The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER,
AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

No. 2074 | REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM. | FRIDAY, May 18th, 1900. | PRICE ONE PENNY.

VISIT TO NEWCASTLE.

DEAFNESS.
BLINDNESS.

CURED WITHOUT OPERATION.

For Cataract and all Diseases of the Eye; Deafness in all its forms; Noises in the Ears; Discharges from the Ears; Deafness from Influenza cured. Write for testimonials and printed form of questions to answer sent free. Mr T. ISON, Oculist and Aurist, 71, Great George Street, Leeds.—Artificial Eyes, Spectacles, etc.

NOTICE.—Mr Ison (of Ison's Eye and Ear Dispensary, Ltd., Leeds) personally attends Sutties' Clarendon Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, Monday, May 28th; Hours, 12 to 6.30. Queen's Hotel, Stockton, Wednesday, May 30th, Hours 11 to 4.30. Imperial Hotel, Hull, Friday, June 1st, Hours 11 to 4.30.

FOR INFLUENZA

HARBURN'S PHOSPHORISED TONIC

RENEWS BRAIN, NERVE & BLOOD.

In Bottles 13½d. and 2s 9d, from Chemists or direct from A. HARBURN, M.P.S., Pharmaceutical Chemist, Darlington and Bishop Auckland.

Money.

MR. A. WOLFE, 29, WEST SUNNISIDE, SUNDERLAND, IS PREPARED TO ADVANCE FROM £10 to £2,000 ON PROMISSORY NOTE TO ALL PROFESSIONS, FARMERS, AND OTHERS. STRICTEST PRIVACY GUARANTEED. LOW INTEREST. REPAYMENTS TO SUIT BORROWERS' CONVENIENCE; or CAPITAL CAN REMAIN SO LONG AS THE INTEREST IS PAID. NO FEES. DISTANCE NO OBJECT. MORTGAGES ARRANGED. REVERSIONS AND LIFE POLICIES PURCHASED. Telegrams—"Safe" Sunderland. Nat. Telephone 565.

Contracts.

JOHN DOVE & CO., LTD., Builders Merchants and Importers, offer to tender for the best Portland Cement, Plaster, Laths, Hair, Crushed Bricks, and Granite, Chimney Tops, Sanitary Pipes, Firebricks, Pitch, Tar, &c. Offices, 5, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle. Telephone: P.O., 411; National, 1,122. Telegrams, "Dove," Newcastle. Estab. 1864. 11h.

ESTABLISHED 1873.

JOHN HEWITSON,
SLATE AND SLATE MERCHANT,
DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL.

Foreman's Residence: 64, WESLEY TERRACE.

Estimates for Slating Gratis.

Repairs a Speciality.

Agent for all the Leading Slate Quarries.

Agent for F. McNeill's Roofing Felt and Asphalte Damp Course or Foundation Felt.

Head Office: LEAZES PARK ROAD, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

National Telephone, No. 1348 98f

CROOK HALL SLAG CRUSHING WORKS, NEAR CONSETT.

I AM now in a position to supply promptly and at reasonable prices, the following Materials for Roads, Footpaths, Carriage Drives, Asphalting, Concrete, &c. Machine Broken Slag, any size, [illegible] inch. Slag Chippings ½ to 1; inch. Fine Crushed Slag for Concrete purposes, [illegible].

THE TRADE SUPPLIED.

The Slag is of most excellent Quality, it is of great density and of good colour, and very strong and durable stone for Road Making, &c. I am supplying it extensively to various Public Bodies, Contractors, &c. I am putting down an extensive Plant for the manufacture of Artificial Stone, Flags, Kerbs, Sills, &c., and also Asphalting. QUOTATIONS ON APPLICATION.

Postal Address:
304g D. ORMEROD, Blackhill.

TO BUILDERS.

TENDERS are invited for the ERECTION of a HOUSE and STABLES, &c., at No. 1, [illegible] Lane, High Spen.

For Plans and Specifications apply to Mr John Lawson, 25, Park Terrace, Swalwell, R.S.O. 698h

NOTICE.

CASTLESIDE FLORAL, HORTICULTURAL, AND LIVE STOCK SOCIETY.

THE Committee of the above Society invite TENDERS from Brass Bands to supply music at the above Show and Ball, to be held on Saturday, August 11th, 1900.

Tenders received up to Thursday, May 31st, 1900, also Tenders for Swings, Roundabouts, &c.

J. PROUD, Secretary,
Park Terrace, Castleside,
724h Consett, R.S.O.

TANFIELD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.
TO CONTRACTORS.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for the CONSTRUCTION of a Sewer at Lintz Colliery, comprising 12 inch, 9 inch, and 6 inch Earthenware Pipes, altogether about [illegible] yards, with Manholes, &c.

Plans and Specifications may be seen at the Office of the undersigned, on May 22nd and 24th. Sealed Tenders to be sent in, on or before May 28th.

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

Dated this 16th day of May, 1900.

R. HESLOP, Surveyor,
722h Burnopfield, R.S.O.

LEADGATE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

THE above Council invite TENDERS for the ASPHALTING of about 3,000 square yards of footpaths.

Specifications and quantities can be seen any afternoon after Tuesday, the 22nd May, by applying to Mr T. S. Longstaff, Surveyor, Leadgate, R.S.O.

Tenders endorsed "Tender for Ashphalting," must be sent to the undersigned on or before Tuesday, the 7th day of June, and the lowest or any Tender will not necessarily be accepted.—By Order.

J. REDWORTH COUPLAND,
Clerk to the Council,
Shotley Bridge,
723h Co. Durham.

ANNFIELD PLAIN INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY, LTD.
TO CONTRACTORS.

THE above Society are desirous of receiving TENDERS for the CEMENTING of Yards, REPAIRS to 10 Houses, and Repairs, &c., to Business Premises, Langley Park.

Specifications can be seen at the Architect's Office, 131, Durham Road, Blackhill, Co. Durham.

Tenders to be sent in to above Office, on or before Saturday, the 26th inst.

No pledge is given to accept the lowest or any Tender.

GEO. THOS. WILSON, Architect.
May 16th, 1900. 758h

Lost and Found.

LOST, on Tuesday, May 8th, an Irish Terrier BITCH, Red, with long tail, (due to pup).—Finder rewarded on returning her to Black Horse Inn, Leadgate. 756h

FOUND, Dandie Diamont TERRIER, if not claimed within 3 days will be sold.—BALL, Leadgate. 768h

Wanted

WANTED, strong DAY GIRL.—Apply, 20, Aynsley Terrace, Consett. 778h

TEA LEAD WANTED, in any quantity; (market price given), at the *Guardian* Office, Consett. 343f

THE CONSETT REGISTRY OFFICE for Domestic Servants.—Apply at Mr. COCKBURN'S, Stationer, &c., Middle Street, Consett.

WANTED, MAN for Farm Work, single or married (without children preferred); also a SHEPHERD (house if required).—Apply to MR. HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett.

WANTED.—ALL CLASSES of People to send their BOOT Repairing to J. ORTON, Raglan Street, Consett, and Oxley Street, Blackhill.

WANTED, PICTURES TO FRAME, in Oak, Gilt, or various kinds of Moulding, from 1s. upwards.—T. C. BELL, 27, Rosebery Terrace, Consett. 784e

SMART JUNIOR WANTED, for Grocery and Provisions; Seaside.—Apply with references, &c., to Box "L." *Guardian* Office, Consett. 738h

GROCERY and Provision Trade, WANTED, a LAD who has been 2 or 3 years at the Business.—Apply FORSTER, RUSSELL AND CO., Annfield Plain. 735h

CONSETT WESLEYAN DAY SCHOOLS.

WANTED at once, an Ex. P.T., (Art 68); also two Girls as CANDIDATES, not under 14.—Apply, MR. BAILEY, Headmaster.

YOUTHS desirous of learning MILITARY DRILL, may receive instruction from COLOUR SERGEANT SHERWOOD, Durham Light Infantry, at Elm Park School, Shotley Bridge. Further particulars from the Headmaster.

WANTED, by a Lady and Gentleman, BEDROOM and SITTING-ROOM in Consett, with good attendance.—Address letters with Terms, etc., to THOS. BEATTIE, 109, Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth. 450h

FLINT HILL NATIONAL SCHOOL.

WANTED for the above School an ASSISTANT MISTRESS (Ex. P.T., Art 50). Salary, £45 per annum, rising £2 10s. per annum to £50.—Apply, with copies of recent testimonials, to REV. T. H. ARCHDALL, M.A., Tanfield Vicarage, Tantobie, R.S.O. 745h

WANTED, all Customers and the General Public to know that W. E. TURNER has REMOVED HIS STOCK to more Commodious Premises.—Note the address: No. 6 FRONT STREET (next door to Mr. G. Pattrick, Chemist), where they will find a choice selection of Hats, Caps, Ties, Collars, Shirts, Suits, Cyclists' Outfits, and Accessories.—Monster CLEARANCE SALE of CYCLES. A large variety of Pipes, Tobaccos and Cigars. Try the noted "Supremacy," 7 for 1s. 982e

Wanted

WANTED, Two Good BANKER HANDS.—Apply, Foreman, Middle Street Building, Consett. 653h

WANTED, energetic MAN to drive Mineral Water Waggon, knowledge of District preferred.—Apply KERSHAW AND SONS, Leadgate. 760h

WANTED, a COMPANION for the Home, to undertake all household duties, small House and Servant kept.—Apply MRS. W. T. ALLAN, The Poplars, Beamish. 645h

TANTOBIE OR WHITE-LE-HEAD

WANTED, to Rent, on Lease, a commodious SHOP, with Rooms attached.—Write full particulars to Box "10," *Guardian* Office, Consett. 775h

To Let.

TO LET OR FOR SALE, Five-roomed HOUSE, in Elsdon Terrace.—Particulars from C. W. ALMOND, Front Street, Consett.

LOCK-UP SHOP TO LET, in Victoria Street Consett, next door to River Plate Fresh Meat Co.—Apply WM. BRAND, SEN., Victoria Street, Consett. 615h

HOUSE TO LET, Medomsley Road, Consett, containing Six Rooms, Wash house, and other Conveniences, Gas and Venetian Blinds.—Apply, T. W. SINCLAIR, Butcher, Leadgate.

TWO HOUSES of Four Rooms each, FOR SALE, 15, and 16, John Street, Blackhill.—Apply to Tenants, or WM. JOHNSTONE, Knitsley Station. 172h

TENTS TO LET, on reasonable terms, size or quantity no object. Tables and Bar Fittings kept on hand. All orders punctually attended to and carried out. Carting done, if required, by G. HUNTER, Medomsley. 446h

TENTS TO LET.—Annfield Plain and District Marquee Co. offer their Tents for present Season at reduced rates. Sizes, Large Tent, 140ft. by 30, 120ft. by 30, 100ft. by 30; also Refreshment Tent, 40ft. by 18. For Terms apply to GEO. BULLERWELL, East Kyo, Annfield Plain. [illegible]

MEDOMSLEY MARQUEE COMPANY.

TENTS TO LET, all sizes, also REFRESHMENT TABLES and BAR FITTINGS on reasonable terms. Carting done as required. Further particulars may be had on application, —R. CHARLTON, Secretary, Medomsley, R.S.O.

TO LET, BUSINESS PREMISES in Middle Street, the best position in Consett, Double-fronted Shop, 20ft. by 56ft.; Cellar, same size, lined with white glazed bricks; ROOMS above Shop with separate entrance, well-lighted and suitable for Offices or business—First Floor, 20ft. by 40ft.; Second Floor, 20ft. by 40ft.; Attic, about same size.—Property can be seen through and offers (together or separately) can be sent to JOS. MURRAY, Consett. Expected to be ready for occupation about July. 740h

For Sale.

FOR SALE, a useful Cart MARE. Apply to JOHN WEDDLE, Medomsley Edge. 726h

BEST PRICES given for OLD IRON and METAL. Apply to WM. J. ATKINSON, General Dealer, Consett and Leadgate. 650h

WIRE NETTING FOR SALE, at Wholesale prices.—Apply F. WELCH and Co., Annfield Plain. 998g

36. INCH SAFE FOR SALE £6; 30 in. £5; 24 in. £4; delivered. JOS. LEVY, 55, Frederick Street, Sunderland. 685g

FOR SALE, splendid PIANO in Walnut, up-to-date, as a bargain.—Apply, A. PHILLIPSON, Dipton. 701h

FOR SALE, Six Tons of good HAY, two years old.—Apply E. G. LUMLEY, Durham Road, Leadgate. 707h

FOR SALE, a Useful Grey COB, five years off, 14·2 h.h., quiet and good worker.—Apply to MR. WM. J. ATKINSON, Wholesale Fruit and Potato Merchant, Consett. 659h

BEES FOR SALE.—Several Stocks of BEES, for Sale, both double and single, strong and good.—Apply, R. DIXON, Broad Oak, Ebchester. 72[illegible]h

FOR SALE Two CHAIN PUMPS; 13ft. 6in. full length, 3½in. bore, 3¾in. outside; also 12ft. full length, 2in. bore, and 2½in. outside and chain, all complete. Apply Stanhope House, Stanhope. 725h

EGGS! EGGS! no fancy prices. White Leghorns: best winter layers, a few are from champion cup winner strains; unlimited grass run; guaranteed fertile; 2s. 6d. per dozen.—A. RICHARDSON, Station Master, Rowley, Consett. 297h

FOR SALE almost new, a small PLUMBER'S STOVE, with Metal Pot, top hinge door and bottom hinge door complete, for heating irons, &c.—Apply, *Guardian* Office, Consett.

TO BE SOLD OR LET, with immediate possession, TWO DWELLING HOUSES in Benfieldside Road, Shotley Bridge, on the Shotley Estate, containing 9 rooms each, gas, water, bathroom, and garden.—Apply to MR. WM. C. SAMPLE, Tritlington Hall, Morpeth.

POWERFUL CART OR ROLLEY HORSE FOR SALE, 6 years off, 16·3 h.h., quiet, and a good worker in all yokes.—Apply to Mr HAANSBERGEN, Woodlands, Consett.

H. AND E. ELTRINGHAM, Railway Terrace, Blackhill, winners of over 200 Prizes and Agents for Dobbie & Co.'s Poultry Grit, have Minorca Eggs from their pen, which contains the brother of the Challenge Cup Winner; also, Orpington Eggs at 3s 6d per setting; unfertile replaced. 768h

NITRATE SODA, SULPHATE AMMONIA, PURE FISH GUANO, KAINIT, & other Potash Salts; Special Manures for all Crops.

BASIC SLAG, most reliable qualities for Spring use. Supply Root Crops and Grain with both Lime and Manure at least cost.

LANGDALE BROTHERS,
468h 46, Cloth Market, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

FOR SALE, 2 Second-hand PONY TRAPS, in excellent condition; also new CONVEYANCES of every size and description, guaranteed of best material and workmanship, prices moderate; new harness of all sizes, either for Cash or on the easy payment system.—COWEN'S CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS, Taylor Street, Consett. 207h

MONEY LENT on Gold and Silver Watches Plate, Jewellery, Pictures, Men's and Women's Clothes, Bed and Table Linen.—Large Stock of Unredeemed Pledges for Sale. Hand Quilted Quilts.—M. HEPTON, Pawnbroker, Blackhill. 260f

FOR SALE OR TO LET, a DWELLING-HOUSE and PREMISES, being No. 11, Summerhill Terrace, Shotley Bridge, containing Two Sitting-rooms, Kitchen and Scullery, Four Bedrooms, large Bathroom and W.C., with Yard and Outbuildings at back. Immediate possession can be given.—Apply Messrs. JOHN G. MURRAY, RICHMOND, AND AYNSLEY, Solicitors, 42, Westgate Road, Newcastle, and Consett. 735h

FOR SALE.—COLLIES.—Splendid Golden-Sable and White Prize Winning Brood BITCH, by "Edgbaston Marvel," cost £300; Bargain £3, honestly worth £5; can win her cost at first Show.—Sable and White PUPPIES, by "Blagdon Gun, (£115 refused for him when 8 months old), ex above Bitch; 6 weeks old, will make sure winners; cheap for quick sale; overstocked.—Apply WILL HARTLEY, South Moor, Chester-le-Street. 742h

CYCLES, CYCLES, BARGAINS, 1500 CYCLES! Free to any Address, the most interesting and complete list of 1,500 Machines POST FREE. Single Machines at Wholesale Trade Price. New and Second hand Machines from 30s each. 500 New, latest, 1900, Gent's Pneumatic Safeties. Marvellous Prices. 500 Ladies' New, latest 1900 pattern.—Single Machine at Wholesale Price. Write for large List. Post Free to any one. Agents wanted. Marvellous Bargains. Send for List. WARRILOW & CO., Cycle Manufacturers, Weston-super-Mare.

Musical Tuition.

MISS JACKS,

GIVES LESSONS on the PIANOFORTE and in THEORY of MUSIC. Terms on application, St. Aidan's Street, Blackhill.

LESSONS given on the Pianoforte and Organ. Pupils prepared for Incorporated Society of Musicians Examination. Terms on application.—JAS. H. COCKBURN, 51, Park Road, Consett. 983c

MUSICAL TUITION.

LESSONS on Organ, Piano, and Theory of Music given by JOHN SURTEES, Organist, Consett Parish Church. Pupils may be prepared for examinations held by the Royal Academy, Royal College, and Incorporated Society of Musicians. Pianos thoroughly tuned, post cards attended to.—Address, 2, Cemeter Road, Blackhill. 931c

Business Announcements.

IT IS AN ASTONISHING FACT THAT EVERYONE WHO IS ILL AND CANNOT GET CURED GO AT ONCE TO

GEO. PATTRICK,
CHEMIST, 5, FRONT STREET, CONSETT,

WHO HAS MADE SOME MARVELLOUS RESTORATIONS TO HEALTH IN CASES THAT WERE CONSIDERED HOPELESS.

GO TO HIM AT ONCE IF YOU ARE NOT WELL. THOUSANDS OF CASES DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS.

ESTABLISHED 1848.

TURNBULL BROTHERS,
LEAZES & LINTZ COLLIERY.

TEA MERCHANTS, GROCERS, DRAPERS, AND PROVISION DEALERS, WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

GROCERY AND PROVISION DEPARTMENT.

TEA at less than Cost Price: From 1s 1d per lb. New Season's Fruit at Startlingly Low Prices.

CHEESE—Prize Cheshire, Finest American, Wensleydale Edam, &c., &c.

FLOUR—From best Millers in England from 1s 1d per Stone.

CHOICEST HAMS, extra Selected for Christmas Trade, 7d per lb.

BEST BACON obtainable, Finest Sholder, from 4½d per lb.

JAMS of all kinds. CAKES in endless Variety.

WINE, SPIRIT, AND ALE DEPARTMENT.

The largest direct Irish Whisky buyers in the District.

WHISKEY (Lea-cas) ... ... 2s 6d & 3s per bot.
" ... ... 3s, 3s 6d, & 4s " "
" (Counsel) ... ... 3s " "
" " ... ... 5s per qrt. bot.

Counsel Whiskey keeps its place—Always in Front.

GIN (Old Tom) ... ... 2s 9d per bot.
BRANDY ... ... 3s 6d " "
" (Three Star) ... ... 4s 9d " "
(Usual Price 5s 6d.)

AGENTS FOR WHITBREAD'S, WORTHINGTON'S AND TRUMAN, HANBURY, & CO.'S ALES.

☞ Our Customers may depend that the great object we aim at is TO SEND ALES AND SPIRITS OUT in the VERY BEST CONDITION, so that they may give every Satisfaction.

ASK TO SEE OUR PRICE LISTS.

GEO. RICHARDSON & SON,
GENERAL DRAPERS.

ARE Shewing their New Stock of Dress Goods, including some of the latest Novelties for early Spring and Summer wear.

BLACK SILKS, GUARANTEED WEAR, 3s. 6d., 4s. 6d., 5s. 6d.

GLOVES, TIES, CORSETS AND UMBRELLAS.

In the GENERAL DRAPERY our Stock will be found well assorted with Goods only of Reliable Makes.

BLACK AND BLUE SERGES. NEW RANGE OF TWEEDS, AND TROUSERINGS.

SUITS MADE TO MEASURE. INSPECTION INVITED.

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

THE CENTRAL SHOP
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN,
IS THE BEST

For Every Description of GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, PATENT MEDICINES, AND PROPRIETARY GOODS.

The Best and Cheapest House for FLOUR from the best Millers.

Splendid Colonial BUTTER, at 1s. per lb. COOKED HAMS, from 7½d. per lb. Whole.

JOHN HALL & CO.,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

THE CATCHGATE POSTING ESTABLISHMENT
CATCHGATE, ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

JOHN OXLEY, PROPRIETOR

HEARSE OF THE MOST MODERN AND UNIQUE DESIGN.

MOURNING COACHES. CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS.

BRAKES AND WAGGONETTES FOR PLEASURE PARTIES.

SUPPLIED ON THE MOST REASONABLE TERMS. 23y

FURNITURE REMOVED. ORDERS PUNCTUALLY ATTENDED TO.

THE FINEST FRUITS OF THE SEASON.

FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S, NEW SEASON'S FRUITS.

Have arrived and cannot fail to evoke the hearty appreciation of all who see and try them. They are

CLEAN, FLESHY, DELICIOUS, ECONOMICAL.

The Thrifty Housewife invests wisely when she purchases at

FOSTER, RUSSELL, & CO.'S,
DRAPERS AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
FRONT STREET, ANNFIELD PLAIN.

INFLUENZA,
INFLUENZA.
INFLUENZA.

Do you feel a pain in the back, aching of the limbs, headache, dizziness, etc? If so you are feeling the first symptoms of an attack of influenza.

INFLUENZA CAN BE WARDED OFF IN 12 HOURS BY TAKING A BOTTLE OF SWINDALE'S INFLUENZA MIXTURE. PRICE,—ONE SHILLING PER BOTTLE.

Ordinary Cough Mixtures are worse than useless.

JABEZ SWINDALE,
CHEMIST,
BLACKHILL, CONSETT, & LEADGATE

NEWCASTLE WARDROBE CO.,
31, VICTORIA STREET, CONSETT.
NEW AND SECOND-HAND CLOTHES, BEDS, &c.

☞ Orders executed for Oilskin Garments, guaranteed Waterproof; Leather Goods, &c. Inspection invited. 380e

CONSETT COCOA ROOMS,
LUTON HOUSE, MIDDLE STREET.

DINNERS EVERY DAY FROM 12 O'CLOCK.

SOCIAL PARTIES CATERED FOR.

ACCOMMODATION FOR CYCLISTS.

851a J. H. COURTNEY.

STOKOE & ROBINSON

Successors to MR. JOHN ROUTLEDGE,

JOINERS, UNDERTAKERS, SHOP FITTERS, AND WHOLESALE CABINETMAKERS.

Dealers in all kinds of Wood Goods.

GIBSON STREET, CONSETT.

COMPLETE FUNERAL FURNISHERS.

LIEBIG'S BEEF AND MALT WINE.

This preparation is made from
PORT WINE,
EXTRACT OF MALT, AND
EXTRACT OF BEEF.

Is an EXCELLENT RESTORATIVE AND NERVE TONIC, and very highly Recommended.

2s. 6d. per quart Bottle (usually sold at 4s 6d.)
1s. 9d. per pint Bottle (usually sold at 2s. 9d.

Tawagie Port Wine, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle;
Sherry, 1s. 6d. per quart bottle.
Robinson's Quarts of Irish Whiskey, 3s.
Robinson's Quarts of Scotch Whiskey, 3s.
Claret from 1s. per bottle.
Burgundies from 1s. per bottle.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:
ROBINSON & CO.'S
DRUG STORES,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

FOR EMIGRATION to SOUTH AFRICA and AMERICA, apply to A. PHILLIPSON Auctioneer, Dipton.—SPECIAL AGENT. 157v

F. EDWARDS,
BOOT AND SHOE DEALER,
FLINT HILL, DIPTON,

HAS a large stock of BOOTS and SHOES at lowest prices. Children's Necessaries in large varieties.

Also TRAPS and WAGGONETTES for PLEASURE PARTIES. AND CLOSED CARRIAGES for WEDDINGS & FUNERALS.

HOSPITAL
FOR AGED AND INFIRM BOOTS,
1, RAGLAN STREET, CONSETT.

GENT'S BOOTS, SOLED AND HEELED... 2s 9d
LADIES' Do. Do. ... 1s 9d

With Leather Tanned on the Old Fashioned Process with Oak Bark. Standing unrivalled in quality; having gained 11 Highest Awards at Exhibitions. It is fallacious for any other firm to say they use best Leather, as I am the only one in this district that buys this brand.

(Signed), J. ORTON.

BRAMWELL'S BONDS;
C AND S,
CHURCH STREET, SUNDERLAND

130 YEARS' REPUTATION FOR WINES AND SPIRITS

PRESENT PROPRIETORS:
THE NORTH-EASTERN BREWERIES LTD.
[illegible] SUNDERLAND.
RICHARD MURRAY, MANAGING DIRECTOR.

SPECIALITY [illegible]
"NEB" MALT STOUT.

Business Announcements.

HAVE YOU MACHINERY? YES.
THEN USE DICKINSON BROS.' LUBRICANTS.
BEST AND CHEAPEST.

WORKS: CLOSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE. 122g

CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES.
STOVES.

DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRON WORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS: 21, 23, AND 25, PERCY STREET.

SPRING CLEANING. SPRING CLEANING.

MILNER'S SPECIALITIES FOR ABOVE.

Furniture Cream, 1s. size, 10d. Furniture Cream, 6d. size, 5d. Cleansing Ammonia, 9d. size, 6d. Best Paints, in Patent Lever Tins, 4d. lb. Murale colours for walls! Will not come off! Simple to use! Mix with cold water. Housekeepers do not smother your Floors with carpets in warm weather, as it is unhealthy to do so, but use my renowned Furniture Stains, Mahogany, Walnut, Satinwood, Rosewood, Oak, Ebony, 1s. size, 10d.; 6d. size, 5d. New Stock of Oils! Colours, Paints, Varnishes, Disinfectants, Wash Leathers, Silver Cloths, and Sponges. Carpet Soap, 6d. size, 4d. Elegant Straw Hat Polishes, all colours, 3d. and 6d. bottles. Paint Brushes in great variety. Agent for Laurence's Spectacles.

MILNER, CHEMIST,
15, SHAKESPEARE STREET, AND 54 FRONT STREET,
CONSETT. 731h

NOTICE! NOTICE!

J. COCKBURN,

STATIONER, NEWSAGENT, AND GENERAL FANCY DEALER, OF FRONT STREET, HAS OPENED OUT HIS

NEW SHOP IN MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Stationery in all its branches. Newspapers and Periodicals of all kinds.

London Parcels arrive daily. Agent for British and Foreign Bible Society.

All Orders punctually attended to.

Agent for Low Fell Laundry, Pullar's Dye Works, &c. 421h

FOR A SMART TURN-OUT

You require a Stylish, Well-Finished Trap, and a Handsome Set of Harness.

YOU CAN GET THESE EITHER FOR CASH OR ON THE INSTALMENT SYSTEM AT

COWEN'S CARRIAGE AND ROLLEY WORKS,
TAYLOR STREET, CONSETT.

To keep your Harness in Tip-top Condition you must use FRANK MILLER'S CELEBRATED HARNESS DRESSINGS for which we are the Sole Agents in this District.

Lamps, Waterproof Aprons, Rubber and Wool Mats, Horse Sheets and Clothing, Whips, Non-rustable Bits, and other sundries always on hand.

Also at TYNEDALE CARRIAGE WORKS, HEXHAM. 115f

TEETH. TEETH. TEETH.

THE NORTH-EASTERN DENTAL CO.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

MR. TOWNEND, SURGEON DENTIST, now attends at

MR. COCKBURN'S NEW PREMISES, MIDDLE STREET, CONSETT.

Every Saturday, 2 to 6 p.m. 733h

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.
OPENING OF NEW PREMISES.
[illegible] House, Middle Street, Consett.

MRS. HAND, Milliner, Draper, and Fancy Goods Dealer, desires to thank her patrons for their past favours, and to inform them that she has removed to the above address (next Wesleyan Chapel), where a New and Up-to-date Stock of Goods, Fashionable Millinery, Newest Designs and Colours may be seen.

668h ☞ CHILDRENS' CLOTHING A SPECIALITY. ☜

THE BEST HOUSE FOR WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY, ELECTRO PLATE, AND SPECTACLES

DOBSON GRADON,
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, AND OPTICIAN.
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CRICKET MATCHES.

DURHAM SENIOR LEAGUE.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT v. CRAGHEAD.

Consett opened its home engagements in the Durham Senior League on the Blackfine enclosure on Saturday afternoon, and although they had the advantage of playing at home they fared little better than when the team visited Gateshead to meet North Durham a week previously. Craghead batted first, and soon ran the score up to the century. Peel batted carefully, giving very few chances, and he carried his bat out for 61 not out, having stood at the wickets a couple of hours. Sheraton also displayed excellent form while compiling 40; and Snowdon contributed a useful 30. The visitors "declared" for 169 runs for the loss of eight wickets. The Consettonians made a feeble stand against the trundling of Moorhouse and Snowdon, the former's breaks being most puzzling. Siddell, the home captain, being bowled the first ball. Scores:—

CRAGHEAD.

George Potts c Gray b Hurst	4
R. Holmes b Hurst	18
J. Peel not out	61
C. Snowdon b Hurst	30
F. Horne b Hurst	0
S. Evans b Hurst	1
H. Stephenson c Raw b Hurst	1
N. Sheraton c Davis b Hamilton	40
W. Railton b Hamilton	2
H. Moorhouse not out	5
Extras	7
Total (for eight wickets)	169

Innings declared closed.
W. Faulkner did not bat.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT.

J. Siddell b Moorhouse	0
Geo. Hamilton c and b Moorhouse	0
T. T. Gray b Moorhouse	1
J. J. Raw c Railton b Snowdon	1
D. Davis b Snowdon	3
T. C. Charlton b Moorhouse	9
A. Hurst st Holmes b Moorhouse	3
R. H. Watson b Moorhouse	11
W. Leybourne c Stephenson b Moorhouse	0
T. Hall b Moorhouse	1
T. Gaughan not out	0
Extras	5
Total	34

DURHAM COUNTY CUP COMPETITION.

LANGLEY PARK v. MEDOMSLEY II.

In connection with the above competition the following game was played at Medomsley. Scores:—

LANGLEY PARK.

J. Lowes b J. Walton	7
R. Rutter c Walton b J. Walton	0
E. Rutter lbw b J. Walton	10
M. Crawford b J. Walton	18
R. Peel c M. Walton b J. Walton	0
H. Ardley b W. G. Thompson	0
J. Rutter b W. G. Thompson	1
T. Eccleston c Wheatley b J. Walton	0
G. Lowes run out	5
E. Eccleston c J. Thompson b J. Walton	0
J. M. Hunter not out	1
Extras	5
Total	47

MEDOMSLEY 2ND.

J. Walton b H. Ardley	0
S. Wheatley c Eccleston b H. Ardley	0
J. Marks b H. Ardley	2
J. Thompson, b Ardley	0
W. Hunter, run out	1
J. Hetherington, l.b.w., b J. Lowes	0
W. G. Thompson, b J. Lowes	0
M. Walton, b H. Ardley	0
W. Wheatley, not out	2
E. Wilson, b J. Lewes	0
W. Thompson, absent	
Extras	0
Total	5

Langley Park Bowling Analysis.

	O.	M.O.	R.	W.
H. Ardley	3	0	4	5
J. Lowes	2	1	1	3

LANGLEY PARK II. v. WILLINGTON II.

Played at Langley Park.

LANGLEY PARK.

Geo. Bell jun., c R. Walker	18
John Smith, b J. Allan	20
William Wright, b F. Holmes	15
J. Nicholson, c J. Allan	7
Geo. Russ b J. Allan	0
Jas. Newall, b J. Allan	0
Arthur Edgar, c F. Holmes	5
Thos. Morland, l.b.w., b F. Holmes	8
Arthur Lidster, b F. Holmes	0
Matt. Sanderson, b F. Holmes	0
John J. Penny, not out	5
Extras	3
Total	79

WILLINGTON.

R. Walker c J. Newall	11
E. Raine, b J. Nicholson	9
F. Holmes, c J. Newall	0
J. Kelsey, b J. Nicholson	5
W. Binley, b J. Nicholson	14
J. Allan, c W. Wright	3
T. Hodgson c A. G. Lidster	14
W. Forster, not out	5
R. Jackson, c W. Wright	0
J. Wilkinson, b A. G. Lidster	5
J. Hodgson, b J. Nicholson	1
Extras	3
Total	70

SWALWELL UNITED WEDNESDAY v. WILLINGTON QUAY.

The Wednesday contingent of the Swalwell club journeyed to Willington Quay on Wednesday afternoon, where, in cold weather they opposed the local club. Scores:—

SWALWELL.

A. Patterson c Patterson b Saunderson	1
J. Spencer c Roy b Saunderson	3
J. Walton b Lavery	14
P. Mothersill b Bell	11
W. Errington c Emmerson b Bell	12
E. Slater b Bell	4
J. Wishart b Saunderson	0
J. Robson b Savery	8
J. T. Brinkald c and b Saunderson	2
G. Green not out	2
Extras	8
Total	65

WILLINGTON QUAY.

J. Cowell b Robson	14
Rev. Father Savery b Walton	4
R. Saunderson c Errington b Walton	3
R. Bell b Walton	3
G. Lavery b Robson	8
A. Saunderson b Walton	1
T. Robson lbw b Walton	1
W. Rose b Walton	1
E. Emmerson not out	1
N. Patterson b Walton	5
H. Hall c Slater b Patterson	1
Extras	9
Total	51

SWALWELL UNITED II. v. WHICKHAM II.

Played at Swalwell and resulted in an easy victory for the visitors. Scores:—

SWALWELL UNITED II.

T. Brownless b F. Mowbray	0
C. Holmes run out	1
F. Barron c Smith b Mowbray	2
W. Errington b W. Mowbray	0
J. Chapman c and b W. Mowbray	0
E. Slater b G. Booth	0
G. Bruce c and b Wm. Mowbray	10
T. Heywood c Henderson b G. Booth	3
R. W. Benson not out	3
Wm. Hand run out	0
J. Hickson b Thynn	0
Extras	4
Total	26

WHICKHAM 2ND.

T. Thynn st. Chapman b Bruce	14
F. Mowbray c Chapman b Barron	5
A. Smith b Bruce	11
T. Archer c Chapman b Bruce	20
W. Mowbray c Benson b Barrow	30
Jos. Burn b Heywood	3
S. Burn not out	50
A. Henderson b Barrow	20
G. Booth not out	3
M. Ainsley did not bat	
J. Craig did not bat	
Extras	6
Total (for 7 wickets)	170

TYNEMOUTH II. v. GREENSIDE.

Played at North Shields, and resulted in a win for Greenside. Score:—

GREENSIDE.

J. Callender, b Jones	3
H. Brown b Adam	23
C. Raisbeck, b. Adam	0
B. W. Clark, c Pettigrew, b Adam	10
J. Fewster, c Pettigrew, b Adam	8
C. Fewster, c Pettigrew, b Adam	2
T. Armstrong, c Hill, b Jones	3
G. Raisbeck, not out	17
J. Robinson, b Adam	0
T. Gregory, run out	0
G. Forster, run out	4
Extras	5
Total	75

TYNEMOUTH.

G. Adam, run out	0
D. Williamson, c Forster, b Raisbeck	0
W. J. Pulman, b Clark	0
W. S. Pettigrew, c C. Raisbeck b Armstrong	20
A. E. Hill, run out	4
W. J. Pybus, b C. Raisbeck	0
D. B. Jones, c Brown, b Clark	14
J. Knowles, c Armstrong, b Clark	0
R. Harrison, c C. Raisbeck, b Clark	4
G. B. Burt, not out	2
A. Robinson, b Clark	2
Extras	4
Total	50

SOUTH MOOR II. v. BEAMISH II.

Played at Beamish. Elliott batted well for the winners, while Rowland did likewise for the losers. Score:—

SOUTH MOOR II.

Thos. Brass c and b Laverick	0
E. Smith b Parker	5
J. Morton c Martin b Laverick	0
W. Fawcett c Rowland b Laverick	6
J. Elliott b Laverick	34
M. Liddle c Hewison b Laverick	12
H. Joyce c Martin b Laverick	3
T. Wilkinson lbw b Laverick	0
J. Wilson c Parker b Laverick	0
J. Nixon not out	5
M. Barker b Pinkney	3
Extras	3
Total	71

BEAMISH.

L. Mason lbw b Joyce	2
G. Rowland c and b Joyce	19
A. Martin c Smith b Joyce	0
W. Hewison b Joyce	1
J. Pinkney c Martin b Fawcett	2
T. Brown b Joyce	3
Geo. Parker c and b Wilson	1
C. Laverick c Liddle b Wilson	1
Geo. Fenwick b Wilson	3
F. Burridge not out	4
Geo. Gowland b Wilson	0
Extras	1
Total	37

BURNHOPE v. SACRISTON.

Played at Burnhope on Saturday. Burnhope declared with two wickets down—Sugden not out (54) and Robinson not out (105). Robinson bowled three wickets with three balls in one over, and four wickets with four balls in another over. Scores:—

BURNHOPE.

J. Newton b Rowe	8
J. Robinson not out	105
J. Dyson b Walker	47
H. Sugden not out	54
A. Heckels did not bat	
J. W. Moffatt did not bat	
W. Summerbell did not bat	
T. Dyson did not bat	
T. Smith did not bat	
R. Wallace did not bat	
W. Liddle did not bat	
Extras	6
Total (for two wickets)	220

SACRISTON.

J. Taylor c Summerbell b Heckels	9
J. Foster b Heckels	10
K. Walker c Sugden b Heckels	6
T. Stobert b Robinson	0
S. Rowe b Robinson	0
E. Morris b Robinson	14
J. Green c J. Dyson b Robinson	3
R. Taylor not out	1
H. Wilkin b Robinson	0
G. Hunter b Robinson	0
J. Walker b Robinson	0
Extras	0
Total	43

WHICKHAM v. SWALWELL.

Played at Whickham on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for Whickham. W. Cook took seven wickets for 24 runs, and G. Cheeseman took three for eleven. Scores:—

SWALWELL.

A. Brownless b G. Cheeseman	7
T. Berry c T. Burn b Cook	2
A. Adamson c R. Thynn b G. Cheeseman	2
T. Ryding b Cook	2
R. C. Smith not out	7
J. Bruce b Cook	2
J. Dove c W. Cheeseman b G. Cheeseman	1
J. B. Robson b Cook	8
T. Lumley b Cook	0
J. Robson b Cook	4
J. Curry b Cook	0
Extras	3
Total	33

WHICKHAM.

W. Cook c Brownless b Berry	4
T. Cheeseman b Ryding	0
J. Mowbray c Bruce b Adamson	12
A. Willis lbw b Ryding	0
T. M. Burn c Ryding b Robson	10
R. Mordue c Berry b Ryding	11
Dr. Witherspoon c Berry b Robson	0
W. Thynn b Ryding	4
G. Cheeseman c Brownless b Bruce	1
R. Thynn c Brownless b Robson	16
W. Cheeseman not out	3
Extras	7
Total	68

CHESTER-LE-STREET v. PHILADELPHIA

At Chester-le-Street. Score:—

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

J. K. Bewicke, c Barker, b Fulton	0
G. Halliday, b Freake	12
G. Robson, b Freake	6
Coyle, c Matt Soppett, b Terry	6
J. Bewicke, c Barker, b Freake	0
W. R. Legge, not out	10
T. Middleton, b Terry	1
J. G. Bell, c Matt Soppett, b Terry	0
J. Clifford, b Terry	4
A. Tate, c Harrison, b Terry	8
F. Taylor, b Terry	0
Extras	7
Total	54

PHILADELPHIA.

A. Barker, b Clifford	20
Matt Soppett, c Taylor, b Robson	0
G. Lee c Middleton, b Coyle	14
Terry, c Taylor, b Clifford	19
J. Kirtley, c Taylor b Coyle	1
J. Freake, not out	29
R. C. Harrison, b Clifford	0
R. Smith, c Bell, b Coyle	1
Mark Soppett, b Clifford	12
J. Fulton, c and b J. K. Bewicke	1
W. Hopper, b J. K. Bewicke	0
Extras	6
Total	105

SHOTLEY BRIDGE v. MEDOMSLEY.

At Shotley Spa. Scores:—

MEDOMSLEY.

M. Hedley, b Robson	8
R. Charlton, run out	4
T. D. Dales, b Robson	15
R. Campbell, c Postle, b Robson	6
T. Walton, c Williamson, b Robson	0
Rev. A. C. Blunt, b Robson	1
R. J. Robinson, b Robson	0
M. Wilkinson, run out	11
W. Lovat, b Williamson	7
Bishop (sub), c Williamson, b Robson	2
Thorpe (sub), not out	0
Extras	3
Total	57

SHOTLEY BRIDGE.

T. Gorman, b Dales	4
T. Lynn, st. Charlton, b Dales	1
M. Williamson, c Hedley, b Dales	9
A. J. Smeil c and b Dales	3
M. Johnson, run out	8
R. Robson, c sub, b Lovat	27
J. Postle, c Lovat, b Dales	4
J. Seed, c Lovat, b Hedley	3
W. R. Town, not out	5
W. Nixon, c and b Lovat	0
S. C. Knott, b Robinson	3
Extras	4
Total	71

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LEADGATE TEMPERANCE v. DIPTON.

At Leadgate. Score:—

LEADGATE.

J. Crowther, b E. Bowes	1
T. Greener, c J. Bowes, b E. Bowes	6
Sergt. J. Newton, b Allen	0
J. Kennedy, c Allen, b E. Bowes	49
J. Birtley c Pyle, b E. Bowes	0
T. Atkinson, run out	4
J. Turnbull c Ellis, b J. Bowes	6
W. Brown b Allen	8
W. Turnbull, l.b.w., b E. Bowes	1
J. Seymour, l.b.w., b Allen	3
J. Snaith not out	1
Extras	10
Total	89

DIPTON.

