Mr W. Lyons, Mr W. Riding, Mr M. Cameron, and Messrs Hepple Brothers; accompanist, Mr D. R. Lumley.

A GOOD VICTORY FOR BLACKHILL ROVERS.

It may be fairly said that the Rovers surpassed themselves last Saturday, when they entertained and beat the powerful Houghton team. It was a splendid game all through, there being plenty of fine open play. It is doubtful if the winners have ever played a better game, and when the position of their opponents in the football world is taken into consideration, the result is something to be proud of. The home forwards heeled out well, but their packing and tackling were their best features. Their formation of the scrummage took the wedge form, which is the strongest possible method, as once the "scrum" is set in motion, the team thus formed is irresistible. There was not a sluggard among the pack, all working their very hardest.

It was in the back divison, however, where the greatest improvement was noticeable, especially in the three-quarter line. Tweedy, the latest acquisition, notwithstanding that he was out of practice, played a grand game, his commanding height and reach, coupled with his coolness, enabling him to feed his colleagues to perfection. Dickinson showed marked improvement, and took a lot of stopping, while the remainder of the backs fully upheld their reputation. Amongst the Houghton men, Wheatley, the county forward, did as much work as two men, but his exertions seemed to tell on him at the finish. He got in some capital kicks, and saved his side time after time when others had failed. Smith and Hugill also played a good game, the other backs being only moderate.

THE PROPOSED JUNIOR LEAGUE.

DEAR SIR,—It is not my intention to enter into correspondence with one who is coward enough to shelter himself under a *nom de plume*. I am not very desirous of posing as the founder of the Junior League, and will therefore make "Anti-Humbug" this offer:—To retire in his favour providing he discloses his name to the public. If he will do so, I am then prepared to discuss with him the merits or demerits of the Durham Football Association. I shall be glad, therefore, to hear that "Mr Off-side" and "Anti-Humbug" intend to set the ball rolling for a Junior League, the benefit of which will not rest so much with the father of it as with the clubs themselves forming that body.—Yours truly,

W. G. F. THOMPSON,
Durham Challenge Cup Competition.

[As Mr Thompson has mentioned me in the matter I may say that I shall be pleased to help him, "Anti-Humbug," or anyone else, to the best of my ability, in the formation of a league.]

BYER MOOR V. HIGH ROW SPORTSMEN.

DEAR SIR,—Will you kindly allow me a small space in your valuable columns to say a few words in defence of our team anent their conduct in the above game? To begin with, I may at once say that I am not going to manufacture any excuses. True, the "official" score was—High Row, 8 goals; Byer Moor, 4. But it must be remembered that High Row had the benefit of a strong wind 15 minutes longer than us, and had the game been played out, I have little hesitation in saying that we might have just as easily equalised as we did before extra time was played. True again, Byer Moor left the field, but can your correspondent truthfully say Byer Moor were treated fairly by the referee? I emphatically say no. Appeals for off-side, jumping at opponents, &c., were lodged in vain. We stood his decisions as long as we possibly could, and as we are in no way gifted with the patience of a Job, we then left the field. The concluding paragraph of your report of the agreed time—viz., two "30's," says—"Byer Moor woke up and scored two goals in the last five minutes." I dare say if your correspondent had followed the game minutely he had would have known Byer Moor had equalised the scores four minutes before time, and only wild shooting and cruel ill-luck prevented us from obtaining a winning point. However, I can assure the Sportsmen of an impartial gentleman as referee at Byer Moor, when the return is played, on March 17th, and trust that the best team may win, by fairplay alone, for the Sportmen are sure of a hearty welcome and gentlemanly game on our part. Trusting I have not trespassed too far, I beg to remain, yours, &c.,

W. H. DAWSON,
Sec. Byer Moor A.F.C.

CONSETT TOWN A V. LEADGATE WEST END.

DEAR SIR,—In your last week's football notes you publish a report from the Leadgate West End secretary *re* the above match, which I consider very damaging to the character of our team. He states the game was of a very rough character, and that several of their players were badly hurt. This I wish to contradict, as very few fouls were given during the whole match, and the majority of these were against the West End players, their centre forward himself being responsible for three. He also says that our chief object seems to be "going for the man." To disprove this, all I have to say is, that had our attention been given to the men only, we should not have been able to score nine goals. Your correspondent would lead one to believe that West End are a lot of school boys and our team a senior organisation. Now, six of our players are under 18 years of age, and where we get our "physical force" from I am at loss to comprehend. Hoping you will publish this commication among your "Jottings,"—I remain, yours respectfully,

JOS. ALLISON,
Assistant Secretary Consett A.F.C.

NORTHERN ALLIANCE

The following are the results of the Northern Alliance Competition up to Saturday:—

	Plyd	Won	Lst	Drn	Goals For	Goals Agst	Pts
Gateshead N.E.R.	14	9	3	2	44	27	20
Hebburn Argyle	13	9	3	1	40	17	19
Rendel	15	7	4	4	43	27	18
Sunderland A	13	8	4	1	34	22	17
Willington Athletic	12	5	3	4	23	21	14
Shankhouse	13	4	4	5	27	30	13
Newcastle United A	15	4	7	4	30	31	12
Blyth	11	5	5	1	29	21	11
Dipton Wanderers	13	2	9	2	18	40	6
Southwick	15	1	12	2	19	62	4

MEMS.

Owing to indisposition, the Exiles' captain (Peter Hughes) was unable to take his place last Saturday P. Rogers appearing in his stead.

I was informed that the Exiles have indulged in no training since the Bishop Auckland match. Little wonder that they were defeated.

Now, then, Exiles, pull yourselves together, and wind up the season in as brilliant style as you commenced it.

Blackhill Rovers accomplished probably the best performance they have brought off this season, in defeating Houghton so decisively at Blackfine last Saturday.

I hear that there will be a rare struggle for places in the Northern Alliance for next season. According to all accounts, there will be a large number of candidates for the vacant places.

The contest for the Shotley Spa cup—a very handsome one, by the way—will be concluded as the Spa grounds during the Easter holidays.

It is generally anticipated that the winner of the tie between Allendale Park and Consett Town A will land the cup.

MATCHES WANTED.

Hamsterley United have several vacant dates, and would like them filled up with moderate first or good reserve teams. Apply, J. T. Little, Hamsterley Colliery, *via* Ebchester.

Dipton True Blues would like to arrange matches with junior teams. Ages, 12 to 14. Apply, J. T. Riddle, Co-operative Terrace, Dipton, Lintz Green, R.S.O.

South Medomsley Heroes have all dates vacant, and would like them filled up with second teams. Apply, Joseph Adams, No. 1, South Medomsley, Dipton, Lintz Green.

CHURCH MISSIONS AT CONSETT.

REV. ALBERT STEGGALL'S RETURN TO EASTERN AFRICA.

On Sunday, the annual sermons on behalf of the Church Missionary Society were preached in Christ Church, Consett, by the Rev A. R. Steggall, M.A., son of the Rev F. Steggall (vicar of Consett), and there were large congregations both morning and night, the sacred edifice being filled. In the afternoon there was a special service for children, at which an address was given by Yohana Nene Midghiri, a native of Eastern Equatorial Africa, his remarks being interpreted by Mr Steggall. Collections were taken in aid of the funds of the Church Missionary Society and the Church at Taveta.

Rev A. R. Steggall, who has been working as a missionary in Eastern Equatorial Africa, under the auspices of the above society for four years, returned home on leave during last summer. He brought with him the native Yohana, whom he baptised, and who was confirmed by Bishop Tucker. He proposes to return to Africa this week, sailing to-morrow (Saturday), and will be accompanied by Yohana, and will also take with him a large quantity of clothing and other articles collected during his sojourn in the north.

On Monday night, a public social gathering, under the auspices of the "Gleaners' Union" in connection with the Church, was held in the National Schools, Consett, on the eve of Rev A. R. Steggall's departure for Africa. The Vicar (Rev F. Steggall) was in the chair, and there was a large attendance. Addresses were given by Rev A. R. Steggall, Yohana Nene Midghiri (interpreted by Mr Steggall), Mr Chas. Weaver, and others. Afterwards a supper was provided, the tables being presided over by Miss Cooper, Miss Nicholson, Miss Pescod, Miss Balleny, and Miss Potts.

TERRIBLE AFFAIR AT MARLEY HILL.

ATTACK ON A WIFE AND DAUGHTER.

SERIOUS CONDITION OF THE INJURED.

On Saturday, a man named Thomas Robb, living at Marley Hill, attacked and stabbed his wife, and followed this up by an attack on his grown-up daughter, whom he wounded even more seriously. Both the women are badly injured, and the daughter is in such a serious condition that there are grave doubts as to her recovery. The man was arrested, and is now in custody at the County Police Station at Gateshead, where, in due course, he will be brought before the bench and remanded. Both the attacks made by the prisoner were of a desperate character. In the first case the woman received a wound in the breast, and is also suffering from severe shock to the system, which will make it impossible for her to come out for some time. After stabbing his wife Robb seems to have been more infuriated still in the onslaught on his daughter, for she has received no less than five wounds about the neck, arm, and sides, and it is doubtful whether she will survive them.

The prisoner, Thomas Robb, is about 50 years of age, and is very tall and powerfully built. By birth he is an Irishman, but he has been living for about 22 years at Marley Hill, where he worked as a miner. He has been married for many years, and has a family of five, all of whom are grown up, the youngest being about fifteen years of age. He lived at Andrew's Houses, Marley Hill. As far as can be learned, the man's family life appears to have been harmonious until about four months ago, when a quarrel took place which resulted in the separation of the husband and wife. The former then went into lodgings not far from his house, and the wife and family remained where they were. No separation order was applied for, the woman being supported by her grown-up sons. This was the state of things when the affair already mentioned took place. On Saturday, at about noon, the man Robb had been in Newcastle, and in returning home he called at the Magpie Inn, Teams. There he saw his wife and a neighbour, a woman named Manners. Some conversation ensued, during which Robb asked his wife if he could return to his home, and she, it is stated, said "No." Shortly after Mrs Robb and the woman Manners left the inn and proceeded towards Marley Hill. They appear to have been followed by the prisoner, for when about half the distance had been covered he came up to them, and after a few more words between him and his wife he stabbed her in the breast. She fell to the ground, and without waiting to see whether she was dead or alive Robb made off. All this occurred at a point near Fugan Bar, on the waggonway from Dun[illegible] Marley Hill, and about three miles from the [illegible] where the first meeting took place between the parties. It was some time before assistance could be obtained and medical assistance procured for the injured woman, but as soon as possible she was lifted on a cart, the only conveyance available, and taken to her home at Marley Hill. Before, however, she reached there the house had been thrown into a state of terror and commotion by the attack which Robb made on his daughter.

After stabbing his wife Robb seems to have made straight for his old house, which is about three miles from the scene of the first attack. In the house he found his daughter Catherine, who is about 20 years of age, and upon whom he made an onslaught with the same knife with which he had wounded the girl's mother. There was at the time, it is stated, a man in the house, but he appears to have been powerless to interfere, and the whole affair was the work of a few moments. Robb quickly inflicted upon his daughter a series of five wounds, in the neck, on one arm, and on both sides, and he then left the house. The alarm was soon given, and assistance was obtained as early as possible. Dr Smith, of Whickham, was called, and he attended to the injuries of the girl as well as to those of the mother, when she was brought in. P.C. Robson, of Marley Hill, was informed of the circumstances, and he proceeded to Robb's lodgings, where he found the assailant changing his clothes, apparently in preparation to depart. The constable immediately arrested him, and brought him to the County Police Station at Gateshead. Robson also obtained possession of the knife with which both attacks were made. It is a pocket-knife, rather large in size, though not much larger than most workmen carry.

As far as can be learned, the only motive for Robb's attack on his wife was her refusal to live with him again. He had then had a little liquor. Afterwards, in the attack on his daughter, he seems to have been in a desperate state, and the wounds on the girl show this. What words, if any, passed between the two, can only be stated by the prisoner and his victim; but further light will be thrown on the affair in the judicial inquiry. Mrs Robb was conveyed to her home by P.C. Ogleby. At a later stage Supt. Rutherford visited the place to make inquiries and see that the injured women were properly attended to. As already stated, Mrs Robb is suffering from a wound in the breast and severe shock, but her condition is not considered critical. The girl Catherine Robb is in a more serious state, but it is hoped that she may ultimately recover.

On Monday night, Mrs Robb and her daughter Catherine were reported to be progressing satisfactorily. Dr Smith is in constant attendance upon the injured women, and the greatest care is being exercised in the treatment of the wounds to avoid certain complications, which are generally feared in such cases. Much sympathy is expressed by the inhabitants of the district with Mrs Robb, who, it is stated, has had a hard life with her husband. She alleges that he has previously threatened to take her life, and on one occasion attacked her with a hatchet. Whilst Robb was being conveyed to Gateshead County Police Station he was supplied with a drink of water at the Rose, Thistle, and Shamrock Inn, Streetgate, and in answer to a question by the landlady as to what had prompted him to attack the woman, he replied: "I expect I have killed them both. If not, I hope I have." Since his confinement to a cell he has displayed no outward signs of feeling of sorrow for his dastardly outrage. He is quiet and rather reserved in his manner, and [illegible] heartily.

ELECTION OF A GUARDIAN FOR CONSETT.

Mr W. H. Ritson, Relieving Officer, has issued notices intimating that with respect to the special election of a Guardian for Conside and Knitsley, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr J. Collinson, Nominations must be delivered by the 13th inst., and on the following day the list of candidates will be published. The voting papers will be delivered on the 20th inst., and collected on the following day, the votes being counted on the 22nd. As the gentleman elected will only hold office till next June, it is probable that a contest may be avoided.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND TEMPERANCE SOCIETY.

EBCHESTER BRANCH.

The monthly meeting of this society was held in Temperance Room, Ebchester, on Thursday week. The attendance was very large, and two new members were enrolled. The rector (Rev P. Cameron) presided. The meeting having been opened in the usual manner, a programme of a varied character was discoursed. This was introduced by a duet on the piano and violin by Miss Snowdon and Mr Chaytor, followed by a recitation by Miss Hockin. Songs, solos, recitations, &c., by Misses K. Priestman, Snowdon, Charlton, Elsom, Cantlan, and Rev C. A. Bridges. It may be stated that the Ebchester Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society is in a flourishing condition, the great want being more accommodation.

MARLEY HILL BRANCH.

The first annual concert of the football team in connection with the above society, took place on Wednesday se'nnight, Mr James Gilchrist being in the chair. The programme was an excellent one, and, considering the numerous entertainments taking place just now, was quite a success. A solo on the piano by Miss Dewhurst, was followed by songs given by Misses F. Bowman, A. Dewhurst, and Messrs T. Murray, J. Young, W. Palmerley, and Rev T. J. Chapman. Two solos on the concertina by Mr W. Cruddace, accompanied on the piano by Mr E. Mason, were greatly enjoyed; as was also the humorous quartette given by Misses A. and S. Dewhurst, W. Palmerley, and Jno. Young, and the character songs of Mr Palmerley. A negro farce given by the members of the team, viz:—Messrs J. Grey, W. Dewhurst, B. Davison, T. Morton, R. Pattinson, B. Croft, W. Morton, R. Patterson, A. Pattison, created roars of laughter. A nice little sum was added to the funds of the club as the result of their efforts.

BEAMISH BRANCH.

At the fortnightly meeting of the Beamish Branch of this society last Monday night, the Rev J. Mitchell, of St. Helen's, Low Fell, gave a very helpful lecture on the "Gottenburg and Norwegian systems of Licensing." Much information, both interesting and suggestive in its bearing on the liquor problem, was given in the course of the lecture, which was illustrated with lime-light views, and followed by a series of views illustrating a temperance story. There was a fair attendance, and four pledges were taken at the close of the meeting.

NOTES FROM THE STEEPLE.

[BY THE "OLD CROW".]

When *Merry Mr Merlin* was running during the Christmas and New Year's holidays at the Art Gallery, Newcastle, it was voted one of the most enjoyable of entertainments, and drew audiences quite as enthusiastic as those attending the other places of amusement at which pantomime was in full swing. And the little extravaganza—the title to pantomime it does not claim—deserved really well of its patrons whom it never failed to interest and amuse. Full of good wheezes, and introducing as it does, so many capital songs of an up to date order, and a company of actors and actresses of distinct merit, it is not surprising that *Merry Mr Merlin* should have proved such a draw this week at the Theatre Royal, Consett. Without any elaboration in the matter of plot, the little piece runs merrily on its way from start to finish, holding the interest of the audience uninterruptedly. The humour is well sustained by the various male members of the company, and frequent are the outbursts of hearty laughter following on their respective drolleries. The ladies are all particularly attractive, and their efforts whether in the matter of vocalism, dancing, or instrumental playing, are thoroughly enjoyed. The scenery too, is pretty and suitable. Altogether *Merry Mr Merlin* must be regarded as one of the brightest little pieces submitted to local audiences for a long time past.

And so, Mr John Siddle is dead, the genial old man with whom, years ago, I used to enjoy a talk now and again respecting the affairs of the Consett Iron Co.'s band. He was one of those who lamented the lack of interest latterly felt in the once famous brass band by the company whose name it took, and under whose auspices the members were originally brought together. He was an enthusiast on the subject of brass bands, was good old John, and many a time have we discussed together the possibility of the Consett band regaining its lost prestige. But he was never sanguine, and when I would suggest in playful humour, that some day before long we might see the members competing for the Belle-Vue prize, and carrying it off into the bargain, he only grinned broadly, and, shaking his head in knowing style, passed on his way.

There is an agitation on foot for Sunday excursions by rail, and the North Eastern Railway Company is to be approached on the subject. There is much to be said in favour of the idea, and there ought not, one would think, to be any very grave objection on the part of the Company to increase the travelling facilities in certain directions on that day. They are decidedly open to improvement. Taking Newcastle as a centre, the travelling facilities on Sundays—except to Tynemouth and North and South Shields—are meagre in the extreme, and it is surprising that the present position of things in this connection has not produced agitation long ago. Everybody knows how scurvily we are treated on the Derwent Valley line, and matters are little, if any, better in the Hexham direction. Given the privilege of travelling on Sundays in either direction at reasonable times in the afternoon, there is little doubt the boon would be appreciated to the full, and benefit would accrue alike to large numbers who have only that day wherein to enjoy the advantage of the fresh country scenery, and the localities visited. Who, for instance, will question that Shotley Bridge and other similarly situated villages—Corbridge, Riding Mill, &c., would benefit by the innovation? It has been long admitted that Tynemouth and neighbourhood has enjoyed, and is still enjoying, a disproportionate share of consideration on the part of the Railway Co., and the time has come when this monopoly should cease. Of course I well know that the ideas of those agitating for Sunday excursions are far higher than those given expression to above. They are anxious for the introduction of a series of long distance excursion trains to be run at cheap rates. They are wanting a very big loaf, and are not likely to succeed entirely. Let us first have increased facilities for local Sunday travelling, and it will then be time to ask for reduced fares and long-distance concessions. There seems no reason why the lesser demand should not be readily conceded.

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THOMAS LATHAM'S GREAT WINTER SALE

WILL COMMENCE ON FRIDAY FIRST, AND CONTINUE FOR 28 DAYS.

T. L. begs respectfully to call the attention of the inhabitants of Annfield Plain and surrounding district to the Special Advantages offered during this Sale.

The Surplus Winter Stock MUST BE CLEARED to make room for New Spring Purchases.

The Goods offered are all NEW THIS SEASON, not old and out of date. They have undergone SWEEPING REDUCTIONS, thus affording buyers an opportunity of securing goods that will defy any competition in the trade.

Kindly favour us with a visit and inspect our Stock.

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ALSO, HAY AND STRAW, OIL AND COTTON CAKES, &c., &c.

SPECIAL FOR THIS MONTH:—

Over 1,000 BAGS OF FLOUR—From 10s. to 12s. 3d. per 10 Stone Bag.

YOUNG'S BEST PARAFFIN CANDLES, at 10½d. to 1s. per 3lb. Packet.

2,000 LBS. OF CHAMPION TEA, at 1s. 10d. per lb.; Cheap at 2s. 2d.

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Business Announcements

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"The two instruments you supplied to the Royal College of Music, Rome, have been most satisfactory; they preserve in a remarkable manner their fine quality of tone, and their smartness, smoothness, and delicacy of touch defy the severe use they have had to undertake for many years."

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THESE ORGANS ARE SPLENDID VALUE FOR MONEY.

A Large Stock of Organs, by other Makers, from 8s 10d per Month

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TESTIMONIAL FROM MR EDWARD LLOYD.

LONDON, August 17th, 1892.

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"The two Schiedmayer Pianofortes which I bought from you—a Grand and an Upright—Manufactured by the Schiedmayer Pianoforte Fabrik, Stuttgart, are simply charming, and both give me the greatest satisfaction.

"Beautifully sympathetic in tone, a touch that is most agreeable, and for evenness and repetition all that can be desired.

"I may add that my musical friends who are Pianists, and who have played upon these Pianos, have expressed the same opinion.

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD LLOYD.

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PLEASE GIVE ONE TRIAL. 116h

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65, 67, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE,

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HUNDREDS of SUITS.
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Business Announcements.

IMPORTANT NOTICE to all who suffer from Weak or Inflamed Eyes, Impaired Vision, Specks, or Cataracts—Use Jeffrey's Patented Drops, Bottles, 2s 6d, carriage paid. A cure will soon be effected Thousands can testify to this It is unequalled and perfectly harmless—JEFFREY, Castleside, by Blackhill 8m

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LESSONS in PIANO, ORGAN, and SINGING, given by J. SURTEES, Organist of Consett Church, at his own or Pupils' Homes. Graduated scale of Fees.

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MUSICAL TUITION.

MR J. W. PEELE, Solo Violinist, &c., visits Consett and District Weekly, to give LESSONS on the VIOLIN. Pupils thoroughly trained in Solo and Orchestral Playing. Catchgate, &c., on Tuesdays. For terms, &c., apply to J. L. LEADBITTER, Esq., Catchgate, or to Mr J. W. PEELE, James Street, Blaydon-on-Tyne. 497m

UNION BRICK WORKS. BIRTLEY, Co. DURHAM.

MANUFACTURERS of ORDINARY RED BRICKS, BULL NOSE, COPING, and SPECIALS of various Descriptions. For Prices apply to

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1,000 OVERCOATS, COATS, JACKETS, TROUSERS, VESTS, BED QUILTS, BED RUGS, BLANKETS, SHEETS, Men's, Women's, and Children's Clothing at Given Away Prices at

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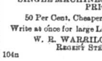
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SINGLE MACHINES AT WHOLESALE PRICE.

50 Per Cent. Cheaper than other Makers.

Write at once for large List, post free, from

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104n WESTON-SUPER-MARE

Public Notices.

BROOMS SPORTS! BROOMS SPORTS!!!—On Saturday, June 16th, 1894. Sprint Handicap, Quoiting, Wrestling, and other Sports.

J. COSTELLO } Hon.
J. E. KINLESIDE. } Secs.

TANFIELD FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL SHOW of the above Society will be held on SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 1894. Secretaries please note date.—N. WILKINSON, Jun., Secretary. 514n

SHOTLEY BRIDGE WESLEYAN CHAPEL.

