The Consett Guardian

AND DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER.

An ADVERTISING MEDIUM for Annfield Plain, Blackhill, Consett, Lanchester, Leadgate, Shotley Bridge, &c.

No. 1,029. {REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.} FRIDAY EVENING, May 14th, 1880. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Business Announcements.

THOMAS ROWE, BAKER & CONFECTIONER, LEADGATE AND CONSETT.
☞ PIC-NICS AND TEA PARTIES SUPPLIED OR CONTRACTED FOR.

PASSENGERS Booked to and from the United States, Canada, and Australia. Reliable information and Pamphlets can be had of Mr. LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate, Annfield Plain, the authorised Agent. Assisted Passages to Canada. 849m

SEVEN HUNDRED Easy, Profitable, and Pleasant

WAYS TO MAKE MONEY:
A Reliable Compendium of Valuable Receipts (Published at 5s.), sent Post Free for 18 Stamps.—J. BARRON, Knitsley, Consett. 147n

MARTIN HETHERINGTON,
TUNER,
BURNOPFIELD.

ORGANS, Pianofortes, and Harmoniums Tuned and Repaired on the most reasonable terms. 488n

CASH *VERSUS* CREDIT!

All who wish to
SAVE MONEY
Should go to the
NEW SHOP,
BLACKHILL,
Where they will obtain the
BEST TEAS,
BEST GROCERIES,
And the
BEST PROVISIONS
AT THE VERY LOWEST POSSIBLE
PRICES FOR CASH.

Good Broken Congou	1s. 4d.	per lb.
A Good Useful Tea	1s. 8d.	,,
A Capital Family Tea	2s. 0d.	,,
Our Noted Mixture	2s. 6d.	,,
Our Splendid Mixture	3s. 0d.	,,
Pure Indian Tea	3s. 6d.	,,

FOR GROCERIES, SEE PRICE LIST.

HOLMES BROTHERS,
54, DURHAM ROAD,
BLACKHILL,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT,
197, WESTGATE ROAD,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 160n

DERWENT ANGLING ASSOCIATION.

A REWARD OF FIVE POUNDS will be paid to any Person who shall give information to lead to the Conviction of any Person Liming, Poisoning, or Netting the waters deputed to the Association.
By order of the Committee.

OLD-ESTABLISHED JOINERY AND CARTWRIGHT BUSINESS, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

WILLIAM SUDDES

RESPECTFULLY informs the Public of Consett and District that he has purchased the Joinery and Cartwright Business of his Cousin, the late Mr. GEORGE SUDDES, and he hopes by strict attention to the Orders of his Customers, together with reasonableness of charge and proficiency of workmanship, to merit their patronage and support. 926n

DENTAL NOTICE.

TRY Mr. WATSON'S Artificial Mineral TEETH. Cheapest and the best. They never decay or change colour. Natural appearance. Last a life-time. Teeth Extracted without any pain.
40, NEW BRIDGE STREET, NEWCASTLE.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

CHARLES TEANEY

RESPECTFULLY intimates that he has Removed to ST. IVES ROAD, LEADGATE, where he will resume his old Business as General Dealer, and hopes, by strict attention to the wants of his many Customers, to merit a continuance of the patronage hitherto bestowed upon him.
Address:
ST. IVES ROAD, LEADGATE. 42n

JOHN JENKINS,
AUCTIONEER,
HOUSE AGENT, AND APPRAISER
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT.

PARTIES leaving the Neighbourhood can have their Furniture, &c., turned into Cash on the shortest notice. 660n

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

ANY Person Removing, Altering, or Tampering with any Meter, Pipe, or other Property of the above Gas Company, without first obtaining the said Company's permission, will be prosecuted according to Law.
By order of the Directors,
August 21st, 1875. M RICHLEY, Secretary.

JOHN T. DOVE,
FORTH BANKS, NEWCASTLE,

MANUFACTURER of Concrete, Cement, Chimney-pieces, Portland Cement, Plaster, Hair, Laths, Tacks, &c.
IMPROVED GRANITE CONCRETE FLOORING
For Station Platforms, Stables, Warehouses, &c.
CRUSHED BRICKS and GRANITE always on hand
OFFICES AND WORKS—FORTH BANKS. 305n

HARPERLEY MILLS and CATCHGATE AGRICULTURAL SEED WAREHOUSES.

FARMERS are respectfully solicited to inspect GEORGE HOBSON'S large and carefully-selected Stock of CLOVER and GRASS SEEDS before giving their Orders. G.H's Seeds for Permanent Pasture and Alternate Husbandry have been tested and approved by the leading Agriculturalists of the County during the last thirty-four years, and as a proof of the quality of the Seeds sent out by him during that period, his Sales have gradually increased, dependent of the severe competition now in the Trade.

Business Announcements.

TRESPASSERS on Number One Farm, will be prosecuted. 692m

HENRY ROGERS
(Late of Consett),
AUCTIONEER, 16, TYNE STREET, BLAYDON. 598n

IF you WANT a GOOD BREAKFAST, LUNCHEON, DINNER, TEA, or SUPPER, go to the CAFE and LUNCHEON BAR, 22, Nelson Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
514n R. RUTHERFORD & CO., Proprietors.

NOTICE.

THE Game upon Allendale and Medomsley East Farms is strictly preserved. All Persons found Trespassing will be prosecuted.

JAMES FROSDICK,
BILLPOSTER, DISTRIBUTER, AND HOUSE AGENT,
4, ROSE MOUNT, CONSETT.

THE CHAMPION
GROCERY & PROVISION ESTABLISHMENT IN THE DISTRICT, IS
JOSEPH ROBINSON'S,
THE STANLEY CHEMIST. 706n

WILLIAM NICHOL,
SADDLER AND HARNESS MAKER,
TRAFALGAR STREET, CONSETT
(Nine years with Mr. N. BROWN),

BEGS to thank his numerous Customers for their liberal support since he commenced business, and to inform them that he has now on hand several Sets of Silver and Brass-mounted Harness, Riding Saddles and Bridles, Hames Chains, Bits, Spurs, &c., and Cart and Plough Harness. Also, several Sets of Second-hand Harness and Riding Saddles.

Orders from Colliery Owners, Farmers, and others, requiring Work done will be promptly attended to.

WILLIAM FITZPATRICK,
TAILOR,
CATCHGATE,

BEGS respectfully to call the attention of Gentlemen ordering Clothing for the present or approaching season, to the following Price List:—

Superior Black Suit, in Plain Cloth or Worsted	£3 3 0
Scotch Tweed Suit	2 10 0
An excellent Pair of Scotch Tweed Trousers for	0 13 0

J. BATES,
MEDOMSLEY ROAD, CONSETT,

JOINER, Undertaker, Furniture Broker, &c. Flocks, Feathers, Rabbit Down, Ironmongery, Perambulators, and General Furnishings. 60on

WILLIAM RAW,
AUCTIONEER,
VALUER, AND COMMISSION AGENT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL,
CO. DURHAM.

VALUATIONS made for Probate and Legacy Duties.

Agent for the SALE of BUILDING SITES at the following places:—Benfieldside Estate, Broomhill Estate, Ebchester, Low Finings Estate, Langley Park, Consett, Leadgate, and Blackhill.

☞ All Business promptly and carefully attended to.

AT WOODLANDS, KNITSLEY STATION, CO. DURHAM.

MACGREGOR (winner of Two Thousand Guineas). Sire of Nellie Macgregor, Sweetbroom, Mac George, &c. Nearly all his stock are successful, by Macaroni. Approved mares 20gs.; dams of winners special terms.

CLAREMONT (second in Derby to Galopin), by Blair Athol—Coimbra (dam of many winners), by Kingston—Calcavella (dam of Cecrops and Van Amburg's dam, &c.), by Birdcatcher. Claremont is bred exactly same as Silvio.

Claremont is 16.1 h.h., immense bone and power, on grand limbs; cost 2000gs. as a yearling at Cobham hence he is likely to get stock to sell well as yearlings, 25 approved mares at 10gs.; dams of winners, 5gs.

ARGYLE (sire of Thrintoft, Glenara, Lady Hood, Lindrick, &c.); is strongest. Adventurer horse at stud; 8 5-8ths below knee 16.1 high. Argyle was a good racer at all distances. Approved mares, 5gs.

Argyle's stock have won £1,200 this year.

Apply for full particulars to VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq. 854n

SPECIALITIES.

ROBERT JACKSON,
"GUARDIAN" OFFICE,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

BEGS to announce that he has made arrangements by which he can supply the following articles (all of excellent quality and workmanship) at very moderate prices, and respectfully solicits the patronage of the public generally.

JACKSON'S IMPROVED KEY AND UMBRELLA LABELS,

Which have gained for themselves so high a reputation, are invaluable to those who would avoid the trouble, delay, and expense caused by losing their keys, &c., and may be had at One Shilling each; or post free, on receipt of Twelve Stamps.

The Key Labels are made of best German Silver, with a notice engraved on one side, and on the other the name and address required. The price includes a good Key Chain with Swivel.

THE LANCHESTER COMMON ACT with the AWARDED ROADS, QUARRIES, WELLS, WATERING PLACES, &c., set out by the Commissioners by their Award, dated 13th June, 1781; also a note of the various

CUSTOMS OF THE COPYHOLD OF MANOR OF THE SEE OF DURHAM.

Edited and Compiled by ROBERT JACKSON, for upwards of thirty years Managing Clerk in the Copyhold Office, Durham, and late Bailiff of the Manor.

The whole of the remaining copies of this useful work, which was published at 3s. 6d., having been purchased by ROBERT JACKSON, *Guardian* Office, Consett, he has determined to reduce the price to *Three Shillings* per copy (post free) in order to ensure a speedy clearance.

Also on hand a few copies (being an exact fac-simile) of the *Original* LANCHESTER COMMON ACT, recently published by Mr. JOHN CALVERT, at the reduced price of *Two Shillings* (post free).

☞ Every owner or occupier of property within the boundary of Lanchester Common should possess a copy of either of these editions.

Mr. JACKSON will be glad to forward copies of either of these editions by return of Post. For which Halfpenny Postage Stamps or Post-Office Orders made payable to ROBERT JACKSON, Consett must be received.

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 6lbs. 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 AND SON,
33, GRAINGER STREET, AND 32, MOSLEY STREET, NEWCASTLE; 33, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD; AND CORNER OF FREDERICK ROAD, HIGH STREET, SUNDERLAND.

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES (over 60 Set-up).
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. 691n

DENTAL SURGERY

EIGHTH YEAR OF ATTENDING CONSETT.

MR. MARKHAM, SURGEON DENTIST, of Newcastle, Attends No. 4, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT, EVERY MONDAY, from Eleven till Three.

ESTABLISHED IN NEWCASTLE 1830. 637n

J. W. BENSON,
WATCH AND CLOCK MAKER
TO THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY,
And by Special Appointments to
H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, H.I.M. THE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA, AND THE MAHARAJAHS OF BURDWAN AND JOHORE.

PRIZE MEDALS—LONDON, DUBLIN, AND PARIS.

BENSON'S WATCHES,
Of every description, suitable for all climates,
From 2 to 200 Guineas.
Chronographs, Chronometers, Keyless, Levers, Presentation, Repeaters, Railway Guards', Soldiers', and Workmen's Watches of Extra Strength.

BENSON'S CLOCKS,
For Churches, Turrets, or Public Buildings, Dining or Drawing-room, Library, Carriage, Church, Hall, or Shop.
PERPETUAL CALENDARS, WIND DIALS, &c.
Novelty—
"EARLY ENGLISH" CLOCKS
In Wood and Ormolu, Decorated with Blue China, Wedgwood, &c.,
From £5 5s.
Made solely by Benson.

BENSON'S GOLD AND SILVER JEWELLERY,
Of every description, in the Richest and Newest Designs, at the Lowest Prices, compatible with good workmanship.
Brooches, Bracelets, Necklets, Lockets, Rings, Earrings, &c.; and, also, in Diamonds and Precious Stones.

BENSON'S "Workman's" £5 5s. Silver English Lever. Warranted.
BENSON'S "Everybody's" Silver Watch, £3 3s., with Crystal Glass. Warranted.
BENSON'S Silver and Electro-plate for Race and Athletic Meetings, Presentations, or Household Use. Special Designs and Estimates Free.
BENSON'S NEW ILLUSTRATED PAMPHLETS on WATCHES, CLOCKS, TURRET CLOCKS, PLATE, and JEWELLERY, sent Post Free, 2d. each. Watches sent Safe by Post to all Parts of the World.
Watches, Clocks, and Jewellery Skilfully Repaired by Experienced Workmen. Plate, Jewellery, and Watches Bought and Exchanged. Clubs supplied.

STEAM FACTORY AND CITY SHOW ROOMS—LUDGATE HILL, LONDON.
WEST-END ESTABLISHMENT—25, OLD BOND STREET.
ESTABLISHED 1749.

WINES AND SPIRITS FOR EVERY-DAY USE
Selected from W & A Gilbey's List of 220 varieties.

The purity of every article is guaranteed under Act 38 & 39 Vict., Cap. 63. Consumers will recognise in this Act a means of verifying the guarantee W & A Gilbey have always given of the purity and genuineness of all WINES and SPIRITS bearing their seals and labels.

This "SELECTED LIST" of W & A GILBEY'S WINES AND SPIRITS comprises two descriptions only of each class of Wines and Spirits, the first selected on account of its moderate price, and the second for its fine quality combined with greater age.

AGENT—
W. AYNSLEY, *Grocer*, CONSETT
PRICES THE SAME AS AT HEAD ESTABLISHMENTS

WINES		Per Bottle	Per Dozen
PORT Castle A *from Portugal* An excellent fruity Wine, well matured 5 years old ..		2/	24/
PORT Castle B *from Portugal* A fine full-flavored fruity Wine. 8 years old		2/4	28/
SPANISH PORT Castle 1 *from Spain* A fruity Wine of good body 2 years old		1/3	15/
SPANISH PORT Castle 4 *from Spain* The finest old Red Wine produced. 10 years old		1/10	22/
SHERRY Castle SPANISH *from Spain* A pure Spanish Sherry. 2 years old ..		1/3	15/
SHERRY Castle C *Pale from Spain* An excellent type of nutty Sherry. 6 years old		2/4	28/
MARSALA Castle VP *Pale from Sicily* A delicate dinner Wine. 3 years old		1/4	16/
MARSALA Castle C *Pale from Sicily* The finest Marsala produced. 7 years old ..		1/8	20/
CLARET Castle A *from France* A pure full-bodied Wine. 1 year in bottle ..		1/	12/
CLARET Castle C *from France* A fine-flavored and well-matured Medoc Wine		1/6	18/
SAUMUR Castle *Silver Foil* A Sparkling dry Champagne ..	Bottles Half-Botts.	2/1 1/3	25/ 14/6
SAUMUR Castle *Gold Foil* The choicest Wine of the District ..	Bottles Half-Botts.	2/6 1/5	30/ 17/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 1 A pure Sparkling Wine for ordinary use	Bottles Half-Botts.	2/2 1/3	26/ 15/
CHAMPAGNE Castle 3 A high class delicate Champagne ..	Bottles Half-Botts.	3/6 1/11	42/ 23/

SPIRITS	Per Bottle	Per Dozen
GIN Castle UP Highly rectified at W&A Gilbey's own Distillery. 33 per cent. under proof	2/	24/
GIN Castle PROOF Highly rectified at W & A Gilbey's own Distillery. Strength, proof	2/10	34/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle UP Pure Dublin Whiskey 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
IRISH WHISKEY Castle DO Very fine Dublin Whiskey. Strength, proof ..	3/3	39/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle UP Pure Malt Whiskey. 33 per cent. under proof	2/3	27/
SCOTCH WHISKEY Castle SO A high-class Scotch Whiskey. Strength, proof ..	3/3	39/
BRANDY Castle UP Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac 33 under proof	2/6	30/
BRANDY Castle PROOF Possessing the wholesome qualities of Cognac Proof ..	3/6	42/
COGNAC Castle D An excellent Cognac Brandy of fine flavor. 33 under proof ..	3/6	42/
COGNAC Castle FO A very fine Champagne Brandy. Strength, proof	5/	60/
JAMAICA RUM Castle UP A well-matured Jamaica Rum. 33 per cent. under proof ..	2/3	27/
JAMAICA RUM Castle JO A very fine Jamaica Rum. Strength, proof	3/3	39/
HOLLANDS Castle 1 Distilled in Holland from Rye 14 per cent under proof ..	2/4	28/
HOLLANDS (*Silver Stream*) The finest Geneva. Bottled abroad. 14 under proof	2/8	32/

All Bottles (except for Sparkling Wines) are charged 1d. each, which is allowed when returned.

SINGLE BOTTLES	*Single Bottles of any of W & A Gilbey's varieties of Wines and Spirits can be purchased as samples*
EXPORTATION ..	*W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits can be obtained free of duty from their Excise Bonded Warehouses.—For Prices see Special Export List*
PAYMENTS	*In order to give every possible advantage to consumers cash payments are absolutely necessary, as all prices are arranged upon that principle*
COMPLETE LIST	*A Complete List of W & A Gilbey's Wines and Spirits, containing full particulars of 220 varieties, sent free on application*

Business Announcements.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.
J. C. WYLIE, Master.
Miss DORA MUSE, Sewing Mistress. 165n

WEDDING RINGS! WEDDING RINGS!!

A PRESENT to each Purchaser of our GUINEA GOLD RING.
F. A. AND E. WELCH,
WATCHMAKERS AND JEWELLERS,
ANNFIELD PLAIN. 318n

IMPROVED
CONCRETE FLOORING.
JOHN DOVE & CO.,
35, CLOSE, NEWCASTLE.
ESTABLISHED 1854.

BUILDERS, CONTRACTORS, and others supplied with any quantity of PORTLAND and other CEMENTS, PLASTER, HAIR, LATHS LATH TACKS, &c.

CONCRETE FLOORING executed in all its Branches. Cement Ridging.

OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE, 35, CLOSE.

THE
LONDON AND NEWCASTLE TRADING COMPANY,

Have great pleasure in announcing the Purchase of a Bradford Manufacturer's Stock of

BLACK DRESS GOODS,

Bought for Cash at an average Discount of 33⅓ per cent from cost.

These Goods are all of the very best make, and the Finest Shades in Black, comprising—

☞ BLACK LUSTRES,
PERSIAN CORDS,
RUSSELL CORDS,
FRENCH MERINOS,
GRECIAN CORDS,
CASHMERES
SERGES, and
SATIN CLOTHS.

SALE ON MONDAY, MAY 3rd,
AND FOLLOWING DAYS.

69 and 71, CLAYTON STREET, NEWCASTLE.

DRESSMAKING on the Premises, under the charge of a lady of experience. First-class Fit and Style guaranteed. Charges strictly moderate.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S
BOOTS & SHOES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
69 AND 71, CLAYTON STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

JOHN W. DAVISON,
CABINETMAKER, FURNITURE BROKER,
IRONMONGER, &c.,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,
AND CATCHGATE,

HAS now on hand the largest and best made Stock of FURNITURE in the district.
IRON BEDSTEADS in great variety.
MATTRESSES, FEATHERS, FLOCKS, RABBIT DOWN.
A large Stock of New Patterns in PAPER HANGINGS.
PERAMBULATORS. HARDWARE.
Agent for the HOME WASHER and MANGLING MACHINES.
BURY'S and HARDY'S PATENT PICKS and SHAFTS.
Licensed Dealer in SPORTING and BLASTING POWDER. 673a

R. DODD
SADDLER AND HARNESSMAKER,
NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT,

RESPECTFULLY intimates to the Inhabitants of Consett and surrounding District that he has taken the Business of his late Father, A. H. DODD, and hopes, by strict attention to Business, to merit a share of their support. R. D. also begs to inform them that he has on hand Brass and Silver-mounted Gig Harness; Spring Cart and Cart Harness; New and Second-hand Riding Saddles; Riding Bridles and Martingales; Hunting Breastplates, Bits, Spurs, &c.

Orders from Colliery Owners, Farmers, and others will be promptly attended to.

☞ ARTIFICIAL LEGS AND ARMS Made, Altered, and Repaired on the shortest notice.

BELTS AND HOSEPIPES MADE AND REPAIRED.

N.B.—Farmers can have their Work done on their own Premises. 295n

OUR LONDON CORRESPONDENT.

The overthrow of Sir William Harcourt at Oxford is scarcely an achievement concerning which "the great Conservative party" have occasion to be proud. The M. F. H. and brewer has avenged the Allsopps. Guinness and Greenall and Wheelhouse are resigned to their fate. Thanks to an overflow of fluid patriotism—the with drawal of multitudinous bungs—the Home Secretary will not be in his place when Parliament meets. The Licensed Victualling interest, which, in the person of its official mouthpiece, whined for mercy a few days since, has shown the sincerity of its avowal of repentance by turning out "that fellow Harcourt." As for the members of the Government, including, of course, arrowy-tongued Sir William, although they are not likely to inaugurate a system of reprisals in relation to the crass readers of the *Morning Advertiser*, they would be something less than human if they did not "remember" justice—to "The Trade"—is not likely to be tempered largely with mercy when the time comes for Boniface to set his house in order. It will be instructive in that day to remember that the participators in the howling drunken orgy which disgraced Oxford on Saturday night were taken to the heart of hearts of the Conservative remnant and cherished as patriots of the right stamp. Oxford has made its name imperishable in the annals of Jingoism. But, hist! Suppose there should be a petition? It is not probable that Sir William Harcourt himself would have act or part in such an expression of doubt; but—his committee may. To call the victory of Mr. Hall aught but what it was, a battle won by beer, would be to insult the common sense of those who were present during the engagements. Brains succumbed to beer, and the Carlton is in the seventh heaven of delights in consequence.

This—be it candidly stated—unexpected event is not the all-absorbing political topic. The Indian muddle engages a good deal of attention, and Mr. Bradlaugh's "case" is talked about. The public have made up their minds that Sir William Harcourt will stand for the Radnor Burghs. Lord Hartington's influence in that quarter of the kingdom ought to convert the Home Secretary's chances there into a certainty; and, of course, that influence will be put in force. The Home Secretary should not be out of "his place" in the House a moment longer than is necessary to accomplish the formal business incidental to the issue of a new writ for the Radnor Boroughs. He will be wanted to assist in the impeachment of—somebody when the Indian muddle comes up for indignant discussion. Although it turns out that Mr. Fawcett's letter was premature in charging the Government with a knowledge of the ugly facts before the elections, still the session must have a lively beginning, and the new Earl a novel experience as a member of the House of Peers. The Bradlaugh oath business is becoming a nuisance. Let him have his "affirmation" and be done with it! Whatever precedent points to, it were well to follow the custom which obtains in the Law Courts as regards the affirmations of—"separatists," and thereby remove from the member for Northampton the chance of obtaining a crown of martyrdom. He has been too much "on evidence" already. The fuss that has been made over his conscientious objection to take the oath cannot be otherwise than "jam" to a gentleman so fond of fame—not to say notoriety—as he is. It would be a thousand pities if the House of Commons were to become a means of drawing special attention to the extra fervid discourses which, since the election of the member for Northampton, have thrilled crowded audiences at the Hall of Science, Old Street Road.

One of the most graceful acts to the out-going ministry was the invitation sent by the Queen to the Duke and Duchess of Marlborough to visit her at Windsor. What is more, she met the duchess in the Quadrangle at Windsor, and affectionately embraced her.

Equally graceful was the Queen's act in inviting the Marquis and Marchioness of Ripon to Windsor on the eve of his sailing to India as Governor-General. The howl, I am ashamed to say, of Exeter Hall was raised by no less a man than the new Bishop of Liverpool as to the crown being represented by a Roman-Catholic in India. Bigotry dies hard, but the worst form of it is that of lawn sleeves.

Mr. Goschen's acceptance of the Constantinople Embassy has cleared up a two-fold difficulty. In the first place Mr. Goschen himself is provided with work which he is very competent for, and in the next place Sir Austin Layard's diplomatic fall is smoothed down. I hear various accounts of the way in which Sir Austin will be provided for, the most probable being that he will have the Roman Embassy. Sir A. Paget has been a long time in Rome, and for some time it has been expected there would be a move. It is probable, therefore, we shall soon have a shuffle for the cards in the diplomatic world.

Mr. Ashley Dilke is early in the field with a bill of his own. It is not often that a new member ventures on at attempt at legislation so soon, but he has the weight of his distinguished brother's name to back him; and as it was Sir Charles Dilke who procured the extension of the hours of polling in London there is some appropriateness in Mr. Ashley Dilke's attempting to procure the same benefit for the provinces. Mr. Grantham's announcement of his intention to bring in a bill on the burials question might well be received with laughter by the House. Mr. Grantham opposed Mr. Osborne Morgan's bill last year, and it certainly seems unreasoneble to suppose that a Liberal government should allow a Conservatiue member to deal with a question which Liberalism has for years had so much at heart. Undoubtedly Mr. Grantham desires to effect a compromise. But the day for compromises is past. And there cannot be much question that the first move towards Disestablishment will soon be effected by throwing open the graveyards of the Church to all sects and persuasions alike.