W. Thompson, b Crowther,	6
J. Allen, b Atkinson,	0
J. Bowes, c Turnbull, b Atkinson	0
R. Coates, not out	28
T. Simpson b Atkinson,	5
W. Ellis, b Atkinson	1
E. Bowes, b Crowther	2
J. Adams, c Birtley, b Crowther	0
J. Muse, c Newton, b Crowther	0
J. Cochrane b Snaith	0
J. Pyle, c and b Snaith	0
Extras	1
Total	43

SOUTHILL v. ESH.

At Mr. C. F. Forster's ground, the home team proving much too strong for the visitors. Score:—

ESH.

Bowes, b Latimer	2
Groucett, b Cochrane	0
Stewart, c and b Latimer	3
Gunn, b Latimer	2
Winter, b Cochrane	10
Jacques, b Latimer	0
Pearce, b Latimer	0
S. Summers, c and b Latimer	1
J. Summers, not out	4
Simpson, b Cochrane	5
Humes, b Latimer	0
Extras	0
Total	27

SOUTHILL.

L. E. Woods, b Groucett	0
A. H. J. Cochrane, b Humes	1
S. P. Bell, b Groucett	56
C. Latimer, c Stewart, b Groucett	29
L. De V. Bowle b Groucett	16
C. S. Young, b Groucett	9
W. Bambrough, b Groucett	19
C. Brown, b Groucett	6
T. Bell, b Groucett	4
Steven, b Groucett	7
C. F. Forster, not out	1
Extras	10
Total	160

CRICKET NOTES.

[By "L.B.W."]

CRAGHEAD CONQUER CONSETT.

Probably there were but few Consett supporters who expected to see their men victorious against Craghead on Saturday, but at the same time it is pretty certain that they did not anticipate such a slating as the visitors inflicted upon the Consettonians. Whereas Craghead have started the season in fine fashion—winning their first three games—the reverse has been the case with the Consett men, who seem in a bad way. It is no use blinking at facts, and it seems as certain as anything can be that unless our local club secures some fresh blood without delay there is but small likelihood of them coming out on the right side in any of their Senior League engagements. At the present time they are woefully deficient in bowling, whilst their batting strength also is sadly in need of improvement. Of course, I fully recognise that the committee have anything but an enviable task in view of the fact that they have lost many good men; but, this being so, I am of opinion that Consett would have been well advised to have followed the example of Chester-le-Street in withdrawing from the Senior League. It is plainly evident that unless Consett obtain some new men of ability they will stand a good chance of figuring at the bottom of the competition.

—o—

Remembering what the club has done in the past one feels regret in having to write in this strain, but they are no true friends of the club who would gloss over its weaknesses. There are several promising players in the Consett ranks, but they lack experience in good class cricket, and too much cannot naturally be expected of them until they have gained more confidence. As to Saturday's game it was almost as one-sided as that at Gateshead the previous week. To be frank the home men were outclassed, and had to submit to a very decisive defeat. The visitors batted first, and although they soon lost Potts, Holmes and Peel made a good stand, the former being bowled by Hurst for 18. With Snowdon and Peel in partnership the score mounted at a good pace. Of the bowlers only Hurst seemed to cause the batsmen any uneasiness, and he eventually dismissed the old Tudhoe man for a capital 30. Three wickets then fell cheaply (all claimed by Hurst), but with the advent of Sheraton more trouble was caused the Consettonians. The new-comer put on an excellent 40 ere he departed, and soon after the Craghead captain "declared" with the total at 169 for eight wickets. Peel carried out his bat for a carefully compiled 61, which occupied him nearly two hours, and he did much to take the sting out of the bowling. The following figures will show how the Consett bowlers fared:—

	O.	M.O.	R.	W.
A. Hurst	26	4	56	6
J. J. Raw	12	2	27	0
D. Davis	8	2	28	0
W. Leybourne	4	0	9	0
T. Gray	4	0	19	0
G. Hamilton	4	0	14	2

—o—

The Consett venture does not call for any lengthy comment, and it somewhat resembled the display given against North Durham. The start was a disastrous one, as Siddell was beaten and bowled by the first ball he received from Moorhouse. This naturally damped the ardour of the youngsters who had to follow their captain, and half the side were out for only a few runs. Charlton and Watson put a little life into the game, but the redoubtable Moorhouse got rid of both of them before they did any great damage, and the tenth wicket went down with but a paltry 34 registered. Moorhouse appeared to get a considerable amount of work on the ball, and was almost unplayable. He captured eight wickets for 18 runs—a splendid performance—whilst Snowdon's two cost 11 runs. Craghead are going great guns, the inclusion of Snowdon having had a capital effect on the team.

SOUTHILL SUCCESSFUL.

Mr. C. F. Forster put a strong team into the field to oppose Esh on Saturday, and, as one might naturally expect, the visitors had a bad time of it. In fact, they were completely outplayed in all departments. Esh could make little of the bowling of Latimer and Cochrane (the old Oxford University captain), and were all disposed of for 27. Winter showed the best form in making his 10. The task set Southill was a very easy one, and Esh would probably be glad when it was all over. The visitors commenced well by getting rid of two such dangerous bats as L. E. Woods and Cochrane for only a single between them, but S. P. Bell (56) and Latimer (29) put a different complexion upon matters, and things were lively whilst they were associated. After their departure Bambrough (19) and Bowle (16) added to the aggregate, which in the end reached 160. Groucett deserves a special word of praise on behalf of Esh, as he bowled well throughout, and obtained every wicket except one—eight of them clean bowled. It will take a strong eleven to get the upper hand of Southill when Mr. Forster has got anything like a representative team together.

MEDOMSLEY LOSE AT SHOTLEY.

For various reasons Medomsley were short-handed in their match at the Spa grounds. They could only muster nine men, but obtained the assistance of a couple of subs. The two Cants and the two Milburns, together with Whiteley and Lowes, were amongst the missing, and as the second eleven had a Cup Competition game on it was decided not to draw on them. The visitors batted first, but did not do anything sensational, the bowling of Robson being generally too much for them. Although 32 went up for the loss of only three men, seven were out for 35, and the innings closed for 57. Dales played very well for 15 before succumbing to Robson, whilst M. Wilkinson had 11 to his credit ere he had the misfortune to be run out. M. Hedley, Campbell, and Lovat did best of the remainder. Robson claimed seven victims at a cost of only 24 runs, in 14 overs, five of which were maidens.

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Up to a certain point the venture of Shotley somewhat resembled that of Medomsley, as each side had six men out for 34. However, 50 went up before another wicket fell, and then Robson and Town robbed off the number necessary to secure victory. It may really be said to have been Robson's match as this player was not only primarily responsible for the dismissal of the visitors, but he also put together the top score of the day, viz., 27, which included a four and a trio of threes. Mat Williamson assisted the home team, and batted creditably, as did also Johnson. After making due allowance for the Medomsley absentees it must be conceded that Shotley brought off an extremely meritorious performance. The team is commencing finely, and seems likely to be able to point to a greatly improved record at the end of the season. The Medomsley bowlers came out with the subjoined figures:—

	O.	M.O.	R.	W.
T. D. Dales	9	2	31	5
W. Lovat	9	2	16	2
M. Hedley	4	0	13	1
R. Campbell	4	2	2	0
J. Robinson	1	0	1	1

LEADGATE TEMPERANCE KEEP IT UP.

The Temperance men gained their third successive league victory on Saturday, and are now anxious to know whether medals are presented to the winners of the Junior Division. If so, they think they have a good chance of lifting them. Dipton opened the Temperance ground on this occasion, but had to accept a second defeat at the hands of the Leadgate men. The home team were seriously handicapped owing to the absence of their captain and best all-round man (Monaghan), but Kennedy once more resumed operations. And it was a good thing for the home men that the old Birtleyite was playing, as he had a lot to do with the win registered by the Temperance. Leadgate took first knock but did not start too well, losing four wickets for 14 runs. However, Kennedy was playing in excellent form, and caused the score to mount at a fair pace. He received useful assistance from J. Turnbull and Brown, and at the finish the Temperance had the capital total of 89 to their credit. Kennedy gave a fine display, and had exceedingly hard lines in missing his half-century, being caught with his score at 49. He hit a four, two threes, and eleven twos. E. Bowes was the most successful trundler on the Dipton side.

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Like that of their opponents, the visitors' exhibition with the willow was mostly a one-horse show. Dipton lost a couple of wickets before a run had been scored, and they never at any time looked like getting within hail of Leadgate. Crowther and Atkinson bowled very well in the absence of Monaghan, and when Joe Snaith was given a trial in place of Atkinson, he quickly finished off the innings, which closed for 43. Bob Coates (the well-known footballer) carried out his bat for a creditable 28, in which were two fours and five twos. He was the only player to face the bowling with any degree of confidence. I append the analysis of the home bowlers:—

	O.	M.O.	R.	W.
J. Crowther	9	3	18	4
T. Atkinson	8	1	22	4
J. Snaith	1.3	0	2	2

—o—

A COLLAPSE AT MEDOMSLEY.

The Cup Competition fixtures decreed that Langley Park should visit Medomsley on Saturday to meet the second string of the latter club. Seeing that the Parkites have generally held their own with Medomsley first this seemed rather a curious arrangement. Of course the game was voted a good thing for the visitors, and this it proved to be—not, however, until some remarkable cricket had been witnessed. Langley Park did not fare so well in the batting line as one might have expected, and it was a good achievement on the part of the home men to dismiss their opponents for 47. With 25 up for the loss of three men the total looked like reaching larger dimensions, but Joe. Walton was in rare form with the leather, and sorely puzzled the visitors, of whom Crawford (18) and E. Rutter (10) showed by far the best form. The Medomsley trundling panned out as below:—

	O.	M.O.	R.	W.
W. G. Thompson	9	2	29	2
Joe. Walton	8.4	2	13	7

—o—

What shall I say about the Medomsley venture? It was a procession, and no mistake. Ardley and J. Lowes were fairly on the job, and they sent back the home men almost as fast as they could come in. The wickets fell in the following order:—1 for 0, 2 for 1; 3 for 1, 4 for 2, 5 for 3, 6 for 3, 7 for 3, 8 for 5, 9 for 5, 10 for 5. Marks and W. Wheatley scored a couple apiece, and Hunter one, there being no extras. It was an awful break-down, and clearly proved that Langley Park are a cut above second teams. I am afraid that there is too much disparity between many of the teams included in the Cup Competition for it to become an unqualified success.

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GREENSIDE WIN AGAIN.

Success continues to smile upon the Greenside men, who antagonised Tynemouth 2nd at North Shields on Saturday, and were able to come away boasting of a very creditable win. Several of the visitors shaped well with the bat, notably Brown (23), G. Raisbeck (17 not out), Clark (10), and J. Fewster, the aggregate amounting to 75. This number proved beyond the capabilities of the home team, who could only muster 50, and thus lost by 25. Pettigrew (20) and Jones (14) scored the bulk of the runs, the remainder finding the deliveries of Clark more than they could cope with. This is, I believe, the third successive victory for Greenside, who give promise of experiencing a more than usually prosperous season.

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NEAR NEIGHBOURS MEET.

Whickham and Swalwell met on the former's ground on Saturday, and much interest was evinced in the contest. There was no phenomenal scoring, but the home team gained a fairly substantial win. Not a single batsman on the Swalwell side managed double figures, the best form being shown by J. B. Robson (the old Leadgate footballer, I take it), Brownless, and Smith. W. Cook secured seven wickets for 24 runs, and G. Cheeseman three for 11. The Whickhamites replied with 68, or a majority of 30. The principal contributors to this total were R. Thynn (16), J. Mowbray (12), R. Mordue (11), and T. M. Burn (10), so that it will be easily seen that the remainder did nothing of note. Ryding and J. Robson accomplished the best bowling on behalf of the losers. Neither team has yet got properly into working order, and as the season advances we may expect to see both come out in improved form.

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HEAVY SCORING AT BURNHOPE.

Every now and again the Burnhope club surprise the local cricket world by some exceptional performance; and it is a curious circumstance that when this happens that sterling player, Joe Robinson, generally has a large share in it. So it was on Saturday, when Sacriston were the visitors to Burnhope. The wicket was in good condition, and the home men did not forget to make the most of it. Newton did not stay long, but J. Dyson compiled a capital 47 ere he was disposed of. Then came a remarkable stand between Robinson and Sugden, who fairly collared the bowling, and practically did as they liked with it. Try as they would the Sacriston men could not separate them, and they took the total up to 220, when the closure was applied. Robinson carried out his bat for a grand innings of 105, in making which he displayed splendid form, and he appears to be as good as ever, which is saying a lot. Sugden had 54 to his credit, put together by admirable cricket, and he appears to be a very useful man. Not content with what he had done in the batting line Robinson came out in great form in the attack, and caused the visitors as much uneasiness in this department as he had previously done with the willow. Saving Morris (formerly of Medomsley) and Foster, Sacriston cut up moderately and were all sent back for 43. Burnhope thus gained a ridiculously easy victory, in which Robinson figured as the hero of the game.

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MEMS.

Craghead could only win one league game last season.

They have already booked two victories in the competition this year.

The presence of "Dud" Snowdon has done the team a lot of good.

The old Tudhoeite is showing fine form with both bat and ball.

Railton appeared against his old club-mates.

It would be interesting to have William's opinion of the present Consett team.

I am afraid it would not be very flattering.

Moorhouse did a very smart bowling performance.

Eight wickets for 18 runs is not an every-day occurrence.

Craghead appear to be well off for bowlers.

What with Snowdon, Moorhouse, Faulkner, Railton, and Stephenson.

Peel played a very careful innings.

Hurst was the only man on the Consett side that made any show.

He bowled exceedingly well, but only received poor support.

Jake Siddell was slightly astonished on being bowled first ball.

Consett will have to beg, borrow, or steal some new men.

Shotley Bridge were pardonably proud of beating Medomsley.

Even if the visitors were nothing like fully represented.

The irresistible Robson was at it again.

And easily bore off the honours of the game.

He first took seven Medomsley wickets for 24 runs.

And then took the liberty of knocking up the best score of the day.

Consett could do with a few players like Robson.

Dales accomplished good work on the Medomsley side.

He made top score and took five wickets for 31 runs.

I hear that Michael Charlton is going to turn out for Medomsley again.

With their full strength in the field Medomsley will have a formidable eleven.

I congratulate Shotley on the capital form they are displaying.

They are a very decent set of fellows indeed.

And play the game in the proper spirit.

Leadgate Temperance keep on their way rejoicing.

And Dipton had to again bow the knee on Saturday.

Monaghan was unable to assist the Temperance.

But the home team managed the trick without him.

Jock Kennedy turned out for the first time this season.

And made his presence felt to some tune.

He certainly had some luck.

But nevertheless his 49 was a good display.

Had Kennedy failed the game would have been a very close one.

Bob Coates (the Stanley footballer) carried out his bat for 28 on behalf of Dipton.

Crowther, Atkinson, and Snaith all bowled well for the winners.

Burnhope were in a merry mood on Saturday.

As Sacriston discovered with a vengeance.

Joe Robinson was in tremendous form.

He exceeded the century, and was still not out when the closure was put in force.

It was a superb display.

As if he had not done enough mischief Robinson must needs go and tumble the visitors out for a poor score.

It was Robinson's game entirely.

In a lesser degree Sugden and J. Dyson rendered valuable assistance.

Burnhope put on the mammoth total of 220 for two wickets only.

Medomsley second had the questionable distinction of being dismissed for five all told on Saturday.

Ardley, and Lowes, of Langley Park, were the cause of the collapse.

No fewer than eight men bagged a "duck" apiece.

Langley Park should have been good for more than 47.

But the bowling of Joe. Walton was not to their liking.

This player captured seven wickets for 13 runs—a rattling good performance.

On the other side Ardley had five wickets for four runs, and Lowes three for one.

No doubt the bowlers named would like to have their analysis framed.

Will the gentleman from Byer Moor who wrote to the secretary of the Whickham C.C. last week be kind enough to send his name, as he forgot to sign it to the letter?

Whickham got the better of Swalwell on Saturday.

The scoring was only low, as neither team has yet settled down properly.

Cook and G. Cheeseman bowled well for the winners.

Joe Robson (the old Leadgate footballer) assisted Swalwell.

And made top score. Good old Joe!

Groucett bowled well for Esh at Southill on Saturday.

He captured nine wickets out of the ten.

NORTH-WEST DURHAM CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of this association was held in the National Schools, Quebec on Saturday afternoon. Mr. J. D. Piercey Taylor-Smith presided over a very large company, which included Ald. U. A. Ritson, J.P., Mr. Jas. Joicey, Poulton Priory, Fairdale, Gloucestershire; Mr. J. Murray (hon. sec.); Mr. U. A. Ritson, jun., Burnhope; Mr. A. Watson, Burnopfield; Mr. J. M. Aynsley, Consett; Mr. R. L. Appleford (registration agent); Mr. W. Holmes, J.P., Tantobie; Mr. R. Walton, Lanchester; Mr. W. J. Scott, Rowley; Mr. T. W. Vasey, Medomsley; Mr. J. Collinson (hon. treasurer), Shotley Bridge; Mr. W. Brears, Leadgate; Mr. J. E. Parker, Blackhill; Mr. Robt. Moffitt, Medomsley; Mr. T. Lowdon, Hamsteels; Mr. J. B. Johnson, Hamsteels; Mr. J. O. Todd, Leadgate; Mr. T. Hunter, Medomsley; Mr. W. Brotherhood, Lanchester; Capt. Crossling, Stanley; Mr. W. Eltringham, Catchgate; Mr. J. Leath, Medomsley; Mr. J. Sheffield, Blackhill; Mr. Jas. Wiseman, Leadgate; Mr. A. Dodds, Quebec; Mr. John Nicholson, Lanchester; Mr. G. J. Christopher, Blackhill; Mr. C. Lockwood, Leadgate; Mr. C. Herbert, Blackhill; Mr. R. Aynsley, Malton Colliery; Mr. F. Caswell, Medomsley; Mr. H. Hovvells, Burnhope; Mr. J. Anderson, Hamsterley; Mr. T. Siddell, Blackhill; Mr. H. Dowse, Blackhill; Mr. F. W. Deacon, Manchester; Mr. H. L. Burgess, Burnhope; Mr. J. Anderson, Cornsay; Mr. W. French, Annfield Plain; Mr. J. Uncles, Burnhope; Mr. R. Robson, Annfield Plain; Mr. R. Patterson, Hamsterley; Mr. J. Humble, Burnhope; Mr. J. Snaith, Annfield Plain; Mr. Jas. Raw, Cornsay; Mr. W. R. Wiggen, Langley Park; Mr. J. R. Gibson, Burnhope; Mr. W. Greener, Annfield Plain; Mr. J. Golightly, Cornsay; Mr. J. Beck, Tantobie; Mr. E. Dobson, Burnhope; Mr. Jos. Elliott, Langley Park; Mr. R. Armstrong, Burnhope; Mr. J. Greener, Annfield Plain; Mr. G. Dawson, Cornsay; Mr. J. Collinson, Leadgate; Mr. J. Lowe, Burnopfield; Mr. W. Turner, Hamsterley; Mr. J. E. Parkin, sen., Mr. J. E. Parkin, jun., Mr. B. Hunter, Mr. T. Parkin, Annfield Plain; Mr. G. W. Halliday, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. T. Leary, Mr. R. Foulger, Mr. J. Gill, Mr. T. Dunning, Mr. W. Gargett, Mr. W. Pybus, Mr. F. Kerbisher, Cornsay; Mr. G. Thornton, Burnhope; Mr. W. Rawsthorne, Hamsteels; Mr. G. Stacey, Stanley; Mr. G. Elrington, Mr. C. Boddiner, Mr. H. Coxon, Cornsay; Mr. J. P. Kirkup, Burnhope; Mr. W. Welsh, South Moor; Mr. Younger, Hamsteels; Mr. E. Scott, Mr. R. Bullerwell, Mr. R. J. Chaytor, Hamsterley; Mr. G. B. Morris, Mr. J. Gibson, Burnhope; Mr. J. Grey, Mr. M. Scott, Mr. J. Scott, Cornsay; Mr. J. Hudson, Ushaw Moor; Mr. F. Maddison, Mr. R. Ferguson, Mr. R. Abbott, Mr. Telford, Burnopfield; Mr. T. Tomlinson, Hedley Hill; Mr. Jas. Urwin, Leadgate; Mr. W. Proud, Healeyfield; Mr. Fletcher, Westwood; Mr. E. Harrison, Hamsteels; Mr. T. Dobson, Stanley; Mr. A. Foster, Marley's Houses; Mr. W. J. Hetherington, Blackhill; Mr. B. Johnson, Hedley Hill; Mr. T. Burdon, Langley Park; Mr. M. Maddison, Satley; Mr. W. Gleghorn, Mr. D. Elliott, Mr. J. Fell, Hamsteels; Mr. R. Allan, Hamsterley; Mr. R. Harrison, Mr. W. Drury, Mr. B. Doughtey, Mr. J. Gordon, Mr. J. Hull, Mr. R. Dawson, Mr. J. T. Winter, Mr. J. Puckering, Mr. G. Martin, Mr. J. Hodgson, Cornsay; Mr. C. Johnson, Satley; Mr. W. Hagon, Leadgate; Mr. J. Proud, Healeyfield; Mr. E. Cooper, Mr. W. E. Shorten, Langley Park; Mr. J. Hudspith, Lanchester; Mr. J. Ridley, Cornsay Lodge; Mr. E. Stonehouse, Hamsterley; Mr. T. Forster, South Cottages; Mr. T. Starforth, Mr. J. Wherley, Mr. G. Storey, Mr. J. T. Elrington, Cornsay; Mr. H. Morton, Quebec; Mr. T. Reather, Hamsteels; Mr. Shipley, Malton Colliery; Mr. E. Jacques, sen., Esh New Winning; Dr. Kirkland, Cornsay; Mr. J. Stobbart, Mr. H. Brown, Mr. J. French, Mr. T. Suddes, Mr. J. G. Jackson, Mr. W. Watson, Mr. R. Adamson, Mr. W. Jackson, Mr. A. Stewart, Mr. M. Temple, Annfield Plain; Mr. R. Collinson, Hamsteels; Mr. J. Hewitt, Mr. W. Stokoe, Quebec; Mr. G. Simpson, Mr. H. Starforth, Mr. W. K. Hardy, Mr. J. Sargent, Mr. W. Glass, Mr. T. Forster, Cornsay; and others.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said that a very pleasant duty devolved upon him, and that was to thank them for the great gathering there that day, which spoke volumes for the Conservative cause in the division. (Applause.)

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Mr. J. W. Walton-Wilson, Mr. E. W. E. Balleny (who wrote that he did not wish to seek re-election as chairman), Col. Leadbitter-Smith, Mr. J. Fairley, Mr. E. J. Wardle, Rev. T. L. J. Warneford, Mr. Thos. Bowes, and others.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous annual meeting were confirmed, on the motion of Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Sheffield.

ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. Murray then read the annual report as follows:—The Executive Committee have pleasure in submitting their annual report, with a record of the work performed by the association during the past year. The last annual meeting of the association was held at Leadgate on May 6th, 1899, and the attendance of delegates on that occasion was unusually large, and fairly represented the whole of the division. After a most successful meeting the delegates were entertained to a knife-and-fork tea, on the kind invitation of the Leadgate Polling District Conservative Association, to whom the Executive Council tender their best thanks. During the year the Central Committee have met on two occasions. The first meeting was held on Oct. 7th, and the second on Feb. 3rd, both in the New Town Hall, Consett. An Emergency Committee was also summoned on the 4th March, for the purpose of considering a proposal to invite the Northern Union of Conservative Associations to hold a quarterly or annual meeting in Consett. It was decided to offer the invitation, and your committee are glad to state that it has been accepted. The date of the visit will probably be July, and it is hoped, in connection therewith, that we shall be favoured with the presence of a member of the Government at a great public meeting, and your committee would urge upon the delegates present to use their best endeavours to make the meeting a success. At the meeting of the Central Committee held on Oct. 7th, Messrs W. J. Scott and Ralph Walton were elected as representatives of this association on the Council of the Northern Union of Conservative Associations, and we are pleased to state that both gentlemen, with the president, attended the annual meeting of the Union held at Stockton in October last. Messrs Jas. Joicey and J. W. Walton-Wilson were at the same meeting elected representatives of this association at the conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations held at Dewsbury in November last, at which conference Mr Joicey and Mr Taylor-Smith were present. The work of registration connected with the revision of the voters' list has again received the attention of your committee, and it may be stated that by a technical mistake on the part of the Liberal agent, all the new Liberal lodger claims, amounting to some 50 or 60, were rendered void, and disallowed. The following is a list of the claims and objections made and sustained—

Conservative Claims.

	Made.	Sustained.
New owners claims	45	45
Occupiers	11	9
Objections—Owners	56	26
Objections—Occupiers	15	11
Old Lodger claims	61	61
New lodger claims	42	30
	230	182

Radical Claims.

	Made.	Sustained.
New owners' claims	39	30
Occupiers	7	7
Objections—Owners	—	—
Objections—Occupiers	—	—
Old lodger claims	42	42
New lodger claims	60	0
	103	79

Unionist gain—103.

During the past year it became necessary to appoint a new sub-agent, and they believe that in Mr. Appleford the Association have secured a capable man, who earnestly desires, with the co-operation of the committee and of each individual member of the organisation, to devote himself to the performance of his duties, and to the Conservative and Unionist cause. (Hear, hear.) Since his advent into the constituency at the beginning of this year, he has visited most of the local organisations, resuscitated several that were in a state of collapse, and added materially to the membership of the Polling District Associations. (Applause.) In all 116 meetings for organisation, political addresses, and concerts, were held in the year, the speakers including Messrs. Jas. Joicey, M. Ray (South Africa), F. W. Deacon, R. B. Parry, H. S. Neale, F. Fielding, W. D. Cruddas, and R. L. Appleford. They were held as follows:—Stanley, 8; Consett, 11; Blackhill, 7; Dipton, 6; Cornsay, 7; East Hedleyhope, 3; Medomsley, 7; South Moor, 1; Langley Park, 3; Annfield Plain, 7; Ebchester, 2; Old Cornsay, 2; Lanchester, 3; Edmundbyers, 2; Leadgate, 8; Castleside, 1; Tanfield, 4; Hamsterley, 9; Burnhope, 1; Satley, 8; Quebec, 5; Burnopfield, 5; Broomhill, 1; Wakerley, 1; Tantobie, 3; and Mountsett, 1. While these figures are satisfactory as indicating a considerable amount of good work, your committee feel strongly that much better results might be achieved by holding a large percentage of public meetings, and they earnestly invite the various Polling District Associations to make special efforts during the current year to secure this desirable object. Your secretary has received 120 communications, and has despatched 86 during the year, exclusive of circular matter, while the sub and registration agent has received 32 and despatched 450, also exclusive of circulars. The committee thank those gentlemen who have so kindly assisted the cause by their financial support, and trust to have their further assistance in the future. During the year a variety of important and beneficial Acts of Parliament have been placed upon the Statute Book, comprising measures for the better education of the people, technically and otherwise; for the prevention of the adulteration of food and drugs; and for the acquisition of their dwellings by working-men, on easy terms, through local authorities. The greatest work, however, which has been undertaken by the Government is the removal of the sore which has been festering in the side of South Africa for many years, creating continued unrest and periodical crises, and seriously impeding the progress and prosperity of that far-reaching portion of Her Majesty's dominions. Your committee have much pleasure in recording their satisfaction at the thorough-going manner in which the Government have taken up the challenge so gratuitously and offensively thrown down by Messrs. Kruger and Steyn, and their pride in the gallant bearing and uncomplaining endurance of our forces in the field. (Loud applause.) They feel also that an acknowledgment is due to that section of the Liberal Party which has patriotically supported the Government—an attitude so markedly in contrast to that of the member for this division, who has not given a vote in favour of the measures rendered necessary for the successful prosecution of the war, but has allied himself with the faction who espouse the cause of, and send messages of sympathy to, the Boer. ("Shame.") The war has brought all patriotic citizens together, and demonstrated to the world that unity of the empire, through the loyal co-operation of the colonies; and it is not to be doubted that we shall reap the fruits of our sacrifice by the absorption of the peace-disturbing Republics, and the welding of South Africa into one harmonious whole, under the unchallengeable supremacy of the British flag—the symbol of order, liberty, and progress. (Cheers.) In this division the unanimity of opinion in favour of the resolute policy of the Government has been remarkable, and your committee are assured that by strenuous efforts and better organisation, that opinion will be manifested at the polls at the now not far distant General Election. (Applause.) In conclusion, your committee desire to record their heartiest appreciation of the services rendered to the association during the year by Mr. J. D. Piercey Taylor-Smith. (Loud applause.)

The Chairman said the first thing they had to do was to thoroughly appreciate the fact that they had Mr. Ritson once more amongst them. (Applause.) They hoped again to have the benefit of his presence and services. He (the chairman) had the pleasure of attending the Northern Union Conference at Stockton, and was highly elated at the excellent speech of Mr. Macartney, Under-Secretary of the Admiralty. He had the pleasure of going to Dewsbury with Mr. Joicey, where they engaged their present agent, Mr. Appleford. He hoped that the latter would have the assistance of all the branches in the division. During his year of office as president he had received the utmost support and sympathy. He had especially to thank Mr. Murray. He had always appreciated the great honour done him, because he had a difficult duty in following such a gentleman as Mr. Ritson, who had kept everything up to the mark. It was easy to follow a duffer, but not to follow a president like Mr. Ritson. (Hear, hear.) He thanked them all most heartily for the manner in which he had been received, no matter to what part of the constituency he went. He hoped that the cause would go on progressing as it had done during the past six or seven years, and that the good work done since 1892 would result in the return of a gentleman who thoroughly represented the feelings of the division. (Loud applause.) Mr. Taylor-Smith then moved the adoption of the report.

Ald. Ritson said it afforded him great pleasure and gratitude to find himself once more associated with that association. In seconding the adoption of the report there was not much that he need say, except words of congratulation. He was pleased their finances were so satisfactory. He was glad that they had succeeded, through the offices of the president and Mr. Joicey, in securing a new agent. They welcomed Mr. Appleford. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the latter had not only come to do the work of the association, but to win further spurs. (Applause.) He hoped that they would give Mr. Appleford all the assistance they could. He came as a stranger, and required a kind and hearty welcome. He craved for him that loyal assistance which would enable him to discharge the important duties devolving upon him. (Applause.) All their minds and all their hearts were centred in South Africa. The war had been brought about by no fault of the Government. (Hear, hear.) It was brought about by a challenge which no country that entertained any respect for itself could resist. The whole country had risen to assert the rights of the people out yonder. (Applause.) They were indebted to many of the heads of the opposite party for the way in which they had assisted the Government. To attempt, as had been done, to put the blame on the Colonial Secretary was dastardly in the extreme. (Loud applause.) As Mr. Chamberlain had said, it was a greater insult to the other members of the Cabinet than it was to himself. No member of the Cabinet could bring on the war of his own account. War was an evil, but he believed that good would come out of it, not only to South Africa, but by the uniting of the colonies to that country—a fact that would be ever remembered. (Loud applause.) The whole of the colonies had vied one with another in coming to the aid of the Mother Country. He hoped that there would be no make-shift peace when the war was over. (Applause.) These poor people in South Africa should not be allowed to remain under the demoralising influence that they had been in for years. He believed that there was a bright future for South Africa. It was a country partly undeveloped, and would be the home of many who had gone out to fight their battles. He was exceedingly obliged for their kind and cordial welcome. Anything he could do for the interests of the North-West Durham Conservative Association he would do very gladly. (Applause.)

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mr. Collinson reported that there was a balance of £30 14s. 8d from last year, which, with subscriptions amounting to £260 10s. 6d., made a total of £291 5s. 2d. The expenditure had been £268 9s. 11d., leaving a balance of £22 15s. 3d. (Applause).

Mr. Siddell moved the adoption of the report, and thought that the association was in a very good financial condition, and that the statement of the treasurer was most satisfactory. (Applause).

Mr. Vasey seconded the motion, which was adopted.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

The Chairman said he had very great pleasure in proposing that Mr. Ritson become president for the ensuing twelve months. He was sure that a better president they could not have. He could say without fear of contradiction that a better president they would never get again. (Applause.)

Capt. Crossling seconded the motion, which was carried amid cheers.

Ald. Ritson then took the chair, and said he was exceedingly obliged for the great honour they had done him in electing him as president of the association again. He only accepted it on the distinct statement of Mr. Taylor-Smith that for private reasons he could not undertake the duties again. The association was much indebted to Mr. Taylor-Smith for the manner in which he had occupied the chair. (Applause.) He had carried out the duties in admirable fashion. As regards himself, anything he could do in the future, as in the past, they might depend upon it he would do. He could not promise to attend all their meetings, especially on Saturday nights, but any meetings he could possibly attend he would do so. The Conservative Association of North-West Durham was no small body. There was an influence in that room which, if properly worked, would tell a wonderful tale at the next election. (Applause.) He did not think the election would be this year, because the Government must settle the final terms of the war. (Hear, hear.) Come when it might it behoved them all to do their duty in endeavouring to make converts to the cause of Unionism. Home legislation was not much talked about now, but he believed the Conservative and Unionist Government would do more for the benefit of the working class than their so-called friends, the Radicals. (Applause.) The Radicals were good promisers, but bad performers. (Laughter.) Taking a fair and impartial view they would find that the Conservatives and Unionists passed more measures for the benefit of the working class than did the Radicals. The principal business of the Radicals was to try to set class against class. He now asked them to join heartily in thanking Mr. Taylor-Smith for his services during the last twelve months. He had earned from that association the deepest debt of gratitude for his services. (Loud applause.)

Mr. James Joicey, in supporting, said it gave him very great pleasure to meet such a representative gathering. He thought that if any proof was required of the fact that their late president had been appreciated, they could have no better proof than the large gathering there that day. (Hear, hear.) They had got Mr. Ritson back in the presidential chair. Although they were losing one good man they had got another good man in his place. He was sure, from the opportunities he had had of meeting Mr. Taylor-Smith, that that gentleman had done everything in his power to carry out the duties imposed upon him. (Applause.) He also felt certain that at any time Mr. Taylor-Smith would be pleased to place his services at the disposal of the Conservative Association. (Applause.)

Mr. Scott also supported, and said that Mr. Taylor-Smith had never missed a single meeting. (Applause.) They could not find a man with one who took a greater interest in the cause. (Applause.)

The vote was then carried by acclamation, Mr. Taylor-Smith said he could not find words to express his gratitude at the enthusiastic manner in which they had received the toast. He thanked them all from the bottom of his heart for the kind reception he had met with. (Applause.)

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Scott proposed the election of Mr. Taylor-Smith as chairman of committees.

Mr. A. Watson seconded, and in supporting the motion deserved the support of all present. When they remembered the manner in which Mr. Taylor-Smith had filled the gap at Leadgate last year the least they could do was to confer this honour upon him. (Applause.)

The motion was carried unanimously, and Mr. Taylor-Smith returned thanks.

THANKS TO THE AUDITORS.

A vote of thanks was carried to Mr. Richley for auditing the accounts, on the motion of Mr. Sheffield, seconded by Mr. Leath.

A FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Mr. Scott brought forward the question of appointing a Finance Committee of three, in order to assist the secretary and treasurer.

On the suggestion of Mr. Murray, Mr. Scott moved that a recommendation go from that meeting to the Executive Committee in favour of appointing a Finance Committee from their number.

The motion was carried.

RESIGNATION OF MR MURRAY.

The Chairman said that a letter had been received from Mr. Murray asking to be relieved of the duties of hon. secretary, owing to his multifarious duties. Unfortunately Mr. Murray had not been very strong lately, and had a lot of responsibility in connection with his profession. He was sure that they would all receive his resignation with regret, as he certainly did. (Hear, hear.) Owing to the terms of Mr. Murray's letter, he (Ald. Ritson) suggested that the resignation be accepted as final, as Mr. Murray wished to be relieved from all responsibility in the future, and that the question of his successor be referred to the Executive Committee. He was certain that they all regretted and deplored the cause that necessitated Mr. Murray taking that step. (Applause.)

Mr. Joicey said that during the last election he received the most hearty support and co-operation from Mr. Murray. He felt sure that no one at the last contest did more conscientious work than Mr. Murray. (Applause.) On many occasions he risked his health by going out on cold nights and sitting in hot rooms. He was sure they all deplored the fact that they were losing Mr. Murray, but when it was a question of health they felt that they must not press him. He hoped that Mr. Murray would continue to come amongst them, and give them that assistance which they all valued. (Applause.) He could not sufficiently thank him for the way he worked at the last election. Mr. Murray had gone out of his way on many occasions to assist the Unionist cause, and he would ever have the best wishes of them all for his future welfare. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Vasey said it had come as a great blow to all of them to hear of Mr. Murray's resignation. He moved that the matter be referred to the Executive Committee.

Mr. Murray said that the step he had decided on taking was taken with a great deal of regret. During the time he had been connected with the Association he had received the utmost kindness and courtesy. He had been connected with the Association for 13 years, and had seen many changes. He had been the witness of despair and elation in the Conservative Party. They must all feel gratified that there had been an accession of strength to the cause in that division. (Applause.) An agent had a somewhat varied work. He met with many rebuffs, to all of which he must be invulnerable. He left the thread, he trusted, in no ravelled skein. He hoped to take some position in the ultimate triumph in store for the Conservative Party. (Loud applause.)

The motion was then carried, and the proceedings terminated.

On the invitation of the Quebec Association the delegates were entertained to a splendid knife-and-fork tea, to which the large company did ample justice, their wants being attended to by an ample staff of courteous attendants. In the evening a successful smoking concert was held in the schools, when a most cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Quebec Association for the very generous manner in which they had entertained the delegates. Mr. J. B. Johnson responded. A most eloquent and forcible speech was delivered by Mr. Deacon, who dealt with the present war in South Africa. Songs were rendered by Messrs. C. Williamson, W. Hagon, H. Hovvells, J. Uncles, and Gaffney, Mr. A. Kinsella acting as accompanist. The enthusiastic proceedings terminated with the singing of the National Anthem.

THE PITILESS EXPECT TENDER TREATMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—Mr. Stephen Coleridge's able and trenchant review of Mr. Stephen Paget's recently published book in defence of vivisection, seems to have inspired the latter gentleman with a feeling of resentment, for, to the "British Medical Journal" of April 28th, he contributes some extracts from a [illegible] of the "Zoophilist" (the organ of the National Anti-Vivisection Society) which he describes as "offensive" and [illegible] who strain their moral principles, [illegible] who expose their cruelties, [illegible] the law of charity. [illegible] possible to state facts [illegible] the effect that [illegible] of false sentiment and sophistical chimeras. [illegible] The whole thing [illegible] "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy," [illegible] are merely clinical and [illegible] doubtless if professors of physiology and [illegible] their particular [illegible] as vivisection [illegible] as the emission of love and light.—I am, sir, yours truly,

MAURICE L. JOHNSON.

Marlborough Villa, Bristol.

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The Dunston Building Estate.

Lively Meeting of Ratepayers at Dunston.

The Council severely Criticised.

An Extraordinary Motion.

On Friday evening, a meeting of ratepayers and inhabitants of Dunston was held in the Dunston Board Schools, for the purpose of taking into consideration the actions of the Urban District Council, with a view to secure the proper width of streets now forming in Dunston. The meeting was a representative one, and considerable interest was manifested in the proceedings. Amongst the members of the local authority present we noticed the chairman (Mr. R. Winship, J.P.), Councillors Forster, Swinburn, Rutherford, and Taylor. It might be here stated that the subject of the meeting was what is known as the Dunston Building Estate, and for the guidance of those readers who have not followed the matter, we might state that some time ago plans were submitted by Mr. James Frazer, architect, Newcastle, on behalf of a Dunston Syndicate for certain houses which only showed a thirty-feet roadway. The Council's by-laws stipulate a forty-feet roadway; however, the plans were passed, but it is only right to add in fairness to the Council that many of the members, if not all, did not think at that time that they could enforce a forty-feet roadway at this point. Building operations were commenced with—says our Swalwell correspondent—but these had not been very long in progress until Mr. Frazer was asked to stop work. Correspondence and interviews subsequently took place with a view to the Council securing a forty-feet roadway at that point, but the negotiations evidently were abortive, as no amicable agreement could be arrived at, and at the last meeting of the Council a resolution was passed allowing Mr. Frazer to proceed building in accordance with his plans.

At the outset of the proceedings Mr. C. McIntyre explained that a committee meeting had been held on the previous Monday evening in regard to the roads being formed about Dunston. After the discussion that took place he was asked by that meeting to call a public meeting, which he had done, and hence the assembly that evening. The meeting was now open for those assembled to conduct their own business. As they would have seen from the bills the meeting had been called in regard to only the formation of the roads, which the meeting on Monday night considered were entirely opposite to the by-laws of their local Council. (Hear, hear.) He thought the first thing to do that evening would be to elect a chairman.

Mr. J. Stokoe and Mr. George Whitfield were each nominated for the chair, when 18 voted for the former, and 13 for the last-named. Mr. Stokoe, however, refused to occupy that position, and begged to be excused. He thanked them for their kindness. (Cries of "Get into the chair.")

Mr. Stokoe subsequently took the chair, and in the course of his opening remarks said he was not at all acquainted with the purport of the meeting. He had a certain knowledge of certain things, but, really, he thought some other gentleman might inform them, and he would, therefore, not make any remarks until he heard from themselves the purport of the meeting. He should be pleased to hear any remarks about the proceedings of the Council in reference to the encroachment upon a public highway, which he did not hesitate to say was certainly correct—that there was an encroachment—and it was for them to decide that evening what steps or procedure should be taken on that account. Would someone set the ball a-rolling? (Applause.)

Mr. Thomas H. Gass: Perhaps some member of the Council will commence it by giving us some statements of what has been done in the Council in reference to the highways. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said there were several members present: would some of them explain the reason why these houses were being proceeded with? (Hear, hear.) He thought it would be best if that was done. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Joseph Stokoe: I think the chairman of the Council is here; he cannot be a good one. (Laughter and hear, hear.)

Mr. Donnelly: I think this meeting is called by the ratepayers to object to the procedure of the passing of this plan; will some of the ratepayers get up and state their objections, and there are some of the Councillors present who will reply?