REV. FREDERICK MILTON HALSTEAD, Student from Headingley College, will Preach Morning and Evening in the above Chapel, on Sunday, March 11th. Collection in aid of Trust Fund.

NOTICE.—The Members of THE FIRST SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND DISTRICT 370th STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY will hold an APPROPRIATION by Ballot in the Sons of Temperance Hall, Blackhill, on MONDAY, the 19th day of MARCH, 1894, at 7 30 p.m.—By order,

D. ORMEROD, Chairman.
465n J. GIBBINSON, Secretary.

NEW TOWN HALL.

MAJOR HODDER,

Of the Salvation Army,

ALL DAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH.

All Seats Free. 517n

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741st STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the hours for taking Subscriptions on and after Monday night first, will be from 7-30 to 8-30, and not till 9 o'clock as heretofore.

C. W. ALMOND, Chairman.
523n A. ROBSON, Secretary.

CONSETT UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.

THE usual SERVICE will be held on SUNDAY NIGHT at the usual time, when a full and varied Programme will be given by the BLACKHILL P.M. CHOIR. Collection and Pledges. See Bills.

THE DRAMATIC

CANTATA

"SHERWOOD'S QUEEN" (*Pattison*)

Will be given by Dipton Part Song Choir, in the BOARD SCHOOLS, on WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 21st. Front Seats, 1s; Back Seats, 6d.

CONSETT NEW WESLEYAN CHURCH.

ALL SEATS FREE.

SUNDAY, MARCH 11TH.

Morning, 10·30. } REV. R. W. BUTTERWORTH
Evening 6, }

NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION. MONDAY, MARCH 19th, 1894. Artistes specially engaged:—

Miss EMILY LOWES, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Miss A. C. HARKER, Blackhill.
Mr H. M. AUSTIN, Edinburgh.
Mr J. DUNCANSON, Durham.
Pianist - Miss HARKER, Blackhill.

ADDRESS BY

J. C. FLYNN, ESQ., M.P.

Chairman, Rev. JAMES FORAN.

Admission, 1s 6d, 1s, 6d. Doors open at 7 p.m.

LANCHESTER UNION.

COLLECTOR OF POOR RATES.

THE GUARDIANS of this Union will on the 15th March Appoint a COLLECTOR OF POOR RATES for the Parish of Tanfield. Salary, £100 per Annum. Applications, stating age, present occupation, &c., together with three Testimonials, to be sent to the undersigned on or before March 14th. Personal canvassing will be a disqualification.

WM H RITSON, Clerk to Guardians.
Lanchester, March 1st, 1894.

J. L. BRODIE,

2, ST. AIDAN'S STREET,

BLACKHILL

FOR

VARIETY OF MATERIAL IN THE NEW GREY SUITINGS FROM 50s.

Public Notices.

NOTICE.—JOHN ROUTLEDGE, Joiner and Cabinet-maker, Shakespeare Street, Consett, begs to inform the Public that he has commenced BUSINESS, as a JOINER and HOUSE FURNISHING IRONMONGER in the Premises lately occupied as a Post Office, at the Corner of Shakespeare Street, Consett, and will be glad to receive a share of their custom, which he hopes to merit by moderate prices and prompt attention to Orders.

ST. ANDREWS' PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BLACKHILL.

THE ADAMSON FAMILY,

VOCALISTS, INSTRUMENTALISTS, AND HUMORISTS, will appear in the CO-OPERATIVE HALL, CONSETT, on EASTER TUESDAY, 27th March.—All should hear this gifted family.

53 & 54 Vict., Ch. 59.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS, AMENDMENT ACT, 1890.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT at an Ordinary Meeting of the Consett Local Board, held on Wednesday, the 7th March, 1894, the following resolution was passed: "That this Board do adopt the Public Health Acts, Amendment Act, 1890, and that the same come into force on the Eleventh day of April, 1894.

By order of the Board,
THOMAS W. WELFORD,
534n Clerk.

4th DERWENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.

PARTIES desirous of joining the above Society can now be enrolled on application to the undernoted. A meeting to appoint officers will be held in the Station Hotel, Blackhill, on Wednesday, March 14th, at 7·30 p.m. Entrance fee, 2s. per share, which must be paid on or before the opening meeting.

All intending members are invited to attend the Meeting, as previous to the Election of Officers, the Benefits and Mode of Management of this class of Building Society will be fully explained.

J. ELTRINGHAM, Secretary *pro. tem.*
Railway Terrace, Blackhill. 528n

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

THE Lanchester Board of Guardians having received anintimation from the Local Government Board to fill up the Vacancy caused by the death of Mr JOHN COLLINSON, I beg most respectfully to again OFFER MY SERVICES to the RATEPAYERS of the CONSIDE AND KNITSLEY TOWNSHIP, and to Solicit their Vote and Interest at the forthcoming ELECTION on the 22nd inst

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

WILLIAM AYNSLEY.

Cleadon House, Consett, March 1st, 1894 493n

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CAREY'S

FOR PRICE AND VALUE.

SPECIAL ATTENTION INVITED!!

Very fine selections of PROVISIONS.

SIDES, HAMS, SHOULDERS, Very Fine.

The Shop for TEAS and COFFEES.

TEAS of rare flavour and strength at prices to fit all round.

FRUITS, CAKES, BISCUITS, Etc., Etc

FLOUR, finest and best, all prices. MEALS, BRAN, BOXINGS, CORN, MAIZE, Etc

NOTE ADDRESS:—

CAREY'S FAMILY GROCERY ESTABLISHMENT,

3, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

EASTERTIDE HOLIDAYS.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL COMPETITION

THE Lessees of the above Grounds, Messrs Wilson Bros., in endeavouring to promote Local Football have this year offered a

HANDSOME SILVER CUP

for Competition. The Semi-finals and Final of which are to be played at these Grounds, on

EASTER MONDAY AND TUESDAY.

Monday—

Semi-final (a) Shotley Bridge v Blackhill Park
Kick off at 2 o'clock

Semi-final (b) Consett Town Reserve v Allendale Park
Kick off at 3 45 o'clock.

Referee, Mr DALES, Medomsley,

Which will be followed by a Rugby Fixture and Hockey. See future announcements.

THE CONSETT IRON COMPANY'S BAND will also be in attendance both days for the Performance of Music.

Popular Prices of Admission:—Adults, 3d; Children under 12, 1d. 512n

The World's Greatest Show.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S

Monster United Shows, Gigantic Double

MENAGERIE

And CIRCUS OF STARTLING ARTISTES.

The Leading Exhibition of the British Empire. The favourite Show of the Queen and People! will be EXHIBITED at

CONSETT, TUESDAY, MARCH 20TH,

ANNFIELD PLAIN, WEDNESDAY, MAR. 21ST.

Some idea of the extent of this Amalgamation may be formed from the fact that it embraces 20 Monster Carriages, 60 Powerful Horses, 70 Employes, and over

600 BEASTS, BIRDS, AND REPTILES

Many of which are of the most rare and valuable description, and above all, every exhibit in the World's great Show is in its Natural Form of Beauty, and neither maimed or crippled animals are tolerated.

The World's Greatest Animal Trainers, viz.:—

DARLINO, the Monarch of all Lion Tamers;

and CAPTAIN ROWLEY,

from the Barnum Show, are specially engaged, and will perform with Five Monster Groups of Savage Animals, all full-grown specimens, and headed by the Giant Lions, "BRUTUS," "WALLACE," "HANNIBAL," and "PRINCE," the finest Lions in captivity. The envy of the Profession.

SEE THE BABY LIONS,

Born at Hull, 15th October.

See the FINEST ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTION ever Presented to your Notice.

See the Wonderful BOXING KANGAROO, The Champion of them all. A veritable Fight between Man and Beast. Undoubtedly a Shilling Sight in itself alone.

IN THE CIRCUS SECTION

will be found Artistes only of first-class Merit, and amongst others Clowns, Acrobats, Tumblers, Benders, Wire-walkers, Equilibrists, Jugglers, &c.

ONE CHARGE ADMITS TO ALL.

No Second Charge is made to view the whole of the above Zoological Wonders, &c.

Open Daily at 3·30 and 7 p.m. Descriptive Lecture and full Performances commence at 4 and 7·30. The Exhibition closes Daily from 5·15 to 6·30 p.m.

Admission to View the entire Show, 1s. Children, 6d.; Feeding Time, 9·30 p.m.; 3d extra.

Proprietors, MESSRS. BOSTOCK & WOMBWELL.

Public Notice.

THEATRE ROYAL.

CONSETT.

MONDAY, March 12th, and during the Week, the Grand PANTOMIME, "ROBINSON CRUSOE" with Special Scenery and Effects.

Tickets at Tyler's Boot Shop, Middle Street. 529n

A SEWING MACHINE FOR 3s. 6d.

THE "TABITHA"

SEWING MACHINE.

A REAL GENUINE ARTICLE—JUST OUT

COMPLETE IN BOX, WITH DIRECTIONS FOR 3s 6d.

ROBERT JACKSON

PRINTER & FANCY STATIONER,

GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET

AND

21, NEWMARKET STREET,

CONSETT.

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Lowes.

STANLEY STOCK AUCTION MART will OPEN shortly.

324n LOWES AND HOBSON, Auctioneers.

JOHN LOWES, Auctioneer and VALUER, has OPENED his NEW FURNITURE SALE-ROOMS, at Front Street, Stanley. Anyone having Furniture to dispose of can have it sold at any time. Cash advanced on Goods sent in for absolute sale. 323m

By Mr John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE.

MONDAY, MARCH 12th, 1894.

15 Prime Fat Cattle.
70 Fat Sheep, mostly Hoggs.
Veal and Keeping Calves.
A lot of Dairy Cows and Heifers, calved and to calve.
Geld Cows.
Ladders, Harness, Shovels, Poultry, Hay, &c.
Sale at 12 o'clock prompt.

540n JOHN S. MURRAY.

JOHN SWINBURN MURRAY,

THE AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT ROYAL AUCTION MART SALE OFFICE, BENFIELDSIDE.

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

By Mr. N. Elsdon.

Consett Popular Sale-Rooms, Front Street.

MR N. ELSDON will offer for SALE on Monday, March 12th, 1894, the following valuable FURNITURE,—Mahogany Wardrobe; Mahogany and Walnut Sideboards; Tallboy Drawers; Book-Case and Drawers; Centre Tables; Tea Tables; Kitchen Tables; Twelve Chairs; Wringing Machines; Couches; Cornice Poles; Carpets; Overmantels; Clocks; Looking Glasses; Oilcloth; Hearthrugs; Hall Stands; Taylor's Sewing Machine, in good working order; Bagatelle Board, with balls and cue complete, also caps, &c., and a Lot of useful Goods for Household purposes.

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

Sale Office, Delves Lane, Consett.

By Mr J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

MONDAY, March 12th, 1894.—50 to 70 Dairy Cows and Heifers, 20 Fat Cattle; 120 Fat Sheep and Hoggs, including consignments from Messrs the Weardale Iron and Coal Company (Limited, Tudhoe; T. Nesbitt, Witton-le-Wear; J. Furnbull, W. A. Holmes and other noted Feeders; 9 Store Cattle; 12 Finger Calves; Barrel Churn, Single Barrel Gun.

Entries today of Sale. Sale at 10·30 a.m.

NEXT SPECIAL SALE for STORE CATTLE Thursday, March 22nd, 1894. Early Entries solicited

J. VICKERS, Auctioneer.

By Messrs. R. Donkin & Son.

County of Durham.—Annfield Plain, near Lanchester FREEHOLD PROPERTIES.

MESSRS R. DONKIN and SON have been instructed to SELL BY AUCTION, at Mr Lumley's, Commercial Hotel, Annfield Plain, on Friday, March 30th, 1894, at half-past One o'clock p.m. prompt, the following PROPERTIES:—

Lot 1. TWO GRASS FIELDS of accommodation land, containing about 5ac. 2ro. 34po.

Lot 2. An ELIGIBLE BUILDING SITE, containing about 327 square yards, with a frontage of 33 feet.

Lot 3. TWO GRASS FIELDS of accommodation land, containing about 9 ac. 2ro. 26po., much of which is available for building purposes; also, an ELIGIBLE BUILDING SITE, containing about 284 square yards

Lot 4. A VALUABLE OLD GRASS FIELD, containing about 11ac. 2ro. 19po., the whole of which is admirably adapted for building either private dwellings or business premises. A plan showing the whole of this field, laid out in over 200 Building Sites of from 50 feet to 92 feet deep, with proper provision for street, is attached to the particulars of this property. The whole field will be offered in one lot, and if not so sold, it will be offered in five lots.

Lot 5. Another VALUABLE OLD GRASS FIELD of accommodation land, containing about 7ac. 2ro. 32po., a large portion of which is available for building purposes.

Lot 6. A FREEHOLD FARM of good arable and pasture land, known as "Kyo Laws," containing about 66ac. 2ro. 24po., together with inexhaustible sand pits. Let on a yearly tenancy at £80 rental.

Lot 7. THE LAND AND COTTAGES, known as "Fines House," containing about 41ac. 0ro. 10po., occupied by the Colliery Works and Coal Ovens of Messrs Bowes and Partners, upon yearly and leasehold tenancies, the whole being let at rentals amounting to £70 per annum.

Particulars, plans, and conditions of sale from Messrs WYNNE and SON, Solicitors, 31, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London W.C.; Messrs Belk and Cochrane, Solicitors, Post Office Chambers, Middlesborough; F. R. Clennell, Esq., Land Agent, 14, St. Mary's Place, Newcastle; Mr Lumley, Annfield Plain; or the Auctioneers, Mart Office, Rothbury. 457n

J. BAGNALL, AUCTIONEER, VALUER HOUSE and LAND AGENT, will undertake Auction Sales upon most reasonable Terms, and conduct in the best style. Letters by Post will have prompt attention, and all sorts of Goods, Furniture &c., bought right out for cash. Sale Offices, Holly Lodge, Shotley Bridge, and Hat and Feather Inn, Medomsley, R.S.O 455m

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

T. D. DRYDEN, AUCTIONEER FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Sales, Commissions, Valuations, and Auctioneering in all its Branches, at Moderate Charges, and Quick Settlements. T. D. D. has been commissioned by Judge MEYNELL to Levy Distress Warrants under the Agricultural Holdings' Act. Authorised Emigration Agent for the Allan, American, Guion, and Other Lines.

OFFICES—67, FRONT STREET, CONSETT (Next Door to North-Eastern Bank.)

WILLIAM RAW, AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, Land, House, and Commission Agent. Auction Sales conducted with experience, ability, and care. Prompt Payments. Appointed by His Honour, Judge Meynell, to levy Distress for Rent under the New Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Also, Architect and Surveyor. Plans for Houses Designed, and Building carried out for Convenience, Ease, and Comfort. Sale Office, Durham Road, Blackhill. 465m

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. John Crawford.

John Crawford's Sale Rooms, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR JOHN CRAWFORD will remove and SELL at his Sale Rooms, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, on Monday First, March 12th, a large Consignment of NEW and SECOND HAND FURNITURE, 2 Splendid Toned Pianos, with all the latest improvements, Iron Frames, Brass Pin Plates, and Action; Beautiful Suite, Set Mahogany Drawers, Kitchen Chairs, Tables, Brass-mounted Bedsteads, Feather, Rabbit Down and Flock Beds, Leather and Hair-seated Couches, and other lots too numerous to mention. Sale to commence One o'clock prompt.

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

By Messrs Green and Dowson.

Lanchester Auction Mart

MONDAY, MARCH 12th at One o'clock.—10 to 15 Cows and Heifers, 13 Fat Catte, 5 Veal Calves, 50 Fat Sheep and Hoggs, (no Pigs allowed). 20 Hens and 6 New Ladders. While the days are long the Sale will start as above. Entries to day of Sale. GREEN and DOWSON.

By Mr James Turnbull.

Burnhope House; 1½ miles from Lanchester, and 2 miles from Stanley.

MR JAMES TURNBULL, honoured with instructions of J. T. FORSTER, Esq., who is leaving the District, will SELL BY AUCTION on Wednesday and Thursday, Mar. 14th and 15th, 1894, the whole of his elegant and substantial Household FURNITURE and APPOINTMENTS contained in Drawing, Dining, Sitting, and 5 Bed Rooms, Kitchens, &c., The principal part has been supplied from ROBSON AND SON, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and is in the best of condition; several Pieces of valuable Old Oak Furniture; Old China; Plate-glass; Cutlery; Engravings; Oil Paintings; Water Colours; Books, &c. Garden and stable Fittings, Poultry, &c.

Sale each day at 11.30 a.m.

Catalogues, 6d each; may be had on application to the Auctioneer, Chester-le-Street.

On view, Tuesday, 13th, from 10 a.m., to 4 p.m.

Refreshments on the Premises. 508n

SPECIAL NOTICE.

A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Valuer, House, Land, and Emigration Agent, will undertake AUCTION SALES upon most reasonable terms, and conducted in the best style. LETTERS by Post will have prompt attention, and all Sorts of GOODS, FURNITURE, &c., bought right out for Cash. Appointed by His Honour Judge MEYNELL under the Law of Distress Amendment Act, 1888. Office—Front Street, Dipton, by Lintz Green Station

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY

W. AYNSLEY, Esq.
JAMES OLIVER, Esq. } Trustees.
HEDLEY NICHOLSON, Esq.

The next MEETING for receiving Subscriptions and Loans will be held in the Small Hall of the NEW TOWN HALL, CONSETT, between 7 and 8 o'clock on MONDAY, 12th March, and every Fortnight afterwards at the same time and place.

Loans received at 4 Per Cent. Interest, Repayable on 14 Days' Notice.

NEWCASTLE BUSINESS COLLEGE AND SCHOOL OF

SHORTHAND.

SMART & CO.,

42, GRAINGER STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

(Branch, 42, Fawcett Street, Sunderland).

Open Daily from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m. (Saturday 10 a.m. till 5 p.m.)

WRITING.—By Smart & Co's renowned system of Instruction the worst style of writing is transformed into a good Business hand in a single Course of Lessons. Success guaranteed. Fee, One Guinea.

BOOKKEEPING by Single and Double Entry. Students are taken through a complete course of study, adapted to their requirements, for a fixed Fee, without limit to lessons.

SHORTHAND.—Pitman's Phonography, Elementary and Advanced. Unlimited facilities are afforded for acquiring a practical knowledge. Tuition and speed practice all day, from 10 a.m. till 9 p.m.

TYPEWRITING, Arithmetic, English Grammar, Composition, and all the Branches of a sound, Commercial Education taught individually by specialists.

Private Rooms for Ladies. 640m

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BEEF & MALT WINE

THE MOST RELIABLE WINE FOR INVALIDS.

Composed of Extract of Beef, Kepler's Malt Extract, and old Port Wine. It forms a concentrated nutritive digestive food, blood-making, flesh-forming, and strengthening. Of the utmost value to children, invalids, and those who require strength

PRICES: 3s. 6d. PER BOTTLE; 2s. PER HALF-BOTTLE.

Prepared only by W. GLENDENNING, Newcastle.

LOCAL AGENTS:—

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—J. LUMLEY, Railway Inn
BLACKHALL MILL.—T. ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
BLACKHILL.—R. MURRAY, Royal Hotel.
BURNOPFIELD.—WM. STONES, Burton House.
CONSETT.—W. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c; T. D. DRYDEN, Grocers, &c.; THOMAS MILNER Chemist.
DIPTON.—R. ARMSTRONG, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
ESH.—WM. OYSTON, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
LEADGATE.—WM. AYNSLEY Grocer, &c.: JOHN SNAITH, Queen Victoria Hote.
MEDOMSLEY.—R. RUTHERFORD, Royal Oak Hotel,
SOUTH MOOR.—M. DIXON, Oak Inn.
STANLEY.—WM. AYNSLEY, Grocer, &c.; T. FORSTER, Wine and Spirit Merchant.
SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—M. ELSDON, Wheat Sheaf Inn.
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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

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PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

CHEAP WATCHES.

GENUINE ENGLISH LEVERS £1 10s 0d
SILVER GENEVAS 10s 6d

SEE THAT YOU GET TO THE RIGHT SHOP—No. 12.

OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW

STANHOPE.

Howl John Farm, near Stanhope, where was reared the famous bull, the Duke of Howl John, which took premier honours at the Royal Show, is up to let, and has been advertised.

LECTURE AND PIE SUPPER.—On Saturday evening, the Rev J. Webb, superintendent minister of the Weardale Wesleyan Circuit, delivered a very able and interesting lecture in the Wesleyan Chapel, Stanhope, on the struggles and triumphs of Scottish worthies. The chair was taken by J. W. Roddam, Esq., J.P., New Town Villa, Stanhope. A good company was present. A pie supper was afterwards provided in the schoolroom adjoining, at which there was a splendid set-out. The pies and other choice viands were all given. A large company sat down to an excellent repast. A very enjoyable evening was spent.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MR NEASHAM'S reply to the Rev Mr Bromley will appear next week.

The Consett Guardian

FRIDAY, MARCH 9TH, 1894.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

(BY "INCOGNITO.")

MARCH.

Who on this world of ours their eyes
In March first open shall be wise,
In days of peril firm and brave,
And wear a Bloodstone to their grave.

It must be some consolation to those of my readers who were born in this blusterous month, to be assured by the sages that so many virtues—and especially wisdom—will fall to their lot. Since the advent of the month, we have experienced typical March weather, nor has the proverbial peck of precious dust been wanting. To some of us the much-prized dust at this season of the year may possibly assume the form of a nuisance, rather than a boon, but to the agricultural community dry weather in the opening days of March is of the utmost importance. The sowing time has come, and should the farmer be retarded by either snow or rain from placing the seed in the bosom of mother earth, the advent of the harvest will as a rule be correspondingly delayed. Regarded in this light, the value of March dust will be better understood. The Romans are credited with naming this month in honour of the god Mars, and this year at least that ancient worthy has no cause to revile his namesake. We have had wind and to spare; but as there is no unnecessary waste in the kingdom of nature, it may well be assumed that there is a method as well as a purpose to serve by the action of the passing winds. Naturalists assert—and they are evidently right—that the high winds in the month of March are intended to awaken from the torpor and semi-death of winter, the trees and shrubs, by rocking the branches and even the trunks in the blast, until the spreading roots, deep down in the earth, are roused into renewed activity and life.

IT WON'T DO.

Reference was made the other evening, at the annual dinner of Chester-le-Street Farmer's Club, to the extremely low price at which wheat is at present selling. One gentleman went the length of declaring that unless something was done on the lines of protection, every farm in the country would soon be in grass. Well now, I have an idea that the speaker is in manifest error in concluding, as he does, that to increase the price of grain, either by protection or otherwise, would improve the position of the British farmers. Such an order of things would increase correspondingly the income of landowners, but it is difficult to see what share the farmer would get in the spoil. According to the systems and conditions of land tenure in this part of the country, the landlord may step in at the end of any year and raise the rent; and hence, although grain was commanding double the figure at which it is at present sold, the gain to the farmer would be of but short duration. This, I think, is about as plain as it can be put. Farmers need not, however, lull themselves to slumber in the happy mood that some fine day they will awaken to find that the importation of grain from abroad had been prohibited by law, and that by forming a home ring or syndicate, they could command any price for grain they cared to name. The sooner such a day-dream is dispelled the better. Such a change of scenery would no doubt be very gratifying to farmers, but to the common people it would operate in much the same way as the moral of the fable of the boys who stoned the proverbial frogs, there being fun on the one side and death on the other.