The meeting of the Ladies at St. James's Hall last week marks an important stage in the Women's Rights agitation. Comparatively few gentlemen availed themselves of the permission, which was somewhat contemptuously given them, to become spectators of the scene at the cost of half-a-crown. And I cannot help thinking the piquancy of the occasion was in some degree diminished as far as the speakers were concerned by the deficiency of the male element. There were, however, no fewer than 4,000 women present of all classes, from the Viscountess who presided, to the washerwoman who smelt of gin and occasionally ejaculated, "Drat the men." Whilst it was necessary to hold an over-flow meeting in the smaller hall; and even then many went away disappointed. The Women's-Rights Ladies exult with one accord at the advent of the Liberal Government, but it may be questioned whether the present Cabinet is more favourable to them than the last. The late Premier and the late Chancellor of the Exchequer were on their side. I doubt whether there are two members of the present Government who are ready to support them. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright have both declared against them.

I am afraid I am not quite clear what the "Young Men's Christian Association" is or what they do. But they have evidently got some money to spend. The Y.M.C.A. have bought Exeter Hall and paid £25,000 for it, and are understood to be ready to lay out some £10,000 or £15,000 more in embellishing it. The name of the Association seems to promise that this May is not the last which will be celebrated by the gathering of the sects to their grim temple in the Strand. The May meetings are in full swing. The Strand is dark with the advocates of all kinds of "Missions" and "movements" and "undertakings." "Reports" are being read by the score, and "Resolutions" passed which, if they could only be carried out, would soon make the world a very uncomfortable place for the Prince of Darkness to "walk to and fro" in even occasionally.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE TURNPIKE ROADS.

At the Gateshead County Police Court on Tuesday, before Mr. R. R. Redmayne and Mr. R. O. Lamb, the adjourned case came up for trial, in which the trustees of the Shotley Bridge Turnpike Road applied for an order upon the Blaydon Local Board to pay the cost of the repair or restoration of a part of the road, which had, through heavy rains or other cause slipped, and which was within the district of the said Local Board. Mr. Gibson, of the firm of Clayton and Gibson, appeared for the road trustees, and Mr. W. S. Daglish for the Local Board. Evidence as to the slip of the road, and as to the cost of the necessary restoration or repair of the road being (with extras, &c.), £183, was given on the previous occasions—Mr. Daglish contended that the Local Board were not liable to pay the cost of restoring the road to its original condition. They were liable only for surface repairs, and this being the claim for the restoration of a portion of road they could not be called upon to pay. In support of his contention that the work for which the money was claimed was a restoration and not repairs he quoted "Regina *v.* Hornsea." His next point was that the parish having denied liability the Bench had no jurisdiction. Then again they were acting under the 4th and 5th Victoria, and under that Act it was required that the magistrates should examine the road before making an order. In this case the trustees had restored the road before appealing to the magistrates, who therefore could not examine the road on the condition which required that it should be repaired. He had, in fact, a right to say that the road was not out of repair.—Mr. Gibson answering the points raised by Mr. Daglish, quoted "The Queen *v.* the inhabitants of Greenhow," which he said was on all fours with the present case, in which the case, "Regina *v.* Hornsea," the case on which Mr. Daglish relied, was considered, and in which the parish were ordered to pay. He had said that that case was on all fours with this one, but in the present case there was not so much damage done as in that. Seventeen feet of the width of the Shotley turnpike road was left standing, and the other portion might have been used if persons were willing to descend gradually to the depth of nine feet. Then, with regard to Mr. Daglish's second point, it was not competent for any person to oust the Bench's jurisdiction by denying liability, unless the denial were based upon reasonable grounds, and that the denial in this case was not based on reasonable grounds was shown by the case "The Queen *v.* Greenhow," which fully covered the objection raised by Mr. Daglish as to liability.—Mr. Daglish complained that the magistrates had not been appealed to before the repairs were done. He took it that the Blaydon Local Board were not damnified by thus doing the repairs in the first instance, and he found no judicial opinion that such was wrong. If any accident took place the Board were liable for the accident. They gave the Local Board notice that the slip had taken place, and asked them if they would repair the road themselves. The Board declined to do so, and the trustees then did the work. In so doing, they were adopting the best course, because if they had come to the magistrates first, owing to adjournments, the repairs might have been left undone and the road have remained in a dangerous condition for that time.—The magistrates, after a short consulation in private, made an order upon the Blaydon Local Board for the payment of the money.—Mr. Daglish asked for a case, but the magistrates said that they would not give him a case—he might go to the Quarter Sessions.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD.

Owing to the meeting of ironworkers last Wednesday afternoon, our reporter was obliged to leave the above Board meeting before the whole of the business was transacted, and we were unable, therefore, to give details of the whole proceedings. After our representative had left, the Surveyor's report was read and considered. The roadmen, Mr. Rippon reported, had dressed up a portion of the roads for the season. The streets, also, had had due attention, and had been watered as required. He asked the Board to determine as to how the work was to be done—whether by contract at a price per ton, or at so much per day. It was decided to have the work done by contract, and the Surveyor was instructed to advertise for tenders.—Mr. Rippon said he observed that there were several places in the district where land had been sold off for building purposes with the intention of having a street in the rear. The property had been built, but the spaces intended for streets had not been kerbed, channelled, or Macadamised, and the result was that in wet weather these places, which were intended for the use of the public, were almost impassable. The members agreed that it was desirable to have the streets formed, and it was understood that the owners of adjoining property will be called on to make them as soon as practicable.—The Board's attention was called to the fact that somebody had removed some of the stones which a short time ago by their direction were set up to define the boundaries of the common quarries. The Surveyor was instructed to offer a reward for the conviction of the offender. "I also beg to report," continued Mr. Rippon, "that there are certain enterprising merchants who have business premises adjoining your leading throughfares who seem of late to have an increasing desire to display a large assortment of goods outside their shops. There are also those who have had sun-shades put up in front of their business premises who have not compiled with the requirements of the Act which sets forth that no projection whatever shall be less than eight feet from the footway. I will require directions from you with respect to these." Mr. Rippon added that the Towns Police Clauses Act, 1847, enacted that "every person who places or leaves any furniture, goods, wares, or merchandise, or any cask, tub, basket, pail or bucket, or places or uses any standing-place, stool, bench, stall, or show-boards on any footway, or who places any blind, shade, covering, awning, or other protection over or along any such footway, unless such blind, shade, covering, awning, or other projection is eight feet in height at least in every part thereof from the ground," was liable to a penalty of 40s. including costs. An animated discussion ensued, and eventually Mr. Collinson proposed and Mr. Dunne seconded a resolution instructing the Surveyor to warn tradesmen against exposing their goods in such a manner as to cause an obstruction to the footpath. The proposition was carried by a majority of one vote.—It was resolved to take up the present flagging in Front Street, from the Coach and Horses to the bottom of the street, and replace it with cement, the footpath to be the same width as that in Middle Street.—The Inspector reported that the sanitary condition of the district was satisfactory. No other business of importance was transacted.

Local Police Courts.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

MONDAY, May 10th.—Before A. Town, Esq. (chairman), James Annandale, Esq., and R. Dickinson, Esq.

Drunk.—Joseph Mitchinson, White-le-Head, and Thomas Birtley, Flint Hill, miners, were summoned by P.C. Longstaff for having been drunk at Flint Hill, on the 1st inst. Defendants were fined 5s. each and costs.——John McQuinn, miner, and Arthur McKenna, labourer, both of Hill Top, were charged by the same officer with a similar offence at High Stables, on the 1st May. Between eleven and twelve o'clock at night defendants were found lying on the highway. A fine of 5s. and costs was imposed.——Thomas Williamson, labourer, Consett, was also charged with drunkenness. On the night of the 1st inst. Sergt. Tranmer found defendant drunk in Havelock Street. As he did not answer the summons a fine of 10s. and costs was inflicted.——Francis Slane, ironworker, Consett, was charged by Sergt. Tranmer with a similar offence. The officer stated that he found defendant drunk in Green Street. He began to abuse witness for summoning him to the court for "schooling," and created a disturbance. Fined 5s. and costs.——Thomas Murphy, in custody, was charged with a similar offence. Sergt. Cruikshank said on the 8th inst. he saw defendant in Durham Road, Blackhill. He was very drunk, and endeavoured to force his way into the Commercial Inn. He refused to give his name, and witness was obliged to lock him up. The offence was admitted, and defendant was fined 5s. and costs.——John Magoran, also in custody, was charged with a similar offence. P.C. Minto stated that defendant was drunk in Middle Street, Consett. He had a stick in his hand, with which he struck a number of people. Fined 5s. and the expenses.——Bernard McLoughlin, in custody, was also fined 5s. and costs for having been drunk at Consett, on the 9th inst. P.C. Minto found defendant wandering about Church Street. He was unable to give an account of himself, and was locked up.

Wilful Damage by Pit Boys.—James McCann and Patrick Doran, jun., two pit lads, living at Leadgate, were summoned for trespassing in a grass field belonging to Mr. John H. Hudson, farmer, Castledene, and doing damage to the extent of 1d. each. Mr. Hudson said on the 28th April defendants entered one of his fields and commenced to shout to him and his son who were on another part of the farm. He sent his son to ascertain what they wanted, and they began to threaten him. Witness then went to the defendants, one of whom also used bad language to him. Complainant added that there was a drift belonging to the Iron Company on his farm, and the pit lads were in the habit of coming out of it and annoying him. They did considerable damage, and as they popped into the drift as soon as he went towards them it was difficult to catch them. Last year some of the lads helped themselves to his turnips, which they used to hold up and dangle before his eyes.—Defendants did not deny the trepass, but said they never used any threats to either Mr. Hudson or his son.—They were fined 1s. each and the damage and costs.——Thomas Smith, hawker, Lizzie Colliery, was also fined 1s. and the damage and costs for trespassing in a grass field belonging to Mr. John Hepple Robinson, farmer, Stobbs House, on the 30th April. The offence was proved by P.C. Longstaff, who said people used the field as a short cut.——Thomas McKenna, labourer, Consett, was summoned for wilfully damaging a fence and grass field belonging to Mr. Joseph Armstrong, at Consett, on the 26th April. Sergt. Tranmer proved the case. He said defendant, in getting into the field, knocked down a post which had been placed in the fence a day or two previously to prevent trespass.—A fine of 2s. 6d. and costs was inflicted.

Raid on "Schoolers."—Francis Murphy, Matthew Connolly, William Doran, Edward Tickings, Thomas Connolly, Patrick Quigley, Joseph Batey, Edward Walker, Joseph Rowlings, James Hinchey, Robert William Cooper, Michael Mulhatten, John Donnagan, Francis Slane, Robert Postle, Patrick Rogan, John Sullivan, William Attey, James Turner, Patrick Rogers, John Richardson, Owen Shovellen, James Smith, James Farrage, and Robert Brown were charged with playing at pitch and toss. A number of the men pleaded guilty. Sergt. Tranmer deposed that on the 24th April, in consequence of numerous complaints respecting gangs of men playing at pitch and toss, he concealed himself near Number One. At two o'clock a number of men assembled on the road and were soon joined by others. He remained in his hiding place till about four o'clock, and saw the whole of the defendants "schooling." Police-constable Allison was with him, and assisted him in getting the defendants' names.—Tickings: Did you see me throwing money?—Sergt. Tranmer: Yes.—Tickings: What time?—Sergt. Tranmer: From half-past two to three you were the principal man.—Tickings: I was on the road, but never threw all the time I was there.—Thomas Connolly: Did you see me throwing money?—Sergt. Tranmer: Yes.—Connolly: Was I there when you scattered them?—Sergt. Tranmer: Yes.—Connolly: All these men can swear I was in the Running Ground at the time. You never saw me gambling in your life.—The Chairman: If you aided and abetted it is the same thing.—Connolly: I was not there when he ran into them.—Cooper: Where was I when you came round the corner?—Sergt. Tranmer: I cannot say particularly. I saw you before I came round the corner.—Cooper: The men were not gambling on the road at all.—Slane: Did you see me betting money?—Sergt. Tranmer: Yes.—Slane: I was coming from Leadgate and never stopped at all.—Sergt. Tranmer: When we broke up the school, Allison ran after Slane and caught him.—Rogers: How did you get to know my name?—Sergt. Tranmer: I looked at you.—Rogers: You did not see me at all.—Shovellen: Did you see me gambling?—Sergt. Tranmer: I saw you both throwing and betting. You seemed to be rather fidgetty, and stopped behind the wall when you threw the coins up.—Smith said he was not gambling. He simply went to the place to see Farrage run.—Sergt. Tranmer said he did not see Smith make a bet, but he was handing his money about like the rest of the men.—Hinchey (who had pleaded guilty) here remarked that the sergeant had not summoned the man that broke the school—Storey, of Leadgate.—Farrage said the officer had sworn to seeing him there between half-past three and four o'clock. Now, he could prove he was in bed till four o'clock.—Sergt. Tranmer said he watched Farrage for three-quarters-of-an-hour.—Farrage said he was in the Running Grounds when the school was broken up. He ran on to the heap to see the men running away.—P.C. Allison also gave evidence, which agreed with that given by Sergt. Tranmer in every particular.—The magistrates believed that the whole of the defendants had taken part in the school, and fined them 5s. each and the expenses.——James McCann and Arthur McBride, charged by Sergt. Tranmer with a similar offence on the 1st May, were also fined 5s. each and the costs.——Owen Shovellen (a defendant in the first case), Michael Cain, and Hugh O'Hare were also charged with playing at pitch and toss. P.C. Hood said on the 1st May he found defendants playing at pitch and toss behind a public-house in Durham Road, Blackhill. They were fined 5s. each and the costs.

Poor Law Act.—John and William Jones, brothers, of Lintz Colliery, were summoned by Mr. Moon, relieving officer, for allowing their mother, Ann Jones, to become chargeable to the Lanchester Union. Mr. Moon said Mrs. Jones had been an inmate of the workhouse since March last year. John was ordered to pay 4s. and William 1s. per week towards her maintenance.

Chimney on Fire.—Elizabeth Cummins, landlady of the Queen's Head Inn, Middle Street, Consett, was summoned by Sergt. Thornton for allowing a certain chimney to be on fire, contrary to the bye-laws of the Consett Local Board. Fined 1s. and costs.

Compromised Cases.—Ann O'Hare, married woman, was summoned for assaulting Bridget Kelly, in Bottle Bank, Blackhill, on the 12th April. Hugh O'Hare and Mary Ginnity were charged with assaulting Owen Kelly on the 17th and there was also a summons charging Bridget Ginnity, Mary Ginnity, and Bridge Ginnity with assaulting Bridget Kelly on the same date. Kelly said they had agreed to compromise the whole of the cases. They were neighbours, he said, and intended to live at peace in future.—The Chairman said he hoped they would do so.—The charges were then withdrawn on payment of the court expenses.

Alleged Assault near Templetown.—James Twitcher, labourer, Templetown, was charged with an assault on Edward Parker, on the 24th ult. Complainant said about eleven o'clock at night he was walking in the direction of his home at Templetown, when the defendant came up and said "you ——, can you fight me?" He then struck complainant four or five blows, one of them bruising his eye. He gave defendant no provocation whatever. Defendant bore a grudge against him for something, but he did not know what it was. This was the third or fourth time he had assaulted complainant in this way.—Defendant: As soon as I passed you on the road you seized me by the neck and very nearly choked me. This is not the first time you have done so.—The Chairman: Do you deny striking him?—Defendant: I shoved my hand into his face once, but that was after he seized hold of me.—Frank Todd gave evidence on defendant's behalf. He said on the night in question he passed Parker on the Templetown Road. He was very tipsy, and did not know witness. When witness had got a few yards ahead of complainant, Twitcher came up and said it was a fine night. Parker then took hold of defendant's collar and wanted him to fight. Twitcher asked him to release his hold, but he would not, whereupon defendant pushed him with his hand, but witness could not say whether he gave defendant a blow or not. Witness was not in defendant's company when this happened.—Parker said the witness was telling nothing but lies. He could fetch witnesses to prove that he was not drunk. He had been working late at Shotley Bridge, and was tired.—The Chairman said the case was dismissed.

Breach of the Peace.—Robert Toward, of Castleside, and Robert Stafford, Consett, were summoned for committing a breach of the peace by fighting, at Castleside, on the 1st May. The evidence showed that defendants turned out of the Fleece Inn, and began to fight on the road. They were bound over in the sum of £5 to keep the peace for three months, and ordered to pay costs.

Assault at Blackhall Mill.—Thomas Anderson, miner, Hamsterley Colliery, was charged with assulting William Bean, beerhousekeeper, at the above place. It seem that on the night of the 26th April defendant had been drinking at complainant's house. He was turned out at closing time, and shortly afterwards, on complainant going outside, he was struck by defendant, who was concealed within the doorway. A fine of 15s. and the expenses was inflicted.

SLIDING SCALES.

Workmen are sometimes not unnaturally mystified in their endeavours to comprehend the intricacies of sliding scales and their operation. The recent misunderstanding in the iron trade, arising from this cause, is happily at an end for the present, and, no doubt, as the men become accustomed to the system, they will rely more confidently on the results obtained by accountants, and pay less attention to the fluctuations caused by speculative operations in the market. Those who take an interest in the matter will no doubt be glad to peruse the following observations recently addressed by Mr. Crawford to the members of the Durham Miners' Association on the sliding scales in operation for the coal trade of this county:

"I have been asked as to the meaning of a statement in the Federation circular, where it is said that if coal was at the highest point and open and published market prices were reduced one or even two shillings per ton, wages might remain at the higher rate. The meaning was simply this. Suppose that the average price of coal, instead of the 4s. 4d., had ranged for a lengthened time at 6s. 4d. per ton, contract prices would have been made at a proportionately higher rate. But suppose, further, that the open market price had come suddenly down, the higher contract prices would still continue, and thus, at the end of four months, might ensure a continuance of the then current wages, although the open market prices of coal and coke had been reduced. I hope the matter is now clear. I have been asked by one or two parties, to give some explanation as to the mode adopted, for the purpose of ascertaining the prices under the sliding scale. This will be a little difficult to do, in writing, inasmuch as a verbal statement can always be made more clear and comprehensive than a written one. I will, however, endeavour to explain one or two leading points. The gross or total amount of coal produced is taken and divided over the money received for the coal which is sold. Thus, if at a colliery there is produced in the four months 100,000 tons of coal, and there is sold 80,000, leaving 20,000 tons to be used for home consumption, including engines, furnaces, shops, workmen's houses, &c.—suppose further, that the amount of money brought back for the 80,000 tons to be £20,833 6s. 8d., that would be equal to 4s. 2d. per ton, leave wages where they are now at 4s. 2d. and 4s. 5d. per day—some may ask the question, is it fair to divide the money realised for the coal sold over the entire produce of a pit? More than one committee of our members, and extending over a period of at least four years, has given this matter the most careful consideration. More latterly the subject was considered and settled by the Federation Board, and all have agreed that the best means of ensuring accuracy in detail, and justice to our members, was by adopting the mode now adopted. If we only took the coal sold, and divided the money realised by that, then we would have to increase the basis of the scale proportionately. Thus, as I have said, that £20,833 6s. 8d. divided by 100,000 tons, will give 4s. 2d. per ton. But suppose you left out the 20,000 tons used for home purposes, then we would have to raise the basis of the scale. Thus, if we divided £20,833 6s. 8d. by 80,000, the number of tons sold, there would be realised 5s. 2½d. per ton. But this would still leave wages at 4s. 2d. and 4s. 5d. per shift. It could not make the least possible difference when both modes are worked out properly. As a further proof that this is the best method we could adopt, we may say that the gross production of coal is taken from the pay bills in the colliery office, while the amount of money for which the coal is sold is taken from the invoice books in the fitting office, and is an increased security against falsification. By adopting this mode we get the price for which coal is sold, and even though it is never paid for the money for which it was sold is taken into the account. Of course, if the divisor be reduced, it would as a consequence increase the quotient, and this would render an entire change in the basis of the scale necessary. I may further add that in the case of coking collieries the same mode is adopted, by taking the money realised for the coke sold, and dividing that by the gross production of coal, making an allowance for the cost of converting coal into coke."

CRICKET APPOINTMENTS.

May 15. Whickam *v.* Consett, at Whickham.
May 15. St. Stephen's *v.* Hamsterley, at Hamsterley.
May 17. Friends *v.* Hamsterley, at Hamsterley.
May 22. Gosforth *v.* Consett and District at Gosforth.
June 19. Whickham *v.* Consett, at Consett.
July 3. Friends *v.* Hamsterley (R), at Newcastle.
Aug. 7 Northumberland 2nd eleven *v.* Consett, at Consett.

LEADGATE LOCAL BOARD.

The ordinary meeting of this Board was held on Wednesday, Mr. R. W. Shaw (chairman) presiding. There were also present Mr. J. J. Hedley, Mr. Lammonby, Mr. Luke Nicholson, Mr. W. H. Hedley, Mr. Geo. Nicholson, Mr. Davison, Mr. Todd, Mr. Keenleyside, and Mr. Cheeseman. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

Redwell Hills Crossing.—It having been stated that the alterations as at present carried out were not satisfactory, Mr. W. H. Hedley explained that the first proposition made by the Highway Committee was to widen the road and fence in a portion of the south side of the railway. Then it was suggested that there should be gates as well, and ultimately a plan showing gates was drawn up by the North-Eastern Railway Company and agreed to. They found, however, that there was a strong objection to the gates, and last Friday, when the Highway Committee visited the place, they came to the unanimous opinion that it would be better and safer for the public if the original proposition was adhered to, namely, that there should be no gates. A deputation had since waited on Mr. Harrison, engineer to the Company, who was willing to carry out their wishes.—The Chairman said there were four road ends at the crossing, and this was the chief difficulty they had to contend against in putting up gates.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson said it was a very awkward place, and it would be better without gates.—Mr. Todd also thought that gates would render the place awkward and dangerous.—Mr. Cheesman said it was a pity they did not think of that before.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson said the gates looked very well on the plan, but it was found they did not answer.—Mr. W. H. Hedley said the Company, in carrying out the work, had not strictly adhered to the plan and the road had been made narrower in consequence.—Mr. Lammonby wished to know if a lamp would be placed at the crossing.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson said there had always been a couple.—The members unanimously agreed that the crossing would be safer if the gates were dispensed with, and the Clerk was instructed to request the Company to remove them, and also to make other slight alterations.—A letter was read from the Consett Iron Company giving the Board permission to remove, at their own expense, an old wall in a line with the new fence recently erected by the Railway Company.—Mr. Davison: What will the cost be?—The Surveyor: Not much.—Mr. Davison: Less than £10?—The Surveyor: Less than £3.

Settling Ponds.—The Chairman said the Board were negociating with the Iron Company for the purchase of half-an-acre of land on which to erect settling ponds. A plan had been prepared by Mr. J. J. Hedley, but as the Settling Ponds' Committee had not had time to consider the details, the matter was remitted to them for further consideration, Mr. J. J. Hedley being added to the Committee.

Iveston Pond.—The Surveyor (Mr. Longstaff) reported that he had carried out the Committee's recommendations.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson: Is Mr. Bland suffering any damage?—The Surveyor: No. There is little water in the pond now. It is not coming past the ends of the wall.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson: We don't want to damage the man's grass if we can help it.—The Surveyor: I intend to try to stop it coming past the ends of the wall in future. I think that was what he complained about.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson: I hope we have heard the last of it.

Medomsley Highway.—The Surveyor reported that the expense of maintaining the district highways during the month had been light, as only a little manual labour had been done. He thought this would be his last pay-sheet for Medomsley, as Mr. Dixon, the Surveyor of the Lanchester Highway Board, was now in charge of the highways in that township.

A Question of Expenses.—The Clerk (Mr. Coupland) said Mr. Hawdon, the collector, had been obliged to make two journies to Newcastle respecting Dr. Watson's account, and he expected the Board would allow him something extra for it.—Mr. W. H. Hedley said Mr. Hawdon had a commission of two-and-a-half per cent. on the money he collected, and it was a question whether he was entitled to anything beyond this.—Mr. Luke Nicholson said the dispute had been settled without taking the case into court, and he thought the question of expenses rested between Dr. Watson and Mr. Hawdon.—The Chairman said the cheque sent by Dr. Watson ought to have included the collector's expenses to Newcastle.—The Clerk said Mr. Hawdon was bound to collect the rates in the district, but Newcastle was outside the district.—Mr. Davison said, as Mr. Hedley had remarked, it was a question whether he was entitled to his expenses or [illegible].—Mr. W. H. Hedley suggested they should give Mr. Hawdon two second-class fares to Newcastle, but it was eventually desired to ask him to send in his account.

Roads' Inspection.—The members having decided to have their annual inspection of the highways during the month, Mr. Keenleyside said he supposed there would be no ham and eggs this time.—Mr. Davison suggested they should take their own corn.

Contracts.—On the motion of Mr. Geo. Nicholson, seconded by Mr. Cheesman, the Highway Committee were empowered to advertise and let the team work.

The Bridge at Leadgate.—The Surveyor reported that the railway bridge near the coal depots was in a bad state of repair. The Railway Company, however, were about to repair it.

Fever Cases.—The Chairman said there was no report from the medical officer, owing, no doubt, to the accident that had occurred that day.—The Inspector said he understood that three cases of fever had come under Dr. Renton's notice during the month.—The Chairman: Has Dr. Savage had any?—The Inspector: I don't know.

Disinfectants.—The Inspector said he needed a fresh supply of disinfectants.—He was instructed to obtain a supply.—Mr. Geo. Nicholson said the Surveyor ought to let people know that disinfectants could be had on application.—The Surveyor said he had sent the bellman round, and people who needed it knew where to get it.—The meeting then terminated.