A Ratepayer: I move that Mr. Rutherford gives us the whole of the correspondence touching upon this matter. (Laughter.)

Mr. Charles McIntyre, at this juncture, remarked that some of those assembled were present at the committee meeting held on Monday evening, and some were not. The meeting was what they might call a "scratch" meeting—(laughter)—which was got up by some persons who saw that a building syndicate in the village had commenced operations and laid down the foundations of their houses in contravention, as they and a number of people thought, of the by-laws of the local Council. They (the syndicate), he alleged, had pulled down a wall, which had been considered by some people to be the property of the Council, and built their property on the foundations of that wall, used the material of the wall, and narrowed the width down to 29 feet 6 inches in front of the opposite property. The builders had intended to continue that property right around in front of the Board Schools, etc., which it was alleged would narrow the main road of their village where the traffic was most congested, and where developments were likely to take place. At present it was thought that a huge mistake on the part of the Council to tolerate such a plan as allowed buildings to exist within a distance of 30 feet, when the by-laws said that at least it ought to be 40 feet. The whole thing arose from that point. The Council having sanctioned the plan certain persons thought that their grievances ought to be ventilated, and consequently the meeting of Monday evening was held at which he was asked to be secretary, and it was decided at that meeting to invite all the Councillors to be present at that public meeting. He might mention that after discussion and a good deal of heckling—and there were members of the Council then present—they found out that that particular plan had been examined six times, and finally still agreed upon to the detriment of the general public welfare. The matter was also mentioned that another plan had been passed in connection with Mr. Garbutt's property as proceeding down a public highway. As this was not the first occurrence of such things they thought the time had arrived when the public ought to put their foot down and stop such things, and that the right-of-ways of the public ought to be maintained instead of sold outright. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. James Dennison said that at the last meeting they had they heard the report of two members of the Council, and having heard their report he thought it was only right and fair that the chairman of the Council should report as to the plan. The speaker then made a personal attack upon the chairman and the syndicate.

The Chairman of the Council (Mr. R. Winship) then addressed the gathering, but owing to the noise part of his utterances were lost to the ear. He was understood to say that Mr. Frazer had the matter in his own hands, and that gentleman was present and perfectly willing to give his statement of the case.

Mr. Fletcher (Dunston) said it seemed to him that they had been called together to make a specific charge against the Council. The Council had violated the by-laws, and it seemed that the parishoners were not satisfied with the same, and as the charges to his mind were against the Council, perhaps some member who was acquainted with the buildings would come forward and explain all the details and correspondence that had taken place relative to the same, so that the meeting could see how the by-laws had been violated, and what they had been violated for. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman thought it would facilitate matters if Mr. Frazer were to explain the position of affairs.

Mr. Frazer said in the first place he would like to know what was really expected from him? He was willing to put the whole facts of the case before the meeting. He wished to be clear upon the first point before he said anything.

Mr. Joseph Stokoe: It appears to me that we have come to a deadlock. There is a charge brought against the Council, and we want information as ratepayers. We want information, and we want to know the why and the wherefore of this violation of their own by-laws—(A voice: "Yes,")—and I think that the Councillors ought to come forward and give us a clear statement of the real state of affairs. How can we get up and discuss this plan without knowing the bottom of affairs? (Hear, hear.) It's as little as they can do. The ratepayers are dissatisfied with what they have done, and they ought to come forward and try to justify themselves. (Applause and hear, hear.)

Coun. Winship thought perhaps he had better give a very short resume of the position in regard to the plan. (Cries of "platform.") Coun. Winship then stepped on to the platform amid cheers. He said that he was not prepared to speak, but still at the same time he would make a speech. (Hear, hear.) He would simply tell them in regard to the matter as far as he was concerned and the members. He had been placed at a great disadvantage in being in the chair at the Council, thanks to the members who had put him into the chair. These plans were brought up by Mr. Frazer before the Board—he did not know exactly how long ago—in connection with the whole of the site reaching from the roadway opposite Mr. Noble's shop. The roadway was measured off and cemented by the Council some considerable time ago as being the boundary of the road that did exist, and did exist at that particular period. The question cropped up as to whether in making those streets, if that street was a public street, or an old road. That was discussed time after time, and afterwards Mr. Frazer said, "Well, if you want me to go back 20 feet from the centre of the roadway will you allow me to knock it off the back street reaching back of Athol Street?" Mr. Walls and himself, along with one or two of the other members of the Council, thought that Mr. Frazer's site for 15 and 16 feet back streets was too little, and that was rejected. Time after time the plans came before them and were rejected. At the last instance Mr. Frazer asked to be allowed to put his case before the Council, as he was giving away a very large amount of property in removing the very place that the Council had been trying to get removed for the last thirty years or more, and which they had been unable to get removed. They could not get it removed unless they got permission. Then as to the discussion before the Council Mr. Swinburn was there, Mr. Rutherford was there, and the whole of the members were there with the exception of two or three at that meeting. Mr. Swinburn went away just at the time the question was being discussed. Mr. Rutherford was present, and the thing was settled on the spot. Looking at the place, looking at the roadway, and looking at the width of the roadway, the thing was settled on the spot, without the speaker taking part in the discussion. They could not make any better of it. It was an old road and they were getting more by taking it away. They considered that it was a street in the eyes of the law, but not a new street, and it was only new streets that they could deal with. They considered that it was an old street. Mr. Frazer said, "I will take away all those old buildings and give you a 29 feet street at the very lowest or narrowest point." They had done the best for the village they could, and he hoped they would give them credit for it. (Applause.)

Mr. Frazer then addressed the meeting. He said that the matter commenced first of all in February, 1898, when he submitted plans for the laying out of that building estate. These plans were in due course presented to the Council, who rejected them. The plans were rejected first of all on the recommendations of the Surveyor. The Surveyor was the first person to draw the Council's attention to the width of the street. From reports he had heard in that district he thought it was only right to the Surveyor that he should make that statement. (Hear, hear.) He had always found the Surveyor a gentleman, although he (the Surveyor) had certainly in many respects been hard with him. (A voice: "He has not been hard enough.") In going through the minutes he found that some of the Surveyor's reports upon those plans were what he would hardly call friendly. He did not say that in any injustice to him These plans were presented at a meeting held on Feb. 2nd, 1899. The plans were submitted for four streets proposed to be formed opposite the Keel Hotel and were rejected because the plans did not show a road way forty-feet wide. They were again submitted to the Council on May 4th, and were disapproved in consequence of the same not being in accordance with the Council's by-laws, the streets not being shown 20 feet in width from the centre of the present street, and no section having been shown of a man-hole, which was only a technical matter. He might say that after some correspondence it was arranged that a meeting should take place between the Council and himself. He came down and met the Council on June 1st last—survey day. He was there some time and discussed the matter with the Council. There were present the Chairman, Councillors Walls, Forster, Swinburn, and Rutherford. He thought the Chairman (Coun. Winship) was correct in saying that Mr. Swinburn at that meeting went away. The discussion which took place was something to this effect:—That the Council would be compelled to reject his plan owing to the roadway not being 20 feet wide from the centre of the roadway. He pointed out to the Council—and he thought the ratepayers might understand—that the by-laws so far as a new street was concerned were a mere nothing unless it was absolutely a new street. He had gone carefully into the case, and they had come to the conclusion that that was not a new street according to the Act of Parliament, or according to the by-laws of their district. He held this forward to the Council: That they could not force him back; he was not encroaching, and there was no encroachment; he said that he was only asking for what was his right. He said that he was perfectly willing to meet them to widen the road and recognised that it should be widened, but they were in this unfortunate position: they were between two fixed points. He put forward an offer which would have made that road 42 feet wide. The Council refused the same. They said, "We cannot do it." As a matter of fact it was a question whether they could. After some further discussion he was asked to re-submit the plans, and they were passed, on the understanding that the cottages opposite the Keel Hotel should be pulled down by them and thrown into the street at as early a date as possible. In dealing with the matter he might mention the wall about which it had been said that they had annexed the same, and gone into the ground that was not theirs, and taken material that did not belong to them. Now that was a fallacy. On the 24th Feb. this year he was asked to meet the Council. He met a committee of the Council, and after a long discussion he again said that he was most willing to set his property back if it could be possibly done, but if any loss was to come he would have to be re-imbursed. They were all practical men, and did not work for fun. They wanted to make money; they did not want to lose it. If they set those buildings back it would have been a bad loss to them—a serious loss. He said, "If you will pay for the amount of work that has been done and re-imburse us for any loss, we are willing to set back," and he might say that a small sum of money would have covered the damage. He was again asked to wait upon the Council, and had hoped that the matter would have been amicably settled. When he went to the meeting he was told to wait outside, and he waited there for nearly two hours. After he went into the meeting he had a preposterous proposition made to him—that the solicitor to the Council and his solicitor should meet and discuss the legal points. Now they knew that was not trying to amicably settle the matter. He supposed it was just to frighten him by legal proceedings, and force him down upon his knees. He might say that he was fully prepared for that contingency, and he refused to have anything whatever to do with the matter, so far as that was concerned. He might say that he had set the buildings going before that. A letter was next received from the Surveyor on March 23rd, 1900, which gave notice that the estate was not being laid out in accordance with the Council's by-laws, and requesting that all operations of work must cease, until the by-laws were complied with. His solicitors, Messrs. Clayton and Gibson, wrote a letter to the Council stating that they would be glad to hear in what way Mr. Frazer had contravened the by-laws, as they understood the Council had already formally approved of the plans. The matter was left for further consideration. At a meeting held later by the Council a motion was made by Coun. Swinburn to the effect that the Council should endeavour to secure a 40 feet roadway, instead of a 30 feet roadway as shown on the plan inadvertently passed by the Council in June. He (Mr. Frazer) could not understand the word "inadvertently," because the matter was carefully gone into. Coun. Rutherford as an amendment moved that counsel's opinion should be taken, which was seconded by Coun. Taylor, and carried. That was the way the members of the Whickham Council settled things amicably. (Laughter.) On March 20th, 1900, from the report he found that counsel's opinion upon the matter was read, and it was resolved that the discussion of the matter should take place in committee. After discussion it was resolved, on the motion of Coun. Rutherford, seconded by Coun. Swinburn, "That counsel having advised that this is a new street within the meaning of the Public Health Act, and therefore the roadway or carriage-way should be 40 feet wide, that the Council required being carried out." He was again approached by the Council to see if they could not settle the matter, and it was arranged that a meeting should take place on March 13th, in the Board Schools. At that meeting he pointed out after a long discussion that he was prepared to set back if the Council would cover the damage. He remarked that they did not want any profit out of the thing. They eventually agreed that he should submit certain schemes to the Council. The speaker then quoted the schemes which have already appeared in our columns. He submitted the schemes, and understood that if any settlement took place it should be based upon one of the schemes. Judge how much he was astonished when he received the following letter from the Clerk to the Council:—"Your letter to me of the 4th inst. was laid before the Council, when I was instructed to inform you that the Council are prepared to negotiate with the owners for the purchase of the old buildings opposite the Keel Hotel, in order to secure a 40 feet roadway at that point." They might imagine his feelings after having received a promise from the committee that if any settlement was come to it would be based upon the basis of the claim which he had prepared. They entirely snapped their fingers at the claim. He subsequently replied to that letter, and further correspondence took place, which he read. The speaker afterwards explained the latter stages of the matter, which most of our readers are cognisant with. Mr Frazer added that he had not come there to seek any votes, or for any party purpose. He had come there to give them the facts of the case. If any property should have been attacked it was the shop immediately opposite. The speaker made an allegation as to the roadway which was questioned. In regard to the present matter he was prepared to fight the case. He had been attacked persistently by those gentlemen before him—Messrs Swinburn, Rutherford, and Taylor. He would not say very much about Mr Taylor, as he considered his position was perfectly justified, because he was not on the Council when the plan was passed. (Hear, hear.) He just wished to draw their attention to this fact:—On the survey day, when these plans were thoroughly discussed, every point was gone into; every point legal and otherwise was considered at that meeting, when Mr Rutherford was there and entered into the discussion. Mr Swinburn walked away. The question at that date was evidently of not sufficient importance to engage his attention. He (Mr. Frazer) was very much astonished to hear that Mr Swinburn and Mr Rutherford attended a public meeting—of which had he known, he would have been present himself—on Monday night, and made certain statements in regard to this case as if the whole thing had come to them like a flash of lightning. Mr Rutherford and Mr Swinburn had been at every meeting where the matter had been discussed, and yet they now took up that position, as if he (Mr. Frazer) was trying to dodge the ratepayers of the district by making an encroachment. (Hear, hear.) Mr Frazer considered that he had every justification for speaking as plainly as he had done. (Applause.) He should, if possible, try to keep any heat out of the question; he had come there, as he told them, not to raise any party feeling, or to catch any votes, but as one of themselves (Hear, hear.) He wanted them to bear this fact on their minds: that whatever they did this street was not a new street; it was an old street. As the matter now stood he was still willing, if they came forward with the money, to pull all his buildings down and set them back, upon payment of loss sustained. He did not want any profit out of it. He had told his syndicate repeatedly, and it had been their wish right through, that if any public improvement could be made, that he (Mr. Frazer) had to stretch a point as much as ever he could, even if they lost something upon the same, because they felt that it would not only be an improvement to them, but that it would be an improvement for the district. They would see that it was not a question of any desire to hoodwink them, or the Council. He had been perfectly open with them in every respect. He had put the case as clearly before them as he could, and he thought that if they had the counsel's opinion, which was given to the Council, read out to them that evening, they would bear with his when he said that the whole of this thing was a "mare's nest." (Loud applause.)

Coun. Rutherford now addressed the meeting. When Mr Winship spoke, he said, he did not speak many words until he pointed out two particular members of the District Council. He said, "Mr Rutherford, Mr Swinburn, and other members." He did not see why Mr Winship should have done that. (Hear, hear.) If he had said there was a meeting of the Council at which two or three were present, then he (Mr Rutherford) would have had no objection. It was quite true that he was down at the meeting on the previous Monday evening, but he was asked to come down, and, so far as he knew, all the members of the Council were asked to be present. He attended the meeting, and those gentlemen then assembled who were present at that meeting would agree that his statements of the facts agreed with Mr Frazer. Was that so? (Cries of "yes.") He did not go into such details, but he thought the facts which he gave were exactly in accordance with what Mr Frazer told them that evening. He did not express any opinion upon them except this: "That the Council was wrong, and he took his share of the blame." (Hear, hear.) There was one thing he wanted to say. Should any of them become a member of the District Council they would find that they even tried to get certain improvements for the district that they were not legally entitled to. They generally asked persons to give up certain things which they need not give up upon a point of law. Mr Frazer's plans were submitted on February 2nd, and he also submitted an estate plan for four streets. The back streets were only 16 feet wide, and he (the speaker) considered the streets in front of the Keel Hotel ought to be widened. Why did Mr Frazer submit a plan in which he showed the back streets 16 feet wide? Why did he do that? Mr Frazer had not explained that. The plan came up again—he asked them to please bear in mind what he said at the beginning, "that they sometimes asked for certain things that they were not entitled to"—and Mr Frazer again produced nothing to show They were rejected, and for no other reason than the 40 feet. Mr Frazer submitted in the first instance for 16 feet streets. Why did he do that? The plan was rejected because the streets were not being shown 20 feet wide, and also because there was not a 40 feet front street shown. The Council asked for a forty feet street, but they did not believe that they were entitled to it. On February 2nd the plans were rejected because the back streets were less than 20 feet wide. The plan came up again on May 4th, although they were rejected and he remembered distinctly because there was not a section shewn of the sewer. The Council decided again that they should try and get a 40 feet street, but they did not believe that they were entitled to it. The plans were rejected again because a section of the sewer was not shown. In regard to the survey day—and he disagreed with the chairman when he said that he took no part in the discussion, because he thought he took as much part in it as he (Coun. Rutherford) did: in fact, if Mr. Winship was there his presence was sufficient. (Mr Winship was understood to say that he did not make that remark, and Mr Rutherford therefore withdrew his statement.) Mr Frazer would admit that he (Mr Rutherford) pressed for the road to be 20 feet wide from the centre of the roadway. He knew they did not come to any definite decision. The plans were eventually passed, the committee and the Council believing that they could not enforce a 40 feet roadway. (Hear, hear.) When they found out that they had made a mistake, the next thing to do was to try and get it put right. He was the first to go in for paying for the old buildings, and thus improve the district. He expected that they would get a 40 feet road because the Council were advised by counsel that it was a 40 feet road within the meaning of the Act. As regards Mr. Frazer's remarks about "dodging the ratepayers," he could not understand this, as he (the speaker) gave the facts on Monday evening as Mr. Frazer had just given them. He (Mr. Rutherford) was asked two or three times to give his opinion at that meeting upon what should be done, but he said that he absolutely refused to give any opinion or advice to the meeting. Mr. Frazer told them in his remarks that he was asked to come to the Council, and after waiting two hours outside he was surprised to find when he got in he was simply told that the two solicitors would meet and take counsel's opinion and be bound by that opinion. Well, the first hour that Mr. Frazer had to wait was because the Surveyor did not turn up, and the committee had to wait his arrival from 6 to 7 o'clock. It was the Surveyor's duty to be there at 6 o'clock, and they could not get on with the thing until he arrived. The second hour was occupied in getting through the preliminary business. The Council finally came to the conclusion that they would ask Mr. Frazer if he would be bound by counsel's opinion; if the Council were right then he would go to their side, and if the Council were wrong they would pay. Mr. Frazer refused to do that. The Council did their best, and he hoped they treated Mr. Frazer respectfully. Mr. Frazer subsequently promised to prepare four schemes of compensation. (A voice: 'He didn't tell us what the schemes were; let's have them?') Coun. Rutherford, proceeding, said that in the main he agreed with the facts as stated by Mr Frazer; it was only these little details that he wanted to point out. With regard to the compensation, Mr. Frazer had said that the Council agreed that they would try and arrange upon one of these four schemes. He (Mr. Frazer) used the word "promised." They were agreed to that, and he thought the Chairman of the Council would remember that he (the speaker) said that if Mr. Frazer's statement was based upon the fact that they (the Council) were not entitled to a forty-feet road, he could not accept it. How could that be a promise? He asked Mr. Frazer if it would be based upon the assumption that he was entitled to a forty-feet road, when he said, "You can assume what you like." That was the answer he got. With regard to Mr. Noble's house, and the alleged encroachment upon the highway, it was said that if it could be shown that Mr. Noble had encroached upon the highway it would be looked into. (Mr. Noble: "Excuse me, it was the party from whom I bought the house.") With these exceptions he practically agreed with the facts stated by Mr. Frazer. (Applause.)

Coun. Swinburn next addressed the meeting. In the course of his remarks he stated that he agreed with his friend Mr. Rutherford in every statement. They were in accordance with the statements which they made at the meeting which they attended on the previous Monday night. He would say that from the beginning to the end, so far as he was concerned, he had never made a personal attack upon anyone; he had never made a charge against anyone, and he was certainly surprised that when he came down to a public meeting to find a professional man like Mr. Frazer making personal attacks upon him. The resolutions which had been passed by the Council that Mr. Frazer had referred to were passed unanimously by every member of the Council. Why did he single out Mr. Swinburn? (Hear, hear.) He had never gone into personalities, neither was he there to catch votes, as was certainly suggested by Mr. Frazer's remarks; neither had he tried to get more than what he thought the public were entitled to—a 40 feet roadway. (Hear, hear.) In regard to his presence when the matter was discussed upon the survey day, the speaker appealed to Mr. Frazer to state if he was present when they discussed the case, because it had been thrown at him that he was present and took no part in the discussion. The speaker (to Mr. Frazer): Will you admit that I was not there? (Mr. Frazer: I have already done so.) Coun. Swinburn, continuing, said he wished it to be understood that he was not present on the survey day when the case was discussed. He was willing to be saddled with the responsibility, which, he thought, devolved upon every member of the Council, and he did believe that the Council made a mistake when they passed the plan. (Hear, hear.) The plan was submitted in June, and he thought they did make a mistake, but Mr. Rutherford had explained to them how that mistake came about, inasmuch as the Council, at that time, did not know that they could have insisted upon a 40 feet roadway, but thought that the most they could insist upon was a roadway measuring 20 feet from the centre of the existing road. The plan was passed—unfortunately passed. It was only when his attention was drawn to the fact that there was only a 30 feet roadway that he knew there had been an infringement of the by-laws. The first thing he did was at a meeting held on March 1st—and at that meeting a petition was presented from the Dunston people—when he moved a resolution, "That we take such steps as are necessary to secure a 40 feet roadway, instead of a 30 feet roadway as shown on the plan inadvertently passed on June 9th, 1899." That was his resolution. It was not accepted by the Council. (A point of order was here raised, but the Chairman ruled the speaker in order.) Coun. Swinburn said he moved that resolution. The meeting, however, decided to seek counsel's opinion, although they had it from Mr. Lambert that in his opinion they were entitled to a 40 feet roadway, because it was a new street within the meaning of the Act. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Lambert also ruled that a plan passed by the Council, if contrary to the by-laws, was no more binding upon the Council than the builder. Upon that ruling he was content to move his resolution for a 40 feet roadway. However, the feeling was to have counsel's opinion, and he had to withdraw his resolution. Counsel's opinion was asked for upon the unanimous vote of the Council. He was glad that they got counsel's opinion, because it settled the disputed point—that this was a street within the meaning of the Act, and that they were entitled to a 40 feet roadway. Necessarily the procuring of counsel's opinion took up a little time, and, although Mr. Frazer was at the meeting, and he knew that exception had been taken to this plan, and although he was told in the room that they were going to seek counsel's opinion, he immediately commenced to rush up those buildings, which he (Mr. Swinburn) thought was scarcely fair. He did not say that Mr. Frazer had not a legal right to do so, but there was something more than a legal right in the matter, there was a moral side to the question. It was probably twelve or fourteen days afterwards when they got counsel's opinion. It simply said that they were entitled to a 40 feet roadway. At the first possible meeting after that the whole Council—not Mr. Swinburn, and Mr. Rutherford, and Mr. Taylor—committed themselves to a resolution requiring a 40 feet roadway at that place. Now that was unanimously voted for by all who were present. But, so far as the Council was concerned, no steps had been taken to do anything towards enforcing a 40 feet roadway. He would not be a party to the breaking of the by-laws of the Whickham Urban District Council, neither should he, as a member of the Whickham Urban District Council, concede to Mr. Frazer, or the syndicate that he represented, what he would refuse others. Should there be any questions that they wished to ask him, then he would try to answer the same. He had tried to put before them what his action had been in regard to the matter. His position was simply to try and rectify a public blunder, and not to catch votes as his friend had alleged. (Applause.)

Coun. Edward Taylor asked to be allowed to say one or two words. After the explanation of the subject by Mr. Frazer, Mr. Rutherford, and Mr. Swinburn, he would not detain them with a lengthy speech. He would, however, like to explain his position in reference to this 40 feet roadway. Fortunately, or unfortunately, he was not a member of the Council when these plans were passed, therefore, up to a certain stage, he would not go into the matter, but would only deal in reference to the negotiations that took place during the time since he became a member of the Council, which was some time in August or September. He had been a member of several committees which had met to try and settle the question. He had met Mr. Frazer, and he thought that gentleman had given them a fair statement of what took place with the exception of one thing with which he entirely differed, and that was at a meeting in Mr. Lambert's office. Mr. Frazer said that the committee gave a sort of guarantee to him that one of the four claims he had to submit to them would be accepted. The speaker denied that entirely. The committee had not the power to settle with Mr. Frazer on any of the claims; they were simply deputed by the Council to try and come to some arrangement with Mr. Frazer as far as the settling of this vexed question was concerned. The speaker's action in supporting Mr. Rutherford and Mr. Swinburn in seeking to get this 40 feet roadway was because, in his opinion, he considered the public were entitled to it. He could substantiate what had been said by Mr. Swinburn—that their Clerk's contention was that they were entitled to a 40 feet roadway. He contended that that road was a most congested one, and did his level best, in conjunction with other members of the Council, to have that road 40 feet wide. He was, as he said before, fortunately or unfortunately, not upon the Plans Committee at the passing of the plan, but still he might have made the same mistake, as he was only human like his colleagues. (Applause.)

Mr. Frazer next occupied the platform. With regard to Mr. Rutherford he evidently thought that he (the speaker) did not know very much about the by-laws. "Why didn't I send my plan for the 20 feet back street?" asked Mr. Rutherford, and in the same breath he said, "We, as the Council, often ask for things which are not legal." His reply to Mr. Rutherford was exactly in his own words. Mr. Rutherford also said that a 40 feet roadway was asked for. He could scarcely understand him, as as there was never a 40 feet roadway asked for when the plans were rejected. They were rejected purely upon the fact that they did not show 30 feet from the centre of the road. Evidently Councillors themselves did not know their own by-laws. (Coun. Rutherford: "I think I corrected myself.") The speaker, continuing, said they all asked for what they did not expect to get. In regard to Mr. Swinburn's remarks about him, he had a strong grievance against both Mr. Swinburn and Mr. Rutherford, but he had no grievance against them personally, but he had strong grounds for disputing between himself and these two gentlemen, because on going through the minutes he found on every adverse movement there had been initiated in the Whickham Council, Mr. Swinburn's and Mr. Rutherford's name had been most prominent. (A voice: "Right side or wrong side?") Naturally he turned to the men who were hitting him hardest. (Laughter.)

Mr. Joseph Stokoe: Is this meeting to go on? I want to put this question: Does the by-laws of the Council say that the roads are to be 40 feet or not? If they say 40 feet why violate them? There has been such violation upon that Board as has never taken place before. (Hear, hear.) It's simply unendurable. If I thought I had to sit and listen to such verbose as I have had to-night I would not have come. (Laughter.) It's a simple question to answer; what we want to know is this: Why all this violation both by the Council and the Surveyor? (Laughter.)

The Chairman reminded Mr. Stokoe that Mr. Frazer occupied the platform, and that he would be allowed to speak when Mr. Frazer had finished.

Mr. Frazer said what he complained about was in regard to the statements of Mr. Swinburn that he had "rushed the buildings up" regardless of the merits of the case. It had been referred to him as having taken advantage of the Concil. He wished to repudiate that. That was why he took up the position of attacking Mr. Swinburn as a public representative of the district.

Mr. Stokoe: I want to know. I want to have a voice from the Council if the by-law of the Council was to be 40 feet; if so, why didn't they insist upon it being 40 feet? If not, why all this verbose? It is simply a question of "yes" or "no."

Coun. Winship: As a Dunston representative I may just say one word. The by-laws of the Council did not quite guide them in this particular question.

Mr. Stokoe: I wish to have a definite answer. I must have a definite answer. The question is this: Does your by-laws say that you must have 40 feet, or not?

Mr. Winship: The by-laws say that a new street has to be 40 feet, but we considered that this was an old street.

The Chairman said that the question with them that evening was: Are these buildings to go on—(hear, hear)—as they were, or were they, as ratepayers of the Whickham Urban District, to take action to stop them. He thought the meeting had been called to decide that if he understood it rightly. There had been something said about old buildings being pulled down. Let him tell them as one who knew that nobody could pull old buildings down and build upon the same foundation. That law was obsolete. Their by-laws distinctly said that all buildings put up now must be 40 feet at the front, and 20 feet at the back. He said this: That no property ought to be built anywhere without there was 40 feet at the front and 20 feet at the back. (Hear, hear.) It rested with them that evening as to whether they would take legal proceedings, or just let the thing simply go on.

Mr. Graham asked if according to the motion passed at the last meeting of the Council was the question done with entirely unless the ratepayers took it up?

Coun. Swinburn: Yes.

Mr. Graham said that would mean a Government inquiry. Now, to test the feeling of the meeting he would like to move that they petition for a Government inquiry to be held.

The Chairman said he was of opinion that it would be better to adjourn the meeting, and to ask the Clerk to the Council to meet them, and also that the adjourned meeting should be well advertised. He would like the subject to be more ventilated.

Mr. Septimus Wright begged to differ with the Chairman's last remarks about adjourning the meeting, and advertising it more. He thought there had been nothing else talked about in the village for the last two months—the road in front of Noble's shop. The very bairns were talking about it. (Laughter.) (The Chairman: "But perhaps everyone does not know that there was a meeting to-night.") Mr. Wright, continuing, said the meeting had been advertised fully. He wanted to speak upon the proposed Local Government Board inquiry—a high sounding phrase. (Laughter.) He would like to know what would be the probable cost if the case went against the Council? He did not admit that it would go against them. What would be the probable cost? Perhaps the best informed man upon those matters would answer that question?

Coun. Winship said they would have to ask the Attorney-General to institute a case against the Council for allowing these buildings to be passed. He did not know the procedure after that. If the case went against the Council they ran the risk of losing five or six thousand pounds, or more.

The Chairman said that it was in order to ascertain the cost of such like, etc., that he wanted them to adjourn the meeting, so that Mr. Lambert could attend and advise them. It seemed to him the next best plan would be to buy Mr. Noble's shop. (Hear, hear.) That was the most feasible way, and possibly the cheapest way to get out of the difficulty. He would certainly make the road straight, and possibly in the long run it would be far better for the Council to buy this shop at a proper price. (A voice: "Name the price George.") (Laughter.)

Mr. Fraser asked what Mr. Lambert had advised the Council?

The Chairman: We are not upon the Council: we want information.

Coun. Rutherford was now upon his feet, presumably for the purpose of addressing the gathering, when a person in the audience exclaimed: "I don't think it's right that Mr. Rutherford should monopolise this meeting. There is a lot of men who want to say something, and Mr. Rutherford has been upon his feet half-a-dozen times already to-night."

Coun. Rutherford said in regard to whether this street came within the meaning of the by-laws, Mr. Lambert's opinion was that it did. Counsel's opinion was that it was a new street.

Mr. Frazer requested that Mr. Rutherford should read counsel's opinion, and the general feeling of the meeting seemed to be that it should be read.

Coun. Ruthrford said he must have the permission of the Chairman of the Council first.

Coun. Winship here addressed some words to Mr. Rutherford, but owing to the interruption our reporter was unable to hear them. Coun. Rutherford, however, did not read counsel's opinion, which seemed to cause a ratepayer to exclaim: "There's something behind it," which was greeted with "ay! ay!"

Mr. Wright: Some of us will have to settle the case for them, because they cannot. (Laughter and applause.) It is blunder upon blunder if I am any judge. They are squabbling for about half-an-hour about if they should read a letter when they get half-way through it. No wonder that we get 30 feet streets; it is a wonder that we get any at all. (Cries of "platform.") Mr. Wright: Thank you. The speaker then stepped on to the platform—an imaginary one—and afterwards addressed the meeting. He said he was not an architect, nor a Councillor, but a resident of the village who took an active interest in all that was going—(hear, hear)—and from the very beginning, when the foundations were being laid, he had a conscientious objection to the thing being reared up. (Laughter and hear, hear.) It had always been a source of great interest to him to know how it got up, and he was obliged to Mr. Frazer, who had attended the meeting that evening, and given them such an elaborate description from the beginning of it right up to the end to date. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Frazer) certainly eclipsed every Councillor who had attempted to do it out-and-out, and he thought the impression Mr. Frazer had made upon the Dunston people would not readily be forgotten. That was by the way. The way that Mr. Frazer had tried to meet the Council at every meeting on every point reflected the very highest credit upon him, and an immense amount of discredit upon the Council "en bloc." The speaker had also got a conscientious objection against any one part of the Council trying to tell off against the others. He might be mistaken in his impression, but he had the impression that that was the battle that was raging now. The matter in regard to the plan had disclosed to him an immense amount of incompetency to do the business on the part of those that they sent to the Council to represent them. It was a disgrace and a standing disgrace to the twelve men who represented them. (Hear, hear.)

Coun. Taylor said he would not let the speaker put him "en bloc," because he was only responsible for it to a certain extent. He had——(Cries of "sit down.")

Coun. Taylor: I disagree——(Cries of "sit down," and a voice: "There's plenty of time.")

Mr. Wright: You have almost knocked me off my track. (Laughter.) Mr. Wright, after a few further remarks, said he was prepared to submit a resolution to that meeting:—"That we, the inhabitants of Dunston, in public meeting assembled, do hereby put on record as our belief that the Whickham Urban District Council, including the Surveyor, are incompetent to carry out the work they were elected to perform." (Loud cheers.)

A voice: They will all have to resign.

Mr. Faldon said he had great pleasure in seconding the resolution which had been submitted to the meeting by Mr. Wright. He remembered some years ago that Mr. Wright submitted a similar resolution in regard to the Whickham Council, and he (the speaker) had the courage to second the same. He seconded the motion for this reason: because the Councillors there assembled who tried that night to make plain their position, the more they showed to that meeting their inefficiency to carry on the work as a District Council. (Applause.) They had all admitted that they were to blame. It proved to him this one simple fact: that none of them knew anything about the matter until they were told. (Laughter.) They (the ratepayers) wanted something better than that to represent them upon the Whickham Urban District Council. They wanted men who could see further ahead than the men who at present represented them upon the Whickham Council. He, for one, was very much obliged to Mr. Frazer for the straightforward manner in which he had dealt with the matter. (Applause.) The thing was a disgrace, and there was no mistake about that, but the disgrace reflected upon the members of the Council. (A voice: "Another election!") (A ratepayer: "How way, Bewley!") (Laughter.)

The Chairman: Is there any amendment to that?

A voice: "Play up Dunston!" (Laughter.)

Mr. Faldon: If they are gentlemen they will resign.

Mr. Frazer said that with all due respect to his friends he would be glad if they would withdraw that resolution. He was there to take the position of fighting the members of the Council, but at the same time he thought the resolution a little sweeping. (A voice: "They could not help this.") (Laughter.) Mr. Frazer said they were only going to raise a stone above their heads which would never rest for generations. If the question was taken up and the worst was done to him, he would not only insist upon the Whickham Council going through the whole of their district, but he would take an action against every member of the Whickham Council for damages. They were going to raise up a feud which would do no good, and what for?—for ten feet. They could pass a resolution.

Mr. Burrell objected to Mr. Frazer's remarks.

Coun. Winship said that if the resolution was passed it would be a great reflection upon every member of the Council—all of them. Coun. Winship made some further remarks in regard to the resigning of his seat, which were inaudible owing to the noise. His utterances were greeted with a cry of "No, no, Bob; stick in." In conclusion he stated that he had done his level best.

Mr. McIntyre said that after having heard the whole of the statements he would move a vote of censure upon the whole of the Council, seeing that they had had several instances of mis-management on very similar lines. They had had instances all over the parish where these things had occurred.

Mr. Wright said that the spirit he had in the movement was not that the Council should resign—far from it. As he pointed out, he thought they would be lacking in their duty if they allowed the Council to sail quietly on without passing a resolution. He would be exceedingly sorry if he threw the parish into the cost of an election. Mr. Wright then repeated his resolution, which he said he would put to the vote.

Mr. Andrew Donnelly objected to the Surveyor being included in the resolution, as by Mr. Frazer's statements the Surveyor had done his duty. Let credit be given where credit was due. (Hear, hear.) (A voice: "Very good.")

The Chairman: Do you second Mr. McIntyre's amendment?

Mr. Donnelly: No.

The amendment was subsequently seconded, and was put to the meeting, when four voted for the same. The motion upon being put to the meeting, received ten votes.

The Chairman said this was not a representative vote. They must either vote for or against; they could not remain neutral.

The Chairman then called for a show of hands against the motion, when sixteen were counted. The motion was declared lost, nothing therefore resulting from the meeting, which terminated at 10.30 p.m.

CONSETT.

Police Changes.—Several changes were made in the local police staffs towards the end of last week. P.C. Davidson, of Consett, has been transferred to Stanley, from where P.C. Millions goes to Dunston. P.C. Steel from the headquarters at Durham, replaces P.C. Davidson in Consett.

TOW LAW.

Education Question.—We learn that owing to some recent events that there is a growing opinion in favour of the establishment of a School Board, and that Mr. H. Holywell is being communicated with again as to visiting the city on the hill at an early date.

J. T. Castle, Front St., Stanley, is not excelled in the district for Wedding Presents in Sterling and Electro-Silver.

GREAT PRIZE SCHEME.

REVISED LIST — INCREASE OF PRIZES.

THOMAS HEDLEY & CO. LIMITED
ARE GIVING AWAY
£400 IN CASH PRIZES
DURING JULY, AND NOVEMBER, 1900.
FOR
FAIRY AND HYSSOP
SOAP WRAPPERS

LIST OF PRIZES GIVEN EACH MONTH.

1st Prize £20 0 0
2nd „ 10 0 0
3rd „ 5 0 0
64 Prizes of £1 each 64 0 0
102 „ „ 10s „ 51 0 0
200 „ „ 5s. 50 0 0
369 Prizes. £200 0 0

CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION.

Save the whole of the Fairy and Hyssop Soap Wrappers (tops only will be disqualified) and send, postage or carriage paid to THOMAS HEDLEY & CO., LTD., CITY SOAP WORKS, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, not later than the 30th day of the month in which you are competing. Any received after that day will be held over for the next competition, and also any wrappers sent in and not securing a prize in July will be counted in the next competition. The Prizes will be awarded in the above order to the senders of the highest number of wrappers. If any wrappers are sent with insufficient postage they will be refused. Every wrapper must first have contained soap. Be careful to send your full name and address, also the number of wrappers sent. No employee of Thomas Hedley & Co., Ltd., will be allowed to compete. All prizes will be sent off by the 10th day of the month following the Competition, and a list giving the result will be sent to every competitor.

IMPORTANT NOTICE. In the April competition (particulars of which will be sent to anyone on application) a number of prizes were not taken.—One Wrapper would have secured a 5s. prize. Therefore, send in your Wrappers, however small the number, as you stand a good chance to secure one of the Prizes.

74th

WHICKHAM SCHOOL BOARD

THE QUESTION OF LOCAL MANAGEMENT.

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Monday evening in the Board Room, Whickham, Mr. R. T. Swinburn presiding. The other members present were—Messrs W. Neesam, J. A. Dixon, Sept. Wright, Wm. Fenton, Ed. Taylor, R. Rutherford; and the Clerk (Mr. Wm. Willis).

THE QUESTION OF LOCAL MANAGEMENT.

The Chairman said that since the last meeting they would have had the question of local management considered, and he should therefore be glad to have their views.

Mr. Neesam said he had a motion to submit, the same as he did at the last meeting:—"That we abolish local management entirely."

Mr. Rutherford seconded the motion. As he said at the last meeting he thought they should retain in their own hands the absolute control of the schools, and have them under their own care. He did not see any good reason, at least so far as he had made inquiries—why the Board should delegate to outside gentlemen power to control the schools. He had seen two or three things which he thought should not exist when he had visited the schools, excepting perhaps Dunston, which appeared to have been more looked after than any other school. There were certain things existing at the schools in other parts of the district which, he thought, were anything but creditable to the Board, who were responsible for the condition of the schools. The condition of things was due very largely to the system of local management, because there was not a uniformity. At the previous meeting of the Board he did not think that any arguments were brought forward by any member why they should uphold the system that had been in operation for some considerable time past. He therefore seconded the resolution.

Mr. Taylor supported the resolution. He could only say what he had said before—he thought the duty ought to devolve upon the members of the Board themselves. He could corroborate what Mr. Rutherford had said. He had not been through the whole of the schools, but at Dunston he thought there was great credit due to the way in which the school had been managed in the past.

Mr. Dixon also supported the motion. He thanked the Board, on behalf of their friends at Dunston, and the late management—if he might use the term—for the credit they had given them. There was lacking at Swalwell and Marley Hill that amount of interest which had been shown at Dunston. The duties that required to be done, could be easily carried out by the members of the Board themselves, upon some arrangements being made that evening with reference to the attendance committee, or any particular need that each school might require. He was informed that in the Borough of Gateshead a member was appointed chairman of the school in the district in which he resided, and one or two members of the Board partly acted as a committee upon any question that required to be dealt with in connection with the school.

Mr. Wright bore out what Mr. Dixon had said in regard to the arrangements in existence at Gateshead. He hoped that if they adopted the resolution they would get on better than they had done in the past.

Mr. Fenton did not go against the present opinion of the Board.

The resolution was now put to the meeting, and carried unanimously.

It was also decided that the Board should meet in committee at a later date for the purpose of drawing up arrangements in regard to the visiting of the schools, etc.

Mr. Taylor: In reading the "Consett Guardian" you will find that the schoolmaster reports to the Board.

The Chairman: We never saw any report from the schoolmaster.

ACCOMODATION AT DUNSTON.

The question of the accommodation at the Dunston schools was discussed, when it was decided to adjourn the matter until Friday, May 25th.

A RESIGNATION.

Miss Mary E. Turbitt wrote resigning her position as assistant teacher at the Swalwell Schools.

The resignation was accepted.

APPOINTMENT OF TEACHERS.

Twenty-six applications were received for the post of assistant teacher at the Swalwell School. There were two vacancies. Preference was given to those who resided nearest the school. Miss Jane Kelly, Whittle-le-Head, and Miss F. E. Errington, Burnopfield, were appointed to the vacancies.

AN APPLICATION.

An application was received from Miss J. Spence, Swalwell, asking for an increase in salary. Her present salary now being £50 per annum.

The application was allowed to stand over for one month.

THE LAMESLEY QUESTION.

The Clerk read the following letter from Mr. Henry Wallace, Trench Hall:—"Lamesley children attending Whickham School." When I, with others, attended your School Board meeting at Whickham on the above subject I was so nicely and kindly received by all the members with one exception—(A voice: Who is the exception? Mr. Wright: Not me—(laughter.)—that I think it only fair to bring the following facts before your Board:—When in London last week I met by appointment an official at the Board of Education, and a full discussion of the above subject took place, the result being that the Education Department are ready to sanction the arrangement we then came to, namely, to pay 12/- per head to Whickham School Board for children from Lamesley attending Whickham School, if the two districts agree to write them, and make a joint request; failing that, Lamesley can build its own school. The Education Department would prefer the payment of 12/- per head, while Lamesley prefers to build its own school, but will adhere to its former arrangements. I will await your reply if given soon after your next meeting, before I call a public meeting in Lamesley to arrange to build a school. The order made by the Education Department was, through an oversight on the part of Lamesley parish, the particulars of which I need not go into.—Henry Wallace.