THE REASON WHY.

Apropos of the preceding note, two or three reasons may be tabulated, as tending to show not only the reason why any one section of the population need not indulge in expectations never to be realised, but to show also that there is neither rhyme nor reason in such a proposal. By precedent and tradition the Liberal party are bound to regard the prohibition of foreign grain from our shores with disfavour. Then there are fully two-thirds of modern Tories all sailing in the same boat. The Tory of the old school is not dead, but he is sleeping so soundly that policy forbids him from opening more than one eye at a time. Our land is but a mere spec in the universe, and so well is this understood and recognised that it is an open secret that if we had no supplies from without, we would die of sheer starvation. But granting, even, that the importation of wheat was restricted, it would have the direct effect of raising the price of the staff of life in this country, and that is exactly what will not be tolerated in a democratic age such as that in which our lot has been cast. In fact, we have been justly likened to a nation of shopkeepers, and whether we like the appellation or no, it is palpable all the same that as our population increases, we are more than ever dependent on the great markets of the world. Our wants in this respect have given birth to great industries in the new world—not to speak of the impetus given to every industry at home, in the manufacture of steel and iron for the fleets of vessels engaged in carrying food to our cold shores. I have before me at this moment, "Wheat," a most charmingly illustrated description of California's leading industry. The work is published at San Francisco, and is the best of its class I have ever seen. The illustrations are numerous and excellent, while the cost of raising wheat per acre, and the product for the same space is given in detail. It appears that machinery in that part of the world is the be-all and the end-all of the success of the farmer, and as nature never goes to rest in those parts, the amount of grain raised in a year is almost beyond comprehension. Then we have Egypt, other parts of America, and Russia, so that, taken all round, it matters little to the toiling masses of this country whether English farmers grow wheat or grass.

CONSETT TRADE AND LABOUR COUNCIL.

The members of this restive body passed a resolution last week by the skin of their teeth, to the effect that at the ensuing elections due regard shall be given to the securing of working-men representation on our local administrative bodies. The proposal was not received with that enthusiasm characteristic of the action of the pioneers of new movements. It appears to me that a trifle too much is being made in some quarters of the workmen representation cry. The fact that a man earns a living by the sweat of his brow, or by the skilful use of a tool or implement, does not conduce to make him either better or worse than his fellow who drives a quill, or stands behind a counter. It is the mind that makes the man—not the particular calling that he may happen to follow, by chance or chance. Personally, I know many working-men with whom I would associate, than with others who in point of social standing are many degrees removed from the so-called—but misnamed—drudgery of toil. I have an idea that the Council would have commanded more respect from the public generally, had its members been humble enough to have rested on their oars for a while, instead of clamouring to have a finger in every man's pie. The men who ought to sit on our district Boards, are those who have themselves interests at stake. Because a man can blow his horn; or, as Johnson said, make little fishes speak like whales, is no passport to a seat in even the most insignificant assembly in the land.

Local and District News

CONSETT

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 741ST STARR-BOWKETT BUILDING SOCIETY.—On Wednesday night, the annual special meeting of this society was held in the Small Hall of Consett New Town Hall Buildings. There were present:—Mr C. W. Almond (in the chair), Messrs J. Oliver, T. Collinson C. Davison, C. Lumley, J. Jackson, directors, and a good number of members. The report and balance-sheet for the past year was adopted. Rule sixth was altered to read that subscriptions be taken from 7.30 to 8.30. Messrs C. W. Almond, W. Davison, and C. Lumley, were re-elected as directors, together with Mr J. Rainbridge, of Annfield Plain. Messrs C. Stephenson and J. M. Nicholson were re-elected auditors. A hearty vote of thanks were accorded to the directors and auditors for their services. Subsequently the 25th appropriation meeting was held, Mr C. Almond, being appointed chairman, and Messrs J. Lynn and J. Bainbridge as scrutineers. The two first numbers drawn were 225 and 102 respectively but they were found to be forfeited. Number 300 was next drawn and it was declared to be withdrawn. The fourth and fifth numbers drawn were 269 and 318 but those had been transferred. Finally 127 was drawn and the member holding same was declared entitled to £200 free of interest.

At the Consett Police Offices yesterday (Thursday) before Mr J. T. Potts, Robert Lawrence (18), was remanded on a charge of attempting to rob the till in the shop of Elizabeth Hailes, of Derwent Street, Blackhill, on Tuesday last.

A TRAMP IN TROUBLE.—At the Consett Police Court on Monday, before Mr J. T. Potts, Ann Todd (40), a tramp, was fined 2s 6d and costs for being drunk and disorderly in Matthews' lodging-house, Green Street, Consett, on Saturday last, and was ordered to pay 4s damage and costs, for breaking a window pane in the same premises, or in default to undergo seven days' hard labour.

THEATRE ROYAL.—A description of "Merry Mr Merlin," the burlesque pantomime now being performed by Mr Charles Stuart's Company at the Theatre Royal, Consett, appears in "Old Crow's" Notes, in another column. Next week Mr Tom Saunders with his pantomime "Robinson Crusoe" is announced, so that another treat may be expected.

TWO RUNAWAY HORSES.—On Tuesday afternoon, two horses attached to a van belonging to a biscuit firm, hailing from Newcastle, bolted, and at terrific speed proceeded down Park Road. Several attempts were made to stop the animals by pedestrians, and their efforts were not successful, until one of the wheels of the van came in collision with a telegraph-post by the roadside, when the horses were brought to a standstill. The van was slightly damaged, and so was a portion of the fencing connected with the Consett Park.

SALVATION ARMY.—On the occasion of the visit of Major Hodder on Sunday next, March 11th, the services will be held morning, afternoon and evening in the New Town Hall. The Major is the chief officer over the Army work in the North-East province which consists of the Newcastle, Sunderland, Middlesborough, and Hull Divisions. He has had considerable service with the Army both in this country and on the continent. The subject for the morning meeting is "Holiness" and on this the Major is very clear, and definite. These special services will be preceded by a public tea on Saturday at 4.30.

UNITED TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION.—The usual gospel temperance mission service took place on Sunday night, in the Consett Co-operative Hall. There was a very large audience. The chairman was Mr John Lowes, and the musical programme was contributed by the Consett Primitive Methodist choir, conducted by Mr A. S. Coates. After devotional exercises, the choir rendered the anthem "Come, let us return," and was followed by Mr Milburn, who favoured with a solo on the concertina. Another anthem, "The radiant morn," was given by the choir, while Miss Redshaw and Miss Hobday executed a duet on the pianoforte. Mr Coates himself sang "The lost song," and Miss Jane Ann Parker gave "Close to thee." The final anthem by the choir was entitled "What are these?" The musical capabilities of the members of the above choir and its efficient leader, are too well known to be eulogised here, and it is sufficient to state that every item, both vocal and instrumental, was rendered in a very fine style. Rev Wm. Raistrick, P.M. supt. minister, Blackhill, gave an earnest address, and expressed his heartfelt sympathy with the efforts of the Temperance Society in holding their Sabbath evening services. The gathering closed in the usual way.

BLACKHILL.

4TH DERWENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.—The shares in this society are being rapidly taken up, and at present they have about 50 members enrolled with about 100 shares, making a capital of £12,000. There will be a meeting next week (see advertisement columns) when the directors of the 3rd Derwent Society will explain the benefits of this, the 4th Society.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

WESLEYAN CHAPEL.—It will be seen from our advertising columns that Mr E. Milton Halstead, the rising young student, whose discourses were so much appreciated a few months ago, is to re-visit Shotley Bridge on Sunday next, when we trust large audiences will be present.

TOW LAW.

"The Covenanters" formed the subject of a capital lecture in the Primitive Chapel, Tow Law, on Monday evening, by Mr R. Walker, evangelist.

A very interesting and instructive lecture was given in the Presbyterian Church, Tow Law, on Monday night, by Rev P. Duncan, B.D., Hull, on his visit last summer to Chicago Exhibition. The lecture was illustrated by a large collection of lime-light views.

PELTON FELL.

At the usual weekly meeting of the Mutual Improvement Class on Wednesday sen'night, the Secretary (Mitchell Masterton) read a paper on "Opium," setting forth what opium was, and the evil results from using the same.

LEADGATE.

WESLEYAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The usual meeting of the above band of hope was held on Saturday night, presided over by Mr R. Hardy. The programme consisted of solos by Miss Richardson, Newcastle; Miss Askew, Blackhill; recitations by Miss M. Graham, Mr J. W. Wilson, Leadgate; and Miss Proud Blackhill; selections by band of hope choir, and a dialogue by nine band of hope boys. Unfortunately, owing to a slight misunderstanding, there was no address.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST BAND OF HOPE.—Another successful entertainment was held in the Primitive Methodist School-room, at Leadgate, on Saturday night, when and excellent programme was gone through in capital style, consisting of recitations, reading, solos, duets, &c. under the able direction of Mr C. Morgan. The chief attractions of the entertainment were the rendering of two dialogues, entitled "Wanted a servant," by eight characters, and "The six little nurses," which was so well given in December by six little girls with dolls, under the charge of Miss Stobbs. Both of these dialogues were efficiently rendered, and much praise is due to the performers. These entertainments are becoming more and more popular, and are deservedly well attended each fortnight. Mr John Maughan ably occupied the chair, and Mr Ralph Dagligh presided at the harmonium with his usual ability.

CASTLESIDE.

LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—On Thursday evening se'nnight, under the auspices of this association, the Rev A. Graham-Barton, of Crook, delivered an able and eloquent lecture to a very appreciative and enthusiastic audience, on "The Liberal Party and their present Programme." The chair was occupied by Mr Ripley, who in a few well chosen words introduced the lecturer. At the close, the chairman, in calling upon Mr G. Graham-Golightly to propose a vote of thanks, said that its was absolutely the best lecture he had ever listened to and this was the opinion of the audience too. Votes of thanks were passed with acclamation.

WEARDALE.

On Thursday se'nnight, Mr George Muschamp, of Broken Lea, Weardale, entertained his tenants to a complimentary supper.

THE WEARDALE RAILWAY: COMMENCEMENT OF OPERATIONS.—On Monday and Tuesday a gang of the North-Eastern Railway employees were engaged at Stanhope Station, breaking the line and putting points and crossings in, and laying a few yards of rails of the main line into the fields west of the Station some 20 yards north of the Railway Bridge, and between that place and the Station. A number of navvies also have found their way into Weardale, these last few days to be ready for a start in a few days' time. Plant for the construction of a railway is beginning to arrive, and ballast for the railroad, and there is every indication that in a few weeks the Weardale Railway construction will be in full swing, which will be a boon to the locality while it is being made, and afterwards as well, as it is fully expected to develope the local industries and create fresh ones.

ACCIDENT TO A FARMER.—An accident occurred at Stanhope, on Friday, to Henry Muse, son of Mr R. Muse, coach proprietor, Stanhope, which might easily have been attended with serious results. As Mr Muse and Mr Wm. Hudson, an employe, had been down the road towards Frosterley in a trap trying a young horse, and were returning at night, and when opposite the Lime Tree Walk, a dog ran and bit the young horse's head, which caused it to bolt among the trees, opposite the post-office, throwing the occupants of the trap out, Mr Muse falling heavily on his head against the tree, by which he was rendered unconscious for a time. Hudson was little worse, but the trap was smashed, and he attended the wounded man. The horse was caught by some who witnessed the accident. Medical aid was called, and it was found that Mr Muse had received a severe shock to his system besides being cut and bruised about the head and face. He is farming the Stanhope Hall farm, and is well known in the dale.

WOLSINGHAM.

THE PROPERTY MARKET.—Last week, at the Black Bull Inn, Wolsingham, Mr Nicholson offered for sale the valuable property situate at North Waskerley Bridge, occupied by the Tow Law Store branch, and Messrs Dobinson and Bowron, and including the old foundry and shops. There was a large attendance, but not much competition. Mr Wiseman offered £400 for the whole, but this was not supported. For lot 1, the Tow Law branch shop, Mr Rawes commenced at £150, followed by Messrs Wiseman, Gradon, and Stobbs, with £10 bids. £250 was reached by Mr Stobbs, but the lot was withdrawn. For the remaining lot, Mr Stobbs offered £100 and £110, and Mr Wiseman, £105, and this was withdrawn. Mr Proud was solicitor for the vendor.

WATERHOUSES.

RAILWAY FACILITIES IN THE DEARNESS VALLEY.—A crowded meeting was held on Tuesday night in the long room of the Stag's Head Hotel, Waterhouses, in connection with the movement for better railway accommodation in the Dearness Valley. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Father Fortin, and there were present Colonel Leadbitter Smith, J.P., C.C., Dr. Pride, representatives from all the neighbouring collieries, and nearly the whole of the tradesmen of the district. The minutes of the last meeting having been read, it was resolved that Messrs Hanson, Walton, Greener, Telford, and Robinson should be added to the previously formed deputation, and steps taken at once to bring before the directors of the North-Eastern Railway the wants of the district. In addition to further train accommodation, a new station at Hedley Hill is urgently asked for. It having been stated on the part of the railway company that the population was but small for the station, a census has been taken, and it is found that 3,785 persons would be immediately and directly benefited by a new station, and, in addition, there are a great number to whom it will be a considerable advantage.

BURNOPFIELD.

CONCERT.—On Saturday night, a grand concert was given in the Co-operative Hall, for the benefit of Mr Charles Barrasford, jun., when a splendid programme was rendered under the presidency of Mr H. F. Bolman, Esq., M.E., Byer Moor, by the following ladies and gentlemen belonging the Wesleyan and other societies:—Misses Jefferson, and Charlton, from Blaydon; Miss Teasdale, of Newcastle; Miss M. Barkus, Byer Moor; Mrs Bell, Crookgate; Mr E. Ord, Mr Wm. Hall, Mr H. Wardy, Mr D. Patterson, Mr J. T. Johnson, Mr T. Barrasford, Mr J. Tallintire, Mr R. Appleby, and Professor McTabb gave a mesmeric performance. Miss Hunt, of Marley Hill, presided at the piano, assisted by Mr J. Pyle. The meeting closed by singing the doxology. A handsome sum was taken at the door.

RYTON-ON-TYNE.

LECTURE.—On Tuesday evening, at a meeting of the Ryton Literary Society, held in the Parish Hall, the Rev. Canon Baily, (rector of the parish), gave a lecture on "Ryton in the 16th Century." The lecturer gave a most interesting account of the rectors during the period under notice, the church and church services, and their source of income; the general appearance of the village, which at that time extended from the Derwent, Winlaton, and Stanley Burn, and the occupation of the inhabitants. At the close the lecturer was accorded a hearty vote of thanks. There was a large audience, and the chair was occupied by Mr Geo. Mathwin.

PARISH HALL.—The building committee of the above hall at Ryton have just had completed by Messrs Robson, of Hexham, the planting of the ground around the hall with trees and shrubs. The hall and grounds have been greatly improved in appearance and are quite an ornament to the village. Since its opening the hall has been in great request for concerts and meetings, and has proved a great acquisition to the villagers. A reading room for working men has been started and has met with great success.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

FATAL ACCIDENT NEAR CHESTER-LE-STREET.—On Saturday afternoon a young man named Anthony Irwin, belonging Gateshead, employed at the repairs of Holme Hill Bridge on the Team Valley line, was killed by the 3.20 p.m. express from York to Newcastle.

DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT.—On Wednesday se'nnight, the Co-operative Employés' Dramatic Society gave a successful representation of the great Pickwick case, "Bardell v. Pickwick," in the Co-operative Hall, Chester-le-Street. The hall was crowded, and the audience appreciated this effort of the society with well-merited applause. The characters were represented as follows:—"Mr Justice Starleigh," Mr Robt. Brown; "Sergt. Buzfuz," Mr W. Lawson; "Sergt. Snubbins," Mr J. Binney; "Mr Kimpkins, barrister," Mr G. Donnison; "Mr Plunky, barrister," Mr W. Smith; "Mr Pickwick," Mr Wm. Binney; Natt. Winkle, Esq.," Mr E. L. Ward; "L. Groffin," Mr James Fairley; "Mr Perkins, attorney-at-law," Mr J. Herring; S. Weller, sen.," Mr Fairley; S. Weller Jun.," Mr Geo. Wragg; "Mr Elizabeth Cluppins," Miss F. Armstrong; "Mrs Bardell," Miss M. Waggott; "crier, usher, and clerk of court," Messrs G. Anderson, T. Moffit, and T. Waggott. The whole of the characters were dressed in appropriate costumes. At the conclusion of the trial scene, a short programme of songs was rendered by Messrs J. Binney, "Eight-hours a day," and a "Nursery rhyme;" R. Brown, "Always hand," *encored*; and Fairley, "He never smiled again," *encored*. Prof. Edward Hoey also gave a very good ventriloquial entertainment with his wooden-headed family.

SWALWELL.

METHODIST NEW CONNEXION CHAPEL.—A grand concert was given in the above place on Saturday night last, by the following ladies and gentlemen:—Miss Burlinson, Miss Smith, Miss B. Harwood, and Mr J. Knox. A recitation was rendered by Miss Douglass, and an address, both interesting and profitable, was delivered by Mr Douglass. Mr Thos Wright (late of Washington), presided over the proceedings, and was heartily applauded for his quaint and humourous remarks, as well as his interesting opening speech. Mr R. J. A. Whitfield was accompanist.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

In the Wesleyan Chapel, Annfield Plain, on Wednesday night, a lecture was given by Rev J. Crawshaw, subject, "The Holy Land," illustrated by magic-lantern slides. There were also views of H.M.S. *Victoria* on her passage down the Tyne, and her subsequent voyage and wreck. There was a good company present.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The choir in connection with the above chapel held their annual services on Saturday and Sunday last. On the former day a grand evening concert was given, when the following ladies and gentlemen took part—Miss P. Smith, South Moor; Miss H. F. Storey, Stanley; Miss J. O. Carr, Annfield Plain; Dr Baine, Dipton, and Dr Roe, Catchgate (with their banjoes); Mr J. Beathem, Dipton; and Messrs H. Herdman and E. A. Reay, Annfield Plain. The accompanist was Mr T. F. Turner, of Annfield Plain, whilst Rev E. Phillipson, of Jarrow, acted as chairman. There was a good attendance, and everyone was highly delighted with the evening's entertainment. Votes of thanks to the chairman and performers brought a very pleasant evening to a close.—On Sunday, Rev E. Phillipson preached in the morning and evening. A grand sacred oratorio, "Christ and His soldiers," was given by the choir in the afternoon. The service was presided over by Mr P. Reay. The proceeds, over £6, are on behalf of the choir fund.

SUPPER.—On Wednesday evening, February 28th, a splendid supper was provided and served in a style worthy of praise to the hostess of the Railway Hotel. After ample justice had been done to the excellent repast, the cloths being removed, Mr G. Barker was elected chairman, and Mr J. McGarity, vice-chairman. The chairman proposed the health of the host and hostess, and the health of the guests of the evening, which was drunk with musical honours. The chairman, on arising, said the meeting that evening was to make presentations to Mr and Mrs Wm. Taylor, late of Annfield Plain, now residents of Newcastle-on-Tyne, who were greatly respected by all who knew them, for their generosity whilst in the district, which consisted of a case containing a real meerschaum and briar pipes, with a splendid amber cigar holder, all neatly mounted with silver, bearing the inscription, "Presented to William Taylor by his many friends, on leaving Annfield Plain." The chairman then handed the case of presents to Mr Taylor. On Mr Taylor returning thanks, he said he always loved Annfield Plain from the first, and if it had not been for his health, he would have been at Annfield Plain still, but he would always remember them. The next presentation consisted of a splendid artistic set of china for Mrs Taylor, who thanked all the friends for contributing, and when any of the Annfield Plain friends came to see her, she would replenish their thirst with a good cup of tea. The health of Mr and Mrs Taylor and family was drunk with due respect. During the evening, songs were rendered by Miss L. George, of Annfield Plain, and Miss Bailes, Durham; and by Messrs W. George, J. Mason, G. Barker, J. Champney, and W. Taylor. Amusing recitations were given by Messrs J. Mason, G. Barker, and J. Champney. Miss L. George and Miss Bailes ably performed on the piano. Votes of thanks were given to the secretary, Mr J. Henwood, and to the committee. An enjoyable and pleasant evening was brought to a close by the guests singing "Auld Lang Syne."

ALTERATION OF TRAINS.—The train leaving Newcastle for Annfield Plain at 7.30 p.m. has been altered to 7.50 p.m. and the train leaving Annfield Plain for Newcastle at 8.35 p.m. has been timed to leave at 7.55 p.m. While we are thankful for small mercies, we trust the North-Eastern Railway Company will see their way to give greater facilities for travelling to the large and increasing population in the district.

PRUDHOE.

LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.—On Monday evening, a public tea and meeting were held in connection with the Prudhoe Liberal Association. A large number sat down to tea at tables presided over by the Misses Johnson, Heslop, Ripley, and Thompson, assisted by the Misses Smith, Rowell, Arthur, and Simpson. At the meeting which followed in the National Schoolroom, Mr W. G. Angus presided, and he was supported by Mr L. J. Goudy, Newcastle; Mr T. R. Dodd, Lemington; Mr W. Pickering, Mr Thompson Gillis, Mr W. Robertson, Mr W. Knox Lyal, &c. There was a crowded attendance. A resolution in favour of the abolition of the House of Lords was passed.

LANGLEY PARK.

CONCERT.—The children's annual concert was given in the schoolroom on Friday and Wednesday week before densely packed audiences. As many were unable to obtain admission on the second night, the concert was repeated the following night. The performance on each occasion passed off without a hitch, and was highly appreciated. The piece produced, under the direction of Mr A. Hollingworth, was "Don Quixote," a kinderspiel by J. C. Grieve The work abounds in beautiful melodies and interesting dialogue. The singing and acting were admirably rendered and enthusiastically received. Mr R. Peel presided at the piano with his customary efficiency.

WEST STANLEY.

GOSPEL TEMPERANCE MEETING.—The usual gospel temperance meeting was held on Sunday night, when upwards of 1,400 people listened to a well-furnished programme. Mr James Robson presided, and opened with the old-fashioned hymn, "Praise ye the Lord, 'tis good to raise," which the large congregation joined in singing very heartily. The programme for the evening was of a high-class character, and credit is due to Mr Robson for the same. The following were the pieces:—Selection on piano, Mr W. Robson; song, "Angels ever bright and fair," Miss Nicholson; violin solo, Mr M. Simpson; recitation, "The bridge-keeper's story," Mr J. Hall; duet, "O lovely peace," Messrs Gibbon and Maughan; song, "City of Jerusalem," Miss Brabban; violin duet, Mr Simpson and Master Trevener (6 years of age); recitation, "The life-boat," Mr J. Hall; violin solo and variations, "Home, sweet home," Master Trevener; song. "Calvary," Miss Brabban. Mr W. Robson ably presided at the piano. The proceeds of the evening were given to the South Moor Primitive Methodist trustees towards their new chapel. The meeting ended with the benediction. These meetings seem to be very popular, and people attend from all parts of the district. We trust that these meetings will tend to make Stanley a sober village.

