GREENOCK MERINO MILLS.
SOLE AGENTS FOR CONSETT AND DISTRICT:
BAIN & CO.,
DRAPERS AND HATTERS,
NEW TOWN HALL, MIDDLE STREET
AND
QUEEN STREET, CONSETT.

Greenock Fingering, from 2d per ounce; Berlin Fingering, from 2½d per ounce; Double Berlin, from 2½d per ounce; Welsh Wool, 3d per ounce; Double Knitting, from 4d per cut; Petticoat Fingering, from 4d per cut; Wheeling Yarn, 1½d per ounce or 3½d per cut. Also, Greenock Hosiery and Fancy Knitted Goods. 471z

The Consett Guardian

DERWENT VALLEY ADVERTISER AND NORTH-WEST DURHAM GAZETTE.

"GRANDMOTHER,"
In the Queen of October, 1885, says that the Yarns manufactured at the Greenock Merino Mills are the best she ever knitted.
SOLE AGENTS FOR CONSETT AND DISTRICT:
BAIN & CO.,
DRAPERS & HATTERS,
NEW TOWN HALL,
MIDDLE STREET and QUEEN STREET,
CONSETT. 471z

No. 1,450. REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. FRIDAY EVENING, May 25th, 1888. PRICE ONE PENNY.

Money.

SPECIAL BRANCH.—M. L. ROSENBERG, 54 Westgate Road, Newcastle, advances MONEY on Reversionary Interest or Legacies under Wills, on Life Policies for £100 and upwards, on Building Society or other Shares, on Household Furniture without removal, and on deposit of Silver Plate, Jewellery, or any goods at a reasonable rate of interest, and on terms of repayment, all as arranged.—Established 1860. 739v

MONEY LENT PRIVATELY,
From £10 to £2,000,
in town or country, on approved note of hand alone, at 5 per cent. Also upon furniture, trade or farm stock (without removal), and to assist persons into business.

No sureties required. Strictly private, and no delay. Write or call on actual lender,
Mr. F. DUNBAR,
Kent Villa, St. Mary's Road, Harlesden, London

Contracts.

TO MASONS.

TO LET, the REPAIRING of HOUSE at Bolltswall Farm.—Apply H. P. DOLPHIN, New Hall, Wolsingham. 610z

TO MASONS.

KERBING and CHANNELLING to DRESS, by piece.—Apply to E. and J. R. TAYLOR, Benfieldside. 62z

Lost.

LOST, on Wednesday, between Consett and Catchgate, a LADY'S GOLD RING. Finder will be rewarded.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office.

Wanted.

WANTED, APPRENTICES to the Dressmaking.—Apply to M. A. THOMPSON, 13, Cort Street, Blackhill. 633z

WANTED, a respectable Girl as GENERAL SERVANT; no family.—Apply at *Guardian* Office. 620z

PRUDENTIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.

WANTED, an AGENT at Consett.—Apply to W. PUGSLEY, 50, Edith Street, Consett.

WANTED, by the Leadgate Co-operative Society, a YOUTH in the Grocery Department; one who has been at the trade preferred.—Applicants to meet the Committee on Monday night first at Seven o'clock. 615z

LADIES REQUIRING SERVANTS and SERVANTS SITUATIONS will do well by applying at MRS. COOKE'S Registry, 38, Durham Road, Blackhill. 889w

GIRLS REQUIRING SITUATIONS, and Ladies requiring SERVANTS.—Apply at Mrs. BELL'S Register Office, 54, Sherburn Terrace, Consett. 296w

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

Under Distinguished Patronage.
MISS ANDERSON, Register Office for MALE and FEMALE SERVANTS, and GOVERNESSES, 9, Ridley Place, Northumberland Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 263w

WANTED, Ladies' and Gentlemen's CAST-OFF CLOTHES, &c. Personal attendance in Town or Country. Letters of call immediately attended to.—Mrs. J. QUIGLEY, 5, Front Street, Consett. 396v

WANTED, Men and Women to start a new business at their homes. Easily learned in an hour. No agency; no artistic work. Sixpence to Two Shillings per hour made day-time or evening. Requires no experience or large means, and is eminently respectable, extraordinarily profitable, and extremely fascinating. Samples and particulars, four stamps.—Address, CHAS. W. MORTON, 91, Hurst Street, Birmingham. 258z

WANTED it thoroughly known at Consett and the District, that High-class PORTRAITS, artistically finished, MAY BE HAD at [illegible]

[illegible]

immediate employment on arrival.—Apply at once to the Queensland Government Agent, WM. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead. — Also, WANTED Emigrants for the United States, Canada, British Columbia, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, South America, Argentine Republic, £8.

NOTICE.—EMIGRATION TO AMERICA.—Lowest Fares to NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, and all parts of the United States and Canada, &c., every week from Newcastle Quay. Special arrangements for the comfort and convenience of Passengers by First-class ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, *via* Rotterdam.

N.B.—Passengers are met on landing, and receive full directions how to proceed to their journey's end.

For Passage, &c., apply personally, or by letter, to GEO. R. HOBSON, Auctioneer, Catchgate, Lintz Green.

NOTE.—G.R.H. undertakes Sales by Auction on the most Reasonable Terms. 361z

To Let.

HOUSE and SHOP TO LET.—Apply to M. FAWELL, Grocer, Front Street, Consett. 570z

COMFORTABLE LODGINGS for one or two respectable young men, at 63, Benfieldside Edge Road. 181z

TO LET, BOLLTSWALL FARM, Rookhope; about 40 Acres, with right of Stanhope Common.—Proposals to HENRY P. DOLPHIN, New Hall, Wolsingham. 609z

TO BE LET, at High Bradley, near Medomsley, a HOUSE, with Five Rooms and other Conveniences; also, large Garden. Rent, £10 a year, water laid in, and rates paid.—Apply to THOMAS SIMPSON, High Bradley. 485z

TO LET, THREE Four-roomed HOUSES (New Fines Cottages), pleasantly situated at Medomsley.—Apply to JACOB WALTON, Overman, Medomsley Colliery. 911y

TENTS TO LET, on Reasonable Terms, 30ft. x 30ft., 60ft. x 30ft., 90ft. x 30ft., 120ft. x 30ft., up to 180ft. x 30ft., if required.—Apply to THOS. CALVERT, Grocer, Medomsley, Lintz Green. 379z

TO LET, a HOUSE, containing Six Rooms, Bath Room, and Scullery, situate in St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Benfieldside.—For particulars, apply to Mr. PETER GIBSON, Boot-maker, 57, Durham Road, Blackhill. 261z

TO LET, a large HOUSE and SHOP where a good Furniture and Hardware business has been done for a number of years. Proprietor retiring.—Apply to W. WILKINSON, on the premises, Catchgate. 28z

MARQUEES TO LET on HIRE, in several sizes; Refreshment Tent, 40 feet by 18 feet; Large Tent, 100 feet by 30 feet.—For prices and particulars, apply to Mr JOS. HENDERSON, Catchgate, Lintz Green. 553z

TO BE LET, at Lambton Terrace, Chester-le-Street, with immediate possession, a Five-Roomed HOUSE, with Garden, Stable, and Coach House attached. Rent moderate.—Apply to Mr. John S. BARKER, Red Rose Farm, Chester-le-Street.

TO LET, from 1st August next, the Old-established Drapery and Outfitting PREMISES at Dipton, comprising—Large Shop, plate-glass windows; Shop all fit up with good House; Coach-house, Stable, and Garden. A good opening for pushing man, now occupied by Mr. Symn.—Apply to J. M. BEAVAN, Prudhoe-on-Tyne. 588z

CONSETT INDUSTRIAL AND PROVIDENT SOCIETY, LIMITED.

TO LET, the CO-OPERATIVE HALL (capable of seating 500 people) for Concerts, Lectures, &c. Also, ROOMS suitable for Clubs and Friendly Societies.—For Forms and Conditions, apply to the Secretary JESSE HALL, Consett. 65z

To Let.

Park House, Lanchester, Co. Durham.

TO BE LET, and entered on almost immediately, the above desirable RESIDENCE, situate one minute's walk from Lanchester Station, where there is a convenient service of trains. The house contains 3 Reception Rooms, 6 Bed and Dressing Rooms, Kitchen, Scullery, and convenient Out-offices. A Three-Stalled Stable and Coach House, Harness Room, and about an Acre of Old Grass Land.—For further particulars, and cards to view, apply to THOS. BLANDFORD, Corbridge-on-Tyne.

For Sale.

PIANO FOR SALE.—Apply at Mrs. COMPTON'S, Broom Cottage Leadgate. 591z

FOR SALE, COWS and HEIFERS at profit.—Apply, W. C. BOWMAN, Hole House, Lanchester 196v

FOR SALE, Two STOVES, BARS two COILS, and a quantity of IRON PIPES, for Heating Purposes.—Apply at the *Guardian* Office.

FOR SALE, a Light SPRING TRAP, with Harness, little worse than new, suitable for a pony 12 or 13 hands, the owner having no further use for them.—Apply to JOHN IRWIN, Joiner and Undertaker, Tanfield. 624z

GRASS FIELD FOR SALE.

ALL that Rich Old Land GRASS FIELD, situate at Pickering Nook, near Mountsett, and adjoining the main Road, in the Parish of Tanfield, containing about Four Acres, most admirably adapted for Building Sites.

For further particulars, apply to Messrs. LAWS, GLYNN, and RYOTT, Solicitors, Newcastle; the Owner, Mr. R. HENDERSON, 10, Stratford Road, Heaton; or to R. MARCH, Auctioneer, Houghton, Wylam, by whom it will shortly be Sold by Auction if not previously disposed of. 627z

NITRATE OF SODA, Peruvian and Ichaboe Guanos, Superphosphates, Bones, and Agricultural Salt FOR SALE. Also Linseed and Cotton Cakes, Foreign Hay and Straw. All best quality. Imported by HAVELOCK and USHER, Side, Newcastle.

TO INNKEEPERS—SPIRIT STOCK BOOKS. One Shilling each, may be obtained at the "Guardian" Office, Consett; or sent by Post on receipt of 13 Postage Stamps.

BICYCLES AND TRICYCLES FOR SALE.—Sole agents for the New Rapid; also, The Brooke's Safeties; the latter holds the world's records. Prices from £11 10s; New Type Safeties, £10 10s; Bicycles from £6 10s, balls both wheels; Second-hand Machines from £2. Price lists free on application.—JAMES SUTTON & Co., 26, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. R. PATTISON, Manager.

BICYCLES, TRICYCLES, and SAFETIES FOR SALE. Largest Stock, best variety, including the celebrated Rex Safety. Liberal cash discounts, easy payments. Old machines taken in exchange. See our splendid Double Frame Safety, £10 10s. Clearing out a big lot of second-hands cheap. Repairs.—Egdell, 10, Newgate Street, and 116, Northumberland Street, Newcastle. 443z

Business Announcements.