Fatal Accident at West Shield Row Colliery.—On Monday last, the Deputy-Coroner, Mr. Trueman Graham, held an inquest at the house of Mr. Joseph Ramshaw, Stanley, on view of the body of Edward Birch, who was killed at the above colliery on the 7th inst. The evidence showed that on the above date deceased, after reaching the bottom of the shaft, rapped for the brakesman to bring him to bank. At the time deceased signalled to bank, the cage was not standing in its proper place, and it is supposed that he had attempted to get into it while it was in motion. Birch's dead body was found at the bottom of the shaft five minutes afterwards, the cage having evidently caught his head as he was getting into the cage. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental Death." Mr. Willis, Government Inspector of Mines, was present during the inquiry.

A STANHOPE SCANDAL.

A HORRIBLE OUTRAGE UNPUNISHED.

Secluded Stanhope, in Weardale, as becomes its situation, is normally as quiet a place as can be met with in a day's journey. At the present moment, however, Stanhope is in a very indignant mood, for there can be little question that Stanhope has been the scene of a failure of justfce in a shocking case of outrage. This failure of justice, perhaps, may not be laid at the door of any person in particular; but that there has been such a failure, justifying all the indignation which has been expressed, is indisputable. Within the last fortnight we have received several letters from inhabitants of Stanhope and district calling our attention to the case of a girl named Metcalf, who had been waylaid and outraged, and as it was in these communications affirmed that there existed good grounds for the belief that justice had miscarried, one of our representatives was instructed to investigate the matter in the public interest. The results of this investigation, carried on in all the quarters available on Wednesday, are hereunder set forth:—

On the night of Sunday, the 18th ult., two girls, named respectively Jane Metcalf and Margaret Emmerson, were returning to their homes, a short distance into the country, from chapel at Stanhope, when Miss Metcalf was stopped, thrown down, and violated by two lads, who were indentified as living in Stanhope. The girls are about fifteen years of age, and the lads charged with the offence are not much older, if indeed as old. Miss Metcalf is the daughter of decent, good-living, hard-working folk, the father, William Metcalf, being horsekeeper at the Stanhope Quarries and the carrier for the Stanhope and Weardale Co-operative Society. The girl herself is fair, and modest in looks, and simple and shy in demeanour. She has been accustomed to attend the Sunday School and other services at the Primitive Methodist Chapel in Stanhope, which her parents frequent; and she bears an excellent character in the village among those by whom she is best known. Of the lads, one, Sidney Elliott, the son of a widow, appears to to enjoy a somewhat "rippish" reputation, while the other, John Stephenson, the son of a respectable tradesman, appears to be milder-mannered. The Metcalfs live in a somewhat out-of-the-way locality, on the far side of the quarry, while the girl Emmerson has been residing as servant for the last fourteen months with a person named Wilson, at Busey Flats, a field below the home of the Metcalfs. The outrage seems to have been committed near to nine o'clock in the evening, in the immediate vicinity of the homes of the girls. One lad, it is certain, passed ahead of the girls as they made their way homewards, and there can be little question that the two youths engaged in the assault had for a short time been in hiding by the side of a waggon-way, a field or so distant from the house of the Metcalfs, awaiting the arrival of the girls at a lonely and difficult part of their road. As the girls approached the crossing over the railway, one of the lads jumped out of his hiding-place. This youth, who was subsequently "kenned" by the girl as Elliott, seized hold of Miss Metcalf, and, making use of an oath, threw her to the ground. A second lad, named Stephenson, came up, and the two, in the most deliberate and horrible fashion, outraged the unfortunate girl in succession. To stop her screams Stephenson held his hands over her mouth, and when Elliott had effected his brutal purpose he changed places with Stephenson, who repeated the outrage on the well-nigh senseless and exhausted victim. The girl Emmerson, who was accompanying Miss Metcalf home when she was attacked by the young ruffians, on being threatened with the same fate, had run off, but returning immediately tried to rescue her helpless and prostrate companion, who was then struggling in the grasp of Elliott. Finding she could do nothing, she ran to fetch Miss Metcalf's mother. It was a moonlight night, and as Mrs. Metcalf hurried up, she took in the situation at a glance. Her daughter was lying on the ground in the clutches of two men. Before she could undo the gate they jumped up and ran off. On reaching the scene of the outrage, she found her daughter bonnetless, her hair ribbon on the road, and her dishevelled hair hanging over her face. Her earrings were out, and her Ulster was trampled in the dirt. She was nearly choking. The rude grasp of her assailants on her throat had left a dark red mark, and for some time after she recovered breath she could only gasp "Oh, my head." She was assisted home by two neighbours who came up, and put to bed. She was in a state of nervous prostration, and suffered great pain. She kept her bed all next day, speaking little, and it was late in the afternoon before she could give her mother to understand the very serious nature of the outrage which she had suffered. In the evening she was examined by the doctor, who found that the girl had been brutally violated. There were no serious marks of violence about her person, but she was in a highly nervous condition, and she had unquestionably been outraged. Superintendent Thubron, to whom Mr. Metcalf had comunicated the facts of the outrage, brought the doctor, Mr. Harrison, assistant of Dr. Arnison, to examine Miss Metcalf, and undertook the prosecution of the criminals. Elliott was first apprehended. When in the lock-up he admitted his own guilt, and implicated Stephenson in the outrage. Stepheson was then taken into custody, and he also, when imprisoned, confessed. Such at least is the assertion of those most concerned in the matter, and it is universally believed in Stanhope. On the morning of Wednesday, the 21st ult., the lads were taken before Mr. Valentine Rippon, a resident magistrate, who appears to have been placed in possession of the confession made by the youths. A remand was granted for a week, but the lads were by the justice admitted out on bail, in amounts of £100 and two £50 respectively.

The case was tried on Wednesday, the 28th ult., Mr. Rippon again being the sole magistrate on the Bench. The parents of the lad had engaged in their interest Mr. Maw, the well-known Bishop Auckland solicitor. The case of the complainant was left for presentation in the hands of the police. The father of the complainant seems to have had an impression that it might be necessary the case for the prosecution should be pressed by an attorney, but accepting the kindly assurances given, as private gentlemen, by the magistrate, the magistrates' clerk, and the Superintendent of Police, that it would be a waste of money on his part to employ an attorney, as the case, he supposed, was so clear—the accused having confessed their guilt—he did not engage a solicitor. As is the custom in some police courts with cases of this class, the case was heard in private, and beyond the Magistrate, the Magistrates' Clerk, Mr. Maw, and the police, only the fathers of the young people and the surgeon appear to have been present, and Miss Metcalf's father, feeling sickly, left while the girl Emmerson was under examination. The Press was not represented; and, in the absence of magisterial permission, the Magistrates' Clerk corteously declined to allow our representative to examine the depositions taken on the occasion. The following facts, however, may be relied on. No witnesses were called but the two young girls, mere children of fifteen—one of them only partially recovered from a brutal outrage which might easily have had a fatal result, and the other nervous and frightened by her novel position, and both subjected for the first time to the skilful cross-examination of an expert lawyer. They got confused. They had no counsel to keep them right, and their answers under cross-examination were considered by Mr. Rippon sufficiently compromising to justify the dismissal of the case. The doctor was present to certify that Miss Metcalf had really been outraged. Her mother and the neighbours who came up on the night of the outrage were in readiness to give their testimony, but they were not afforded an opportunity of giving their evidence. Mr. Rippon, although aware that the lads had confessed they had outraged the poor girl, holds that such confessions should be received with great caution, and as he was not satisfied with the primary evidence of the agitated young girls he considered it unnecessary to go into the secondary evidence—such, for example, as the evidence of the mother of the complainant, who was actually an eye witness of the crime. The implied defence was that it was a trumped-up charge, and that the girl made practically no resistance. The only colour for such a charge was found in the answers to leading questions extracted from the nervous and timid girls in the course of a cross-examination which they hardly understood. Before the fatal night, no slur attached to Miss Metcalf's character, and Stanhope folk have only one opinion as to the scandalous failure of justice which has enabled the accused to go scot free; and for the credit of the dale they say the matter shall not rest where it is.—*Northern Echo.*

Markets.

Newcastle Corn Market, Tuesday. —At this day's market there was a very small supply of both coasting and foreign wheat. The quantity on offer from the stands to-day was extremely limited, and there being a steady consumptive demand, holders were enabled to make an advance of 6d to 1s per qr since last week. Maize in better demand, and rather dearer. Scotch and foreign oats a ready sale at late rates. Flour meets with a steady inquiry, and last week's prices were fully maintained.

Newcastle Cattle Market, Tuesday.—At this day's market the show of stock presented for sale exhibited an increase of 56 beasts, and 1,030 sheep as compared with that of last week. Respecting quality, every description of stock was very middling for the time of year. The distant reader will scarcely give credence to the following statement:—That is to say, Newcastle-upon-Tyne is the largest town in the kingdom north of Leeds (Yorkshire). It has one of the largest weekly cattle markets in the United Kingdom, and has the advantage of a deep water river (the Tyne), and a short time ago built a sanatorium costing about £30,000. It is also one of the wealthiest Corporations in England, yet there is not a place in the borough where a foreign animal is allowed to be slaughtered. The whole of the American cattle that have arrived in this district have been slaughtered at Tyne Dock, about seven miles distant from Newcastle, the property of the North-Eastern Railway Company, whereas the neighbouring county of Durham has three sanatoriums for slaughtering of foreign cattle within a short distance of each other, viz., Tyne Dock, Sunderland, and Hartlepool. The supply of beef comprised 1,970 head. The beef trade varied somewhat to-day, but beasts suitable for first-class butchers experienced a steady, good demand, and 10s 6d per imperial stone was fully realised, while the demand for the middling and inferior sorts was scarcely so buoyant as last week. About 600 head were sent away by rail to the midland counties yesterday; it may, therefore be termed a hanging, dear selling market, with a middling finish. The number of sheep and lambs was 4,970. The mutton trade ruled active, at an advance of ½d per lb on the rates of Tuesday last. The encouraging returns from the London markets—carcases of mutton making 11d per lb—are causing butchers to curtail the consumption; however, the supplies were about equal to the demand. Lambs were a middling sample, and sold slowly at prices ranging from 34s to 45s per head. Pigs 636 were shown. There was a good demand for pork, and the previous currencies were well supported. The day was fine for holding the market, but the weather is excessively cold, and the country has a sterile aspect. Prices for this day, sinking offal, are as follows:—

Beasts, prime heifers, per stone	10s 3d to 10s 6d
Secondary sorts....................	7s 3d .. 8s 3d
First-class oxen	10s 0d .. 10s 3d
Middling...........................	7s 6d .. 8s 0d
Cows and inferior..................	6s 6d .. 7s 6d
Pork, large	5s 0d .. 6s 0d
Do., small	7s 3d .. 8s 0d
Sheep (good vendable wedders) per lb ..	10½d .. 11d
Middling...........................	9½d .. 10½d

Newcastle Hay and Straw, Tuesday.—Old land hay, £3 0s 0d to £5 5s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s 0d; new land hay, £3 10s to £6 5s; this year's growth, £0 0s to £0 0s per ton; wheat straw, 1s 4d to 1s 10d; barley straw, 1s 0d to 1s 2d; oat straw, 1s 4d to 1s 9d per thrave. Carts of hay at market, 109; carts of straw, 30.

Hexham Corn Market, Tuesday.—We had very thin supplies of grain to hand this morning, and attendance small. Little business doing with no quotable change from last week's prices.

Hexham Provision, Tuesday.—Butter, 1s 4d to 1s 5d per lb; eggs 15 to 18 for 1s; chickens, 3s to 3s 8d; ducks, 2s 9d to 3s each; rabbits, 2s 9d to 3s per couple; potatoes, 1s 2d; onions 2s 9d; carrots, 9d; apples 2s 6d per stone; lemons, 3d each; rhubarb, 1d per bunch; brocoli, 1d to 2d each; flour, extra superfines, 2s 6d; superfines, 2s 4d; fines 2s 2d; maslin, 2s, oatmeal, 2s 4d to 2s 6d per stone.

Durham Corn and Provision, Saturday.—Oats, 6s 6d to 8s 6d; barley, 7s 6d to 10s 0d; beans, 11s 0d; peas, 9s 9d to 10s 6d; Indian corn, 6s 9d to 7s; wheat, 13s 6d to 14s 0d per boll. Beef, 8d to 10½d; mutton, 9d to 10½d; veal, 9d to 10d; pork, 8d to 9½d; bacon, 4d to 5½d; ham, 6d to 7d; cheese, 8d; lard 6d per lb. Chickens, 2s 0d to 3s 0d; ducks, 2s 6d to 3s 0d; hens, 1s 6d to 2s 0d each. Butter, 1s 6d to 1s 8d; salt do., 1s 0d to 1s 2d per lb. Eggs, 12 to 13 for 1s. Apples, 2s 0d to 2s 6d onions, 2s 0d to 3s 0d; potatoes, 1s 0d to 1s 3d per stone. New potatoes, 6d per lb.

Local and District News.

Preparations are being made to re-open the Castletown Ironworks, Castletown, near Hylton.

Curious Case of Changing Tokens.—At the Houghton-le-Spring Petty Sessions on Wednesday, an elderly miner named Joseph Stephens, residing at New Lambton, was charged with false pretences at the Lady Ann Pit, near Fence Houses, on the 5th May. Mr. William Bell prosecuted. The prisoner was proved to have taken the token of a putter boy named McArdle from a tub and substituted for it a token belonging to his son, who was a putter in the adjoining board. On being accused of the offence he at first denied it, but he afterwards stated that McArdle and another putter had used his son badly by preventing him from hanging his token on the tub he was entitled to, and he had substituted his son's token on the tub in question for McArdle's as a reprisal. The defendant, who appeared to feel his position keenly, admitted the charge. He was committed for trial at the sessions, his own recognizances, on the application of Mr. Baxter, of New Lambton, the manager of the colliery, being accepted for his appearance.

Liability of a Mortgagee. — A Curious Action.—On Wednesday, at the Darlington County Court, the action Onward Building Society against Mainsforth was heard. The claim was for £3 6s. 10d. for unpaid deposits. The plaintiff built a house at New Shildon which coct £230. Of this amount £170 was borrowed from the building society, of which he had paid back £62. In consequence of a colliery working under the house which so far damaged it as to make it uninhabitable defendant left, and ceased paying to the society. He would have had the Onward Building Society sue the colliery proprietors, but the building society repudiated the obligation, and were sustained in that view by the Judge, who told the defendant that the responsibility of keeping the house up rested with him and not with the building society, according to the deed. The Onward Building Society were not bound to sue the coalowners, but defendant could do so if he liked. Judgment for the plaintiffs.—Considerable amusement was caused by Mr. Watson, solicitor, informing his Honour that he believed defendant was a great spiritualist and medium, and there used to be a meeting of spiritualists at the house which had fallen down.

Night Poaching.—At Castle Eden Police Court on Monday, John Ingleby, a pitman, was brought up charged with night poaching upon the preserves of the Rev. John Burdon, J.P., near to Castle Eden, on the 7th of November last. The defendant had been caught by a gamewatcher named Blackey, having a dog, a large quantity of netting, and other poaching implements. When confronted he threw stones, which he had concealed in his pockets, and succeeded in getting clear away, and was only apprehended on Friday last.—He was sentenced to three months' hard labour, and at the expiration of that period to find two bondsmen in the sum of £10 each as sureties for his good behaviour for the next three months.

Holloway's Ointment and Pills.—Never at fault.—In all irritations of the skin, sores, ulcers, burns, and scrofulous enlargements of the glands, Holloway's Ointment presents a ready and easy means of cure, which never disappoints the most favourable expectations. It manifests a curious power in restraining inflammation, removing stagnation, cooling the heated blood, and checking all the acrimonious or unhealthy discharges. Whilst thus acting locally, the Pills are no less remarkable for their power in improving the general condition and habit of body, which renders the cures complete and permanent. Under the general influence of these potent remedies, the puny infant becomes the robust child; the pale and emaciated regain colour and routndity: and the dyspeptic eats freely, without fear.

Alleged Concealment of Birth at Shincliffe.—Some sensation has been caused in and around the villages of High and Low Shincliffe by the rumours that a servant girl, named Fanny Bell, in the employ of a widow lady named Mrs. Sandford, had been confined, and that the child had by some mysterious means disappeared, but whether by foul means was not known. These rumours having reached the resident constable, Police-constable Reay, he instituted inquiries which resulted in his apprehending the girl on Monday afternoon. At the same time he discovered that the body of a newly-born female child had been buried in a box in the garden. This he had disinterred. It appears that at the time of her confinement the young woman was attended by a medical man.

Shop Door Robberies.—At the Durham Borough Police Court on Monday morning, a married woman named Elizabeth Dixon, belonging to Brandon, pleaded guilty to three separate charges of stealing articles including handkerchiefs, velvet knickerbockers, and American leather bags, from the shop doors of three clothiers and drapers residing in Claypath, Durham, on Saturday last.—Mr. Langley, who defended, drew the attention of the Bench to the extraordinary temptation placed in the way of people disposed to steal, especially on Saturday nights, by the manner in which tradespeople exposed and dangled their goods for sale at the shop doors, as had been stated in the evidence. This case was a most distressing one, because the prisoner was a woman with a large family, and her husband had good means, being in the receipt of good wages. Drink was the cause of the theft, and while drunkenness in itself was an offence, he thought he might fairly plead it in mitigation of punishment as against the prisoner in this case, for up to the present charge nothing was known against her.—The Mayor quite agreed with Mr. Langley in reference to the temptation he had mentioned; but he thought that as the prisoner's husband was earning good wages, drunkenness on her part was rather an aggravation of the offence. She was sentenced to seven days' imprisonment with hard labour on each charge—21 days in all.

Fits.—Epileptic Fits or Falling Sickness.—A certain method of cure has been discovered for this distressing complaint by a physician, who is desirous that all sufferers may benefit from this providential discovery; it is never known to fail, and will cure the most hopeless case after all other means have been tried. Full particulars will be sent by post to any person free of charge. Address:—Mr Williams, 10, Oxford Terrace, Hyde—Park, London.

W. J. Mallet, Esq., M.D., of Burlington Street, Manchester, says:—"I have prescribed Todd's Quinine Wine, and consider it in many cases an agreeable and efficacious way of administering quinine." This pleasant and popular medicine is the safest and most certain remedy known in all cases of indigestion, tic or neuralgia, ague, debility, spasms, and all derangements of the stomach. The genuine is manufactured only by Joe Todd, chemist, Carlisle, and bears his name on the Government stamp.

Floriline!—For the Teeth and Breath.—A few drops of the liquid "Floriline" sprinkled on a wet tooth-brush produces a pleasant lather, which thoroughly cleanses the teeth from all parasites or impurities, hardens the gums, prevents tartar, stops decay, gives to the teeth a peculiar pearly-whiteness, and a delightful fragrance to the breath. It removes all unpleasant odour arising from decayed teeth or tobacco smoke. "The Fragrant Floriline," being composed in part of honey and sweet herbs, is delicious to the taste, and the greatest toilet discovery of the age. Price 2s. 6d., of all Chemists and Perfumers. Prepared by Henry C. Gallup, 493, Oxford Street, London.

Valuable Discovery for the Hair.—If your hair is turning grey or white, or falling off, use "The Mexican Hair Renewer," for it will positively restore, in every case, grey or white hair to its original colour, without leaving the disagreeable smell of most "Restorers." It makes the hair charmingly beautiful, as well as promoting the growth of the hair on bald spots, where the glands are not decayed. Ask your chemist for "The Mexican Hair Renewer," prepared by Henry C. Gallup, 493, Oxford Street, London, and sold by chemists and perfumers everywhere, at 3s. 6d. per bottle.

Advice to Mothers!—Are you broken in your rest by a sick child suffering with the pain of cutting teeth? Go at once to a chemist and get a bottle of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. It will relieve the poor sufferer immediately. It is perfectly harmless and pleasant to taste, it produces natural, quiet sleep, by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes "as bright as a button." It soothes the child, it softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels, and is the best known remedy for dysentery and diarrhœa, whether arising from teething or other causes. Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup is sold by Medicine Dealers everywhere at 1s. 1½d. per bottle. Manufactured in New York, and at 493, Oxford Street London

Epps's Cocoa.—Grateful and Comforting.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by careful application of the fine properties of well-selected cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping our selves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Sold only in Packets labelled—"James Epps& Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London. 563m

Throat Affections and Hoarseness.—All suffering from irritation of the throat and hoarseness will be agreeably surprised at the almost immediate relief afforded by the use of "Brown's Bronchial Troches." These famous "lozenges" are now sold by most respectable Chemists in this country, at 1s. 1½d. per box. People troubled with a "hacking cough," a "slight cold," or bronchial affections, cannot try them too soon, as similar troubles, if allowed to progress, result in serious Pulmonary and Asthmatic affections. See that the words "Brown's Bronchial Troches" are on the Government Stamp around each box.—Manufactured by John I. Brown and Sons, Boston, United States. Depot, 493, Oxford Street, London.

THE FOUNDERING OF THE "AMERICAN.'

The secretary of the Union Steamship Company writes:—To relieve the suspense on the part of the public, I am desired to inform you that news has been received from Madeira that the steamship American, which left Plymouth on the 9th of April for Cape Town with the South African mails, broke her screw-shaft in latitude 1.56 north, longitude 9.50 west, on the morning of the 23rd of April, and the after-compartment being injured by the broken shaft, filled with water, and the vessel foundered shortly after noon. The passengers, fifty-eight in number, and all the crew, embarked at noon in eight boats—three boats in charge of the chief and third officers, and boatswain respectively, and carrying fifty-four souls, were picked up by the British and African steamer Congo, on the evening of the 25th of April, and arrived at Madeira on Saturday morning, the 8th of May. When last seen the remaining five boats were all well, making towards Cape Palmas. The weather was fine at the time, and the spot where the ship foundered was about 250 miles to the south-west of Cape Palmas, in the track of vessels trading on the African coast, so that little apprehension for the safety of the remaining five boats need be entertained.

THE TAY BRIDGE INQUIRY.

The inquiry ordered by the Board of Trade into the causes of the fall of the Tay Bridge was continued and brought to a close on Saturday, at Westminster. Mr. Bidder resumed his address on behalf of Sir Thomas Bouch, the engineer of the bridge. In respect to the alleged inequalities in the thickness of the metal of the columns he argued that the margin of strength was so great as to make this of no account. He contended that the bridge was capable of resisting a wind pressure of 40lb to the square foot, whereas there was no evidence that the pressure on the night of the accident was above 15lb. The fall of the bridge must, therefore, have been due to some other cause, and the only other conceivable cause was something of the nature of a shock or collision. He gathered together all the circumstances which supported his theory that the second-class carriage had been blown off the rails against the girders, and said this body of evidence, taken in conjunction with the fact that there were on the night in question gusts of wind so strong that they must of necessity have blown the carriage off the line, drove them to the conclusion that the overthrow of this carriage took place. It was sufficient to explain everything, and nothing else would. They could not blame Sir Thomas Bouch for this accident. They might as well blame him for not making his bridge strong enough to stand a cannonade.—Mr. Trayner, who appeared for the Board of Trade, then addressed the court, remarking that he was not there to prosecute any one, but simply, on behalf of the Board, to aid the court in ascertaining what were the facts in regard to this bridge, and what the necessary deductions to be drawn from them. There were two theories regarding its fall; one, that it came down through fault either in design, construction, or maintenance, and the other that it came down owing to the act of God. There was every evidence that the North British Railway Company took steps, without any limitation of expense, to get a good bridge. It might possibly be that they allowed their trains, on some occasions, to go over the bridge at too high a speed, though this was not done on the night of the accident. But, unless there was blame attachable to them for this, there was no blame attributable to them at all. With regard to the contractors, on the other hand, though there appeared now to be no question as to the goodness of the iron, there was every reason from the evidence to say that a good use had not been made of it, for in very many respects it was badly manipulated, the workmanship being slovenly and defective. With respect to the engineer, though the design might not be the best that could possibly be conceived, they might accept the evidence that if it had been well executed and well maintained it would have been sufficient for the work it had to do. But there was evidence that it was not well executed and that it had not been carefully maintained. Sir Thomas Bouch practically handed over the supervision of the execution to one man, who had already abundance of work to do, and the maintenance to another who had no knowledge of the importance of the defects he observed or skill to remedy them. For a yearly consideration Sir Thomas had relieved the North British Railway Company of the duty of looking after its maintenance. After referring to instances of his neglect in these particulars, the learned counsel said a notion had got abroad that because the Government inspector had inspected the bridge there was an end of everybody else's responsibility. But the Board of Trade had only power to inspect a completed work. It had no right to previously inspect the designs or to supervise the construction. All the Government inspector could do was to look at the bridge after it was finished, and, as far as he could then judge, say whether it could do its work. General Hutchinson's eye could not penetrate the columns and see the faults in the castings. The bridge was tight when he saw it, but he had no possible means of discovering the defects which would soon make it otherwise. And it was to be remembered that he was particular in urging that great care should be expended in the maintenance of the bridge. There was evidence that the bridge rapidly loosened, and it was vain to say that it was as rigid just before the accident as it was when General Hutchinson inspected it. Mr. Trayner went on to argue that the theory that a carriage of the train had been blown over against the girders was contradicted by the evidence. Without this preposterous theory there was sufficient to account for the destruction of the bridge. The wind pressure was, in fact, greater than the bridge was able to bear. Whatever the result of the inquiry, he said in conclusion, the public would have this satisfaction, that no stone had been left unturned in order that such a disaster as the fall of the Tay Bridge should be the first and the last of its kind.—Mr. Webster, Q.C, then addressed the court on behalf of the contractors, Messrs. Hopkins, Gilkes and Co. He argued that the inspection of the work had been most thorough, and that the defects pointed out were microscopic in their character. He dealt at some length with these alleged defects, and argued that the failure had not taken place owing to bad workmanship, but owing to some such cause as Mr. Gilkes had pointed out in his evidence. Such a shock as he supposed occurred would amply account for the yielding of the bridge. Mr. Balfour, on behalf of the North British Railway Company, did not think it necessary to say more than that the company had throughout abstained from taking a contentious part in the inquiry, and left the court to draw a just conclusion from the facts. Mr. Rothery then, on behalf of Colonel Yolland, Mr. Barlow, C.E., and himself, thanked the learned counsel for their assistance, and the inquiry was closed. The Wreck Commissioner and his assessors will consider their report.