EDUCATION IN WEST STANLEY.—One of the great advantages to be derived from the opening out of railway communication with this district, is the improved facility for acquiring a good commercial education. Messrs Smart and Co., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, have opened a branch at the Board Schools, where their representative, Mr Hurst, attends every Wednesday from 6 to 8.15 p.m. The system of teaching penmanship adopted by Messrs Smart and Co., is of world-wide celebrity, and all who write a bad hand should place themselves under their care. Shorthand, book-keeping, arithmetic, and English, also receive special attention. We advise our readers to call for a prospectus.

FROSTERLEY.

The Rev Isaiah Jones, of Darlington, preached two excellent sermons in the Frosterley Wesleyan Chapel, on Sunday, to large companies.

SCIENCE CLASS PRIZE DISTRIBUTION AT FROSTERLEY.—On Saturday afternoon, Mr J. A. Pease, M.P. for the Tyneside Division, and Mrs Pease, attended at the Literary Institute, Frosterley, at the distribution of prizes in connection with science classes held there. Mrs Pease distributed the prizes, and in felicitous terms congratulated the successful students. Mr Pease gave an interesting address on Technical Education, which was listened to with interest by the good company present. The Rev A. Marsh, vicar of Thornley, presided, and gave a capital address on the advantages of education. Mr Taylor, organising secretary for Messrs Pease and Partners, read the report, and complimented the committee on the way in which the Institute was managed, and said the Frosterley Institute headed the list of successful candidates in the examinations in the science and art departments throughout the institutions connected with the firm. Mr J. Barker, quarry manager, Rogerly quarries, and Mr J. Waller, manager at the Broadwood quarries, were also present. Great credit is due to Mr Barker, teacher of the science classes, for the efficiency and success of the students.

"ROUGH ON RATS."—Ask Chemists, Grocers, or Oilmen for "Rough on Rats." It clears out rats, mice, beetles, bed-bugs, roaches, ants, insects, ground moles, &c. 1s. and 6½d. boxes.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[BY "STANHOPE."]

The School Board meeting on Friday was a very stormy one. The Rookhope member gave the Board a bit of his mind, and told them straight what he thought. It seems in Rookhope they have some difficulty in getting a schoolmistress, and more in keeping one, and the Rookhope schoolmaster suggested to the Board the advisability of engaging two young teachers belonging the place at a salary of £20 each. The Board has a rule, which they are not keen in departing from, of paying a schoolmistress £40 a year salary. Mrs Phillipson, of Eastgate, offered her services at £50, but they would not break the rule, and, as no other applied, the chairman contended they did the best thing they could do under the circumstances in engaging the two local teachers. This did not suit the Rookhope people, so a ratepayers' meeting was called, and their action questioned very much, and a letter was written to the Board respecting it, signed by the Vicar and a Mr J. Brown. A deputation was also appointed to meet the Board and state the views of the Rookhope people. So Mr Robinson attended, and he and the Rookhope member made things rather lively. Mr Roddam complained that the master neither consulted him or the ratepayers when he suggested the employment of local teachers. A thunderstorm is said to clear and purify the atmosphere, and it is hoped that after this things will go more smoothly in Rookhope.

The Rookhope people have in Mr Roddam a member who stands up for their rights, and when things are not done as the people desire he hits out right and left. But, as the chairman pointed out, he had raised the school to a high state of efficiency, and was desirous of maintaining it, and the master only suggested the thing.

It transpired at the meeting alluded to that schoolmistresses were getting rather scarce, and if a properly certificated mistress is to be got and kept in Rookhope, the Board will have to break through their rule and give a higher salary for the future, not only in Rookhope, but in other places as well.

Long looked for, come at last. The long wished for and long talked of Weardale railway is really going to be made. The dalesfolk have long waited and hoped, but at last their wishes are about to be realised. An actual commencement was made this week, at Stanhope station, by a gang of North-Eastern Railway workmen, who began operations on Monday morning by preparing to break the line and put in points and crossings, and a short length of railway into the fields occupied by Mr William Tweddle, at the west side of the station, and between there and the railway bridge. The interesting event was witnessed by numbers of people, some of whom were rather sceptical about the steam engine puffing away up Weardale until they saw for themselves the gang of workmen laying the crossings, and an engine load of ballast come steaming up the Wear Valley—a sure sign of better days for Weardale. The arrival of contractors' plant and a large number of navvies—old hands as they are called in the dale—also betokens the making of the railway up into Weardale being in full swing in a week or two. The labour market in Weardale has long been dull, and something was needed, but this week the labour barometer has risen, and things are now looking bright and hopeful.

This next 12 or 18 months Weardale will be a stirring place to what it has been. There will be plenty of employment, and the congested state of the quarries at Stanhope and Frosterley will be considerably relieved of their surplus men and, as a consequence, wages will go up. The railway is Weardale's only hope, and the only thing which is to save the higher part of it from becoming a purely agricultural district. There is, however, hope for Weardale yet.

The Weardale Guardians, on Friday last, gave the Roman Catholic priest of Wolsingham leave to hold Holy Communion at the Workhouse, for the benefit of the Catholic inmates. Leave was also given for mass.

They take time by the forelock at Westgate. A railway hotel has already been opened out by an enterprising dalesman, Mr Stephen Reid. It is the early bird that catches the worm at Westgate.

The Frosterley Wesleyans had a treat on Sunday, when they had the pleasure of hearing the Rev I. Jones, of Darlington, preach twice in their beautiful chapel.

The Stanhope Wesleyans had a successful pie supper on Saturday evening. Mr J. W. Roddam, J.P., presided at the lecture delivered by Mr Welch. Mr Roddam is a staunch churchman and even a churchwarden at Stanhope Church, but is broad in his views, and has set other sectarians a good example.

There is to be two or three vaccination prosecutions in the dale on persons who have a conscientious objection to this questionable operation being performed on poor children. So it was decided at the Weardale Board of Guardians on Friday.

"The Herald of Health" for March contains some capital anti-vivesection notes by Mr Joseph Collinson, of Wolsingham, an able writer on this and kindred subjects. His writings on vaccination are bearing fruit. There are several persons who now object to have their children vaccinated in the dale at Frosterley, Tow Law, and Wolsingham.

When prizes are to be distributed, and certificates to the students who have successfully passed the science examination at Frosterley, a Member of Parliament and his wife come to do it; but at Stanhope the certificates are smuggled into the class and laid on the table, and each student picks up his own. Not even a committee-man puts in his appearance. Poor Stanhope.

Frosterley is to have a dairy school. Miss Maidment, who has been conducting butter and cheese making classes at Tow Law, is to open out and conduct one at Frosterley.

I hear with regret that the Rev A. E. Burdekin is about to leave Stanhope. Almost every man in Stanhope regrets it. He is one of the most popular clergymen there has been in Stanhope for a long time.

Mr Parsons, the well-known cheap salesman, will visit St. John's Chapel next week, and will again offer a cheap lot of goods, and give the Upper Weardale people another benefit in the shape of a good article at a cheap rate. He has attended Stanhope and Wolsingham, where he has been well patronised these last two or three weeks.

I.O.G.T.—NORTH DURHAM DISTRICT ANNUAL SESSION.—The annual session was held on Wednesday week, at Sunderland, when a good number of delegates assembled. Bro. J. E. Gimblett, D.C.T., presided, and, in his report, made special allusions to the working of the order, and also to the Direct Veto Bill. The District Secretary, Bro. Richardson, in his report, showed an increase of 104 for the quarter, making a total of 1795 members. Sister M. B. Hall, D.S.J.T., in her report, showed an increase for the quarter of 191, making a total of 972 members. The election of officers took place, which resulted in the re-election of Bro. J. E. Gimblett, D.C.T., Bro. J. W. Woods, D.E.S., Bro. W. Edgar, D.C., Bro. J. Heslop, D.G., and Bro. W. H. Richardson, D.S., for 17 years. Bro. J. Carr, was installed into the office of D.S.J.T. The following were chosen to represent the District Lodge, at the Grand Lodge, which is to be held in Easter week, at Portsmouth—Bros. J. E. Gimblett, Chester-le-Street; W. H. Richardson, South Shields; John Carr, West Stanley, R.S.O.; J. A. Harrison, Sunderland. Good Templary on the whole is looking up in the district.

DIPTON.

EXTRAORDINARY LARGE EGG.—Recently a minorca hen, belonging to Mr Edward Foster, laid an egg measuring 9 inches by 5, and weighing 4½ ounces. Also a pouter, 10 months old, laid [illegible] 7½ inches by 3½.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT TRADES' COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of this body took place in the Co-operative Buildings, Consett, Mr J. G. Cooke (chairman) presiding.

A LATE TRAIN ON SATURDAY NIGHT.

The Secretary (Mr J. Wildsmith) said that he had not yet received an answer from the North Eastern Railway Co. with regard to the request of the Council for a late train to be run from Newcastle to Consett on Saturday nights, at the same time on Wednesday nights.

The matter was left over.

NEW DELEGATES.

The Secretary said the Steelsmelters' Association had appointed two delegates to attend the Council, and the Chairman understood that the stocktakers had elected one representative.

STATE OF TRADE.

The trade reports showed that the associated iron steelworkers, the mechanics, enginemen, fitters, masons and bricklayers, and joiners' trades were very brisk or good, but the mining and paper-making industry was slack.

The CHAIRMAN observed that trade prospects were looking brighter, and there was every prospect of a prosperous year.

Mr W. McIVOR: They are looking better than they were last November.

LABOUR REPRESENTATIVES ON THE JOINT HOSPITAL BOARD.

The Secretary suggested that the working classes should contribute a small sum every night towards the funds of the Leadgate Infectious Hospital, so that the working men might be directly represented on the Lanchester Joint Hospital Board. This would also help to pay for the maintenance of those poor people who could not afford it. He gave notice of motion to that effect for the next meeting, and promised to obtain fuller information in the meantime.

ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

The following were elected on the Executive Committee, which meets prior to the Council, and arranges the business, besides rejecting unsuitable notices of motion:—Messrs W. Hutchinson, G. Lovatt, George Atkinson, W. Cassidy, J. R. Pearson, and Edward Hobday, together with chairman and secretary as ex-officio members.

WORKING MEN AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The CHAIRMAN, pursuant to notice, moved,—"That a committee be appointed to watch the actions of the various public bodies in the district, and also to take into consideration the question of bringing forward suitable candidates at the future elections of members of those Boards." He remarked that the public might think the council was going to form itself into a sort of vigilance committee; but that was not their object. It was their intention to watch the movements of public bodies. He pointed out that the working classes in the past had been totally ignored in reference to educational, sanitary, and parochial matters. He did not blame the members of those Boards so much as the working classes themselves, who seemed to be perfectly indifferent to their own privileges and interests. There had recently been a striking illustration of what he had indicated very recently in the Consett district. A guardian for that township had lately died, and the Guardians, without consulting the ratepayers at all, had taken it upon themselves to appoint a successor. However, their action was illegal, the Local Government having just issued an order for a special election, so that the vacancy would be filled up by popular vote.

A gentleman explained that Mr Cooke was wrong in making such a statement. The Guardians had not filled up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr Collinson.

The CHAIRMAN said he was informed that Mr Aynsley had been elected, and had sat since at Lanchester. However, he would let that matter pass. The working classes, he maintained, had been very materially neglected in that district; and they would be treated in this fashion till they set their feet down and asserted their rights, and demanded their just privileges. They were neglected on all great questions except when their services were wanted as mere voting machines. When the Technical Education Committee, for instance, was formed for Benfieldside township, the School Board did not consult the working classes about the matter, and there was not a single working man appointed on that committee, although technical education was supposed to benefit the artisan classes. The committee he wished to form would take into consideration the question of bringing forward suitable candidates to contest every election connected with all public bodies. When the Council communicated with the Benfieldside, Consett, and Leadgate Local Boards, and the Lanchester Guardians some time since, with regard to giving work to contractors paying the trades union rates of wages only, and favouring the abolition of the system of sub-contracting, they were properly "snubbed" by the Leadgate Board. The Lanchester Board of Guardians told them that they had nothing to do with the matter. The Consett Board did nothing, and the only reasonable answer emanated from the Benfieldside Board, whose Clerk informed the Council that the work was being carried out in accordance with the Poor Law Act. If that was so, then they must get the law amended. However, since the Council first took up the subject a large majority of public bodies had accepted the idea they promulgated. The proposed committee would simply be called upon to perform a certain amount of work, and would present a report every month to the different meetings of the Council for consideration. They had had one committee to look after this business, but unfortunately the Council had not received any report from the members thereof. In view of the District and Parish Councils Bill coming into operation, when all property and other qualifications would be abolished, and greater benefits conferred on the working classes, he thought they should raise a fund to bring out *bona fide* workmen's candidates for all these elections. Working men ought to have a voice in both social, sanitary, and educational matters. Wealthy persons could reside where the sanitary arrangements were upon the most approved principles; but poor people had to live close to their work, let their surroundings be as foul and abominable as it was possible to be. On School Boards, likewise, it was essential that working men should be members to look after the necessary education of their children, the better classes being able to afford the expense of their boys and girls being better educated elsewhere if the course of instruction did not suit their tastes. (Applause.)

The Secretary seconded, and urged the appointment of a strong committee with comprehensive powers. The committee should not only be empowered to seek out candidates, but also raise subscriptions to run working men, and also recompense them for their loss of time in attending to their public duties. (Hear, hear.) He did not think, however, it would be advisable for the Council to take in hand any candidate unless he was a *bona fide* working man. They got into trouble by pressing this course soon after the Council was established. As matters stood at present they had no chance whatever of being properly represented on the Board of Guardians.

Mr McIVOR considered the scheme just propounded as a Utopian one, because it was practically impossible to induce working men to take an interest in the doings of their public bodies. The reason he believed was that the working classes did not pay their rates directly. If they paid the rates out of their own pockets, then the labouring men would give a little more attention to the affairs of their public Boards, and see how their money was spent. Again, it was no use forming such a committee unless they raised a fund sufficient to put and support the working men representatives on these bodies. In his humble judgment, it was utterly impossible to raise an adequate sum of money to obtain reasonable labour representation in the district. If the Council could only raise the funds, he had no objection to the working population being directly represented on all public bodies in such a manner that it would encourage them to take a greater interest in these matters. The working classes, however, were too jealous of one another to let anyone of their number be raised above their fellow men. Furthermore, when working men attained such positions they tried to get the work done at the cheapest rate, and also liked to see full value for their money. Moreover, the bulk of the working men were apt to disregard sanitary arrangements even in their own houses. He admitted that the sanitary conditions of some parts of the locality were not so good as might be desired, and he would like to see it compulsory to provide a bath-room in every house.

Mr HALL (treasurer) failed to see the utility of forming such a committee, and if it came into existence they would be stigmatised as a "lot of busybodies." They would hardly get men to pay their contributions to the different unions, yet some of the members of the Council were talking as if they had £500 or £600 in the bank. (Laughter.)

Other men while agreeing with the idea, were afraid the necessary funds would not be forthcoming and Mr Lovatt suggested that the matter should be brought under the notice of the members of the several trades organisations before any action was taken anent the subject.

The CHAIRMAN replying said the Parish Councils would sit after six o'clock at nights, therefore the working men would not be called upon to lose any time at all. Again, he did not think the District Council would meet at Lanchester. He expected that Consett, Blackhill, Shotley Bridge, and Leadgate might be able to form a District Council of their own. It was only by making themselves into what one of the preceding speakers termed "busybodies" that the working classes would come to be recognised by the gentlemen now sitting on their public bodies. They might secure the services of men who were in hearty sympathy with the working classes, although they might not be what was termed labouring men. They went in for socialism, not individualism.

The motion was then put and carried by four votes to two.

On the proposition of Mr HALL, seconded by Mr ATKINSON, the members executive were appointed as such a committee for the time being.

THE PROTEST AGAINST THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The Chairman had another motion on the agenda—which had been postponed from the previous meeting—protesting against the action of the House of Lords in inserting the contracting out clause in the Employer's Liability Bill. As it was getting late Mr Cooke suggested that the question should be further adjourned one month.

Mr McIvor failed to see what good would accrue by again deferring the matter.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Government had already accepted the Lords' amendment to the Bill, and it was now too late to deal with the matter.

Mr McIvor challenged Mr Cooke either to proceed with his motion, or to officially withdraw it.

The CHAIRMAN: Well it is getting late, and I'm tired of talking.

Mr HALL: Let's have the thing settled to-night. The public are anxious to see the result in the newspapers. We can take a vote upon the question without discussing it.

The CHAIRMAN: Any of you gentlemen can take up the motion.

No one seemed disposed to do so, and the resolution was once more adjourned for a month.

THE WORKMEN'S TRIP.

The secretary was deputed to see the management of the Consett Iron Company and ascertain what they were prepared to do in reference to the workmen's trip during the summer.

The Council then arose.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST QUARTERLY MEETINGS.

CHESTER-LE-STREET CIRCUIT.

The quarterly meeting was held at Chester-le-Street on Saturday, the Rev James Young presiding. There was a good attendance of officials. The Steward reported a slight decrease in the membership upon the year, chiefly through removals. The finances were good, a substantial balance being left in the hands after meeting all expenses. Mr Thomas Storey was elected delegate to the District Meeting.

BOSTOCK AND WOMBWELL'S MENAGERIE.

Lovers of animal nature can have their wishes satisfied to the fullest by a visit to Messrs Bostock and Wombwell's monster menagerie. The show, which is a menagerie, circus, and museum rolled into one, is full of novelty and interest, for the management is not merely content with exhibiting specimens of nearly all kinds of beasts, birds, and reptiles, but an entertainment is provided which in itself is well worth witnessing. The four lion cubs attract attention by their kitten-like gambols. They were born in the show last October, and are thriving cubs. Of course the "House of Parliament," as the monkey cage is termed, has always its special crowd of spectators, and here the fun is lasting. The visitors try these amusing beasts with all sorts of food, and very often a piece of tobacco is tendered. Then there is no end of fun. In the cage there are no fewer than fifty species, some with long tails, some with short, and some with none at all. The baby kangaroo is a modest, gentle beast, which even does not object to a friendly pat. The river elephant or tapir is one of the most rare in the exhibition. The show is especially strong in lions, and one of the Kings of the Forest named Brutus is certainly the finest animal in captivity. Near by is the lioness Victoria, the mother of the cubs. She has been somewhat sad in demeanour this week, as her cubs were taken from her. The man-eating tiger jaguar is a fierce-looking animal, and one which gets a wide-berth. The noisiest lot are the wolves, bears, and hyenas lodged in one large cage. When they fall out, passengers in the street are made aware of the fact. Of course, there is a large elephant, "Sir Roger," twenty-two years of age and three-and-a-half tons weight. Nearly every beast has some incident attached to it. For instance, the man-eating tiger once escaped in a railway van, and the guard had to travel for miles on the foot-board, while the many commercial travellers who had their baggage in the van had to continue their journey to the destination of the show before they could lay claim to their belongings. At intervals, performances are given in the various cages, while in the show proper a circus entertainment is given, including three "rounds" with a boxing kangaroo. All round the show is maintaining its high reputation.

THREATENED STRIKE AT LINTZ COLLIERY.

The village of Lintz Colliery is just now troubled by a threatened strike in connection with the local colliery belonging to the South Garesfield Coal Company. There is no reduction of wages, and the point in dispute is of a most trivial character. The men, however, are determined not to give way to the masters, and the result has been that the men have tendered 14 days' notice, and the same expires to-morrow (Saturday). By that time steps will be taken to bring all operations to a standstill, unless a more conciliatory spirit is shown. It is a thousand pities that this step should be taken; inasmuch as many of the families residing in this locality have scarcely got turned round from the effects of the late Durham Miners' strike. It is the Esther Pit, Dean Drift, and the Lintz that are affected by the dispute. There are something like 80 hewers, and 50 off-hands employed. The notices were tendered on Feb. 26th. In an interview with the men's representative on Tuesday afternoon, it was ascertained that the dispute had arisen from the fact that two of the men employed took some bargain work at the last cavil day. This work was eventually stopped, and the manager (Mr Braidford, sen.) sent the men to some other work in another portion of the mine, and to a place which the miners considered should have been the dues of other men. The men made their complaint to the manager who declined to move in the matter, and contended that the two men had only got their rights and would not remove them. The result was that the case was taken to a meeting held at the Coal Trade Hall, Newcastle, and eventually the place where the two men were employed, was stopped. The men were not satisfied with this action, and they now desire, which is considered to be a most extraordinary request, to have the two men whom they alleged had caused the dispute, removed from the colliery altogether. The manager (Mr Braidford) declined to concede to the wishes of the men, and contended that the action of the men was not a justifiable one, and they had no right to cause the present deadlock. Various meetings have been held, and resolutions have been passed pledging that they were determined to stand by the action they had taken, let the consequence be what it may. As late as Monday night, a deputation waited upon Mr Braidford with a view of ascertaining if there was any prospect of coming to a settlement. The manager said under the circumstances he could not remove the men, and he had already met them half way, by not working the place complained of. No agreement was arrived at, and as far as things look at present there is no prospect whatever of a settlement being arrived at. It is a remarkable fact that at the present time extensive preparations are being made for re-opening the Old Lintz Colliery. When the arrangements are completed, it will afford employment to a large number of hands. Whatever may be the real merits of the case, surely the men ought not, if they considered themselves in the right, to refuse to leave the settlement of the dispute to an independent party. The principle worked satisfactorily in concluding the great Midland Strike a few months ago, and it ought to be equally effective in smaller disputes.

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

"HOW TO DEBATE."—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of sixpence, may be had at Robt. Jackson's bookseller, Front Street and 20 Newmarket Street, Consett

THE most wholesome and nutritious of confection is far less consumed than it would be were it not for the greatly adulterated articles sold under the name of chocolate. Every cake of chocolate bearing the name of Cadbury is guaranteed to consist solely of pure Cocoa and white sugar, and may therefore be given to children with perfect safety. Chocolate makers by special appointment to the Queen

WOLSINGHAM PETTY SESSIONS.

Tuesday, March 6th.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE, Esq. (chairman), V. A. RIPPON, Esq. and J. ROGERSON, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Thomas Elliot, R. Horsley, John McGove, G. Woodhall, G. Lambert, and Christopher Bell, were each fined 7s 6d for being drunk.

KEEPING DOGS WITHOUT LICENSE.

The following persons were fined for keeping dogs without having licenses:—Thomas Coulson, butcher, Wolsingham, 5s and costs; Ann Fleming, 5s; John Elliot, 5s; Newick Garbutt, 5s; A. Roal, 5s; and Thos. Oliver, 5s and costs.

John Charlton who did not appear was fined 7s 6d and 7s costs.

LARCENCY AT TOW LAW.

James Waller, miner, Tow Law, was charged by P.C. Sherwood with stealing 12 posts and 26 yards of wire rope from the Weardale Iron Company, on the 28th ult., valued at £1. The police constable deposed to finding the wire rope hid among some rubbish in a field, and the props in a byre. Defendant pleaded guilty. The Company did not wish to press the case. Fined 10s and 15s costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

Thomas Newton, was charged by Mark Hallimond, school attendance officer, with neglecting to send his child to school. Defendant produced a doctor's certificate stating the child was unfit to attend, and the case was dismissed.