THE GREENOCK KNITTING WORSTED AND KNITTED HOSIERY
ARE THE BEST AND CHEAPEST
IN THE MARKET,
And can only be had in CONSETT from
BAIN & CO.,
GENERAL WAREHOUSEMEN,
MIDDLE STREET AND QUEEN STREET.

AMERICAN LINE.
UNITED STATES MAIL STEAMERS.

LIVERPOOL TO PHILADELPHIA,
EVERY WEDNESDAY AND ALTERNATE SATURDAY.
[illegible]-powered Iron Steamships.
[illegible] for Passengers equal to any [illegible]
[illegible]ods landed at Philadelphia on the [illegible]lvania Railroad.
[illegible] Best Route to the West.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE & CO., 19 and 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Town Hall, Consett; E. SLOANE, Postmaster, Blackhill; G. LEADBITTER, Catchgate, *via* Lintz Green; A. PHILLIPSON, Auctioneer, Dipton; W. ANDERSON & Co., Shipping Agents, Tow Law; J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne; JAMES POTTS & SON, 26, Sandhill, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 217z

THE WHISKEY,
BEN-GLEN-DEW,
42s. per Case of One Dozen each, or 21s. per Gallon (packages included).
RICHARD MURRAY,
BEN-FIELD-SIDE.

XMAS CASES OF ASSORTED SPIRITS AND WINES. 790y

MANCHESTER CORPORATION
CONCENTRATED MANURE,
MADE FROM HUMAN EXCREMENT,
BLOOD, BONES, FISH, &c.,
ANALYSING ABOUT

38·66	per Cent.	of ORGANIC MATTER, containing
3·60	„	of AMMONIA.
5·08	„	of ALKALINE SALTS, containing
1·26	„	of POTASH.
8·57	„	of TRIBASIC PHOSPHATE.
2·50	„	of SULPHATE OF LIME.

Delivered in Bags at any Railway Station within 150 miles of Manchester in not less than Four Ton Lots, and within 50 miles in not less than Two Ton Lots, at £3 PER TON.

Will be sold by Analysis if written application be made.
HY. WHILEY, Superintendent,
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ROYAL MAIL LINE STEAMERS.
PASSAGE £17 ONLY.

LAND ORDER WARRANTS, value £20, are PRESENTED FREE TO all approved PASSENGERS travelling BY THIS LINE.

This young and promising Colony is now offering Special Advantages to all Classes.

FARMERS and OTHERS may obtain FREEHOLD LAND under the Homestead Clauses of the present Land Act up to 160 Acre Blocks, for 6d. per annum per acre, being paid as Rent for Five Years, making 2s. 6d. per acre in all, when payment ceases and the Land becomes Freehold.

LARGER FREEHOLDS and LEASEHOLDS, on specially favourable conditions, may be had under the recently-passed Land Act.

For further Particulars apply to A. BRODIE, TOWN HALL, CONSETT; WM. J. JOHNSON, 96, HIGH STREET, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE; GRAY, DAWES, & Co., 13, AUSTIN FRIARS, LONDON, or the Brokers, Gellatly, Hankey, Sewell, & Co., London; Manchester, Liverpool, and Glasgow. 30y

SWEEP! SWEEP! SWEEP!

WITH PATENT APPARATUS no dust can escape; no forks to damage the jambs.
Address—WILLIAM BUTCHER,
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REASONABLE CHARGES.

Business Announcements.

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

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

MARBLE AND WOOD CHIMNEY PIECES.
KITCHEN RANGES
(OVER 60 SET-UP TO SELECT FROM).
STOVES OF EVERY KIND
DINNING AND COOKE,
HOT WATER ENGINEERS, IRONFOUNDERS, &c.,
PERCY IRONWORKS, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
SHOW ROOMS, 91, 93, AND 95, PERCY STREET.

DENTISTRY.
MR. R. COLLIER!
SURGEON DENTIST,
Supplies PRIZE MEDAL ARTIFICIAL TEETH at Moderate Charges.
PERFECT FIT GUARANTEED. CHILDREN'S TEETH REGULATED WITH GREAT CARE
TEETH STOPPED, &c. CONSULTATIONS FREE. NITROUS OXIDE GAS ADMINISTERED IF DESIRED.
50, GRAINGER STREET, NEAR ART GALLERY, NEWCASTLE

WANTED PEOPLE TO KNOW
THAT
R. WILLEY'S 2s., 2s. 6d., AND 3s. TEAS
Are acknowledged by thousands to be the
POPULAR BEVERAGE
As a refreshing summer drink, being securely packed in sealed lead caddies its strength and flavour is thus preserved.

R. W. WISHES to call your special attention to his well-selected STOCK of GROCERIES and PROVISIONS; all remarkably cheap. Bottler of Bass and Co.'s Pale Ale and Guinness' Dublin Stout. Mild and Bitter Ales on Draught.

NOTE THE ADDRESS—
R. WILLEY, CONSETT TEA HOUSE, MOUNT PLEASANT, CONSETT

WATCHES, CLOCKS, JEWELLERY.
WATCHMAKER TO THE TRADE. **D. GRADON,** WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER, JEWELLER, SILVERSMITH, AND OPTICIAN,
DERWENT STREET, BLACKHILL.

WATCHES.—Splendid English Patent Levers, at 55/ and 58/-. D. G. can specially recommend these Watches, as they are exceptionally good value, and are giving good satisfaction, Warranted. LADIES' SILVER GENEVA WATCHES from 15/-, a Superior Watch, made by Mathey (best maker), 36/6., also a good selection of other Watches. CLOCKS—Marble—Suitable for Presentation, from 21/-. AMERICAN Eight-days' Striking Clocks, from 15/6; Timepieces, from 3/6. JEWELLERY.—Half-dozen Nickel-Silver Tea-spoons and Gold Wedding Ring, from 7/-. A large and choice stock of Jewellery, Whitby Jet, Electro-Plate, &c. SPECTACLES AND EYEGLASSES in great variety. Steel-workers' Spectacles, 1/6 with case. D. G. *supplies the best Steelworks in the United Kingdom with these Specs.* All Watches, Clocks, Jewellery, Spectacles, and Eyeglasses repaired on the premises at Moderate Charges. Watches and Clocks Cleaned and Repaired by D. G. are upheld for one year, unless over-wound or damaged by accident.

ARTICLES MAY BE PURCHASED BY INSTALMENTS. CLUBS SUPPLIED. BAROMETERS AND THERMOMETERS.

190z **D. GRADON,** MANUFACTURER, BLACKHILL.

JOHN THURLOW POTTS

BEGS respectfully to announce to his Friends and the Public, that he has just returned from the Markets, where he has made most Extensive Purchases of all the

NEWEST AND MOST FASHIONABLE GOODS OF THE SEASON.

Consisting of DRESS GOODS, LADIES' JACKETS, DOLMANS, COSTUMES, CHILDREN'S COATS and CAPES, UNDERCLOTHING, PINAFORES, APRONS, &c.

All the Newest Styles in Ladies' and Children's HATS and BONNETS, and MILLINERY of all descriptions. LADIES' GLOVES, TIES, COLLARETTES, &c., &c. SUNSHADES in great variety. A splendid variety of all the NEWEST PRINTS, WHITE and CREAM OATMEAL CLOTHS, STRIPE and CHECK MUSLINS.

☞ A LARGE STOCK OF BRUSSELS and TAPESTRY CARPETS, FELTS, HEARTHRUGS, and MATS, of all descriptions. FLOOR OILCLOTHS and LINOLEUMS in all the Newest Patterns.

CLOTHING SHOP.

J.T.P. has made Extensive Purchases of MEN'S and BOYS' CLOTHING, of all the Newest Patterns and Styles for the Season, which will be offered at prices that defy competition by any house in the trade. GENTLEMEN'S HATS, CAPS, TIES, COLLARS, SHIRTS, FRONTS, and GLOVES, in great variety, all New from the Manufacturers at marvellous Low Prices.

JOHN T. POTTS,
THE PEOPLE'S SHOPS, CONSETT. 545z

PRESENTATION BIBLES.

Some of them are really MANY VOLUMES IN ONE, and include such Aids to the Student as Summaries of the Books; Notes on the Natural History, General History, Mineralogy, Chronology, &c., of the Bible; also, an Atlas, Concordance, Dictionary, &c., *forming a portable Biblical Library*, so to speak. The contributors are authors of note. Each Bible in this stock contains the Psalms and Paraphrases, and prices range from 1s upwards.

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GUARDIAN OFFICE, FRONT STREET,
AND
9 and 10, NEWMARKET STREET CONSETT

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BOOKSELLER & STATIONER,
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9 AND 10, NEWMARKET STREET
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J. J. SINTON (the Apiary), LANCHESTER, Durham, BEE FURNITURE MANUFACTURER. Feeders, 1s each; Smokers, 2s 6d each; Foundation, 2s 3d lb; Sections, 2s 6d per hundred; Skeps; Supers. Hives complete. Telescope, 6s 6d; Ritson, 8s 6d; Sinton, 8s 6d; Burgess, 10s; Dixon, 10s. IMPORTER OF FOREIGN BEES. Stocks always ready for Sale. Metal Ends, 8d per dozen; Crates, 1s 2d each; Frames, 1s per dozen. 371z

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

TRY
JOHN HUME & SON'S
CELEBRATED
"GERM MEAL."

SOUTH ACOMB, STOCKSFIELD-ON-TYNE,
June 7th, 1887.

Messrs. JOHN HUME & SON,
GENTLEMEN,

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

During the week preceding the use of the Germ Meal, the cows had maize meal at the rate of 7½ lbs. per day, and before that they had the same quantity of barley meal. A slightly less weight, 7¼ lbs. of Germ Meal was given to each cow per day, with as you will see, the most satisfactory results.—The increase in the milk produced was slightly over 5 per cent., which with the lessened cost of your meal, showed a saving by its use of close upon 20 per cent. The increase in the return of milk for the week on which Germ Meal was used, over that on which maize meal was used, reached 16¼ gallons; and as the latter cost 24s. per qr. of 34 stones, as against 20s. 6½d. for the same weight of your Germ Meal, the advantage derived from its use has been strikingly demonstrated in my experience.

I am, yours faithfully,
W. TROTTER.

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FROM HEAD TO FOOT.

IF YOU WANT A RIG-OUT FROM HEAD TO FOOT,
GO TO
THE 2 W.'S.

BOYS' SUITS, from 2s 11d.
MEN'S SUITS, from 16s 11d.
MEN'S FELT HATS (Newest Shapes), from 1s 11d.
SCARFS, SHIRTS, and HOSE in great variety, for Easter.

NEWMARKET STREET, CONSETT, and NEWCASTLE. 303z

W. T. ELTRINGHAM,
AGENT for BUILDERS' STORES and SANITARY GOODS of every description,
RAILWAY TERRACE, BLACKHILL.

ALWAYS ON HAND, FERENS' and LOVE'S NEW SINK and GULLEY with CLEANING BUCKET, as approved of by the Surveyors to the Lanchester Rural Sanitary Authority and Benfieldside Local Board.