PAINFUL TRAGEDY.

An inquest was held at Manchester on Monday on Captain Henry Gill, marine officer, who has been paying his addresses to a Manchester lady, and met her on Saturday night. He wished to speak to her while in company with her sister. She refused to hear him, owing to her father's disapproval of the suit. He thereupon shot himself in the head with a pistol which he took from his pocket. The explosion aroused the neighbourhood, and Captain Gill was taken to the Royal Infirmary, where he lingered until about eight o'clock on Sunday morning, having remained from the time of his admission to his death in an unconscious and hopeless state. In the pockets of the deceased two bullets were found, and there seems no reason to doubt, the pistol being quite new, that the act of self-destruction in the young lady's presence had been deliberately planned.—A verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane was returned.

EDUCATIONAL PRESSURE.

A largely attended meeting in connection with the Social Science Association was held on Monday night at the Caledonian Hotel, London, Mr. Joseph Brown, Q.C., in the chair, when Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., read a paper on "Educational Pressure." Declining to express any opinion on boys' schools, and confining her remarks to the methods of education adopted in secondary schools for girls, Mrs. Garrett Anderson urged the following practical points as a remedy for the complaints made as to overwork in such schools:—1. To get the elements of knowledge well and thoroughly taught at an early age, and not to urge the child to make up for early neglect by taking a very extensive range of subjects as soon as she goes to a good school. 2. To accept two and a half or three hours of class work as long enough at one time for almost all children, and to provide two or three short intervals of rest—*e.g.*, five or ten minutes in each hour—during even this time. 3. To insist upon every girls' school having a playground. 4. To aim at greatly reducing the amount of writing in the home work. 5. To reduce the number of examinations, and especially to make them as unstimulating as possible, and to apply them with great reserve to the children most likely to shine in them. 6. Not to aim at completing the education by the age of eighteen. The main purpose of Girton and Newnham Colleges is to encourage young women to continue their education in an organised manner after they cease to need the restraints imposed upon school-girls, and the existence of these colleges renders it more than ever unnecessary to attempt to teach girls everything they ought to know in early adolescence.

NEW ZEALAND.

A correspondent writes from New Zealand:—"I have been reading particulars of the distress which is felt so much in the old country. Many would like much to seek new homes elsewhere, in the hope of regaining their old position in society. These people, like many others, naturally ask, 'What about New Zealand?' and say, 'Let us go there, for there may yet be a chance of our again being in a good position.' It is for this reason I write, knowing as I do that a great deal is thought just now of this colony. First I would like to mention that in our large towns there is the cry of the 'unemployed,' who are to be seen hanging about the principal streets waiting for a job, most of them being new chums (late arrivals). These people have partly themselves to blame, and partly the home agents—themselves because they will insist upon hanging to the large towns instead of going up country where there is a chance for all who are willing to work. The agents are to blame for sending out many who are not fit for the colonies, and who will in a few years prove a burden to this colony. They are such as will not work at home as they should do, and are a pest to the district in which they exist. On their arrival a job is got for them, but in a few days they leave it, not considering it good enough or agreeable to their task. They flock to the large towns and fall back upon their old habits, and become 'loafers,' and of this class there are hundreds in New Zealand. Our towns just now are overcrowded, and what we want out here is money, so that those who think of leaving England should not do so unless they have some capital. Free emigration ought to be stopped, as the colony just now is overrun with people so sent out. To the man of small means New Zealand is a good field for his labour—that is, if he will go up country; for in all my journeys I found in the country settlements comfort, health, plenty, and contentment, which is not so in the towns."

THE BISHOP OF MANCHESTER ON THE CAUSES OF NATIONAL DECAY.

Preaching at St. Peter's Church, Oldham, the Bishop of Manchester said that now, as of old, God gave the lands of the earth to different nations, and watched to see how they used their opportunities and discharged their responsibilities. England had been anxious during the last six years as to whether the manufacture of our immense trades was going to Germany, Switzerland, or the United States. Some people had already foretold that the day of England's greatest prosperity in manufacture had passed away, and that she would never hold the place in the markets of the world in the future that she had held in the past. He did not know whether such people had considered that commercial prosperity depended upon moral causes. It was all very well for political economists to tell them that there were great laws which governed nations, causes affecting the demand for a supply of labour, and all that sort of thing, and to fancy when they had said that they had got to the root of the matter. They had done nothing of the kind, but only to the immediate causes of these things. Suppose any great product of British industry had occupied the markets of the world—China, Japan, India, &c.—creating a great demand for increased labour in its production, trade would be good and wages high; but suppose the material deteriorated and the goods of other producers were preferred, there would be a falling off in our trade, there would be too many hands, and wages would lower. But what was it that had brought this about, supposing our goods were inferior and the work not nearly so good as it used to be formerly. Surely there must be a moral cause in our loss of trade. He was talking to a commercial gentleman the other day about cloth, and showed him the bag he used to carry his robes in, a bag presented to him by the widow of the late Bishop of Salisbury. Two years ago he bought a new bag, and gave a good price for it. He told the person of whom he bought it to let it be of the best material he could produce, and yet, after only two years' wear, it was nearly as shabby as the one he threw aside after seventeen years' use. Everything nowadays was made showy and attractive; but foreigners who bought our goods might not want fine showy things, and when they got an article which looked glossy and appeared nice, but did not wear well, they got dissatisfied with it and went elsewhere for their purposes. For such a falling off in trade there would be a moral cause. The articles were not as good as they appeared to be. The prosperity of nations was not dependent upon the infringement of the laws of supply and demand, and those things which political economists talked about. They were only secondary things. It was righteousness, not capital, that exalted a nation. Referring to education, the Bishop said, speaking generally, voluntary schools were maintained on a level with Board schools; but the question was, would the former continue to be supported? Was there not already a growing lukewarmness on the subject? Men were beginning to say, "I can't support voluntary schools and pay rates for Board schools as well;" and what the result would be it was very hard to tell.

UNWHOLESOME VEAL.

On Monday, at the Leigh Police Court, Joseph Burrows, butcher, St. Helens, who did not appear, was charged with exposing for sale in the Market Place on the 17th April a calf which was unfit for human food. According to the evidence of Mr. Darwell, veterinary surgeon, the carcase was of the class known to the trade as a "bobby calf," and in his opinion it had only been born a few hours.—Mr. Holden described the defendant as a "slink" butcher, and it transpired that in December last he was convicted at St. Helens of having a diseased beast in his possession, and fined £20 and costs.—Burrows was now sentenced to two months imprisonment.

The Albanians have already declared their independence, and commenced to discharge the functions of government.

It is reported from Colorado that a band of Indians have attacked twenty-five miners, twelve of whom were massacred.

Business Announcements.

THIS SPACE
IS RESERVED FOR
THOMAS SWAINSTON,
GROCER,
MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

GRAND DISPLAY OF NEW SPRING GOODS

AT

THOMAS LATHAM'S,

NEW DRAPERY ESTABLISHMENT,
NEXT DOOR TO MR. DAVISON,
5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

T. LATHAM respectfully announces that he is now showing a beautiful selection of New Flowers, Feathers, Ribbons, Silks, Satins, and all kinds of Lace and Millinery Goods.

The Newest Styles in Straw Hats and Bonnets.

DRESS GOODS.—A Splendid Satin Cloth, in various Shades, 8½d. per yard. Rich Figured Satin Cloths, Cords, Cashmeres, Twills, &c., for which his quotations are remarkably low.

T. L. calls special attention to his New Stock of Men's Mercery, consisting of Silk Scarfs and Ties, in the Newest Shapes and Colours, Silk and Cambric Pockets, Linen Collars and Cuffs, Fronts, Shirts, Drawers, &c.

Felt Hats of the best Makes, Men and Boys' Caps.

☞ NOTE THE ADDRESS:—

THOMAS LATHAM,
NEXT DOOR TO MR. DAVISON'S, IRONMONGER, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

CASH DRAPERY SUPPLY STORES,

NEXT DOOR TO THE POST OFFICE,
ANNFIELD PLAIN.

JOHN VARDY AND CO., PROPRIETORS.
(LATE W. PLENDER AND Co.)

WE have purchased largely of Plain DRAPERY GOODS at lowest Old Prices, and are giving our Customers the advantage.

We are Selling the Best Calicoes, at the Price, in the County of Durham.

Our Stock of Flannels, Shirtings, and Linens is Large and Cheap.

Our Dresses surprise everybody (being so Cheap) and always give satisfaction to the wearer.

We keep a Large Stock of Millinery and Fancy Goods.

We hold the Largest and Cheapest Stock of Ready-made Clothing in the District.

All Buyers of Drapery Goods will Save Money by Visiting the
CASH DRAPERY SUPPLY STORES AT ANNFIELD PLAIN,
JOHN VARDY, & Co., PROPRIETORS.
49n

"CONSETT GUARDIAN" ATMOSPHERIC PRINTING WORKS.

ROBERT JACKSON,

PRINTER, STATIONER, LITHOGRAPHER, BOOKBINDER,
FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

RESPECTFULLY announces to his numerous Friends and the Public generally that, in order to execute all Orders with EXPEDITION and ECONOMY, he has recently Erected one of the celebrated "OTTO" SILENT GAS ENGINES.

THE GENERAL PRINTING DEPARTMENT of this Establishment is supplied with Founts of the Newest and most Fashionable Type, which, with the New and Expeditious Machinery at command, enable all Orders to be executed with RAPIDITY, in the BEST STYLE, and at MODERATE CHARGES.

PLAIN AND ORNAMENTAL PRINTING, of the following Classes, executed with Neatness and Punctuality, and with the most careful attention to accuracy:

BILL HEADINGS.
CIRCULARS.
MEMORANDUM FORMS.
CATALOGUES.
INVOICES.
NOTE HEADINGS.
PROGRAMMES for Balls, Concerts, &c.
FUNERAL CARDS.
BOOKS OF WORDS, for Concerts, Readings, Entertainments, &c.
CIRCUIT PLANS.
ANNIVERSARY HYMNS.
LABELS.
POSTING BILLS.
HAND BILLS.
WINDOW BILLS.
SHOW CARDS.
BUSINESS CARDS.
RAFFLE TICKETS.
ADMISSION TICKETS.
CHEQUE BOOKS.
BALANCE SHEETS.
PAMPHLETS.
SOCIETY & CLUB RULES.
PRINTED WRAPPERS.

A large quantity of PAPER BAGS, suitable for Confectioners, Fruiterers, and Milliners, on hand, at the Lowest Prices.

☞ A TRIP TO NEWCASTLE FOR NOTHING!!! ☜

OPENING OF NEW PREMISES.

DONALD BAIN,

THE WELL-KNOWN CHEAP DRAPER, HAS OPENED THE CENTRAL PREMISES,

No. 23, GRAINGER STREET

(TWO DOORS FROM NUN STREET), NEWCASTLE,

WHERE you will be supplied with the Newest, Best, and Cheapest DRESS and DRAPERY GOODS in the Provinces. Apart from this, D. B. will allow to Purchasers of Thirty-five Shillings worth of Goods THEIR FULL RAILWAY FARE, within a radius of Thirty Miles from Newcastle.

NOTE NUMBER AND ADDRESS—23, GRAINGER STREET. 457n

JOHN HALL'S PRICE LIST.

FLOUR.

Superfine, 2s 2d per stone; Fines, 2s 0d. Finest American and Hungarian always in stock. Boxings 9s 6d per sack of 12 stones. Indian Meal, 20s per sack of 20 stones. Bran, 6s 6d. per sack. Rough Barley and Small Indian Corn, 1s 2d per stone. Scotch Oatmeal, 2s 2d per stone. English Oatmeal, 2s 4d per stone.

TEAS.

Strong and pure, 1s 8d, 2s, and 2s 6d per pound. Choicest blends of Indian and China Teas, 3s and 3s 6d per pound. A choice Black Tea, rich syrupy liquor, 2s 6d per pound (only in 2½lb. Packets).

Sugars, 2½d, 3d, and 3½d per pound. Finest Loaf Sugar, 4d per pound. Currants (good), 4d per pound; finest, 5d. Good Raisins, 5d per pound; finest Sultanas, 6d per pound. Rice, 2d per pound or 6d. per quarter-stone. Pot Barley, 2d per pound or 6d per quarter-stone. Sagos, Hominy, 2d per pound or 6d per quarter-stone. Sagos, 3d; Tapioca, 4d; Rice Flour, 3d; and Corn Flour, only 5d per pound.

Oleo Butterine, 8d, 10d and 1s per pound. Finest Danish Butter, 1s 4d per pound. Pure Bladder Lard, 6d per pound. Bacon, 4d, 5d, and 6d per pound. Shoulders, (whole), 4d. Finest Small Hams, 6½d per pound (whole). Corned Beef, 7d per pound. Roast Beef, in 2lb. tins, 1s 1d each. Salmon (Hume's), 7d per Tin. Rabbits, 1s 5d per Tin. Mellor's Crown Relish, 4½d per Bottle.

SOAPS—Good Pale, 8d to 10d per quarter-stone; finest Pale or Mottled, only 1s per quarter-stone; Washing Soda, 2½d per quarter-stone, or 8d per stone. Candles, 4½d per pound.

Beecham's, Clayton's, Kaye's, Parr's, and all other 1s 1½d Boxes of Pills at 9½d per Box. Moller's 2s 3d Bottles of Cod Liver Oil, only 1s 6d per Bottle. Eno's Fruit Salt, 2s 3d per bottle.

TERMS—CASH.

JOHN HALL, WHOLESALE AND FAMILY GROCER, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Business Announcements.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

T. S. ATKINSON,

Will offer on SATURDAY, the 24th inst., and FOURTEEN FOLLOWING DAYS, about

£1,500 WORTH OF DRAPERIES AND READY-MADE CLOTHING,

Which is the Residue Stock of the late Firm of SHAW AND ATKINSON, and will be
OFFERED AT MOST STARTLING PRICES TO EFFECT A CLEARANCE!!

T. S. A., having just returned from the principal Markets in England, will also offer about

£1,600 WORTH OF GOODS,

OF THE MOST FASHIONABLE DESCRIPTION,
INCLUDING—

LADIES' JACKETS.
CHILDREN'S JACKETS.
FANCY DRESSES.
MILLINERY.
SKIRTS AND CORSETS.
GLOVES AND SCARFS.
FANCY GOODS, &c.
HATS AND CAPS.
SHIRTS AND COLLARS.
GLOVES AND SCARFS.
MEN'S SUITS.
BOY'S SUITS.
MEN'S TROUSERS.
YOUTH'S SHIRTS.

SEE BILLS.

T. S. ATKINSON
LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

THE NEW SHOP.

THE

GREAT OPENING DAY

for the NEW SHOP is fixed for SATURDAY, May 8th.

THE LONDON AND NEWCASTLE CLOTHING COMPANY

Have taken the large and extensive Premises,
1, TRAFALGAR STREET, 30 and 31, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT,
Where they intend to keep a Large and Well-assorted
STOCK OF MEN'S SUITS, COATS, TROUSERS, AND VESTS.

ALSO, Boys' and Youths' Suits, Jackets, Trousers, and Vests; together with all the New Styles and Patterns in Woollen Cloths, Tweed Dorking Coatings, Moleskin Cords, &c. Hats, Caps, Shirts, Ties, Collars, &c. Pit Flannels and Drawers.

TO THE BOYS OF CONSETT AND DISTRICT.—Look Out for the New Shop for New Suits, Hats, Caps, Ties, &c.

TAILORS WANTED.

Wanted, a first-class Cutter; also, good Coat, Trousers, and Vest Makers.—Apply to
JOHN POTTS, MANAGER. 83o

WETTON'S PATENT MAGNETICON CURATIVE APPLIANCES.

THOUSANDS OF PERSONS HAVE BEEN RESTORED TO HEALTH BY THEIR USE.

GREAT REDUCTION.
GREAT REDUCTION.
GREAT REDUCTION.
GREAT REDUCTION.

GREAT REDUCTION IN PRICE.

Special attention is called to the following Greatly Reduced List of Prices, and which places WETTON and Co.'s unrivalled Magnetic Appliances within reach of the Masses:—

Ladies' and Gents' Belts	15s, 21s, 25s, 30s
Lung Invigorators	15s, 21s, 25s, 30s
Nerve "	21s, 25s, 30s
Chest Protectors	7s 6d, 10s 6d, 12s 6d
Throat "	5s, 7s 6d, 10s 6d
Spine Bands	7s 6d, 10s 6d, 15s, 21s
Knee Caps	7s 6d, 10s 6d each
Arm and Leg Appliances	10s 6d, 15s each
Wristlets and Anklets	3s 6d, 4s 6d, 5s 6d, 6s 6d each
Magnetic Soles	4s 6d to 7s 6d per pair
Friction Gloves	2s 6d each
Smoking and Neuralgic Caps	15s, 21s each

NOTE THE ADDRESS:—
WETTON AND CO., 44a, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

CURE OF INDIGESTION AND NERVOUS DEBILITY.
(Upwards of 20 years standing.)

Bensham-road, Gateshead, March 4th, 1880

I have very great pleasure in informing you that the Magneticon Belt, which I purchased from you sixteen months ago, has proved a great benefit to me. Having suffered from Indigestion and Nervous Debility for upwards of twenty years I was induced to buy one of your Belts, and before many weeks had passed I experienced a wonderful improvement in my health. I can therefore confidently speak of the invigorating power of your Magneticon Appliance, and would strongly recommend them to all those who suffer from this most troublesome complaint.

WILLIAM SMITH.

CONGESTION OF THE LUNGS.

"12, Diana-street, Newcastle."
"November 27th, 1879."

"Some time ago I suffered from Congestion of the Lungs and Pains in the Back and Chest. After receiving medical aid I got a little better, and was fairly well for some time. About twelve months ago I was taken ill again. It was at that time that I got one of Wetton's Magneticon Lung Invigorators; and after having worn it for twelve months I can now say that it has done me more good than anything else I have ever tried. I am in better health than I have been for many years, and have taken no medicine since I began to wear the Invigorator.—Yours truly,

"JOHN BRISCOE."

INDIGESTION (FIVE YEARS STANDING).

South Pontop, via Lintz Green, February 28th, 1880.

Having suffered from indigestion for over five years, and after trying all kinds of medical treatment, and finding no benefit, I purchased one of your Magnetic Belts. After wearing it for about ten months I have found the greatest relief, and can strongly recommend your appliances.

WILLIAM GREENER.

NERVOUS DEBILITY.

24, Trafalgar-street, Newcastle, February 14th, 1880.

Having suffered from Nervous Debility for a number of years, I purchased one of your Magnetic Belts, and after wearing it for twelve months, I am now quite well again. I can conscientiously recommend your appliance to all sufferers from the same complaint.

GEORGE WOOD.

PAINS IN THE HAND, WRIST, AND ARM.

Clayton Street, Gateshead, January 9th, 1880.

A few months ago, I purchased from you a Wristlet and Friction Glove, for severe pains in my right hand, and wrist, and arm, and am happy to say, after using them for a short time, I am quite better, and shall be glad to recommend the appliances to other sufferers.

WILLIAM BRUCE.

Illustrated Pamphlets, with full particulars, Medical References, &c., &c., POST FREE GRATIS.

Letters of Enquiry will receive careful and prompt attention. Appliances sent Post Free to any Address in the United Kingdom. Advice, Personal or by Letter, Free of Charge.

WETTON & Co.,
44A, BLACKETT STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
LONDON: 1, Conduit Street. GLASGOW: 24, Gordon Street. EDINBURGH: 12A, Frederick Street.
DUBLIN: 9, Lower Sackville Street. 46o

HOBSON AND LIDDELL,
CORN, OILCAKE, MANURE, & IMPLEMENT MERCHANTS,
NEVILLE STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

NOW ready for immediate delivery, Phospho and Ammonia, Fixed Guanos, Half-inch Bones, Dissolved Bones and Bone Meal, Top Dresings, Potato and Turnip Manures, Nitrate of Soda, Salt, Superphosphates, &c.

Farm Implements in Stock from all the principal makers. Agents for the Northern Fire and Life Insurance Co., and the Norwich and London Accident Association. 941n

BISHOP AUCKLAND EQUITABLE PERMANENT BUILDING SOCIETY.

Chairman of Directors: Mr. JOSEPH WILKINSON, West Mills, Bishop Auckland.
Solicitor: RICHARD BOWSER, Esq., Bishop Auckland.

THE DIRECTORS are prepared to RECEIVE LOANS of FIVE POUNDS and upwards, at 5 per cent. interest, payable Half-yearly.

ADVANCES made and Shares entered at any time.

THE ENTRANCE FEES are abolished.

THE REPAYMENT of an Advance on Mortgage of £100 is 15s. per Month, or £9 per Annum, which covers Interest and Redemption.

PROFITS divided equitably amongst Members.

WM. V. THOMPSON, Secretary.
Offices: 25, Market-place, Bishop Auckland. 608n

SHOTLEY BRIDGE AND CONSETT DISTRICT GAS COMPANY.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that any Person or Persons entering into the occupation of any House, Shop, or other Building, to which Gas has been supplied to the previous occupant, upon such entry must first obtain the consent of the Secretary of the Company before consuming the Gas supplied by the said Company. In default therefore, upon proof of the use of the Gas, without first obtaining such leave, such Person or Person will be Prosecuted as the Law directs. The Secretary can be seen daily at the Company's Office, Shotley Bridge, to whom all applications must be made.

By order of the Directors,
M. RICHLEY, Secretary.
Shotley Bridge, October 9, 1870.

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT for the HAMSTERLEY GALA and SPORTS, on Saturday, May 22nd, 1880.
40o R. ROBSON, Sec.

A BRAKE will leave MURRAY'S Livery Stables, Front Street, Consett, for STAGSHAWBANK FAIR, on Saturday Morning, May 15th, 1880, at Six o'clock. 43o

£1 REWARD.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD offer £1 Reward to any Person for such Information as will lead to the Conviction of the Person or Persons who recently Removed the Stones defining the Boundaries of the Common Quarries in the Local Board District.

By order of the Board,
JOHN ELLIOTT, Clerk.
Local Board Office, May 6th, 1880. 79o

HALLO! HALLO!! LOOK HERE!!!

The United Friendly Societies of Annfield Plain, will hold their

FIRST ANNUAL GALA,

On Saturday, July 31st, 1880,
When PRIZES will be given for various SPORTS.
16o W. MURRAY, Secretary.

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

ON Saturday, May 15th, a PUBLIC MEETING will be held in the National Schools, Consett. Chair to be taken by JONATHAN PRIESTMAN, Esq., J.P. Addresses on Co-operation will be given by Mr. A. SCOTTON of Derby; Mr. S. BUTLER, of Longeaton; and Mr. EVANS, of Liecester; the Deputation from the Midland Section of the Congress Board. Mr. CHARLES STEPHENSON'S Select GLEE PARTY will be in attendance, and sing appropriate pieces of Music at intervals. Doors open at 6 p.m., to commence at 6·30.

The whole of the Business Premises will be Closed at Noon on Whit Monday and Tuesday, the 17th and 18th instant.

☞ Admission Free. 68o

Public Notices.

LOOK OUT for the DIPTON READING-ROOM SPORTS, on Saturday, June 5th, 1880. 59o

STANLEY TEA, SPORTS, STEEPLE-CHASES, and FLAT-RACES, fixed for Saturday, June 19th, 1880. 85o

LOOK OUT for the ANNFIELD PLAIN SPORTS, when Good Prizes will be given for a BRASS BAND CONTEST, on Saturday, June 19th, 1880. 89o

STAGSHAWBANK FAIR.

A BRAKE will leave CHRISTOPHER'S LIVERY STABLES, Delves Lane, Consett, for Stagshawbank Fair, by way of Allansford, at Six o'clock on the Morning of Saturday, May 15th, 1880. 82o

HIGHGATE Baptist and Blackhill Free Methodist Sunday-Schools will unite on Whit Monday, and Walk to the GALA FIELD, near Consett Hall. Field open to Public at Three o'clock.
☞ Admission, 2d; Tea, 9d. 64o

CASTLESIDE CHURCH.
SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

SERVICES will be held on WHIT-SUNDAY, May 16th. Collections in aid of the School. 84o

WHITSUNTIDE, 1880:

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

MONDAY and TUESDAY.
Unusual Attractions.

CRICKET MATCH EACH DAY.

BRASS BAND.

FIRE BALLOONS, with MAGNESIUM LIGHTS.

GRAND FIREWORKS
Each Evening.

THE GROUNDS WILL BE ILLUMINATED.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED.