After discussion, Mr. Rutherford moved that Mr. Wallace be informed that the Board adhere to the terms of the contribution order issued by the Education Department on March 23rd.

Mr. Taylor seconded the resolution, which was unanimously agreed to.

Finance.

Cheques were ordered to be signed amounting to £434 16s 2d.

This was all the business of note, and the meeting terminated.

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Price 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d. per Box; Post Free, 1s. 2d. and 2s. 10d.
A FREE SAMPLE will be sent on appication to the Proprietors.
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For BILIOUSNESS, LIVER COMPLAINT, CONSTIPATION, KIDNEY & URINARY DISEASES, WOMEN'S COMPLAINTS, INDIGESTION, BLOTCHES on the SKIN, LOSS of APPETITE, INFLUENA, PILES, HEADACHE, &c.

The marvellous effect of this Medicine will be apparent after taking the FIRST DOSE. ONE DOSE will relieve, and in the most obstinate cases a bottle or less, taken according to the Directions, will effect a complete cure.

Price 1s. 1½d.; three times quantity, 2s. 9d. Post Free, 1s. 5d. and 3s.

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Dr. Orton's Hair Restorer contains no poisons. It merely invigorates and cleanses the skin and thereby enables the skin to expel these insects in a natural manner. The manufacturer of Dr. Orton's Hair Restorer will give FIVE POUNDS TO ANY PERSON WHO CAN FIND POISON IN THIS VALUABLE HAIR RESTORER.

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BRITAIN'S BEST CYCLES.

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Business Announcements.

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---

BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL.

W. RICHARDSON,

DRAPER AND MEN'S OUTFITTER.

FOR THE SEASON.

Large Assortment of LACE, GLOVES, &c., &c., for Presents.
DECORATIVE PLANTS for Ornamentation.
UMBRELLAS, HABERDASHERY, AND HOSIERY
New and Special Consignment.

To Spend Wisely STOP HERE

THE

CREDIT ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION

LIMITED.

Head Office—10, KING WILLIAM STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Capital £1,000,000. Subscribed £380,000.

Guarantee of Trade Acceptances and Open Credits.

The Corporation will guarantee Traders 50 per cent. of their credits, at premiums representing only a small percentage of the ordinary trade profits.

Fire. *"Each risk rated on its own merits."*

Apart from the Corporation's subscribed capital, which exceeds that of any other Non-Tariff company, and is larger than that of several of the Tariff offices, it possesses re-insuring resources enabling it to write large amounts.

Workmen's Compensation. *"Non-Tariff."*

The Corporation issues an absolute guarantee against all liability under the Acts of 1897 and 1880, and at Common Law without limit.

Application for Agencies Invited.

O.V.H.S.

ESTABLISHED 1830.

THE VATTED HIGHLAND SMALL STILL WHISKY.

(Registered).

Matured in Sherry Wood.

Supplied to Principal London Clubs and Restaurants. Price: TWO GUINEAS per dozen Case, CARRIAGE PAID. Extra Special LIQUEUR, 48s, per dozen, CARRIAGE PAID

F. H. LAMB & CO.,

FORTH HOUSE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Agent for Consett and District:
NATHAN ELSDON,
Delves Lane,
Consett.

791g

BABY WON'T CRY IF YOU GIVE IT

MOTHER'S FRIEND

AND BABY'S COMFORT,
RECOMMENDED BY THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

THE BEST AND SAFEST MEDICINE FOR CHILDREN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.

CONTAINS NO LAUDANUM, OPIUM, OR MORPHIA.

MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Wind, and Griping Pains in the Stomach or Bowels.

MOTHER'S FRIEND Prevents and Cures Convulsions, Fevers, Fits, and Thrush.

MOTHER'S FRIEND corrects Acidity and cures Diarrhœa.

MOTHER'S FRIEND removes Pain and produces Natural Sleep.

PREPARED ONLY BY

J. ROBINSON,

DISPENSING AND FAMILY CHEMIST.
STANLEY AND ANNFIELD PLAIN

AGENT FOR GLENDINNING'S BEEF AND MALT WINE 505v

HENRY ANNANDALE TOWN,

(Professional Associate of the Surveyors' Institute.)

LAND, ESTATE AGENT,
VALUER AND SURVEYOR,

UNDERTAKES

The entire Management of Country Estates.

Properties of every description, either in Town or Country, Managed on Moderate Terms under Personal Supervision.

Properties Sold or Let on Commission.

Valuations undertaken and Mortgages Negotiated.

Agent for the Lancashire Fire and Life Insurance Company and Globe Accident Insurance Company.

15, PILGRIM STREET,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Telephone, No. 4.

PIANOS & ORGANS

FOR SALE,

8s., 10s. 6d., 12s. 6d., 15s., 17s. 6d., 20s., 22s. 6d., per Month.

Guaranteed 10 years. Liberal Discount for Cash

Old Pianos taken in exchange.

Tuning and Repairs promptly attended to.

CYCLES. CYCLES.

Sole Agent in District for the "Osmond," "Beanco," "Ariston," and other renowned makes.

ACCESSORIES, REPAIRS, RE-PLATING, AND ENAMELLING done on the Premises.

ADDRESS:

E. SLOANE & SONS,

PIANO AND CYCLE WAREHOUSE,
BLACKHILL. 549d

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, FRONT STREET, CONSETT. LEEDS, LONDON, YORK, SCARBRO', DONCASTER, NEWARK, MIDDLESBRO', DARLINGTON, WEST HARTLEPOOL, BLYTH, BISHOP AUCKLAND, GATESHEAD, JARROW, KEIGHLEY, MORECAMBE, HULL.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LIMITED) are now offering at specially reduced prices, a large number of choice Second-hand Pianos, lately returned from hire and taken in exchange. Many are in excellent condition, and nearly equal to new. Every instrument is guaranteed, and may be exchanged, if not approved of, within one year, free of charge.

RELIABLE PIANOS, at £5, £12, £15, £18.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ORGANS. ORGANS. ORGANS.

SPLENDID MODELS, at £12 £16, £17 each.

KNAUSS PIANOS.

THE BEST PIANOS IN THE MARKET AT A MODERATE PRICE.

Thousands of these magnificent Instruments have been sold by ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN, and the demand for them increases year by year. These KNAUSS PIANOS have been imported by ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN for over 20 years, and have therefore stood the test of time.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

ARCHIBALD RAMSDEN (LIMITED), FRONT STREET, CONSETT.
PARK ROW, LEEDS.

Public Notices.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC OF DIPTON

SHOULD any ASHPITS or PRIVIES be Overlooked or not properly Cleaned, please notify the Contractor at once when they will be attended to. Signed,
573e G. NICHOLSON, Contractor.

ALLENDALE COTTAGES INSTITUTE SPORTS.

SATURDAY, JUNE 9th, 1900.

120 Yards Foot Handicap, £20.—Mr. JOHN CHARLTON, Victoria Garesfield, Handicapper. Quoiting, £3 17s 6d; Wrestling, £6; also other events.

529h GEO. SCOTT, Secretary.

WHICKHAM FLORAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL SHOW will be held on Sept. 1st, 1900. Increased Classification: Large number of open Specials.

Schedules are now ready and may be had from the Secretary, Mr. EDWARD TAYLOR, The Durdans, Whickham. 722h

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PRUDHOE AND WEST WYLAM FLOWER SHOW AND CHORAL CONTEST, on Saturday, August 25th, 1900.

CHORAL CONTEST.—Open to Northumberland and Durham. Prizes, 1st, £10; 2nd, £6; 3rd, £3; 4th, £1.

For particulars apply to the Secretary,
THOS. MARSHALL,
741h 139, West Wylam, Prudhoe.

BROOMS SPORTS.

JUNE 23rd.

Foot Handicap, £20, Wrestling, Quoiting, High Leap, &c.

The Treat of the Season
THE CHILDRENS' DRILL.
Shows, Swings, Stalls, &c.

TO BANDS.—TENDERS for Band for above Sports required.

All applications to be made to the Secretary,
729h J. E. KINLESIDE, Leadgate.

NOTICE.

VISITORS TO SOUTH SHIELDS for Holidays or Week-end, will find Home Comforts, at reasonable charges, at

F. A. MACDONALD'S BOARDING HOUSE, OCEAN ROAD,

between Pollard and Baring Streets; Five minutes' walk to Public Parks, Baths, Pier and Sands. References: Messrs. J. and G. Gair, Annfield Plain; Levi Whitfield, Leadgate; and Geo. Toward, Castleside. 897g

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SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

WHITSUNTIDE, 1900.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIONS

For Saturday, June 2nd,

£10 10s 120 YARDS FOOT HANDICAP,

And Whit-Monday and Tuesday, 4th and 5th,
Bicycle Racing.
Pony Racing,
and various other Sports.

FOR PARTICULARS SEE BILLS.

ACCIDENTS OF ALL KINDS,
RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.
EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY,

Insured against, and FIDELITY BONDS granted by the

RAILWAY PASSENGERS ASSURANCE COMPANY.

Established 1849. Claims paid £4,150,000
64, Cornhill, London. A. VIAN, Secretary.

Agents:— Mr. JOHN BARKER, Station Master, Blackhill; Mr. J. L. LEADBITTER, Catchgate; and Mr. J. HOOD, Railway Station, Lintz Green.

Agents required in unrepresented Districts.

SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' FAMILIES' ASSOCIATION.

TRANSVAAL WAR.

ALL APPLICATIONS for Temporary Relief by the dependents of Soldiers (where the breadwinners are serving with the Colours) not already receiving Grants from Local Funds, should be made personally or by letter to Mr. J. B. Lazenby, Hon. Secretary, for the Petty Sessional Division of Lanchester, at his Office, Bank Chambers, Shotley Bridge.

The following information should be supplied with each Application:—*Name of Parish, Full Name of Soldier, Age, Married or Single, No. of Children, Wife, Mother, or Relatives, Dependent, Regiment, Regimental No., whether in Receipt of any, and if so what Relief or Government Allowance.* 446g

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TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR CONSETT.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST

	£	s.	d
Already acknowledged..........	2268	19	6
Mr T. Little (3rd and 4th Contributions	0	5	0
Mr T. Siddell..........	1	0	0
	£2270	4	6

SUBSCRIPTIONS may be paid to
Mr. T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer, N.E. Bank, Consett;
or further information from the Hon. Secretaries—
Mr. W. S. DAVIES, Brynglass, Consett; or
Mr. G. T. RYDEN, Blackyne House, Blackhill.

WORKING MEN'S BUILDING SOCIETY.

ESTABLISHED 1853.

Investments received at 4 per cent., sent Half-Yearly by Cheque to Investor.
Mortgages granted on approved Security.
No Properties in possession.
Ample Reserve Fund.

For Prospectus and further information, apply to the Secretary,
J. W. CAMPBELL,
Fawcett Street, Sunderland, or
J. W. FORSTER (Successor to the late Mr. Joshua Lax), Shotley Bridge.
595h

COMMERCIAL HOTEL,
CONSETT.

NOW OPEN UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

WILLIAM COULSON,

(Late of the NEW SHADES HOTEL, Sunderland),

BEGS to inform the Public generally that he has taken over the above well-known Hostelry, and gives everybody a hearty invitation to sample his BEERS, SPIRITS, WINES, AND CIGARS, which are of the very BEST QUALITY.

FIRST-CLASS BILLIARD TABLE.

GOOD STABLING.

VICTORIA THEATRE, STANLEY.

Proprietor .. .. Mr T. C. RAWES.
Lessee and Manager .. MARK H. LINDON.

Saturday the last night of

DR. BODIE.

MONDAY, MAY 21st and during the week, Important Engagement of MR. HORACE BARRIE'S Burlesque Co. in

ROBINSON CRUSOE.

Look out for "BEN MY CHREE. 754h

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

FUND in aid of the Wives and Families of Soldiers and Sailors serving with the Colours.

CONSETT DISTRICT.

CHAIRMAN:—COUN. WM. AYNSLEY, J.P., CONSETT.
HON. TREASURER:—MR. T. L. GLEDSTONE, NORTH EASTERN BANK, CONSETT.
HON. SECRETARY:—MR. T. W. WELFORD, CLERK, CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

	£	s.	d.
Amount acknowledged ..	723	3	1
Proceeds of Consett and District Philharmonic Society's, Messiah Concert," on 13th April ..	33	11	0
	£756	14	1

The Committee of the Consett and District Philharmonic Society, in sending the above Contribution, express their thanks to those friends who have either given their services free or have made reductions in their accounts, owing to the object.

T. L. GLEDSTONE, Hon. Treasurer.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Rural District Council of Lanchester intend, after the expiration of one calendar month from the date of the first publication of this notice, to apply to the Local Government Board for CONFIRMATION OF BYE LAWS with respect to New Houses and Buildings, and Nuisances in the Rural District of Lanchester.

A Copy of the proposed Bye Laws will be deposited at the Union Offices, Lanchester, and will be open during office hours to the inspection of the Ratepayers of the District for one calendar month from the date of the first publication of this notice without fee or reward

Dated this 9th day of May, 1900.

W. H. RITSON,
Clerk to the said Rural District Council,
706h Lanchester, Durham.

Public Notices.

DIPTON DIAMOND JUBILEE SPORTS, JULY 7th, 1900.

£70 GIVEN AWAY. £30 120 YARDS HANDICAP; Mr. J. CHARLTON, Victoria Garesfield, Handicapper. Quoiting, Wrestling, Footballing, and other games.

Applications for Stalls, &c., to T. LAVERICK, Dipton. SEE BILLS. 776h

Excursions

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

EXCURSION TRAINS FROM BLACKHILL SUNDAY, MAY 20 at 8.13 p.m., for LONDON, SOUTH OF ENGLAND, and THE CONTINENT.

SATURDAY, MAY 26 at 1.40 p.m., for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH.

For further particulars see bills.

GEORGE S. GIBB,
York, May, 1900. General Manager.

Church Notices.

CONSETT WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH.

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 1900.

Morning, 10.30 } REV. J. W. DENHAM.
Evening, 6

ALL SEATS FREE.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.

SUNDAY, MAY 20th, 1900.

Morning 10.30 } REV. J. TAYLOR.
Evening 6

ALL SEATS FREE.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CASTLESIDE

ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 30th, 1900, the

REV. E. SIDNEY SAVAGE,
M.A., Rector of Hexham

Will Dedicate the New Chancel Screen.

Service to commence at 3.15 p.m.

Afterwards, a PUBLIC TEA will be held in the Church Schools, Sixpence each. 728h

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NEW PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH, CHOPWELL.

FOUNDATION STONE LAYING CEREMONY.

WHIT MONDAY.

See Future Announcements. 526h

STANLEY WESLEYAN CHURCH ANNIVERSARY.

SUNDAY, MAY 20th.

Morning, 10.30 } REV. J. A. DIXON,
Evening, 6 } of Barnard Castle.

Miss Wilkinson, of Blaydon, will render Solos at Morning and Evening Services.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

OPENING OF

NEW WESLEYAN CHURCH,

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6th,

BY

REV. CHAS. H. KELLY,

President of the National Free Church Council, and ex-President of the Conference.

Rev. Richard Roberts, Rev. E. J. Brailsford, Rev. J. D. Brash, Rev. Thos. Waugh, Rev. Jos. Bacon, Rev. W. Wakinshaw, Rev. Marshall Randles, D.D., Rev. M. Guy Pearse, and others will officiate at various Services. 611h

Stud Notices.

THE CLEVELAND BAY STALLION,

"LUCKY PRINCE."

Will travel the Consett and Blackhill District and Stand at Surtees' Builders Yard, Benfieldside, Blackhill, this Season.

Tuesday Route:—Burnopfield, Blaydon, staying at Belsay over night, and return by Wylam to Blackhill every night. 684h

Sales by Auction

By Mr John S. Murray

J. S. MURRAY'S SALE LIST.

May 19th.—Sale of Furniture, &c., at the Royal.
May 23rd.—Greencroft Grass Parks.
May 26th.—Mrs. Cansick's Furniture, Station Hotel.
May 30th. — Shotley Gas Stock, New Town Hall, Consett.
May 30th.—Shares, Freemasons' Arms, Consett.
Shortly.—Business Property, High Spen.

Important Sale of FURNITURE, HARNESS-ROOM FITTINGS, &c., removed from Ruffside and Shotley Lodge to the Auction Mart Sale Room for convenience of Sale, on Saturday first, May 19th, 1900.

JOHN S. MURRAY, AUCTIONEER.

Old Oak Press, Oak Case Clock, Desk Bed, Down Bed, Iron Bedstead and Mattresses, 2 Arm Chairs, 4 Kitchen Chairs, 3 Bedroom Chairs, Kitchen Table and Form, Bedroom Drawers, Writing Desk, Writing Desk and Frame, Mangle, Poss Tub and Staff, Pictures, Fender, Fireirons, Loose Bar, Flat Irons, Box Irons, Lamp, Girdle, Pots, Pans, Crockery, &c.

Large Harness Cupboard, Bit Cupboard with Glass Front, Ladder, Large Bookcase, Picture Rods, Cornice Poles for bow and side windows, 2 Wrought Iron Pillars for Mantelpiece with Frames and Support for Shades, Mahogany Mantel Board, Massive Gilt Cornice for bay window, Standard Hall Lamp with incandescent light, Curtain poles, Wooden Cornices, Brass Curtain Poles, Rings and Brackets, 16 pair Hooks and Curtain Ties, Long Hay Loft Ladder, and other miscellaneous lots.

Sale at one o'clock.

Greencroft Parks, the Property of E. W. E. Balleny, Esq.

THE ANNUAL LET of these PARKS will be held on Wednesday, May 23rd, 1900, in the following Lots:—

Lot 1.	Cottage Field	12	acres.
" 2.	Middle Field	15	"
" 3.	Far Field	15	"
" 4.	Castle Dene	15	"
" 5.	Hop Clover	12	"
" 6.	Horse Field	8	"
" 7.	Big Stockerly	24	"
" 8.	Quarry Field	17	"
		118	Acres.

Conditions as usual.

Nearly the whole of these Parks during the past Winter have had another heavy Top Dressing with Phosphate Manure.

Luncheon at 4 p.m. at Greencroft House. Let immediately after.

773h J. S. MURRAY, AUCTIONEER.

Station Hotel, Blackhill, Saturday, May 26th, 1900. Furniture.

MR. J. S. MURRAY, favoured with a commission from Mrs. Cansick, who on account of failing health is leaving the Hotel, to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, her FURNITURE, &c., comprising 4 Iron Bedsteads and Mattresses, 3 Feather Beds, Bolsters and Pillows, a quantity Bed and Table Linen, 2 Kitchen Tables, Kitchen Press, Kitchen and other Chairs, Armchairs, large Mahogany Oval Table, Wardrobe, Screen, Longsettle, 2 Washstands, Dressing Tables and Glasses, Oil Stove, 2 Clocks, Folding Chair, Cornice Poles and Curtains, Meat Jack, Oilcloths, Carpets, 2 Dinner Sets, Night Commode, Fenders, Fireirons, Ashpans, Crockery, Cutlery, 10 Hens and Cock, Stable Utensils, &c., &c.

Sale at One o'clock. 774h

JOHN SWINBURNE MURRAY,

THE

AGRICULTURAL AUCTIONEER, VALUER AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT.
BLACKHILL.

Being done with the Auction Mart, is at liberty to take Sales of every description on any day of the week.

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

All Sales conducted with Care, Economy, and Quick Settlements.

WHITEHALL LODGE, BLACKHILL.

By Mr John Crawford

Under Distress for Rent

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD will SELL BY AUCTION, on Monday first, May 21st, at One o'clock prompt, at Carp Shields Farm, near Muggleswick, Waskerley, and Castleside, Grey Mare 16 h.h., Black Mare 16 h.h., 2 Coup Carts, Corn Crusher, Hay Chopper, Rakes, Ploughs, Harrows, 2 Sets Cart Harness, Chains, Household Furniture, and other lots.

Sale Office: 25, Victoria Street, Consett.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by the Executors of the late Thos. Watson Dobson, will SELL BY AUCTION, at Front Street, Consett, on Wednesday, June 6th, the HORSES, ROLLEYS, CARTS, HARNESS, &c. Full particulars next Issue. 776h

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

By Mr T. D. Dryden

MR. T. D. DRYDEN, favoured with instructions from a Gentleman declining business, will SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Town Hall, Consett, at an early date, valuable HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE, PIANO, AMERICAN ORGAN, and the whole of a DRAPER'S STOCK, consisting of Bed Linen, Table Linen, and General Drapery.

For particulars and date see next week's issue. 689h

T. D. DRYDEN,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER,
56, FRONT STREET, CONSETT.

Sales by Public Auction.

By Mr A. Phillipson

Superior Dwelling-House for Sale at Castleside.

To be SOLD BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the House of Mr. Ed. Wylam, Smelters' Arms, Castleside, on Monday, 28th May, 1900, at 7 o'clock, p.m. (subject to such conditions as will then be produced).

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer. Valuable FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSE, of 5 good Rooms, useful Cellar, large Garden, Yard, and every necessary Convenience, splendidly situated in the beautiful village of Castleside, and occupied by Mr. R. Gray, who will show the Property to intending purchasers.

This Property is substantially built of stone, well arranged, and in a grand state of repair, well worthy of the attention of Capitalists.

For further information apply to MR. J. HARKER, 197, Stanton Street, Newcastle, or to the Auctioneer, Dipton. 771h

SPECIAL NOTICE.

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

By Mr. Jackson Green.

BLACKHILL FARMERS' MART CO., LTD. MONDAY, MAY 21st, 1900.

MR. JACKSON GREEN, AUCTIONEER.

From Consett Iron Co.—3 Horses from 14-2 to 16.3 h.h.; Pony 13-1, 6 years old.

20 Fat Cattle, 100 Sheep, Lambs, Cows, Pigs, Calves; Milk Float, suitable for Pony 14 h.h.; Shovels, Gripes, Patent Blocks, Ladders, &c. Ballot at 12.30. Sale at One o'clock.

J. W. OSBORNE, Secretary,
779h 10a, Durham Road, Blackhill.

MR. JACKSON GREEN,

AUCTIONEER, VALUER, & COMMISSION AGENT.

Agricultural and Probate Valuations carefully made.

All Classes of Sales conducted on Reasonable Terms.

SALE OFFICE—
SATLEY, TOW LAW, R.S.O. 80

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER, AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENT
NEW FINES, MEDOMSLEY.

Sales conducted on the most reasonable terms.

JOHN T. W[illegible],

AUCTIONEER & COMMISSION AGENT.

SALE OFFICE—
CORNWALL HOUSE, ANNFIELD PLAIN,
ANNFIELD PLAIN, R.S.O.

Sales conducted with care, efficiency, and on the most reasonable terms. Correspondence and inquiries invited. Prompt Settlements.

NATHAN ELSDON,

AUCTIONEER AND VALUER

OFFICES AND SALE ROOMS, DELVES LANE, CONSETT.

Sales undertaken on Commission according to arrangement.

All Classes of Furniture or Property purchased outright for Cash, or Sold by Auction.

May 18th, 1900.

"CONSETT GUARDIAN" FREE INSURANCE. £100.

WILL BE PAID to the legal representative of any man or woman (railway servants on duty excepted) who shall happen to meet with his or her death by an accident to the railway train in which he or she was travelling in any part of the United Kingdom on following conditions:—

1. That at the time of the accident the passenger in question had upon his or her person this coupon.
2. That prior to the accident the passenger in question had affixed his or her usual signature in the space provided below.
3. That notice of the accident be given to the Corporation guaranteeing this insurance within seven days of its occurrence.
4. That death result within one month from the date of the accident.
5. That no person can claim in respect of more than one of these coupons.
6. The insurance under this coupon holds good from Thursday 6 a.m., date of publication, to 6 a.m. of the following Thursday.

Signed ....

Address ....

The due fulfilment of this insurance is guaranteed by
THE CREDIT ASSURANCE AND GUARANTEE CORPORATION, LIMITED.
10, King William Street, London, E.C.
to whom all communications should be made

Business Announcement.

CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY.

WILLIAM AYNSLEY, ESQ., Chairman.

SUBSCRIPTION MEETINGS are held in the New Town Hall Buildings, Consett, between 7 and 8 o'clock every alternate Monday.—The Monday after the Consett Iron Co.'s pay Saturday. DEPOSITS received at four per cent. interest, repayable on giving one month's notice.

THE CONSETT GUARDIAN.

Friday, May 18th, 1900

EDITORIAL CHAT.

No Opposition. Either the rumours that were generally current as to the opposition to be offered to the proposed alteration of the boundary at Blackhall Mill were without foundation, or else those gentlemen who had intended to "show cause" against the change thought better of it, as at the inquiry held at Blackhall Mill last Monday morning everything passed off as harmoniously as a wedding feast. As a matter of fact, the whole proceedings did not occupy more than twenty minutes, and there was not the slightest semblance of opposition to the proposal put forward by the Blaydon Council. We must candidly confess that we were somewhat surprised at the turn which affairs took, especially when we remember that a deputation waited upon the Lanchester District Council to oppose the alteration desired by the Blaydon Authority. When all is said and done the River Derwent forms a natural boundary, and we think that matters will go on more satisfactorily under the new arrangement, which is pretty certain to receive the approval of the County Council. The sewage question has been the principal source of friction between the two bodies concerned, but this change will enable each Council to deal with this important question on its own side of the river. In our opinion this will strike the majority of people as being the most commonsense method of dealing with the subject.

Indian Famine Fund. No cause has more claims upon the thought and attention of all true Britons than that of the Indian Famine Fund. Although the excitement of the war in South Africa has diverted a large share of the public mind in that direction, people would do well to consider the very serious condition of things which have existed in our Indian Empire for a long time, and which does not give any decisive signs of improvement. Owing to the great and prolonged drought, in several parts of India there has been a total failure in the rice crops, upon which our dark-coloured brothers and sisters depend chiefly for their existence. If the same amount of interest and enthusiasm were thrown into the cause of raising funds for the relief of the inhabitants of India, who are dying daily by the waysides in thousands from sheer starvation, as was manifested in the Reservist cause—another laudable object—a substantial sum of money would speedily be collected. We understand that Coun. W. Holmes, J.P., of Tantobie, and a few friends are endeavouring to raise funds in their village for this charitable and humane purpose, and it would be a Christian duty if the leading men in every village and hamlet of North-West Drham were "to go and do likewise." The Indian people have demonstrated their undoubted loyalty to their "Great White Queen" in the present critical circumstances in South Africa, and it would only be reciprocating their faithfulness if a huge amount, say a couple of millions, were disbursed to them from the Imperial Exchequer, in addition to the many substantial sums of money which have been collected for the relief of the distressed and unhappy natives of our vast dependency. "Whist," of the "Daily Journal," who is doing such noble work on behalf of the fund, refers in appreciative terms to the action of the surface men at Malton Colliery as follows:—"The £3,000 which I am trying to raise for the famine-stricken people of India would very soon be achieved if the miners of Northumberland and Durham were to follow the example of the men at the Redheugh Pit, and the surface men at Malton Colliery. The latter have been contributing at the rate of 6d per man every fortnight to the War Fund; and, as this is now well filled up, they have decided to give half of the fortnightly amount to the Famine Fund. It is a decision worthy of a body of public-spirited and generous-hearted men, whose souls are not fettered by selfish interests, but who can feel, and do feel, for the dark-skinned labourers of that far away land—the dark-skinned labourers who are being withered up by a fierce drought, and are crying in vain to their gods for bread."

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Badly Needed. Just at present the members of the Benfieldside School Board are negotiating with Mr. R. Murray, with a view to securing a path through the fields to the schools. This is a capital idea, and we trust that the parties concerned may be able to come to a satisfactory arrangement. It is generally admitted that the corner at Highgate is a most dangerous place, especially for the smaller children, as the traffic often becomes congested, and the turning is a very awkward one. Mr. Ramsey stated that he knew of children being sent to Consett for this very reason. What the Board propose is that the youngsters should turn in at Snowden Street, and then cross the fields to the schools. Not only would this be much safer for the children, but it would also be an easier route for them to travel, more especially in winter time, when the hill is covered with ice and snow. It appears, from what Mr. Barclay said, that this matter was mooted as far back as 15 or 16 years since, but nothing definite was done. The present Board are unanimously of opinion that this improvement should be carried out if it is at all possible, and from what we know of him we should think that Mr. Murray will be willing to treat with them on reasonable terms. It is an excellent scheme and has our hearty approval. It should not mean a large sum to the ratepayers; but in any case it will be money well spent. We hope to hear at the next meeting of the Board that all the preliminaries have been arranged, and that the work will be completed in the near future.

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Talk! Talk! Talk! There are many people living in the Whickham and Dunston districts who are particularly fond of holding ratepayers' meetings, should their representatives on any of the local public bodies do anything to raise their ire. The unfortunate members of the Whickham District Council have lately come under the ban of several of the electors owing to their action over the Dunston Building Estate and Mr. Frazer. The upshot was that a ratepayers' meeting was called at Dunston last Friday evening, and the proceedings—which were of a prolonged nature—were fairly lively. Mr. Frazer was there to state his side of the case, whilst several members of the Council attended to defend the attitude they had assumed with respect to the question. There were floods of oratory—as a glance at our exhaustive report will demonstrate—and at one time the meeting seemed likely to last till midnight. The gathering was called ostensibly to protest against Mr. Frazer's action, but after the latter gentleman had spoken there seemed a disposition on the part of many to support him. The Council came in for a severe slating, and it appeared probable that a resolution would be moved to have the whole of them hung, drawn, and quartered. One gentleman was in favour of passing a vote of censure upon the Council, whilst another wanted to call upon all of them to resign. Even the poor Surveyor was not allowed to be exempt from the general criticism, as it was proposed to declare him, like the Councillors, as incompetent. However, all the tall talk ended in smoke, as not a single motion was carried, and at the finish it was a case of "as you were." As a means of enlivening what might otherwise have proved a dull evening to many present the meeting was a success, but beyond that we are not prepared to go. The result of the gathering will probably not be to cause either the Council or Mr. Frazer much uneasiness.

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The Cottage Homes. It would appear as though the Benfieldside township is not going to be saddled with the responsibility of educating the children whom the Gateshead Guardians may send out to the Cottage Homes near Medomsley Edge, as it is expected that they will be sent to school at Consett. This will be nearer for them than going to Benfieldside, and the road is also a better one. With respect to the homes, Mr. Barclay made a somewhat startling statement at the last meeting of the Benfieldside School Board. He gave it as his opinion that the buildings would not be standing at the end of ten years, meaning that owing to the working of the coal underneath they would be let down. Mr. Barclay further said that he had it on high authority that it would take £100,000 to buy the coal beneath the homes, and that the Guardians had ample notice from the Consett Iron Company before they commenced to build. As lending colour to Mr. Barclay's remarks we may say that we are informed that there have been pit-falls of recent date not very far from the homes, and this, if correct, looks ominous. The Gateshead Guardians will probably spend over their venture, one way and another, a sum approaching £20,000, and it will be decidedly hard lines upon the ratepayers if this large amount should prove to have been practically thrown away. Of course, future events may not justify one in assuming such a pessimistic tone—we hope that they will not—but it cannot be denied that there exists serious ground for apprehension.

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Unionists in Council. Delegates from the various Polling District Associations of this part of the county assembled in great force at Quebec last Saturday, on the occasion of the annual meeting of the North-West Durham Conservative and Unionist Association. Seeing that Quebec is not one of the most accessible places in the district such a big gathering was totally unexpected. Free from the cares connected with his office as High Sheriff of the county, Ald. U. A. Ritson once more undertook the duties of president, whilst Mr. J. D. Piercey Taylor-Smith was elected chairman of committees in place of Mr. E. W. E. Balleny (who resigned), and was warmly thanked for the admirable manner in which he filled the presidential chair during the past twelve months. The resignation of the post of hon. secretary by Mr. J. G. Murray came as a great and unwelcome surprise to the meeting. Mr. Murray has held the position for something like thirteen years, and his resignation—principally due to health reasons—is regretted by every member of the Association, on behalf of which he has rendered yeoman service. Mr. Ritson bespoke a warm welcome for the new agent, Mr. R. L. Appleford, who comes with excellent credentials. The Quebec Association entertained the delegates in splendid fashion, and altogether the meeting was a most successful and enthusiastic one. At the smoking concert in the evening, Mr. F. W. Deacon, of Manchester, delivered a stirring and eloquent speech upon the war.

AROUND THE DISTRICT.

(By "Wanderer.")

POLICE CHANGES.

It is to be presumed that the County of Durham is no different to any other in the matter of changes in the police force. Whether these changes are beneficial or otherwise is not for the lay mind to decide but for those who have to bear the responsibility. But in my opinion these changes are desirable. Men may become too familiar with a place—large towns of course are different—and appear to be indifferent in their methods. Such at any rate is the opinion held in certain quarters and by people who only take an outside view. As a matter of fact, and I write from a long experience, there is no more genuine body of men than those who form the police force. They have their critics but those who condemn do so in a prejudiced way. No doubt the police make mistakes at times. Who does'nt? As a rule, however, they do their duty impartially and fearlessly. The fact that they are criticised unfairly makes changes desirable in some cases, but in many others where a man is known for his earnestness and determination to look after the peace of the district he becomes something of a terror to evil-doers and should be retained. Other causes of changes are due to constables themselves who apply to be transferred and in many cases they are sent to districts where by their particular qualities they are more useful and more needed.

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SNOW IN MAY.

Anyone who had been prowling around the district in the early hours of Sunday morning, the 13th day of May in the last year of the 19th century, would have found himself walkng over a carpet of snow. The extraordinary changes which have taken place in the weather since the year came in are responsible for much of the disease which exists and I advise my readers to be careful in the matter of clothing. It is an easy matter to doff an article of heavy clothing on a bright warm day at this period of the year, but it is not so easy to get rid of the cold which from such actions result.

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FOOTBALL ENTHUSIASM

It is a very excusable trait in the character of the English Sportsman that when he is on the winning side he becomes enthusiastic and gives pronounced expression to his enthusiasm. On some occasions, however, it can be carried too far, and this was so at Burnopfield last month, when the victory of Lintz Rovers in the final of the Charity Cup was celebrated in such a manner as to call forth the interference of the police. The health of the winners was drunk not wisely but too well, and even the manager of the house affected overstepped the mark. As a result he lost his situation, his employers were heavily fined, and might have had the license endorsed, and a number of the revellers were called upon to pay a fine which, altogether, made the celebration a costly one all round. It would have been better if the whole of the money thus wasted had gone into the coffers of the charity concerned.

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URGENTLY NEEDED.

From what was said at the last meeting of the Annfield Plain Council about the Dipton Disposal Works I fancy that before long the good folks at Dipton will no longer have cause to complain of that abominable old nuisance, which is now known as the Disposal Works. It seems that the Council intend, after being repeatedly pressed by the County Council, to erect a sewage disposal works which will be in every way up to date, and I sincerely hope that the highest possible amount of success may attend their efforts. It is more than high time that something definite was done if the health of the district is of any consequence.

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SUBWAY AT ANNFIELD PLAIN.

The long looked for subway for foot passengers at Annfield Plain is, after a struggle, or perhaps I should say after many a struggle, slowly but surely coming into view. The railway authorities I see have their workmen busily engaged in erecting the new signal cabin after which I presume the work of completing the subway will be taken up. It will save a good deal of the patience of my many friends who have not unfrequently experienced considerable inconvenience in having to wait until the gates were flung open sometimes when a few minutes have been very precious to them.

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A NOCTURNAL PROCLAMATION.

The quietude of the village of Stanley was disturbed about the hour of midnight on Tuesday, by the efforts of a local bell-man, whose speech was interpreted by not a few as conveying the welcome tidings of the relief of Mafeking. The sound of bolts being shot back, and the turning of keys might have been heard, followed by the appearance of certain citizens who appeared to be anxious to learn the cause of the bell-man's presence. Mafeking had not been relieved, and thus their hopes were rudely shattered. The bell-man was only using his best endeavours to inform the inhabitants that a child had been lost, and to say the least, this gentleman's efforts caused a flutter of excitement amongst those who heard the ringing of the bell, followed by the partly inaudible speech.

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A SADDENING SPECTACLE.

A correspondent writes me:—A saddening spectacle came to my notice on Wednesday evening. Whilst taking a stroll I came across a woman—between the Hat and Feather and Derwent Cottages—in a hopeless state of intoxication. She had no covering on her head, and was staggering about the road trying to sing in a maudlin tone snatches from a popular song. Judging from a small box she carried under her arm I judged her to be one of the many hawkers that are plying their trade just now. There were a number of young children about, and they seemed to derive much amusement from the antics of the poor creature. I don't know where she obtained the drink to make her in this beastly state, but surely it was anything but a kindness on the part of those who gave it to her. She was more to be pitied than blamed, and I could not help but feel sorry for her. A drunken man is bad enough, in all conscience, but a woman under the influence of alcohol is one of the most saddening spectacles that I know of.

WHICKHAM AND DISTRICT NOTES

[BY "ROWLEY."]

SWALWELL CHURCH.

Swalwell Church is shortly to undergo further structural improvements. The members have for some time past felt the necessity of having a new entrance, the present entrance being most inconvenient and difficult of access. Plans for a new porch have been prepared, and the same were duly passed by the local authority at a recent meeting. It is gratifying to learn that the appeal for financial assistance, which was raised in January last, has been most liberally responded to. The Rev. J. W. Napier-Clavering heads the list of donations with £20. This amount, along with other subscriptions, and the proceeds of a quilting club, the efforts of the mothers connected with the church, brings the total amount up to nearly £100. No time will be lost in commencing with the work, and when the same is completed it should prove a welcome addition to the sacred edifice. It will not only materially add to the convenience of public worship, but will considerably enhance the outward appearance of the church as seen from the village.

METHODISM AT DUNSTON.

Since Methodism was first introduced into Dunston, a little under 100 years ago, it has truly prospered, and Saturday marked an interesting event in the history of Methodism locally, when the foundation-stones of a new school-room, about to be erected by the Independant Methodists, were duly laid. It is only within the last year or so that this new branch has sprung into existence at Dunston, and if present appearances may be taken as a criterion, then a strong following may be looked forward to. The members have determined not to be content with their present venture, but intend erecting a new church immediately adjoining the present site, which will be calculated to prove a credit to the denomination. Almost within a stone-throw of the site of the proposed church may be seen a notice-board which imparts the information that the Wesleyan Methodists have secured a piece of ground, upon which to erect a place of worship, and upon which I shall probably have something to say at a later date. However, in passing, I might mention that the projected scheme is receiving the warmest support financially, and only a small sum is required to cover the cost of the new premises.

THE PROGRESS OF METHODISM.

If John Wesley could have paid a visit to our parish what a marvellous change he would find since he preached at Whickham in the year 1742, when he expressed the opinion that the people were only kept awake by the cold. Palatial chapels have since been erected, and Methodism finds a congenial soil in the parish. When the Rev. Hodgson Cassin paid a visit to the circuit, somewhere about the year 1824, he found only 910 members names on the roll, from which it will be seen that Methodism has prospered in our midst. In the year 1759, when John Wesley favoured Swalwell with a visit, he commanded such a hearing that the room in which he ministered was totally inadequate to meet the requirements of the vast congregation. The then famous Crowley's Crew, who struck terror into the hearts of the people by their machinations, offered no objection to Wesley's ministrations, and it is interesting to learn that the present Wesleyan Chapel at Swalwell, built in the year 1817, was erected almost exclusively by the workmen of Sir Ambrose Crowley, most of whom contributed 2s 6d each towards the erection of the structure. John Wesley's efforts have truly been blessed, and the spark which he dropped many years ago is now a huge conflagration.

THE MATERIAL ASPECT.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the spiritual wants of the populace have not been neglected, but what are the people saying at the present time about the material conditions of the parish? The ratepayers are up in arms, and never, to my mind, in the history of the parish, has such abuse been heaped upon our local governing body—to wit, the Council—than there has been during the present week. I need hardly say that the matter which is at present engrossing the attention of the ratepayers is familiarly known as the "Dunston Building Estate," and all who read their "Guardian" will be fully cognisant with the matter. The parish has recently become notable for its lively ratepayers' meetings, but one which must stand aloof from the rest is that which took place on Friday evening at Dunston—an exhaustive report of which appears on another page. As to the meeting I shall remain silent, as the report speaks for itself. In passing I might be permitted to mention, that we, in Whickham parish, owe a debt to the Editor for the manner in which he has so kindly allowed our grievances to be ventilated through the medium of the "Guardian," and I hope that he will not put his blue pencil through my last remarks when I say that his kindness is fully appreciated. He will no doubt have already recognised this from the large and increasing circulation which the "Guardian" enjoys in our parish.

REV. FATHER FORTIN BOUND FOR SOUTH AFRICA

ACTING CHAPLAIN TO THE SICK AND WOUNDED.

On Wednesday, the Rev. Father Fortin, priest of the Newhouse Mission, Waterhouses, who is known throughout the county as "the pitman's priest," received an intimation from Lord Lansdowne at the War Office conveying to him news of his appointment as acting chaplain to the sick and wounded in South Africa. Father Fortin, who, on two occasions in the past, has acted as Roman Catholic chaplain to Her Majesty's troops in India, expects to sail for Cape Town on Saturday. During his absence, the work of the Newhouse Mission will be carried on by a curate-in-charge.

BLAYDON PARISH CHURCH

As has already been publicly announced, the Rev. Matthew Greene, M.A., Rector of Blaydon, has been appointed to the living of Norham, and will shortly—probably early next month—leave for that place. Special services were held on Wednesday at the Blaydon Parish Church in connection with the restoration of that building. It was a happy thought that prompted Mrs. Greene, wife of the Rector, to organise a fund to provide means to thoroughly renovate the interior of the church, and otherwise to commemorate their long residence at Blaydon. As a result of her efforts a sum of nearly £400 was raised, and with this money improvements have been effected which considerably adorn the sacred edifice. In the chancel a new oak canopy screen has been erected, and clergy and choir desks, also of oak, have been provided, whilst a marble mosaic pavement has been laid. At the other end of the church the old chancel screen has been placed, and there are stalls provided for the churchwardens. New windows have been put in at the south side of the nave, including one of stained glass, erected to the memory of James William Dunn, a native of Blaydon, who died in South Africa in 1896. The renovations also included the redecorating and painting of the whole of the interior of the church. The architects for the restoration were Messrs Hicks and Charlewood, and the work was executed by Messrs Robson and Co., of Newcastle. One of the clergy desks bears a brass plate with the following inscription:—"St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, Stella, Blaydon. This chancel screen, clergy and choir desks, mosaic pavement, &c., &c., have been placed in this church in commemoration of the quarter of a century's residence of the Rector, the Rev. M Greene, M.A., Mrs. Greene, and R. D. R. Greene, 5th October, 1899."