SPECIAL QUOTATIONS FOR LARGE QUANTITIES. 104z

W. RICHARDSON,
BESSEMER HOUSE, BLACKHILL,

BEGS to thank his numerous friends for the liberal support they have given him since he opened the above place, and to announce to his Customers that his Shop is now replete with a BEAUTIFUL and VARIED ASSORTMENT.

Having bought largely, and not having room for all the Goods, he is determined TO OFFER THE WHOLE STOCK AT A VERY SMALL PROFIT, as he is determined that no one shall undersell him in the trade.

Several Packages of the Newest Goods and latest Novelties for the opening Season, all carefully selected, are now ready for inspection.

Special attention is directed to the MAGNIFICENT ASSORTMENT of WASHING FABRICS, which for bloom and beauty surpass all former efforts in this class of Goods; in Original Designs and Charming Colours.

☞ CALL AND INSPECT FOR YOURSELVES. 235z

JOHNSON HEDLEY,
MANUFACTURING and WHOLESALE CONFECTIONER, &c.,
37, PERCY STREET, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.
Superior Jams and Marmalades.
Biscuits of all kinds. 23z

THE NOTED TAILORING, AND MILLINERY ESTABLISHMENT.

A. E. TURNER, 41, DURHAM ROAD, BLACKHILL, begs to thank his numerous Friends for their esteemed Patronage during the 36 years that he has been in business, and respectfully informs them that by his new arrangements he hopes to give continued satisfaction in all Branches of his Establishment, including TAILORING, DRAPERY, and MILLINERY.

N.B.—A. E. T. has always a good Stock of Black and Fancy SUITINGS and OVERCOATINGS on hand; best quality, at lowest prices; fit guaranteed.

INMAN LINE ROYAL MAIL STEAMERS, INMAN & INTERNATIONAL STEAMSHIP Co., Ltd. LIVERPOOL to NEW YORK, Every WEDNESDAY. Calling at Queenstown every Thursday.

Apply to RICHARDSON, SPENCE, and Co., 22, Water Street, Liverpool; ADAM BRODIE, Auctioneer, Town Hall, Consett; EDWARD SLOANE, Post Office, Blackhill; ALFRED PHILLIPSON, Emigration Agent, Dipton; JOHN TULIP, Grocer, Cornsay Colliery; WILLIAM GRAY, 5, North Road Durham; WILLIAM WILSON, Cocoa Room, Chester-le-Street; GEORGE LEADBITTER, Accountant, Catchgate; W. J. JOHNSON, 96, High Street, Gateshead-on-Tyne. 95z

FARMERS! FARMERS!! FARMERS!!!

CLOVER AND GRASS SEEDS.

DO not risk buying your Seeds from Agents who never see the stuff sent out, but go to HOBSON'S SEED WAREHOUSE and see SEEDS before you order them. A large and carefully-selected Stock to choose from, at the lowest possible price.

TURNIP SEEDS! TURNIP SEEDS!!
TURNIP SEEDS!!!

As good as can be got for money. All from the best transplanted bulbs.

At KYO FLOWER SHOW, to be held at Catchgate in September, 1888, G. H. will give:—

5s. for Three of the best Purple Top Swedes (Hobson's Choice).
5s. „ „ Green Top Swedes (Hobson's Choice).
5s. „ „ Green Top Yellows (Hobson's Choice).
5s. „ „ White, Green, or Grey Stone.
5s. for the best White Loaf made from Hobson's Extra Supers.
5s. „ Brown Loaf made from Hobson's Whole Meal.
269z

THOMAS MILNER,
DISPENSING AND AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST,
☞ THE CENTRAL PHARMACY, CONSETT

SHEEP DIPS. SHEEP DIPS

T.M. respectfully draws the attention of Farmers to the

TAR ELIXER PRIZE MEDAL SHEEP DIP
Prepared by Messrs NESS & Co., Darlington,
for which he is sole Agent.
PRICE 7s. 6d. PER 100 SHEEP.

☞ T. M. is likewise Agent for BELL & RIDDLE'S, McDOUGALL'S, LITTLE & Co.'s, JEYE'S, COOPER'S, and WILSON and KITCHEN'S Sheep Dips.

ALTERATIVE CONDITION POWDERS AND PURGING BALLS FOR HORSES.

FELLON AND CLEANSING DRINKS FOR CATTLE.

MILNER'S BLUE RIBBON ARMY MIXTURES

For the speedy production of a Delicious Temperance Cordial. Ginger, Pine Apple, &c. 6d. per Bottle.

MILNER'S DANDELION AND PODOPHYLLIN STOMACH AND LIVER PILLS.

The excellent qualities of these Pills are too well known to be enumerated here, while the increasing demand under the Popular Name of Milner's Own Pills, is the best Proof of their efficacy. In Boxes 1s. 1½d. and 2s. 9d.

MILNER'S AFRICAN INSECT POWDER, IN TINS, AT 6d., 1s., AND PACKETS.

BALSAMIC COUGH MIXTURE.
An excellent Remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, &c. and all Diseases of the Chest and Stomach.
1s. per Bottle.

HAIR RESTORERS PERFUMES, POMADES.
TOILET REQUISITES IN GREAT VARIETY.

MILNER'S FINEST NEW SEASON'S COD LIVER OIL.

OILS, PAINTS, COLOURS, VARNISHES, AND CLEANSING REQUISITES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

SPECTACLES TO SUIT ALL SIGHTS.
TRUSSES OF ALL SIZES.

Agent for Mr LAMONT'S Magnetic Belts, Chest Protectors, Knee Caps, &c. &c.

MILNER CHEMIST
OPPOSITE THE POST OFFICE, CONSETT

EDUCATIONAL.

JON. C. WYLIE, PRIVATE TEACHER IN LANGUAGES AND MATHEMATICS.
☞ PUPILS ATTENDED AT THEIR OWN HOMES.
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CHESTER-LE-STREET AND DISTRICT NOTES.

[By Wearsider.]

Chester-le-Street is proud, and justly so, of its ancient Parish Church and its associations. One of the present curates has also, during a short period, become almost as much beloved as the church itself, by people of all classes and denominations in the district. The meaning, however, of the following incident can only be guessed at. On Sunday night last, a lady member of the Congregational Chapel had a desire to hear the Rev A. H. Hunter, the popular curate, and with a view to ascertain where he was to preach, made inquiry of a lady who acts as deaconess in connection with the Parish Church. This official lady curtly informed the inquirer that it was the wish of the Rector to keep the whereabouts of Mr Hunter's preaching unknown!

The teetotallers of Chester-le-Street are evidently in a very lethargic state. During last week they announced, by bills, that they would hold an open-air meeting at Chester-le Street, on Tuesday night last; that they would submit resolutions opposing the licensing clauses of the Local Government Bill; and that Mr Thomas Beckwith, of Newcastle, would address the meeting. In case the night of the meeting should be forgot, the bellman went the rounds of the "city of the world" on Tuesday night, proclaiming the fact that in an hour's time the great demonstration would begin. The leading lights of local teetotalism were all alive, and crowing loudly as to their determination not only to destroy the Local Government Bill, but also to totally and absolutely do away with public-houses, the "drink traffic," and drinkers generally. Everybody was to be made—whether he would or not—both teetotal and virtuous, by this great demonstration. But a change suddenly came over the scene. One train after another arrived, but Mr Thomas Beckwith didn't. Then the jokists who are not teetotal began their turn at chaffing. The teetotallers looked glum, and were told that it was manifestly unfair to announce a meeting, and get a crowd of people gathered together; and because Mr Beckwith did not turn up, not to go on with the meeting. They were urged to apologise or explain, but they still held on to the hope that their illustrious Newcastle friend would put in on appearance. After waiting until the patience of everybody was completely exhausted, and all hope of Mr Beckwith's appearance destroyed, the first demonstration (never held) ended in a lamentable fizzle, much to the chagrin of the Chester-le-Street teetotallers, who seemed utterly unable to raise a meeting without Mr Thos. Beckwith!

At the annual ratepayers' meeting, the Chester-le-Street people almost unanimously carried a resolution to spend £150 for the improvement of footpaths, and also at the same time appointed a committee to act with the surveyor and way-warden, Messrs McGregor and Mitchell, in carrying out the arrangements. That committee met a few days ago, when Mr Peter Hay, a member, asked that a proportion of the £150 should be expended in watering the streets of the town. This the remainder of the committee strongly and unanimously objected to, urging that the money was voted for a specific purpose, which did not include street watering; further that street watering does not come within the province of the Highway Board, but must be dealt with under the powers contained in the Public Health Act. Whereupon Mr Peter Hay says he will wash his hands of any further dealings with the committee, and will use his utmost endeavours to stop any of the projected improvements being undertaken or accomplished. He does not state what steps he intends taking, but has simply told the committee that if he cannot have the streets watered out of the funds entrusted to them for disbursement, that they shall not do anything at all. In the meantime, Mr McGregor, acting under the advice of the committee, is getting out his plans and estimates for the work proposed to be done, Mr Peter Hay's threats notwithstanding.

Apropos of watering the streets, Mr Goldborough, the contractor for the roads, has during the last few blazing days, watered the Front Street at his own cost. Of course he cannot be expected to do that all summer. He informs the writer however that the cost of watering for the season would amount to about tweve guineas; and if the sum can be raised by subscription he will willingly stand a couple of guineas, and give an undertaking that the Front Street shall be thoroughly and efficiently watered throughout the summer. This appears to be a very reasonable offer, which the Chester-le-Street folk ought to accept.

The ladies of this district seemed determined to take full advantage of the Leap Year priveleges supposed to belong to them. A well-known public officer in Chester-le-Street has received the appended, and as he has hither to been looked upon as a confirmed batchelor, his friends entertain the gravest fears as to whether he will be able to withstand the blandishments of his fair admirer. For obvious reasons names are omitted but otherwise the following is a correct copy of the letter:—

Lumley, May 15th, 1888

My Dearest,—I cannot wait any longer, I must write and tell you that I love you, you don't know what I have suffered these last few days since I saw you in Lumley church. I came to Chester church on Sunday to see you, I saw you after the church came out, but I could not get to speak to you as you went away so quick. And when I found you had not gone my way home, my heart was like to break. I now ask you to meet me at the Ferry Boat on the Sunday after next, at 5·30, do not dissappoint me or I will die of a broken heart. Do not think me rude, darling, as this is leap year and women can do as they like. My darling, I do not think I can wait till a week on Sunday. Could you not come to Lumley church on Sunday night, I will wait at the church gates for you, no doubt you will wonder how I got to know your name, but my grandfather told me who you were, and I was so pleased when he told me. Pen cannot describe my love for you, have you ever been in love yourself? if so, you will have pity for me. My darling do you not think that you could marry me to end my misery, try and say yes, as I will never be happy away from you. If you cannot come on Sunday to meet me at the Ferry Boat and give me your answer how I will long for the time to come till I see your darling face again, if you won't marry me I will live and die an old maid for your sake.—From one who is expecting soon to be your wife.

Then with true feminine instinct she writes a postscript across the first page.—"My sweet one I hope you are not engaged to anyone else." What a calamity if he should be! And yet there are people wicked enough to say that the Leap Year Ball was not productive of good.