ADMISSION, TWOPENCE.
71o WILSON, Bros., Lessees.

Lost.

LOST, on Sunday last, May 2nd, in Benfieldside Church, or between there and Snows Green, a Lady's Pair of GOLD EYE-GLASSES.—Finder restoring them to JOHN PROUD, Newsagent, Blackhill, will be rewarded. 66o

Found.

FOUND, on May 8th, a Light Fawn-Coloured Greyhound BITCH. If not claimed in 4 days, will be Sold.—Apply to T. CARR, Gladdow, Old Cornsay, Durham

FOUND, near Ebchester, a Young COLLIE DOG. The Owner can have it on giving a proper description of him to STEPHEN ARMSTRONG, Ebchester. If not claimed within seven days, it will be Sold to defray expenses. 93o

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a BAY MARE, 14 hands high, 4 years old; splendid action; good goer in harness; Foal at foot, by "Moorcock."—Apply 42, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 56o

A Beautiful Five-Stop HARMONIUM, in Walnut, for Sale, cheap.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton. 75o

FOR SALE, cheap, Two and Four-Wheel TRAPS, Single and Double HARNESS, and a few Harness HORSES, COBS, and Ponies.—Apply to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Shotley Bridge. 943n

FOR SALE, by Private Contract (either together or separately, TWO HOUSES and SHOPS, situate in Tinmill Place, Blackhill.—Apply to JOHN COLLINSON, Middle Street, Consett. 892n

FOR SALE, New and Second-hand CONVEYANCES of every description.—Apply to Mr. ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Consett, or to JOHN BRODIE, Jun., Shotley Bridge. 811k

FOR SALE OR TO LET, and may be entered upon immediately, a HOUSE of Five Rooms, with every Convenience, pleasantly situate at the end of Ridley Street, Blackhill.—For particulars, apply to Mr. GEORGE HARRISON, Butcher, Consett. 976n

Wanted.

WANTED, for a Situation in Town, a YOUNG GIRL, able to Milk.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office. 52o

WANTED, a Black-and-Tan COLLIE DOG. Must be Young. Apply by Letter to "Collie," care of *Guardian Office*, Consett. 65o

WANTED, a MAN and his WIFE, without Family, to take charge of a House at Annfield Plain.—Apply by Letter to VINCENT RITSON, Annfield Plain, by Lintz Green. 88o

WANTED, RYAN'S HISTORY OF SHOTLEY SPA. Will either Purchase, or Exchange Dr. GRANVILLE'S Spas of England. This work, which was published at a Guinea, is in fine condition, beautifully illustrated, and gives a complete history of Shotley Bridge and the vicinity.—Apply either by letter or personally to G. N., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 18o

LANCHESTER UNION.

THE Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union require the Services of a FEMALE NURSE, for the Infirmary of the Lanchester Workhouse. Salary, £25 per annum, with Rations and Residence. Applications, in the handwriting of the Applicants, stating age, qualifications, and previous experience, with testimonials of recent date, to be sent to me on or before Wednesday, the 26th instant.

By order,
WM. HENRY RITSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.
Lanchester, May 13th, 1880. 90o

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Thos. Blandford.

Black Hedley Grass Parks.

MR. THOMAS BLANDFORD will hold the ANNUAL LETTING of the above Grass Parks on Monday, May [illegible]7th, 1880.

AUCTION ROLL.

No. of Lot.	Names of Fields.	Area.
1	Cowgap Ridges	9·270
2	Gillon's Field	19·776
3	Dixon's Field	13·158
4	Far Dixon's Field	14·686
5	Stobbs'	19·567
6	Do.	
7	Winney Close	
8	Green Summer Field	23·176
9	Low Pasture	16·679
10	East Quarry Field	19·741
11	West Quarry Field	20·322
12	Fourteen Acres	23·688
13	Old School Field	
14	High Field	15·505
15	Squire's Field	9·303
16	Laugh's Field	
17	Brick Kiln Field	69·940
18	Brown Hills	
19	High Russet Law	
20	Twenty-eight Acres	51·437
21	Park	
22	Pit Field	
23	Far Field	16·549
24	White Cross	29·506
25	Low Russet Law	
26	Woodhouse Field	15·766
		398·869

Let to commence at One o'clock.
Corbridge-on-Tyne, May 7th, 1880. 96o

Sales by Au
By Mr. A. B
Under Distress f
Town Hall, Consett. Excellent
Commode for
MR. ADAM BRODIE will
at the Door of the To
Wednesday, May 19th, 1880, un
an Excellent TIMEPIECE
COMMODE, both nearly New.
Sale at 12·15 o'clock
For Three Days
Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett. I
and Woollen Drapery Stoc
Goods, Parsian and other C
and Hollands, Blankets and
ing the Estate.
MR. ADAM BRODIE is ins
to SELL BY AUCTION
rooms, at Consett, for Three D
Monday, and Tuesday, May 2
above First-class DRAPERY,
Sale at Half-past Seven
TO FARMERS, GRAZIER
OF LIVE ST
MESSRS. HEDLEY and B
Auctioneers and Live Stock
Consett, are prepared to underta
or otherwise of every descriptio
Agricultural produce, and trust,
all commissions with which the
merit the confidence of the Ag
trict. Valuations for probate.
Stock effected through the Lond
tion (Established 1720)
By Mr. A. Ph
Shield Ro
MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instru
Grocer and Draper, will
AUCTION, at his premises, S
May 24th, 1880, a very la
DRAPERIES, BOOTS and
GOODS removed for convenie
Draperies in great variety; 250 p
25lbs of good Tea; Iron Bedst
Beds; Iron Chairs with cus
Watches; Verge Watch; Silver
Carpet; a lot of Drugget Carpet
Spring Cart; Coup Cart; Set o
Chesnut Horse, 14 hands high,
Harness; a large assortment of
Sale to commenced at On
A. PHILLI
GENERAL AUCTIONEER,
AGENT, &c.,
CASH ADVANCES made, a
Bought for Cash. Busin
upon Reasonable Terms.
By Mr. J.
South Medomsley Co
MR. JOSEPH OLEY has
that he has received in
SHIPLEY, who is removing fro
SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTI
on Wednesday, the 26th day o
mentioned Valuable Househol
modern design and in excellen
Three-quarter Chest of Mahogan
extra large Carved Mahogany S
Mahogany Easy Chair, Hair
Balloon-backed Chairs, Hair-se
board; Mahogany Centre Tabl
Mahogany Table; Mahogany
Dressing Glass; Pedestal Washst
Painted Maple; beautiful Three-
large sized Half-tester Birch B
full set of Cretone Hangings
Cretone Window Shades to ma
and Rings; Splendid Kiddermi
4 yards, and Hearth Rug; useful
by 4½ yards; Stair Carpet; Br
several pieces of Oil Cloth; s
6in., with turned legs; large
Jack, &c., complete; several
Utensils, with sundry Articles
Sale to commence at One
Steel Close Mill,
MR. J. OLEY, instructed
late Mr. THOMAS BUR
BY AUCTION at the above pl
1880, the whole of his Valuable
PLEMENTS of HUSBAND
and Household FURNITU
Cows, Calved and in Calf; 4
dition; 3 Stirks; Skeel Calf;
Followers; 9 Leicester Ewe
Pigs; an excellent Pony; Do
Carts and Cart Harness; Mi
Scoops, &c. A large number
Boxings, and 10 cwt. of Barle
include Barrel Churn; Lead
Furniture comprises Mahogan
Press Bedstead; Mahogany
Centre Table; small Mahog
Sofas, in Hair-seating; 6 Ma
seating; 2 Four-poled and
Wainscot Press; 3 Feather Be
Carpets; small Writing Des
and Dressing Tables; smal
Dressing Glasses; 6 Bedroom
Clocks; Case of Stuffed Bir
and Fire Irons; Set of Chi
other Ware; Pails; Tubs,
Implements.
Also, Hayshed, Stamp of H
Sale to commence at
JOSEPH
THE AGRICULTURA
AND VA
10, WOOD STREET, S
Contra
THE CONSETT LOCAL
for the LEADING C
Carr House Depot to the di
Board District, at a Price per
Specifications may be see
and after Monday, the 10th i
Tenders marked "Leading
Monday the 17th inst.
The lowest or any Tender
By order of t
JO
Local Board Office, May 6t
To L
TO LET, TWO COTTAG
Highfield, Whittonstall
TO LET, a HOUSE, co
Garden, situate in V
Rent moderate—Apply to T
TO LET, a Four-roomed
Apply to GEO. MID
Consett.
TENTS TO LET, 120 fe
30 feet, on reasonable
LOVAT, Medomsley, by Lint
THE Annfield Plain Co
now Open for Public
application to the Manager,
FURNISHED APART
Bed-room) situate at
Suitable for One or Two
Guardian Office, Consett.
TO BE LET, with Im-
YARD and JOINE
every Convenience, on a
tractors, 58, Durham R
WM. RAW, Auctioneer a
HOUSE AND SHO
TO BE LET, and en
excellent HOUSE an
Street, Blackhill, next do
the occupation of Mr. GEO.
premises 9½ years.—Apply t
and House Agent Blackhill

Public Notices.

UT for the DIPTON READING-ROOM TS, on Saturday, June 5th, 1880. 69o

Y TEA, SPORTS, STEEPLE-CHASES, LAT-RACES, fixed for Saturday, June 86o

UT for the ANNFIELD PLAIN SPORTS. Good Prizes will be given for a BRASS NTEST, on Saturday, June 19th, 1880. 89o

STAGSHAWBANK FAIR.

KE will leave CHRISTOPHER'S LIVERY LES, Delves Lane, Consett, for Stagshawbank y of Allansford, at Six o'clock on the Saturday, May 15th, 1880. 82o

ATE Baptist and Blackhill Free Methodist day-Schools will unite on Whit Monday, to the GALA FIELD, near Consett Hall. ld open to Public at Three o'clock. Admission, 2d; Tea, 9d. 64o

CASTLESIDE CHURCH.

DAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY

ES will be held on WHIT-SUNDAY, 16th. Collections in aid of the School. 84o

WHITSUNTIDE, 1880.

TLEY SPA GROUNDS.

MONDAY and TUESDAY.
Unusual Attractions.

RICKET MATCH EACH DAY.

BRASS BAND.

ALLOONS, with MAGNESIUM LIGHTS.

GRAND FIREWORKS
Each Evening.

GROUNDS WILL BE ILLUMINATED.

REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED.

MISSION, TWOPENCE.
WILSON, Bros., Lessees.

Lost.

on Sunday last, May 2nd, in Benfieldside rch, or between there and Snows Green, a Pair of GOLD EYE-GLASSES.—Finder them to JOHN PROUD, Newsagent, Blackhill, warded. 66o

Found.

D, on May 8th, a Light Fawn-Coloured Grey-nd BITCH. If not claimed in 4 days, will be pply to T. CARR, Gladdow, Old Cornsay, Durham

D, near Ebchester, a Young COLLIE DOG. e Owner can have it on giving a proper descrip-him to STEPHEN ARMSTRONG, Ebchester. If ned within seven days, it will be Sold to defray . 93o

For Sale.

SALE, a BAY MARE, 14 hands high, 4 years ; splendid action; good goer in harness; Foal by "Moorcock."—Apply 42, Sherburn Terrace, 56o

utiful Five-Stop HARMONIUM, in Walnut, or Sale, cheap.—Apply to A. PHILLIPSON, eer, Dipton. 75o

SALE, cheap, Two and Four-Wheel TRAPS, ingle and Double HARNESS, and a few HORSES, COBS, and Ponies.—Apply to BRODIE, Jun., Shotley Bridge. 948n

SALE, by Private Contract (either together or parately, TWO HOUSES and SHOPS, situate ill Place, Blackhill.—Apply to JOHN COLLIN-iddle Street, Consett. 892n

R SALE, New and Second-hand CON-VEYANCES of every description.—Apply to Mr. BRODIE, Auctioneer, Consett, or to JOHN BRODIE, Shotley Bridge. 811k

SALE OR TO LET, and may be entered upon mediately, a HOUSE of Five Rooms, with Convenience, pleasantly situate at the end of Street, Blackhill.—For particulars, apply to Mr. HARRISON, Butcher, Consett. 976n

Wanted.

NTED, for a Situation in Town, a YOUNG GIRL, able to Milk.—Apply at the *Guardian* 52o

NTED, a Black-and-Tan COLLIE DOG. Must be Young. Apply by Letter to "Collie," *Guardian Office*, Consett. 65o

NTED, a MAN and his WIFE, without Family, to take charge of a House at Annfield —Apply by Letter to VINCENT RITSON, Annfield by Lintz Green. 88o

NTED, RYAN'S HISTORY OF SHOTLEY SPA. Will either Purchase, or Exchange Dr. VILLE's Spas of England. This work, which blished at a Guinea, is in fine condition, beauti-llustrated, and gives a complete history of Shotley and the vicinity.—Apply either by letter or lly to G. N., *Guardian* Office, Consett. 18o

LANCHESTER UNION.

Guardians of the Poor of the Lanchester Union equire the Services of a FEMALE NURSE, e Infirmary of the Lanchester Workhouse. £25 per annum, with Rations and Residence. tions, in the handwriting of the Applicants, age, qualifications, and previous experience, stimonials of recent date, to be sent to me on or Wednesday, the 26th instant.

By order,
WM. HENRY RITSON,
Clerk to the Guardians.
chester, May 13th, 1880. 90o

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. Thos. Blandford.

Black Hedley Grass Parks.

. THOMAS BLANDFORD will hold the ANNUAL LETTING of the above Grass Parks nday, May 17th, 1880.

AUCTION ROLL.

Lot.	Names of Fields.	Area.
	Cowgap Ridges	9·270
	Gillon's Field	19·776
	Dixon's Field	13·158
	Far Dixon's Field	14·686
	Stobbs'	19·567
	Do.	
	Winney Close	
	Green Summer Field	23·175
	Low Pasture	15·679
	East Quarry Field	19·741
	West Quarry Field	20·312
	Fourteen Acres	23·688
	Old School Field	
	High Field	15·605
	Squire's Field	9·303
	Laugh's Field	
	Brick Kiln Field	69·940
	Brown Hills	
	High Russet Law	
	Twenty-eight Acres	51·437
	Park	
	Pit Field	
	Far Field	16·549
	White Cross	29·505
	Low Russet Law	
	Woodhouse Field	15·765
		398·669

Let to commence at One o'clock.
rbridge-on-Tyne, May 7th, 1880. 93o

Sales by Auction.

By Mr. A. Brodie.

Under Distress for Rent.
Town Hall, Consett. Excellent Timepiece and Night Commode for Sale.

MR. ADAM BRODIE will SELL BY AUCTION, at the Door of the Town Hall, Consett, on Wednesday, May 19th, 1880, under a distress for Rent, an Excellent TIMEPIECE and a good NIGHT COMMODE, both nearly New.

Sale at 12·15 o'clock p.m. exactly. 98o

For Three Days only.
Victoria Sale-rooms, Consett. Important Sale of Linen and Woollen Drapery Stock, comprising—Dress Goods, Parrian and other Cords, Winceys, Linens and Hollands, Blankets and Sheets, &c., all belonging the Estate.

MR. ADAM BRODIE is instructed by the Trustee, to SELL BY AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale-rooms, at Consett, for Three Days only, on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday, May 22nd, 24th, and 25th, the above First-class DRAPERY, without Reserve.

Sale at Half-past Seven each Evening. 99o

TO FARMERS, GRAZIERS, AND OWNERS OF LIVE STOCK.

MESSRS. HEDLEY and BRODIE, Agricultural Auctioneers and Live Stock Salesmen, Town Hall, Consett, are prepared to undertake the Sale by Auction, or otherwise of every description of Live Stock and Agricultural produce, and trust, by careful attention to all commissions with which they may be favoured, to merit the confidence of the Agriculturists of the District. Valuations for probate. Insurances on Farming Stock effected through the London Insurance Corporation (Established 1720). 744h

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

Shield Row.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. WM. REED, Grocer and Draper, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at his premises, Shield Row, on Monday, May 24th, 1880, a very large surplus Stock of DRAPERIES, BOOTS and SHOES, and other GOODS removed for convenience of sale, comprising Draperies in great variety; 250 pairs of Boots and Shoes; 25lbs of good Tea; Iron Bedsteads; Down and Flock Beds; Iron Chairs with cushions; 2 Silver Lever Watches; Verge Watch; Silver Albert; 40 yards Brussels Carpet; a lot of Drugget Carpet; Rolley with Springs; Spring Cart; Coup Cart; Set of Spring Cart Harness; Chesnut Horse, 14 hands high, 9 years old, good in all Harness; a large assortment of Brushes, Jewellery, &c.

Sale to commenced at One o'clock prompt. 91o

A. PHILLIPSON,
GENERAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER, HOUSE-AGENT, &c., DIPTON.

CASH ADVANCES made, and FURNITURE, &c., Bought for Cash. Business done Promptly, and upon Reasonable Terms. 27o

By Mr. J. Oley.

South Medomsley Colliery, Dipton.

MR. JOSEPH OLEY has the honour to announce that he has received instructions from Mr. B. SHIPLEY, who is removing from the neighbourhood, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the above place, on Wednesday, the 26th day of May, 1880, the under-mentioned Valuable Household FURNITURE, all of modern design and in excellent condition, comprising Three-quarter Chest of Mahogany Oval-fronted Drawers; extra large Carved Mahogany Spring Sofa, Hair-seated; Mahogany Easy Chair, Hair-seated; 6 Mahogany Balloon-backed Chairs, Hair-seated; Mahogany Sideboard; Mahogany Centre Table; Oval do., do.; Small Mahogany Table; Mahogany Circular-toped Toilet Dressing Glass; Pedestal Washstand and Dressing Table, Painted Maple; beautiful Three-leaved Screen, quite new; large sized Half-tester Birch Bedstead, with Mattress; full set of Cretone Hangings for Bedstead; pair of Cretone Window Shades to match; Brass Cornice Pole and Rings; Splendid Kidderminster Carpet, 5 yards by 4 yards, and Hearth Rug; useful Bedroom Carpet, 4 yards by 4½ yards; Stair Carpet; Brass Stair Rods and Eyes; several pieces of Oil Cloth; square Library Table, 4ft. 6in., with turned legs; large Meat Screen, with Roast Jack, &c., complete; several Pictures; Ware Cooking Utensils, with sundry Articles too numerous to mention.

Sale to commence at One o'clock p.m. prompt. 92o

Steel Close Mill, Lintz Green.

MR. J. OLEY, instructed by the Executor of the late Mr. THOMAS BURN, deceased, will SELL BY AUCTION at the above place, on Friday, May 14th, 1880, the whole of his Valuable FARM STOCK, IMPLEMENTS of HUSBANDRY, MILL UTENSILS, and Household FURNITURE, comprising 4 Milk Cows, Calved and in Calf; 4 Heifers, forward in condition; 3 Stirks; Skeel Calf; 6 Leicester Ewes and Followers; 9 Leicester Ewe Hogs, very good; 2 Store Pigs; an excellent Pony; Dog Cart and Harness; 3 Carts and Cart Harness; Mill Scales and Weights; Scoops, &c. A large number of Sacks; 10 Sacks of Boxings, and 10 cwt. of Barley Meal. Dairy Utensils include Barrel Churn; Lead Milk Bowls; &c. The Furniture comprises Mahogany Book-case; Mahogany Press Bedstead; Mahogany Dining Table; Mahogany Centre Table; small Mahogany Table; 2 Mahogany Sofas, in Hair-seating; 6 Mahogany Chairs, in Hair-seating; 2 Four-poled and other Bedsteads; large Wainscot Press; 3 Feather Beds, Pillows, and Bolsters; Carpets; small Writing Desk; 3 Painted Washstands and Dressing Tables; small Chest of Drawers; 2 Dressing Glasses; 6 Bedroom and 6 Kitchen Chairs; 2 Clocks; Case of Stuffed Birds; Barometer; Fenders and Fire Irons; Set of China, with Dinner, Tea, and other Ware; Pails; Tubs, &c.; with all the Hand Implements.

Also, Hayshed, Stamp of Hay, and Iron Horse Rake.

Sale to commence at Eleven o'clock. a.m. 81b

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

Contracts.

THE CONSETT LOCAL BOARD invite TENDERS for the LEADING OF LIMESTONE from Carr House Depot to the different Roads in the Local Board District, at a Price per Ton.

Specifications may be seen at the Board-room, on and after Monday, the 10th inst.

Tenders marked "Leading" will be received up to Monday the 17th inst.

The lowest or any Tender not necessarily accepted.

By order of the Board,
JOHN ELLIOTT, Clerk.
Local Board Office, May 6th, 1880. 78o

To Let.

TO LET, TWO COTTAGES.—Apply to Mr. HARE, Highfield, Whittonstall. 952n

TO LET, a HOUSE, containing Five Rooms, with Garden, situate in Victoria Street, Lanchester. Rent moderate—Apply to THOS. WARD, Lanchester.

TO LET, a Four-roomed HOUSE, at Castleside.—Apply to GEO. MIDDLETON, Medomsley Road, Consett. 23o

TENTS TO LET, 120 feet by 30 feet, and 60 feet by 30 feet, on reasonable terms.—Apply to EDWD. LOVAT, Medomsley, by Lintz Green. 9o

THE Annfield Plain Co-operative Society's Hall is now Open for Public Entertainments. Terms on application to the Manager, Mr. ADAM BROWN. 616n

FURNISHED APARTMENTS (Sitting-room and Bed-room) situate at Blackhill, TO LET. Very Suitable for One or Two Young Men.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 58o

TO BE LET, with Immediate Possession, a Large YARD and JOINERS' WORKSHOPS, with every Convenience, on a suitable Corner Site for Contractors, 58, Durham Road, Blackhill.—Apply to WM. RAW, Auctioneer and House Agent, Blackhill.

HOUSE AND SHOP AT BLACKHILL.

TO BE LET, and entered upon at May-Day, an excellent HOUSE and SHOP, situate in Derwent Street, Blackhill, next door to the Post Office, now in the occupation of Mr. GEO. REID, who has occupied the premises 9½ years.—Apply to WILLIAM RAW, Auctioneer and House Agent Blackhill. 29o

To Let.

TO BE LET, and entered upon as at May-day, a MILL and FARM, as occupied by the late Mr. BURN, situated at Steel Close, near Lintz Green. Particulars may be known on application to Mr. CHARLTON, Medomsley, and proposals will be received by Mr. LISHMAN, Witton-le-Wear, until the 27th day of May. 86o

GRASS PARKS.

TO BE LET, by TENDER, the EATAGE of 26 Acres of Rich Old Land Grass (Winter Housed), situate at Rowley, near Castleside, in two Lots of 11½ and 14½ Acres, or together.—For particulars, apply to W. J. SCOTT, Merchant, Consett, to whom Tenders must be sent on or before Monday, 24th inst. Mr. A. GOLIGHTLY, at Rowley, will Show. 87o

LANCHESTER HIGHWAY DISTRICT.

TO LET, the CARTING of the following Lots of LIMESTONE, and the BREAKING of various Lots.

LOBLEY HILL MAIN ROAD.

- LOT 1.—From High Stoop to Satley. 60 tons.
- „ 2.—From High Stoop to Browney Bridge. 60 tons.
- „ 3.—From Lanchester Union Workhouse to Browney Bridge. 60 tons.
- „ 4.—From Lanchester Union Workhouse to Howdon Bank. 60 tons.
- „ 5.—From Annfield Plain to Howdon Bank Top. 100 tons.
- „ 6.—From Annfield Plain to Hare Law. 100 tons.
- „ 7.—From Harelaw to Boundary House. 60 tons.
- „ 8.—From Tanfield Moor to Boundary House and Crook Bar. 250 tons.
- „ 9.—From Crook Bar Depots to Pont Burn. 200 tons.

Also, the Breaking of Lots 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9.

AUCKLAND MAIN ROAD.
Carting Limestone.

- LOT 1.—From High Stoop to Drover House. 80 tons.
- „ 2.—From Salters' Gate to Drover House and Butsfield Bank. 200 tons.
- „ 3.—From Rowley Station to Butsfield Bank Foot. 100 tons.
- „ 4.—From Rowley Station to Castleside and Allansford Bridge. 80 tons.

Also, the Breaking of the whole of the above Lots.

DURHAM AND SHOTLEY MAIN ROAD.
Carting Limestone.

- LOT 1.—From Lanchester Union Workhouse to Fen Hall and Iveston Bank Top. 60 tons.
- „ 2.—From Lanchester Union Workhouse to the Church and Parkhouse. 80 tons.

TOWNSHIP OF COLLIERLEY AND PONTOP.

- LOT 1.—Carting Limestone from Harelaw to Flint Hill and Pont Cottage. 160 tons.
- „ 2.—Carting Limestone from Harelaw to Fondley Set and Delight Bank. 30 tons.
- „ 3.—Carting Limestone from Salters' Gate Station to Salters' Gate Road. 30 tons.
- „ 4.—Carting Slag from Bradley Slag Heap to Pike Lane. 30 yards.

Also, the Breaking of Lots 1, 2, and 3.

TOWNSHIP OF KYO.