WEARDALE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting of the above Board was held at Stanhope on Friday afternoon—Mr J. W. Roddam, J.P., presiding. Mr Dawson, Local Government Board Inspector, was present.

FINANCIAL.

The balance due to the Union was reported at over £300.

ROMAN CATHOLIC SERVICES AT THE HOUSE.

The application of the Roman Catholic Priest, of Wolsingham, to administer Holy Communion to the Catholic inmates of the Workhouse was granted, and leave was also granted to celebrate mass in the House as soon as arrangements could be made.

TRAMPS IN THE DALES.

The Master reported a considerable increase in the number of tramps calling, the explanation being that they were in search of work on the Weardale Railway.

THE OVERCROWDING OF STOCKTON WORKHOUSE.

An application from Stockton Union for the Weardale Union to take a number of inmates on account of the congested state of the Workhouse at Stockton could not be entertained, there being no accommodation to spare.

VACCINATION DEFAULTERS.

Some cases of non-compliance with the vaccination order were considered and prosecutions decided on.

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The ordinary meeting of the above Board was held on Friday, Mr J. W. Roddam presiding.

NEW BUILDINGS.

The Authority decided to give notice of the adoption of an order of the Local Government Board with respect to new buildings.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector presented an exhaustive report on the various systems of dealing with sewage. At the request of the Authority he had visited several places where different systems were in operation. The following were the best systems:—(1) Chemical precipitation with intermittant land filtration; (2) Chemical precipitation with artificial filtration.

DRAINAGE SCHEME.

The committee was appointed to consider a drainage scheme for Frosterley.

The Board adopted the Public Health Act 1889.

AN INSANITARY HOUSE.

The insanitary condition of a house in Bollihope was under consideration, and a letter was read from the London Lead Company stating that the matter would be rectified.

THE HEALTHIEST PLACE IN THE WORLD.

The annual reports of the Medical Officers of Health of the Authority were presented to the members of the Board, and they bid fair to uphold, in part at least, a statement which some time ago went the round of the papers that "Wolsingham was the healthiest place in the world." The division of the Union, however, which bids fair to the honour is another of the Weardale Unions, namely, Derwent, which has a population of 523 and an area of 15,260 acres. The Medical Officer for that division thus sums up the vital statistics for 1893 in the presented report, as above mentioned:—"13 births and 2 deaths have been registered during the year, which gives a birth-rate of 24·8 and a death-rate of 3·8 per 1,000. The two deaths occurred at the respective ages of 79 and 75 years. No deaths from zymotic diseases, and no infant mortality. Average death-rate for the last five years, 11·6 per 1,000." In comparing these figures with the Durham County Medical Officer's report for 1892, the latest published, we find that the lowest death-rates per 1,000 in that year were in boroughs (Darlington), 14·0; Local Boards (Ryton), 13·3; Rural (Darlington), 13·5. The average in urban districts was 18·4; rural, 18·5; administrative county, 18·4; all England and Wales, 19·0. The lowest zymotic rates were:—Boroughs (Darlington), 1·4; Local Boards (Stanhope), 0·5; rural districts (Barnard Castle, Teasdale, and Stanhope, Weardale), *nil*. The average urban rate in the county was 2·55; rural, 2·12; administrative county, 2·34; England and Wales, 1·9. The lowest rates of mortality amongst infants per 1,000 births were:—Boroughs (Darlington and West Hartlepool), 132; Local Boards (Stanhope), 80; rural (Barnard Castle, Teasdale), 41; the urban county average being 152, and the rural, 156; county average, 154; England and Wales, 147. The mortality rate for the whole Rural Sanitary Authority for 1893 is 15·0 per 1,000, zymotic rate 0·71, and infant mortality rate 110. Derwent with its death-rate of 3·8 per 1,000, is one of the medical sanitary divisions.

SCHOOL BOARD.

Ald. Livingstone presided at Friday's meeting of the Stanhope School Board.

SCHOOL STATISTICS.

The average attendance was reported as follows:—

	Per cent.
Lanehead	76·9
St John's Chapel	81·7
Rookhope	86·9
Frosterley (South)	76·5
Frosterley (North)	86·8
Stanhope	89
Wearhead	75
Westgate	83

THE ROOKHOPE SCHOOL.

A long discussion arose consequent on a letter sent to the Board from a ratepayers' meeting held at Rookhope, and signed by the vicar and Mr J. Brown, traversing the action of the schoolmaster—suggesting two local young women as teachers for Rookhope.

A deputation was also admitted and heard on behalf of the Rookhope ratepayers on the subject.

Mr RODDAM, the Rookhope representative, contended that they ought to have a certificated mistress, and pointed out that the appointment of the monitors on the nomination of the master, without consulting either the wishes of the people or himself as manager, was giving great dissatisfaction to the people.

Mr FENWICK said as long as the education was efficient they cared nothing about the wishes of the people.

The CHAIRMAN said they had done the best they could for Rookhope School, but if there was any better way of serving the people the Board would pay attention to it.

A letter was received from a public meeting bearing on the matter, and Mr Robinson, chairman of the meeting, appeared in person to explain the feeling of the people on the subject.

The CHAIRMAN defended the conduct of the master, and exonerated him from blame, and said he had done the best in the interest of the school.

Ultimately, the CHAIRMAN suggested that the people should formulate a scheme that would give satisfaction, and the Board would pay attention to it.

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

SHROUDED IN MYSTERY;

OR,

WHICH GIRL DID HE MARRY?

A LEGEND OF TWO CONSETT GIRLS

BY SKIPP BORLASE,

Author of "Darker than Death," "Riches to Ruin" "An Ocean Secret," "Recalled to Life," "Who Killed John Cameron?" "The [illegible] Minister" "For True Love's Sake," &c., &c.

CHAPTER XXXIII (Continued.)

"Well, Mr. Brown, you must argue the matter with my husband when he recovers. I can say no more."

"Your husband will be in no safe condition to discuss anything of an exciting nature for days to come, and the subject is one that will not bear holding over for so long. If you refuse to enlighten me, therefore, as I require to be enlightened, my natural—and, as I believe it in this case excusable—impatience will compel me to call to-morrow at Derwent Hall, and question Lady Howarth, who I can now suppose to be none other than your daughter, Ruth."

"Oh, Mr. Brown, for Heaven's sake don't do that. You can have no idea of what mischief you might occasion."

"Then why not prevent it by telling me yourself what I wish to know—and, in short, will know? I have no earthly desire to make mischief, and as Rose is very dear to me it would be a strange thing indeed if I wanted to persecute or injure either her sister or her parents. All the same, I won't have her suffer—at all events, too deeply—either for their follies or their faults."

"Alas! I seem to have no resource open to me but to place full confidence in you, and then to trust to your forbearance."

"The chances are that you will never have cause to regret doing so, and Mr. Radcliffe has re-closed his eyes and become calm and still again, as though on purpose to afford you the opportunity. You needn't be the least bit alarmed about him, for I've known people lie in such fits for three or four hours, and we have already done everything that possibly can be done to relieve him."

"Then I will tell you all. Rose sacrificed herself to, as she thought, save her sister's life."

"Her life? That is hard, indeed, to comprehend. How could her sister's life have been in any manner of danger?"

"I will tell you. Her infamous and abandoned husband inadvertently poisoned himself; and either because he was too selfish to die alone, or for some other reason, accused her of being his murderess. She fled in alarm of what might be the consequences of such a charge, and came straight home and told her sister of the terrible peril in which she conceived herself to be placed, when Rose, taking an equally grave view of the situation, and not caring a rush for the man whom she was on the point of marrying, for our—I mean us, her parents'—sakes, urged upon Ruth that they should change places, declaring to her that she would save her from a future of perfect misery by consenting to do so. Rose eventually departed, leaving her twin sister behind in her stead; and, I suppose, threw that sister's hat and veil into the river, and left her horse uncalled for as an after thought, and, in order to make the officers of the law believe, if they should succeed in tracking Ruth so far, in order to arrest her for her husband's murder, that she had committed suicide in the river."

"Good gracious! What a terrible—what an appalling narrative. And did they come? The constables, I mean."

"No, the supposed dead husband came instead. The doctor, whom Ruth had hurriedly sent for ere taking flight, arrived in time to save him from the consequences of his drunken blunder; and the blunderer arrived here, alas, in time to behold the girl who believed herself to be his widow, marrying another man, for, as she supposed, her life's preservation's sake.

Owing to the likeness between the sisters, he was not quite sure whether 'twas her at the time, but while she and Sir Harry Howarth were driving home to Derwent Hall, he, in the guise of highway man, stopped the carriage, and by the persuasion of a levelled pistol forced her to bare her right arm and shoulder, thereby revealing a scar which he himself had inflicted upon her in one of his drunken furies. He has since made Mr. Radcliffe pay him a thousand pounds for keeping his most unfortunate discovery to himself, and, until he drinks himself to death there seems to be every probability of his becoming our annuitant to that amount."

"Then Rose's sacrifice was, after all, a vain and useless one, and she is free to return home whenever she will?"

"How I wish that it was so; but, alas, it is far otherwise. Our great dread now is that Sir Harry Howarth may, in some way or other, discover the imposture to which he has been subjected, and Rose's return home would render such a discovery still more probable. Don't blame her too severely, for the deadly peril in which she believed that her sister's life was placed made her, at the time, regard such an imposition as quite a venial fault; nor can you wonder that poor Ruth, supposing herself to be a widow, eagerly seized upon such a plausible way of escape out of her great peril; whilst my husband declares that the girls were such a well-matched pair that, as long as he never discovers the substitution of one for the other, Sir Harry can suffer neither wrong, harm, or less thereby. Of course, that argument is mere sophistry, but then such sophistry is all that we have left to quiet our consciences with; though in our self-defence I must add that neither Mr. Radcliffe nor myself were parties to the fraud until after it was perpetrated—for, strange as it may seem, even I, their mother, could never with any degree of certainty distinguish one girl from the other."

"You have told me a most astoundingly strange tale, Mrs. Radcliffe, but I, nevertheless, believe every word of it. Rose's sisterly love and devotion fully atone, in my opinion, for any fault that she may have been guilty of in their exercise. All that you have just confessed to me I will lock up in my brain and breast as sacred secrets; but, as you daughter Rose is still single, and in two or three more weeks will be of full age, and, consequently, her own mistress; and as, moreover, I have every reason for believing that she still loves me, I will by no means promise not to attempt to discover whither she has flown, nor that I won't use every endeavour to induce her to become my wife when I have found her."

"That will mean to bring her back to Conside where her re-appearance might prove disastrous to us all?"

"Not necessarily Conside by any means; but something must be risked both for her future happiness and for—my own."

"I would cordially agree with your declaration if I only dared. But I am but a woman, and I'm also being pulled, as it were, two different ways at once."

"I am a man, and will not be pulled any way; but I will start northward in search of her to-morrow."

"Do not be rash, or your business interests may suffer."

"Let them suffer. What are purse interests when heart interests are at stake!"

"Nevertheless, if you will take my advice you will act with great circumspection; and then, in all probability, you will succeed much better."

"Well, Mrs. Radcliffe, I'm not too proud to receive advice, but I won't bind myself to follow it."

"The advice, then, is that you remain in Conside and attend to your daily duties, until I hear again from Rose, as I am quite sure to do ere long, telling me exactly where she is. If you were to start for Scotland without such information you might be weeks or even months in finding her: and when found you would in all probability have no home to offer her, for you could not expect your employers to put themselves to the great inconvenience of keeping your place in the brewery unfilled for so long. At present, however, I can't tell you whether she intends to go to Edinburgh or to one of the large seaports, such as Glasgow, Dundee, or Aberdeen. I know, in fact, positively nothing of her intended movements in the northern kingdom."

"Honour bright, will you let me know where Rose is as soon as ever you know yourself?"

"Honour bright, I will, and whether my husband approve of my doing so or not. But there, for that matter, we are both of us in your power."

"I will beg you to forget that. You may rely on me, Mrs. Radcliffe, as—as, in fact, I rely on you."

"Hush! he is coming round. Yes, I'm almost sure that he is coming quite round this time. He looks so much more like his usual self."

"He is coming round, and, consequently, I'd better be going off. I shouldn't tell him, were I you, that he had been making any embarrassing admissions. He will never suspect it unless you inform him."

"Then you may rest assured that I shall not inform him. Yes, I think with you that you had better go. Good-bye."

So George Brown said "Good-bye" in turn, and this time really went.

As he quitted the grounds and walked along the river side towards his home, he muttered to himself:

"What will not a true-hearted girl do and dare for those whom she loves? But Scotland, I fear, is hardly a safe country for Rose to be wandering about alone and friendless in at times like these; no, nor the North of England, either."

CHAPTER XXXIV.

The Inquest On "The Girl Or Woman Found Drowned In The River."

When Mr. Radcliffe recovered the full possession of his faculties, he didn't ask what had become of George Brown, or about anything else in fact, but expressed a desire to go at once to bed; and, when there, he insisted on drinking a stiff nightcap of hot rum and water with a lump of butter in it, having quaffed which he soon went to sleep.

The next morning, however, he found himself feeling far too ill to get up, and a doctor being sent for, and, on arrival, told of the exciting incidents of the preceding night, he declared that old John was suffering from a violent shock to the system, which, working on a drink-shattered constitution, might or might not evolve dangerous symptoms within the next few hours, but he could foresee nothing with any degree of certainty, yet.

So he was bled, and leeched, and blistered, and cupped, according to the custom of the period, which was that patients should perforce be made to knock at Death's door, and then be allowed to try and dodge him around the corner as he opened it and attempted to seize upon them, after which heroic treatment the Medico wrote out a certificate to the effect that his patient was wholly unfit to be present at the inquest which was to be holden at ten of the clock, on the poor girl or woman who had been found by the lesterers at the bottom of the river, and which he had been formally subpœnaed to attend as a witness; whilst there were many who both thought and prophesied that he would leave it as a prisoner, for 'twas not everyone who had heard George Brown's address to the masquers, or their spreading of the news.

Even Mrs. Radcliffe was glad, rather than otherwise, that her husband was too ill to be present at the enquiry; though, as matters turned out, she need have entertained no apprehensions on such a score, for, an hour before the inquest was timed to take place, a poor woman came into Conside, from a riverside village situated a few miles below, labouring under great distress of mind, and on purpose to view the body, whose finding she had only an hour previously heard of.

When she beheld it she was just able to recognise by the torn, sodden, and mud-encrusted dress, and the initials worked upon the underclothing, that it was her daughter, Rachael Rogers, who had been unaccountably missing ever since the flood, and who, she now believed, must have walked on, fallen into, and been swept away by it whilst trying to make her way home along the Salt Grass, and the river's brink after dark.

Mrs. Rogers' appearance and testimony gave the coroner, the water-bailiff, and the jury an easy enough task, and a verdict was therefore almost immediately brought in to the effect that "the deceased, Rachael Rogers, had met her death through misadventure;" and that very afternoon though not before it was high time, her body was interred in the picturesque churchyard of her native village, and beneath the shadow of its square squat, embattled church tower.

Of course, after the inquest was over, and the full particulars thereof had got about, even the most opinionated and the most prejudiced absolved Mr. Radcliffe from all blame, though, truth to tell, many a man has been hanged for "Wilful Murder" on far lighter evidence.

CHAPTER XXXV.

Halcamus Greenwood Comes To Grief. The Shadow of Darker Events.

But, meanwhile, where is Halcamus Greenwood, and what has he been about?

Mr. Radcliffe had foolishly thought that it was he who, in wanton mischief, had set Toss Pot and his companions upon him; but, in point of fact, Halcamus had had nothing whatever to do with the attack on the Old Hall, for he felt not the slightest desire to cook the goose which had laid him such a magnificent golden egg, and who, he was sanguine enough to hope and believe, would lay a similar one for him every year.

Far from feeling in a mood for mischief of any kind, his one thought and desire was to get home to Bristol with his spoil as fast as ever he could; and, knowing well that it would be a rowdy night in Conside, and that if he stayed there and was recognised by the mob he might be subjected to even rougher horseplay than a few mornings previously he had suffered whilst, in all probability, he went straight away from Mr. Radcliffe's would be robbed during the process, and half-an-hour later, had left Conside behind him, and was trotting quietly along, making light of the long journey that lay before him.

He thought that he had proved himself a most sensible fellow by acting as he had done, and, indeed, several times chuckled over the prudent sagacity that he had displayed in the matter, and his forbearance in not drinking more than a single glass of hot brandy and water whilst his stout roadster was being saddled.

But, in point of fact, and as he within an hour and a half discovered, to his most bitter sorrow, he had merely jumped out of the frying pan into the fire, for scarcely had he left the village of Chester-le-Street a mile in his rear, and got into the somewhat desolate and uninhabited region that at the time we are writing of lay between it, when he was overtaken by a couple of horsemen, who imperiously commanded him to "Stand and Deliver!"

Halcamus Greenwood's reply was to drop the reins on his nag's neck, and, quick as lightning, to pluck a pistol out of each holster and level them at his opponents' heads, who seemed to be armed with nothing more formidable than heavy riding whips.

But they both laughed loudly at this melodramatic demonstration on his part, and one of them said, tauntingly: "Fire away, lad, for there's nothing in 'em but powder and paper. The bullets were drawn in the stable, whilst you were at Conside Hall. We chanced to know that you had gone there to bleed your dad-in-law, and so we just made up our minds that we'd bleed you in turn—for, what's good for the goose is good for the gander also," and thereupon they spurred their horses to within striking distance of him.

Halcamus Greenwood discharged his two bulletless weapons, in the hope that the flame, smoke, and noise would render his assailant's horses unmanageable until he could whip a third pistol out of the left-hand pocket of his coat, to wit, the little double barrel which he had carried with him to overawe Mr. Radcliffe, in case that his passion should prove stronger than his prudence.

But the result of this ruse was that he frightened his own steed much more than he did the highwaymen's, and it commenced to rear and plunge in so frantic a manner that to get at his reserve pistol, and at the same time control his horse, was a matter of sheer impossibility.

Vainly he dug his spurs into the maddened brute's flanks, for it continued to paw the air with its fore hoofs, and to lash out with its hinder ones, instead of "running away," as its rider so ardently desired that it would do; and, in a half a minute more, the two highwaymen, whose actions and masked faces were the sole tokens of their profession (if, indeed, they were anything more than amateurs therein), had edged up their nags, one on either side of their perfectly helpless victim, near enough to strike.

The blows of their lead-loaded whip stocks were simultaneous, and both of them taking effect on Greenwood's head he dropped to the ground like a stone; his horse then, when too late, dashing off across the country in the direction of Durham, as fast as it could tear, leaving him stunned and insensible in the middle of the road.

The highwaymen then quickly dismounted, and whilst one of them held both the horses, the other rifled Greenwood's pockets; his "pal," however, watching him keenly the while.

They seemed to be delighted with their find, and one presently remarked to the other:

"Dash it, mate, this repays us for our four days' close watch over him, and for our two tracklings all the way to Conside and back. Didn't I tell you from the very first that he was a chap who had a good plant somewhere or other."

"Well, Larry, you were right for once; there's no doubt of it. But, all the same, we'd better be thinking of the future instead of the past now," retorted his companion; almost immediately adding, "I believe that we've regularly settled him, and so it would be prudent to make the best use that we can of our four-legged horses, in order that we may escape from the mare who has only three."

"That's right enough, Bill, and if we don't let the grass grow under their feet we'll get back to Newcastle, and into snug hiding as well, long before the sun 'll show a light on what it's just as well that it shouldn't, whilst we two are out and about."

This counsel seemed to be approved of by the other highwayman, for he rejoined: "All right, old flick, I'm your man," and quickly re-mounting, the brace of worthies rode off at a smart trot in the direction of Newcastle.

* * *

But Halcamus Greenwood was not "regularly settled," after all.

It would have been a fortunate thing for the Radcliffe family, for Sir Harry Howarth, and for many other innocent people as well if he had been; though, at the same time, it would have had the affect of considerably shortening our tale.

But such villains as he die hard, and in the present instance, before the night was half over, the driver of some pack horses stumbled over his body whilst he was following his score of "gals" in his journey south, and upon finding that the cause of his fall was a man, who still lived and breathed, he, first of all, and to the best of his ability, bandaged up his head, and then, laying him across the hindermost of the steeds, as though he also had been a bale of merchandise (though, to be sure, he was incapable of being carried thereon in any other manner), he conveyed him thus to Durham, and got quit of him at the portal of its ancient Hospital, now no more.

There Halcamus was laid up for some little while, incapable of doing any further mischief, though not for long from contemplating what he would do as soon as ever he was able to get out and about once more.

With Greenwood laid up in Hospital, and old John Radcliffe in his bed; and with George bound down, as it were, to remain inactive at Conside until Mrs. Radcliffe is able to tell him where to seek for Rose, and with Rose's whereabouts a complete mystery, we have clearly no resource left open to us but to return to Derwent Hall, and for a while to keep all our thoughts and attention concentrated upon what is happening there.

This, we think we can promise, will be no hardship to the reader, for we shall have plenty of thrilling and most extraordinary incidents wherewith to enthral his attention; indeed, it would be an easy matter for us to construct a three volume novel out of the terrible and appalling events that are destined to happen within Derwent Hall alone; though, in our case, these will have to give way in turn to the still stranger, weirder, and more tremendous occurrences which will transpire, in intimate connection with our tale, within the once famous old house in Conside many called "The King's Lodgings," and which, our legend states at the period we are writing of, possessed its ghost, its dungeon, its treasure chamber, and, stranger than all else, a reputedly bottomless hole. The old house, in short, had ever had an evil name, and most extraordinary tales were told concerning it, even in its new and by no means improved form, some of which we may be tempted to repeat.

[To Be Continued.]

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

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

"BUCHU-PAIBA."—Complete cure of all kidney and kindred complaints, stinging, irritation, inflammation. Of Chemists. F. NEWBERY, and SONS, Agents, 1, King Edward Street, London, E.C.

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

LANCHESTER [cut off]

The fortnightly [cut off]
week, under the pr[cut off]
Present:—Rev P. [cut off]
Lowden, W. Gray, [cut off]
Pringle, W. J. Ha[cut off]
clerk (Mr W. H. R[cut off]

PERSONS IN [cut off]

Present No. of [cut off]
Corresponding [cut off]
Vagrants reliev[cut off]
Corresponding [cut off]
Mr R. Walton, r[cut off]
reported:—
Adults, not ab[cut off]
Able-bodied (t[cut off]
Females (in he[cut off]
Temporarily di[cut off]
Children under [cut off]
Amount of re[cut off]
Mr J. Moon, rel[cut off]
Also reported:—
Adults, not abl[cut off]
Able-bodied—M[cut off]
Females (in hea[cut off]
Temporarily di[cut off]
Children under [cut off]
Amount of reli[cut off]
Adults, not able [cut off]
Able-bodied ... [cut off]
Children .... [cut off]
Amount o[cut off]
Figures for the [cut off]
year:—
Adults, not able [cut off]
Able-bodied ... [cut off]
Children .... [cut off]
Amount [cut off]

ELECTION [cut off]
An order was recei[cut off]
Board directing that [cut off]
should take place on [cut off]
Conside and Knitsley [cut off]
the death of Mr John [cut off]

THE ASSISTANT [cut off]
A letter was read f[cut off]
his position as collect[cut off]
Parish. The resigna[cut off]
agreed to advertise f[cut off]
a year.