SWALWELL CO-OPERATORS.

The annual festival of the Swalwell Co-operative Society took place on Saturday in the Board Schools, when about 400 persons sat down to an excellent tea. At 6·30 a meeting was held in the same room. Mr William Fletcher, president, was in the chair, supported by Mr R. Gellender, secretary; Mr William Blackbird, manager; Mr William Peel, of Gateshead; Mr McGee, of Consett, and the members of the committee.—The Chairman congratulated the members on the position the society had attained, during the past year. Mr W. Peel addressed the meeting on the mission of co-operation. Mr McGee also delivered an address, which was highly appreciated. The musical part of the programme was well sustained by Miss McNeish, Mr Thompson, Miss Heancay, Miss Blackbird, Mr F. Graham, Mr Mallband, Mr Walter Terrel, Mr Bell, Master J. Smiles, Master J. Watson, and Master J. McGregor. The programme throughout was well appreciated by the large audience, and the meeting closed with the usual vote of thanks to the speakers and artistes.

Quoit Match at Waterhouses.—A good company assembled at the quoit ground adjoining Mr French's, Stag's Head, Waterhouses, on Saturday, to witness a match between E. Rooke, of New House Cottages, and J. Stephenson of Waterhouses, for £5 a-side, the distance being 14 yards, on the sward. Rooke won by 10 chalks. Score:—Rooke, 33; Stephenson, 23. J. Jobling, Hamsteels, was referee and stakeholder.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC JOTTINGS.

[By the "Old Crow."]

By arrangement with Mr Appleby, Miss Rose Moncrieff—a lady well to the front in burlesque, has taken over the Theatre Royal, Consett, for a short stock season, which commenced on Monday. It is quite too late in the day to speak in terms of praise of a lady whose abilities are so well-known as those of Miss Moncrieff. She sings well, dances most gracefully, and acts with freshness and vivacity. Like herself, the company supporting her is seen to most advantage in the burlesque with which Miss Moncrieff's name has been so long associated, and successfully too,—*Little Amy Robsart*, and to those who enjoy this form of theatrical fare, the burlesque has proved highly diverting during the week. It is to be regretted, however, that in spite of the attractiveness generally of the pieces submitted, business has not been particularly good.

—o—

The music provided by the South Derwent Prize Band at Shotley Spa on Monday and Tuesday was very much appreciated. It was of a better class generally, and there was more of it than has been the rule for some seasons past in connection with these pleasant sportive gatherings.

—o—

My remarks are necessarily short this week, but I ought not—indeed I should be wanting in duty were I to close them before making passing reference to the fact that Mr T. E. Sloane, one of our local musical friends, has opened out a music warehouse at Blackhill, where, he informs me—and I believe him, too—he intends to sell good instruments, by good makers, at prices which will at once prevent intending purchasers from making railway journeys to Newcastle and other places. From what I know of Mr Sloane, I believe he is in a position to do this, and to do it well.

NOTES FROM WEARDALE.

[By "Stanhope."]

The cottage belonging to the late Michael Brown, of Stanhope, was sold last week for £200.

The corncrake has arrived in Stanhope almost before there is as much grass in the fields as will cover it.

The thermometer registered 73 degrees of heat at Stanhope on Friday, Saturday, and Monday.

Practising for the Hare Hope races is the leading topic at Frosterley just now.

Heenan and Sayers settled matters at the Town Hall, at Stanhope, on Friday last. Heenan got clear with paying, but I would not like to be Sayers after this.

The Frosterley Primitives are a go-a-head lot. For piece-saying and singing they are bad to beat, The Stephenson family are all born musicians, yet they do not inherit it from their parents. It is set down to a freak of nature. Some of their fore-elders have been musicians, and they all seem to have taken at them. They constitute a concert in themselves (when at home), and although only humble working folk yet home to them, and others who know it, seems a terrestial paradise.

If Zaccheus had lived in the time of the Saviour he needn't have climbed a sycamore tree. Tall as he is in stature he could have seen the Master without the climbing business. He has every reason to be proud of his musical family. They are a real credit to him and the locality in which they reside.

Wolsingham has every reason to be proud of its Mechanics' Institute, with its news room, its library, its bagetelle, and smoking-rooms. With 30 new members on the books it is looking up, and better days are in store for the old town yet. If a few more of the publics in Wolsingham were converted into similar institutions, it would be all the better. The management of the place is in good hands, and if stuck to will have capital results in the future.

Stanhope band is rising in popularity. Got an engagement at Alston on Whit-Monday. The advent of this famed little band o'er the other side of Killhope was hailed with delight. The Alstonians were loud in their praises of this little country band, led by the redoubtable Tom Wood, of Newcastle. It bids fair to become the first country band in the north. Their playing at Linkirk on Sunday was a treat to those seated in the surrounding hills. Some day they will be at the Crystal Palace.

Stanhope was represented at the angling contest on Monday, by Bull Catcher and Kingfisher, two cracksmen among the Stanhope anglers. The one killed a hairy gob, and the other four ounces of trout. Not bad considering over 50 per cent. didn't stroke at all. Yet they beat the two that represented Stanhope at the Easter Monday contest. Nadab and Abihu, who killed an ounce and a half of trout between them, Stanhope for ivvur.

The Transvaal seems to be the true Tom Tiddler's ground at present. Writing to his uncle, Mr Joshua Mitchell, of Saugh Shields, Weardale, Mr John C. Mitchell, of Capetown says:—"I have only just (April 4th, 1888) returned from the Transvaal goldfields, where I am largely interested. This is the place for practical miners and mining engineers. Any one with a good knowledge of mining can do well. Fortunes are daily being made by miners. A miner need not be a day without work. That would be the place for the mining population of Weardale. Miners get from 10s to 20s per day, and a large lot of sinking and tunnelling for the reefs is done by contract." Thus writes Mr Mitchell, who has some knowledge of Weardale. He visited the dale a few years ago.

Miss Liddle's tea party was the dialogue that took at the Bridge End on Monday evening. The characters were all so well represented—Cat, Modesty, Clipper, Mrs Grundy, Dry Stick, Spicy, Specks, and Dapper. Well might it bring down the house in uproarious applause. We shall hear of it again, no doubt. Frosterley can do it when they like.

The latest from the metropolis of Weardale is that of a weeping bride on the wedding-day wishing to be back home to the lads to ascertain that the old mare had foaled all right, and that of a buxom damsel sold by auction, and knocked down at the astounding price of 10s to an admiring Romeo. The auctioneer and his pals wet their whistles with the proceeds of the sale while the winds blew southerly o'er the lea.

The chap with the bottle of live fish at the Wolsingham angling contest did not get on as he expected. The committeemen never left him a moment, or he would easily have nailed the first prize, and Squire Cox, of Frosterley, would have been a little further down. A lynx-eyed committeeman is sometimes more than a bore. Geordy was *non-plussed* for once, and yet pitmen are up to lots of dodges. The man that beats Wolsingham is really clever. Geordy with his bottle of fish did'nt score at all, and if he had kept sober it would never have been known. At the next angling contest at the old town every competitor will be searched, especially the "black diamond" chaps. Each pitman should have two to watch him, one before, and the other behind, and they should be men who would not take bribes.

A Stanhope angler last week caught a live water-rat while fishing with the white grub in the Wear, beside the railway bridge. This is the second rat he has hooked this season. He should have a sausage machine.

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

MISS EARL'S MISSION WORK.

A TOUR THROUGH LOCAL PIT VILLAGES.

A "Country Correspondent" writes the following interesting article in the last issue of the *Auckland Chronicle*:—