The commemoration services commenced with an early celebration of the Holy Communion on Wednesday morning, when a goodly number were present. At the evening gathering there was an exceedingly large attendance, including representatives of the various public bodies, who had by invitation been asked to attend. The pulpit was occupied by the Bishop of Newcastle, who preached an excellent sermon.

Local and District News.

Consett.

Police Inspection.—On Tuesday morning Col. Eden, Chief Constable of the County of Durham, visited Consett, and held a preliminary inspection of the force in the Lanchester and Consett districts. There was a good attendance of officers, who all turned out in a smart manner. The annual inspection will shortly be be held by Sir Herbert Croft.

Proposed Club.—A preliminary meeting was held in the large room above Courtney's refreshment rooms, Middle Street, Consett, on Thursday night last, to consider the desirability of forming the premises into a club. There was a general feeling expressed in favour of the idea, but no definite steps were taken until an estimate of the cost of establishing and maintaining the club was obtained.

Christian Endeavour Rally.—On Saturday last there was a large attendance in connection with the Primitive Methodist Christian Endeavour Society in Consett. Addresses were delivered by Mr. W. McIntyre, and the Rev. J. Nightingale, Miss Bulmer, of Tanfield Lea being in the chair. Subsequently a tea was held, and in the evening, at a public meeting, addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. G. Soulsby, of Middlesbrough, Mr. J. W. Golightly, and others, Mr. A. S. Coates being in the chair.

Consett Tennis Club.—The annual general meeting was held on Monday night, under the presidency of Mr. Geo. Dawson. The report stated that the last season had not been so satisfactory as the previous year's performances, the club having been deprived of the services of some of its best players. The financial statement was deemed satisfactory, there being a favourable balance in hand. The following officers were appointed:—Captain, Mr. Alex. Russell; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. E. J. Colmar; general committee, Messrs Geo. Dawson, Henry Symington, and R. Robson. The club has retained the ground opposite Consett Railway Station for another season.

A Drunken Mother.—Mr. W. Aynsley sat specially at Consett Police Court on Wednesday to hear a charge brought against Catherine Bennett, who said she resided in William Street, and that her husband was a labourer. The charge against her was one of cruelty to her infant child. She was alleged to have got into a state of intoxication, and while in that condition she had fallen and so thrown the baby, who was little more than six months old, on to the pavement.—The facts were proved by two neighbours.—The woman appealed to the Bench for leniency. She admitted being in drink, and would not intentionally have harmed the child.—She was dismissed with a reprimand and a caution.

Burnhope

Confirmation.—A confirmation was held at Holmside Parish Church on Tuesday last, the Right Rev. Bishop Sandford confirming seventy candidates, all belonging to the parish. At the close of the confirmation, the Rev. and Mrs. W. C. Cooke, with their customary generosity, kindly invited the whole of the candidates to partake of tea at the Vicarage—which was accepted "en bloc." After tea a special service was held in the church, the prayers and lessons being read by the Revs. J. W. Ashton and J. Collings (curates.) The address was given by the vicar.

Birtley

Brass Band Contest.—The second annual brass band contest and sports were held on Saturday at Birtley, in the Co-operative Society fields, Station Lane. There was a large gathering of people. Nineteen bands entered for the contest. Mr. H. Barker, of Bradford, acted as judge, and the following are his awards:—Test piece—1, £10, Hartlepool Borough, conductor S. Ingleamt; 2, £5, Rise Carr Mills; 3, £4, Ashington Model; 4, £3, Hebburn Colliery; 5, £2, Jarrow Borough; 6, £1, South Shields Garibaldi; 7, silver-mounted baton, Murton Colliery. Silver medals were awarded to the solo players in the following bands:—Cornet and trombone solos, Rise Carr Mills; euphonium solo, Murton Colliery. Quickstep contest—1, £1, Murton Colliery (conductor, E. R. Vest); 2, 15s, Ashington Model; 3, 10s, Hartlepool Borough; 4, 5s, Cockerton. Gold medals given by the Licensed Victuallers of Birtley were presented to the conductors of each of the winning bands in the test piece and quickstep contests. All the nineteen bands were present and competed in the quickstep contest, and all, except Barrington, in the test piece.

Chester-le-Street

At Chester-le-Street on Wednesday morning, Mr. H. W. Kerrich-Walker had before him Robert Georgeson, James Barton, and James Perry, charged with having broken into the Chester-le-Street Working Men's Club, between the 12th and 13th inst., and stealing therefrom 25s in money, also a quantity of beer and whisky and a number of meat pies.—Inspector McDougall asked the magistrates to remand the prisoners for eight days, and this was done.

Hamsterley

N. W. Durham Conservative Association.—A well-attended meeting under the auspices of the above association was held in the Colliery Schools, Hamsterley, on Tuesday evening, to hear an address on "The War—and after," from Mr. F. W. Deacon, of Manchester. The audience fully appreciated and endorsed Mr. Deacon's contention that the only possible and practical settlement, on the conclusion of the war, must involve the absorption of the two republic into the Empire. Votes of thanks to Mr. F. Berkley, chairman, and to Mr. R. J. Chaytor, hon. secretary, concluded the proceedings.

Leadgate.

Sons of Temperance.—In our report of the opening of a new order at Leadgate in connection with the Sons of Temperance, the name of the treasurer was given as Mr. R. T. Kell. This was an error, and should have read Mr. R. T. Pull.

Service of Song.—On Tuesday night, the Wesleyan Band of Hope Choir gave the service of song entitled "Daddy," in the Wesleyan Chapel, Leadgate. The piece was given in admirable fashion, and was greatly appreciated by a good audience. Mr. C. S. Morgan proved an able conductor, whilst Mr. Jas. Forster presided at the organ. Mr. Robt. Walton, of Leadgate, occupied the chair.

Spinsters' Social.—On Monday evening the Spinsters held the final dance of the season in the Co-operative Hall, Leadgate. There was a fair attendance. Messrs F. Walker and M. Bell were a pair of hard-working M.C.'s whilst excellent music was supplied by Messrs R. Winter (piano), H. Hall (violin), and R. Death (cornet). Miss L. Winter acted as secretary, and Miss D. Burnhope as treasurer. The company spent a most enjoyable evening, the proceedings terminating at 12 o'clock.

South Moor

St. George's Church.—The members connected with this place of worship are just now using every endeavour to raise financial aid for the purpose of placing an organ in the church, and it is pleasing to learn that so far their efforts have been crowned with success. The congregation entered upon their arduous task in no half-hearted manner. Sewing-meetings have been held for some time at various houses, likewise teas, all of which have proved most successful, with the result that a goodly sum has already been realised, and with a view to further increase the funds a most successful two days' bazaar and sale of work was opened on Monday afternoon in the Infants School, South Moor, in the presence of a large gathering. The opening proceedings were presided over by the vicar (the Rev. W. C. Cooke), who, after having mentioned the object of the bazaar, called upon Mrs. J. Fairley, of Shafto House, Craghead, to kindly declare the bazaar open. Mrs. Fairley, in kindly acceding to the request expressed her heartfelt wish that the venture would be a success, as it certainly deserved to be. From the display she saw around her the members of the congregation must have laboured consistently. Mrs. Fairley then declared the bazaar open. A cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mrs. Fairley for having so kindly and ably performed the opening ceremony, on the motion of Mr. A. Dawson, seconded by Mr. W. Wilson. A brisk sale then followed, and the multifarious supply of articles soon found many purchasers. The stall-holders were:—Work Stalls—Mrs. Hutchinson, Mrs. Boucher, Miss Boucher, and Miss Swinhoe. Fancy work—Miss S. Wilkinson and Mrs. E. Smith. Club stall—Miss Turner. China stall—Mrs. Ingram-Johnson, and Miss Fairley. Tobacco stall—Dr. Ingram-Johnson, and Mr. Wilson. Confectionery stall—the Misses Smith. Flower stall—Miss Dawson, Miss Maggie Turner, and Miss Gawthorn. Refreshment stall—Mrs. Bowman, Mrs. Youll Mrs. Akers, and others. A number of entertainments were given, including a Rombery Toy Symphony, and an exhibition of the X-rays by Dr. Martin, of the firm of Messrs Brady and Martin, Newcastle. Half-hour concerts were also given by a number of local ladies and gentlemen, while a shooting gallery was also provided under the care of Dr. Ingram-Johnson and Mr. Wilson. The bazaar was continued on Tuesday, and was again successful. It is anticipated that the proceedings will realise close upon £100.

Lintz Colliery

Accident to a Coke Drawer.—On Monday afternoon, shortly before four o'clock, a coke drawer named Frank Donnelly, an elderly man, was crushed between two trucks at Friarside Colliery. The injuries were located chiefly about the chest. He was conveyed home to the Lintz Colliery, wher he was attended by Drs. Boland and Grinsell, of Burnopfield.

Stanley.

Wesleyan Church Anniversary.—The anniversary services will be held on Sunday, when the Rev. J. A. Dixon, of Barnard Castle, will preach morning and evening. Miss Wilkinson, of Blaydon, will render solos at both services.

United Methodist Free Church.—The anniversary services in connection with this place of worship were commenced on Saturday, when the annual tea took place. On Sunday two practical sermons were preached by Mr. H. A. Bloomfield, of Tanfield Lea, while the children most ably recited portions of scripture, poetry, and dialogues. The services will be continued on Sunday.

A Child's Narrow Escape.—On Wednesday afternoon a little girl named Hopper, about six years of age, and whose parents reside in Joicey Square, West Stanley, had a narrow escape from being burnt to death. It would appear that the child was playing at a fire in the street when her clothes caught fire, and soon became enveloped in flames. The child's condition was fortunately witnessed by a man, who at once tore the burning garments from the child, who practically escaped uninjured. Part of the child's hair was burnt by the flames.

Children's Entertainment.—On Wednesday evening the children attending St. Joseph's Catholic Schools gave a successful reception concert in the West Stanley Co-operative Hall. The performance was a repetition of that given a few weeks ago, which proved such a success that it was decided to repeat the performance. The entertainment included songs, drills, etc., by the children, and also an operetta entitled "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs," which was creditably given. As on the former occasion the entertainment proved a success, and the children together with their instructors are deserving of much praise, for the efficient manner in which the programme was presented.

Presbyterianism.—On Tuesday evening a most successful entertainment was given in the West Stanley Co-operative Hall, on behalf of the building fund of the proposed new Presbyterian Church. Mr. P. H. Kirkup presided over a crowded audience, for the delectation of whom a high-class programme had been drawn up, which was contributed to by Mr. R. Winter (humorist) Crook; Miss Janet Reed of the People's Concerts), Newcastle; Mr. J. Duncanson, Durham Cathedral; Mr. P. Campbell, D.B., Durham; Mr. Tom Holland, Catchgate; and the Misses Urwin, Hollinside Hall. The whole of the artistes acquitted themselves well, and their efforts were heartily appreciated, as demonstrated by the frequent applause. A good sum was realised.

Benefit Entertainment.—The West Stanley Co-operative Hall was on Monday evening filled with a crowded audience on the occasion of a most successful benefit entertainment in aid of the widow of the late Rolf Foreman, who was accidentally killed at Beamish Air Pit. This philanthropic object met with a hearty response on the part of the public, and the effort will result in a substantial sum being handed over to Mrs. Foreman. The gathering was presided over by Coun. A. H. Swinburn. A programme of high-class music was rendered by Mr. T. Holland (tenor), Mr. J. W. Skelton (Newcastle), Miss F. Rankin (soprano), Miss McNeale (soprano), Mr. J. McCabe (tenor), Mr. T. McCabe (sentimentalist), Mr. Fred and Minnie Robinson (song and dance artists), Mr. J. Moran (comic), Mr. J. Hughes (sentimentalist), Mr. C. Daley (sentimentalist), Messrs Walvin and Mills. Prof. Kipling was also present with his funny family, and delighted the audience by his clever performance. The entertainment proved a huge success, and a good sum was realised.

Fashionable Wedding.—On Wednesday morning, in the presence of a large and fashionable gathering, the marriage took marriage took place at West Stanley Wesleyan Church, of Mr. William Gofton Sudlow (Stockton-on-Tees) and Miss Cissie Castle youngest daughter of the late Mr. J. G. Castle, of Stanley. It was decided that the wedding should be carried out as quietly as possible owing to the illness of the bridegroom's sister, but this did not prevent local interest from being manifested in the happy event, which took place at 9.30 a.m. Mr. Geo. Dale, of Great Broughton, was "best man," while the bride had in attendance her sister (Miss Emily Castle) as bridesmaid. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. J. T. Castle, and looked exceedingly pretty in an exquisite dress. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. H. King, Presbyterian Minister. Later in the day the happy couple left for Yorkshire, where the honeymoon will be spent. Their departure was marked by the well-wishes from a large number of people for their future happiness. The presents received were numerous and costly.

Victoria Theatre.—The visit of Dr. Bodie to the West Stanley Theatre has been the means of filling this popular play-house with crowded audiences each evening. A clever company also supports this renowned mesmerist. The exhibition as given by Dr. Bodie is of a truly marvellous description, and despite the fact that he has now visited Stanley for the last seven years or so, the performance loses none of its attractiveness, but rather the reverse. Dr. Bodie has for his patients—as he chooses to term them—eight local men, upon whom he carries out some extraordinary feats, whilst they are under the influence of mesmerism. Dr. Bodie puts his patients to some very severe tests, which includes passing a needle and thread through the cheek, through the ear, and also through the tongue—one of the most sensitive parts of the body. Dr. Bodie afterwards asks the audience to name a subject upon which they desire any of his "patients" to discourse, and on Tuesday evening the subject of electricity was named. The "patient"—a healthy one—delivered an amusing speech, appended being a few of the opening lines. He said:—"Ladies and Gentlemen,—At the special request of the Christian Young Men's Association of your town, I am here this evening to lecture upon a subject about which at the present time you are entirely ignorant. (Laughter.) The subject upon which I am about to lecture to you is electricity. Electricity is something which is beyond your comprehension, something which your mind is not able to grasp." (Laughter.) From the foregoing it will be seen that the patient is entirely under the control of Dr. Bodie. The exhibition includes, besides other things, the "electrocuted man," which is described as the most daring scientific electrical experiment ever attempted by any living electrician. Amongst others who contribute to an excellent bill-of-fare are Miss La Petite Bella (the Yankee millionaire's daughter) who proves herself a charming burlesque actress and vocalist; the great Mitzi, who is described as the wonderful Japanese juggler, gives a series of marvellous performances which calls for hearty applause; the two Leons, Parisian duettists and dancers, give a creditable display, while Dr. Bodie excels in his wonders in ventriloquism. Miss Grenfield (ballad vocalist) comes in for a fair share of the applause. A number of living pictures, descriptive of the Boer war are heartily received. The whole performance from start to finish is an excellent one, and those who fail to pay a visit miss a treat such as is seldom provided in Stanley. Next week the ever popular "Robinson Crusoe" will be staged, when large audiences are sure to be the rule.

BITS FROM BOOKS.

AN ENGLISH VIEW OF TUNIS.

Mr. Herbert Vivian, who has the pen of a ready and picturesque writer, has prepared a handsomely illustrated work on "Tunisia, and the Modern Barbary Pirates," for Messrs. Pearson. The country came under French protection in 1881, and as to its future Mr. Vivian remarks:

"If Tunisia is to have credit as a French colony, it must be colonised by Frenchmen. This the authorities understand, and they constantly endeavour to devise means whereby French agriculturists may be induced to come. But with the best will in the world they do not contrive to present a very attractive picture. I have in my hand a pamphlet which they have issued for distribution among persons contemplating emigration. It begins by setting forth the superior advantages of Tunisia over America and other fields of colonisation; the beneficent climate; the absence of fevers, savages, prairie fires; and the presence of the French flag to afford protection and the feeling of home. But it goes on to lay stress upon the futility of coming over without capital, intelligence, and industry, the possession of which three blessings would, however, enable most men to do well anywhere, without the need of emigration. There are not even free concessions of land, or subsidies of any kind. Necessaries, with the exception, perhaps, of bread and the worst imaginable meat, are no cheaper than in the average French provincial town; while all luxuries, down to the very smallest, are infinitely dearer. Practically the chief form which French colonisation has taken so far has been little more than a species of camp-following. Wherever a French garrison establishes itself, a number of tawdry shops, rough eating-houses, and dismal places of entertainment creep into existence. No doubt the proprietors rapidly enrich themselves by the sale of inferior goods at prices calculated to repay them for the burden of expatriation; and if this satisfies the aspirations of French expansion, there is no more to be said."

Is marriage a failure? Certainly not, if united with one of J. T. Castle's Wedding Rings.

UNDER DIVINE SANCTION.

[By J. McQuillen.]

Under the mask of things there is an under-current of tragedy unknown, and therefore unsuspected by the world at large. A man smiles, a woman looks gay, therefore they are happy—such at least is the general verdict. But such, in fact, is not anywhere near the truth. The man's smile is mockery, the woman's gaiety is forced. Behind the semblance of joy stands the skeleton whose shadow darkens the fairest life. When Sarah Pearson married she married the man of her choice. Arthur, she said, was made for her. She had known him many years, his history was an open book to her, and though she was reticent in the display of her love, she simply adored him. Was he good to her? Well, yes; as good as a man can be to a woman whom he does not altogether understand. You see, she had heights and depths in her nature that he was unable to fathom—she was a mystery, a charming mystery be it said, to him, and he did his best to deserve her extraordinary love. She would have died any death for him, and he—well, he was just the man to accept the sacrifice. They got on well together. She, because of the bestowal of her affection; he, as the recipient of it. He was studied and cared for as a wife seldom studies and cares for the husband she has vowed to love, honour, and obey. The vows she had made were solemnly real to her. Marriage was a sacrament—an act of worship. Beyond her husband she knew no other god, he was her religion. At times when he was sound asleep, sleeping as a well-fed animal might, she would rise in the dark, strike a match, and light a candle, and by its glare she would peer into his face. Every line of it she knew as well as every shade and movement of feature. Silently she pressed a kiss upon his lips, or his brow, or on his wavy brown hair, and her eyes would fill with tears, not because he lay like a log, but because her heart was full. She was spending her life and love for him, asking not even response.

For four years this woman's rapture lasted and then came the shadow. Her husband had changed his employment. He left Hexham and came to Newcastle. It was only temporary, he said. There was no need to break up the home; he would go to lodgings, and be with her at week ends. Sarah demurred and argued, but Arthur had his way, and they separated. Some men are moral until tempted, respectability being only skin deep. Opportunity pulls the string of passion and opens the gates of hell.

Bit by bit it dawned upon Mrs. Pearson that her husband's affection was waning. She, however, blamed herself, and whipped herself for his deflection. She looked at her face in the glass. Was she less comely than before? Mentally she took stock and balanced up, and sought with deepened interest to renew the vagrant regard.

The day of love philtres was gone by. She could only hope and pray, and try by every available means to so fascinate him that his love would quicken. She did all she knew, and he was still laggard. Love, they say, is blind, so it is for a stage, but there comes a time when its eyes are keen and penetrating, when it sees the secret thought in the mind, when it reckons up and squares things dissimilar, finds clues and solves mysteries. This is exactly what happened to Mrs. Pearson. She discovered that her husband had not only grown cold, but that he was paying court elsewhere. Strange to say, she felt no resentment against him. He was guiltless; it was the woman who was to blame. She had trapped him; doubtless he had struggled desperately to free himself from her toils, and had given in only under sheer force of circumstances.

The latent passions of her quiet, reserved nature came to the surface. Her hungry heart cried out for vengeance. Day and night she brooded over the wrong which had been done her—a lonely desolate woman she was. "Was there a God" she asked, as many have asked before, when the heart has been torn by conflicting emotions. "Is there a God—then He shall hear." The thought nerved her to calmness. She would pray, and the way would open. Out of her yearning she shaped a wild savage prayer, and from this prophetic source came the desire, which she took to be a divine inspiration. The woman must die. There was no other way. Men and women in other days had been instruments in the hands of fate. They had worked out destiny, moved by strong inward propulsion. "Give me strength," she prayed, "give me strength to kill—she stands between us. He was mine, she has robbed me, and God help me." It was not enough that her petition should rise from the silence of her own home; a dim idea lay in her mind that in the church she could the more effectually reach the ear of God. So to Church she went. In the quietness of the abbey she poured out her trouble, and to her heated fancy came an answer—a divine sanction—which left her soothed and comforted. The end was in sight; beyond lay the still waters and green places she longed for.

Several weeks passed without a visit from her husband. He sent her the weekly allowance through the post, and then it stopped, and no word to explain the whyfore. Mrs. Pearson felt now that the time for action had come. If Arthur was again to be won to her side the blow which was to give him freedom must now be struck. With simple directness she matured her details, and then proceeded to carry them out.

It was Saturday night when Mrs. Pearson came to Newcastle for the first time in her life. The noise of the streets, the traffic, the crowds of men and women, all confused her, and gave her a sense of lostness. Out of all those faces there was not one known to her and none who knew of her misery. Coming to herself after a little while she asked her way to the Moor Edge. Evidently she knew the ways of the culprits. Dusk was settling about the buildings in the Barras Bridge as she grimly passed that way. Every passing face was scrutinised, and still no sign. Had she been misinformed? Nay, that could not be; she was in the leading of fate—a divine mission was before her.

Providence brooks no interference with its rulings.

It was not until she passed the recreation ground that her quarry appeared in sight—sure enough that was Arthur's walk,—too well she knew him to be mistaken, and with him was that creature.

For a moment her heart stood still, her face blanched, and her purpose trembled, but it was only for a moment. Quickening her steps she overtook the pair, then turned and faced them.

When the husband saw his wife in front of him his hand dropped from the woman's arm. The fear of death was upon him. Never before had he seen such an expression upon a human face. It was his wife's face transformed—she was an avenging angel.

He slunk away terrified at the apparition. Sarah Pearson had no intention of following him, at least not at the moment. Her business lay elsewhere. Putting her hand on the woman's arm, she said "Come," and the woman went with her from the path on to the Moor. The night had darkened, and the dusk had merged into a bluish mist, which trailed its wraiths across the Moor ridges like so many ghosts.

When about two hundred yards from the road Mrs. Pearson drew up, and stood before the wondering woman.

"Do you know me?" she asked in words that seemed to cut like a knife.

"No, I have not seen you before—who are you, anyway, and why have you sent my chap away?"

"You—you are a ——." The cruel word died away on Mrs. Pearson's lips, and she simply added, "He—your chap—is my husband. You have come in between us, you have stolen the love which was mine by right; you have taken him from me." There was suppressed fury in her voice. Her stern features twitched, and her hand fumbled with something under her shawl.

"Good God, woman, what do you mean. Arthur is not a married man; he has no wife; he lives with me; he's my man."

"Your man—your man—you—who have had a dozen men—you—whom any man's money can buy for an hour or two. Your man—you lie—he is mine—mine for ever—never again will he look upon your living face. See! I have come to kill you." Her grip tightened on the woman's arm; her breath came hot and quick. She was labouring under the intensest excitement. The woman's defiant air was changed. She whined, and cried, and pleaded, and looked wildly around for help. She did not see the scared, white face peering through the mist. A man's face. The man who had brought this trouble upon her. "Give me time," she cried, as she saw the blade held over her. Her struggling was futile. Sarah Pearson gripped like a vice. "Time! You have had enough and plenty to spare. Time, too much. You have lived too long. You may pray. There is a God. I know there is a God. He brought me to you. Pray to him to forgive you. He may give you another chance, since He is blotting out this wretched life." Her shawl was cast aside, her arm upraised. The fatal moment had come. No tremour of pity unnerved her. Straight home went the steel—a moan, a gasp, and the deed was done.

With a gesture of contempt Mrs. Pearson cast the woman's body aside and kissed the knife which had taken her life, and turned to go. Before she left the spot, however, she appeared to remember something. She knelt down over the dead body and scanned the face as if to read there the secret of her success in winning the love which was lawfully hers.

"No great beauty, a poor thing, after all. Thank God she's dead," she said. Then closing her eyes while she knelt she prayed in gratitude. Because her purpose was accomplished. Somehow she got back home. How it may never be known. For days she was bright and cheerful, and sang like a bird out of the fulness of her heart, but Arthur did not come, and she sickened and when the winter came round she died, with her secret locked within her breast. Had it not been that I chanced upon the husband just before he left Newcastle for good, two years ago, this story would never have been written.

THE HOUSING QUESTION.

MEETING AT DURHAM.

ADDRESS BY THE BISHOP.

A conference, called by the Durham Land and Labour Committee, to consider the possibilities of Municipal and Co-operative action in regard to Housing Reform, was held in the Miners' Hall, at Durham, on Saturday. Mr. John Wilson, M.P., presided, and amongst those present were the Lord Bishop of Durham (Dr. Westcott), the Dean of Durham (Dr. Kitchin), Canon Moore-Ede, Gateshead; Dr. Bowmaker, Sunderland; Messrs Johnson, Cann, Galbraith, and others of the Durham Miners' Association. About a hundred delegates were present.—The Chairman welcomed the Bishop to the meeting, and said he had been much struck by a remark of Bishop Westcott in one of his charges to the clergy, that not the wealth but health of the people was what they should aim for. Proper home life was a most essential thing to conduce to the true health of the people. Until homes were reformed, they could not expect any true national reformation.

ADDRESS BY DR. WESTCOTT.

The Bishop of Durham, who was cheered on rising, said that though it was true as Mazzini had said, that a man could not be changed by whitewashing or gilding his habitations, it was not less true that there was a type of environment which, according to the natural laws of growth, made the formation of a true human character possible. With that they were as men, as citizens, and as Christians bound to deal. The greatness of a nation depended upon its citizens. That memorable saying of Ruskin's, which could not be repeated too often, that the only wealth was life, was absolutely true, and needed constantly to be brought into mind and applied to their circumstances. The loss of a single member, and the loss of a single man, was a loss not only to himself, but to the whole body. When they thought of the twin evils of

OVERCROWDING AND DRUNKENNESS

they must bear in mind the sad prominence the district they loved and honoured, occupied. The counties of Durham and Northumberland presented the highest type of industrial organisation in the world, and yet stood at the head of that black list. There might be some explanation of the figures, but in percentage of overcrowding and committals for drunkenness, Durham and Northumberland stood first. The percentage of overcrowding in Gateshead was twice as great as in London. The percentage in Sunderland was little less, and Newcastle stood between them. There might be, and he hoped there was, some explanation for these facts, which he had not yet found, but since they had come to his knowledge, he confessed they had haunted him. Might he not ask for their help in dealing with the facts. How could he fulfil his duty unless he knew he was supported by their constant and ready co-operation. Having referred to the power given by the Housing of the Working-classes Act of 1890, which enabled them to take the initiative, the Bishop said that there as elsewhere,

THE FINAL SOLUTION

was human and not mechanical. They wanted more energetic individual action rather than new legislation. The question of insanitary dwellings and overcrowding met him daily in two forms, as it presented itself in the villages and in the towns. In both cases, he believed, there were adequate powers to deal with the evil now, though they might reasonably look for further help in the near future. Speaking first as to the villages, he said nothing had caused him greater thankfulness than the change he had watched coming little by little over their villages during the last ten years. There remained much yet to be done, and they hoped, before long, every house in their village would be in a satisfactory sanitary state, and well supplied with good water. (Hear, hear.) The problem in the towns was more complicated, for there they had to deal with what was spoken of as the residum, that not inconsiderable class who preferred insanitary anarchy to healthy order where they lived. They had to consider the high rents in proportion to income paid by artisans. One remedy was the provision of model lodging houses, and blocks of tenements, and particularly by the building of many more cottages. For such works satisfactory legal provision had already been made, and satisfactory experience had been gained by experiments, which had been made. Similar schemes had been started in Durham and Sunderland, but had failed for want of practical support, but he believed a model lodging-house was to be started in Sunderland. They must make strong endeavour to transfer a considerable part of the people crowding into the towns at least into the suburbs, if not the country, and he hoped under skilful leaders bodies of men might be led back to the land.

Coun. W. Thompson, of Richmond, Surrey, having given an account of the successful operations of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, moved a resolution recognising the terrible evils arising from bad housing conditions, urging local authorities where overcrowding and high rents prevail to vigorously use the powers they already possess under the "Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890," and also urges co-operative societies in districts where housing conditions are below a right standard to earnestly consider the possibility of safely using capital in the erection of good houses, such houses to be let to members at the lowest possible rents, consistent with a fair return on the capital invested. Several speakers from the body of the hall addressed the meeting in support of the resolution. The Dean of Durham, who also briefly spoke, commented on the sad evils of overcrowding, and stated that in his view, the principal difficulty lay in getting hold of land in their large towns. The resolution was carried, and a vote of thanks to the Bishop concluded the meeting.

CRICKET MATCHES

ANNFIELD PLAIN v. LEADGATE TEMPERANCE.

Played on the ground of the former on Wednesday, and resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—

Leadgate.

J. Monaghan b Smith	3
F. Lowes b Wilson	4
J. Crowther b Smith	0
E. J. Kennedy not out	30
J. W. Winter b Smith	3
T. Atkinson c Walker	14
T. Seymour st Russell	0
M. Keenleyside b Wilson	0
M. Julian b Smith	0
B. Sanderson b Wilson	3
G. Willey run out	2
Extras	10
Total	69

Annfield Plain.

J. Robinson c and b Crowther	0
B. Smith b Monaghan	0
J. Tindale b Monaghan	2
W. Wilson b Kennedy	64
M. Walker b Monaghan	8
G. Parker b Monaghan	1
C. Atkin run out	1
J. Russell b Atkinson	5
T. Simpson c Keenleyside	9
W. Vickers c Kennedy	2
W. Schofield not out	0
Extras	16
Total	108

TYNEMOUTH WEDNESDAY v. CHESTER-LE-STREET WEDNESDAY.

Played at North Shields. After an exciting finish, Tynemouth won by a run. Coyle took 10 wickets for 18 runs. Scores:—

TYNEMOUTH.

D. Williamson, c Yeoman, b Coyle	0
W. A. Pettigrew, b Coyle	10
A. E. Hill, b Coyle	0
Tomlin, c Yeoman, b Coyle	27
J. Arthur, c Yeoman, b Coyle	0
W. Askew, b Coyle	37
G. Adam, not out	11
H. Gregory, b Coyle	0
J. Sinclair, b Coyle	3
W. Gray, b Coyle	0
E. S. Reall, b Coyle	0
Extras	7
Total	95

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Dennis, b Tomlin	10
F. Hall b Tomlin	1
Tate, b Tomlin	9
Coyle, c Hill, b Askew	32
Cowings, b Tomlin	11
Thompson, b Tomlin	6
Speed, b Tomlin	4
Coxon, c Askew, b Hill	7
Haddon, b Tomlin	2
Yeoman, not out	2
Simpson, run out	2
Extras	9
Total	94

Sacriston

Property Sale.—On Wednesday afternoon Mr. E. Pounder, auctioneer, of Durham, offered for sale at the George and Dragon Inn, Sacriston, the freehold shop and three-roomed dwelling occupied by Mr. Morgan Robinson in Front Street, Sacriston. There was a good attendance, and bidding, which commenced at £100, advanced to £245, at which figure Mr. Peacock, of Sacriston, became the purchaser. Mr. F. Harle, of Chester-le-Street, was the solicitor in the matter.

BRIEF ANNALS OF SOUTH AFRICA

(By J. W. Fawcett.)

1879. Sir Theophilus Shepstone, who had as Administrator of the Transvaal governed the country as an autocrat, but had governed it well, was re-placed (January), by Sir Owen Langon, a capable soldier who had done good work in the settlement of Griqualand West. Unhappily he soon made himself bitterly hated by the Boers, not by any act of injustice, but simply by the stiff military formality of his manner. In one way or another he succeeded in offending so many of their prejudices as to give an impetus to the movement in favour of the restoration of their independence.

1879. Sir Bartle Frere, when he could spare time from Zulu affairs, promised to visit the disaffected Boers of the Transvaal, who had gathered to the number of 1,600 or 1,700, in a large camp near Pretoria, and he left Pietermaritzburg in March. The most striking incident of the journey was afforded by the number of Boers who sought Sir Bartle's advice. In the course of a despatch to Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, dated April 9th, he wrote:—"I have met Boers at every halting place, and in numbers along the road. . . . . Almost everyone complained of the want of protection against intimidation on the part of the dissatisfied Boers, but they generally added their testimony to substantial improvements in administration since the country was annexed. . . . The idea that we should somehow be compelled or induced to abandon the country had taken great hold on the minds of some of the more intelligent men I met. It had been sedulously written up by a portion of the South African Press, English as well as Dutch. I marked its effect particularly on men who said they had come from the old colony since the annexation, but would never have done so had they believed that English rule would be withdrawn, and the country left to its former state of anarchy.

1879. On his arrival at Pretoria Sir Bartle Frere visited the camp of the malcontent Boers. He went unarmed, and almost unattended, and really carried his life in his hands, for the younger Boers were openly defiant, and under absolutely no control. He had an interview with the Boer leaders—Joubert, Kruger, and Pretorius—who formed a committee of twenty-five, who assembled to meet him, and, for a period of five hours argued the case of Briton versus Boer. The committee demanded the restoration of their independence, to which Sir Bartle replied that annexation was irrevocable, and outside the pale of discussion.

1879. In his despatch to the Colonial Office reporting the result of his conferences Sir Bartle said that he was not prepared for "the stubbornness of a determination" on the part of the disaffected Boers to accept nothing short of independence; nevertheless from what he had seen his conviction was strengthened that the real malcontents were far from being a majority of the whole white population, or even of the Boers. "I have no doubt," says Frere, "that if the Executive were in a position to assert the supremacy of the law, and put an effective stop to the reign of terrorism which exists at present, the discontented minority would cease to agitate, and would soon cease to feel grievances which a very brief discussion show to be in the main sentimental, not the less keenly felt on that account, but not likely to survive the prosperity and good government, with a fair measure of self-government in its train, which are within their reach under British rule."

1879. Sir Bartle Frere had fixed January 11th as the limit for the acceptance of the guarantees, which he endeavoured to exact from the Zulu King. Cetewayo, however, allowed the prescribed day to pass without complying with the High Commisioner's demands.

1879. On the very next day (January 12th) British troops under Lord Chelmsford invaded Zululand, the force advancing in three columns, under Colonel Glyn, Colonel Pearson, and Colonel Durnford. Thus commenced the Zulu War, which proved a terrible affair, costing Great Britain dearly in lives and money. Although it was undertaken chiefly on behalf of the Transvaal, the Boers on the whole stood aloof, only a very few of them volunteering for service.

1879. On January 21st Col. Durnford's column occupied a camp at Isandhlwana, and the following day, being attacked by between 18,000 and 20,000 Zulus, were almost annihilated. The 1st Battalion of the 24th Foot was destroyed, 30 officers and 500 men being slain. Col. Durnford and Col. Pulleine were killed, and immense quantities of stores fell into the hands of the enemy. It was a terrible retribution for having underrated the resources and numbers of the enemy, and for imperfectly reconnoitring his position. Mr Kruger, who understood Zulu tactics, had given some excellent advice to the British officers, but their too self-confidence only resulted in disaster.

1879. A disaster similar to that of Isandhlwana very nearly befell Colonel Pearson's column. On January 22nd (the day after the disaster) he was beleagured at the Mission Station of Ekowe. For more than twelve months this little garrison of 1,200 held out against incessant assaults by immense numbers of Zulus, till the last day of March provisions had run dangerously low. On April 1st, Lord Chelmsford, having received reinforcements from England, advanced with 4,000 British troops and 2,000 friendly natives, defeated the besiegers and raised the siege.

1879. One of the most tragic incidents of the Zulu war was the death of Prince Louis Napoleon—"the Prince Imperial"—eldest son of the third Emperor of the French, who served on Lord Chelmsford staff as a volunteer, having ridden into an ambush of Zulus.

1879. The invasion of Zululand now assumed the proportions of a great campaign. Reinforcements were despatched from England, and in time there were about 20,000 British and 4,500 Colonial troops in the field. On July 4th, Lord Chelmford encountered the whole Zulu nation at Ulundi, and gained a decisive victory, whereby the power of the Zulus was hopelessly broken, and the earlier disasters retrieved.

1879. The British Government, dissatisfied with Lord Chelmsford's initial want of success, and subsequent hesitation, sent out Sir Garnet Wolseley to supersede him, but on his arrival at Capetown he found that the Zulu campaign was finished.

1879. The Zulu chiefs then crowded in to make submission. Cetewayo was a fugitive with a handful of followers, and a force of cavalry scoured the country in pursuit of him, till, on August 28th, the war was brought to an end by the capture of the unhappy king by Lord Gifford's party, and sent to Capetown.

1879. The defeat of Isandhlwana and the unhappy death of the Prince Imperial created an enormous outcry in England. By some strange freak of the popular mind, Sir Bartle Frere was held accountable for purely military mistakes. Although Lord Chelmsford's final victory redeemed his reputation, yet Frere's policy was held to be discredited, and he suffered much at the hands of the opposition in the British House of Commons.

FOOTBALL.

STANLEY AND DISTRICT JUNIOR LEAGUE.

A meeting will be held at the Stanley Hotel on Saturday, May 26th, at 7 o'clock. All teams wishing to join the League should attend. Applications must be sent in by May 25th to J. Jobson, 61, Poplar Street, South Moor, via Chester-le-Street; or T. Sheppard, 18, Ramsey Street, Stanley R.S.O.

Weardale

Women's Liberal Association.—The annual meeting of Westwood and Hamsterley Branch of the North-West Durham Women's Liberal Association was held on Monday, in the Co-operative Hall, Low Westwood. At four o'clock a public tea was provided in the hall, which was largely attended. The tables were presided over by members of the Association. At five o'clock, the annual business was held. The report of the secretary was read, which showed an increase of members for the year. The treasurer's report showed a good balance in hand, and an increase in the subscription list. Mrs. Pumphrey, of Derwenthill, was elected president for the ensuing year; Mrs. Ridley, Chopwell, was re-elected secretary; and Mrs. Coxford, treasurer. A strong committee of management was appointed. At seven o'clock a public meeting was held, and was well attended. Mrs. Pumphrey presided. Councillor J. W. Winter, Liberal agent, delivered an address on the important question of the housing of the poor, for which he received a very enthusiastic vote of thanks.

EXTRAORDINARY CURES
IN CONSETT.
VENO'S SEAWEED TONIC SURPRISES EVERYBODY BY PERFORMING CURES WHICH WERE SAID TO BE IMPOSSIBLE.

Veno's Seaweed Tonic often does what the doctor cannot do. It is the great remedy that restores health. Doctors use it themselves because they recognise in it the most successful remedy that science has ever been able to compound.

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DON'T FORGET THIS FACT.

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VENO'S LIGHTNING COUGH CURE

stops an ordinary cough in one night, and cures chronic coughs, bronchitis, asthma and whooping cough rapidly. It is vastly superior to ordinary cough mixtures or any kind of emulsions. Price 1/1½d and 2/9.

Sold at the Consett Co-operative Society, Milner, chemist, and Dawson's Drug Stores, Consett and Blackhill, and by all Chemists and Co-operative Stores. Ask for Veno's Remedies, and see you get them. Avoid the man who offers you a cheap mixture of his own. 721h.

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS

The usual monthly meeting of this authority was held on Thursday afternoon last in the Board Room, Chester-le-Street, Lieut.-Col. J. Humble presiding. The other members present were—Messrs C. J. Banks, J. Burnett, R. H. Lonsdale, F. Harle, T. Arnell, J. Smith, T. C. Renwick, Wm. Hedley, J. W. Bolam, Geo. Middlemas, R. J. English, R. Bolam, R. B. Clark, M. Douglass, Wm. Morris, T. Richardson, J. R. R. Garson, W. Norman, and H. W. Kerrich-Walker; the Clerk (Mr. R. Dickinson), and Mr. R. V. Dickinson (Assistant Clerk).

DEATH OF A MEMBER.

Mr. J. W. Bolam intimated that the Board had lost another member by death. He referred to the sad death of Mr. R. Selby.

The Chairman said he was sorry they had lost another member of that Board, viz., Mr. Selby. Although the deceased was not an old member, yet he believed that had he been spared he would have made a good and useful member of that Board. He moved that a vote of condolence be sent to the relatives of the deceased.

This was unanimously agreed to.

THE CHAIRMANSHIP.

The Chairman remarked that since the last meeting he had received a letter from Mr. George Ridley, of Stanley, which was partly of a private nature, but it spoke of the great kindness he had received from the members of the Board. If the Board wished he should be glad to pass the letter over to the Clerk, who could read it to them.

It was decided to have the letter read, which was in the following terms:—Dear Mr. Humble. I have just seen from the Consett paper that you have been elected chairman at Chester-le-Street, and I beg you will accept my sincere congratulations on your promotion. I hope you may long be spared in health and strength to enjoy the same. If the members treat you with the same kind consideration and forbearance they have given to me during my term of office, then your duties will be light and pleasant, and I hope they will do so. P.S. My recovery I regret to say is very slow. (Signed) George Ridley.

STATISTICS.

The number of inmates reported to be in the Workhouse at the present time were 132, as against 151 for the corresponding period of last year, being a decrease of 19. During the month 133 vagrants had been relieved, as against 156 for the corresponding month of last year, being a decrease of 17.

A GRATUITY.

The Visiting Committee recommended that a gratuity of £15 be paid to Mr. J. E. Gibson for coal, subject to the approval of the Local Government Board.

The recommendation was agreed to.

APPLICATION FOR ADVANCE.