- LOT 1.—Carting Limestone from Tanfield Moor to White-le-Head Road. 50 tons.
- „ 2.—Carting Limestone from Annfield Plain to South Pit and West Kyo. 100 tons.
- „ 3.—Carting Limestone from Annfield Plain to Kyo Heugh. 30 tons.
- „ 4.—Carting Limestone from Oakey's Siding to Oxhill Road. 60 tons.
- „ 5.—Carting Limestone from Tanfield Moor to Logan House and Harperley Gate. 30 tons.
- „ 6.—Carting Limestone from Oakey's Siding to Oxhill and Harperley Gate. 60 tons.

Also, the Breaking of the whole of the above Lots.

TOWNSHIP OF CORNSAY.
Carting Limestone.

- LOT 1.—From Blackfield to Cornsay. 60 tons.
- „ 2.—From Blackfield to East of Cornsay. 10 tons.
- „ 3.—From High Stoop to Well Banks and The Bents. 80 tons.
- „ 4.—From Blackfield to Cowsley and Hedleyburn Roads. 70 tons.
- „ 5.—From Cornsay Colliery to Low Row Road. 220 tons.

Also, the Breaking of the whole of the above Lots.

TOWNSHIP OF BURNHOPE & HAMSTEELS.
Carting Limestone.

- LOT 1.—From Lanchester Station to Bargate Bank. 30 tons.
- „ 2.—From Cornsay Colliery to Square House. 30 tons.
- „ 3.—From Cornsay Colliery to Square House and Cornsay Road. 20 tons.
- „ 4.—From Cornsay Colliery to Hamsteels Road. 160 Tons.
- „ 5.—From Annfield Plain to Burnhope Road. 60 tons.
- „ 6.—From Witton Gilbert Station to Finings and Hamsteels Road (broken Slag). 80 tons.
- „ 7.—From Witton Gilbert Station to Biggin Road (broken Slag). 20 tons.
- „ 8.—From High Stoop to Razpathside (Limestone). 60 tons.

Also, the Breaking of Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8.

Also, the Breaking of 750 tons of Limestone, in the Township of Tanfield.

Tenders must be sent to the Surveyor, on or before Monday, May 24th, 1880, marked "Tender for Carting," or "Tender for Breaking."

The Board do not pledge themselves to accept the lowest or any Tender.—By order,

WILLIAM DIXON,
District Surveyor.
Surveyor's Office, Branch Villa,
May 8th, 1880. 94o

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAY 14TH, 1880.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

(BY AN AWD PITMAN.)

Some peeple are wicked eneyuf to assert that bobbies, as a rule, are a sleepy-heeded lot, but there's ekseps hens tiv evvery rule, and aws glad to say that this haads good amang the members of the police force. Awve seen slaw bobbies and awve seen sharp bobbies. One of the kutest aw ever knew was awd Morland that used to be stashened at Dipten. Poor awd chap, aw wonder where he is now. The last time aw hard of him he was down by Bedlington hand, keepen a publick house. But the sharp tricks of Morland have been eklipsed by Sargent Thornten, one of the bobbies liven at Consett. Last Friday mornen, a weel-knawn tailer liven in Medomsley Road, diskovered, on gannen into his hen-kree, ten hens and a kock all lyen deed. The hen-hole was oppen, and the poor tailer, after mournfully viewen his bleeden and mangled pultry, came to the conclusion that the distroyen agent had been a fox. He gav informashen to the police, with a view, nee doubt, to hevven the theef apprehended, and the seym day the Sargent whose name aw hev already menshent vissited the place and teyuk observashens. He said nawt to the poor henless and eggless tailer, but after a skruteny of the hen-hole he silently teyuk his departure. He returned the seym neet, however, with a trap under his kote, which he quietly placed on the inside of the hen-hole. Exactly at ten minutes to two o'clock on Setterder mornen the fokes liven up Medomsley Road and at end of the Company's raws were startled out of their slumbers by the most unearthly howlen, but only one person, the bobbie aw hev named, knew where it proceeded fra. Seyun afterwards he was seen makken his way to the Police Stashen, leeden a "fox" with one hand and carrying a trap in the other. The "fox" had a striken resemblence to a bull-bitch belangen to one of the tailer's neighbours, but, the previous neet's slawter hevven oozed out, neebody wad awn the poor thing, and, to prevent further mischief, it was shot the same day. Aw heer that the Sargent's gannen to leeve the force and set up as a varmin killer.

The North-Eastern Railway Company hev started their Setterder afterneyun ekskershens for the seeson, and although they hev meyd a good beginnen in the way of sellen plenty of tickets, the journey itself cannot be said to hev been an agreeable one to those who were, like mysell, unfortunate eneyuf to gan by the first train that was despatched. We were packed in like harren in a barrel, and it would have been as weel if we had been as quiet. The Railway Company must think that onny kind of a karriage is good eneyuf for the Consett foke to get into, or they would not have sent such a dirty lot up from Newcastle. We were nee seyuner at Sunderland than we had to return ageyn, and as we reeched Benfeeldside on the return journey aw kuddent help thinken that me and the bairns could hev spent a plissenter day at Shotley Spa for a penny a peece.

For a putter to deliberately tell an awerman that he darnt strike him with his stick seems to be a very heineyous offence in the eyes of the gentleman who was fined at Lanchester last week for an assault at Burnhope Pit. When aw wes a lad on the screens the keeker used to try the thickness of our pates, but that was at a time when keekers and mayesters used to dee pretty much as they had a mind. Nee doubt, when the lad telled the awerman that he darsent strike him, he thawt that was sufficient to justify him in given him a good letheren. Aw quite agree with the Chairman of the Bench that lads are sometimes impiddent and provoke the offishels, but it is clear that the latter sometimes use the stick when there is no need for it. However, everybody has to larn by experience, and awermen, like the rest of fokes, mun pay for it.

MANCHESTER UNITY OF ODDFELLOWS.

On Saturday last, the "Rose of Derwent" Lodge of the above Unity held their annual procession, &c., at Consett, starting from their lodge-room about three o'clock, headed by the Leadgate Saxhorn Brass Band (under the leadership of Mr. Henry Palmer), and also a beautiful new banner recently purchased from the establishment of Mr. Elam of London. The procession, after parading the principal streets in Consett, returned to the Consett British Schools—kindly granted for the occasion by the managers—where an excellent repast was prepared by the committee, and of which nearly 200 members and their wives and friends sat down and enjoyed with evident satisfaction. To complete the pleasures of the day, the committee prepared an evening's entertainment, consisting of readings and singing, under the chairmanship of Mr. Ralph Walton.—The Secretary, in reviewing the Order, District, and Lodge, pointed out that the Order consisted of no less than 533—520 members, and a reserve fund of £4,500,000. There was paid for sick relief last year £378,000, and £112,000 for deaths. In the county of Durham there are 13 districts, with 116 lodges and 15,124 members. The Durham district—with which this lodge is connected—comprised 27 lodges and 3,916 members with funds amounting to £22,824 10s. 5d. In this district there was paid during 1879, £4,343 13s. 8d. for sickness, and £599 10s. for deaths, also a large amount for widows and orphans. The "Rose of Derwent" Lodge, he stated, was opened in January, 1864, and for the first ten or twelve years had to contend with many reverses, which occasionally befalls a new lodge; but at last, through the energy of the members, it gradually became stronger, and in 1877 they determined to place their accounts in the hands of Henry Ratcliffe, Esq., of Manchester, for valuation, which resulted in proving its stability by having an excess of assets over their liabilities of £200 5s. 9d. At the commencement of this year the lodge-books were audited by the lodge auditors and also by an independent gentleman, which auditing showed the lodge to have 64 members, with funds amounting to £380, and the average age of their members to be under thirty years. The programme of the entertainment was executed by the following ladies and gentlemen, with great credit:—The singing by Mrs. Pickles, Miss M. Glendinning, Messrs. C. Davison, C. Stelling, H. Bell, and P. Maund. Recitations by Mr. Cockburn, jun., Puddlers' Row, and a reading by Master Herbert Davies. Pianists, Mr. Stelling and Miss M. Watson. The tables were gracefully presided over by Mrs. W. Maund, Mrs. P. Maund, Mrs. C. Davison, Misses Britan, Grant and E. Davies.

Local and District News.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE HIRINGS.—These hirings took place on Wednesday. There was a good muster of both masters and servants, and a number of engagements were effected for the half-year, the wages obtained being fully up to the average.

SUDDEN DEATH AT BROOM PARK.—A woman named Alice Gallagher, aged 33, married woman, Broom Park, died suddenly on Sunday last. Deceased was attended by Dr. Stewart's assistant, but died about an hour after giving birth to a child. The matter was reported to Mr. Graham, coroner, and from the surgeon's statement, the coroner was of opinion death resulted from natural causes, and there was no need for enquiry.

MESSRS. HALLIDAY AND CASEY CENSURED BY THE DURHAM MINERS' ASSOCIATION. — The following resolution was passed at a Counsel meeting of the Durham Miners' Association, held on Saturday last at Durham:—"That this meeting records its strong disapprobation as to the conduct of Messrs. Halliday and Casey in coming down here during the recent election to advocate the claims of Sir George Elliot in the Conservative interest. This we feel the more necessary inasmuch as the charges which they ostensibly came down to refute had never up to that time been preferred against Sir George. And further, that they never be allowed to take part in any of the proceedings of this association."

SUDDEN DEATH AT CONSETT.—The uncertainty of human life was fully exemplified at Consett this week. On Monday night, Mrs. Stelling, of Front Street, Consett, visited her daughter at Leadgate, and on her return homeward between nine and ten o'clock, feeling unwell, she rested against the wall a little below Carr House Crossing. Three young men, named Ramshaw, Anderson and Tailford, came up at the time, and, seeing that something amiss, asked Mrs. Stelling what was the matter. She replied that she was very ill—that she was going to die. The young men promptly offered their assistance, and supported the poor woman for some distance. When nearing the crossing, however, she broke down altogether, and had to be carried into Mr. Faulkener's public-house at the foot of Sherburn Terrace. A messenger was despatched for assistance, but Mrs. Stelling died within a few minutes, and before Mr. Marchbank, who promptly obeyed the summons, was in attendance. Mrs. Stleling had been ailing for some time, and it is understood that the cause of death was heart disease. Mrs. Stelling was fifth-six years of age. She was much respected among her neighbours, to whom she was always civil and obliging.

PRESENTATION TO MR. GEORGE RIDLEY.

Amongst the residents in and around Stanley, perhaps there is not one more generally, or more deservedly, respected than Mr. George Ridley, the gentleman who was on the evening of Monday last presented with a public testimonial as an acknowledgment of the manner in which he has, during the past seventeen years, discharged his various public duties, and also for the kindness and courtesy he has on all occasions extended to those who have needed his assistance or advice. The testimonial was in the form of a silver snuff-box, gold watch, and a purse containing 100 sovereigns, and was presented to Mr. Ridley at the Railway Hotel, Annfield Plain, in presence of a large number of his friends. At seven o'clock the company sat down to an excellent dinner, served up in faultless style by the worthy host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Lumley. After the removal of the cloths, the Rev T. Hewan Archdall, M.A., Vicar of Tanfield, took the chair, and Mr. George Hobson, of Harperley, the vice-chair. The Chairman had the guest of the evening, Mr. Ridley, on his right hand, and was supported by Capt. Joicey, Rev. John Crennell, Vicar of Beamish, Dr. Benson, &c., the Vice-chairman being supported by Rev. R. Tuson, Mr. Pringle, Dr. Jones, Mr. Edward Nicholson, &c., and amongst others present were Mr. John Smith, Mr. Moffatt, (Shotley Bridge), Mr. J. Pringle, Mr. Tom Pringle, Mr. Thomas Turpie, Mr. J. Wilson, Mr. William Ridley, Mr. John Arkless (Tanfield Lea), Mr. John Turnbull (White-le-Head), Mr. M. Ridley, Mr. Pyburn, Mr. J. Clarkson, Mr. J. Armstrong, Mr. J. Chaytor, Mr. T. Darney, Mr. J. Robinson, Mr. Wm. Johnson, Mr. J. Bates, Mr. Jos. Watson (Stanley), Mr. J. Smith (Shield Row), Mr. A. Barrass (Pea Farm), Mr. Robert Ray, Mr John Errington, Mr. J. Green (Oxhill), Mr. J. Wilkinson (Morrowfield), Mr. Joseph Gray (South Moor), Mr. William Gray, Mr. Lumley (Burnhope), Mr. Wilkinson, Mr. William Telford (Catchgate), Mr. John Maddison, Mr. John Mordue, Mr. H. Previll (Dipton), Mr. Edward Nicholson, jun., Mr. T. Kay, Mr. Frank Jackson, Mr. Joseph Young, Mr. James Kay (Pitt Hill), Mr. Thomas Lamb, Mr. George Sterling (Annfield Plain), Mr. Bullerwell, &c. The toast list having been introduced,

The CHAIRMAN proposed "The Queen." He said few words were needed to recommend this toast to an assembly of Englishmen. Her Majesty had always acted as a true woman, whether in her capacity of wife, mother, or queen. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN next proposed the "Prince and Princess of Wales and the rest of the Royal Family."

The VICE-CHAIRMAN proposed the Bishop and Clergy of the Diocese, and Ministers of all Denominations. He said he was glad to see the clergy represented by three gentlemen who were well-known and generally respected in the district. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN responded, after which he proceeded to propose the toast of the "Army, Navy, and Auxiliary Forces," coupled with the name of Capt. Joicey.

Capt. JOICEY, in responding, said with the annals of this country before them, he need say little in praise of the army and navy. With regard to the auxiliary forces, he felt certain that every man, if called upon, would do his duty. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN next called upon Capt. Joicey to make the presentation.

Capt. JOICEY said—Mr. Chairman, Vice-chairman, and gentlemen,—I can assure you that the duty I have to perform is a very pleasant one indeed. If I could express all I feel for Mr. Ridley I should talk to you for three or four hours. You all know the object of our meeting here to-night. Some time ago, the tradesmen of Stanley experienced some difficulty in getting their goods delivered, and in their dilemma they applied to Mr. Hobson, who referred them to Mr. Ridley, who, as you all know, is always willing to help his neighbours, and, what is more important, he usually accomplishes whatever he takes in hand. (Applause.) Well, Mr. Ridley was successful in this instance, and as it is not the first time he had rendered like services to the trading classes in this district, Mr. Hobson and a few other gentlemen agreed to present him with a snuff-box, knowing that he had a weakness for that sort of thing. (Laughter and applause.) A committee was formed, and collectors appointed, but subscriptions came in so fast that the committee soon found they had too much money, and they were forced to let the testimonial assume a more substantial shape. (Applause). I am glad, gentlemen, that it has been so, for Mr. Ridley deserves it all. (Renewed applause.) You all know as well as I do that he is always ready to do a good turn for everybody in the parish. (Hear, hear.) He is well-up in parish matters, and is always ready to give his advice and assistance to those who want it, and never grumbles if you give him plenty of hard work. (Applause.) Addressing Mr. Ridley, the gallant Captain said—It only remains for me to present you with this box. May you have long life to use it. (Applause.) I have also to hand you this watch, which I hope will be handed down to your children, to show them the respect that was held for their father. (Renewed applause.) We have not forgotten Mrs. Ridley. (Hear, hear.) Here is a ring for her, to let her see how much she is appreciated amongst us. (Cheers.) But here is the best thing—this is the most substantial of all. (Laughter and applause.) I have great pleasure, George, in handing you this purse of gold, and in doing so I but give expression to the sentiments of all present when I express a hope that you may be spared to see your family grown-up, and that, with God's blessing, they may be an honour to you. (Enthusiastic cheering.)

Mr. RIDLEY responded as follows—Mr. Chairman, Mr. Vice-chairman, Captain Joicey, and gentlemen,—You have placed me in a very serious position this evening. I feel utterly unable to find words wherewith to express the gratitude I feel for your generosity towards me, and for the very kind and flattering way in which I have been spoken of by Captain Joicey. I ask you to accept the will for the deed, and to imagine all that a want of words obliges me to leave unsaid. In such terms as I can command, however, I beg to ask you to accept my most sincere thanks for the great honour you have done me in making me those handsome presents, which are as undeserved as they are unexpected. When I first heard of this testimonial I felt very much surprised. I got a hint from a gentleman whom I had not had the honour of knowing very long, and I thought there must be some mistake about it. However, after a time I heard it was not a mistake, but a reality, and, as I have said before, I felt entirely at a loss to know what I had done either publicly or privately to deserve anything of the sort. These presentations, you know, usually take place when people get married, or leave the district, or do some worthy act. In my case none of these things apply. I have been married a long time, and have not the slightest intention of leaving the district. (Laughter and applause.) I could not imagine anything I had ever done to deserve anything of the kind, and I came the conclusion that there must be positive and negative degrees of virtue—that it could not be for anything that I had done, but that it was for something I had not done. (Laughter). However, as Capt. Joicey has said, I have always been willing to do the best I could, and if I have done anything for the public good they have been welcome to my services. (Applause). It is more than seventeen years since I came among you to fulfil the duties of assistant-overseer. The post of an assistant-overseer and tax collector is not one calculated to make a man popular, but I came with a determination to do what was right in the performance of my duty, and I flatter myself that the kindness and indulgence I have everywhere received proves that I have succeeded far better than I had ever any right to expect. (Applause). I cannot say much more. I again thank you on behalf of my wife and myself for the very great honour you have done us, which, I can assure you, will ever be remembered by us with gratitude. (Renewed applause.) I can assure you, gentlemen, I did not require these things showered upon me to convince me of the feelings you entertain towards me. If there is one thing more precious than another to a public servant it is to know that his conduct is approved of, and that he has the approbation and goodwill of those with whom he comes in contact. (Applause.) I again thank you, gentlemen, for the very handsome presents, and while I shall always look at them with pride and pleasure, I shall never allow them to make me think too highly of myself. (Applause.) Once more I thank you for your handsome presents, which, if God spares me amongst you, I shall endeavour in some measure to deserve. (Loud applause.)

Other toasts were proposed, amongst the more important being "The Trade of the District," which was proposed by Mr. Wilkinson, and responded to by Messrs. Robinson and Mitchinson; Captain Joicey's health, proposed by the Chairman; "The Secretaries" (Messrs Green, Sterling, and Telford); "The Ladies," proposed by the Rev. R. Tuson, and responded to by Dr. Jones; the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and the host and hostess. Songs were sung at intervals, and altogether the proceedings were most interesting and enjoyable. The watch, snuff-box, and ring bore suitable inscriptions, that on the snuff-box being as follows:—"Presented to George Ridley, together with a gold watch and a purse of gold, by his numerous friends, as a mark of their respect and esteem. May 10th, 1880."

DEATH OF MR. ANDREW ANNANDALE.

Death has been busy in our district of late, and another old resident has passed from among us. Mr. Annandale, of Viewlands, who died on Tuesday morning, was the youngest son of the late John Annandale, Esq., of the firm of John Annandale and Sons, paper manufacturers, Shotley Bridge. Mr. Annandale was, however, in no way connected with this firm. Born of Scotch parentage, at Newcastle-on-Tyne, on the 19th June, 1813, he entered upon the duties of life as a paper-stainer, and afterwards purchased the corn mill at Shotley Bridge, which he re-built. Upright in his dealings, and unswerving in principle, he gradually won the esteem of a large circle of friends, by whom his commanding form and venerable aspect will be long remembered. Mr. Annandale had been in failing health for a number of years, being subject to periodical attacks of jaundice, which induced him to dispose of his property at Shotley Bridge, and retire from business about seven years ago. As an employer of labour deceased was a worthy specimen of a class of masters fast dying out. For example—just nine years ago Mr. Annandale met a servant by appointment in Newcastle. They were perfect strangers to each other. An engagement was, however, affected. "But," remarked Mr. Annandale, "you never saw Shotley Bridge, and may, therefore, not like the place. Come along with me; I'll pay your expenses and show you over the place, and then it cannot be said that you have 'bought a pig in a poke.'" What servant, worthy of the name, would dream of deceiving such a master? Mr. Annandale took no prominent part in public matters, owing, doubtless, to the state of his health; he was, however, a staunch supporter of the Presbyterian Church. Indeed, had it not been for the assiduity and untiring energy, as well as the liberal manner he gave of his means, together with other members of the same family, that chaste edifice in Durham Road—St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church—had never been reared. His benevolence was, however, not restricted to the church, nor to those in connection with it. Nor was he ambitious for the praise of men. Many generous acts were performed by him which were never known beyond a very limited circle. The disease, we understand, to which Mr. Annandale eventually succumbed was cancer. None knew better than himself that the end was approaching; but the tomb presented no terrors to him. He gave directions for the excavating and building of a vault in the New Cemetery, Benfieldside, with the utmost composure—even cheerfulness. The following incident, which transpired only a few days prior to his dissolution, illustrates the rich humour characteristic of the race from which he sprung, and which formed a marked trait in his character. Addressing his coachman, he made certian inquiries regarding the progress which had been made with the vault. "It is finished," was the reply. "Not quite," was the rejoinder. "Yes," continued the servant, "the builder informs me that it is finished." "Not quite finished," replied Mr. Annandale with a smile, "it wants the tenant!" The deceased gentleman leaves a widow, but no family. His remains will be placed in the New Cemetery, Benfieldside, this (Friday) afternoon. He was a warm-hearted Christian man, and a nobler tribute cannot well be paid to the memory of the dead.

The County Court Office, Shotley Bridge, will be closed on Monday, the 27th day of May.

BREAKDOWN AT CONSETT IRONWORKS.—Soon after the Consett ironworkers, who have been on strike a week, returned to work on Monday morning there was a breakdown in the machinery, which threw the whole of the hands at one of the plate mills out of work for the rest of the day.

DISPUTE IN THE COAL TRADE.—The dispute which has been going on during the past week, in consequence of an insufficient supply of house coal, at Wooley, Stanley, Peases, Stanley Drift, and Sunnyside, has been peaceably settled.

FATAL ACCIDENT.—On Wednesday morning, Jas. Boustead, living with his parents at Leadgate, met with an accident which resulted in his death the same afternoon. Boustead was employed as a sand-boy on one of the engines belonging to the Consett Iron Company, and whilst uncoupling a bogie laden with metal at Crook Hall Foundry, his left foot became fastened in a crossing, and before he could extricate it, the bogie passed over his leg. The limb was amputated at Consett Infirmary, but the poor lad never rallied, and succumbed to the shock soon afterwards. An inquest will be held on the body at Leadgate this (Friday) evening.

General News

The buildings of the great National Exhibition at Brussels are now completed.

The Roumanian Government has assumed the administration of the railways.

Extensive layers of black marble have been discovered in the Wichengebirge.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone has been elected unopposed for Leeds, in the place of his father.

The threatened strike in the cotton trade would affect 27,000 operatives in Blackburn alone.

A monument in memory to the late King of Hanover is about to be erected in St. George's Chapel.

A serious revolt has broken out at Bitlis, a Turkish town near the western extremity of Lake Van.

Bousilate is the name given to a composition now being used in America as a substitute for ivory.

Mr. Herschell, the Solicitor-General, was re-elected for Durham (City) on Saturday.

M. Got, the eminent actor, has been appointed Professor of Reading at the Normal School.

The telephone is now being brought into use in the various Government establishments at Chatham.

Mr. Gladstone has promised to contribute a somewhat unique set of ivories to the Merthyr Art Exhibition.

An exhibition of objects relating to the history of the House of Orange will be held at the Hague in August next.

The report that Mr. Arthur Arnold, M.P., will be the new editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette* is stated to be entirely devoid of foundation.

Mr. Morgan Lloyd, M.P., intends introducing a bill to prohibit canvassing either by candidates or their agents.

The powers of the University of Cambridge Commissioners have been extended until the 31st day of December, 1881.

A man named Alexander Davidson fell into a boiling cauldron of dye at Galshiels. He is not expected to recover.

Wali Mahommed, the assassin of the Russian officer, Colonel Comeraoff, will probably be executed next week.

The Albanian situation has become very critical. The Austrians and Mahomedans of Albania are fraternising.

The Common Pleas Division has appointed Mr. Justice Denman an additional judge for the trial of election petitions.

Twenty-eight persons are believed to have perished by the swamping of a number of fishing vessels on the Columbia River, in the State of Oregon.

A part of the St. Gothard Tunnel, 6390 metres from the south entrance, has fallen in, killing three workmen and injuring three others.

The Queen has approved the appointments of the Earl of Zetland, Earl of Listowel, Lord Wrottesley, and Lord Ribblesdale to be lords-in-waiting.

A loan exhibition of works of art, promoted by members of the Manchester Arts Club, is expected to be opened towards the end of the present month.

The marriage of Sir Reginald Beauchamp and Lady Violet Jocelyn, only daughter of the Earl and and Countess of Roden, will take place early in June.

At the ensuing Primitive Methodist Conference application will be made for sanction to open the College in Manchester for the reception of students in July next.

Mr. Guildford Lindsey Molesworth, youngest son of the late Rev. Dr. Molesworth, of Rochdale, has been appointed to an important office in the Civil Service of India.

The *Catholic Times* states that the Rev. Mr. Tylee, Lord Ripon's chaplain, will not immediately accompany the Marquis to Calcutta, but may possibly follow him there in the autumn.

The Rev. J. W. Gordon, of the Roman Catholic Catholic Cathedral, Leeds, has been created a canon, and will take the place of Canon Thompson, of York, who has resigned owing to advanced years.

The German Reichstag has approved of the convention for continuing the present provisional commercial regulations in force between Germany and Switzerland.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* learns on very good authority that Sir Garnet Wolseley is likely to succeed Sir F. P. Haines as Commander-in-Chief in India.