During the last eight months Miss J. P. Earl, of the Stanhope Evangelistic Mission, has been doing a very marked amount of gospel and temperance work amongst the pit villages of the county of Durham. This London evangelist left the great Metropolis in May, two years ago, to take charge of the Stanhope Evangelistic Mission, having previously laboured for six years in the vast city of four millions of inhabitants. Brought up under the influence of the Church of England, and confirmed in 1881 by the Bishop of London, Miss Earl entered early in the field of labour, and it transpired that the Giver of all Good Gifts had endowed this Christian lady with a superior memory and power of oratory. Having, likewise, a heart overflowing with sympathy for suffering humanity, special missionary work seemed to be her *forte*, and this lady struck out a line of independent work in keeping with her gifts, knowledge of the Scriptures, and her sympathetic feeling. Her field of labour, then, for six years was the surging sea of infidelity, drink, and wretched poverty, found in some parts of the Metropolis, and on this sea her Christian lifeboat was launched and rowed with success. It is, however, of the last eight months' work of this Christian worker of which we wish to speak. Her lectures at Stanhope and Weardale, on the parables of our Lord, on the late Lord Shaftesbury, on life in London, the Bible, Bible characters, drink, and kindred subjects, brought many calls for her services in other parts of the county. The eight months' tour of services in Mid-Durham, above referred to, commenced at the close of last September, when Miss Earl visited Dipton, and in the Wesleyan Chapel there delivered many impressive sermons, and gave a course of lectures, marked by life-like illustrations, of London every-day life. The apt delivery, combined with the remarkable memory of this Christian lecturer, brings out such vivid and life-like illustrations that crowded houses, and additions to the society, were the results of her visits to Dipton. On the 1st of October, a week's labours were commenced at the village of Oxhill, and on the initiative service a tea was provided for the Sunday-school scholars by Messrs James Joicey and Co., Miss Earl giving a spirited lecture, during which particulars of her London missionary work was given. On Sunday, three sermons, practical and powerful, were listened to by crowed houses, and during the week lectures on "Our Lord's parables" were delivered. This visit to Oxhill proved a marked success, both spiritually and financially, and these services were the means of raising this Christian lady very high in the estimation of those children of Christ amongst whom she had laboured in this district. A member of the society testifies to those services being highly appreciated by the vast number of people who had the pleasure of being present. The services were characterised by much spiritual power, a good work was accomplished, the church blessed, quickened and elevated to a higher moral standard, and some fourteen souls were brought from darkness to light in Jesus Christ. The deep impression made by the Word of Life through the instrumentality of this Christian worker established a good work, for in addition to the regular lectures, second spiritual meetings were held each night, and were largely attended by earnest seekers after truth, and the visits of Miss Earl to the homes of the people were the means of sowing the seeds of everlasting life. One remarkable instance of visitation was, through the instrumentality of the subject of our notice, the conversion to Christ of a pit lad who, for many weary months, had occupied a weary and lonely bed of sickness. Miss Earl's sympathy with the poor, the sick, and the needy is one very marked trait of her character. Returning from a prayer meeting one night, a dim light in the sick room of a pitman's cottage attracted this lady's attention. The boy, or rather the young man, then on his dying bed, was anxious to get better, but his wasted body told its tale, and in spiritual matters the scene was a dark one. After many visits, many prayers, and many pleadings even through long weary nights the Great Truth was grasped by the dying lad, who now longed for the coming of Christ, and his song was, as expressed to a lady visitor, "It is good to be on the Lord's side." This young man died in November. The funeral service was most impressive, and the one who carried the message of the gospel peace being present contributed to the grave a beautiful wreath of ivy, on which was scrolled in white snow berries the appropriate and touching word "Peace." We mention this as one of the many touching events which have made deep impressions upon the people whom Miss Earl has so earnestly and so faithfully laboured. After lecturing at Tantobie our lady friend returned to Stanhope, laboured at her chapel mission, gave lectures at the Wesleyan Chapel at Tow Law, and in December opened a second series of services at Oxhill Paimitive Methodist Chapel, with a graphic lecture on "London by Moonlight," followed by sermons and a course of lectuoes on the parables of our Lord. After conducting successful Christmas services at High Street Chapel, her own Stanhope Mission, Miss Earl commenced to labour at the Wesleyan Chapel, Tantobie, where a lecture on "Daniel the Prophet" drew a large and deeply-interested audience, such was the graphic description of this good man of the Bible. Some thirty new members had been added to the society at Oxhill, and eighteen at Tantobie under the above sevices. About the close of January a course of lectures and gospel services was opened at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Tanfield Lea, where four lectures, marked by their deep thought and research, were given on "Ruth the Moabitess," and these were followed by other lectures on sacred subjects, and special sermon on the "Handwriting on the Wall" proving a subject which exhibited the speaker's power of description in a marked degree, and completely rivetted the attention of the audience. At this little society some twenty-four new members were enrolled. At the beginning of March, and under the auspices of the Wesleyan body, a course of lectures and sermons were commenced at Page Bank, near Willington. These services may be said to have completely changed the phase of the village, such was the influence of this Christian lady's ministration at this place. Miss Earl's lectures are, as a rule, of a religious character, and are delivered in a purely unsectarian spirit, as the one aim and object is to win souls to Christ and thereby turn the people from the ways of darkness and death. The discourses are all marked in their delivery by such brilliancy and eloquence as to arrest the whole attention of the congregation; the pictures drawn being so life-like, so real and distinct as to carry away the hearers deep into the subject dealt with. The British Schools, where the services were held, were crowded every night to hear those spirited addresses, and this lady's influence for good at this place has been truly extraordinary. The lecture on "Drink: its use and abuse, amongst men," was most effectual, as demonstrated by the establishment of a 'Help-myself society," which now numbers between two and three hundred pledged total abstainers. This newly-pledged temperance association held its first special gathering on Easter Monday, when upwards of 600 people sat down to a knife and fork tea, and the members were duly enrolled. Considering that this association had only been inaugurated a few weeks before, it must be admitted that Miss Earl's influence at Page Bank is an unprecedented event in the history of that village. As the committee and staff of officials are energetic, and the substantial men of the place, the new society will no doubt prosper under such good management; and in addition to the society's officers, the Rev W. H. Wetherill, senior Wesleyan minister, Mr. Edwards, and others took part in the first social gathering, when a public meeting was held in the evening, being attended by nearly a thousand people. It must have been gratifying to Miss Earl to see such results of her work—a work which no doubt will be the means of turning thousands away from the great curse of the nation—drink—and of leading many wandering sheep to the cross of Christ. This society, which last month had its 250 total abstainers, meets weekly, when temperance addresses are given, and attention paid to the welfare of the work. Leaving Page Bank this Christian worker opened services in the Wesleyan Chapel at Byers Green, with similar results as at the neighbouring village. After three weeks' labour a most marked change had taken place, as nearly 300 adults had donned the blue ribbon, many being those who knew the influence of drink. The services here have been marked by the same earnestness and pathos, and have been attended by the working classes to overflowing houses. In addition to the glorious work in the Gospel message and progress of the church, the temperance movement has gone on in leaps and bounds. The junior movement, the Band of Hope, numbers some 350 strong, and the little blue ribboners are happy in their membership under their badge. During the three Sundays occupied by the evangelist referred to, the chapel has not been sufficient to hold the people, and one gratifying circumstance in connection with the mission work here, is that Miss Earl has had the co-operation of all the churches at Byers Green; hence she has maintained her unsectarian principles in this part of the vineyard of her Master, the Lord Jesus Christ, and the result has been truly good. On Whit-Monday, Byers Green was the scene of a grand temperance demonstration, held in connection with the enrollment of the members of the newly-founded Help-myself Society. It is truly astonishing to find that on this occasion 400 members were enrolled, and when we consider that the public meeting held in the evening was addressed by Dr Hooppell, rector of Byers Green; Rev W. H. Wetherill, Wesleyan superintendent; Rev A. J. Campbell, Primitive Methodist minister; Mr Moseley, of the Temperance Hall, Bishop Auckland; Mr Fred Harle, Page Bank; and Miss Earl, which lady inaugurated the society, it may well be said that Christian unity exists at Byers Green, and a power of good has been done here. After Whit-Monday's gathering, this lady evangelist will close her labours for the present in the east, and return to her mission at Stanhope, which will be put in charge of Miss Bulmer, whilst Miss Earl, wishful for rest, will pay a short visit home to London, returning in due course to Stanhope and the North.

A GREYHOUND DISPUTE AT WINLATON.

At the Newcastle County Court, on Friday—before His Honour Judge Hall, Q.C.—Isaiah Bagnall, foregeman, Winlaton, sued William Atkinson, Burt House, Winlaton, for the return of a greyhound. Mr E. Clark appeared for plaintiff, and T. Lambert, Gateshead, for defendant.—Mr Clark said his client claimed the return of a grayhound named Gun Cotton, by General Moore, out of Miss Agnes. His client had duly registered the dog under the name of Gun Cotton, but his father without his sanction at the time, though it afterwards had his sanction to a certain extent, allowed the defendant to have the greyhound for the purpose of running it, not under the name of Gun Cotton. That was only its classical name under which it ran hares. Afterwards it deteriorated and returned to rabbit coursing, and went under the name of Leather Plater and various other names, although the identity of the dog was the same. So far as they could understand, plaintiff's father allowed defendant to have the dog for the purpose of running, and when it did run his client was to stand in for certain shares—as much he believed as one-third. On more than one occasion that was done, but when afterwards his client wanted his dog back, and asked defendant for it, defendant said it was his dog, and did not even now admit that plaintiff had any right whatever to have shares in it. The question to try was who was the owner of the dog, and whether or not his client was the owner. He asked the return of the dog, which they would sooner have than £21, but if defendant did not return the dog they asked £21. He then called the plaintiff, who said he got two pups when they were about a month old, and one of them was Gun Cotton. In due course he registered it in the Stud Book, under the name of "Isaiah Bagnall, Esq., Winlaton-on-Tyne." (Laughter.) Defendant got the dog on December 15th 1887. He never gave Atkinson the dog, and never authorised his father or anyone else to give him it. The dog ran at Ealington Park once for a £5 stake and it won. He stood in 10s. Another time he stood in 6d. (Laughter.)—Mr Clark: You see these "esquires" have not very much money some times. (Laughter.)—By Mr Lambert: He registered the dog under the name of Gun Cotton. It was necessary to register a dog before it could run at hares.—Mr Lambert: And it lost every stake it entered?—Witness: It only ran once, and lost its first course, and, he might say, it was very unlucky. (Laughter.) He had not a license for the dog because as defendant got the dog he thought he could get the licence. There was no bargain that defendant should get the license. He was never disposed to execute the dog. (Laughter.) There was never a scaffold erected to put it out of pain—(laughter)—neither by him or his father or brother. It was not a fact that Atkinson was the means of the dog's life being spared.—Mr Clark: Atkinson is a sort of Home Secretary. (Laughter.)—Mr Lambert: Well, the effect was the same.—Richard W. Bagnall, father of the last witness, said that he let the defendant have the dog, on the understanding that he was to stand in for half the stake for defendant bringing it out as a rabbit dog, and that the dog was to be returned whenever they wanted it.—Being questioned about a witness on the other side named Atkinson, he said that he kept a menagerie of dogs and cats. He also waxed very eloquent over the greyhound General Moore, the father of Gun Cotton, which he had owned, and he recited to His Honour and the Bar its triumphs—This closed the case for the plaintiff.—For the defence, Henry Atkinson was called, and, in reply to Mr Lambert, said he was the proprietor of the "menagerie." (Laughter.) He then disposed to Richard Bagnall bringing the dog to him when a pup and saying he wanted it shot. There was a cat to destroy, and he said he had better shoot the cat first, as he wanted to be away.—Mr Lambert: The cat was executed?—Witness: Yes. (Laughter)—Mr Lambert: The cat died happy?—Witness: Yes. (Laughter.)—Mr Lambert: They were then prepared to shoot the dog?—Witness: I said, "Don't shoot that dog, Richard; you will never shoot a young dog like that!"—Mr Lambert: And the dog's life was spared?—Witness: Yes.—Mr Clark: But that was Richard not Isaiah.—Defendant was next called, and said that he had possession of Gun Cotton. He had christened it Leather Plater. They could change a rabbit dog's name any time. Plaintiff's father told him he might have the dog, and that if he did not take it, it would be "put-down." He did not send for the dog; it was sent to him. The dog was not worth £3, and if His Honour were against him in the action he would prefer giving back the dog to paying £21.—Other witnesses were called, and His Honour gave judgment for the plaintiff for £10 10s and costs, the judgment to be reduced to one shilling if the dog was returned within three days.

STOCK AUCTION MARTS.

Benfieldside.—Mr J. S. Murray had forward at this mart on Monday 17 fat cattle, 29 fat sheep, 12 lambs, 15 cows, 8 geld cows, 9 stirks, 12 pigs, and a miscellaneous lot of harness, chains, shovels, gripes, &c. Prices:—Fat cattle, £11 to £17 17s 6d; hoggs in wool, to 53s; top, Mr R. Dixon, Broad Oak; lambs, 30s to 34s; top, Mr R. Anderson, Mosswood; geld cows, to £10 10s; stirks, £5 5s to £6 10s; pigs, 39s to 76s; small pigs, 16s to 23s; potatoes, 3s 6d per bag. There was a large company of buyers present, and a good trade at an advance in prices. Mutton up to 11d per lb; beef 8s per stone.

Tow Law.—Mr Vickers had forward on Monday:—22 cows, which made up to £19 2s 6d; 12 fat cattle, up to £17 15s; 52 store cattle, up to £12 2s 6d; 35 fat sheep, to 50s 6d; 75 mule and black-faced ewes and lambs. There was a large attendance of buyers.