OVERCROWDING [cut off]
An application was [cut off]
asking for some of th[cut off]
dated temporarily in [cut off]
The CHAIRMAN sta[cut off]
of room in their Hous[cut off]
that they should accep[cut off]
unions. The request [cut off]

THE ASH [cut off]
The bond of the [cut off]
approved of.

TENDER [cut off]
The Clerk was auth[cut off]
for supplying the W[cut off]
&c., (excepting coke [cut off]
year.

SEATS FOR LANC[cut off]
This matter again c[cut off]
from the General R[cut off]
London, stating that [cut off]
notice of the Registrar [cut off]
Register Office was un[cut off]
for the use of those, w[cut off]
and other friends; go [cut off]
therefore desired to rec[cut off]
sion should be called t[cut off]
that the Registrar Ge[cut off]
that the deficiency in [cut off]
Registrar General also [cut off]
necessary seats had be[cut off]
The CHAIRMAN prop[cut off]
Ritson) reply stating t[cut off]
provided for the Regis[cut off]
consider that number [cut off]
Register Office the othe[cut off]
Registrar informed hi[cut off]
for the purposes of any[cut off]
Mr LOWDEN said tha[cut off]
worth repairing.
The Chairman: W[cut off]
authorised at the last [cut off]
by new ones.
Mr GRAY seconded [cut off]
which was carried.

POSTAL FACILITI[cut off]
Mr OLIVER stated th[cut off]
forward the question o[cut off]
lying portion of Conse[cut off]
Bygate, postmaster at [cut off]
that the matter was r[cut off]
proper authorities, but [cut off]
He pointed out the inc[cut off]
walk a considerable di[cut off]
though the postman [cut off]
three or four times per [cut off]
The Clerk mentione[cut off]
placed at Templetown [cut off]
box at Delves Lane.
Mr OLIVER stated tha[cut off]
evidently alive to the [cut off]
because they had opene[cut off]
[illegible] ation.
The CHAIRMAN unde[cut off]
ties had urged upon the [cut off]
telegraph offices at all [cut off]
ful to the public so far [cut off]
no telegrams were deli[cut off]
FATHER FORTIN sugg[cut off]
communicate with Mr [cut off]
was now in the north.
It was agreed that th[cut off]
with that gentleman.

LANCHESTER [cut off]
AU[cut off]

The monthly meetin[cut off]
Mr Wm. Logan. J.P., [cut off]

ESH AND WILK'[cut off]
The agreement was [cut off]
Authority and the C[cut off]
supplying Esh and W[cut off]
Authority contributing [cut off]
cost of laying the pipes [cut off]
when the pipes are laid [cut off]
Lanchester, another [cut off]
tended to Esh and Wil[cut off]
£500 upon the completio[cut off]

A SNUB FOR T[cut off]
A letter was read fro[cut off]
mending the adoption [cut off]
midden privies where r[cut off]
enclosed plans of their [cut off]
The CHAIRMAN said t[cut off]
similar method in 1888.
A member: Then yo[cut off]
copied from our plan?
The Clerk was instru[cut off]
Council that this new s[cut off]
since 1888, and had ans[cut off]

INSPECT[cut off]
The Inspector (Mr [cut off]
ing report:—
To the Chairman and [cut off]
Union Rural [cut off]
GENTLEMEN,—On th[cut off]
pox was removed from [cut off]
tious hospital, and the [cut off]
disinfected.
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houses and lamps in [cut off]
houses are gradually [cut off]
throughout the district, [cut off]
rate of progress it will [cut off]
are completed. The d[cut off]
to be repaired.
Four houses now bein[cut off]
chester, have been occu[cut off]
for habitation, and befo[cut off]
sion of the same. The [cut off]
were several matters r[cut off]
houses should have b[cut off]
Lockey about the matt[cut off]
reply.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting took place on Thursday week, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Logan, J.P. Present:—Rev P. C. Fortin, Messrs G. Hobson, T. Lowden, W. Gray, Jas. Oliver, J. Watson, Thomas Pringle, W. J. Handcock, T. Wilkinson, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson.)

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF RELIEF.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

Present No. of inmates	182
Corresponding period last year	176
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	51
Corresponding period last year	20

Mr R. Walton, relieving officer, eastern district reported:—

Adults, not able-bodied—Males	69
Females	127
Able-bodied (temporarily disabled)	—
Females (in health)	—
Temporarily disabled	37
Children under 16 years	188
Total	421

Amount of relief in money, £66 13s 0d.

Mr J. Moon, relieving officer, western district, also reported:—

Adults, not able-bodied—Males	58
Females	138
Able-bodied—Males	—
Females (in health)	9
Temporarily disabled	63
Children under 16 years	257
Total	525

Amount of relief in money, £79 9s 6d.

TOTALS.

Adults, not able-bodied	392
Able-bodied	109
Children	445
Total	946

Amount of relief, £145 12s 6d.

Figures for the corresponding period of last year:—

Adults, not able-bodied	362
Able-bodied	137
Children	502
Total	1001

Amount of relief, £138 1s 0d.

ELECTION OF A GUARDIAN.

An order was received from the Local Government Board directing that a special election of a guardian should take place on the 22nd inst, in the township of Conside and Knitsley to fill up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr John Collinson, of Consett.

THE ASSISTANT OVERSEER FOR TANFIELD.

A letter was read from Mr John Moore, resigning his position as collector of poor rates for Tanfield Parish. The resignation was accepted, and it was agreed to advertise for a successor at a salary of £100 a year.

OVERCROWDING OF STOCKTON WORKHOUSE.

An application was read from the Stockton Union, asking for some of their male paupers to be accommodated temporarily in the Lanchester Workhouse.

The CHAIRMAN stated that although they had plenty of room in their House, he did not deem it advisable that they should accept the paupers belonging other unions. The request was not entertained.

THE ESH ASSISTANT OVERSEER.

The bond of the Esh assistant overseer was approved of.

TENDERS FOR PROVISIONS.

The Clerk was authorised to advertise for tenders for supplying the Workhouse with provisions, fuel, &c., (excepting coke), during the ensuing half-year.

SEATS FOR LANCHESTER REGISTER OFFICE.

This matter again cropped up, a letter being read from the General Register office, Somerset House, London, stating that it had been brought under the notice of the Registrar General that the Lanchester Register Office was unsufficiently provided with seats for the use of those, who accompanied by witnesses and other friends, go there to be married. He was therefore desired to request that the Guardians' attention should be called to the matter, and inform them that the Registrar General would thank them to see that the deficiency in question was supplied. The Registrar General also wished to know as soon as the necessary seats had been provided.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the clerk (Mr W H. Ritson) reply stating that eight chairs were already provided for the Register Office, and the Guardians consider that number amply sufficient. He was in a Register Office the other day, and the Superintendent Registrar informed him that six chairs were sufficient for the purposes of any wedding.

Mr LOWDEN said that two of the chairs were not worth repairing.

The Chairman: Well, the Supt. Registrar was authorised at the last meeting to replace these chairs by new ones.

Mr GRAY seconded the Chairman's proposition, which was carried.

POSTAL FACILITIES IN CONSETT TOWNSHIP.

Mr OLIVER stated that some time ago he brought forward the question of postal facilities in the outlying portion of Consett. The Clerk wrote to Mr Bygate, postmaster at Durham, and received a reply that the matter was receiving the attention of the proper authorities, but nothing had yet been done. He pointed out the inconvenience to him on having to walk a considerable distance to post his letters, although the postman passed and repassed his house three or four times per day.

The Clerk mentioned that a letter box had been placed at Templetown and he asked for another pillar box at Delves Lane.

Mr OLIVER stated that the railway authorities were evidently alive to the importance of the district, because they had opened a telegraph office at Knitsley Station.

The CHAIRMAN understood that the postal authorities had urged upon the Railway Companies to open telegraph offices at all stations. They were only useful to the public so far that they were receiving offices, no telegrams were delivered off the platform.

FATHER FORTIN suggested that Mr Oliver should communicate with Mr Lefevere, the inspector who was now in the north.

It was agreed that the Clerk should communicate with that gentleman.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The monthly meeting was held in the afternoon—Mr Wm. Logan, J.P., in the chair.

ESH AND WILK'S HILL WATER SUPPLY.

The agreement was signed between the Sanitary Authority and the Consett Water Company, for supplying Esh and Wilk's Hill with water, the Authority contributing a sum of £2,500 towards the cost of laying the pipes. They agree to pay £1,000 when the pipes are laid from Annfield Plain as far as Lanchester, another £1,000 when the pipes are extended to Esh and Wilk's Hill, and the remaining £500 upon the completion of the work.

A SNUB FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

A letter was read from the County Council recommending the adoption of earth closets in lieu of midden privies where reasonably practicable, and also enclosed plans of their new system.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Authority adopted a similar method in 1888.

A member: Then you say the County Council has copied from our plan? (Laughter.)

The Clerk was instructed to inform the County Council that this new system had been in operation since 1888, and had answered satisfactorily.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Parker) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—On the 4th ultimo, a case of small-pox was removed from High Elm Park to the infectious hospital, and the house promptly and effectively disinfected.

The hurricane of the 12th Feb. did great damage to houses and lamps in your sanitary district. The houses are gradually but slowly being repaired throughout the district, but I anticipate at the present rate of progress it will be some time before all repairs are completed. The damaged lamps have been sent to be repaired.

Four houses now being built by Mr Lockey, at Lanchester, have been occupied before they were quite fit for habitation, and before I had made a final inspection of the same. The plaster was damp, and there were several matters requiring attention before the houses should have been inhabited. I wrote Mr Lockey about the matter, and submit herewith his reply.

On the 15th ult. I accompanied Mr Asquith, the engineer to the Consett Waterworks Company, over the district intended to be supplied by water from that company, and pointed out where mains should be laid that houses in Maiden Law, Lanchester, Wilk's Hill, Marjery's Houses, Esh Laude, and Esh may be furnished with a supply of water within a reasonable distance of the dwellings.

Your committee for the lighting of the Tanfield and Kyo parishes met at Burnopfield, on the 19th Feb., and recommend that 38 ordinary lamps, two bracket lamps, and two Bray's lamps be erected at Burnopfield and Leasers, and that the road be lighted from Flint Hill to Tantobie with 21 ordinary lamps. In each of these cases gas mains are laid in the roads to be lighted, and your committee recommend that the terms and conditions for the lighting of these places be the same as those now in operation at Annfield Plain and Dipton; that the lamps be erected and lighted as soon as practicable; and that tenders be obtained for lanterns, &c., complete. Your committee interviewed the owner of the Burnopfield gasworks, and he (Mr Wigham) will agree to supply gas and manage the lighting of Burnopfield, upon the same terms as have been fixed for the lighting of Annfield Plain.

Your committee, when in that district, likewise considered the question of the drainage of Old Burnopfield and Busty Bank, and recommend that sewers be laid for the drainage of houses from the Wesleyan Chapel to the Grapes Inn; for houses in Bryan's Leap; and for houses in Lower Busty Bank, all to discharge at outfall works to be constructed for the disposal of the sewage by means of precipitation, in a fined on the north side of the road, below the quarry at Lower Busty Bank. I may add that a considerable portion of the road is in the sanitary district of the Whickham Local Board, but that the land on both sides thereof is in your sanitary district.

Middle Friarside is being drained by the owners in accordance with my suggestions, and the sewage distributed over grass land in a manner so as not to cause a nuisance.

The sewerage works at Mandville, near Castleside, and at Consett Park have been completed by the contractor during the month, and it is necessary that the houses there should be drained into the sewers without delay.

Several of the owners of houses in the Annfield Plain district made default in complying with the notices served upon them, requiring them to construct drains to communicate with the new sewers and the houses, as stipulated in the notices, have now been drained by your Authority, the expenses incurred thereby being recoverable from the owners.

I submit herewith specifications and bills of quantities for the sewage disposal works at Kyo, for the Annfield Plain and district sewerage.

There is a house so dilapidated as to be dangerous at Ebchester.

Thirty-one villages have been inspected during the month.

The following houses will shortly be ready for habitation:—

1372. Two houses at Esh Winning for T. Routledge.
1400. Two houses at Esh Winning for T. Routledge.
1403. House, Burnopfield, for W. Handcock.
1431. House, Blackhall Mill, for T. Armstrong.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. E. PARKER.

Lanchester, March 1st, 1894.

ANNFIELD PLAIN SEWERAGE WORKS.

A letter was read from Mr W. Rutherford, regretting that he could not attend the Sanitary meeting, but stated that he had not yet been able to see Mr Asquith (Messrs Joicey's chief viewer) with reference to the land for the outfall works at Kyo.

THE LIGHTING OF TANFIELD PARISH.

The special committee recommended that Burnopfield be lighted with gas lamps, also White-le-Head and Tantobie, and also the road leading from Flint Hill to Tantobie. The question of lighting Tanfield Village with one lamp to be deferred till the summer.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that there were 21 lamps along the road between Flint Hill and Tantobie, and it would cost a good deal to keep these lighted if there were only a few houses along the route. Five or six of these lamps would be situate in the Kyo parish, and the ratepayers of the township, who would nevertheless be called upon to bear the expense of lighting these lamps, would be deriving no benefit therefrom in the shape of rateable value.

Mr HANDCOCK pointed out that the representative of Kyo on the sub-committee offered no objection to the proposal.

The report of the committee was adopted, on the proposition of Mr HOBSON, and seconded by Mr GRAY.

Mr HANDCOCK suggested that in the meantime the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) should make inquiry of Messrs Joicey and Co. as to the terms for lighting Tanfield village with gas. The mains were laid as far as the church gates.

This was agreed to.

OCCUPYING HOUSES WITHOUT PROPER CERTIFICATES.

With regard to the complaint against Mr Lockey, of Durham, (alluded to in the Inspectors report) a letter was forthcoming from that gentleman expressing deep regret that he had unwittingly infringed the law. He understood, however, from Mr Parker that there would be no objection to his putting tenants into these particular houses.

The Inspector said he gave Mr Lockey no such promise. In cases where new houses were finished or about completed, he had inspected the same and stated that they might be occupied, but he could not give a habitation certificate till after the meeting of the Authority. In the present instance Mr Lockey's houses had not been passed by him.

Mr GRAY thought that decisive proceedings should be taken against Mr Lockey. He ought to be prosecuted. It was not the first time this sort of thing had been done.

Mr HANDCOCK enquired if the houses were fit for habitation now? The Inspector replied that they might probably be or would be before he could get a summons against Mr Lockey.

THE CHAIRMAN did not know whether they could secure a conviction under such circumstances. Mr Lockey had expressed sorrow for what he had done.

Mr GRAY said that Mr Lockey had simply set the Authority and its Inspector at defiance.

The CHAIRMAN retorted that they would neither allow Mr Lockey or anyone else to set the Authority or its officers at defiance.

The Clerk was instructed to inform Mr Lockey that if he repeated the offence, he would be summoned.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Medomsley District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—Four cases of scarlatina, five cases of enteric or typhoid fever, one case of small-pox, and one case of continued fever have come under my notice during the month in the Medomsley District. The Ebchester District continues free from infectious disease.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
W. T. BOLTON.

Ebchester Hill, Feb. 28th, 1894.

Eastern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The lists of zymotic diseases notified to me during the month consists of 18 cases of scarlatina, one of diphtheria, and four of enteric fever.

Scarlatina covered the part of the district that includes Catchgate, Dipton, and Burnopfield, and the villages in the immediate neighbourhood. The majority of the cases were the direct result of infection present either in the same premises or closely adjoining. The other cases could not be accounted for.

The case of diphtheria appeared at Dipton, and had ended fatally before the notification reached me. No cause could be assigned for its origin.

The enteric fever cases occurred at Causey, Burnopfield, and Dipton, and were not due to any fresh outbreak. In two instances the disease had been very recently in the same house, and the other was not far from quarters that were infected some time ago.

The mortality for the month is below the average, 16 deaths were registered, giving a death-rate of 14 per 1,000 per annum on the estimated population. Infectious diseases caused two deaths, one each from enteric fever and diphtheria.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
T. BENSON, Medical Officer.

The Rural Sanitary Authority, Lanchester.
Feb. 28th, 1894.

Lanchester District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report the following are the fresh cases of epidemic diseases within this district:—4 cases of scarlet fever and 3 of erysipelas at Langley Park, 12 cases of measles at Esh Winning, 1 case of scarlet fever and one of typhoid fever at Hamsteels Colliery, one case of diphtheria, 1 of erysipelas, and 74 of measles at Cornsay Colliery, 1 case of erysipelas at Wilks Hill, 4 cases of diphtheria, 1 of puerperal fever, and 1 of erysipelas at East Hedleyhope, 2 cases of scarlet fever at Hedley Hill, one case of typhoid fever at Railway Street, Craghead, one case of erysipelas at Burnhope, and 6 cases of scarlet fever at Greencroft Cottages.

I am, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
JOHN WILSON.

Lanchester, March 1st, 1894.

The reports were adopted, and the members dispersed.

Sporting Items.

CORNSAY HARRIERS.—The members of this club had their run to Old Cornsay, the route being the High Cross to Old Cornsay and back by the Almshouses. The roads being all that could be wished, 12 runners left the headquarters, and made their way to the lodge where a start was made. G. Simpson was pace maker, and took his men along well, the pace being eased when reaching Old Cornsay, and turning to the right they made home at a very fast pace. The distance traversed was five miles; time 35 minutes.

DOMINOES.—At the Victoria Garesfield Workmen's Library a domino handicap has been arousing great interest for the past few weeks. The prizes were:—1st, value 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 2s 6d; 4th, 2s 6d; 5-6, 2s 6d. Some close and exciting games were witnessed. Results:—Second round—A Ward beat R Harrison, T Newton beat J Gibson, A Smith beat P Newton, W Richardson beat R Newton, J Leathen beat W Hood, G Smith beat W Smith, T Dobson beat W Tomlinson, J White beat R Gibson, R Newton beat J Alexander, W Tomlinson beat M Gill, J Leathen beat P Newton, E Burton beat J Alexander, R Gibson, jun., beat W Musgrove, W Musgrove beat J Tucker, W Walton beat H Mosley, E Liddle beat W Smith, A Smith beat T Bolton, R Newton beat J Pooley. Third round—R Newton beat W Richardson, E Burton beat A Ward, G Smith beat J Leathen, T Dobson beat T Newton, A Smith beat W Walton, E Liddle beat A Smith, J White beat W Musgrove, W Tomlinson beat R Gibson, jun., J Leathen beat R Newton. Fourth round—E Burton beat T Dobson, A Smith beat E Liddle, W Tomlinson beat J Leathen, J White beat G Smith, R Newton a bye. Fifth round—R Newton beat J White, E Burton beat W Tomlinson, A Smith a bye. Sixth round—A Smith beat R Newton, E Burton a bye. The final awakened keen interest, and after a close game E Burton proved the victor; A Smith, 2nd; R. Newton, 3rd; W Tomlinson, 4th.

HOCKEY.—SUNDERLAND V DERWENT VALLEY.—This match was played at Ashbrooke, and resulted in an easy win for the home side. After leading by four goals to none at the interval, Sunderland added other six in concluding half, the final score being:—Sunderland, 10 goals; Derwent Valley, none.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT SUNNISIDE.—On Saturday, the members of the Sunniside Gun Club held their second shoot this season in a field situated in the vicinity of the Rising Sun Inn, Sunniside, near Marly Hill. The weather was beautifully fine, and a large company of spectators assembled to witness the event, which was decided under the following conditions:—Handicap from 18 to 20 yards rise, 60 fall, 1¼oz shot, use of both barrels, and four birds each. There were 18 entries, and at the conclusion of the event it was found that W Bewick (Blaydon) 20, and W Barron (Whickham), 18, had tied for first prize with a score of 4 each. On shooting off at another bird each, Bewick killed his bird, whilst Barron missed, and the former thus became the winner of the first prize. The third prize was equally divided amongst the following, each of whom killed three birds each.—W Chrisp, Sunniside, 18; Smith, Blaydon, 19; J Burts, Blaydon, 23; Bryce Lockey, Winlaton Mill, 24; Unone, Sunniside, 18. Mr Wm Chrisp, of Sunniside, was handicapper and referee.

DOG RACING AT BIRTLEY.—About 100 spectators assembled on the by-way near to Birtley Fell, on Saturday, to witness a 200 yards straight out dog race between Brown's Not For Joe, and Terrent's Jubilee Plunger, Not For Joe receiving 2 yards start for £10 a-side. Betting was 5 to 4 on Jubilee Plunger, who won by about three yards. Thomas Curtin, referee, and John Peebles pistol firer.

GREAT PIGEON SHOOTING MATCH AT BURNOPFIELD.—An important match, which it was announced would decide the championship of the county of Durham, took place on Saturday afternoon, in a field close to Mr Richard Pace's Queen's Head Inn, Burnopfield. The event excited a great deal of attention, not only in the immediate locality, but throughout the northern district, people flocking from all parts in the expectation of witnessing some first-class shooting, and it is computed that between 700 and 800 spectators were in attendance. The contestants were Edward Shotton, of Rowland's Gill, and George Green, of Seaham Harbour, and the following were the conditions:—To shoot at eleven pigeons each for £40, the use of both barrels, one oz. shot, 25 yards' rise, and 60 fall, off 30 inch rest. The weather was fine, and the rendezvous being sheltered from the wind, everything seemed favourable for the display of accurate shooting. However, whether it was that the birds were strong on the wing, or the competitors had overrated their ability, neither man scored so heavily as was generally anticipated. Green was made favourite at the start at 6 and 7 to 4 on, and the odds in his behalf increased as the event progressed. Both contestants made a good start, Green grassing his first two, while Shotton killed his first, but after that the form of the men fell off, Green being victorious by two birds only. Subjoined are the scores:—Green, 1 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0—4 out of 9; Shotton, 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0—2 out of 10. Several birds were debarred in consequence of walking some distance after leaving the traps. Mr George Watson, of Leadgate, acted as referee and stakeholder.

QUOITING AT HALF-WAY HOUSE, PRUDHOE.—The initial stages of what promises to be a most interesting handicap, were entered upon on Saturday. Two heats were set down for decision. That between G. Dobson, West Wylam, and W. Hubbuck, Mickley, was an exceedingly close contest. The contestants had staked a couple of pounds upon the issue, which was eventually secured by Dobson, who scored 41 to Hubbuck's 39. G. Gibson, Hedley, did not put in an appearance, and his opponent, M. Cheeseman, Prudhoe, was awarded the game.

DOG RACING AT MEDOMSLEY.—A deposit of £2 was made with Mr John Wigham, of Westwood, to bind a match between Jos Hall's Fat Hand and Bright's Pup, to run 200 yards straight out for £15 a-side. The parties meet to measure in, and make good a further deposit, on Saturday first, at Mr R M Rutherford's, Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley.