Baron Rudhardt, the Bavarian Minister, whom Prince Bismark angrily reproved for his opposition to Prussia in the Federal Council, intends, it is stated, to resign.

A serious fire broke out on Saturday in a flour mill adjoining Warwick Castle. The damage is estimated at upwards of £2,000. There were 200 sacks of flour destroyed.

The Press Association is officially informed that Mr. Gladstone has appointed his son, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P., to be one of his private secretaries, without salary.

The traffic receipts of the railways in the United Kingdom for the week ending May 7, upon a mileage of 15,863½, amounted to £1,197,282, being equal to £75 10s. per mile.

Henry Blades, who murdered his wife at Skipton, Yorkshire, by strangling her, was brought before the magistrates on Saturday and committed for trial on the capital charge.

On Saturday a special saloon steamer left Westminster Palace stairs with the Prince of Wales and a select party for the purpose of inspecting the new docks just completed.

The Viceroy of India telegraphs that all the large parties of Kohistanis in the neighbourhood of Cabul have dispersed to their homes, and that everything is quiet in Kohistan and Koh Daman.

The Board of Trade have awarded a piece of plate to Captain Jensen, of the Leviathan, of Arendabt, in acknowledgment of his humanity to the shipwrecked crew of the barque Snaresbrook, of North Shields.

Dr. Richard Schone has been appointed Director of the Royal Museum at Berlin. He is the first man acquainted with art matters who has held the post. His predecessor was Count Usedom, the diplomatist.

Statistics relating to the crime of France for a period of five years show that, with a population of about 37 millions, the annual crop of murders is about 200, of infanticides 190, and of an unjustifiable homicides 123.

Speaking at the eighty-first anniversary meeting of the Religious Tract Society, held at Exeter Hall, the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon strongly advocated the dissemination of tracts, and praised the general action of the society.

Five walled tombs, each containing a skeleton, have been discovered at Chamblades, Canton Vaud, Switzerland. From the absence of metal ornaments and other indications, they are supposed to belong to an age prior to that of bronze.

The polling for the city of Oxford took place on Saturday, the result being a direct reversal of the verdict of three or four weeks ago, and a defeat of the Home Secretary by 54 votes. It will be remembered that at the general election Sir W. Harcourt polled 2,771 votes, Mr. Chitty 2,669, and Mr. Hall 2,659. Saturday's poll gave Mr. Hall 2,735 votes, and Sir Wm. Harcourt 2,681

Strikes in the French cotton districts are spreading.

Mr. Fawcett and Mr. John Holms were re-elected at Hackney without opposition.

The copper charters from Chili for the last three weeks are telegraphed as 3,600 tons.

The Fife and Clackmannan coalmasters have resolved to reduce the miners' wages 15 per cent.

The French Chamber of deputies will be asked to consider a bill for the regulation of the Press.

A petition has been filed in Dublin against the return of Mr. Phillip Callan for the county of Louth.

Mr. Bright, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, has appointed Sir Barrington Simeon, Bart., to be his private secretary.

A telegram from Halifax, U.S., states that the British barque David Malcomson, of Liverpool, has been totally wrecked.

A Bill for the settlement of the Burials question will be one of the measures promoted by the Government during the present Session of Parliament.

Sir N. de Rothschild opened the new buildings at Aylesbury which he has presented to the Mechanics' Institute, at a cost of over £2,000.

A farmer, named Whelan, has been attacked by two brothers, named Creaney, when returning from Loughrea fair. He was dangerously injured. The brothers are in prison.

The failure is announced of a firm of Brazilian merchants, with liabilities stated to be about £10,000, of which it is believed £1,500 will fall on Manchester.

The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company (Limited) notify the completion and opening for traffic of their cable between Hong Kong and the Island of Luzon.

Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., President of the Board of Trade, has definitely resigned his post of arbitrator of the South Staffordshire Mill and Forge Wages Board.

According to telegrams from Mitrovitza, several hundred Mussulmans from Bosnia arrived in that town, fleeing from the persecutions of the Austrian authorities.

Mr. Charles Meyer, of Dunster House, Mark Lane, merchant, has destroyed himself by blowing out his brains, the reason being, it is presumed, extensive commercial losses.

Mr. Leatham intends at the earliest opportunity to call attention to the report of the Royal Benefice Commission and to move a resolution respecting the sale of Church livings.

The slate quarriers of Bangor, as usual, carefully abstained from work on Ascension Day, owing to a notion that if work is prosecuted on that day there is sure to be an accident.

The death is announced of Mr. James Hamilton Fyfe, who was until 1871 the assistant editor of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. He was afterwards assistant editor of the *Saturday Review*.

A series of rules have been issued for the guidance of justices of the peace and others in regard to the conduct of public prosecutions under the provisions of the "Prosecution of Offences Act, 1879."

It has been decided at a general meeting of members of the Reform Club, that the marble bust of the Premier, presented by Mr. Carlyle and executed by Mr. Adams Acton, should be placed in a conspicuous spot in the handsome hall of the club.

At a meeting of the Cambridge Town Council, the subject of undergraduate disturbances at entertainments and public meetings of the townspeople was brought up, with a view to prevention. A committee was appointed to confer with the magistrates on the matter.

During the last six months the quantity of tea taken out of bond has been nearly 25 per cent. less than the quantity delivered during the corresponding six months of the preceding year. There has been a large falling off in the quantity taken for home consumption, as well as for exportation.

The *Lancet* looks upon the appointment of a Cabinet Minister as President of the Local Government Board as one that "inaugurates a new epoch in the public administration, and virtually constitutes a Ministry of Health."

A report reaches the *Standard* that on reassembling of Parliament Mr. Gladstone, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, will propose the amalgamation under one board of the two departments of Somerset House and the Customs.

Vice-Chancellor Malins has decided that the separate property of a married woman acquired after she has entered into obligations in respect to debts, is equally liable with that which she possessed at the time the debt was incurred.

The Russian journal *Golos* devotes a long article to replying to one which recently appeared in the Berlin *Post*, declaring that no real Russian statesman would rely upon Mr. Gladstone's alliance with the Panslavists.

The solicitors for Mr. Maconochie have paid into the Fee Fund of the House of Lords £200 as security for costs to prosecute the appeal from the decision of the Court of Appeal in the St. Alban's, Holborn, ritual case.

The Lord Mayor presided at a meeting at the Mansion House to consider the best means of relieving the distress caused by the famine in Kurdistan, Armenia, and Persia. It was announced that the fund already amounted to £3,000.

John Taylor, a hawker, has thrown himself in front of an advancing train on the railway near Derby. When picked up after the train had passed one arm and his two legs were found to be almost severed from his body, and he died soon after.

The reports received by the secretary of the Master Cotton Spinners' Association show that the employers in the district are willing to carry into effect the resolution to run the mills only three days a week in the event of the Blackburn weavers coming out on strike.

A Local Government Inquiry, which has lasted over 45 days, respecting the taking in of some land for a sewage farm near Hampton Court, has just concluded. The expenses of the inquiry are expected to exceed £20,000.

Walter Crouk, aged 18 years, has been committed for trial at the Mansion House, London, for forging two bills of exchange for £3,000 each, with intent to defraud Glyn, Mills, and Co., bankers. The prisoner was apprehended at the Cape.

It is rumoured that the Cabinet have under consideration the issue of a circular note to the European Powers, inviting their co-operation in securing the execution of the unfulfilled parts of the Berlin Treaty.

At Oxford eight persons have been charged with fighting, rioting, and throwing stones on the previous night. Most of the cases arose out of fights for the flags of the rival candidates. Fines of various amounts were inflicted.

The Court of Appeal at Westminster have delivered judgment in the case of Howell v. West, refusing the application of the plaintiff for a new trial. The verdict for the defendants, the head master and the doctor of the Epsom College therefore stands.

At the Hambledon Hunt steeplechases, a few miles from Portsmouth, just as the first race started, the grand stand totally collapsed, precipitating about three hundred spectators to the ground. Two had their legs broken, and others were also injured, but fortunately none fatally.

EXTRAORDINARY WILL CASE.

A case in which some extraordinary disclosures were made came before Vice-Chancellor Malins in the Chancery Court on Saturday. The plaintiff was a Mrs. Birchall, living at Preston, and she sought to recover £45,000 from the executors of her late husband's will, a sum which was left to her by her uncle, and which she said her husband held only in trust. The deceased, Mr. Thomas Birchall, was a solicitor of high repute, clerk of the peace, under-sheriff for the county of Lancaster, a colonel of volunteers, and a gentleman held in the highest esteem. In 1833 he married a Miss Rothwell, the niece of a clergyman, for whom he acted as confidential solicitor, and who, on his death, left Mrs. Birchall £45,000 as her share of the residue of his property. The will was drawn by Mr. Birchall, and he was himself appointed sole executor; and it afterwards transpired that he had invested some of Mr. Rothwell's property in his own name during Mr. Rothwell's life; but this was not discovered until after Mr. Birchall's death. Mr. Birchall made a will, leaving everything to his wife, and they appeared to live on the most comfortable terms, and he placed his will in the hands of his wife to keep. He died in 1878, not at home, but at a sumptuously furnished house near Manchester, where it was then for the first time found out that he was keeping a mistress. To the astonishment of his widow, a will was then produced, dated 1875, revoking the former will, and leaving everything to two children he had had by a former mistress, with the exception of a legacy to his second mistress, and an annuity of £400 and the use of Ribbleton Hall, near Preston, for her life, to Mrs. Birchall. This will was admitted to probate, and Mrs. Birchall now claimed from the executor, Mr. Wilson (a partner of the deceased in his profession as solicitor), the £45,000 left to her by her uncle, which she maintained her husband had only held as executor under her father's will, and not as her husband. It was shown that £20,000 of this still remained in the same investments in which it was placed during Mr. Rothwell's lifetime; and as to Mrs. Birchall's right to this, her counsel maintained there could not be the slightest doubt. It was stated that Mr. Birchall was in his 70th year when he died. The Vice-Chancellor animadverted strongly on Mr. Birchall's conduct in having himself appointed sole executor under Mr. Rothwell's will, and in investing Mr. Rothwell's money in his own name, and described it as savouring of fraud, although Mr. Birchall died a wealthy man well able to repay the money. His lordship suggested that Mrs. Birchall might perhaps be content with the £20,000, which with the annuity of £400 and £100,00 under her marriage settlement, would be sufficient for her wants, though the £400 a year left her under her husband's will might not suffice. There could then also be sufficient for the lady who had occupied the unfortunate position as deceased's mistress, but who appeared to have conducted herself well in the circumstances, and had had charge of the children by the first mistress. There would also be enough for the children, who had been educated as the children of a gentleman, and up to the time of his death had no idea that their father had any wife other than the lady they were accustomed to regard as their stepmother. In this manner all parties would be provided for, and it would be the most satisfactory way of terminating a most painful case. A discussion took place amongst the counsel engaged, and it was ultimately agreed that the case should stand over until the first adjourned summons day in next term, in hope of an agreement being come to on the basis of his lordship's suggestion.

A DOCTOR'S DIVORCE SUIT.

The case of "Crane *v* Crane" was before the Divorce Division on Saturday. It was the petition of the wife for the dissolution of the marriage by reason of the adultery of the respondent, Dr. Charles Albert Crane, with her sister.—Mr. Inderwick, Q.C., M.P., said that the parties were married in 1868. The petitioner had a private fortune of her own. After the death of her father, her sister Emily went to reside at the house. Matters went on very well for some time until the respondent paid attentions to his sister-in-law, and neglected his wife. Ultimately they eloped together, and proceeded to London. One of the brothers went after his sister, and saw Dr. Crane, who was very insolent, and the young man lost his temper, and gave the respondent a good thrashing. After that occurrence Dr. Crane wrote very improper letters to his wife, and he had put on the record a plea that the petitioner had conduced to the adultery, and that the offence had been condoned. Mrs. Crane had not since lived with her husband.—Mrs. Henrietta Margaret Crane, the petitioner, said that she had a fortune in her own right of about £1200 a year. Her sister Emily had a similar amount. After her father's death her sister went to reside at the house. In December, 1879, her husband left home, showing her a telegram purporting to come from his father, who was ill. Her sister had previously left the house. She was aware of a variety of charges her husband had made against her. It was not true that she wilfully absented herself from his society, or that she sanctioned his going out with her sister. She admitted having sometimes left them together.—In answer to the learned Judge, the witness said there were differences between her and her husband in respect to money matters. She made a will by which one-third of her property was left to her husband, and the rest to the children. Sir James Hannen remarked that if the petitioner did have what were called "sulky fits," that was no justification for the husband committing incestuous adultery.—Cross-examination continued: She had written a letter containing the expression, "I have suspected those two for some time, and I have no doubt I owe the loss of my husband to my sister." She was nearly mad with grief at the time she wrote the letter.—Margaret Tanner, a chambermaid, who was formerly employed at the International Railway Hotel, London Bridge, proved that last December a lady and gentleman went to the hotel and passed as man and wife under the name of "Mr. and Mrs. Stephens."—Mr. Greene, for the defence, said that he could not dispute the fact of this incestuous adultery, but Dr. Crane desired certain evidence should be brought before his lordship in reference to his wife's conduct.—His lordship doubted whether the respondent would obtain any advantage by going into the witness box. So far as he could see, it would be a loss of time and an exhibition of effrontery. After some argument, the learned counsel decided not to call the respondent.—His lordship then pronounced a decree nisi with costs, with custody of the children of the marriage. Application was made that the respondent should have access, but the question was reserved.

A meeting of the Society for the suppression of the Opium trade has been held in London, Lord Shaftesbury presiding. His lordship said the question was not a party one, all being alike culpable. Resolutions were passed declaring the support of the opium trade by Government immoral and injurious.

Mr. Ashton Dilke appears to be the first of the new members who has brought forth a bill. Mr. Dilke has given notice of a bill for dealing with the hours of polling, and has, it is supposed, in this indicated his intention to take charge of the measure with which Mr. Chamberlain has hitherto been connected.

Mr. Frederick Lowden, a retired draper, at Exeter jumped from a second-floor window at his residence, and, alighting on his head, he was instantly killed. The deceased was suffering from consumption, which affected the brain. The windows were screwed down, but Mr. Lowden jumped through the glass.

The *Academy* understands that Dr. James Geikie, F.R.S., will shortly send to press a work entitled "Prehistoric Europe: a Geological Sketch," which treats of the principal climatic and geographical changes which have occurred in our continent since the commencement of the Pleistocene or Quaternary period.

MR. GLADSTONE ON THE FOREIGN POLICY OF AUSTRIA.

There was issued from the Foreign Office on Tuesday a copy of a despatch from Earl Granville to Sir Henry Elliot, at Vienna, enclosing, by Mr. Gladstone's request, a copy of a letter written by the latter in consequence of previous oral and written comunications with Count Karolyi:—"London, May 4, 1880.—Dear Count Karolyi,—I thank your Excellency for your letter, which, uniting frankness with kindness, renders my task an easy one. Without discussing the accuracy of certain expressions in the report you have forwarded, I proceed at once to the subject. At the moment when I accepted from the Queen the duty of forming an Administration, I forthwith resolved that I would not, as a Minister, either repeat or even defend in argument polemical language in regard to more than one foreign Power which I used individually when in a position of greater freedom and less responsibility. Two points have been raised by your Excellency. I will dispose of the first by expressing my regret that I should even have seemed to impute to his Imperial Majesty language which he did not use. Your Excellency says that his Imperial Majesty expressed in conversation with Sir H. Elliot his deep regret at my hostile disposition towards Austria. Permit me to say I have no such disposition towards any country whatever, and that I at all times have particularly and heartily wished well to Austria in the performance of the arduous task of consolidating the Empire. I feel a cordial respect for the efforts of the Emperor, and I trust their complete success may honourably and nobly mark his reign. With respect to my animadversions on the foreign policy of Austria in times when that was active beyond the borders, I will not conceal from you Excellency that grave apprehensions had been excited in my mind lest Austria should play a part in the Balkan Peninsula hostile to the freedom of the emancipated populations, and to the reasonable and warranted hopes of the subjects of the Sultan. These apprehensions were founded, it is true, upon secondary evidence; but it was not the evidence of hostile witnesses, and it was the best at my command. Your excellency is now good enough to assure me that your Government has no desire whatever to extend or add to the rights it had acquired under the Treaty of Berlin, and that any such extension would actually be prejudicial to Austria-Hungary. Permit me to at once to state to your Excellency that had I been in possession of such an assurance as I have now been able to receive, I never would have uttered any one of the words which your Excellency justly describes as of a painful and wounding character. Whether it was my misfortune or my fault that I was not so supplied, I will not now attempt to determine, but will at once express my serious concern that I should, in default of it, have been led to refer to transactions of an earlier period or to use terms of censure which I can now wholly banish from my mind. I think that the explanation I now render should be made not less public than the speech which supplied the occasion for it, and as to the form of such publicity I desire to accede to whatever may be your Excellency's wish. I have only to thank your Excellency alike for the matter and the manner both of your oral and your written communication.—W. E. GLADSTONE."

DISTRESS IN THE FOREST OF DEAN.

In the western parts of the Forest, where the Parkend Collieries have been stopped, cases are reported in which whole families are reduced to such straits that the only food partaken of for days has been ground Indian corn. Mr. T. Nicholson, who has been active in his endeavours to alleviate the distress, has left the district with the object of securing some help for the distressed Foresters. About 30 miners have been employed on the new Coleford Railway, the contractors of which are Messrs. Read Brothers, of London. Help has been solicited from the office of Woods and Forests, but with no effect, the Department basing their objection on the ground that the Poor-law is adequate for the distress. This refusal has caused much consternation.

POISONED BY MISTAKE.

A sad and singular occurrence happened at Portsmouth on Monday. John Haggett, a gunner in the Royal Marine Artillery, and his wife, together with Gunner Bonner, who acts as dispenser in the surgery, and his wife, had been out shopping in the town, and on returning home Bonner invited the others into the surgery to have some brandy and water, all drinking out of the same glass. The women were immediately sick, and Haggett, who drank last, became insensible. Thinking he could restore him, Bonner stayed with him all night, trying various remedies, but without avail, and next morning called in a surgeon, who sent for a second one. Neither, however, could do any good, and the man, who never regained consciousness, died in a few hours. It is said that a preparation of morphia had been mixed in the glass which was used by mistake for water. There was doubtless some sediment in the glass, and deceased drinking last got the most powerful dose.

THE GALLEY CASE.

It will be remembered that last year the Home Secretary agreed to pardon and release Edmund Galley, who was convicted at Exeter, in 1846, for the murder of a farmer at Moreton Hampstead, and subsequently sent as a convict to Australia, the sentence of death having been commuted. The Lord Chief Justice of England, who was present at the trial, having heard last year from Mr. Thomas Latimer, of Exeter, that Galley was still alive, wrote to Sir R. A. Cross on his behalf, expressing his belief of the man's innocence, and Sir Eardley Wilmot brought the matter before the House of Commons, with the result indicated above. The magistrates of the district in which Galley resided have addressed a communication to Sir Alexander Cockburn, tendering to his lordship their thanks for his exertions to obtain justice for the man who had so long suffered the penalty of the law for a crime of which he was not guilty. The letter is signed by ten magistrates of the Bronowa and Yass police districts, New South Wales.

There are fears of famine in the Caucasus.

Grouse shooting prospects are not cheering.

Canine madness prevails at Whitchurch, Salop.

A society for Jewish studies has been founded in Paris.

The Cape Parliament has been opened by Sir Bartle Frere.

The Literary Congress at Lisbon has been postponed.

The Chinese are making steel in considerable quantities.

A great Federal Singing Festival will be held in Zurich in July.

Mr. Mark Firth has given further sums of money to Sheffield charities.

Colonel Prejevalsky, the Russian explorer, has been heard of in Thibet.

There is a talk of instituting telegraphic communication with Bermuda.

A new printing telegraph has been invented by Herr Divite, of Bremen.

The Mount Vesuvius Railway has been inspected and declared "all right."

Arrangements have been made for the departure of Prince Leopold for Canada.

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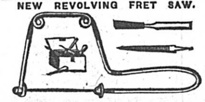

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SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR JUNIOR PUPILS.

References are kindly permitted to—Rev. H. W. KEMP, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, Hull; Rev. W. B. POPE, D.D., Didsbury College, Manchester; Rev. F. J. JOBSON, D.D., Highbury Place, London; Rev. J. H. JAMES, D.D., Manchester; Rev. H. W. WILLIAMS, D.D., London; Sir F. LYCETT, Highbury Grove, London; S. D. WADDY, Esq., Q.C., M.P., Finsbury Park, London; GEORGE LEEMAN, Esq., M.P., York; H. J. ATKINSON, Esq., J.P., Hull, and Gunnersbury House, near London; H. H. FOWLER, Esq., Wolverhampton; J. W. GATECLIFF, Esq., Ilkley, Yorks.; J. H. EATON, Esq., Adv., Kandy, Ceylon.

PROSPECTUS ON APPLICATION.

Historical Notes, Records, and Antiquarian Fragments.

"MUG, CON, AND BEN."

The praise of an educated critic like Mr. Wylie fills us with pardonable pride. We are glad he is pleased with our humble endeavours to snatch from oblivion what he looks upon as interesting incidents of local history. With reference to the ballad he mentions, we were not aware of its existence till last week, and we are much obliged to Mr. Wylie for drawing our attention to it. While on this subject we take the present opportunity of thanking several correspondents for clippings from old newspapers. We shall always be glad to avail ourselves of assistance offered, but our correspondents will please understand that it is not intended to introduce into "Historical Notes" anything that is likely to wound the feelings of the most sensitive of our readers.

THE CONSETT BACHELORS.

Some eight or nine years ago, one of our bachelor friends gave us a bill. We still possess that bill. It is an announcement of a pic-nic. At the bottom of the bill is printed, in red ink—"R. Hedley, President of the Committee; J. C. Wylie, Recorder; T. Maddison, Secretary; W. Currey. Comptroller." But perhaps it will be more satisfactory to reprint the whole bill:—

> "Oh come! for the lily
> Is white on the lea,
> Oh come! for the wood-doves
> Are paired on the tree.
>
> There's joy in the heaven,
> And gladness on earth,
> Oh come! to the sunshine
> And join in the mirth."
>
> ALLAN CUNNINGHAM.

CONSETT BACHELORS'
GRAND ANNUAL PIC-NIC
WILL BE HELD AT
STOCKERLEY GROVE,
BOGGLE-HOLE DEAN,
ON MONDAY AFTERNOON, JULY, 16.

Tea and Refreshments Supplied on the Grounds by Mr. G. ROUTLEDGE, Commercial Inn.

In grateful recollection of the public sentiment of last year, the Bachelors' Committee again appeal to young and old, confident that their Pic-Nic of the present year will in all its elements be beyond compare. The said Committee, in regretting the fate that has hitherto doomed them to single misery, trust, that a sympathising public, will not deny them the pleasure of once again looking upon the old familiar faces of last Pic-Nic; of once again living in the sweet light of woman's smile; memories of which "happy moments" will cheer the bachelor in his dreary solitude, and gild his lonely future.

The locality chosen for this year, is eminent for all that can minister to the enjoyment and the interest of visitors. A magnificent meadow, soft as a carpet of "silken down," and fragrant as the roses of Cashmere, invites all to merry holiday, wooing ruddy youth to the fairy dance, and speaking to the declining age of rest. To those who in their pleasures, seek

"Sermons in stones, books in the running brroks,",

the surroundings of the Pic-Nic are breathing with historic and legendary incident, and link our generation with the days of "auld lang syne."

Away to the south-east, softly reposing in a fair and fertile valley, with the towers of Durham Abbey looming in the distance, lies the ancient village of Lanchester. There, still glorious in decay, may be seen, the *Epeiacum* of the Romans, a lone remnant of that iron civilization which preceded and hearlded our Christian centuries, for

> "Prowess and arts did tame,
> And tune men's hearts before the Gospel came,
> Strength levelled grounds, art made a garden there,
> Then showered religion, and made all to bear."

There also, graceful in its age, and beautiful in its architectural unity, stands the famed College of the good Bishop Beck, the noble Church of "All Saints," an enduring monument of the piety, the wisdom, and the profuse munificence of our Saxon and Norman fathers.

Almost within bow-shot of the site of the Pic-Nic, and crumbling to unmerited decay, is the edifice of Crook Hall, on the Manor of the ancient De-la-leys of Norman England. There, the student may recall a not very distant period, when Catholic piety and genius, driven from France under Robespierre and the old Republic, found a shelter in the quiet seclusion of Crook Hall. There, in the solitude, these exiles, in the midst of

> "A life by solemn consecration given
> To labour and to prayer, to nature and to heaven,"

established a college of catholic learning, prior to the erection of Ushaw, to which two Colleges, the literature of England, owes the genius of Dr. Lingard and his late eminence Cardinal Wiseman.

Within a short and pleasant stroll westward, embosomed in woods, and rich meadows, and sloping amid flowers, down to a rippling brook, lies the old and picturesque manor of Knitsley, the Knycheley of early England. To the Antiquarian, the linked fortunes of Conside and Knitsley, present a peculiar interest, interwoven as they have been for many bygone generations. Groping our way along that historic chain, we pass from the Consett of our modern day, through the olden families of the Andersons, the Middletons, the Blenkinsops, and the Greys, the past possessors of Conside, to the remote era of 1183, at which early date, we find the manor of Conkesheved (or Consett) held by Arnold Pistor. Such are but a few of the interesting associations, clustering round the site of the Bachelors' Pic-Nic; to describe all would require the eye of the artist, and the fancy of the poet. Suffice it to say that all will be done to render the day a pleasant memory.