Chester-le-Street.—Mr J. Turnbull had forward 73 fat cattle, 19 grazing cattle, 4 new-calved cows, 3 in-calvers, 3 geld cows, 1 young bull, 103 fat sheep, 20 fat lambs, 29 ewes and their followers, 23 keeping hoggs, 5 pork pigs, 2 horses, 4 conveyances, harness, &c. There was a most numerous and influential attendance, and trade was brisk for all classes at full market rate. Heifers up to 8s 3d and 8s 6d per stone; bullocks, 7s 6d to 8s. Mutton also made good price, up to 9d per lb. Lambs sold dear. Prices obtained:—Fat bullocks, from £13 to £22, top, Mr Potts, Harbour House, and R. Darling, Plawsworth; fat heifers, from £12 to £19 16s, top Earl of Durham; fat cows from £11 to £17 15s, top, R. Wilkinson, Little Chilton. Grazing cattle from £7 7s 6d to £11 15s, top, Mr Pyburn, High Eighton; bullocks, from £7 7s 6d to £15 15s, top, Mr Ramshaw, Beamish; new calved cows to £16, top, H. Henderson, Pelton Fell; incalvers to £14 10s, top, Mr Reed, Stanley. Fat sheep: Hoggs from 45s to 57s 6d, top, Mr Potts; ewes, 50s, top, Mr Liddell, Chilton: and Mr Fail, Croxdale; fat lambs to 43s, top, Birtley Iron Co.; ewes and lambs to 54s 6d per couple; keeping hoggs to 28s 6d. Horses to £12 10s for a two-year old filly by The Trimmer.

Holloway's Pills.—Factory Operatives and Workers in Manufacturies.—The remarkable remedies which have been discovered and perfected by Thomas Holloway, and which have for forty years been successfully used in every quarter of the glove, are especially useful in all the manifold ailments which afflict those who by reason of their occupations are confined for years, or all their lives in crowded buildings and workshops. Holloway's Pills and Ointment are associated remedies, the former restoring the vital powers when diminished, and always acting as an efficient blood purifier, whilst the latter relieves local maladies, checks inflammation, and acts as a cleansing and healing agent in cases of bad legs, bad breasts, ulcers, and unhealthy sores of all kinds.

THE SEE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE.

RESIGNATION OF BISHOP O'CALLAGHAN.

APPOINTMENT OF CANON WILKINSON, OF CROOK.

The *Newcastle Chronicle* recently gave publicity to a report that the Right Rev Dr O'Callaghan was on his way to Rome to tender his resignation of the Bishopric of Hexham and Newcastle. The reasons which had induced Dr O'Callaghan to retire were not stated, but it has for sometime been known that his lordship has been in bad health, and that he found the climate of Northumberland unsuited to one who had so long been a resident in the more favourable situated Eternal City. The report alluded to proves to be correct, for the same journal announced on Wednesday on the highest authority, the Very Rev Canon T. W. Wilkinson, Vicar-General, of Thistleflat House, Crook, had been appointed Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle in succession to Dr O'Callaghan, his appointment dating from the 18th inst.

The newly-appointed bishop was born at Harperley Park, Wolsingham, and is about 66 years of age. His father was a county magistrate and chairman on the bench at Bishop Auckland. Another brother, Rev Edward Abercombie Wilkinson, M.A., who belongs to the Church of England, resides at Tudhoe Vicarage. He has also has a brother-in-law, Rev Arthur Duncombe Shafto, M.A., Rector of Brancepeth. The Bishop-elect was himself brought up in the Church of England, and was preparing to take orders, but he joined the Roman Catholic Church, at Leeds, along with some other Anglicans. This was about the year 1847, and he was ordained a priest of the Catholic Church on the 23rd December, 1848, by the late Cardinal Wiseman, at St. Mary's College, Oscott, near Birmingham. Previous to this, and on becoming a Catholic, he had been invited to the college by Cardinal Wiseman, and there he pursued his studies in theology. On being ordained, he was appointed to a misison at Wolsingham, not far from his father's residence, where he built a Church. He was subsequently translated to the neighbouring mission at Crook, where he remained for a considerable time. About fifteen years ago he relinquished his charge for a period, owing to delicate health. He worked so hard, and with so much extraordinary zeal and success, amongst a poor mining population, labouring night and day without ceasing on their behalf, that this mission came to be looked upon as a model mission of the county; and his old flock still look back with gratitude and affection to the years when he ministered amongst them. Crook is within easy distance of Ushaw College, and the young students sometimes visited the Church, and learned to look up to him as a model of a good priest. Owing to his delicate health, he retired to Thistleflat House, and lived on an estate left him by his father, remaining there until, fully restored, he was again enabled to resume active work. By this time he had become well-known in the county of Durham as an earnest and eloquent preacher. As time progressed, he advanced more and more in the esteem, not only of the people, but of the clergy, so much so that it is stated that his name was amongst the first three sent up to Rome by the Chapter, along with Provost Consitt, when the death of Bishop Chadwick took place. On the death of Provost Consitt, he was elected Vicar-Capitular by the Chapter, and on the appointment of Dr O'Callaghan, he was appointed Vicar-General of the diocese, and Provost of the Cathedral Chapter. He so entirely enjoyed the confidence of the retiring bishop, and also of the clergy, that, as a mark of their regard, he was, last August, elected as First Superior of the Northern Brothers' Fund, which was constituted for the relief and support of the sick and aged clergy of the four northern counties. There are three Superiors; the second being Canon Henry Wrenuall, Stella; and the third, Canon John A. Cooke, Hexham. The late Provost Consitt had been First Superior, and Canon Wilkinson was elected as his successor.

It will be in the remembrance of many that the bishop-elect successfully conducted a pilgrimage to Holy Island last summer, and sang high mass in the ruins of the old abbey church. In a very fine photograph of the ceremony in the Lindisfarne ruins, there is to be seen standing amongst the group a Papal Zouave, dressed in his uniform, one of the survivors of the small band of zouaves who were sent from Crook by Canon Wilkinson to join the Pope's army in defending Rome from the attack of the Piedmontese army. It will not be without interest to state that in 1867 Canon Wilkinson visited Rome in company with Bishop Chadwick, Bishop Bewick, and Canon Waterton. He was appointed a member of the Chapter by the late Bishop Hogarth, and with the exception of Canon Thompson and Canon Curry, he is now the oldest member of the Chapter. At that time he was serving the mission at Crook. So highly was he regarded that on the appointment of Dr O'Callaghan he resided with him as his adviser at Tynemouth. About two years ago, the Bishop-Elect had a serious illness at Ushaw College, and for a time serious apprehensions were felt; but his lordship eventually recovered, and is at present in the enjoyment of fairly good health.

Canon Wilkinson's election will, no doubt, be welcomed by both clergy and laity, and also by the general public of Newcastle, inasmuch as his father was once Recorder of Newcastle, and was elected a Freeman. The new bishop also enjoys the privilege of being a Freeman, as do also his brothers. Canon Wilkinson is the fifth bishop who has been appointed to the diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. The Latin title for the See is *Hagulstadensis et Novocastrensis.*

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.)*

BRITONS NEVER SHALL BE SLAVES!

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—The author of the heart-stirring song, or whatever you may like to call it, bearing the above title, must have had more faith in human nature than your humble servant. Talk about slavery, it is rampant amongst certain classes in Consett. Some time ago, you are aware, an agitation was got up among shop assistants (especially drapers) for shorter hours; and happy we were to come off victorious. The arrangements then come to were to close every Wednesday punctually at 12 o'clock, noon; pay Fridays at 8 p.m.; every Saturday at 10 p.m.; and all other nights at 7. The scene is changed—How? Well, sir, we have got new blood injected into old veins, and the marvellous result of this scientific experiment to the "lads and lasses" is the loss of the privilege of early closing, in every case, so far, with the exception of the Wednesday half-holiday, and I hear that even this boon is in jeopardy, through the wonderful effect of this peculiar injection. Blackhill was also smitten with the same disease as Consett, and they got cured by a very simple remedy, and, so far as I know, I see no signs of the disease returning, and I am further persuaded that our Blackhill friends are as fond of "Alexander the Coppersmith" as any other people under the sun; still they can afford to close at seven o'clock on ordinary days, and at ten o'clock on Saturday. Now, Mr Editor, I go further, and take the large cities of Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, and other large towns in Scotland; you will admit that they will bear favourable comparison with the city of Consett (?) any day. It is said "Scotchmen are fond of the bawbees," still many establishments close on Saturdays at 1 and 2 o'clock. Surely, then, our merchant princes in Consett ought to be satisfied if their assistants work at a stretch 14 hours on a Saturday, or on an average of 72 hours every week. During all these hours of slavery, what recreation and advancement assistants are expected to enjoy can best be explained by those who apply the screw. Previous to the interment of the last agitation (unfortunately arisen again), our good friend, "Incedo" stated that what he wanted would have to come from within. It did so, and now the very thing we don't want has come from without. "Incedo" admires the fair sex, and I can assure him scores of beating hearts are waiting for his opinion and advice anent this encroachment of their rights. The masters can't possibly suffer by granting this small concession; on the other hand they cannot expect assistants to have cheery faces and never-ending energy when their noses are kept at the grind-stone well-nigh into the small hours of the morning. In closing, I apologise for using so much of your valuable space but allow me to thank all those tradesmen who have nobly fulfilled their promises, until forced by unforeseen circumstances to withdraw them—I trust only for a short time.—Yours &c.,

Bailechail.

LICENSING FACTS.

To the Editor of the Consett Guardian.

Sir,—The popular delusion—that a publican would receive as a matter of course a renewal of his license so long as the house was properly conducted, and that magistrates have not refused to renew a liquor licence because there was no longer any public necessity for it, but only when the holder had committed some breach of the law—is so widespread, and arguments, for compensation to superfluous publicans are so frequently founded upon this false assumption, that the presentation of a few *facts* known by practical experience or recorded in blue and other books will be useful in dispelling the general misapprehension.

Refusals to renew the licenses of old established public-houses are not nearly so rare as is sometimes stated, by those who have given little attention to the subject, for actually both law and custom are against the contention of a publican having any right to demand a renewal of his license. Whole columns of declarations by barristers, statemen, magistrates' clerks, licensing justices and the judges of the superior law courts might be cited to the effect that there is no vested interest in or right to a license, but the latest must suffice that on the highest legal authority in England, Lord Chief Justice Coleridge, who said on April 25th, 1883: "There is no vested interest in the trade. It has been tested again and again and laid down that the discretion of the licensing justices is absolute. Magistrates have the absolute power in cutting short publicans' interests." Facts confirm this learned dictum. I have myself used a reading-room which was formerly the bar of one of the five public-houses in a southern village. The license of this house was, like another house in the same place—refused renewal by the justices, without any conviction of the holder, simply because in the opinion of the bench, there were too many public-houses for the legitimate needs of the inhabitants. As I write, a photograph lies before me of another licensed house with its sign painted out because the magistrates, after giving the holder *a year's notice* that they should not again re-license the house, refused on the next licensing day to renew the annual permit.

In the year 1871 five licenses (3 full public-house licenses and 2 beer-houses) were refused renewal by the Leominster Bench. No misconduct was alleged against any of them. There was no appeal and the license was not restored. In the year 1883 a magistrate wrote me: "In our District the Clerk to the Justices tells us that we have no discretion in the grant of renewals of publicans licenses and the majority of the Bench believe him, in spite of what the superior Courts have ruled, or I may say, of what you and others may write, and the determining authority being thus led on by the nose, nothing is done, although nobody denies that the public-houses are far too numerous." Long standing licenses were refused renewal by this very bench at the 1884 Brewster Sessions, amongst them being that attached to the oldest public-house in the district.