TROUT FOR THE RIVER BROWNEY.—Under the auspices of the Wear Fishery Board, a consignment of 2,000 yearling trout, a gift from the owners of the Bearpark Colliery, were on Tuesday, put into the River Browney, between Aldin Grange and Witton Gilbert. The fish on their journey excited great interest. They were received at Durham by the chairman of the Board (Colonel McKenzie), Alderman Richardson, Mr Caldcleugh, Mr Brown, Mr Earle, the Clerk, and others, who accompanied them to their destination. The whole of the trout were in capital condition, and seemed to take very kindly to their new environment.

Trade Notes.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

The annual general meeting took place on Tuesday afternoon, at the offices at Shotley Bridge, under the presidency of Mr Geo. Pelle, Chairman of the directors.—The report for the half-year ending Dec. 31st, 1893, was read as below:—The directors herewith beg to submit their report and statement of accounts, for the past half year.—The sale of gas has been 21,233,400 cubic feet, being an increase of 2 per cent. over the corresponding period of last year. There have been 43 new meters fixed, and the renewal of service pipes is being continued throughout the district. The receipts for the half-year amount to £4,065 9s 8d; and the expenditure £2,433 4s 9d; thus shewing a profit of £1,632 4s 11d; which, after paying interest upon loans (£58 15s 0d), and (£243 9s 9d) compensation, will be applicable to the payment of dividends, and your directors recommend that such dividend be paid as follows:—Five per cent. on Consolidated Stock, 5 per cent on Capital A., and 3½ per cent. on Capital B., for the above period, leaving a balance of £55 0s 0d to carry forward. The directors regret to have to record the death of their esteemed colleague Mr Wm. Ritson, during the past half year. He had been a director of the Company for 25 years. Mr Wm. Keenleyside, of Crookhall, has been appointed to the vacant seat. The directors retiring by rotation are Messrs Geo. Richardson and Matthew Coupland, who are eligible and offer themselves for re-election. Mr R. G. Barclay is the retiring auditor who is also eligible and offers himself for re-election.—On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Geo. Richardson (vice-chairman), the report was adopted.—Mr Wm. Aynsley proposed, and Mr W. R. Taylor seconded, the payment of the dividends as recommended, which was agreed to.—Messrs George Richardson and Matthew Coupland were re-elected directors, and Mr R. G. Barclay, J.P., was again chosen as an auditor.

Volunteer Intelligence.

4TH V.B.D.L.I. D COMPANY.—Beamish shooting club, held there first fortnightly shooting competition on Saturday, a good attendance of members being present. Seven shots and one sighting shot at each, distances—200, 500, 600 yards. The light, changeable, and a strong right wind to contend with, made scoring very low, highest scores as follows:—Priv. W. Mewes, 19, 25, 23, 12 start, 79; Corp. W. Kay, 23, 31, 20, 3 start, 77; Priv. F. Stephenson, 21, 26, 25, 2 start, 74; Corp. J. Grundy, 21, 23, 29, scratch, 73; Priv. M. Pattinson, 16, 27, 28, 2 start, 73; Priv. H. Wilby, 16, 27, 18, 10 start, 71.

5TH V.B. DURHAM LIGHT INFANTRY.—The first of a series of handicap competitions, organised by the shooting club at the headquarters of Colonel Cowen's corps, was held on their range at Bucs Hills, near Blaydon, on Saturday, under command of Lieutenant A. Henderson. The following is a list of the winners and their scores at 200 and 500 yards:—Corp. J. Robertson, 23, 32, 55; Corp. R. Dick, 20, 20, 3 start, 53; Corp. G. Nevins, 25, 19, 6 start, 50; Lelut. A. Henderson, 19, 23, 8 start, 50.

Cricket.

White-le-Head Y.M.C.A. have several dates open, and would like them filled up. Ages, 15 to 18. Address—T. Keeler, secretary, Office Row, White-le-Head.

GREENSIDE CRICKET CLUB.

A concert in connection with this club was held in the school-room on Friday, for the purpose of raising funds to provide a pavilion. The entertainment throughout was of the very best, and the room was packed to the doors. The following took part in the programme:—Misses Greener, Riding Mill; Miss E. Bennett, Blaydon; Miss S. Greener, Mr J. Maughan, and Mr W. Armitage, all of the district; Miss H. Thompson, Mr R. D. Young, and Messrs Staines and Fortune, of Newcastle. Messrs Staines and Fortune were particularly clever in their musical sketch, as was Mr Armitage in his humourous songs, which caused much amusement. Mr Wm. Gillender, West Ryton, occupied the chair.

WOLSINGHAM CRICKET CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of this club was held at the Mechanics' Institute, Wolsingham—Mr Geo. Herron, jun., occupying the chair. After the reports were read and adopted, the following officers were elected for the current year:—President, Capt. J. E. Rogerson, Oswald House, Durham; captain, Rev A. J. Reed; vice-captain, Mr R. Wilkinson; treasurer, Mr G. Malaprise; secretary, Mr G. Mann; assistant secretary, Mr G. Herron, jun.; committee, Messrs T. Wharton, T. Miller, T. Iley, J. Stobbert, R. Stobbs, M. Lambert, J. Vasey, J. Coulson, and W. Charlesworth. The meeting decided that the club should enter the Durham County Challenge Cup Competition.

BURNOPFIELD C.C.

On Monday evening, the Burnopfield Cricket Club held their annual concert in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield. A first class programme was opened by a piano and violin duet by Mr A. de Pelsenaire and Mr T. Ruddock. Mr W. S. Gibson sang "The admiral's broom" in fine style. "The sailor sighs" was admirably rendered by Miss Jessie Taylor and Mr T. H. Armstrong, and was very kindly received. Mr A. de Pelsenaire pleased all present with his musical sketches a la Grossmith, for which he received hearty rounds of applause, and responded with "The fatherland." Miss A. Winter sang "Margarita" with much feeling, and Miss Jessie Taylor "The holy city," both being deservedly encored. Mr Edwin Winter was enthusiastically encored for all his turns, and scored well in his character patter song. Mr T. Armstrong sang "Mary" with much effect, and responded to the loud re-call with "Macgregor's gathering." The remaining portion of the programme was most highly appreciated, and the concert was in every respect a great success.

CHESTER-LE-STREET CRICKET CLUB.

The annual dinner of this club was held at the King's Head Hotel, Chester-le-Street—Mr J. W. Luccock in the chair, and Mr H. Armstrong occupying the vice chair. The dinner was served up in Mr Lamb's usual high-class style, and gave the greatest satisfaction.

After the cloths had been removed, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Chester-le-Street Cricket Club," and in doing so congratulated the club on the proud position it had attained in the Durham County League. He coupled with the toast the names of the hon. secretaries, Messrs J. W. Morgan and T. R. Hall, who had both worked so hard to promote the interests of the club.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and Mr MORGAN, in replying, thanked the members for the kind manner in which they had received his name. He was pleased to record the success of the scheme for relaying and improving the ground, and he heartily thanked all who had assisted in the furtherance of that object.

The toast of "The visitors" was given, and replied to by Messrs J. ELTRINGHAM and J. DIXON, of Consett, who spoke of the kindly feeling existing between the Consett and District Club and the Chester-le-Street Club.

"The trade and commerce of Chester-le-Street" was proposed by Mr G. W. BARKER, and replied to by Mr JAS. TURNBULL.

The evening was afterwards spent in harmony, the gathering being a most successful one.

SHOTLEY GROVE C.C.

The annual general meeting of the members of the above club was held in the Shotley Grove School, when there was a good attendance. Mr A. Birse was voted to the chair.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The secretary's report for last season was read and discussed, and considered satisfactory, as was also the treasurer's statement.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—President, Mr W. M. Annandale, Lintzford; vice-presidents, Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, Messrs W. R. Town, A. Annandale, J. Lax, J. Guthrie, J. Harper, sen., H. W. Stephenson, W. Campbell, J. Collinson, J. Hopper, D. Pearson, W. Harper, A. McIvor, and W. Moore; captain, Mr J. Gowans; vice-captain, Mr James Leadbitter, jun.; secretary, Mr G. Shepherd; treasurer, Mr W. Beck; committee, Messrs T. Walker, A. Birse, A. Turner, J. Chisholm, E. Bain, W. Gorman, and J. Shield.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

A discussion took place as to the best means of obtaining outstanding subscriptions, and a more regular payment of the same in future.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Votes of thanks to the officers of last season; to Mr Collinson for his kindness in allowing the club the use of the school; and to the chairman, concluded a most successful meeting.

MATCHES WANTED.

The secretary has still a few vacant dates, which he would like filled up with moderate teams. Address—Geo. Shepherd, 35, Cutler's Hall, Blackhill.

ENTIRE CART HORSE SHOW.—The annual show of entire cart horses for the £60 premium offered by the Chester-le-Street and District Farmers' Club, was held on Tuesday in the Spring Close, in the presence of a large attendance, and in favourable weather. Nine horses, the same number as last quarter, were entered; and in the opinion of the best judges quality was better and more strongly represented than at any other previous show held under the auspices of the club. Messrs John Tully, Bowes House; H. Potts, Harbour House; and William W. Coxon, Pictree, were judges; and after a careful scrutiny, lasting over a lengthy period, decided upon Mizzen Royal, 5 years, by Top Royal, the property of Mr Robert J. Craig, Garliestown, Wigtonshire, subject to a veterinary inspection, which under the hands of Wm. Temple, M.R.C.V.S., Wear House, Chester-le Street, he succeeded in doing with honours. The whole arrangements were successfully carried out by Mr James Brewis, hon. secretary of the club.

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

Business Announcements.

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For all practical purposes the above are as good as perfect sheets, being water-tight, fire-proof, &c.

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Red Oxide Paint specially prepared for iron work and ready for use. Price on application.

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THE STORY OF A LION TAMER.

The name of Pezon is not so well known in the menagerie world in England possibly as on the Continent. There Jean Baptiste Pezon, the uncle of Edward Pezon, whose menagerie was unfortunately destroyed a few months ago by fire, has made himself a name.

Born in 1826 of poor parents, living in the little village of Lozere, in the Cevennes, he worked as a miner from the age of 11 to 15, and gained at length sufficient to purchase a bear.

In addition to the usual dancing, he taught his pupil to wrestle; not with himself however, but with as many dogs as were willing to enter the list against him. Butchers' dogs, shepherds' dogs, mastiffs, bulldogs,—all in every village that was passed were provoked to take part in the combat. Six at a time were set upon the bear, which, with a magisterial stroke of his paw, laid them all "hors de combat" on the ground.

Jean Baptiste's business prospered; and his friends increased, so that he was able to buy a tent with the few hundred crowns he had saved. The spectators paid a little dearer for their places in consideration of the shelter obtained. In addition to the bear, Pezon purchased first a wolf, then a hyena, which he contented himself simply with exhibiting, and afterwards some small horses and monkeys, which were trained for performance.

In 1848 Pezon was stationed at Bordeaux, where he heard that the captain of a merchant vessel coming from Africa had on board a lion, aged 10 months, which he offered to sell for 1,000 francs. Pezon had 800 in his till; by dint of bargaining the animal was handed over to him for that sum, and the same evening he conveyed his prize home.

As he had neither cage nor money with which to purchase one just then, the lion was kept for several months in his caravan, fastened only with a chain. In all probability he was dragged and very much underfed, too, to render him as harmless as possible. Nevertheless, he grew bigger it is said; docile, too, perhaps. For four years Pezon contented himself with showing it only to the public, exercising and training it in private.

In 1852, the animal made its 'debut,' and the astonished spectators beheld for the first time a thing unheard of till then—a lion-tamer on the back of the wild beast. The success of this feat was enormous. Pezon's receipts were fabulous, and the commencement of his fortune dates from that time. As soon as it became known that riding lions was a sure way of making money easily, Pezon had several imitators and rivals. If they added a tiger for the performance the takings were opulent, it is said and an elephant filled the circus to overflowing. That was 40 years ago; now one sees rather too much of this sort of thing.—"Standard."

It is only when a man knows a little that he knows anything at all. With knowledge grows doubt.

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Cures Old Sores.
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From whatever cause arising.

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As this Mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, from infancy to old age, the proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

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"We have seen hosts of letters from people who have received great benefit from the use of Clarke's Blood Mixture. It cannot be too highly estimated, for it cleanses and clears the blood from all impurities." This is a good testimonial from the *Family Doctor*, which goes on further to say: "It is the finest Blood Purifier that science and skill have brought to light, and we can with the utmost confidence recommend it to our subscribers and the public generally."

"Just a few lines in reference to a wonderful cure that Clarke's Blood Mixture has effected. I have been a sufferer for over three years with a bad leg. I have had several doctors, and tried dozens of receipts from people who professed to know what would do me good, but I never received any relief until I tried Clarke's Blood Mixture. I should also add that I was recommended by one doctor to go to the infirmary as he could do me no good, but a friend of mine asked me to try your blood mixture. I did so and after using two 11s. bottles my leg was completely cured. It would be impossible to tell you how many wounds I had on my leg; it was completely black as far as the knee. My friends were alarmed, and I thought that I should lose my leg but now it is all right. You may use this letter as you please. Make it as public as you please, for I shall recommend your blood mixture wherever I go.
JESSIE SMITH,
"34, Jane Street, Hetton Downs,
"County of Durham, Jan. 16th, 1894."

Sold in bottles, 2s. 9d. each, and in cases containing six times the quantity, 11s.—sufficient to effect a permanent cure in the great majority of long-standing cases. By all CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the World, or sent to any address on receipt of 33 or 132 stamps by the Proprietors, THE LINCOLN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES DRUG COMPANY, LINCOLN.

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LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting took place on Thursday week, under the presidency of Mr Wm. Logan, J.P. Present:—Rev P. C. Fortin, Messrs G. Hobson, T. Lowden, W. Gray, Jas. Oliver, J. Watson, Thomas Pringle, W. J. Handcock, T. Wilkinson, and the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson.)

PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF RELIEF.

OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

Present No. of inmates	182
Corresponding period last year	176
Vagrants relieved during past fortnight	51
Corresponding period last year	20

Mr R. Walton, relieving officer, eastern district reported:—

Adults, not able-bodied—Males	69
Females	127
Able-bodied (temporarily disabled)	—
Females (in health)	—
Temporarily disabled	37
Children under 16 years	188
Total	421

Amount of relief in money, £66 13s 0d.

Mr J. Moon, relieving officer, western district, also reported:—

Adults, not able-bodied—Males	58
Females	138
Able-bodied—Males	—
Females (in health)	9
Temporarily disabled	63
Children under 16 years	257
Total	525

Amount of relief in money, £79 9s 6d.

TOTALS.

Adults, not able-bodied	392
Able-bodied	109
Children	445
Total	946

Amount of relief, £145 12s 6d.

Figures for the corresponding period of last year:—

Adults, not able-bodied	362
Able-bodied	137
Children	502
Total	1001

Amount of relief, £138 1s 0d.

ELECTION OF A GUARDIAN.

An order was received from the Local Government Board directing that a special election of a guardian should take place on the 22nd inst, in the township of Conside and Knitsley to fill up the vacancy caused by the death of Mr John Collinson, of Consett.

THE ASSISTANT OVERSEER FOR TANFIELD.

A letter was read from Mr John Moore, resigning his position as collector of poor rates for Tanfield Parish. The resignation was accepted, and it was agreed to advertise for a successor at a salary of £100 a year.

OVERCROWDING OF STOCKTON WORKHOUSE.

An application was read from the Stockton Union, asking for some of their male paupers to be accommodated temporarily in the Lanchester Workhouse.

The CHAIRMAN stated that although they had plenty of room in their House, he did not deem it advisable that they should accept the paupers belonging other unions. The request was not entertained.

THE ESH ASSISTANT OVERSEER.

The bond of the Esh assistant overseer was approved of.

TENDERS FOR PROVISIONS.

The Clerk was authorised to advertise for tenders for supplying the Workhouse with provisions, fuel, &c., (excepting coke), during the ensuing half-year.

SEATS FOR LANCHESTER REGISTER OFFICE.

This matter again cropped up, a letter being read from the General Register office, Somerset House, London, stating that it had been brought under the notice of the Registrar General that the Lanchester Register Office was unsufficiently provided with seats for the use of those, who accompanied by witnesses and other friends, go there to be married. He was therefore desired to request that the Guardians' attention should be called to the matter, and inform them that the Registrar General would thank them to see that the deficiency in question was supplied. The Registrar General also wished to know as soon as the necessary seats had been provided.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) reply stating that eight chairs were already provided for the Register Office, and the Guardians consider that number amply sufficient. He was in a Register Office the other day, and the Superintendent Registrar informed him that six chairs were sufficient for the purposes of any wedding.

Mr LOWDEN said that two of the chairs were not worth repairing.

The Chairman: Well, the Supt. Registrar was authorised at the last meeting to replace these chairs by new ones.

Mr GRAY seconded the Chairman's proposition, which was carried.

POSTAL FACILITIES IN CONSETT TOWNSHIP.

Mr OLIVER stated that some time ago he brought forward the question of postal facilities in the outlying portion of Consett. The Clerk wrote to Mr Bygate, postmaster at Durham, and received a reply that the matter was receiving the attention of the proper authorities, but nothing had yet been done. He pointed out the inconvenience to him on having to walk a considerable distance to post his letters, although the postman passed and repassed his house three or four times per day.

The Clerk mentioned that a letter box had been placed at Templetown and he asked for another pillar box at Delves Lane.

Mr OLIVER stated that the railway authorities were evidently alive to the importance of the district, because they had opened a telegraph office at Knitsley Station.

The CHAIRMAN understood that the postal authorities had urged upon the Railway Companies to open telegraph offices at all stations. They were only useful to the public so far that they were receiving offices, no telegrams were delivered off the platform.

FATHER FORTIN suggested that Mr Oliver should communicate with Mr Lefevere, the inspector who was now in the north.

It was agreed that the Clerk should communicate with that gentleman.

LANCHESTER RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

The monthly meeting was held in the afternoon—Mr Wm. Logan, J.P., in the chair.

ESH AND WILK'S HILL WATER SUPPLY.

The agreement was signed between the Sanitary Authority and the Consett Water Company, for supplying Esh and Wilk's Hill with water, the Authority contributing a sum of £2,500 towards the cost of laying the pipes. They agree to pay £1,000 when the pipes are laid from Annfield Plain as far as Lanchester, another £1,000 when the pipes are extended to Esh and Wilk's Hill, and the remaining £500 upon the completion of the work.

A SNUB FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

A letter was read from the County Council recommending the adoption of earth closets in lieu of midden privies where reasonably practicable, and also enclosed plans of their new system.

The CHAIRMAN said that the Authority adopted a similar method in 1888.

A member: Then you say the County Council has copied from our plan? (Laughter.)

The Clerk was instructed to inform the County Council that this new system had been in operation since 1888, and had answered satisfactorily.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

The Inspector (Mr Parker) submitted the following report:—

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—On the 4th ultimo, a case of small-pox was removed from High Elm Park to the infectious hospital, and the house promptly and effectively disinfected.

The hurricane of the 12th Feb. did great damage to houses and lamps in your sanitary district. The houses are gradually but slowly being repaired throughout the district, but I anticipate at the present rate of progress it will be some time before all repairs are completed. The damaged lamps have been sent to be repaired.

Four houses now being built by Mr Lockey, at Lanchester, have been occupied before they were quite fit for habitation, and before I had made a final inspection of the same. The plaster was damp, and there were several matters requiring attention before the houses should have been inhabited. I wrote Mr Lockey about the matter, and submit herewith his reply.

On the 13th ult. I accompanied Mr Asquish, the engineer to the Consett Waterworks Company, over the district intended to be supplied by water from that company, and pointed out where mains should be laid that houses in Maiden Law, Lanchester, Wilk's Hill, Marley's Houses, Esh Laude, and Esh may be furnished with a supply of water within a reasonable distance of the dwellings.

Your committee for the lighting of the Tanfield and Kyo parishes met at Burnopfield, on the 19th Feb., and recommend that 36 ordinary lamps, two bracket lamps, and two Bray's lamps be erected at Burnopfield and Leasrs, and that the road be lighted from Flint Hill to Tantobie with 21 ordinary lamps. In each of these cases gas mains are laid in the roads to be lighted, and your committee recommend that the terms and conditions for the lighting of these places be the same as those now in operation at Annfield Plain and Dipton; that the lamps be erected and lighted as soon as practicable; and that tenders be obtained for lanterns, &c., complete. Your committee interviewed the owner of the Burnopfield gasworks, and he (Mr Wigham) will agree to supply gas and manage the lighting of Burnopfield upon the same terms as have been fixed for the lighting of Annfield Plain.

Your committee, when in that district, likewise considered the question of the drainage of Old Burnopfield and Busty Bank, and recommend that sewers be laid for the drainage of houses from the Wesleyan Chapel to the Grapes Inn; for houses in Bryan's Leap; and for houses in Lower Busty Bank, all to discharge at outfall works to be constructed for the disposal of the sewage by means of precipitation, in a field on the north side of the road, below the quarry at Lower Busty Bank. I may add that a considerable portion of the road is in the sanitary district of the Whickham Local Board, but that the land on both sides thereof is in your sanitary district.

Middle Friarside is being drained by the owners in accordance with my suggestions, and the sewage distributed over grass land in a manner so as not to cause a nuisance.

The sewerage works at Maudville, near Castleside, and at Consett Park have been completed by the contractor during the month, and it is necessary that the houses there should be drained into the sewers without delay.

Several of the owners of houses in the Annfield Plain district made default in complying with the notices served upon them, requiring them to construct drains to communicate with the new sewers and the houses, as stipulated in the notices, have now been drained by your Authority, the expenses incurred thereby being recoverable from the owners.

I submit herewith specifications and bills of quantities for the sewage disposal works at Kyo, for the Annfield Plain and district sewerage.

There is a house so dilapidated as to be dangerous at Ebchester.

Thirty-one villages have been inspected during the month.

The following houses will shortly be ready for habitation:—

1372. Two houses at Esh Winning for T. Routledge.

1400. Two houses at Esh Winning for T. Routledge.

1403. House, Burnopfield, for W. Handcock.

1431. House, Blackhall Mill, for T. Armstrong.

I remain, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
J. R. PARKER.

Lanchester, March 1st, 1894.

ANNFIELD PLAIN SEWERAGE WORKS.

A letter was read from Mr W. Rutherford, regretting that he could not attend the Sanitary meeting, but stated that he had not yet been able to see Mr Asquish (Messrs Joicey's chief viewer) with reference to the land for the outfall works at Kyo.

THE LIGHTING OF TANFIELD PARISH.

The special committee recommended that Burnopfield be lighted with gas lamps, also White-le-Head and Tantobie, and also the road leading from Flint Hill to Tantobie. The question of lighting Tanfield Village with one lamp to be deferred till the summer.

The CHAIRMAN mentioned that there were 21 lamps along the road between Flint Hill and Tantobie, and it would cost a good deal to keep these lighted if there were only a few houses along the route. Five or six of these lamps would be situate in the Kyo parish, and the ratepayers of the township, who would nevertheless be called upon to bear the expense of lighting these lamps, would be deriving no benefit therefrom in the shape of rateable value.