A letter was read from Mr. R. Trotter, rate collector, Oakdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, applying for an increase of salary. Mr. Trotter in behalf of his application pointed out that since he commenced duty in 1898, the rateable value had increased about £1,000.

Mr. Mitchell said that the applicant was a very good officer, whom, he believed, had done his business very satisfactory since he commenced. There was no doubt about the rateable value of the Township having gone up considerably, and he thought that Mr. Trotter was entitled to an increase. He gave notice of motion for the next meeting that Mr. Trotter's salary be increased £10.

THE PARISH COUNCIL.

A communication was read from the Chester-le-Street Parish Council, asking for the use of the Board Room, in which to hold their meetings.

The request was granted.

APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT NURSE.

A letter was read from the Local Government Board sanctioning the appointment of Miss A. G. Sinclair as assistant nurse at the Workhouse Infirmary.

RATES.

A committee was received from the County Council fixing the county-rate at ½d in the £, and police-rate at 2d in the £ for the ensuing half-year.

This was all the business of note and the meeting soon afterwards terminated.

TOW LAW URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the above authority was held in the Council chamber on Wednesday, May 9th. There were present Councillors Atkinson, Blenkiron, Brewer, Graham, Harrison, Hildreth, Robson, Sproats, and Hall.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Robson moved and Mr. Harrison seconded that Mr Atkinson be re-elected.—This was carried unanimously.

Coun. Robson moved and Coun. Blenkiron seconded that Coun. Sproats be elected vice-chairman. This was also carried.

After suitable acknowledgements from the newly-elected Chairman and Vice-chairman the standing committees were appointed.

Roads and Cemetery:—Messrs Graham and Hildreth.

Gas:—Messrs Hall and Robson.

Building and Sanitation—Messrs Brewer and Sproats.

Finance:—Messrs Brewer and Hildreth.

School Attendance:—Mr Brewer.

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

Coun. Brewer gave notice of motion to adopt the Public Health Act of 1890.

PAVING.

The Sanitary Inspector reported that little progress had been made in paving yards, but that this was accounted for by the difficulty of getting the work done, the masons and paviors having their hands full at this season.

Resolved that official notice be served after giving a little extra time.

REMOVAL OF ASHES.

The Inspector reported that the scavenger had removed a portion of the ashes from the Wesleyan School ashpit, but objected to remove the accumulation of six months or so if he were only to be paid for the removal of the current month. Some of the Councillors thought this only fair, and it was tacitly agreed that the managers should arrange for the clearing of the remaining ashes.

On the Surveyor's recommendation it was unanimously resolved to pave and channel the side of the road adjacent to the cemetery.

Coun. Sproats called attention to the heaps of refuse matter taken from the traps which were allowed to stand too long before removal.

The Surveyor promised to attend to the matter.

IRON WORKS ROAD DRAINAGE.

With reference to the new main to be laid from Mr Featherstone's field to the slag heap, it was resolved to ask the opinion of the Medical Officer for the County Council as to the point of entrance into the slag heap, as there was a difference of opinion as to the advisability of conveying the sewage unfiltered into the slag heap so near Mr Christison's house.

INKERMAN DRAINAGE.

After a lucid explanation of Mr Harrison's proposal, it was agreed to ask the County Medical Officer's opinion as to the scheme and the proposal to pipe the distance from Keeper's Row outfall to the slag heap.

DISTRICT RATE.

The district rate of fourteen pence in the pound was confirmed.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL SCHEME.

After considerable discussion it was agreed that the clerk point out to the County Council the reasons for not proceeding further with the Isolation Hospital scheme, viz., (1) The objections of residents in vicinity of the proposed hospital. (2) The divided opinion of the Council as to the advisability of spending a large sum on a building which would only be a temporary provision.

MAIN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.

The County Council Clerk wrote in reply to the claim for additional grant for maintainance that a further grant of £55 per annum would be made.

On the motion of Coun. Brewer, seconded by Coun. Graham, the offer was accepted.

The Clerk was directed to answer the letter of enquiry from the Local Government Board by giving a resume of recent correspondence with the County Council relating to the improvements effected and being carried out by the Council.

SALE OF DRINK TO CHILDREN.

Coun. Brewer moved, and Coun. Graham seconded, that a memorial be sent to the Government praying them to pass the Bill prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors to children under the age of 16 years.

This motion was carried without a dissentient voice, there being only one neutral.

The Chairman then appended his signature, and the proceedings terminated.

METHODISM AT DUNSTON.

FOUNDATION-STONE LAYING CEREMONY.

On Saturday afternoon the ceremony of laying the foundation-stones of a new school-room proposed to be erected in Ellison Road, Dunston, by the Independent Methodists, took place in the presence of a good gathering. The present structure occupied by the members of this denomination has long been felt a hindrance to good Sunday School work, and after many months of hard work the members have at last been able to take steps to acquire more commodious premises, which will prove a credit to the denomination. In the near future a bolder step will be taken—the erection of a new church. It is intended to erect this proposed structure immediately adjoining the present site, and when such is carried out the members will be in a position to cope with the spiritual needs of this large and increasing village. The new school-room, which is estimated to cost £1,250, will be of Tow Law blockers, with neat stone dressing. There will be two commodious class-rooms, and the total accommodation will be 350. There will be a garden in front of the present building, which will materially add to the attractiveness of the structure. The work is being carried out by Mr. Isaac Bewley, from the plans of Messrs Joseph Potts and Sons, Sunderland.

The foundation-stone laying ceremony was presided over by Captain Gibson, of Sunderland, who, in the course of a few remarks, said it was no light task to take in hand—the building of a house for the worship of Jehova, but they believed that God's blessing would rest upon it. The building was being erected not for the purpose of self-glory, but for the salvation of sinners. The Independent Methodists was perhaps a new name to many in that district, and it might be better known, more especially in the Sunderland district. They were the enemies of none, but the friends of all. (Hear, hear.) Their preachers were ministers after the Quaker style. There was no fee or reward required, and their gospel was free and open to all. They preached it with the freedom that perhaps other denominations could not do. They had no fault to find with those gentlemen who were born parsons, pastors, and priests; they simply said, "We don't believe in them." That was, they did not believe in making a trade of preaching the gospel. (A voice: "No.") They did not believe that a father or mother should say, "that boy shall become a preacher and a minister." They would see that they were something like the old fashioned Christians, they did not want pomp and show, but to save souls.

The ceremony of laying the foundation-stones was next proceeded with.

Corner-stones were laid by Mrs. Wm. Laws, who deposited £10 upon the stone, and Mr. George Whitfield, who gave a donation of £25. Other stones were laid by Miss Beatrice Whitfield, who gave a donation of £10; Miss Esther Bewley, £5; Miss Barbara Swaddle, £10; Master Arthur S. Slater, £5; Mr. George Wilson, £5; and Mr. John Stokoe, £5.

At the close of the ceremony a tea was held in an adjoining marquee, at which a large number sat down to tables presided over by Miss Mullen, Mrs. Warburton, Mrs. Wilson, Miss Swaddle, Mrs. Gardner, Miss Hutchinson, and Mrs. Fordice. In the evening a public meeting took place, at which interesting addresses were delivered.

THE OPINION OF EVERY ENGLISHMAN is that liberty of speech and action is the birthright of every free man. "Britons never shall be slaves" is one of the most popular of our national songs, and, as a matter of fact, it is impossible for slavery to exist under the protecting shadow of the British flag. In the same manner, men cannot remain bound by the tyrannic shackles of disease, if they will place themselves under the healing influence of Holloway's Pills and Ointment. Their success in all parts of the world is now a familiar story, and it is only necessary to say here, there is no known disorder that cannot be speedily cured or relieved by them.

PARDON ME!

HAVE YOU TRIED THE POPULAR **KYTE TEA?** Sold at 1/8, 1/10, 2/-, 2/4, 2/6, 2/10, & 3/2. Aroma and Quality Delicious.

HAVE YOU USED **KYTE COFFEE?** The Essence of Perfection.

In ¼, ½, and 1-lb Tins. Sold at 1/- 1/4, and 1/8 per lb.

KYTE HEALTH SALT. The Indispensable Remedy for Disordered Liver. A Morning Tonic.

KYTE BAKING POWDER. Absolutely Pure—Therefore Best.

Use your Judgment and insist on having KYTE BRAND GOODS. The Standard of Quality.

May be obtained from Grocers and Co-operative Stores.

Wholesale from **ANTHONY OATES,**

ST. MARTIN'S COURT, NEWGATE STREET, NEWCASTLE

LOCAL POLICE COURTS.

Lanchester Petty Sessions.

THURSDAY, May 10th.—Before Mr. W. B. Van Haansbergen (presiding), Mr. W. Logan, the Rev. T. L. J. Warneford, Mr. W. Aynsley, Dr. Wilson, Mr. F. H. Burn, and Mr. E. W. E. Balleny.

DRUNKENNESS.

The following charges of drunk and disorderly conduct were dealt with:—George Reay, fined 2s 6d and costs; Bernard Cunningham, 5s and costs; Arthur Moore, 5s and costs; John McGowan, 2s 6d and costs; John Telford, 5s and costs; and James Brannen, 5s and costs.

PITCH AND TOSS.

Charles Errington, Thomas McKie, Jos. Pattison, Geo. Scorer, and James Williamson were charged with playing at pitch and toss at Annfield Plain on April 29th.—P.C. Hildreth having stated the case the defendants were each fined 5s and costs.

John Goodburn, Richard Barrigan, John T. Gardner, Daniel Logan, and Isaac Batey were also convicted on the evidence of P.C. Eagles, for offending at Hedley Hill, on April 27th, and were fined 5s and costs each.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

The following defendants were bound over to keep the peace and pay the costs for fighting:—John Murphy and Patrick Murphy, Wm. Shield and Thomas Clough, Lindsay Simpson and John Elsdon, and John and George Wood.

A STANLEY ASSAULT CASE.

David George, miner, West Stanley, was charged on remand from Stanley Police Court, with being drunk and disorderly, with refusing to quit the Queen's Head Hotel, with doing wilful damage in the hotel, and with assaulting P. C. Phizacklea on the 4th of May.—P.C. Phizacklea said he was called into the hotel to assist one of the barmen in ejecting the defendant, who had been acting in a rowdy manner. When they got him outside he became violent and disorderly, and witness had to get the assistance of P.C. Millions. Even then he was very violent and assaulted witness and kicked both officers on the road to the police-station. With the assistance of two civilians they got him locked up. When in the hotel he swept a number of jugs and glasses off the counter.—After hearing corroborative evidence the Bench fined defendant 5s and costs for being drunk and disorderly, 10s and costs for refusing to quit, 2s 6d and costs for the wilful damage, together with 8s, the amount of the damage, and for the assault on the constable he was sent to gaol for 14 days with hard labour and without the option of a fine.—The defendant had a long list of convictions against him.

THEFT FROM A SHOWMAN.

Owen McNally, Wm. Lamb, and Albert Tilley, boys, were charged with larceny from Joseph Jackson, travelling showman, at Consett.—Prosecutor said he left his horse and flat with a quantity of goods standing outside while he went in to get some supper. He heard someone working on with a box on the flat, and on going out he saw the lads, who ran away, and he ran after them. He failed to catch them, but they were afterwards apprehended. There were some peacock feathers in the box in bundles of 100 each. He missed two of the bundles and valued them at 6s or 7s. One of the lads had some feathers in his hand.—John Brown, a boy, said he was employed at the Consett Iron Works, and resided at Rosebery Terrace. He saw the defendants and Jackson running after them. McNally had some feathers in his hand.—Sergt. Dryden said on the 1st May the caravan was standing on some vacant ground, and from what he was told he apprehended the boys. Tilley said it was Lamb and McNally.—McNally denied ever having had any of the feathers in his hand. Lamb pleaded guilty.—The Chairman said there was very little evidence against Tilley and he would be dismissed. McNally would be fined 10s and Lamb would receive six strokes with the birch rod.

HUSBAND AND WIFE.

James Canavan failed to appear to a summons charging him with refusing to maintain his wife and three children.—Mary Canavan said her husband left her in July last and was now at Gateshead. She had to go into Lanchester Workhouse. Many a time he had pays of above £3. She saw her husband at Durham that morning with another woman. He told her he would not go to Lanchester. At one time he used to give witness money, but he got into bad company.—The Bench made a separation order and granted the wife 10s a week and the custody of the children.

A "STROKE" IN INFANCY.

David Allwood, 13 years of age, of Oxhill, was charged with having stolen a horse, a flat, and a set of harness, the property of Edward Milligan. He was also charged with stealing a quantity of hay and a watch, the property of Mr. Robson, of Oxhill. Mr. T. Ridley, Stanley, defended.

Edward Milligan said he was a hardware dealer in Jubilee Terrace, Oxhill. On Thursday morning, the third of the month, he saw his horse, flat, and harness in the stable, and they were all right. At a later hour—11.30—he went back and found they were gone. He informed the police, and with P.C. Ayre he went to Newcastle, and there discovered the property, which he valued at £25.

Cross-examined he said he did not know the boy and never employed him.

P.C. Ayre said he went to Newcastle and there apprehended the prisoner who was in possession of the horse. He took the lad to Stanley Police Station and charged him. He replied, "Yes. I took it out of the stable and yoked it, and took it to Gateshead." He added that there were two other boys with him.

Cross-examined: He said he was proceeding to his uncle's at Heaton. He was going up Market Street, and was not going in the direction of home again.

Mr. Ridley said the boy was charged with larceny, but to prove that offence they must not only prove the taking away of goods, but also that there was felonious intent. The boy unfortunately suffered from a mental deficiency. He had five medical certificates showing that the boy suffered from this affliction. Dr. Tiplady, who had attended him, was of opinion that when the boy got to work he would be all right. He did go to work at Messrs Hedley's Colliery, but was temporarily laid off, and it was during that period that this offence occurred. The owners of the Colliery were quite willing to take him back again. The boy was the only support of his mother, and earned two shillings a day.

P.C. Ayre said Mrs. Allwood told him that she was parted from her husband, and another man was living with her.

Mrs. Allwood denied the truth of that statement. She had a lodger, but he left to make way for a female lodger.

Mr. Ridley objected to the officer's interjection.

The Chairman said they would not notice it.

Mr. Ridley said when the boy was 15 months old he had a stroke.

The Chairman said he did not appear to their minds to show any weakness, but they could not go beyond the certificates.

Mrs. Allwood then gave evidence as to the boy's illness when 15 months old.

The Chairman said there was a previous conviction against the boy at Bishop Auckland, but they were going to take a lenient view of the case. If the boy would promise not to do any of these bad tricks again they would let him off this time, but he would be bound over to come up for judgment if called upon, so that if he did anything wrong he would be brought there again and severely whipped.

The boy then left the Court with his mother, the other charges not being gone into.

ARREARS OF MAINTENANCE.

Joseph Blakey, Burnhope, was charged with being £5 2s in arrears of maintenance of his wife and two children.—On being asked if he would pay he said one child was dead and the other was kept by his wife's sister.—Mrs. Blakey said she was in service at Tantobie.—The Bench informed Blakey that he ought to have applied for an alteration of the order. As he made no promise of payment now he must go to gaol for one month.

THE EVIL SIDE OF FOOTBALL.

James Mallet, holder of the license of the Sun Inn, Burnopfield, was charged with having permitted drunkenness on the premises on the 21st of April. Mr. Oliver Durham, prosecuted, and Mr. E. Clark Newcastle, defended.

P.C. Robson said that on Saturday, the 21st of April, he was on duty at Burnopfield, and visited the Sun Inn. The man in charge of the house was named Wake. He went into the kitchen and saw eight men. His attention was particularly drawn to two men named James and John McKenna, who were both very drunk. James had some spirit before him and he saw John drink some beer. Later on, within 200 yards of the house, he found James McKenna lying helplessly drunk. He had seen the McKennas in the village at half-past seven o'clock, and they were both drunk then. At half-past ten he again visited the house, and saw a number of men coming out. One man named Richard Clark was very drunk, and witness had to steady him up, and his son took him home. Two other men in the house were very drunk, and one had a glass of beer in front of him. He spoke to Wake, but Wake himself was drunk. A man named Hanlon, though he was not drunk, was very disorderly, and as witness feared there would be a fight he told Wake to get Hanlon out. Wake spoke to a man named Dunn, and then went into a room, and shortly after came out. Wake then said to Dunn, "I will leave you in charge." About eleven o'clock witness saw a man named Humble and a lot of others turned out, and all were very drunk.

Cross-examined: The real meaning of this was that Wake was drunk. Witness knew that Wake had since been removed. There were just two rooms in the house. There had been a football match at Tanfield Lea, and the Lintz Rovers had been successful in winning the Charity Cup.

Mr. Clark, addressing the Bench, said he was instructed by Messrs Deuchar to appear in that case. Mr. Mallet, manager for Messrs Deuchar, was the nominal licensee of the Sun Inn and the unfortunate circumstance was that they had a manager who had given way to drink. The moment it was brought to Messrs Deuchar's knowledge he was discharged from their employ. They had now a responsible man named Elliott in charge of the house. Of course there was an offence, but it appeared there had been a football match which had caused a lot of excitement owing to the victory of Lintz Rovers. The police had acted very properly and he accepted the evidence of P.C. Robson, and admitted the fairness with which he had given his evidence. They thanked the police for their interference. Under the circumstances they had done everything they could, and he asked the Bench to inflict such a fine as would meet the case. If Wake had kept sober the offence would not have been committed. He did not think it was a case for endorsement of the license.

The Bench inflicted a fine of £5 and costs, the license not to be endorsed.

DRUNK ON LICENSED PREMISES.

For being drunk on licensed premises, viz. the Sun Inn, Burnopfield, the following persons were each fined 5s and costs:—John Carradice, Richard Clark, James McKenna, Wm. Humble, John McKenna, Benjamin Peel, John Lee, Wm. Docherty, and Edward Murray.

Consett Petty Sessions.

MONDAY, May 14.—Before Mr. J. Annandale, (presiding), Mr. W. Aynsley, and Mr. F. Priestman.

DRUNKENNESS.

There were five cases of drunkenness and 15 of drunk and disorderly conduct on the charge sheet, and they were dealt with as follows:—Patrick McCartan, at Consett, fined 5/- and costs; Patrick Tanney, Consett, 5/- and costs; Matthew Wilson, Consett, 5/- and costs; Matthew Brown, Westwood, 5/- and costs; George Bainbridge, Westwood, 5/- and costs; James Devaney, Blackhill, 5/- and costs; Wm. Jons, Blackhill, 10/- and costs; Wm. Pickering, Iveston, 5/- and costs; Joseph Elliott, Dipton, 10/- and costs; Wm. Elliott, Dipton, 5/- and costs; Wallace Ferry, Dipton, 5/- and costs; John Willey, Tantobie, 10/- and costs; Alexander Frazer, Flint Hill, 10/- and costs; Wm. McKenna, Hill Top, 10/- and costs; Robert Sharp, Tanfield, 10/- and costs; Robert Sharpe, Tanfield, 10/- and costs; John Haslam, Flint Hill, 5/- and costs; Edward Lakey, Flint Hill, 5/- and costs; Edward Lamb, Flint Hill, 5/- and costs; Hugh Garland, Burnopfield, 5/- and costs; Frank Park, Burnopfield, 5/- and costs; and Thomas Hyland, Consett, 5/- and costs.

BREACH OF THE PEACE.

Edward Murray and James Duffy pleaded guilty to a breach of the peace at Lintz Colliery on the 5th of May, and were bound over to keep the peace for six months, and ordered to pay the costs.—P.C. Wilkinson proved the case.

WILFUL DAMAGE.

Joseph Corbett was charged with having done wilful damage to some hay and straw, the property of Mr. Wm. Ridley, Consett, on the 29th of April.—Sergt. Dryden said he had a letter from the defendant saying he could not appear, and asking for the case to be heard in his absence. Witness found the man sleeping near Mr. Ridley's haystack. Some straw had been pulled off, and part of the hay damaged.—Mr. Ridley put the damage down at one shilling.—Defendant was ordered to pay the amount of damage, and was further fined 2/6 and costs.

OBSCENE LANGUAGE.

Mary Proctor was charged under the Towns' Police Clauses Act with having used obscene language at Benfieldside, on April 28.—P.C. Simpson said he saw the defendant with her husband, and she was using very bad language.—Defendant said she was trying to get her husband away from the public-houses. Whenever she had had any words with him it had been about money matters. She had four children.—She was dismissed this time, but cautioned against a repetition of the offence.

Sarah Clarke and Arthur Clarke were also similarly charged with offending in Walton's Row, Benfieldside, on May 3.—P.C. Simpson said he heard the female defendant using very bad language.—The male defendant said when he saw the officer coming round the corner he went into the house. He never spoke a word to the policeman. His sister was fighting with another woman, and he wanted to know why the other woman had not been summoned as well?—A fine of one shilling and costs each was imposed.

CRUELTY TO A PONY.

Joseph Temperley, Mease Farm, Ebchester, was charged with having used cruelty to a pony on the 28th of April.—Inspector Greatorex prosecuted, and defendant did not appear.

John Wm. Anderson said at about a quarter to six at night he was on the road from Ebchester to Shotley Bridge, and he met the defendant on a dark pony galloping hard. After he passed witness turned back, as he thought the pony would drop down. It was exhausted and swerving from one side of the road to the other. Defendant was thrashing the pony. It turned round a time or two, and when witness got near it started galloping towards Ebchester. He could not say whether the defendant was sober or not, but he seemed to be awfully excited. He saw him jerking and thrashing the pony.

Thomas McCourt said the defendant was beating the pony most cruelly, although it seemed to be doing its very best. Defendant had a handkerchief round his wrist and was using the "thick" end of his whip.

P. C. Johnson said he subsequently examined the pony, and it was in pain every time it was touched. There was a wound on each side of the mouth.

Inspector Greatorex said he went to the farm on Monday the 30th, and examined the pony. He found the mouth very raw and painful. The pony was evidently in pain in the shoulders and other parts. Defendant admitted to him that he hit the pony because it wanted to turn the other way.

The Bench inflicted a fine of 5/- and costs, the latter amounting to £1 1s 6d.

VACCINATION CASES.

Richard Thompson was charged with having neglected to have his child vaccinated according to an order made upon him by that Court.

Mr. J. M. Aynsley prosecuted, and said an order was made on the 19th of February for the defendant to have his child vaccinated within one calendar month. He had not done so, and that summons was taken out for the purpose of having a penalty inflicted.

Thomas Hogg, Vaccination Officer, said he had not received any certificate of vaccination.

Defendant, in reply to the chairman, said he did not forget about the order. He objected to vaccination.

The Chairman asked him if he could give any reason?

Defendant said he thought it was useless and cruel. He intended obtaining an exemption order, but he was told he was too late.

The Chairman said they would take into consideration the fact that he intended taking out an exemption order. That order would have cost him 3/-, and he would now be fined 3/- and costs.

Thomas Wm. Piggins was also charged with failing to have his daughter vaccinated.

Mr. Aynsley said this was a prosecution under section 31 for an order for vaccination. Defendant had three children unvaccinated. After the youngest child was born he was advised to apply for a certificate. He had plenty of time, but ignored the whole thing.

Mr. Hogg said the child affected by the present summons was born on the 25th January, 1898. He had received no notice of exemption or of vaccination.

The Chairman: Did he point-blank refuse to have it vaccinated?

Witness: Yes; when the youngest child was two months old I advised him to apply for an exemption order.

The Bench then made an order for the child to be vaccinated within a month, the defendant to pay the costs.

EDUCATION ACT.

Thomas Brown was charged by Mr. Gibson, school attendance officer, with neglecting to send his two children to school. An order had already been made, but for two months up to the 7th of May they had not attended.—A fine of 5s and costs was inflicted.

Ann Wynn was also charged respecting her two children, against one of whom an order had been made.—Mr. Gibson said defendant's husband was serving in South Africa as a reservist. The eldest boy was in the National Schools, but he behaved so badly they refused to have him.—Defendant said the boy was willing to go to any except the Catholic School.—Mr. Gibson said the boy could have sat for a labour certificate, but did not do so. Unless he did so he would have to go to school until he was 14. The younger boy had not attended at all for three months. Defendant told witness she could not make the boy go to school.—In the case of the elder boy a fine of 2s 6d was imposed, and in the case of the younger an order was made for him to attend the National School.

Jane Batey was also summoned under the same Act.—Mr. Gibson said defendant's child was absent for two months. His mother could not control him. If he got out of the house she did not know when he would return, consequently she locked him in the house while she went to work. Witness had been at the house two or three times, and had seen the boy looking out of the window. The boy was eleven years of age and was in standard four.—Mrs. Batey said sometimes she had had to wait until twelve o'clock at night before he had returned. She thought it would be better to have him sent to an Industrial School, as she was afraid he would turn out bad.—An order was made for him to go to the Church schools.

Thomas Brunton was similarly charged.—Mr. T. Robson gave evidence as to the boy's irregular attendance.—Defendant said the boy was delicate, and on wet days it was too far for him to go from Annfield Plain to Stanley Catholic Schools.—A fine of 5/- and costs was imposed.

BENFIELDSIDE SCHOOL BOARD.

The monthly meeting of this body was held on Friday afternoon at the Benfieldside Edge Schools. The Rev. A. Baillie (chairman) presided, and there were also present—Rev. E. W. Jenkins, Mr. W. Ramsay, Mr. G. J. Robinson, Mr. John Sloane, Mr. J. Dowson; and the Clerk (Mr. R. G. Barclay, J.P.)

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE COMMITTEE.

This committee reported as follows:—The officer's report was read, shewing an average attendance of 89.7. But for the irregular attendance in the Benfieldside Girls' Department this would have been much higher, the whole of the other departments, together with St. Mary's School, showed a marked improvement in the attendance. Miss Kinnear reported that Miss Snowdon had secured another appointment, and had left the Board's service. Your committee submit three estimates for the papering, etc., of the School House, and recommend that the tender of Mr. Geo. Surtees, of Benfieldside Edge, be accepted. Before, however, this work is commenced your committee recommend that the roof and pointing to the house be attended to; also that the oven and fire-place in the front kitchen be repaired, also that the defective flue be attended to, so as to make it in a satisfactory condition. A letter was read from Miss Harle, asking for a sliding partition in her department which was deferred for further consideration.

The report was adopted.

FINANCE.

The Finance Committee reported that cheques were required for sums amounting to £183 15s 9d.

The Clerk said that they had not the money to meet all, but he expected a precept in a few days.

DEFECTIVE AND EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

A letter was read from the Tanfield School Board anent the proposal to hold a conference respecting the above matter.

The Chairman said it would be a good thing if they could get an institution specially for these children, as they could not get justice under the present arrangement.

The Clerk mentioned that there were three children at Benfieldside.

It was decided that the Chairman, Mr. Ramsay, and the Clerk should represent the Board at the conference.

A NEW ROAD TO THE SCHOOLS.

Mr. Ramsay said that some time since the School Committee discussed the question of trying to get a new road through the fields to the schools, starting at Snowdon Street. He was authorised to see Mr. Murray, the owner of the land, but had not been able to do so until that day. Mr. Murray was willing to meet a deputation from the Board on the ground.

The Chairman and other members agreed that it would be a desirable thing to have the new road to the schools as suggested.

Mr. Ramsay said the traffic often became congested at the corner of Highgate, and he knew for a fact that children were sent to Consett because of the danger at the corner he referred to.

The Clerk said the matter was mentioned at the Board 15 or 16 years since, but nothing was done.

On the motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, it was resolved that the deputation should consist of the chairman, Mr. Ramsay, and the Clerk.

THE ATTENDANCE OFFICER ILL.

The Attendance Officer (Mr. Hall) was reported to be seriously ill, suffering from pleurisy.

Mr. Ramsay thought that the officer should be empowered to secure extra assistance during his illness, as his wife could not possibly attend to all the work. The officer had been ill a fortnight, and the place required looking after. He moved that Mr. Hall be empowered to obtain extra assistance.

This was seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried.

THE COTTAGE HOMES.

Mr. Ramsay asked if anything further had been heard from the Gateshead Guardians.

The Clerk replied in the negative.

Mr. Ramsay said he noticed at the last meeting of the Guardians that they were going to send a deputation to the Education Department, and in the meantime were going to send the children to Consett.

The Clerk said that would do for them. The new Education Bill settled the question, as it set out where School Boards had to provide accommodation for children from workhouses the Guardians would have to pay for it.

Mr. Dowson said that would just meet their case.

The Clerk: I do not believe the homes will be there in 10 years' time.

Mr. Dowson: Do you think they will be down below?

The Clerk: Yes. He had it on high authority that it would cost the Guardians £100,000 to buy the coal. They had ample notice when they began to build, by the courtesy of the Consett Iron Company. There were new pitfalls now near the homes.

This concluded the business.

A FARMER ROBBED.

A most unfortunate experience befel a well-known country farmer the other day. Visiting the manufacturing town in which a good deal of his produce was disposed of, he had the misfortune to be robbed of his health; and for several weeks afterwards he was a victim to indigestion and acute kidney disease. His liver also became disordered, and through it, his blood. Each morning he awakened with a dry, parched mouth, an aching head, and a feeling of utter dejection and lassitude. He had no pleasure in anything, and his meals, taken with such relish before, became a source of disgust. The very thought of food was repulsive; and with his failing appetite his strength declined. One day an enlightened friend gave him some of Charles Forde's Bile Beans for Biliousness. Their effect upon him was so marked that he immediately secured a supply, and beginning to take them, gradually recovered that of which he had been so suddenly robbed. Many such robberies are daily occurring, and if you also are a victim, if your health is gone, and if you are suffering from headache, constipation, stomach troubles generally, pains in the back, piles, dizziness, or anæmia, his experience should show you how to overcome these evils.

LOCAL PATENTS

The following list is specially compiled by Mr J. A. Harvey, chartered patent agent, 3, St. Nicholas Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne, from whom all information concerning patents, designs, and trade marks may be obtained:—

7,951. April 30th, 1900. C. Elliott, Sunderland. Improvements relating to the removal of incrustation scale or other foreign matter from steam boiler tube and other vessels or objects.

7,956. April 30th, 1900. J. Sample, Hebburn. A new or improved fastener for ladies' or gentlemen's dress.

8,259. May 4th, 1900. F. Archer, Gateshead. Improvements in winches and reels for coiling and holding ropes and hawsers in use on floating vessels.

7,446. April 23rd, 1900. T. and M. Hill, Medomsley, R.S.O. Improvements in and relating to apparatus for generating acetylene.

How good tempered and rosy your baby is, Mrs Jones! Whatever do you give it? Oh, just one or two of PATTISON'S COOLING & TEETHING POWDERS every week. They are the cheapest and best in the district—only 8d per dozen, from PATTISON, CHEMIST, 5, Front Street, Consett. 380e

WHICKHAM U.D. COUNCIL.

An adjourned meeting of this authority was held on Thursday evening last in the Board Offices, Whickham, Coun. R. T. Swinburn presiding, in the unavoidable absence through illness of the chairman. The other members present were Councillors G. H. Snowball, Wm. Fletcher, Wm. Blackbird, Geo. Forster, Ed. Taylor, R. Rutherford, R. W. Berkley; and the Deputy-Clerk (Mr. Dobson).

BUSTY BANK.

A communication was received from the Tanfield Council in reference to the keeping in repair of Busty Bank, Burnopfield. The Whickham Council recently forwarded a draft-agreement on to that authority for their approval. The matter was put in the hands of a committee who now sought an interview with representatives of the Whickham Council, who were asked to meet Tanfield committee upon the spot.

It was resolved that a committee should meet the representatives of the Tanfield Council as requested, on Monday first.

APPLICATION FOR LAMPS.

A communication was read from Messrs Macfarlane and Whitfield which stated that they wrote the Council in October last asking them to place a lamp in Queen Street, Dunston. They now begged to remind the Council that no steps had been taken to erect the same. A tenant had complained of having had a fall owing to there being no lights.

Coun. Blackbird: But the lamps are now put out for the summer.

Coun. Forster: Yes, but I expect they want provision made for the winter.

Coun. Rutherford: It is the same position as Park Terrace. There is no kerb put up.

Coun. Forster thought it would not be a bad idea to erect some lamps in West View.

The Chairman: Would that light that particular spot?

Coun. Forster: Yes, it would just about light that spot.

Coun. Fletcher: If a thing like that will meet it I have no objection.

The matter was eventually referred to the Dunston committee.

THE SALE OF ASHPIT REFUSE.

Communications were read from Mr. Joseph Gardner, and Messrs Moore and Sons, Whickham, asking to be supplied with ashpit refuse at 3d per load. The former sought for 100 loads, while the latter requested to be supplied with 200 loads.

The offers were accepted.

The Chairman enquired if it would not be advisable for the Council to advertise the ashpit refuse for sale at Dunston and Swalwell?

Coun. Blackbird said that as far as Swalwell was concerned, from what he could hear, the users of ashpit refuse were sick of it. Pails, pans, and everything was thrown amongst ashpit refuse.

It was resolved, on the motion of Coun. Berkley, seconded by Coun. Snowball, that the Council should advertise the ashpit refuse for sale at Dunston and Swalwell.

ALLEGED SERIOUS DAMAGE TO PROPERTY.

Coun. Fletcher asked the Council's indulgence to a complaint he had to make in regard to wilful damage done to gas lamps, especially at Swalwell. Now that the Council had got to pay for the repairing of the lamps, he thought that an example should be made of the offenders. A notice might be put up offering a reward, which would lead to the capture of the culprits. He had asked the lamplighter to give him the probable cost of repairing the damages at Swalwell between certain dates, and he was told 13/-. After an elapse of six days the lamps were all broken again.

Coun. Blackbird: It's a big shame.

Coun. Fletcher said he counted thirteen lamps completely broken in the village.

It was decided that notices should be issued.

ALLEGED DAMAGE TO CONVENIENCES.

A member drew attention to the damage done to the new conveniences at Swalwell, and added that four "hikeys" had been put up at one time. How were the people to sit down in the place? (Loud laughter.)

It was resolved that a letter should be sent to the Superintendent of Police drawing attention to the damage done to the lamps, etc., throughout the district.

UNSATISFACTORY FOOTPATHS.

Coun. Blackbird drew the Council's attention to the unsatisfactory condition of certain footpaths located in fields. Whilst coming up to the meeting that evening he found that a certain farmer had ploughed his land, and all he had left for a footpath was a gutter.

Coun. Fletcher: That is the Act. He can do it.

Coun. Taylor: Plough the footpath up?

Coun. Fletcher: Yes.

Coun. Snowball: He cannot stop you going over it.

Coun. Blackbird: Someone will get their legs broken.

The matter then dropped.

THEY NEVER HAD A SPREE.

A letter was read from Messrs Thos. Usher and Son, Ltd., with respect to the flooding of their property in Ellison Road, Dunston, and enclosing an account for £10 12s for damages. One of the items caused much amusement which was for four barrels of ale.

A member: Good old bitter beer. (Loud laughter.)

Coun. Fletcher: Is there a Temperance Association at Dunston? (Laughter.)

Coun. Blackbird: Where did the water come from?

Coun. Taylor: That is true. (Laughter.)

Coun. Rutherford: It's a hard case when you have to pay for ale that you haven't got, and never had a spree. (Loud laughter.)

It was agreed that the Council were in no way responsible for the alleged damage, and a letter in accordance with this finding was ordered to be sent to Messrs Usher and Son, Ltd.

THE SUPPLY OF ROAD METAL.

Tenders were received and considered for the supply of road metal for the ensuing half-year, when the following tenders were accepted:—Whinstone, Messrs The Coanwood Whinstone Co., Ltd.; slag, Messrs Vaughan and Drymond; limestone, Messrs Ord and Maddison.

TENDERS FOR HORSE PROVENDER.

The Deputy Clerk intimated that four firms had been asked to tender for the supply of horse provender for the ensuing half-year, but only one firm, Messrs Slater and Co., had tendered.

Messrs Slater and Co.'s tender was accepted.

CLAIM FOR DAMAGES.

A letter was read from Mr. S. G. Ward, solicitor, Newcastle, with respect to Mr. T. Mitchenson's claim for injuries alleged to have been caused through a fall near the Keelmen's Bridge, Swalwell. The Council at a previous date denied any liability, and the writer now stated that he had gone carefully into the matter, and it appeared quite clear that his client had a claim against the Council. It was now asked if the Council's decision was final, or could the matter be decided out of Court?

The Council agreed to abide by their former decision.

PROPOSED LINE OF RAILWAY.

A communication was received from Mr. J. A. Dixon asking permission on behalf of the owners of Dunston Colliery to cross the road with another line of railway, necessitated by the extension at the colliery yard.

Coun. Blackbird: It is not very long since we wanted some of them up.

The danger which already existed to persons crossing the present lines was pointed out, and it was decided that a letter should be sent back stating that the Council could not agree under the present conditions to the granting of permission to the placing down of another line of railway. Should the Company be prepared to do something with a view to giving protection more to the public, then the Council would be willing to consider the matter.

GENERAL BULLER HAD NOT ARRIVED: AN AMUSING EPISTLE.

The Deputy-Clerk reported receipt of a letter from Mr. James Donnison, Dunston, who pointed out that a crossing near his property had been pulled up for some time, and had not yet been put in order.

Coun. Taylor (laughing): I move that the letter be read. (Laughter.)

The Clerk then read the letter as under:—"I beg leave to write you to which I hope you will draw the Council's attention to the crossing at the bottom of Livingstone Terrace, as been dismantled for about a month, and yet no signs of the same being put into proper order, and where people has to travel over in the dark—(laughter)—and which is very difficult to do in night time, and our contractor's carts has to go right round by the bottom of Kensington Terrace, to go down by the back again, which means a ¼ of a mile for every load of bricks, which is to be lead into Donnison Street, and of which we are threatened to pay extra for the same (Laughter.) Mr. Walls a little while ago proposed to send down General Buller—(laughter)—do you not think it is time he was down to put Dunston into working order—(loud laughter)—and of which he will find my "syndicate" makes nothing less than forty-feet roads—(renewed laughter.)

Coun. Fletcher: Are the Boers coming? (Laughter.)

The Chairman: Not now. (Laughter.)

Coun. Fletcher caused much laughter by asking if any taxes were paid for the privilege of calling the streets after such prominent gentlemen.

The matter then ended.

ANNUAL SURVEY.

It was decided to hold the annual survey on Thursday, June 7th.

This was all the business of note, and the meeting terminated.

APIOL and STEEL PILLS for females: a French remedy for all irregularities and obstructions, superseding bitter apple, pill cochiae, pennyroyal, &c. Price 4/6 post free. Obtainable only from MARTIN, Foreign Chemist, SOUTHAMPTON.

Time means money! Have the correct time, by wearing J. T. Castle's 25s English Lever.

LOOK HERE! LOOK HERE!

N. ELSDON

IS AGAIN TO THE FRONT WITH HIS

Wines, Spirits, Mineral Waters, Ales, Stout, &c.

IRISH AND SCOTCH WHISKY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d	6s 0d
2s 6d	3s 3d	14s 0d	7s 0d
2s 9d	3s 6d	16s 0d	8s 9d
3s 0d	3s 9d	17s 0d	8s 6d
3s 6d	4s 0d	18s 0d	9s 0d
	4s 6d	19s 0d	9s 6d
	5s 0d	21s 0d	10s 6d

RUM.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0d	12s 0d
2s 6d	3s 6d	14s 0d
3s 0d	4s 0d	1?s 0d

SHERRY.

Per ½ Gal.	Per Bot.
6s 0d	1s 6d
7s 0d	2s 0d
8s 0d	2s 6d
	3s 0d

GIN.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
2s 3d	3s 0	12s 0d	6s 6d
2s 6d	4s 0	16s 0d	8s 0d

HOLLANDS:—[illegible] per Bottle.

BRANDY.

Per Bot.	Per Qrt.	Per Gal.	Per ½ Gal.
3s 0d	3s 9d	14s 0d	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
4s 0d	6s 0d	[illegible]	12s 0d
5s 0d			
6s 0d			

GINGER CORDIALS, &c., 1s 3d per Bottle. [illegible] BEER, 1s [illegible]

GOOD PORT WINE, 1s 6d, 2s, 3s, 4s, and 5s per Bottle.

FINE ALES [illegible] BREWINGS, IN [illegible]

PALE ALE ... 1s 6d per [illegible]

MILD ALE

STOUT

BASS'S ALE ... 1s 9d [illegible]

... 2s 9d [illegible]

SEND YOUR ORDERS BY POST and the Goods will be [illegible] to [illegible]. Eight Vans on the road daily.

N. ELSDON.

DON'T FORGET THE ADDRESS—NEAR THE NEW CONSETT STATION.

CONSERVATISM AT WHICKHAM.

SIR JAMES JOICEY TO BE OPPOSED.

On Wednesday evening week a meeting of the Whickham branch of the Chester-le-Street Conservative Association was held in the long-room of the Crown Hotel, Whickham, generously lent by the host, Mr. Joseph Gardner. The gathering was presided over by Coun. R. T. Swinburn, who was supported by Mr. J. H. Burrell, Conservative Agent, Chester-le-Street, and Mr. Thompson, Gateshead. The last-named gentleman intimated that certain members of the Association at Swalwell had expressed their sorrow at being unable to attend, notably Mr. George Davidson, Mr. John Laws, Mr. Charles Norveil, Mr. Hunter, and Mr. Robson.

The Chairman, in the course of a few remarks, said that so far as Whickham was concerned they had a strong following, but he was sorry they had not a larger attendance. However, he thought this would not prevent the business of the meeting from being transacted. The first thing to be done that evening was to elect officers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. Geo. Proud moved that Coun. Swinburn be their chairman. He thought the association could not get a better chairman than Mr. Swinburn, who was always enthusiastic, and could ever command a following. (Applause.)

Mr. Burrell seconded the proposition. He had known Mr. Swinburn for a long time, and he was sure that that gentleman always had the good of the cause at heart. (Hear, hear.) (A voice: There is no doubt about that.—Hear, hear.)

The motion was unanimously agreed to.

Coun. Swinburn thanked the members for the vote of confidence they had placed in him, but really he might find it somewhat difficult to fulfil the office of president, as he should like to do, and if any other chairman could be found he would very willingly give place to him.

Mr. Burrell: We always feel that where we have a popular chairman we always get popular support. (Laughter and hear, hear.)