REDUCTIONS IN LICENSES ON PUBLIC GROUNDS.

The liquor licenses at Bristol were reduced by 111 in two years,—from 1,350 in 1882 to 1,239 in 1884. Many of these licenses were quite free from endorsements, the grounds of objection being "house not wanted." Appeals to the Quarter Sessions only brought confirmation of the refusal to renew. In the Knutsford district the licenses were 40 less one year than in its predecessor, and at Newcastle-upon-Tyne there were 103 fewer licenses in three years. A public-house bearing a mortgage of 200 years duration was, with others on the action of a local ratepayer, refused renewal by the Dorsetshire Justices a year or two ago, and the refusal sustained by the Quarter Sessions. In the year 1884 the Magistrates of Derby in the exercise of a general and absolute descretion refused again to re-license a house which had been occupied for 100 years by wine-merchants with a full public-house license. The Court of Queen's Bench held the discretion of the Magistrates to be absolute, and declared that "the notion that there was a property of the landlord in the license was not sound law." In the same year the Dorsetshire Justices refused the renewal of two public-house licenses on the grounds that "the house was not required for the wants of the public," the neighbours having objected to one as a "nuisance." About the same time, amongst many other licenses refused renewal, were 5 "full" licenses at Llandudno because "the house not required;" at Aberdare, 10 "full" licenses, 2 beer-houses; Bradford, 38 "off" licenses, 1 innkeepers, 3 beer-houses—grounds "the necessity for the house no longer existed;" Crewe, "Dog and Partridge Inn," "Golden Lion Inn"—ground of opposition, "the license not required," the Bench saying "the objection was not to the man or the house, that was very narrow grounds to take;" Llanelly, 4 "full" licenses; Merthyr, 12 licenses, some because "house not wanted," "public accommodation supplied without them;" Bridlington, 2 hotels, 1 "off," &c. The notice of objection which caused these refusals of renewal was sometimes served by the police, and sometimes by a rival publican, or by a local ratepayer.

LICENSES WITHDRAWN WITHOUT COMPENSATION.

The withdrawal of "off" licenses was quite common in 1882, the numbers being reduced all over the country. Magistrates in some districts have carried their controlling authority up to the point of *total prohibition of all such licenses.* Of 384 "off" licenses refused renewal for no offence by the holder, but because they were no longer thought to be necessary, 84 were situated in Yorkshire, 50 in Lancashire, 11 in Surrey, 8 at Warrington, 14 at Bradford, 35 at Over Darwen, 5 at Birmingham, 21 at Manchester, 16 at Bristol, 24 at Sunderland, &c. In no case was compensation paid. The law gives Magistrates exactly the same absolute power to refuse "full" licenses as "off" beer licenses, yet by the provisions of the proposed County Government Bill, if the new authority were in the public interest to refuse to renew 384 "full" licenses the holders would be entitled to claim as a first charge upon the rates a sum,—estimating the value of the licenses at far below that officially claimed by the publicans—exceeding half a million sterling. The abolition of these 384 licenses cost the ratepayers nothing.

REFUSAL TO RE-LICENSE OLD PUBLIC-HOUSES.

3,570 old established victuallers, beer-house, and "off" licenses were refused renewal between the years 1875-82, in addition to 15,080 new applicants. Of these old licenses, 801 were victuallers, 1957 beer and wine houses, and 812 other beer licenses, taken from every county in England, and many without any endorsement. The location and number of these licenses (excluding those under a total of 6) are abstracted from an extensive and voluminous Government Return as follows:—Lancashire, 222; Staffordshire, 144; Warwickshire, 46; Surrey, 160; Beds., 26; Cheshire, 57; Cumberland, 42; Berks, 16; Bucks, 11; Cornwall, 12; Derbyshire, 19; Devon, 39; Dorset, 24; Durham, 39; Essex, 11; Gloucester, 48; Herts, 25; Leicestershire, 17; Lincoln, 40; Middlesex, 17; Monmouth, 22; Norfolk, 13; Notts, 9; Northumberland, 15; Oxon., 13; Somerset, 32; Hants, 7; Wilts, 16; Suffolk, 7; Worcestershire, 14; Anglesea, 6; Brecon, 32; Cardigan, 9; Carmarthen, 20; Denbigh, 12; Montgomery, 8; Glamorgan, 60; Salop, 53; Kent, 82; Yorkshire, 288; and in Boroughs:—Liverpool, 263; Bristol, 315; Birmingham, 18; Wolverhampton, 28; Dudley, 27; Salford, 56; Sunderland, 61; Luton, 7; Reading, 10; Birkenhead, 17; Carlisle, 15; Gateshead, 6; Stockton-on-Tees, 11; Gloucester, 12; St. Albans, 8; Dover, 8; Margate, 18; Bolton, 9; Over Darwen, 35; Preston, 19; Warrington, 8; Newport, 21; Norwich, 26; Northampton, 10; Newcastle-on-Tyne, 86; Tynemouth, 16; Portsmouth, 18; Longton, 25; Bradford 33; Kidderminster, 12; Hull, 6; Middlesbro', 8; Dewsbury, 14; Sheffield, 29; Aberystwith, 6; Carnarvon, 6; Leeds, 7; Cardiff, 18; Swansea, 17; Ashton-under-Lyne, 86; London City, 105; and Manchester, 200. Similar reductions might now be made anywhere without loading the compensation, for the absolute right of magistrates to refuse to renew the license of any house that they may think unnecessary, although there may be no complaint against the holder, has been recently again confirmed by two Judges in the High Court.

A later Government Return shews that there was no less than 1182 fewer public-houses and beer-houses in 1885 than in 1884. This diminution has been going on since at a similar rate and at no cost to the ratepayers, and presumably would continue to do so, did not Mr Ritchie's Bill by interposing the brand new block of compensation stop this steady reduction in the number of what a Conservative Lord High Chancellor once styled "traps and pitfalls for the working classes."—Yours, &c.,

W. C. Amery.

287, Stradford Road, Birmingham.

At the Gateshead County Police Court on Tuesdoy, *John Higgins* (23) was charged with committing an outrage upon Mary Ann Keefe, aged 15 years.—The complainant said she resided at Burnopfield, and was at Marley Hill sports on Saturday last. She was about to proceed home shortly after ten p.m., when the prisoner said he was going as far as the Wood Houses between Marley Hill and Burnopfield, near which place prisoner seized hold of her, and her screams brought assistance.—The prisoner, who said he knew nothing about it, was committed for trial at Durham Assizes.

A HOLIDAY RAMBLE IN UPPER WEARDALE.

No sooner does the icy grasp of winter on outward nature show signs of relaxing, as if in at least so far as this year is concerned—tardy response to the Omnipotent command, "Let there be life"—a mandate which is waited by the notes of the feathered warblers as they soar upwards, transmitting it to the earth in harmonious, heavenly strain, alas! possibly to be absorbed by the buzzer or bells of our public works calling the toilers to labour, or the grumbling of our better halves as the morning sunshine reveals some stray threads of a spider's web in some long-shaded nook of the room, the dirt spots on the wall paper, and the soiled window hangings—then, maybe, our eye by some curious fascination goes in quest of the column of the morning paper where we may find the alphabetical lists of resorts to recuperate our physical energies, and where we may perchance ruralise in the bosom of peaceful nature, almost inclined to regard as a fable the words written in the Book, "that the earth was cursed because of man's transgression." Thanks to condemnatory whisperings of the suitability of Weardale for the spending of a holiday—the inhabitants as yet not having fallen into the conventional and profitable method of advertising its adaptability—we made up our minds to go thither, and arrived—no matter from where. The visitor is compelled to alight at Stanhope—the market town terminus of Weardale proper—and mount the happily obsolete locomotion of a century ago—a lumbering stage-coach, on which the sitting is in tiers across the front, instead of a modern 'bus with seats around the top—an antiquated mode of transit, but with excellent cattle and a genial little fellow to handle the ribbons. His chubby florid countenance belies not his character. He proved an excellent guide as we make the trip up—well, not in a baloon, although the temporary resting-place to which we soar is well into four figures of feet in altitude—to Mr Pentland's Midlothian House, Ireshope Burn. Traces of the meteorological ordeal and wintry rigours to which the dalesfolk have been subjected are yet visible in the sheltered crevices of the hills which flank our track, whose at present bleak and sterile contours will in a month or two hence be aglow with the purple heather. The seasonable axiom that "May is a beautiful month" may likely be verified yet, but the vision fails to descry on the lamb-studded braesides the flowers for which the month of May is famed. Here and there the cowslip and daisy are trying to raise their heads midst the yet scant verdure, suggestive as it is of the tenants of the soil struggling in penury with the storms of fate, while the primroses peer forth as if ashamed of their symbolic identity with the butterfly dames of Church and Toryism in a valley where the fetterings of the former have been snapped and supplanted by the zealous propaganda of Christian Nonconformity; while the musty political fabric has tottered and fallen 'neath the clang of robust Liberalism on the anvil of public opinion, characteristics which tend to instal the dalesmen in the social elevation they occupy wherever their lot is cast. "It's a bonny valley this, sir," from a fellow-passenger recalls me from my reverie, and I find the speaker has travelled from the Scottish Metropolis—the modern Athens—to officiate at some religious services up the dalewards. He continues after my accentuation of his remark—deploring the want of a railway, and severely censuring those who are responsible for the non-development, so to speak, of its mineral wealth and facilities for the public and the dalespeople to interchange the currency of coin for the precious health-exhilarating influences which Weardale is capable of communicating. Its exemption from smoke of any kind, or other deleterious matter in the atmosphere, made up of the aroma of the heather and the sweeping western breeze of the Solway and Pennine ranges which are to be seen from its crestal is a recipe worth all in the *Materia Medica*. We find that our quarters before mentioned are situated at the focus of a quartette of diverging roads, and are large, well-aired apartments as one could wish for, with a homely welcome. We settle down to wander at will by the rippling brook behind where the trout dart with lightning-like rapidity to shelter, as if we were armed with the proverbial salt to put on their tails, and the heathery woodland on the banks echo the fleeting songsters' evening chants. Experiences amongst the inhabitants go to bear out the attributes before mentioned—the sanctity of the Sabbath dawns in heavenly mood as the adults walk with pious mien to the several chapels of the Wesleyan and Primitive societies, from which have sprung some of the brightest oratorical ornaments of the pulpit, and towards which the bairns may be seen tripping down the hill-sides from the homesteads, to which the stranger is kindly invited during the week-day rambles, to chat over the fire, and see the beautiful geological specimens gathered from a lifetime's labours in the mysteries of the earth, amidst which one's conception is baffled. Respectfully and warmly though these people speak of the *regime* of the lords of the manors' (the Ecclesiastical Commissioners) agent, Mr Wm. Minter, Darlington, and his henchman, Mr Wm. H. Featherstone, the lack is felt of the ordinary rests to be found in growing health resorts, viz., a few seats by the water sides and in the woods; and I trust mention of this may have the desired effect. It is needless to here record our journeyings to the giant of the hills, Killhope, where you may place portions of your anatomical combination in three counties, the top of which is greeted by varied landscape, which the daily little excursions to High Force and other localities of the neighbourhood rendered more enjoyable by the calm, soothing knowledge that you are not being "bled" in your resources, but supplied with the necessaries of life at the same rate by the farmers and tradesmen as the poorest resident in the valley, a thing which is truly phenomenal in these days of extortion.—*Northern Echo.*

On Sunday, the members of the 5th D.R.V. attended divine service in St. Paul's Church, Winlaton. The service was choral, and the sermon was preached by the curate, Rev Mr Wykes. Taking for his text verses 11, 12, and 13 of Psalm lxvii., the rev gentleman alluded to the insignificance of our forces unless God was on our side; but with His help our enemies were as chaff before the wind. For the Lord is our God, He will be our guide even unto death.—In the evening, service commenced with the Processional Hymn, "Onward, Christian soldiers," and the sermon was preached by the esteemed rector, Rev Mr Jones. The congregations were very good. The collections, which amounted to £4 are to be appropriated to the Bishop of Durham's Diocesan Fund.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame." *Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets, by Grocers, labelled—"JAMES EPPS & Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Afternoon Chocolate Essence. C 210

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

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

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

Cricket.