Mr HANDCOCK pointed out that the representative of Kyo on the sub-committee offered no objection to the proposal.

The report of the committee was adopted, on the proposition of Mr HOBSON, and seconded by Mr GRAY.

Mr HANDCOCK suggested that in the meantime the clerk (Mr W. H. Ritson) should make inquiry of Messrs Joicey and Co. as to the terms for lighting Tanfield village with gas. The mains were laid as far as the church gates.

This was agreed to.

OCCUPYING HOUSES WITHOUT PROPER CERTIFICATES.

With regard to the complaint against Mr Lockey, of Durham, (alluded to in the Inspectors report) a letter was forthcoming from that gentleman expressing deep regret that he had unwittingly infringed the law. He understood, however, from Mr Parker that there would be no objection to his putting tenants into these particular houses.

The Inspector said he gave Mr Lockey no such promise. In cases where new houses were finished or about completed, he had inspected the same and stated that they might be occupied, but he could not give a habitation certificate till after the meeting of the Authority. In the present instance Mr Lockey's houses had not been passed by him.

Mr GRAY thought that decisive proceedings should be taken against Mr Lockey. He ought to be prosecuted. It was not the first time this sort of thing had been done.

Mr HANDCOCK enquired if the houses were fit for habitation now? The Inspector replied that they might probably be or would be before he could get a summons against Mr Lockey.

The CHAIRMAN did not know whether they could secure a conviction under such circumstances. Mr Lockey had expressed sorrow for what he had done.

Mr GRAY said that Mr Lockey had simply set the Authority and its Inspector at defiance.

The CHAIRMAN retorted that they would neither allow Mr Lockey or anyone else to set the Authority or its officers at defiance.

The Clerk was instructed to inform Mr Lockey that if he repeated the offence, he would be summoned.

MEDICAL OFFICERS' REPORTS.

Medomsley District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—Four cases of scarlatina, five cases of enteric or typhoid fever, one case of small-pox, and one case of continued fever have come under my notice during the month in the Medomsley District. The Ebchester District continues free from infectious disease.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant,
W. T. BOLTON.

Ebchester Hill, Feb. 28th, 1894.

Eastern District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—The lists of zymotic diseases notified to me during the month consists of 18 cases of scarlatina, one of diphtheria, and four of enteric fever.

Scarlatina covered the part of the district that includes Catchgate, Dipton, and Burnopfield, and the villages in the immediate neighbourhood. The majority of the cases were the direct result of infection present either in the same premises or closely adjoining. The other cases could not be accounted for.

The case of diphtheria appeared at Dipton, and had ended fatally before the notification reached me. No cause could be assigned for its origin.

The enteric fever cases occurred at Causey, Burnopfield, and Dipton, and were not due to any fresh outbreak. In two instances the disease had been very recently in the same house, and the other was not far from quarters that were infected some time ago.

The mortality for the month is below the average, 16 deaths were registered, giving a death-rate of 14 per 1,000 per annum on the estimated population. Infectious diseases caused two deaths, one each from enteric fever and diphtheria.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient servant.
T. BENSON, Medical Officer.
The Rural Sanitary Authority, Lanchester.
Feb. 28th, 1894.

Lanchester District.

To the Chairman and Members of the Lanchester Union Rural Sanitary Authority.

GENTLEMEN,—Since my last report the following are the fresh cases of epidemic diseases within this district:—4 cases of scarlet fever and 3 of erysipelas at Langley Park, 17 cases of measles at Esh Winning, 1 case of scarlet fever and one of typhoid fever at Hamsteels Colliery, one case of diphtheria, 1 of erysipelas, and 74 of measles at Cornsay Colliery, 1 case of erysipelas at Wilks Hill, 4 cases of diphtheria, 1 of puerperal fever, and 1 of erysipelas at East Hedleyhope, 2 cases of scarlet fever at Hedley Hill, one case of typhoid fever at Railway Street, Craghead, one case of erysipelas at Burnhope, and 6 cases of scarlet fever at Greencroft Cottages.

I am, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen, your obedient servant,
JOHN WILSON.

Lanchester, March 1st, 1894.

The reports were adopted, and the members dispersed.

Sporting Items.

CORNSAY HARRIERS.—The members of this club had their run to Old Cornsay, the route being the High Cross to Old Cornsay and back by the Alms-houses. The roads being all that could be wished, 12 runners left the headquarters, and made their way to the lodge where a start was made. G. Simpson was pace maker, and took his men along well, the pack being eased when reaching Old Cornsay, and turning to the right they made home at a very fast pace. The distance traversed was five miles; time 35 minutes.

DOMINOES.—At the Victoria Garesfield Workmen's Library a domino handicap has been arousing great interest for the past few weeks. The prizes were:—1st, value 10s; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 2s 6d; 4th, 2s 6d; 5th, 2s 6d. Some close and exciting games were witnessed. Results:—Second round—A Ward beat R Harrison, T Newton beat J Gibson, A Smith beat P Newton, W Richardson beat R Newton, J Leathen beat W Hood, G Smith beat W Smith, T Dobson beat W Tomlinson, J White beat R Gibson, R Newton beat J Alexander, W Tomlinson beat M Gill, J Leathen beat P Newton, E Burton beat J Alexander, R Gibson, jun., beat W Musgrove, W Musgrove beat J Tucker, W Walton beat H Mosley, E Liddle beat W Smith, A Smith beat T Bolton, R Newton beat J Pooley. Third round—R Newton beat W Richardson, E Burton beat A Ward, G Smith beat J Leathen, T Dobson beat T Newton, A Smith beat W Walton, E Liddle beat A Smith, J White beat W Musgrove, W Tomlinson beat R Gibson, jun., J Leathen beat R Newton. Fourth round—E Burton beat T Dobson, A Smith beat E Liddle, W Tomlinson beat J Leathen, J White beat G Smith, R Newton a bye. Fifth round—R Newton beat J White, E Burton beat W Tomlinson, A Smith a bye. Sixth round—A Smith beat R Newton, E Burton a bye. The final awakened keen interest, and after a close game E Burton proved the victor; A Smith, 2nd; R. Newton, 3rd; W Tomlinson, 4th.

HOCKEY.—SUNDERLAND v DERWENT VALLEY.—This match was played at Ashbrooke, and resulted in an easy win for the home side. After leading by four goals to none at the interval, Sunderland added other six in concluding half, the final score being:—Sunderland, 10 goals; Derwent Valley, none.

PIGEON SHOOTING AT SUNNSIDE.—On Saturday, the members of the Sunniside Gun Club held their second shoot this season in a field situated in the vicinity of the Rising Sun Inn, Sunniside, near Marly Hill. The weather was beautifully fine, and a large company of spectators assembled to witness the event, which was decided under the following conditions:—Handicap from 18 to 20 yards rise, 60 fall, 1¼oz shot, use of both barrels, and four birds each. There were 18 entries, and at the conclusion of the event it was found that W Bewick (Blaydon) 20, and W Barron (Whickham), 18, had tied for first prize with a score of 4 each. On shooting off at another bird each, Bewick killed his bird, whilst Barron missed, and the former thus became the winner of the first prize. The third prize was equally divided amongst the following, each of whom killed three birds each.—W Chrisp, Sunniside, 18; Smith, Blaydon, 19; J Burts, Blaydon, 23; Bryce Lockey, Winlaton Mill, 24; Unone, Sunniside, 18. Mr Wm Chrisp, of Sunniside, was handicapper and referee.

DOG RACING AT BIRTLEY.—About 100 spectators assembled on the by-way near to Birtley Fell, on Saturday, to witness a 200 yards straight out dog race between Brown's Not For Joe, and Terrent's Jubilee Plunger, Not For Joe receiving 2 yards start for £10 a-side. Betting was 5 to 4 on Jubilee Plunger, who won by about three yards. Thomas Curtin, referee, and John Peebles pistol firer.

GREAT PIGEON SHOOTING MATCH AT BURNOPFIELD.—An important match, which it was announced would decide the championship of the county of Durham, took place on Saturday afternoon, in a field close to Mr Richard Pace's Queen's Head Inn, Burnopfield. The event excited a great deal of attention, not only in the immediate locality, but throughout the northern district, people flocking from all parts in the expectation of witnessing some first class shooting, and it is computed that between 700 and 800 spectators were in attendance. The contestants were Edward Shotton, of Rowland's Gill, and George Green, of Seaham Harbour, and the following were the conditions:—To shoot at eleven pigeons each for £40, the use of both barrels, one oz. shot, 25 yards' rise, and 60 fall, off 30 inch rest. The weather was fine, and the rendezvous being sheltered from the wind, everything seemed favourable for the display of accurate shooting. However, whether it was that the birds were strong on the wing, or the competitors had overrated their ability, neither man scored so heavily as was generally anticipated. Green was made favourite at the start at 6 and 7 to 4 on, and the odds in his behalf increased as the event progressed. Both contestants made a good start, Green grassing his first two, while Shotton killed his first, but after that the form of the men fell off, Green being victorious by two birds only. Subjoined are the scores:—Green, 1 1 0 0 1 0 0 1 0—4 out of 9; Shotton, 1 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0—2 out of 10. Several birds were debarred in consequence of walking some distance after leaving the traps. Mr George Watson, of Leadgate, acted as referee and stake-holder.

QUOITING AT HALF-WAY HOUSE, PRUDHOE.—The initial stages of what promises to be a most interesting handicap, were entered upon on Saturday. Two heats were set down for decision. That between G. Dobson, West Wylam, and W. Hubbuck, Mickley, was an exceedingly close contest. The contestants had staked a couple of pounds upon the issue, which was eventually secured by Dobson, who scored 41 to Hubbuck's 39. G. Gibson, Hedley, did not put in an appearance, and his opponent, M. Cheeseman, Prudhoe, was awarded the game.

DOG RACING AT MEDOMSLEY.—A deposit of £2 was made with Mr John Wigham, of Westwood, to bind a match between Joe Hall's Fat Hand and Bright's Pup, to run 200 yards straight out for £15 a-side. The parties meet to measure in, and make good a further deposit, on Saturday first, at Mr R M Rutherford's, Royal Oak Hotel, Medomsley.

TROUT FOR THE RIVER BROWNEY.—Under the auspices of the Wear Fishery Board, a consignment of 2,000 yearling trout, a gift from the owners of the Bearpark Colliery, were on Tuesday, put into the River Browney, between Aldin Grange and Witton Gilbert. The fish on their journey excited great interest. They were received at Durham by the chairman of the Board (Colonel McKenzie), Alderman Richardson, Mr Caldcleugh, Mr Brown, Mr Earle, the Clerk, and others, who accompanied them to their destination. The whole of the trout were in capital condition, and seemed to take very kindly to their new environment.

Trade Notes.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

The annual general meeting took place on Tuesday afternoon, at the offices at Shotley Bridge, under the presidency of Mr Geo. Peile, Chairman of the directors.—The report for the half-year ending Dec. 31st, 1893, was read as below:—The directors herewith beg to submit their report and statement of accounts, for the past half year.—The sale of gas has been 21,233,400 cubic feet, being an increase of 2 per cent. over the corresponding period of last year. There have been 43 new meters fixed, and the renewal of service pipes is being continued throughout the district. The receipts for the half-year amount to £4,065 9s 8d; and the expenditure £2,433 4s 9d; thus shewing a profit of £1,632 4s 11d; which, after paying interest upon loans (£58 15s 0d), and (£243 9s 9d) compensation, will be applicable to the payment of dividends, and your directors recommend that such dividend be paid as follows:—Five per cent. on Consolidated Stock, 5 per cent on Capital A., and 3½ per cent. on Capital B., for the above period, leaving a balance of £55 0s 0d to carry forward. The directors regret to have to record the death of their esteemed colleague Mr Wm. Ritson, during the past half year. He had been a director of the Company for 25 years. Mr Wm. Keenleyside, of Crookhall, has been appointed to the vacant seat. The directors retiring by rotation are Messrs Geo. Richardson and Matthew Coupland, who are eligible and offer themselves for re-election. Mr R. G. Barclay is the retiring auditor who is also eligible and offers himself for re-election.—On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr Geo. Richardson (vice-chairman), the report was adopted.—Mr Wm. Aynsley proposed, and Mr W. R. Taylor seconded, the payment of the dividends as recommended, which was agreed to.—Messrs George Richardson and Matthew Coupland were re-elected directors, and Mr R. G. Barclay, J.P., was again chosen as an auditor.

Volunteer Intelligence.

4TH V.B.D.L.I. 'D' COMPANY.—Beamish shooting club, held there first fortnightly shooting competition on Saturday, a good attendance of members being present. Seven shots and one sighting shot at each, distances—200, 500, 600 yards. The light, changeable, and a strong right wind to contend with, made scoring very low, highest scores as follows:—Priv. W. Mewse, 19, 25, 22, 12 start, 79; Corp. W. Kay, 23, 31, 20, 3 start, 77; Priv. F. Stephenson, 21, 26, 25, 2 start, 74; Corp. J. Grundy, 21, 23, 29, scratch, 73; Priv. M. Pattinson, 16, 27, 28, 2 start, 73; Priv. H. Wilby, 16, 27, 18, 10 start, 71.

5TH V.B. DURHAM LIGHT INFANTRY.—The first of a series of handicap competitions, organised by the shooting club at the headquarters of Colonel Cowen's corps, was held on their range at Bucs Hills, near Blaydon, on Saturday, under command of Lieutenant A. Henderson. The following is a list of the winners and their scores at 200 and 500 yards:—Corp. J. Robertson, 23, 32, 55; Corp. R. Dick, 30, 20, 3 start, 53; Corp. G. Nevins, 25, 19, 6 start, 50; Leiut. A. Henderson, 19, 23, 8 start, 50.

Cricket.

White-le-Head Y.M.C.A. have several dates open, and would like them filled up. Ages, 15 to 18. Address—T. Keeler, secretary, Office Row, White-le-Head.

GREENSIDE CRICKET CLUB.

A concert in connection with this club was held in the school-room on Friday, for the purpose of raising funds to provide a pavilion. The entertainment throughout was of the very best, and the room was packed to the doors. The following took part in the programme:—Misses Greener, Riding Mill; Miss E. Bennett, Blaydon; Miss S. Greener, Mr J. Maughan, and Mr W. Armitage, all of the district; Miss H. Thompson, Mr R. D. Young, and Messrs Staines and Fortune, of Newcastle. Messrs Staines and Fortune were particularly clever in their musical sketch, as was Mr Armitage in his humourous songs, which caused much amusement. Mr Wm. Gillender, West Ryton, occupied the chair.

WOLSINGHAM CRICKET CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the members of this club was held at the Mechanics' Institute, Wolsingham—Mr Geo. Herron, jun., occupying the chair. After the reports were read and adopted, the following officers were elected for the current year:—President, Capt. J. E. Rogerson, Oswald House, Durham; captain, Rev A. J. Reed; vice-captain, Mr R. Wilkinson; treasurer, Mr G. Malpriee; secretary, Mr G. Mann; assistant secretary, Mr G. Herron, jun.; committee, Messrs T. Wharton, T. Miller, T. Iley, J. Stothert, R. Stobbs, M. Lambert, J. Vasey, J. Coulson, and W. Charlesworth. The meeting decided that the club should enter the Durham County Challenge Cup Competition.

BURNOPFIELD C.C.

On Monday evening, the Burnopfield Cricket Club held their annual concert in the Co-operative Hall, Burnopfield. A first-class programme was opened by a piano and violin duet by Mr A. de Pelsenaire and Mr T. Ruddock. Mr W. S. Gibson sang "The admiral's broom" in fine style. "The sailor sighs" was admirably rendered by Miss Jessie Taylor and Mr T. H. Armstrong, and was very kindly received. Mr A. de Pelsenaire pleased all present with his musical sketches a la Grossmith, for which he received hearty rounds of applause, and responded with "The fatherland." Miss A. Winter sang "Margarita" with much feeling, and Miss Jessie Taylor "The holy city," both being deservedly *encored*. Mr Edwin Winter was enthusiastically *encored* for all his turns, and scored well in his character patter song. Mr T. Armstrong sang "Mary" with much effect, and responded to the loud re-call with "Macgregor's gathering." The remaining portion of the programme was most highly appreciated, and the concert was in every respect a great success.

CHESTER-LE-STREET CRICKET CLUB.

The annual dinner of this club was held at the King's Head Hotel, Chester-le-Street—Mr J. W. Luccock in the chair, and Mr H. Armstrong occupying the vice-chair. The dinner was served up in Mr Lamb's usual high-class style, and gave the greatest satisfaction.

After the cloths had been removed, the usual loyal and patriotic toasts were given.

The VICE-CHAIRMAN gave the toast of the evening, "Success to the Chester-le-Street Cricket Club," and in doing so congratulated the club on the proud position it had attained in the Durham County League. He coupled with the toast the names of the hon. secretaries, Messrs J. W. Morgan and T. R. Hall, who had both worked so hard to promote the interests of the club.

The toast was received with great enthusiasm, and Mr MORGAN, in replying, thanked the members for the kind manner in which they had received his name. He was pleased to record the success of the scheme for relaying and improving the ground, and he heartily thanked all who had assisted in the furtherance of that object.

The toast of "The visitors" was given, and replied to by Messrs J. ELTRINGHAM and J. DIXON, of Consett, who spoke of the kindly feeling existing between the Consett and District Club and the Chester-le-Street Club.

"The trade and commerce of Chester-le-Street" was proposed by Mr G. W. BARKER, and replied to by Mr JAS. TURNBULL.

The evening was afterwards spent in harmony, the gathering being a most successful one.

SHOTLEY GROVE C.C.

The annual general meeting of the members of the above club was held in the Shotley Grove School, when there was a good attendance. Mr A. Birse was voted to the chair.

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

The secretary's report for last season was read and discussed, and considered satisfactory, as was also the treasurer's statement.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, and resulted as follows:—President, Mr W. M. Annandale, Lintzford; vice-presidents, Rev G. H. Ross-Lewin, Messrs W. R. Town, A. Annandale, J. Lax, J. Guthrie, J. Harper, sen., H. W. Stephenson, W. Campbell, J. Collinson, J. Hopper, D. Pearson, W. Harper, A. McIvor, and W. Moore; captain, Mr J. Gowans; vice-captain, Mr James Leadbitter, jun.; secretary, Mr G. Shepherd; treasurer, Mr W. Beck; committee, Messrs T. Walker, A. Birse, A. Turner, J. Chisholm, E. Bain, W. Gorman, and J. Shield.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

A discussion took place as to the best means of obtaining outstanding subscriptions, and a more regular payment of the same in future.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Votes of thanks to the officers of last season; to Mr Collinson for his kindness in allowing the club the use of the school; and to the chairman, concluded a most successful meeting.

MATCHES WANTED.

The secretary has still a few vacant dates, which he would like filled up with moderate teams. Address—Geo. Shepherd, 35, Cutler's Hall, Blackhill.

ENTIRE CART HORSE SHOW.—The annual show of entire cart horses for the £60 premium offered by the Chester-le-Street and District Farmers' Club, was held on Tuesday in the Spring Close, in the presence of a large attendance, and in favourable weather. Nine horses, the same number as last quarter, were entered; and in the opinion of the best judges quality was better and more strongly represented than at any other previous show held under the auspices of the club. Messrs John Tully, Bowes House; H. Potts, Harbour House; and William W. Coxon, Pictree, were judges; and after a careful scrutiny, lasting over a lengthy period, decided upon Mizzen Royal, 5 years, by Top Royal, the property of Mr Robert J. Craig, Garliestown, Wigtonshire, subject to a veterinary inspection, which under the hands of Wm. Temple, M.R.C.V.S., Wear House, Chester-le-Street, he succeeded in doing with honours. The whole arrangements were successfully carried out by Mr James Brewis, hon. secretary of the club.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed-bugs, flies, ants, moles, Shipmunks, gophers [illegible] boxes at Chemists.

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5ft.	long by 2ft. wide	1s 2d	each
6	" " "	1s 5d	"
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For all practical purposes the above are as good as perfect sheets, being water-tight, fire-proof, &c.

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Red Oxide Paint specially prepared for iron work and ready for use. Price on application.

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THE STORY OF A LION TAMER.

The name of Pezon is not so well known in the menagerie world in England possibly as on the Continent. There Jean Baptiste Pezon the uncle of Edward Pezon, whose menagerie was unfortunately destroyed a few months ago by fire, has made himself a name.

Born in 1826 of poor parents, living in the little village of Lozere, in the Cevenues, he worked as a miner from the age of 11 to 15, and gained at length sufficient to purchase a bear.

In addition to the usual dancing, he taught his pupil to wrestle; not with himself however, but with as many dogs as were willing to enter the list against him. Butchers' dogs, shepherds' dogs, mastiffs, bulldogs,—all in every village that was passed were provoked to take part in the combat. Six at a time were set upon the bear, which, with a magisterial stroke of his paw, laid them all "hors de combat" on the ground.

Jean Baptiste's business prospered; and his friends increased, so that he was able to buy a tent with the few hundred crowns he had saved. The spectators paid a little dearer for their places in consideration of the shelter obtained. In addition to the bear, Pezon purchased first a wolf, then a hyena, which he contented himself simply with exhibiting, and afterwards some small horses and monkeys, which were trained for performance.

In 1848 Pezon was stationed at Bordeaux, where he heard that the captain of a merchant vessel coming from Africa had on board a lion, aged 10 months, which he offered to sell for 1,000 francs. Pezon had 800 in his till; by dint of bargaining the animal was handed over to him for that sum, and the same evening he conveyed his prize home.

As he had neither cage nor money with which to purchase one just then, the lion was kept for several months in his caravan, fastened only with a chain. In all probability he was drugged and very much underfed, too, to render him as harmless as possible. Nevertheless, he grew bigger it is said; docile, too, perhaps. For four years Pezon contented himself with showing it only to the public, exercising and training it in private.

In 1852, the animal made its 'debut,' and the astonished spectators beheld for the first time a thing unheard of till then—a lion-tamer on the back of the wild beast. The success of this feat was enormous. Pezon's receipts were fabulous, and the commencement of his fortune dates from that time. As soon as it became known that riding lions was a sure way of making money easily, Pezon had several imitators and rivals. If they added a tiger for the performance the takings were opulent, it is said and an elephant filled the circus to overflowing. That was 40 years ago; now one sees rather too much of this sort of thing.—"Standard."

It is only when a man knows a little that he knows anything at all. With knowledge grows doubt.

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"Just a few lines in reference to a wonderful cure that Clarke's Blood Mixture has effected. I have been a sufferer for over three years with a bad leg. I have had several doctors, and tried dozens of receipts from people who professed to know what would do me good, but I never received any relief until I tried Clarke's Blood Mixture. I should also add that I was recommended by one doctor to go to the infirmary as he could do me no good, but a friend of mine asked me to try your blood mixture. I did so and after using two 11s. bottles my leg was completely cured. It would be impossible to tell you how many wounds I had on my leg; it was completely black as far as the knee. My friends were alarmed, and I thought that I should lose my leg, but now it is all right. You may use this letter as you please. Make it as public as you please, for I shall recommend your blood mixture wherever I go.
'JESSIE SMITH,
"34, Jane Street, Hetton Downs,
"County of Durham. Jan. 16th, 1894."

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