No other motion was forthcoming, and Coun. Swinburn kindly promised to hold the presidency of the association, remarking that he would always do as much as he possibly could to further the Conservative cause. (Applause.)

Mr. Burrel proposed that Mr. Edward Liddell be elected secretary. He did so knowing that they could not get a better or more worthy individual to perform the secretarial duties. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Thompson seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Geo Proud moved that Mr. Nicholson be elected as treasurer, which was unanimously agreed to.

ADDRESS BY MR BURRELL.

Mr. Burrell subsequently addressed the gathering. In the course of his remarks he said it was necessary that the association should get into proper working order as soon as possible. They did not know whether they would have an election this year or not. Personally, if he were to consult his own feelings with regard to his own authority, he should certainly say, "Have it this year." It was necessary for them as Conservatives to at once begin and get their organisation together. He was very glad to think—and he ought to be proud of it—that the organisation so far as Chester-le-Street was concerned, was in a better position now than it had been for the last eight years. He rather thought that when the time came that they would be in a better state of preparedness than what they were in '95. He could tell them this, and it had been rumoured many a time, and he could give them his assurance, that no matter whether the election was to come next month, or twelve months hence, Chester-le-Street would be fought; it would be contested and Sir James Joicey would not have a walk-over. (Applause.) They would witness the election of a candidate who would carry their flag. So far as he was concerned he should like to have a candidate who would fight and stay, and not one who would run away if he was defeated, but stick to them. In his opinion Sir James Joicey and the Radical Party reached their high-water mark in 1895, and they would never—unless something unforeseen occurred—reach the figure that they had done. (Applause.) The speaker touched upon the war, and in conclusion said he felt sure that they could look upon Whickham as one of their strongholds as regards Conservatism. (Applause.)

The Chairman said they were all obliged to Mr. Burrell for having paid them a visit. He had no hesitation in saying that the Whickham Association would not be found wanting as far as its duties were concerned. He was sure that it consisted of enthusiastic members, who would endeavour to make the association a success, and who would help forward in every possible way the Conservative cause in their locality. (Applause.)

Votes of thanks terminated the meeting.

Westwood Band Contest and Sports

On Saturday afternoon, the annual band contest and sports were held in a field belonging to Mr. John Hunter, Grange Farm, Medomsley. The weather was severely cold, and, together with a great counter-attraction at Birtley, there were not so many bands entered for the contest as would otherwise have been the case. The competition was open to amateur bands who had never won a prize exceeding £10 in cash during 1899 and 1900, and the first prize was £10 in cash; second prize £8 in cash; third prize, £4 in cash. The test piece was "Beautiful Switzerland" waltz, by Wright and Round. There were two prizes of £1 and 10s, respectively for the best performance of a quickstep march. In addition to the contest there was a football competition, the first prize for which was a set of twelve silver medals with gold centres, the second prize being the sum of £1 7s 6d; wrestling for 11 stone men, and a quoit handicap. The referee for the football competition was Mr. John Hunter, Westwood; for the wrestling, Messrs M. Scott and J. Hall; and for the quoiting Mr. M. Scott and Mr. J. Anderson. The judge for the band contest was Mr Thomas Valentine, of Manchester. Refreshments were supplied in a large tent by the Westwood Band, which was cleared in the evening for a ball, the M.C.'s being Messrs Joseph Anderson and Wm. Fairlamb. At this function the Westwood Prize Band discoursed the music. There were seven bands entered for the contests as follows:—Consett Iron Company's Workmen's Band, conductor Mr W. Holdsworth, of Wyke, near Bradford; Hamsterley Colliery, conductor Mr W. Holdsworth; Hebburn Colliery Temperance, conductor Mr E. Huskisson; South Moor Colliery, conductor Mr J. Ward; Spennymoor Temperance, conductor Mr J. A. Mutton; Hamsteels Colliery, conductor Mr W. Holdsworth; Felling Colliery, conductor Mr J. Oliver. The draw resulted as follows:—1, Felling; 2, Consett; 3, South Moor; 4, Hamsterley; 5, Hamsteels; 6, Spennymoor; 7, Hebburn Colliery. After all the bands had played their pieces Mr Valentine emerged from a tent near the band-stand and addressed the crowd around it as follows:—Ladies and gentlemen,—I think you will all agree with me that in both the quick-step and waltzes there is practically only one band in it. In every respect it is by far the best performance, and it has very seldom occurred to me to have such little difficulty in placing the first prize which goes to No. 2 in the draw (Consett.) (Cheers.) The others have given me more trouble; with about four bands I have had great difficulty, but I have come to the conclusion that the second prize goes to No. 4 (Hamsterley Colliery). (Cheers.) There was another good band playing—I am speaking of No. 6 (Spennymoor Temperance.) It was a very good performance, but not so good as No. 4. In the waltz the first prize goes to No. 2 and, as I said before, I had a great difficulty in separating the others, but taking it altogether the second prize goes to No. 4. In the third and fourth prizes I cannot separate the two bands, No. 3 (South Moor) and No. 7 (Hebburn Colliery), and [illegible] would go to No. 6 [illegible] band which has not done themselves justice to-day (Spennymoor.)

FOOTBALL COMPETITION ([illegible] entries)—First round—Stanley Athletic beat Stanley [illegible] 2 to 0; Hedley Hill beat [illegible] 3 to 0; Monkton beat Allendale [illegible]; Blaydon beat Blackhill by 1 to 0; Newcastle a bye. Second round—Newcastle and Blaydon played a draw of one goal each; Monkton and Hedley Hill each nil. The competition was not completed.

WRESTLING (six entries)—Result—Dent, first prize, £1 5s; second prize, Liddle, 15s; and third prize, Lee, 10s, all of Newcastle.

QUOIT HANDICAP ([illegible] entries)—Result—J. Errington, Annfield Plain, first prize £1 10s; J. Surtees, Spen, second prize, 15s; Errington and D. Clark divided the third prize of 10s.

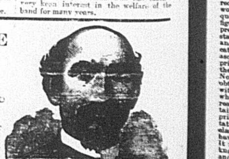
The secretarial duties were ably discharged by Mr Jas. Ellison, of Allendale Cottages, a gentleman who has taken a very keen interest in the welfare of the band for many years.

LORD GEORGE
(THE ORIGINAL)
SANGER
1900 TOUR 1900

CIRCUSES, HIPPODROMES AND MENAGERIES.

THE OLD TIME-HONOURED NAME, BUT THE NEW AND UP-TO-DATE SHOW.

TWO ROYAL COMMANDS IN 13 MONTHS. BALMORAL, JUNE, 1898, WINDSOR, JULY, 1899.



WILL VISIT

CHESTER-LE-STREET, SATURDAY, MAY 19th.
WEST STANLEY MONDAY, MAY 21st.
CONSETT, TUESDAY, MAY 22nd.
CROOK, WEDNESDAY, MAY 23rd.
One day only.

Direct from its Winter Headquarters, CRYSTAL PALACE, LONDON, where upwards of 460,000 persons paid for admission.

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NEW CARRIAGES! NEW PERFORMERS! NEW CONCEPTIONS!

In every branch of this, the World's Greatest Show

THE NEW GRAND STREET PAGEANT.

A display of Grandeur and Magnificence not to be approached by anything ever presented before. The Climacteric of all Processions, Gorgeous New Cars of Burnished Gold and Silver, and Exquisitely Carved and Elegant Carriages and Tableaux, including

THE ROYAL ACADEMY TRIBUTE TABLEAU CAR,

A dream of artistic merit, dedicated to our noble Generals and others now so nobly upholding our Country's undiminished honour; inspected and approved of by Her Majesty the Queen.

24 Zoological Cars, containing the most rare and Valuable of Animals. Herds of ELEPHANTS, including H.R.H., the identical animal on which the Prince made all his State Visits whilst in India, and the companion of the ill-fated "Charlie" of the Crystal Palace notoriety; Camels, War Dromedaries, Ostriches, &c., &c.

300 HORSES AND PONIES.

Beautiful Lady Equestriennes, Sensational Lady Gymnasts, Daring and Thrilling Mid-Air Performers, Hosts of Merry Clowns and Jesters, all New.

THE TWO GREATEST AND LATEST WAR SPECTACLES of modern times.

SCENES AND INCIDENTS IN THE BOER WAR.

WITH OUR VICTORIOUS ARMY, MARCHING ON TO PRETORIA.

1,200 Men, Women, Horses and Mules, take part in this realistic and soul stirring production. Officers, Troops, Medical Staff, Red Cross Sisters, Ambulance Brigades, Native Stretcher Bearers, and Camp followers of all Nationalities—Basutos, Matabeles, Zulus, Hindoos, and Dutch.

HOW BUGLER DUNN GAINED THE HONOURS OF THE DAY,

And our Gracious Queen's Reward.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

☞ We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents, nor do we undertake to return their communications.—Ed. "C.G." CORRESPONDENTS are requested to enclose their names and addresses on a separate slip of paper. LETTERS for insertion should reach us not later than TUESDAY morning.

COMFORTS FOR THE SOLDIERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Sir,—May I request you to be so good as to publish for the information of all interested, the list as under, of articles of clothing, &c., received since the publication of the previous one, for despatch to the Northumberland Fusiliers and Durham L.I. now serving in South Africa. Permit me on the part of the Regiments to add my thanks to the kind givers. I am, &c.,

C. B. COLLINGS, Capt. for Col. Commanding 68th Reg. District.

Newcastle-on-Tyne, 11th May, 1900.

1 parcel, Mrs. Fordy, Tulwell Row, Darlington; 1 parcel magazines, A Friend; 2 mufflers, F. A. Johning, Dacca House, Morpeth; 1 parcel linen, Mr. Batey, 13 Camden Street, Sunderland; 1 pair socks, 1 pair handkerchiefs, Working Party, Seaton Carew per Mrs. M. S. Simpson, hon. sec.; 3 Tam o' Shanters, 3 comforters, 3 pairs cuffs, 3 pairs socks, 2 cholera belts, Mrs. I. Ridley, 7, Seymour Terrace, Gateshead; 2 belts, Mrs. Cooper, Spencer Street, Heaton; 6 handkerchiefs, Mrs. M. Laybourn, Newburn; 1 case containing:—5 night, 19 linen, and 14 flannel shirts, 10 comforters, 4 Tam o' Shanters, 6 sleeping caps, 7 belts, books, 4 pairs pyjamas, 5 pillow cases, 4 pairs cuffs, 4 pillows, 4 singlets, 1 pair drawers, Mrs. Stephens, Ravenstone, Corbridge-on-Tees; 7 pair socks, 1 muffler, 3 pair cuffs, Whickham; 1 bale warm clothing, &c., Methodist New Connexion Zion Chapel Band of Hope, Sheriff Hill.

DESECRATION OF GOOD FRIDAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me to inform Mr. Rust of the following:—On Good Friday last there was open the Presbyterian Hall from 3 until 10 p.m.; part of that time was spent in a programme of sacred music. Now I wish to ask Mr. Rust is this not Divine service? If so, is he speaking the truth when he states that only his place was open that day? I know very well that Mr. Rust in his sermon wished to have a thrust at the bazaar being held that day, also the tea, but he went a roundabout way to do so. In his reply he has ignored the question which I put to him, asking him, "What authority he had for stating that except the dozen or so that attended his Church the remaining 3,000 spent the day in secular pleasure?" Was it secular employment or pleasure that caused him to work in his garden that Good Friday afternoon (where does the hypocrisy come in now, Mr. Rust?) May I also inform Mr. Rust that the Primitive Methodists look to (I hold to his words "look to") John Wesley as their founder about as much as what the Church of England look to old Anti-Christ of Rome (he'll know how much that is) not that there is any comparison between John Wesley and that arch-scoundrel. As for the statement about sham-fighting on the Sabbath I had it on the testimony of a gentleman, member of Whickham Church, and I see no reason yet to retract it. I expect that any Christian will find fault with bands playing secular music on Sunday, especially in the case of a Boys' Brigade band. Mr. Rust has a lot of fine young lads under his charge, thus a great responsibility rests on his shoulders. If they desecrate the Sabbath (as I saw some of them yesterday so doing) it will be because they have been encouraged to a great extent by their captain, Mr. Rust. Does he think that after marching to Church to the strains of the "Cock of the North," the lads will be in trim to listen to the Gospel of Christ? Will they not think more of the scenes that made that tune famous? Their heads will be full of war. No, Mr. Rust, there are plenty of beautiful sacred pieces, easy to get, to learn, and to play. Mr. Rust twists my question re boxing and dancing. I asked him why he encouraged it, and practised it in the very place where God is supposed to be worshipped? He spoke in his sermon about concession of Good Friday to the world. What is dancing and boxing by a professing Christian minister but concession to the world, especially when it issues in a fight, and in one of the parties getting black eye. (He would boast of his capabilities in that direction.) I think there was just cause for the use of my words at the close of my last letter. I leave readers and those that know to judge who is the hypocrite and blasphemer. Is that why he has such a poor following in Swalwell? I think he has a peculiar habit of talking to himself, when he uses those terms. Mr. Rust, I leave these words with you, very suitable. "Be ye separate, touch not the unclean thing."—I am, yours truly,

C.C.W.

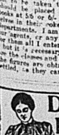
DURHAM MINING FEDERATION BOARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "CONSETT GUARDIAN."

Dear Sir,—Re the circular issued to the Lodges by the above Board in respect of the recent wages' settlement for all classes of workmen represented on the Board. The first question in the circular deals with the figures given by the owners, and by our representatives re the application for a substantial advance. Our side gave their data and figures on which they based their application. The owners then gave their quarterly ascertainment, which was an average selling price of 8s 7.71d, or an increase of 1/- over the price realised in the December quarter. Now, I may reasonably ask how the Board obtains their price lists, and how they can with equanimity accept the owners' figures, when every class and quality of coal has reached an abnormal price, and the ascertainment by the owners gives the mighty price of 8s 7.71d per ton. Does our representatives allow the owners to produce those elastic statements from time to time without having material proof of their authenticity? It may be said that we—who are not in the know—obtain our figures from the markets and exchange columns of our papers, and that they are not reliable guides on which to base a case for a substantial claim for an advance; that may be very well, but all the great Railway, Gas, Manufacturing, and shipping firms generally are complaining of the excessive prices of coals, and there must be some reasonable ground for complaint when they assert it is costing hundreds of thousands of pounds more in the aggregate for coal bills this year than the preceding one, and hence the question, are the miners deriving the benefits in advances coincident with the increased and ever-increasing cost to the consumers? Are the Durham owners—a great many being coke, iron, and steel producers, such as Bolckow, Vaughan, and Co., Consett Iron Company, the Peases' Firm, and many others it is unnecessary to name—allowed to cook their figures for us; in other words are they to be allowed—in transferring from their mines to their different manufacturing centres—to place their coal at much lower figures when used for their own production of coke, iron, or steel than if they were selling the same classes of coal to outside firms for from 4s to 5s per ton more than they were recording in their books to form the future prices in rebutting the workmen's claim for advances? If they are permitted to do this, no one should marvel at the low average selling price given by the owners. If the qualities of coal produced by any firm is worth say, 9/6 per ton if sold direct, it is not to be taken the same classes of coal should be placed in the producing firm's books at 5/6 or 6/- per ton if used by themselves in their coke, iron, or steel producing departments. I am not wishing to embarrass our agents, or any of our representatives—for them all I entertain the greatest respect—but it is necessary for the men to learn what are the classes and qualities of coal on which the figures are obtained and the prices are settled, as they cannot conceive the affinity between the very inadequate advances obtained and the high prices which our papers say are ruling the markets. Thanking you, sir, in anticipation of the insertion of this,—I remain, yours respectfully,

HUGH McGEOGHEGAN.

South Garesfield.



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AUCTION MARTS

TOW LAW.—Mr. Vickers had forward on Monday 56 dairy cows and heifers, 18 fat cattle, 13 calves, 40 fat sheep and hoggs, and 8 fat lambs. Calved heifers, £12 to £14 15s; calved cows, £14 2s 6d to £17 5s; incalving heifers, £12 17s 6d to £16 10s; incalving cows, £14 15s to £21 10s; fat cattle to £19 17s 6d, from Mr. J. T. Morton, Tow Law; £18 7s 6d, from the Weardale Iron and Coal Company, Ltd., Spennymoor; £13 7s 6d from Mr. R. Dalkin, Westgate; £11, from Mr. T. Wylde, Crane Row; calves, 24s to 45s. Fat sheep, 57s from Mr. R. Crowe, Cornsay House; 55s from Mr. W. Cummings, Park Terrace; 35s, from Mr. W. Vickers, Eastgate; fat hoggs, 52, from the Weardale Iron and Coal Company, Limited, Spennymoor; fat lambs, 35s, from Mr. J. E. Nicholson, Manor House.

BLACKHILL FARMERS' MART CO., LTD.—Mr. Jackson Green had forward on Monday 12 fat cattle, 3 calves, 5 cows, 8 pigs, 2 fat lambs, 57 sheep, 5 hoggs and lambs; etc. Fat bullocks, Whittonstall Hall, £19 15s (two) and £19 10s (one); heifers, Woodlands, £16 17s 6d, £16 (two), £13 17s 6d, £14 10s; geld cow Medomsley, £11. Milch cows lost no demand, except one, which realised £9, from Castleside. Fat lambs, Mrs. Simpson, Bradley, 42s 6d. Sheep: Muggleswick, 45s. Carrilees, 39s 6d; Broad Oak, 49s 6; Butsfield (Nicholson), 50s; Elm Park, 56s. Calves, 65s to 17s. Pigs, 34s; young pigs to 19s. Hoggs and lambs to 57s. Short supplies of beef and mutton, owing, no doubt, to the hirings being held at Hexham on Monday. Cattle and sheep made very good prices. Potatoes to 4s per bag. On Saturday afternoon the Blackhill Farmers Mart Company held their first May day special sale, and had forward 160 mule and half-bred hoggs, 60 mule and blackfaced ewes and lambs, 6 geld cows, and 40 store cattle. Trade for sheep was slow and they were difficult to sell, but a fair clearance was effected. Cattle sold fairly well, considering the cold and backward spring. Appended are the principal prices:—Mule ewes and lambs, 55s 6d; blackfaced ewes and lambs, 28s 6d; half-bred hoggs, 35s; mule wether hoggs, 29s 9d; mule ewe hoggs, 28s; geld cows to £12 15s; two year olds to £10 10s; stirks to £7.

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ALLCOCK'S CORN PLASTERS
relieve at once, and cure in a short time—by removing the pressure and extracting the Corn.
ALLCOCK'S PLASTERS for Aches, Pains & Strains.

Serious Trap Accident near Butsfield

On Sunday afternoon, Mr. John Wilkinson, of Stratford Terrace, Medomsley Road, Consett, his son George, Mr. and Mrs. John Greenwood and their son John, and Mrs. Tilley, of Raglan Street, Consett, were driving a horse and trap, belonging to Mr. Sutherland, of Consett, from Consett to Tow Law, to attend the funeral of Mr. Wilkinson's uncle. Just after passing through Butsfield, there was a steam roller standing by the side of the highway, and it was covered by a light coloured waterproof sheet which was blown about by the wind. The waving of the sheet caused the horse to shy, and it bolted. Mr. Wilkinson who was the driver, strove his utmost to keep control over the animal; but eventually the vehicle upset, and was smashed to pieces. The occupants were thrown violently upon the roadway, and the wheels passed over Mr. Wilkinson, who was very seriously injured. With the exception of the boy George Wilkinson, who had a marvellous escape, all the other members of the party were badly cut and bruised, and suffered acutely from the shock. Mr. Greenwood, however, managed to seize the horse, and step its onward career. A brake travelling from Blackhill to Tow Law, brought the injured people to the farmhouse of Mr. Gascoigne, where their wounds were attended to; and then Mr. Gascoigne kindly conveyed the party back to Consett the same evening. The horse is said to be little the worse for its adventure.

LOOK YOUNG, KEEP YOUNG

It is every woman's duty. VEGELOIDS, the new and wonderful little digestive aperients and liver stimulants will help her to do it. "VEGELOIDS tint pale cheeks with the glow of health." One a dose, 100 doses in pocket vial 1/1½, of chemists; or, by post of Messrs NEWBERY, 27, Charterhouse Square, London.

SANGER'S CIRCUS.

THE OLD NAME BUT THE NEW SHOW.

We notice with pleasure the announcement that Lord George (the original) Sanger's big Circus and Menagerie is to pay Consett a visit. Everybody is familiar with the name of Sanger, it is in truth a household word in every part of the country—it has stood the test of competition from all quarters of the globe for the last 55 years, and is still acknowledged as unbeaten and pre-eminent in its own peculiar line. On this occasion we are informed the show will be bigger and better than ever. Additions have been made in every department, money has been lavished in princely fashion and everything that the experience of the well-known proprietor can suggest has been brought into play to make this the epoch of his career as a public caterer. During its winter stay of three months at the Crystall Palace, London, upwards of 500,000 persons were entertained and delighted. The free street procession will be a source of wonder and delight to all who will be privileged to see it. It will be unique in the history of circus pageant—every golden car and symbolic tableau being entirely new both in design and conception. The latest emanation from Lord George Sanger's fertile brain in this direction, is the enormous car known as the Royal Academy Tribute Tableau upwards of 40 feet in height, exquisitely carved and chased in beautiful designs and embellished by life-like portraits of all our great generals and others who have so gallantly upheld their country's honour at the Front. A perambulating Zoo of 24 carriages of wild and valuable animals will also be a strong feature of the pageant with its monster elephants, camels, etc., bringing up the rear. The Circus programme will uphold its high character and every item will be entirely new for the 1900 tour—the performances both afternoon and evening concluding with a revised edition of the great military spectacle "With Kitchener to Khartoum."

A GENUINE CURE

For Coughs, Bronchitis, Influenza, Asthma, and Whooping Cough.

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NEW THEATRE, CONSETT.

At this place of amusement Messrs Jennings and Herrick's company occupy the boards in the successful drama, "The Merciless World." The piece is a most interesting one, and is well interpreted by the members of the company. The scenery is splendid, and more especially is this the case in the illuminated grounds of the Cafe Fontainebleau; launching the lifeboat; the deck of the coiners' yacht; and the quay in Seaford Harbour, all of which are really fine. The acting is all that could be desired. Miss Cora Irane is extremely good as "Laura Stanley," and well deserves the applause she receives. As "Kate St. Clair" Miss Clara Nicholls performs admirably, whilst no fault can be found with Miss Flo McKenzie ("Sue Rodgers"), Miss Minnie Le Clen ("Mdlle. Fluf-Fluf"), or Miss Lily Rogers ("Louise."). Mr. Ernest Keand is excellent in the part of "Jack Stanley," and comes in for general commendation. Mr. Leslie Carter does full justice to the character of "Luke Raymond," whilst Mr. Fred Summers is capital as "Pierre Gaston." As "Steve Rodgers" Mr. Angus Holdsworth is seen to great advantage, and the same may be said of Mr. Theodore Trevor ("Henry Bradford"), and Mr. Wilton Montague ("Nick Burton.") "Teddy Riley" finds an unusually capable representative in Mr. William P. Sheen. There are a number of other parts, all of which are filled in a satisfactory manner. What with the acting and scenery "The Merciless World" is deserving of liberal patronage.

DUNSTON.

POLICE CHANGES.—P.C. Atkinson, who has recently been stationed at Dunston, was transferred to Sunniside on Friday last. He is succeeded by P.C. Millions, late of Stanley.

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INQUIRY AT BLACKHALL MILL

On Monday morning a public local inquiry was held in the Sunday School, Blackhall Mill, by Mr. John Horsley, West Hartlepool, a member of the Durham County Council, and Mr. R. Simey, clerk to the County Council, with respect to certain proposals made to the County Council—(1) to transfer portions of the township of Chopwell, in the urban district of Blaydon, to the parish of Medomsley and Rural District of Lanchester; (2) to transfer portions of Medomsley in the Rural well and Urban District of Blaydon; and District of Lanchester to the parish of Chopwell with respect to other matters arising under Section 57 of the Local Government Act, 1888, relating to the above proposals. The Blaydon District Council and Chopwell School Board were represented by Mr. Hy. Dalton, Clerk of the Blaydon District Council; Mr. Wm. Archer, Victoria Garesfield; Mr. Wm. Richardson, Chopwell; and Mr. J. R. Gilchrist, Spen; while Lanchester Rural Council, Medomsley Parish Council, and Medomsley School Board were represented by Mr. Hy. Palmer, J.P., Medomsley; Mr. W. H. Ritson, clerk to the Lanchester Rural Council; and Mr. J. R. Lupton, Inspector to the Lanchester Rural Council. There was no opposition to the proposals to transfer 14 acres of land from Blaydon to Lanchester Rural Council, and about 8 acres from Lanchester to Blaydon Council.

Mr. H. Dalton, who spoke in support of the alteration for the Blaydon Council, said it was to have the River Derwent made the boundary at that point. At present the boundary was very ill-defined and inconvenient. It was inconvenient that a village should be under two authorities. The River Derwent would be a natural boundary, and the two District Councils asked that it might be made the boundary. It was proposed to transfer from Lanchester to Blaydon a rateable value of £434, 50 dwelling-houses, and a population of 300. On the other hand they proposed to transfer a rateable value of £7 5s without any houses or population from Blaydon to Lanchester, which was simply some detached land on the other side of the river. The principal reason why the proposals had been brought forward was the difficulty of disposing of the sewage. There was a joint arrangement between the two Councils for the sewage, and under that arrangement it was taken over to the Lanchester side by a pipe under the river, and dealt with on the sewage works belonging to the Lanchester Council. Great difficulty had been experienced in dealing with it by the two authorities, and if the alteration was made Blaydon would take all the responsibility of dealing with the sewage, and the Lanchester people would take the responsibility on the opposite side.

Mr. Horsley: Would you propose to make the stream the boundary?

Mr. Dalton: Yes.

Mr. Simey: About the School Boards. There are two School Boards but no Burial Boards. Church cemeteries are used at both places?

Mr. Dalton: Yes.

Mr. Simey: Where are the children educated?

Mr. Palmer: At Medomsley.

Mr. Simey: Do you know anything about the debt of the Chopwell School Board?

Mr. Dalton: Yes, it is £6,884. The Medomsley School Board debt is £3,013 3s 8d.

Mr. Hy. Palmer, on behalf of the Medomsley School Board, said there was one Board School at present situated at Westwood Colliery, but of course the authority extended to the whole of the parish. The debt had been contracted with respect to that school. The children living at Blackhall Mill, on the Medomsley side, were educated at Croniwell British School. A Roman Catholic School had recently been built in one of the fields close by.

Mr. Simey: Then the children have really been going to school in their own parish?

Mr. Palmer: Yes.

Mr. Gilchrist: The Chopwell School Board are busy erecting a new school at Chopwell, a mile from Blackhill Mill, which would provide accommodation for the western portion of the Chopwell School Board area.

Mr. Simey: What has been done about those School Board loans? It doesn't seem to me that up to the present time the Medomsley School Board has been doing anything for those children at all.

Md. Palmer: No.

Mr. Simey: And yet that part has been contributing to the Westwood School?

Mr. Palmer: Yes.

Mr. Simey: Then this part will contribute to the Chopwell School Board and get a school within a mile?

Mr. Palmer: Yes.

Mr. Simey: Has anybody any suggestions to make as to the apportionments of those loans?

Mr. Dalton: There is no desire to have anything to do with it. It is understood that each School Board will retain its own liability with respect to the loans.

Mr. Simey: It seems to me that this property which has been contributing to the Westwood schools and deriving no benefit from it should cease to do so.

Mr. Horsley: Yes.

Mr. Simey: Where do they bury the Blackhall Mill people?

Mr Dalton: In Medomsley churchyard.

Mr. Gilchrist: Would the alteration affect the ecclesiastical parishes?

Mr. Simey: The Act says it would not affect the ecclesiastical parishes, but whether it would affect the right of burial is a matter we cannot decide here, because each parishioner has a right to be buried in his own parish churchyard, which does not exist solely for the Church. There is no compensation asked for for the loss of rateable value by either parish?

Mr. Dalton: No.

The inquiry then closed.

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Of all Chemists and Stores at 1/- per bottle.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

The death is announced, at West Hartlepool, at the advanced age of 76, of Mr. John Hardy, the well-known engineer and merchant. He was born at Washington in 1823, served his apprenticeship at Chester-le-Street, and removed in 1847 to Hartlepool, where he became foreman of Messrs Thomas Richardson and Sons' engineering establishments. In 1876, he commenced business on his own account, together with his son, Councillor Hardy. Mr. Hardy was the oldest Oddfellow in the Hartlepools.

TOW LAW.

THE OWNER OF A FAMOUS GREYHOUND.—The remains of the late Mr. T. Wilkinson, of Dearness Valley, were interred at Tow Law on Sunday. Except in sporting circles it is not generally known that Mr. Wilkinson was the owner of the famous greyhound Kangaroo, which won the Gosforth Gold Cup, some years ago. The deceased was a prominent figure at coursing meetings held throughout the North of England, and enjoyed many friendships in the best sporting circles.

SUNNISIDE.

POLICE CHANGES.—P.C. Brown, who has been stationed at Sunniside for some time, was transferred to Lambton on Wednesday week. He is succeeded by P.C. Atkinson, from Dunston.

THE MOST NUTRITIOUS.
EPPS'S
GRATEFUL—COMFORTING.
COCOA
BREAKFAST—SUPPER.

THE FATAL ACCIDENT AT CONSETT

On Friday afternoon Mr. Coroner Graham held an inquest at the Police Station, Consett, on the body of George Cant, 40 years of age, sinker at the Delves Pit, who met with his death under circumstances reported in last week's "Guardian." Mr. Plummer, Government Inspector, Bishop Auckland, attended on behalf of Mr. Walker, Government Inspector for the district, who was indisposed, and there were also present Mr. H. Palmer, J.P., and Mr. C. F. Scott, on behalf of the Consett Iron Company, the owners of the Colliery. The Durham Miners' Association was represented by Mr. John McGrane, checkweighman, Blackhill. Prior to the arrival of the Coroner, Mr. Scott presented a plan of the shaft to the jury with an explanation as to the falling of the stone, as far as he could, which caused the unfortunate man's death. He explained that the stone must have fallen a distance of 102 feet, and he produced a piece of stone found in the sump, but whether it was the whole or only a part of that which fell on Cant's head it was, of course, impossible to say. In the course of the inquiry the Coroner was informed by Mr. Scott that the pit used to be known as the "Latter Day Saints," but was properly called Delves Pit. The Coroner ridiculed the "Latter Day Saints" title.

Thomas Cant, sinker, residing at Benfieldside Edge Road, brother of the deceased, said he worked at Delves Pit, and was sinking at about 15 fathoms. They had been at the job for about twelve months. About four o'clock on the afternoon of the 7th they went down to the Busty seam. They were carefully lowered down, and then went to the Brockwell seam. When they got there witness heard a crack as if something had fallen down the shaft, but he did not know what it was. He and his brother were in the same kibble. There were two other men in the kibble. His brother did not call out to him. When they had nearly reached the sump below the Brockwell where they usually got out of the kibble he noticed a cut in his brother's head, and he got hold of him and pulled him in to prevent him falling. Witness shouted out "A man's got hurt, bend up." He kept his brother in the kibble, and they were drawn up immediately to the Busty seam. Rogerson and Child got to the top of the ladders and assisted to get his brother out. Afterwards they brought him to bank and took him to the Infirmary. He died at 8.30 on Wednesday morning. A stone had fallen down the shaft and had come from a sandy sort of place. He did not know the size of the piece that had fallen on him.

The Coroner: It is not a part of the new shaft, but of the old shaft?—Yes.

That is another matter altogether. Do you blame anybody at all for it?—No, sir.

You are satisfied it has been an accident?—Yes.

Mr. Plummer said he had seen the place. It had been a little bit splintered off.

The Coroner (to the witness): You seem to have done all you could in getting your brother to bank. He seems to have been in good hands.

Thomas Thompson, residing in Boyd Street, Delves Lane, said he was a sinker, and had heard the evidence of the previous witness which he fully corroborated. He had nothing to add.

Wm. White, Dobson Street, Blackhill, sinker, also agreed in the statements made.

John Child, master sinker, residing at Quarry House, Durham Road, Blackhill, said he carefully examined the shaft before the accident all the way. He had no instrument for the purpose, but had an open lamp, which gave a better light than a safety. When he reached the Busty and found all things right he went to change his clothes, and knew nothing more until he heard them shouting for help. He at once went down and helped to bring deceased to bank, and to take him to Dr. McKenzie's and then to the Infirmary. He afterwards again examined the shaft. Between the Brockwell and the Busty there was nothing wrong. He was assisted by Mr. Swan, the engine-wright [illegible] half and Mr. Swan the other of the internal circumference. They made a minute search. They found the place from where the stone had fallen about 30 feet above the Busty on the south-east side of the shaft. There was a piece of stone about half an inch thick at the top, and about six inches long running off to a feather edge at the side and bottom. He thought the stone produced was a piece of the stone he saw above.

John Littleton, South Cross Street, Leadgate, waiter on for the sinkers, said he remembered the kibble going down. He "rapped" them away and looked down the shaft to watch. He did so because there was a new rope on, and he wanted to see how it was working. Whilst looking down he noticed a piece of stone going past. It seemed to be about half the size of his hand. Immediately after that Rogerson called out, "What is that?" and witness replied "I believe there is a piece of stone gone down."

The Coroner: Was his skull fractured?

Mr. Scott: I don't know, but there was a large flesh wound. He would get concussion of the brain.

The Coroner in summing up said it was rarely that such accidents happened. Old shafts as a rule were not walled in but in time even what was supposed to be pretty strong stone would scale off. The accident could not have been foreseen and therefore the Jury would have no difficulty in arriving at a verdict.

The Jury then found that George Cant died from injuries to his head by a piece of stone falling from the Delves Pit shaft whilst he was descending in a kibble in order to commence work as a sinker at the bottom of the Brockwell seam.

DON'T DIE IN THE HOUSE.—"Rough on Rats," clears out rats, mice, beetles, roaches, bed bugs, fleas, ants, moles, chipmunks, gophers. 6d and 1s. boxes at Chemists.

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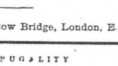

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(Signed) "W. HOWE, 2nd Royal Fusiliers, Field Force, Natal."
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BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT COUNCIL.

A monthly meeting of the members of the Benfieldside Urban District Council was held on Wednesday evening, in the Council Chamber at Shotley Bridge. Mr. J. Heymer (chairman) presided, and there were also present—Messrs. G. J. Robinson (vice-chairman), C. Parnaby, E. Sloane, J. Annandale, J.P., W. M. Annandale, R. G. Barclay, J.P., H. Carss, J. Eltringham, and R. Eccles; the Clerk (Mr. J. B. Lazenby), and the Surveyor (Mr. J. Dixon.)

THE RECENT FIRE.

The Chairman said that since their last meeting there had been, as they were aware, a disastrous fire at Shotley Grove Mills. In consequence of that fire their colleagues, Messrs. Annandale, had sustained a great amount of inconvenience and loss. He thought the least they could do was to offer their sympathy in the unfortunate circumstances in which they were placed. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. James Annandale said he had to thank the Chairman for his kind remarks. He did not anticipate that expression of sympathy, but it was none the less welcome. He was glad to say that the Mill was now in full working order. The fire had, however, subjected them to a great amount of inconvenience, but their loss had not been so great as had been hinted at.

Mr. W. M. Annandale also acknowledged the sympathy of the Concil.

BUILDING AND SANITARY REPORT.

The Building and Sanitary Committee reported that the plan of two houses intended to be built in Benfieldside Road for Mr. Dobson were considered. The yard space was not sufficient for the number of houses using one yard, and therefore they could not recommend that the plan should be passed. The new by-laws were further considered and would be completed shortly.

The report was adopted.

HOWDEN BURN.

Dr. Wm. Allen reported that he had made an examination of Howden Burn on the 14th inst. The volume of water in the burn was relatively large owing to recent rains so that the smell from the burn was less than usual. The water was of a dirty grey colour, resembling soap suds, and contained a quantity of suspended organic matter. It was a hard water strongly impregnated with mineral (principally sulphate of iron and lime) and probably on account of precipitation by these salts the bed of the burn was covered with a deposit of organic mud. Evidently it was to decomposition of this mud deposit that the smells proceeded, which were greatest in dry weather when the water was low. Before coming into their district the burn came in contact with the Consett Iron Company's slag heap and thence no doubt it received its mineral constituents, although some attempts seemed to have been made to prevent percolations of surface water through the heaps into the stream. It was to the tendency of this organic matter to be precipitated all over the bed of the burn and to undergo decomposition in its multitudinous nooks that the offensive condition of the burn was due, and this precipitation was facilitated, if not actually caused, by the mineral constituents acquired by the burn in its course. The burn in its present condition was undoubtedly a nuisance, and in dry weather it might become positively injurious.

The Chairman said he had made inquiries and he had authority for saying that not one particle of sewage went into the burn.

Mr. Parnaby said the doctor put it so very vaguely that he thought they should refer the matter back to him and ask him for a definite report.

Mr. Carss thought they ought to serve a notice on the Consett Council.

After a short discussion it was resolved to ask the Medical Officer to state definitely if in his opinion there was anything prejudicial to the public health emanating from the place.

TEAM WORK.

Mr. J. Annandale moved, and Mr. Barclay seconded, that the Surveyor be authorised to advertise for tenders for team work for the year ending June 30th, 1901, and the motion was agreed to.

BAXTON BURN SEWAGE WORKS.

This committee recommended the passing of cheques amounting to £360 6s 8d. They recommended the purchase of a water cart at a cost of £41; and that the Surveyor advertise for tenders for team work (as already stated.) The committee had considered the application of the Council's workmen for an increase of wages and after making inquiries they recommended an advance of a shilling per week, on the understanding that if the market price of labour should again recede the wages should again be reduced.

Mr. Eccles asked if a little addition could not be made without a condition being attached to it?

Mr. Barclay said it would have to be brought before the Council officially that the price of labour had gone down.

Mr. Eccles: What will be put down as a condition?

Mr. Eltringham: What will that make them?

The Chairman: 24s per week for 48½ hours.

Mr. Barclay: Ours is the shortest in the district. Annfield Plain has not replied.

The report was then adopted.

Baxton Burn Sewage Works.

On the motion of Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Parnaby, it was agreed that the Sanitary Committee be authorised to ask Mr. Parker to attend their next meeting with a view to getting his advice as to the work required to be done to the sewage works at Baxton Burn so as to put them into efficient order and also as to the probable cost.

Other matters of minor importance having been transacted, the meeting terminated.

MEDOMSLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The monthly meeting of this body was held at the Board-room, Medomsley, on Wednesday evening. Coun. H. Palmer, J.P. (chairman) presided, and there were also present:—Councillors W. R. Cooke, J. W. Jamieson, J. Walton, Jas. Anderson, W. Hogg, John Anderson, P. Clark, J. Crawford, W. Walton, W. Robinson, J. Harrison, T. Ridley; and the Clerk (Mr. M. T. Milburn.)

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The Chairman said that the question of repairing the footpath from Watling Street to Pont Lane had been carried forward. It was brought up by Coun. Armstrong, who was not present that evening. He (the chairman) had satisfied himself that it was private property belonging to the Consett Iron Company, and consequently it was not their duty to repair it. The line of sewage pipes for the Bunker Hill Estate was going to be laid alongside the footpath.

Coun. Harrison thought that the idea was to let it lie over until the sewage scheme was carried out.

The Chairman said he was not aware of this, but knew that what repairs had been done to the footpath had been done by the Company.

Coun. J. Walton said it was made by the Company's workmen.

The matter then dropped.

NOT SUCCESSFUL.

The following letter was read in reply to the Clerk's application:—

Newcastle,
May 10th, 1900.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 30th March, I beg to inform you that the application of your Parish Council for a second delivery and the erection of a letter-box at Bradley Cottages has received careful consideration, but it is regretted the circumstances do not warrant any additional postal facilities there at present.

Yours faithfully,
T. STEVENSON,
Postmaster.

Coun. Jamieson said that if additional postal facilities were not warranted now they never would be.

The Chairman thought it was a "facer." (Laughter.) He agreed with Coun. Jamieson that they were never likely to get what they wanted.

TENDERS.

The Chairman stated that two tenders had been received for repairing the footpath from Medomsley Church to Allendale Lane. Mr. R. Moffitt offered to do the work for £17, with £2 for extra pipes, making a total of £19. Mr. G. Hunter's tender came to £25 10s.

Coun. Jamieson asked what the tenders were in the first instance?

The Clerk explained that there was only one, viz., from Mr. Moffitt, for the same as he had tendered that evening. It was thought rather much, and consequently tenders for the carrying out of the work were inserted in the two local papers.

Coun. Jamieson said the footpath would need to be raised 18 inches? He moved that Mr. Moffitt's tender be accepted.

Coun. Cooke seconded the motion, which was carried.

Coun. Crawford asked if there was any stipulated time in which the work was to be done?

The specifications were referred to, but it was found that this had not been done.

Coun. Crawford then moved that Mr. Moffitt be allowed until the end of July in which to complete the work.

This was seconded by Coun. J. Walton, and agreed to.

THE COMMONS ACT.

A long circular was received from Mr. S. B. Provis (secretary) stating that he had been desired by the Local Government Board to call attention to certain provisions contained in the Commons Act of 1899, which affected Parish Councils. This referred to burial grounds, open spaces, etc.

The Chairman said if any member was thinking of moving that they acquire a burial ground he would suggest that he read the circular. (Laughter.) It was too long for him to go through.

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

After the Chairman had read off the various accounts,

Coun. Jamieson said he thought it would be best if the accounts were gone through by the Finance Committee before being presented to the Council.

Coun. Cooke: That was the custom in the early days of the Council.

The Chairman said that what Coun. Jamieson suggested was usually the custom, but no controversial matters had arisen in connection with their finance. The Finance Committee might meet earlier for this purpose. It would only mean them coming at 6.15.

Coun. Jamieson said it would give the Finance Committee an opportunity of going through the accounts that they had not at present.

On the suggestion of the Chairman, Coun. Jamieson moved that it be an instruction to the Finance Committee to meet at 6.15 to go through the accounts.