A QUADRILLE BAND

will attend, indulging all with the popular music of the day, in addition to a careful programme for the

DANCING,

which will be controlled by an M.C. The merry dance will be varied by SONGS and RECITATIONS, and thus amid fairy dells, and green bowers, and murmuring brooks, youth and age may revel in innocent, unalloyed delight.

BALLOON ASCENTS.

GAMES OF ALL KINDS!

PRIZE RACES, HAND-BALL, HANDKERCHIEF, KISS-IN-THE-RING, &c.

Will some correspondent kindly answer the following queries:—(1). Who drew up the above programme? (2). Why was the year omitted? (3). When did the Consett Bachelors first form themselves into an Association or organisation? (4). What were the aims and objects of the Association? (5). Are any of the original bachelors still living?

UNITY AMONG RELIGIOUS SECTS.

Over twenty years ago, Dr. Townsend, a member of the Durham University, published his journal of a "Tour in Italy in 1850, with an Account of an Interview with the Pope at the Vatican." As the account of the interview with Pius the Ninth is full of interest we venture to lay it before our readers. "We were summoned," says he, "to our long expected interview at half-past five o'clock. After traversing many rooms, passages and stair-cases, we arrived at the chamber of audience. No quaker could have received us with more simplicity than Pio Nono—no sovereign with more dignified courtesy—no presbyerian with more plainness. There were no lords in waiting, no tedious ceremony, no trains of state. The pontiff was alone. The room in which he received us was about the size of a well-proportioned London drawing-room. The floor was of brick, as is the custom in Italy. It was uncarpted, except a small carpet on the dais on which the Pope was standing. It was unfurnished, except that two small ottomans were placed near an elevated seat, at which, close to a table resembling those in a merchant's counting-house, the Pope sate or stood. The dais was raised not more than a few inches above the rest of the floor. A canopy, not a very splendid one, was over the Pope's head. He was dressed in the long white fine cloth Dominican robe, reaching from the throat to the feet; and he wore the Dominican cap upon his head. We approached him, as to a temporal prince; with the courtesies we should have paid to our own queen, bowing three times. He seemed to be about sixty years of age, of a fresh complexion, and most benevolent expression of countenance. He gazed at us, as we might have expected, with intent curiosity as we approached him. It was the first time, perhaps, that a Protestant clergyman, accompanied by his wife, had ever ventured to enter the Vatican upon such an errand as that which had brought me from England. On approaching close to him, he gave us his hand to kiss, in a manner which is customary with sovereign princes; and he then motioned, with an inclination of his head, to Mrs. Townsend and myself to be seated on the ottomans near the dais. The conversation began on the part of the Pope, in Italian, addressed to Mrs. Townsend, as to whether she had ever been in Italy or Rome before? whether she admired the country? what objects in Rome had interested her most? and so on. To all such questions she replied in the same language. She had been my interpreter in French throughout France, and my interpreter in Italian through Italy; and she interpreted my expressions to the Pope on the present occasion, when the difference of the Italian and English mode of pronouncing Latin made it necessary to roquire her assistance. When the conversation upon these indifferent subjects was over, the Pope inquired in what language he should converse with me? Mrs. Townsend answered that I wished to address him in Latin. He bowed. I then presented to him the letter of the Archbishop of Paris, and explained to him the object for which I had presumed to solicit that letter; that I was grieved to see the prevalence of modern infidelity resulting from the disunion of believers in the same revelation; that I had presumed, in conformity with the customs of the primitive church, to request a letter from the Archbishop of Paris, that I might, through his intervention obtain permission to speak with the Pope on the subject of reconsidering all the past controversies among Christians in a general council. I related the correspondence, to which I have already more than once alluded, between the Archbishop of Paris and Dupin, in the reign of Queen Anne, and told his holiness the conclusion of the English archbishop—that in a general council of the west we would give the Pope the first place of order, though not of jurisdiction. It was in his power, I added, to commence the movement towards the reunion of Christians, by summoning such council with a view to the reconsideration of the past; and the princes of the Christian world would rejoice at the anticipation of peace among the nations on the basis of such reconsideration. To all this, which was not, of course, said in a speech, but in reply to questions as a conversation, the Pope made the same reply which had been previously made to me by the Archbishop of Paris, the Cardinals Mai and Franzoni, and other ecclesiastics of the church of Rome with whom I had conversed on the subject. He urged the difficulty of calling such a council, from the expense, the difference between the opponents and the adherents of the church, and the variety of opinions even on the subject of the sacraments. The church, he remarked, as I expected he would do, had already on the chief points; but that the several provincial councils which are now being summoned in various parts of the world would possibly prepare the way for the more general council which I desired. This is the substance of the conversation which passed between us. It has been said, I know not why, that I alluded to the celibacy of the clergy, and the giving of the cup to the laity. I said nothing of the kind. When our noble-hearted ancestors desired the removal of grievances under Charles I., they did not commence their exertions by entering into the detail of those grievances; they demanded, or they solicited, only a free parliament. They well knew that if they once possessed a parliament which should frequently meet, all real grievances would be gradully and constitutionally redressed. I acted upon this plan. I believe that if a general council, under the sanction of the temporal princes of the universal church, among whom the Pope must now be reckoned, were once assembled as a permanent congress or synod, it would very soon, if not immediately, give back the imprisoned Bible to the longing world, and to the holy catholic church; and that truth, peace, and liberty would follow in its train. But to proceed. The earnestness and energy with which I spoke—the nervous agitation of the moment—the importance and solemnity of the occasion which had brought me to the Vatican—and, may I add, the inward prayer which I was offering that the God of truth would change the policy of Rome, and give peace to the church universal, on the basis of the reconsideration of the past, which I was now soliciting, made my voice tremulous with emotion. I spoke from the heart; and I believe that my words went, therefore, to the heart of the pontiff. I appealed to him as to the one chief person now on earth who had the power to commence the appeal to the nations. I so proceeded in that appeal that the tears came into his eyes, and he declared with much animation—and I believed him—that he had prayed earnestly to the Omnipotent that he might be honoured as the healer of the wounds of the church. I then placed in his hands the document which I had prepared; with the observation, that I had therein written the request which I had presumed to submit to him. 'I am a Protestant,' I said, 'and I have always been an enemy to your church; but there will not be found in this document any expression which will be personally offensive.' The Pope looked surprised at my declaration; and Mrs. Townsend, observing his silence, confirmed the truth of my assurance by an exclamation. The Pope took the memorial and said he would read it with attention. I then informed him of the subject of the paper, telling him that it contained the expression of my persuasion that, as the church of Rome could not conquer the church of England, nor the church of England conquer the church of Rome, the time had arrived when the common enemy, infidelity, must be met by an effort on the part of all Christians to reconsider the past; and that very many Christians in England would rejoice in the hope of the reunion of the churches after this reconsideration of the past. 'Yes,' the Pope answered, 'there are in England many persons of good-will.' 'There are many good men there,' I answered, 'who would rejoice in peace on the basis of that reconsideration.' Here, after some more observations which I do not remember, the conversation may be said to have ended. He asked me whether I knew Dr. Wiseman? I told him that I lived in retirement, and knew the literary labours of Dr. Wiseman; but that I was not personally known to him. I rose to take my leave, and after briefly repeating my assurance, that the Pope had the power to commence the repentant movement I solicited, we left his presence. The audience lasted for nearly forty minutes, though it is so briefly related here. We left his presence with the same observances which are paid to our own queen, bowing towards the Pope till we reached the door of the room."

Consett, G. N.

LANCHESTER UNION.

The Guardians of the Lanchester Union have decided that, in future, all applicants for relief must, before appearing before them, apply to the Relieving-officer for the district in which they reside, in order that their cases may be investigated. For the information of persons who intend to apply for relief, we append the following appointments of the Relieving-officers; those whose cases are pressing can see either of the officers at their residence.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

RELIEVING-OFFICER.—Mr. John Moon, Cemetery Lane, Blackhill, who can be seen on his visit to the following places:—

BLACKHILL.—On Friday, May 14th, at his residence, Cemetery Road, at 4 p.m., and on each alternate Friday, at same time and place.

CONSETT.—On Friday, May 14th, at the Local Board-room, at 10 a.m., and each alternate Friday.

CASTLESIDE (for Healeyfield and Muggleswick).—On Saturday, May 15th, at Mr. Young's, at 2 p.m., and each alternate Saturday.

EBCHESTER.—On Saturday, May 15th, at Orchard House, Ebchester Hill, at 10 a.m., and each alternate Saturday.

LEADGATE.—On Friday, May 14th, at No. 119, Front Street, at 11 a.m. and each alternate Friday.

MEDOMSLEY.—On Saturday, May 15th, at Alexander McWilliams, at 9 a.m., and each alternate Saturday.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.—On Friday, May 14th, at the Town Hall, at 1 p.m., and each alternate Friday.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

RELIEVING-OFFICER.—Mr. Ralph Walton, Lanchester.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.—On Tuesday, May 18th, at P.C. Nicholson's, at 3 p.m., and each alternate Tuesday.

BURNHOPE.—On Monday, May 17th, at Mrs. Gladstone's, at 10 a.m., and each alternate Monday.

DIPTON.—On Tuesday, May 18th, at Mr. Thornton's, at 1 p.m., and each alternate Tuesday.

HILL TOP, near Esh.—On Wednesday, at Mr. Joseph Oyston's, at 11 a.m., and each alternate Wednesday.

QUEBEC.—On Wednesday, at Mr. William Leybourne's, at 9 a.m., and each alternate Wednesday.

STANLEY.—On Tuesday, at Mrs. Watkins', at 11 a.m., and each alternate Tuesday.

TANFIELD.—On Tuesday, at Mrs. Smiles', at 12 noon, and each alternate Tuesday.

LANCHESTER BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The fortnightly meeting of the Guardians of Lanchester Poor Law District was held in the Board-room, Lanchester, on Thursday. The gentlemen present were Messrs. John Annandale (chairman), John Wilkinson (vice-chairman), Thos. Siddell, G. Hobson, W. M. Annandale, J. Bowey, W. Logan, M. Kearney, R. Mitchinson, J. Buckham, H. Ritson, G. Fletcher, W. Shell, and Rev. J. P. De Pledge.

RELIEF OF THE POOR.

Several applicants appeared before the Board asking for relief before they had made application to the relieving officers. It was decided to refer the applicants to the relieving officers, who would investigate each case. The reporter was also asked to announce in the *Consett Guardian* the appointments of the relieving officers, so that all persons applying for relief would have an opportunity of making their case known to the officer of the district on his visit previous to any application being heard by the Guardians.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were then read and confirmed.

THE DIPTON ELECTION.

The Clerk read over the correspondence in reference to the late election for Guardian for Collierley and Pontop (which has already appeared in our columns), and after some conversation it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of the Local Govenment Board.

SCHOOL BOARD ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

Rev. J. P. DE PLEDGE gave notice of his intention to move that in future all cases from the southern portion of the Union for relief from payment of school fees be decided by the School Attendance Committee.

Mr. SIDDELL thought it would suit better if the School Attendance Committee were in future to meet on the same day as the Guardians.

Rev. J. P. DE PLEDGE thought it impossible to hold both meetings in one day. Either meeting was sufficiently long for one day.

Mr. J. BUCKHAM endorsed the remarks of the Rev. J. P. Pledge.

THE ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE.

Mr. W. SHELL said that it was perhaps too late to make any change, but he thought that so large and important a township as Consett, should not, be unrepresented on Assessment Committee.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that for many years Benfieldside had not been represented on the committee named, but the committees were elected at the last meeting, and the subject could not be gone into again.

THE ASYLUM VISITING COMMITTEE.

The Chairman, Mr. W. Logan, Rev. J. P. De Pledge, and Canon Kearney were appointed a committee to visit the Asylum.

FINANCES.

The Treasurer reported a balance in hand of £1,776 10s. 6d.

Amount of precept now due, £3,683 10s. 0d, of which £2,755 18s. 7d has been paid, leaving a balance due from townships to Trearurer of £927 11s. 5d.

TOW LAW LOCAL BOARD.

At the last monthly meeting of the Tow Law Local Board, the medical officer presented the following report:—

GENTLEMEN,—The total mortality for the quarter ending 31st of March is ten. During the month of January we had five deaths caused by consumption, erysipelas, marasmus, tabres, mesentarica, and meningitis. In the month of February only two deaths caused by old age and bronchitis; and in the month of March three deaths from consumption, heart disease, and bronchitis. The deaths per thousand of the population amount to 7·6. This mortality is the lowest that has occurred during the last three years, and I am inclined to think for the last twenty, although I have nothing definite to draw that conclusion from. The births during the same period amount to twenty-one. Your inspector Mr. Garroway, has informed you that we have made our half-yearly inspection of the whole district, during which we visited the premises of nearly every house in the place. He has given you the result generally; it now falls to my lot to pick out the points to which I would like special notice to be taken. 1st. Many of the nuisances reported by him have been in existence during the whole period of our official career, notably, Brick Flats, Thornley Pit House, Barracks, Spouting of Weardale Iron Company's houses, &c. These, I think, should be dealt with at once. 2nd. The number of defective stench-traps should be attended to at once. They are either useless altogether or of priceless value. I specially asked Mr. Garroway to take notice of the number, so that they might aggregately appear more important to you. 3rd. The sewer outlets require attention both as regards scouring, &c., and in the case of Prince Row some radical change in their construction. 4th. I would recommend the Local Board to take the traps into their own hands, and employ a man specially to go round from time to time and cement faulty traps; nothing else will apparently keep them right.

GEORGE HOOD, M.D., F.F.P.S.

Tow Law, April, 1880.

Correspondence.

THE OXFORD ELECTION.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—Some persons may think that Oxford has absolutely stultified itself by reversing the political verdict it delivered a few weeks ago, nothing in the meantime having occurred to influence the judgment of the constituency, except Sir W. Harcourt's acceptance of the office of Home Secretary in the new Liberal ministry, which the recent decision of the old university city helped to put into office. But, without imputing folly to a whole constituency, in which political opinion is pretty evenly balanced, for the present turn in the scale in the Conservative direction, one may well wonder what could have been the motive which influenced 90 persons who voted for Sir W. Harcourt to refrain from doing so on Saturday, and 76 who did not vote for Mr. Hall at the general election, to support him on the present occasion, thus turning a majority of 112 for the former gentleman into one of 54 for the latter. How far the 76 additional supporters of Mr. Hall were personally identical with the 90 deserters from his opponent, we have no means of judging, under the working of the ballot. The Conservative party in Oxford declared before last Saturday's contest that they were defeated at the general election by the over-confidence of some Conservative voters, who made so sure of the return of Mr. Hall, in preference to Mr. Chitty, the second Liberal candidate, that they did not trouble to go to the poll. If this were true to the extent of 76 electors, it would account for the increased number of votes recorded for Mr. Hall on Saturday; but it is hardly conceivable that while the last contest excited so much interest in the Conservative ranks as to bring out that number of former abstainers from voting, it was so lightly regarded by the Liberals as to cause 90 of them, who had previously voted, to withdraw from the contest in the present instance. We are rather driven to suppose that the greater part of Mr. Hall's present majority was composed of persons who voted on the other side at the general election; and the persons who thus actually shifted their ground on a grave political issue, without any rational excuse for doing so, may indeed be said to have stultified themselves. They have afforded, by their capricious action, another exemplification of the fluctuation of popular verdicts under the operation of the ballot. It really seems as if there were a class of voters in many constituencies who have a fancy for being always in opposition to the Government of the day, be it Conservative or Liberal, and whose political instincts are merely obstructive or destructive. On no other theory can we explain that in April the poll at Oxford stood—Harcourt, 2,771; Hall, 2,659; while on Saturday last it appeared—Hall, 2,735; Harcourt, 2,681. The unreasoning three or four score of individuals who have thus turned the balance the reverse way in mere caprice, may perhaps enjoy the useless mischief they have committed; but they will find very few people, Conservatives or Liberals, who will really advise their tergiversation. It is a curious result of the by-election that Mr. Chitty, who may be said to have ridden into his seat on Sir W. Harcourt's back at the general election, who polled 102 fewer votes than the latter, and only ten more than Mr. Hall, now holds his seat by sixty-six fewer votes than the victor of Saturday last. If it had now been a contest between Mr. Chitty and Mr. Hall, one could understand that out of the 102 supporters of Sir W. Harcourt who refrained from supporting Mr. Chitty, seventy-six had come forward in favour of Mr. Hall, as a gentleman of great local popularity independently of politics; but the actual withdrawal of so large an amount of support from the favourite Liberal candidate, and its transference to the Conservatives can only be regarded as evincing irrational caprice in a considerable number of persons, who have certainly not won in credit for their city by their inexplicable political freak.—I am, sir, yours truly,

LIBERAL.

Tuesday, May 11th, 1880.

CONSETT LOCAL BOARD AND THE TRADESMEN OF CONSETT.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—That most august and intelligent assembly of men who form the above Board, at their last monthly meeting resolved "That in future no goods would be allowed to be exposed at shop doors," and gave their officer instructions to see that this tyrannical and arbitrary resolution was carried into effect. What is their object? Their surveyor, of course, having nothing to do, they must needs find him something, consequently the tradesmen who have brought into this place their town experience and ideas must be pounced upon. Some one must suffer, and certain shopkeepers have to be the victims. Unfortunately for the ratepayers, no report of that portion of the meeting appears in your paper. Had there been an account of it we would have seen who in reality had the interest of the ratepayers at heart. Certainly neither the mover or seconder, nor those who supported the motion, were actuated by any other idea than the public comfort when they so earnestly and so angrily supported the persecution of those tradesmen who are trying their best to benefit the public. I think if instead of wasting their time discussing such a paltry matter as this so-called "obstruction" they were to settle other very important questions such as the settling ponds, the hospital, the condition of Medomsley Road, etc., etc., it would be more to their own individual advantage and the benefit of the ratepayers. If instead of employing their surveyor in going round from shop to shop telling tradesmen to take their goods in from the door they were to instruct him to see about the putting right of certain portions of the streets it would be more beneficial to all concerned. To show the inconsistency of the Board, they have decided that it is an obstruction to have any goods hanging outside your shop front, while it is no obstruction if you have a long piece of furniture dressed with clothing, etc, as we saw on Saturday last. It must have been laughable to those who were in Consett on Saturday last to see the shop fronts of tradesmen empty while in the roadway they had a tremendous quantity of goods exposed. Many asked what was the matter, and when told they certainly enjoyed the burlesque antics of the Board. The following might serve the Board with matter for discussion for the next two or three meetings:—1st. whether it would not be more respectable to walk through Consett with your hat cocked to one side. 2nd, whether it would not be more advantageous if, when it was raining, you left your umbrella at home for fear of obstructing the footpath while carrying it. 3rd. whether it would not be a great benefit to the Railway Company if the people of Consett and neighbourhood would make their purchases at Newcastle instead of Consett; and fourthly, whether it would not be an advantage to the native shopkeepers if the foreign tradesmen would leave the place altogether. If the Board will camly and quietly discuss the above-mentioned propositions I am sure as much good would accrue to the ratepayers as emanated from their last meeting. Trusting I have not trespassed too much on your valuable space, I am, sir, yours, etc.,

UNO DEL PUBLICO.

Consett, 12th May, 1880.

CHEAP TRIP FROM BENFIELDSIDE TO LONDON FOR 14s. 8½d.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

SIR,—It might be an advantage to some of your readers to know that I have arranged with the North-Eastern Railway Company to take a limited number (not to exceed fifteen), with the special train that is to leave Newcastle on Sunday night first. Persons desirous to avail themselves of this opportunity can do so by letting me know not later than Saturday, as I am limited to a certain number, and I would not like to disappoint anyone. Should there be more applications than is required, I shall get the number increased.—I am, yours, &c.,

DANIEL HARRIS,

55, Derwent Street, Benfieldside.

NEW ZEALAND.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

MR. EDITOR, DEAR SIR,—I see, according to the home papers, that Judge Bathgate has been lecturing in Newcastle on the prosperity of New Zealand, and I am afraid it will be the means of inducing a good many to believe that, if they were out, they would not be long before they made their fortune, It is all moonshine. I would strongly advise people to stay at home, and not to believe those agents that are going about the country advising people to come out here. Some time ago the Government provided work for the unemployed at a place called Hindon, but paid them only at rates that would hardly pay a Scotch navvy's food—oatmeal, salt, and treacle. On this railway line large gangs of Chinamen were receiving far better pay, and British labourers would not be employed. How could the Government be so blind as not to see that it was creating pauperism—reducing men to a state of being hardly able to live, and men's manliness and hopefulness crushed out of them. New arrivals were led to believe that they could make a "rise" at the harvest. The harvest is now over, and from Palmerston to the Clutha harvesters have not averaged three weeks work. Now, Mr. Editor, I maintain that there never existed the demand for labour in New Zealand that should justify Judge Bathgate or any other Government agents to entice one half of the working men that are now in New Zealand to come to it. Why, no branch of business have ever paid—in general. Two-thirds of the squatters have either been ruined or are hopelessly involved. Merchants, storekeepers, and farmers have been, and are, no better. Almost every man that brought money to the country lost it. Almost every freehold in the country is mortgaged, and the whole colony is mortgaged for its railways and public works, and the country is swarming with idle, hungry men, whose wives and little ones are almost starving. During the last few months I have heard several mobs of men seriously contemplating open savage rebellion, arranging the details of the manner in which the arms and ammunition of the colony could be suddenly got hold of, wheat exportation stopped, a Republic proclaimed, the protection of the United States invoked, and the debt of the colony repudiated. When Englishmen are forced into rebellion it is a sad look-out.—I am, &c.,

RICHARD WILSON,

Dunedin, March 26th, 1880.

P.S.—I also forward you an extract taken from the *Dunedin Morning Herald*, so that your readers will see the exact state of the labour market:—

"The petition of the unemployed which we published on Tuesday, received 818 signatures. The petition was handed to Mr. W. D. Stewart, M.H.R., by a deputation yesterday. Mr. Stewart expressed surprise that no answer to the first memorial had been received, and stated that he was willing to forward in every way the object of the petitioners. He also intimated that he would write to his colleagues by to-day's mail. He accordingly sent this telegram to them at once:—'I have forwarded this morning a petition *re* unemployed, signed by over 800 workmen. Shall be glad if Government give petition their earliest attention.' And by the outgoing mail he forwarded this letter, addressed to the Hon. T. Dick and the Hon. R. Oliver:—'I have been asked by a deputation of four, who have called on behalf of the unemployed, to forward you the accompanying petition, twenty-six feet in length, and signed by over 800 workmen. The members of the deputation complain that the Government, although apparently satisfied of the widespread distress which exists, have taken no active measures to provide work for the unemployed on anything like reasonable terms. I beg that you will be good enough to bring under the consideration of the Government the terms of the petition, and I have been requested to entreat you to do what is possible to alleviate the prevailing distress without any unnecessary delay.'"

ASSAULT BY A BROTHER.—At the Gateshead County Police Court on Tuesday, Frederick John Dalton was charged with having committed an assault upon Henry Dalton, his brother, at Stella, on Sunday, the 2nd inst. Mr. Joel appeared for Mr. Henry Dalton, and Mr. Dix for the defendant.—Mr. Joel briefly stated the facts he intended to adduce in evidence, and then said that the magistrates, did they find the case proved, could commit the defendant to prison, impose a fine, or bind him over to keep the peace. That last-named course the complainant would prefer, as he merely sought to be protected from ill-usage.—Ultimately defendant was bound over to keep the peace, himself in £50, and two sureties of £25 each.

GEORGE HOPE,
SCULPTOR, GENERAL CARVER, AND MARBLE MASON,
THE LEAZES, BURNOPFIELD.

MONUMENTS, Tombs, Headstones, and Tablets erected in Marble, Stone, or Granite. Inscriptions neatly executed. 84n

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

MEDOMSLEY—On the 25th inst, the wife of Mr. Joseph Turner, of twin daughters.

MARRIAGES.

BLACKHILL.—At St. Mary's Catholic Church, on the 13th inst., by the Rev. Thos. Smith, Mr. John Compston, of Consett, to Miss C. McMahon, of Blackhill.

LANCHESTER—At the Register Office, on the 1st inst., Mr. W. Siddell, to Miss J. Moody, both of Waskerley.

At the same place, on the 8th inst., Mr G. A. Day, to Miss M. J. Birkett, both of Leadgate.

At the same place, on the same day, Mr. J. Littlewood, to Miss H. Gray, both of East Hedley Hope.

At the same place, on the 12th inst., Mr. W. Ridley, of Dipton, to Miss M. A. Wiseman, of Annfield Plain.

DEATHS.

CONSETT—At King Street, on the 10th inst., aged 63 years, Peter Crawley.

At Front Street, on the 10th inst., Mrs. Alice Stelling, aged 56 years.

LEADGATE—On the 12th inst., aged 15 years and 6 months, James Boustead. Interment at St. Ive's Church, on Sunday First, at Four o'clock. The friends will please accept this intimation.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE—At Viewfield, on the 11th inst., aged 66 years, Andrew Annandale.

BLACKHILL—At 6, Durham Road, aged 74 years Barbara, wife of Mr. George Young.

Printed and Published by ROBERT JACKSON, at the Atmospheric Printing Works, Front Street, Consett, Friday, May 14th, 1880.