The motion was carried; and the Council then rose.

CRICKET

MEDOMSLEY v. CONSETT.

In this match at Medomsley, the home team will be selected from the following:—Rev. A. C. Blunt, M. Hedley, T. Walton, R. Charlton, W. Lovat, R. Cant, R. Campbell, A. Whiteley, J. Robinson, J. R. Lowes, W. Cant, and M. Charlton.

Wickets pitched at 2.30.

MEDOMSLEY II. v. CONSETT II.

To be played at Consett, when Medomsley will be represented by the following:—M. Walton, S. Wheatley, J. Hetherington, T. Parker, W. G. F. Thompson, W. T. Hunter, Jos. Walton, E. Wilson, Walter Thompson, J. Marks, W. Wheatley, Reserve, Jno. Thompson, sen.

AANFIELD PLAIN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

On Tuesday evening, the monthly meeting of this Council was held in the Burial Board Office, Hare Law, under the presidency of Coun. J. W. Taylor, J.P. There were also present—Couns. R. Hall, J. Mason, J. G. Taylor, W. Down, J. Reece, T. Clark, W. Young, W. Eltringham, and J. F. Smith; Mr. T. L. Watchman (Clerk), and Mr. T. J. Trowsdale (Surveyor.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

It was resolved that Coun. Robert Hall be chairman of this committee during the ensuing year. The accounts were examined and approved; and it was resolved that the accounts now submitted, amounting to £477 12s, be recommended to the Council for payment, together with £7 10s for Mr. Johnson's salary. A letter was read from the Clerk to the Lanchester Rural District Council suggesting that the question of the liability of the Annfield Plain U.D.C. to contribute towards the superannuation allowances granted to the Clerk and Surveyor of the late Lanchester Highway Board be referred to arbitration. It was resolved that the suggestion be not entertained.

BUILDING COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

It was resolved that Coun. James G. Taylor be chairman of this committee during the ensuing year. The plans were examined and it was resolved that the plan submitted by Mr. Wilson of proposed erection of slaughter-house near Catchgate, for Mr. Thomas Bainbridge, be rejected, because the proposed building was to be built of wood; that the plan submitted by Mr. Wilson of proposed coal-house and enlargement of wash-house for the schoolmaster's house at Annfield Plain, be approved; that the plan submitted by Mr. Wm. Johnson of proposed wash-house and store-room at Mr. Robert Freick's lodging-house at Hill Top, be approved; that the plan submitted by Mr. Wilson of proposed erection of three tenement houses in Langley Terrace, Annfield Plain, for Mr. J. Harrison, be passed subject to certain amendments; that the plan of proposed erection of two houses at Langley Terrace, Annfield Plain, for Mr. Turner, be adjourned for a week for modification and completion (the details having been made it was resolved to pass the plan): that the plan of proposed erection of house at Annfield Terrace, Catchgate, for Mr. Thomas Storey, be approved; that the plan submitted by Mr. Wilson of proposed erection of chapel near Fines House, for the United Methodist Free Church, be approved; that the plan of proposed stable and shed at the rear of Victoria Terrace, for Mr. Thomas Birtley, be received; that the plan of Mr. McKinley for the erection of a house at Delight Bank, be rejected, because the proposed building was shown as being on the road. A letter was read from Mr. John Scott stating that he was not satisfied with his contract in regard to the cleansing of the school ashpits in his district, when it was resolved that Mr. Scott be informed that the Council have no further liability in the matter.

Coun. Smith moved, and Coun. Hall seconded the motion, that the Delight Bank be visited respecting the proposal to erect a house at that place. It was resolved that the Dipton representatives and Coun. Eltringham inspect the spot.

The report was adopted.

HIGHWAYS AND LIGHTING COMMITTEES.

This committee resolved that Coun. W. Eltringham be chairman of this committee during the ensuing year. It was resolved that the plan now submitted be completed on the lines proposed by the Surveyor, and that arrangements be made for carrying out the work at Delight Bank, Dipton, and that the Surveyor be authorised to obtain a surveying instrument for the purpose of verifying chain measurements; that the plan now submitted be completed on the lines proposed by the Surveyor, and that arrangements be made for acquiring the necessary land for the road improvements at Ewehurst Village; that the application of the cartman to be paid at the rate of 9s per day when employed with the water-cart be not entertained. A memorial from the workmen was read asking for an advance of wages, when it was resolved that the wages of each of the roadmen be increased by 2s per week. A letter was read from Mr A. E. Carr, stating that the proposed installation of electric light would be commenced as soon as their engineer returned from the Continent, when it was resolved that Mr. Carr be pressed for a definite reply; a letter was read from Mr. Fairley stating that the Stanley Urban District Council were responsible for the delay in the proposed footpath to South Moor, when it was resolved that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Stanley Council on the subject.

ROADMEN'S WAGES.

Coun. Young moved, and Coun. Down seconded the motion, that the roadmen's wages be advanced 2s per week.

The motion was carried and the report adopted.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS.

The Chairman moved, and it was resolved that the seal of the Council be affixed to two regulations respecting dairies, cowsheds, and milkshops.

DIPTON SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

A letter was read from the Clerk to the Durham County Council calling attention to the sewage of the Annfield Plain district, and especially the sewage disposal works at Dipton.

Coun. Clark thought a reply might be sent stating that the work would be commenced with at once.

The Chairman moved that the Clerk reply stating that money had been provided for the carrying out of the work, and that the Surveyor would make plans for it forthwith.

Coun. Young seconded the motion, which was carried.

BETTER RAILWAY FACILITIES.

A letter was read from Mr. T. W. Welford, Clerk to the Consett Urban Council, asking the Council to send a representative to a meeting to be held at Consett on Wednesday, July 11th, for the purpose of endeavouring to secure better railway facilities in the district, and an adjustment of railway fares on the Derwent Valley and Annfield Plain branches of the North-Eastern Railway.

Coun. Clark thought it necessary that a representative should be appointed.

The Chairman: It is a question of one helping another, and as it will be beneficial to us I think we should send a representative.

Coun. Young moved, and Coun. Clark seconded, that the Chairman attend the meeting as the representative of the Annfield Plain Council.—Carried.

CONSECRATION OF THE BURIAL GROUND.

A letter was read from Mr. J. B. Lazenby, registrar to the Dean and Chapter of Durham, intimating that His Lordship the Bishop of Durham would consecrate the ground at Hare Law cemetery on Friday first, and would like to see as many members of the Council present as could make it convenient to attend.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. T. J. Trowsdale, in his report as Inspector, called attention to three houses at Hill Top, which were without a water supply. He had repeatedly requested the owner to have a water supply laid on without result, and he recommended that notice be served on him to provide a proper supply of water to these houses. The privies and ashpits in Curry's Square, Dipton, were more or less dilapidated, and were very large and badly roofed, and in a very insanitary condition. Some of the house floors were below ground level, and were laid with wood, and more or less dilapidated and broken up. The water supply was also unsatisfactory, the water being obtained from a stand pipe at a varying distance. He had had communications with the owner without result, and recommended that notice be served to abate the nuisance.

Coun. Mason moved that an order be served on the owner of Curry's Square, Dipton, to put the houses into a sanitary condition.—This was agreed to.

Coun. Young moved, and Coun. Smith seconded, the adoption of the report, which was carried.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

Mr. R. Bates (Collector) reported that during the month he had collected and paid over to the treasurer £300 8s. General district rate, £51 10s 9d, County Council improvements to main roads, £300 8s, making a total of £351 18s 9d. The balance in the bank was £476 9s 3d.

The report was received.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

Dr. T. Benson, Medical Officer, reported that the number of notifiable diseases reported during the past month amounted to twenty-two. Excepting one—a case of enteric fever—all were cases of scarlatina. The continued prevalence of the latter disease is chiefly due to its mild character, recovery in consequence took place very rapidly, thereby making it practically impossible to carry out isolation until all danger of infection had passed. The majority of the cases resided in or near to infected premises; the remainder, judging by its size, were part of the same outbreak. The case of enteric fever occurred at South Medomsley Cottages, and was the fourth member of the family attacked. The outbreak had apparently now ceased. The month's mortality was considerably below the county average. Thirteen deaths were registered, giving a death-rate equal to 12.5 per 1,000 per annum. The only death from infectious disease was the case of enteric fever referred to.

The report was adopted.

A HEALTHY DISTRICT.

From the report of the County Medical Officer of Health it was noticed that the Annfield Plain District Council area stood second lowest in the death-rate for the quarter ending March 31st, 1900, being only 16.2, Tanfield claiming the highest distinction in that respect with a death-rate of 15.5.

POSTAL FACILITIES.

Coun. Young inquired what steps had been taken on this subject, as he was under the impression that a letter had to be written to Mr. J. B. Armstrong to the effect that they wanted a Sunday despatch for Dipton.

The Chairman: You are wrong on that point; it was only suggested.

Coun. Young: I understood that Mr. Down moved that it be coupled with Catchgate.

The Chairman: No, it was only suggested, and then it came out that Catchgate and Annfield Plain had not been canvassed for signatures, and it was agreed to leave the matter over until the committee meeting, meantime each member endeavouring to to find out what the feeling was. The question had not been raised at the committee meeting, and consequently the Clerk had not put it in his report.

Coun. Young: According to what I hear everybody in Dipton is in favour of it, and also for the last despatch at Dipton to leave at eight o'clock at night instead of seven.

The Chairman: I don't think so.

Coun. J. G. Taylor: I don't think everyone is in favour of it. I am not for private reasons.

Coun. Young: What for?

Coun. J. G. Taylor: Because I have private opinions of my own.

Coun. Young: It seems strange that the letters should lie an hour-and-a-half at Rowland's Gill.

The Chairman: First of all secure the despatch, and then talk about the other matter.

Coun. Young: Mr. Armstrong, the farmer, told me the other night that when he got home from Newcastle with the 5.30 p.m. train he hadn't time to post a letter at Dipton.

The Chairman: Mr. Armstrong is not everybody.

Coun. Young: All the tradespeople say so.

The Chairman? We will not move here unless we have evidence that the thing is required. When you produce a requisition that the people want a despatch on the Sundays we will move in the matter, but not before.

Coun. Young: I fully understood that a letter would be written to Mr. Armstrong on the subject.

The Chairman: We are not here for one or two men, but for the general public.

The Council rose shortly after.

A FEW OF THE BENEFITS TO BE DERIVED FROM A LOVE OF NATURE.

(By A. E. H. L.)

(Read at a meeting of the Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club at Burnopfield, 5th November, 1892.)

A true love of nature has the most humanising effect of any love that man is prone to. What I mean by "love of nature," is not a passion for birds or flowers, but a full appreciation of everything, from the blueness of the sky, to the luxuriance of the verdure, the lovely tints of the flowers, the freshness of the passing breeze, the song of the birds, the buzz of insects—everything in fact, that constitutes nature. The delight experienced by the children of the slums of our large towns, when pic-nicing in the country—a delight rarely afforded them—at the beauty of everything they see, is a true unconscious love of nature, one at which we marvel, but which we would do well to emulate—a love that asks nothing, but simply revels in the mere existence of this beauty surrounding them. Proof in abundance we have daily of this good effect produced by a love for nature—for instance in the prolonged life of many men, eminent or otherwise, and the clearness and undimmed vigour of their intellect at an advanced period of life. We could not possibly have a better example than in the career of Professor Blackie, an account of whose life I have just read with the greatest interest in the "Strand Magazine" for 1892. No worthier model can be found after which we might shape our lives, and his is a name of world-wide renown. Endowed with perseverance, genius, love of mankind (in this alone be it our aim to equal him), and a thorough appreciation, nay delight, in the beauties of nature, and a perfect obedience to her laws, the result being that life is to him quite as enjoyable at eighty-two as it is to many in the prime of manhood. We have his assurance that there is no medicine for a mind distressed so good as an excursion to some lovely glen, or ramble on the mountain path. The true lovers of nature might be the wealthy, chiefly owing to the fact that their minds are not wearied by the struggle of the multitude for the necessaries of life, and unlimited time is at their disposal, wherein to find out and admire her beauties and wonders. That the majority of the inhabitants of this world of ours live and die in total ignorance of its manifold beauties, through no apparent fault of their own, is a melancholy fact. The struggle entailed on them from their birth to maintain life, has not left them time or opportunity to cultivate acquaintance with them. Would that life were one long summer's day, has been the cry of all at various periods. Yet we have every reason to suppose that, were our wish granted, the sunshine would weary us, that we would welcome anything, however dreadful, to break the monotony. We often love best that of which we get least. One thing I must in all justice say, nowhere has one a greater incentive to adore nature than in this lovely Valley of the Derwent, and which I never imagined to be so great, until, in connection with the Vale of Derwent Naturalists' Field Club, I have explored some of its beauties, which are many and varied in character. Not being either a botanist, a geologist, or an ornithologist, I have not, I regret to say, the shadow of a claim to authority on any of the "ologies," having an entire absence (I suppose) of the bump of perseverance, without which nothing of value is accomplished; but I do thoroughly enjoy the papers of other members on any of the aforesaid subjects, and regard with interest the specimens obtained by their patient and intelligent research. To those who wish to appreciate the beautiful in nature, and learn how to find it, to think of it as one harmonious whole, I would recommend the perusal of Sir John Lubbock's articles in the "Strand Magazine" for February and March of this year (1892.) I quote his opening sentences, which are as follows:—"The world we live in is a fairyland of exquisite beauty, our very existence is a marvel in itself, and yet how few there are of us enjoy as we might, and no one as yet can fully appreciate the beauties and wonders which surround us. The greatest traveller cannot hope even in a long life to visit more than a small portion of our earth, and even of that which is under our very eyes, how little we see. What we do see depends mainly upon what we look for." To return to my own ideas on the subject, I may say, in conclusion, we find a love of nature rewards us by a contented mind, development of intelligence, a kindlier feeling towards our fellow-beings, and that which takes the form of a certain amount of exercise in the open air, with perfect digestive powers; the latter ought to prove with many a most powerful argument in favour of cultivating an immediate and lasting love of nature. Hoping our love for it will increase, and that this brief narration of my thoughts on the subject—supplemented by those of older and more intelligent ideas—may incite others to take a bigger interest in the matter, is my hearty wish, and thanks for preparing this paper for the society, whose prosperity I sincerely wish for.

A BEWILDERED FATHER.

An amusing story, though not without its serious side, comes from the neighbourhood of Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks. A young lady visiting her home after a prolonged absence arrived on her bicycle, and asking for Mr. Pearce (her father), on his appearance enquired the way to the village. He indicated the road, and it was not until she had whispered a few baby words he taught her that he recognised his own child, and exclaimed, "Here's Lilian come from the grave!" In explanation of the incident the young lady relates the following:—

"Soon after I took up a position at Rough Wood Croft I had a sharp illness, which developed into a serious affection of the throat. I could take no solid food, and though finally I recovered I found I was getting very thin. I then began to suffer from indigestion; to sleep at night became impossible; and when I did doze I would wake to find myself bathed in perspiration. For six months I could not bear to wear corsets. I consulted a doctor, then a specialist, and after an examination the latter said I was suffering from gastric ulcer. A special diet was prescribed, but the ulcer developed into a couple of abscesses near my side. I was very ill about this time, and I have fainted three or four times a day, often. One day a friend came over to see me; I was so pale and thin that she had to look at me twice before she knew me; but when she suggested I should try Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people I laughed, because I thought that if a specialist with all his knowledge could not get me well, how could a simple pill do me any good? However, just to please her I said I would try the pills.

"That night I wrote off for a box, and when I got it I carefully read the directions. Every word I say now can be proved. Before I had finished the contents of that box I felt better. I could sleep and I could eat. In a fortnight the terrible weight disappeared from my chest. I could walk up and down the stairs by the time I had finished the second box, whereas I had before to rest after every sixth stair. I went on with Dr. Williams' pink pills, and before I had taken the sixth box I was almost well. I was able to cycle again, and gradually I got stronger. My colour came back, and very soon afterwards I was told I had been turned from an old woman into a young one. I can now cycle forty miles a day with ease. While I was very ill my parents came to see me, and they tell me that when they left they never expected to see me alive again."

What happned when Miss Lilian Pearce subsequently cycled home has been told at the commencement of this article, but it should be added that her address is Rough Wood Croft, Chorley Wood, near St. Giles, and her experience was related to a London pressman for the sake of helping other suffering members of her sex.

There is a vicious circle in disease. Anæmia leads to indigestion; indigestion to gastric ulcer and internal bleeding; and these again to anæmia, which is bloodlessness. If we can feed and enrich the blood—for which Dr. Williams' pink pills are especially famed—we check the anæmia, enable ourselves to get the full benefit from our food, and avoid or cure indigestion, sluggish liver, biliousness, debility, nervous ailments like St. Vitus' dance, neuralgia, and paralysis. Only the pills must be genuine, bearing the full title, Dr. Williams' pink pills for pale people, for substitutes never cured anyone, and when they are offered it is best to send direct to the Dr. Williams' Medicine Company, Holborn Viaduct, London, enclosing the price—two and ninepence for one box, or thirteen and nine for six boxes.

WEARDALE NATURALISTS' FIELD CLUB.

At the monthly meeting held on Saturday, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Richmond, who presided, gave a short address on the "Roman Military System," having in view the club's visit to Binchester and other places in the Auckland district on Whit-Monday. His Lordship detailed all the events connected with the Roman occupation, and pointed out how they built their great roads or streets which netted the country, and their great walls, like the Roman wall in Northumberland. The efficient military discipline combined with these great roads and forts enabled them to conquer, for no barbarous race of people could stand against those mighty conquerors. His Lordship described the formation of their legions, their weapons of war, and how they fought in battle, and how they made their camps and ramparts, and the way in which they worked their battering-rams. The members were much interested in the address, as their field meeting will enable them to visit that important military station of the Romans built on the great Watling Street at Binchester or Vinovia. The Rev. Chancellor Espin gave an invitation to the club to Wolsingham, and it was kindly accepted. The Secretary intimated that the members of the Bishop Auckland Field Club would visit Stanhope on May 23rd, and the Blackhill Club Westgate on August 25th, and invited the members to join the visiting clubs.

A BLAYDON SOLDIER'S HOME-COMING.

ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME.

The people of Blaydon turned out in thousands on Tuesday night to do honour to Private William Thompson, 2nd West Yorkshire Regiment, who has been invalided home on a two months' leave. A large crowd congregated at the station, and when Private Thompson made his appearance the cheers were deafening. As he walked to his home in James Street some of the more enthusiastic would fain have carried him shoulder-height. Up to a late hour the same night his home was surrounded by an enthusiastic multitude, who again and again sent forth ringing cheers.

In an interview which a correspondent had with Private Thompson, he recapitulated a few of his adventures at the front. It was at the last fight before the relief of Ladysmith—Pieter's Hill—that he was wounded twice, in the knee and thigh. He described the hardships that he underwent before the relief of Ladysmith. One of the worst was the putrid water the soldiers had of necessity to drink, while much discomfiture was felt by the lack of change of clothing. Private Thompson never regretted being at the front. He recalled an interesting incident that occurred during his stay in hospital. This was the receipt of a "Newcastle Weekly Chronicle" from one of the residents of Pietermaritzburg. The perusal of local news was a great treat, but his surprise may be imagined when he read in print one of the letters he had sent home. The only little complaint that Private Thompson had to make was that two parcels of clothing despatched to him in January were never received. The soldier still shows signs of his wounds, limping badly and walking with the assistance of a stick.

BEAMISH RIFLE CLUB.

This club held their fortnightly club shoot on Saturday, on Urpeth Plains range. The weather was fine but cold, with a right front wind; Bisley rules. The following were the best scores:—

	200	500	600	St.	T't'l
Pte. J. Kerr	22	23	22	30	97
Pte. H. Wilby	24	29	29	14	96
Pte. W. Lockie	28	33	31	2	94
Sergt. J. Grundy	29	29	30	2	90
Pte. J. Laidler	29	31	9	30	88
Corpl. T Clough	21	23	34	5	83

BLANCHLAND.

"Vagabond" writes in the "Daily Chronicle":—Now that the whole country is full of preparations for an enthusiastic celebration of the relief of Mafeking, it will be of interest to the many cyclists who know her that Mrs. Imison, of Blanchland, has asked me to arrange for the giving of a free breakfast to 200 street arabs and poor children of Newcastle in commemoration of the event. This is a very suitable way of showing patriotism, and will no doubt be fully appreciated by the beneficiaires.

Highest in quality; lowest in prices at the CASTLE WATCH WORKS, STANLEY.

HOW'S YOUR LIVER? Why I never know I have one now, as I always keep a bottle of PATRICK'S MEDICINE by me, and if I feel a little "off," I take a dose, and am soon myself again. Everyone who is ill goes to PATRICK, CHEMIST, 5, Front Street, Consett, who can cure almost any complaint. Wis.

LETTERS FROM THE FRONT.

GOAT MEAT LIKE SCOTCH HARES.

The following letter has been received by Mr. Richard Brankston, landlord of the Black Bull Hotel, Dipton, from his friend, Mr. T. B. Bewick, who is now at Ladysmith Post Office. It reads as follows:—

Ladysmith,
Natal,
April 15th, 1900.

Dear Friends,—This is Easter Monday. I write to let you know that we are still alive after having been squandered to all the arts the wind does blow. I have been in all kind of positions, in mines barred in with falls, floods of water, breaks up in shafts for 40 hours at a stretch. I have assisted to get bodies, dead and alive, out of mines, and a good many explosions, but I was never under shell fire before, or beiieged, or under martial law, and I sincerely hope I won't be again. On October 30th we were all in Ladysmith together—Adam, Bella, and Willie, from the Transvaal. Dot landed on the 30th with the children from England, the shells flying over their heads as they walked out of the station, so she met with a kind reception. So it went on thicker and faster until the Boers threatened to blow the Town Hall up where the sick and wounded were lying; they also fired on the women and children. So General White had to demand a truce for 48 hours, during which the women, children, and wounded were shifted into neutral ground about 3½ miles out of the town, the Boers firing over our heads from Bulwan. We had all to be cleared out of Ladysmith on Sunday, November 5th, and Bella, Adam, Dot, and children, and Lizzie and children just had time to get away down the line to Pietermaritzburg before the Boers blew the bridges up, or they would have had to go to Entombe Camp. The flat was surrounded with hills, and the Boers were firing over us to the English Camp and town, and the English firing back to the Boers over our heads. Fine pastime for us and the poor sick and wounded! They used to start and fire at the town about four a.m., and fire away all day. Our rations were very decent for the first two months, but when we were reduced to three-quarter, then to half, and then to quarter rations, which meant one-sixth of an ounce of tea, one dessert spoonful of sugar, no coffee, hal-a-pound of beef, which came down to goat meet, then to horse flesh, and was all right for a change. The goat meat put one in mind of the Felling "Scotch hares." Bread ran out, no flour, 1¼ biscuit per man, meelie meal for porridge, no potatoes. Our time was about five months—such a time I never put in before. I pretty nearly got down on to my back. I can assure you, the five months we were in Entombe Camp. There were 650 soldiers died of enteric fever; there were only about 50 who died of their wounds, and 10 civilians. A good many soldiers would have been saved, but there was no nourishing food for them when they got the change. Harvey and wife are here. He is working on the line. He had to come by Delagoa Bay to Durban when the Boers blew up the line. He is running troops up from Durban every day. I don't know when we will get up into the Transvaal to see our property. Our Government gives the Boers too much time to place their guns and pick their positions, and makes it hard work for our men, who have to fight every inch. The Boers won't face our men openly, or it would finish in a month. They have the picked men of Germany and France helping them. They must go down. We could not have lasted another week if Buller had not come.

A WESTWOOD MAN'S EXPERIENCES.

The following interesting letters have been received by Mrs. Jane Simpson, of Acorn Close, Westwood, from her son, Corporal J. Simpson, who is a volunteer of the C Squadron of the South African Light Horse:—

House of Parliament Hospital,
Maritzburg,
Natal,
December 22nd, 1899.

Dear Mother and Sisters,—Just a line to say how I am getting on. We left Cape Town on the 18th of last month. The A Squadron of the South African Light Horse left on the 15th for Kimberley—B, C, and D left on the 18th. I am in C Squadron for Durban by boat. I was sick nearly all the way. I am not a good sailor. We got to Durban on the 22nd. I saw Bob and Dolly Pearson, Foster Robinson, and Jack Armstrong. Bob Foster and Jack Armstrong saw us off at the station at night. We left for Hilton Road and camped at Hilton for four days. We had a very hard time. We always sleep with our clothes on, and often with our bandoliers, spurs, and saddles at our head, ready for anything. We travelled on horseback from Hilton to Chieveley, about 150 miles. At Chieveley about eighteen thousand British soldiers camped. On the 14th of this month orders were given for about ten thousand men to be ready the next morning at three o'clock to fight the Boers at Colenso. We were told off to take the right flank, about 600 mounted men. We were up at 2.30 a.m. and had about 66 miles to go before we got to the Boers. We made the attack about 5.30 a.m. We got within 700 yards of the Boers before we dismounted. Of course we could not see them, as they were in a semi-circle of hills, strongly entrenched. We advanced 200 yards after dismounting, and the bullets rained around us like hail, but not one of our men was hit. We lay down, and were fighting for nine hours. The Boers' position was found to be impregnable, and all the mounted men on our right retired, so C Squadron of the S.A.L.H. was left two hours fighting over 400 Boers. We only had about 60 men in C Squadron, and the Boers shot about 20 of our horses. The artillery started to shell the hill to get us out. I passed the word along the lines to the officers that we ought to retire when our men were shelling the hill, or we would not get cut at all. They sent word back that we would have to stay until dark, but we did not get the chance; the Boers left the hills, about 500 of them, to take us prisoners. At this time there were only 25 of us. I was not going to be a prisoner if I could help it, so we ran for our lives. We had about 600 yards to run before we were out of range of fire. There were about ten Boers shooting at me, and only one shot hit me. I got shot through the calf of the right leg, only a flesh wound. Two men were killed, two officers and three men taken prisoners, and about ten wounded, all of C Squadron. I walked about a mile and rode four miles after I was shot. The Colonel of the S.A.L.H. came up to me and gave me a drink of whiskey. He wanted me to go on the ambulance waggon, but I told him I could ride all right. Another officer came to my tent when I got back to camp and told me I had done a plucky ride; he meant he was pleased I was not taken prisoner. I got my leg dressed and then I was taken to the field hospital, which I left on Sunday for Maritzburg. I am doing well, and am well looked after. Of course, I am up every day and walking about, I will be all right in a day or two. The Irish and Scotch Fusiliers suffered heavily. They were in the centre. It was a drawn battle; the Boers lost two to our one. If you get a paper you will see all about it, the battle of Colenso on December 15th. The rifle fire was something awful, the sound being like that made by 20 shipyards and 20,000 riveters. It is one of the biggest battles fought out here. The people here are very good indeed. The train that fetched the wounded down to Maritzburg on Sunday did very well; the civilians at every station gave us tea and beef tea, bread and butter, and cigarettes, tobacco, and matches, and pocket handkerchiefs full of fruit. Soldiers landing at Durban from England are given the same; the people are awfully good; but, to tell you the truth, a soldier's life is a very hard one indeed, what I have seen of it. I wont be here more than a week. The officer asked me to be made a sergeant, but I don't think I will take it. If I should get killed, which I hope I won't, you will get about £100, which the people have collected in this country for the S.A.L.H. The war will last some time yet. We want plenty of big guns.

Chieveley Camp, Natal, Feb. 8th, 1900.

Dear mother and sister,—I received your kind letters and am glad to hear you are all well. I am pleased to say my leg is quite well again. I went to Durban for four days and saw all the home people; they were all very kind. I don't like Durban, it is too hot. I left Maritzburg on the 9th of last month for the front. We came up from Maritzburg in open trucks and were packed like sardines. When we got to Chieveley Camp all the men, except 3,000, were leaving for Springfield way, where a flank attack was to be made. Two squadrons of the S.A.L.H. were left here, so I had to stop at Chieveley. I am sorry I could not go with the Springfield lot. We will be all together again when we get to Ladysmith. We will have some hard fighting before we get there. We go out every morning at four a.m. on picket, and return at six p.m. We go close to the Boer lines, not a very nice job; each post has about four men, and they are half-a-mile from each other, so if we are not careful the Boers would take us prisoners. I would not like to be a prisoner under the Boers. On the 23rd of last month about 40 of us made an advance on the Boers' position. I was one of the scouts. Three of us and an officer went in advance of the men. I got close to the Boer lines, and could hear them talking. I was about half-a-mile from the other two men and officer. I galloped over to them to tell them to retire, and if I had not been quick about it the other three men would have been taken prisoners. When we retired on the main body the Boers let us have it; the bullets rained round us like hail. We fought about two hours, and had to retire as we were outnumbered by about 500 Boers. Our captain was shot and about 14 of Bethune's men killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. I don't know what the Boer losses were; our captain died the next morning. I am sorry about the captain. I was cut off from the other men, but I had a good horse and got away all right. I was shot at about 40 times, but I did not get hit.

Ladysmith Camp,
Natal,
South Africa,
April 14th, 1900.

Dear mother, brother, and sisters,—I have been sick with diarrhoea and pains in the back over a week. The doctor has given me fourteen days' leave to go to Durban for a change; of course, I have to pay my own expenses. I left Ladysmith on the 7th. Just got your letter before I left. I wish the war was over; I am about sick of this lot I am in. One of the R.B. men who was shot close to our captain bled to death, as there was no one to dress his wound, so you see it is not pleasant to be a scout. If you are shot off your horse it is ten chances to one they will look for you. A lot of our men sent in their resignations through this kind of work, and told the colonel the reason, but he would not accept them. They are looking after them a little better now. I don't think I told you about being out on a night expedition while I was at Chieveley Camp. General Buller, while he was at Springfield, sent to our captain before he was shot to ask him for two men out of the S.A.L.H., to go at night and watch a farm close to the Boer lines, so our captain sent for me. He told me what it was and said he could not order me to go; I must volunteer, as it was a very dangerous job, so he told me to get another man to go with me. Boers were supposed to be going to the farm to get information. The farm was two miles from our camp. We left at seven o'clock with rifles, but no horses; the captain gave us half-a-bottle of whiskey. I can tell you I just felt a little queer, as it was a long way from our lines, and without a horse, but we got to the farm all right and watched for six hours, but failed to see any Boers. The captain told us if we just saw two or three we had to shoot them, but if there was a lot of them we had to clear back to camp the best way we could. We got back to camp at four o'clock in the morning. I felt glad when it was over, as I dread to be a prisoner in the Boer clutches, as they treat the volunteers worse than the regular soldiers. I have sent my chocolate box I got from the Queen; I ate all the chocolate, as we don't get many sweets here. I also send a book on the relief of Ladysmith and my puttie I had on when I was shot at the battle of Colenso. I want you to keep them for me. I also send you a shrapnel bullet from one of the Boer shells which hit my arm on the 24th February, but being spent it did not penetrate the flesh. If it had not been spent I would have been an arm short. I have got some pieces of the armoured train and Colenso bridge, which I am going to get made up soon. I am at Durban now, but will be going back to Ladysmith on the 19th.

CYCLING NOTES.

(By "Wheeler.")

The usual monthly committee meeting of the Cyclists' Touring Club (Northumberland and Durham District Association) was held at the Metropole Hotel, Newcastle, on the 8th inst. There were present:—Mr. John S. Heslop, in the chair; Dr. Blacklock (Gateshead), Mr. Geo. Watson (Monkseaton), Mr. J. A. Williamson (Tynemouth), Messrs T. M. Grierson, R. Bellwood, J. M. Gibson (Newcastle), R. Paton (Newcastle), Wemyss H. Atkinson (hon. sec.), and Norman Guthrie (Association hon. sec.)—The Secretary reported that their Hon. Solicitor (Mr. Williamson) had successfully prosecuted a fruiterer at Whitley for keeping a dangerous dog, an order having been made directing its destruction. This action, of course, had been taken without any expense to the person injured.—Another complaint as to thorns being left on the road, this time at Follingsby Crossing, near Usworth, came before the Committee, and received consideration. It was decided that in future, in order to avoid delay, consequent on the matter having to pass through two hands, the secretary, on receipt of a complaint, should immediately pass the same on to the Hon. Solicitor, who was empowered to take such action as he might think expedient.—A complaint was received with regard to the bad state of the road from Tyne Dock (Rosehill), Sunniside, and Hedworth to the point where it joins the Gateshead and Sunderland Road at White Mare Pool. As the complaint did not specify in what respects the road was bad, the Secretary was directed to communicate further with the gentleman complaining.—The question of admission to parks in Northumberland and Durham was discussed, and the sec. was instructed to ascertain if members would be admitted to Raby, Brancepeth, Seaham, Wynyard, Matfen, Wallington, and Castle Eden.—A sub-committee was appointed to deal with the question of organizing a tour confined to members, to take place in Race Week. The duration of the tour, and locality to be visited, were left in the hands of the sub-committee. Districts mentioned were:—(1) Lake District, (2) Yarrow District, (3) Galloway District, and (4) a short tour in Ireland.—With reference to a suggestion which recently appeared in a local paper as to dangerous roads, more especially with regard to the danger of the 'bus traffic on the High Level Bridge, and the various injuries which cyclists had thereby sustained, the committee wish to state that the High Level Bridge being private property, neither the Corporation nor the Association have any jurisdiction over it. They are, however, prepared to support any "bona fide" case of injuries to a cyclist caused by the negligence of the drivers of vehicles on the bridge.—The next meeting of the committee was fixed for Tuesday, the 12th June, at Durham.

On Wednesday evening of last week the members of the Dipton and District Cycling Club held a special meeting in the Collierley Board Schools, Dipton, for the purpose of fixing the runs for June and July. Previous to the meeting Mr. R. T. Batey, of Dipton, photographed a group of the members. Mr. W. McQuillen presided. The following runs were fixed:—Saturdays—June 2nd, Ponteland; June 9th, Shotley Bridge Pic-nic; June 23rd, Whitley; July 7th, open; July 14th, Stocksfield; July 28th, Chester-le-Street. Wednesday fixtures.—June 13th, Gosforth Park; June 27th, Chester-le-Street; July 11th, Stannington; July 25th, Shotley Bridge Pic-nic. It was unanimously resolved to hold a gymkhana on Wednesday, July 18th, the proceeds of which will, I understand, go towards the replenishing of the club funds.

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My friends of the Annfield Plain Excelsior Cycling Club had a splendid spin to Bishop Auckland, the residence of the Bishop of Durham. Some twenty cyclists took the journey, and spent a most enjoyable afternoon. On the way some of the members experienced the joys (?) of punctures, the captain, a true sportsman, leading the way in this as in other matters. Barring a little stop caused in that way there was nothing but what proved a pleasure to the wheelites. On Wednesday evening the route selected was by Consett, Knitsley, and Lanchester. On Saturday first Chester-le-Street will be the destination of the club run. The Wearside town seems to have become quite a famous resort for cyclists and "mes amis" intend to be fashionable. The return journey will be taken by Framwellgate Moor and Witton Gilbert. My secretarial friend, Mr. E. Wilkinson, is anxious for all members who can make it convenient to avail themselves of this pleasant excursion, so don't forget.

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Fourteen members of the Medomsley club had a most pleasant run to Tynemouth on Saturday. The weather was rather cold, but otherwise there was no drawback. On the previous Thursday a good muster turned up for a spin to Durham, to witness the rejoicings in connection with the conferring of the freedom of the city on Captain Lambton. On Saturday first the run will be to Chester-le-Street, leaving headquarters at two o'clock.

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I understand that the members of the Consett Temperance club are again promoting a Church Parade to be held at Consett, and that the date selected is June 17th. Wouldn't it be as well, in their own interests, if the officials of the Temperance club gave a little more publicity to their doings? In a matter like this it cannot be too widely advertised to secure success, and yet I will undertake to say that there are many cyclists who know nothing about it. It was only in conversation with my friend, Mr. Jos. Walton, of Medomsley, that I heard anything about it. In my opinion the policy adopted by the Consett organisation is a mistaken one. The best way to make a church parade successful is to get it advertised as much as possible. There is no sense in making it a sort of secret society affair.

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The following rather tall story recently appeared in a Newcastle paper:—A cyclist, named Percy Christmas, has (writes a correspondent) had a singular little adventure at Wigborough, near Colchester. Swiftly rounding the corner of a road, he started a fine hare, which dashed forward as though racing him. Having got some distance ahead, the animal suddenly doubled back, and in its wild excitement made straight for the wheelman. Springing up—apparently to get clear of the bicycle—it butted the rider in the chest, knocking him off the machine. The hare broke its neck; the cyclist escaped with a shaking.

STANLEY.

TEMPERANCE MISSION.—The fourteen days' mission conducted by Mr. Thomas Rosbottom, of Wigan, under the auspices of the Newcastle Temperance Society, was concluded on Sunday evening in the Primitive Methodist Chapel. Mr. Rosbottom has addressed large meetings in the Co-operative Hall, the Wesleyan Church, and in the open air, with satisfactory results. The mission was taken part in by Messrs Williams, Lowery, Carr, Leahly, and Patterson. The objects of the mission were lucidly explained by Mr. George Hall, president of the Newcastle Temperance Society. The success attending the mission will be readily understood when we state that sixty pledges were taken.

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Swalwell.

A MAN'S MYSTERIOUS DEATH.—The dead body of Joseph Pentland, who has been missing from his home at Swalwell for about five weeks—as already reported—was found on Friday night in the river Tyne, near Redheugh Bridge. On Monday evening an inquest was held at the mortuary, St. Lawrence, before Mr. Coroner Hoyle, relative to the circumstances attending the death of the deceased.—The body was identified by Wm. Gilleader, a metal moulder, residing at Park Terrace, Swalwell, as that of his brother-in-law, who was 34 years of age, and a metal cleaner to trade. The deceased, who resided near the Station Hotel, Swalwell, left his home on April 10th, for the purpose of going to Newcastle to buy some clothes, and was not seen again until the recovery of his body on Friday night. The clothes were forwarded by train from Newcastle. Evidence was given by Benjamin Gordon, of the Tyne Police, as to the finding of deceased's body, near the Redheugh Bridge, on Friday night. The body seemed to have been in the water for some weeks, it being in a decomposed condition. Amongst the articles found in the pockets of the deceased's clothing were half-a-sovereign, and a silver watch. The body bore no marks of violence.—The jury having heard the evidence returned an open verdict.—The remains of the deceased, who leaves a widow and five children, were interred in Whickham churchyard on Tuesday afternoon.

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BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

Births.

FLEMMING.—Derwent View, Castleside, on the 15th inst., the wife of George Flemming, of a daughter.

FOTHERGILL.—Leven House, Spen, Lintz Green, on April 25th, the wife of [illegible] Fothergill, M.D.B.S., of twin sons.

SMITH.—Consett Road, Castleside, on the 12th inst., the wife of Alick Smith, of a daughter.

TOWARD.—Consett Road, Castleside, on the 13th inst., the wife of Cuthbert Toward, of a son.

Marriages.

ROGERS—SHELL.—Stockton-on-Tees, Brunswick Wesleyan Chapel, on the 14th inst., Alexander H. Rogers, of Granville House, Childs Hill, London, to Rebecca S. Shell, daughter of the late William Shell, builder, and late of Barr House, Consett.

SUDLOW—CASTLE.—At the Wesleyan Church, West Stanley, on the 12th inst., by the Rev. H. King, Presbyterian minister, William Gotton Sudlow, of Stockton-on-Tees, to Cissie, youngest daughter of Mr. J. T. Castle, of West Stanley.

Deaths.

ATKINSON.—Winlaton, 10th inst., aged [illegible] years, Elizabeth, the wife of Henry Atkinson.

ERRINGTON.—School House, Stocksfield, suddenly, on May 14th, aged 21 years, Nellie, wife of Edward Errington.

LEE.—At Newcastle Junction, New South Wales, March 25, aged 51 years, John, the beloved husband of Eleanor Lee, late newsagent of Annfield Plain.

MACGREGOR.—Swalwell, Whorlton Street, May 10th, Isabella, only child of Joseph and Elizabeth Macgregor, and granddaughter of Robert and Elizabeth Hall, Dunston.

OATES.—Louisville, Colorado, U.S.A., 1st April, in his 55th year, Anthony Oates, formerly of Hill Top, Dipton.

PROUDLOCK.—Ravensworth, Hill Head, on the 14th inst., suddenly, aged 74, Robert Proudlock.

PENTLAND.—Swalwell, Brown's Buildings, John (Josey), husband of Mary Pentland and eldest son of Joseph and Maria Pentland, aged 34 years, found drowned in the Tyne.

ROBSON.—Hamsterley Colliery, 10th inst., aged 10 years, Emma, daughter of Richard and Ellen Robson.

ROBSON.—On 13th inst., aged 82 years, Ann, widow of the late John Robson, formerly of Path Head, Blaydon.

RUDDY.—West Stanley, Fanny Pit Cottages, 12th inst., aged 65 years, Ann, wife of Jeremiah Ruddy, late of Dipton.

SKIPPER.—Leadgate, 223, Bottle Bank, 13th inst., aged 48 years, John, husband of Elizabeth Skipper.

SIMPSON.—Lobley Hill, Railway Cottages, on 12th inst., aged 50, Mark, husband of Elizabeth Simpson. Upwards of 30 years employed by N.E.R. Co.

SHIRVINGTON.—Swalwell, Harbottle's Cottages, on the 9th inst., aged 75 years, George, husband of Elizabeth Shirvington, for 35 years in the employment of the late Henry Hannington, of Axwell Park Colliery, Swalwell.

STONEHOUSE.—Hamsterley, on the 13th inst., aged 4 years, Thomas, son of Thomas and Margaret Stonehouse.

TURNBULL.—Whickham, 12th inst., aged 66 years, Joshua Turnbull.

TODD.—Greenside, Ryton-on-Tyne, May 8th, aged 79, Elizabeth Spencer, widow of the late William Todd, farmer.

WILSON.—Consett, 4, Spencer Street, 12th inst., aged 67 years, John, husband of the late Ann Wilson.

WATSON.—Victoria House, Newburn, 14th inst., aged 67 years, Elizabeth Jane, daughter of W. G. Watson.

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