FIXTURES.

May 25.—(Friday)—Medomsley v Durham City 2nd, at Medomsley.
" 26.—Consett and District 1st v Hexham, at Consett.
" 26.—Christ Church, Gateshead, v Medomsley 2nd, at Medomsley.
" 26.—Newburn 2nd v Leadgate 2nd, at Newburn.
" 26.—Leadgate v Burnhope, at Burnhope.
" 26.—West Stanley v Marley Hill, at Marley Hill.
" 26.—Craghead 1st v Leadgate 1st, at Leadgate.
" 26.—Medomsley 1st v Tanfield, at Tanfield.
" 26.—Philadelphia 2nd v Chester-le-Street, at Chester-le-Street.
" 26.—Crook v Cornsay Colliery, at Cornsay Colliery.
" 26.—Walker v Ryton, at Ryton.
" 26.—Ovingham—Cup Tie (first round).
" 26.—Burnopfield v Blaydon, at Burnopfield.
" 26.—Burnopfield v Y.M.C.A., at Burnopfield.
" 26.—Greenside v Blaydon, at Greenside.
" 26.—Greenside 2nd v Rendel 2nd, at Ryton Willows.
" 26.—Westwood v Dipton, at Dipton.
" 30.—(Wednesday) — Hendon v Blaydon, at Hendon.

IMPORTANT TO CRICKETERS.—A useful series of scoring books (printed in a superior style and on good paper) have just been published in cheap and handy form, containing the recognised LAWS OF CRICKET as arranged and passed by the Marylebone Club. Any of the following can be recommended:—No 1, size 4¼ by 7 inches, in strong binding, for the pocket, price 1s, post free, 1s 2d; No 2, a smaller edition of the above, 4 by 5 inches, 6d, post free, 7d; No 3 (for the club), 9½ by 12 inches, with flexible binding, price 1s, post free, 1s 3d. To be had at Robert Jackson's, *Guardian* Office, 59, Front Street, and 9 and 10, Newmarket Street, Consett.

DELAVAL ROYAL OAK v SPEN BUTE.—Played at Delaval, and resulted in a win for Delaval. Score:—Spen Bute, 29; Delaval Royal Oak, 78.

GREENSIDE 2ND v WALKER Y.M.C.A.—Played at Greenside in splendid weather, and resulted in a victory for the home team. G. Hall (19) and J. Armstrong (19) batted well for Greenside. Score:—Greenside, 58; Walker Y.M.C.A., 32.

PRUDHOE HALL v NEWCASTLE WORKING MEN'S CLUB.—Played on Whit-Monday at Prudhoe, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team by 79 runs and three wickets to fall. Score—Prudhoe Hall, 127; Newcastle Working Men's Club, 48.

GLOUCESTER v GREENSIDE.—Played at Newcastle, and resulted in a win for the Gloucester. Score:—Greenside, 46; Gloucester, 137.

USHAW MOOR 2ND v CROOK 2ND.—Played at Ushaw Moor. Score:—Crook, R. Hilton, 13; T. Furness, 36; total, 70. Ushaw Moor, 16.

CROOK v USHAW MOOR.—Played at Crook. Score:—Ushaw Moor, J. Lowes, 17; total, 39. Crook, T. Wilson, 59; G. Hare, 12; E. Milburn, 10; total, 11[illegible]

CORBRIDGE v RYTON.—Played at Corbridge, and resulted in a win for the home team by 29 runs. Rev E. S. Richardson and M. Rogers batted well for Corbridge, while Mr Smith and Richardson bowled well, the former taking five wickets for five runs, and the latter four for ten. Score:—Corbridge, 52; Ryton, 23.

CORBRIDGE v JAMES COXON AND CO.—Played on Whit-Monday at Corbridge, the visitors winning by 13 runs. Score:—Corbridge, 42; James Coxon and Co., 53.

OVINGHAM v BENWELL HILL.—Played at Ovingham on Whit-Monday, victory resting with the home team by 18 runs. For Ovingham, L. Coulson (14 not out), W. Forster (13), and Rev C. E. Blackett-Ord (10), batted in good form. Score:—Ovingham, 61; Benwell Hill, 43.

SOUTH HETTON v CORNSAY COLLIERY.—Played at South Hetton on Whit-Monday, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. No stand was made against the excellent bowling of W. Harding, who took seven wickets for six runs. Score:—South Hetton, 33; Cornsay, 57.

LITTLEBURN v CORNSAY COLLIERY.—Played at Littleburn on Saturday, and resulted in a victory for the visitors. W. Harding and J. Slater bowled splendidly, the former taking five wickets for five runs and the latter five for 20. J. Willans bowled well for the home team. Score:—Cornsay, 48; Littleburn, 27.

BURNOPFIELD CLUB.—In consequence of the Y.M.C.A. being unable to fulfil an engagement, the Burnopfield Cricket Club would like to arrange for a game on their own ground with a first team for Saturday, May 26th, and would play return (if desired) on June 16th or August 18th.—Secretary, W. Charlton, Burnopfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

COMPETITION AT WITTON GILBERT.—The competition promoted by Mr Wm. Hunter, Three Tuns Hotel, was resumed in Mr Turnbull's field. Results:—First round (continued)—Edmondsley 2nd beat Kimblesworth 1st. This concluded the first round. Second round—Langley Park 1st beat Bearpark 1st, Edmondsley 1st beat Langley Park 2nd. The competition will be concluded on Saturday next. Cornsay 1st play Edmondsley 2nd, when three clubs will be left in for the final round.

MEDOMSLEY v WHITE ROSE.

Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in an easy victory for the visitors by 63 runs and six wickets. Dodds (36 not out), Kirton (11 not out), Stephenson (16), and M'Ammond (11) batted well for the winners. Dodds also bowled well, taking six wickets at a cost of two runs. Score:—

MEDOMSLEY.		WHITE ROSE.	
Cookson b Wright	0	M'Ammond c Cookson b Barron	11
Hornsby b Dodds	0	Stephenson b Barron	16
Cant b Wright	0	J. Davison c and b Barron	0
Thompson b Dodds	5	Dodds not out	36
Snowdon b Dodds	0	Kirton not out	11
Beadling b Wright	2	Dodds b Barron	1
Hunter b Wright	0	G. Davison Wright Armstrong Hunter Richardson	To bat.
Armstrong b Dodds	0		
Wilson b Dodds	0		
Barron not out	4		
Thompson b Dodds	0		
Extras	7	Extras	6
Total	18	Total	81

CHESTER-LE-STREET v MR J. C. HARRISON'S (PHILADELPHIA) SCRATCH TEAM

The newly-formed club at Chester-le-Street began their season on Whit-Monday, on the home ground, when they were visited by Mr Harrison's team, a native of Chester-le-Street, where he received his first lessons and early training in the game during the days when Chester-le-Street stood in front rank of local cricket. An excellent wicket was pitched at twelve o'clock, the home team sending in their captain, the veteran Murdock, and their youngest player to oppose the deliveries of the visitors' captain and Lee. Murdock cut Lee's first ball for a single; but the last ball of the over disposed of Witherspoon, who retired without contributing. The bowling was beyond the power of the Chester-le-Street batsmen, none of whom made a stand with the exception of W. Middleton, who carried his bat out for a well-played 30, never having made a mistake or given a chance. The visitors, after having partaken of luncheon at Mr Harry Lamb's, King's Head Inn, went in and compiled 99. At the second attempt, Chester-le-Street made 44, thus being well beaten by an innings and four runs. The fielding of the visiting team ought to be a lesson for Chester-le-Street. Score:—

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
T. Murdock run out	3	b Hind	2
J. Witherspoon b Lee	0	hit wicket	0
T. Middleton b Lee	0	b R. Harrison	7
Rev A. H. Hunter b T. Harrison	0	b Young	0
W. Middleton not out	30	b Young	2
D. Crichton b Lee	0	c Sharp b Young	3
G. Kerrick-Walker b J. C. Harrison	4	b Sharp	7
R. Armstrong c R. Harrison b Harrison	6	b Sharp	9
J. Bewick b Young	1	not out	4
G. Halliday b Lee	2	b W. Laidler	2
J. Brown b Young	1	b Young	3
Extras	4	Extras	5
Total	51	Total	44

PHILADELPHIA.

W. Lee b W. Middleton	21
J. Laidler b Kerrich-Walker	10
J. Young b W. Middleton	34
J. Stafford c and b Crichton	0
T. Harrison run out	2
W. Laidler c Witherspoon b Crichton	4
J. C. Harrison b W. Middleton	5
R. Harrison b W. Middleton	12
J. Sharp b Bewick	1
W. Giles not out	0
T. Hind b Bewick	0
Extras	10
Total	99

WHICKHAM v MARLEY HILL.

Played at Whickham, and resulted in a win for the home team. Score:—

WHICKHAM.		MARLEY HILL.	
H. W. Hawks c Hutchinson	4	H. Joice run out	0
G. Copland run out	3	T. Robson b T. Atkinson	3
W. Thynn c Burn	6	J. Hutchinson b T. Atkinson	0
T. Atkinson b T. M. Burn	5	G. Finlay c and b T. Atkinson	1
T. B. Mowbray c J. Potts	4	W. Douglas b Mowbray	0
W. Burn c Saunders	3	T. M. Burn b Atkins'n	0
R. Atkinson c Hutchinson	1	W. Lee c Mordue	0
R. Mordue b T. M. Burn	3	J. Potts b Atkinson	2
J. W. Spoor c Douglas	0	E. Saunders c Hawks	5
G. H. Highton b T. M. Burn	1	E. Reed b Atkinson	2
T. A. Snaith not out	0	R. Clark not out	0
Extras	5	Extras	3
Total	35	Total	16

CONSETT AND DISTRICT 1ST v NORTH-EASTERN.

Played on the Consett ground on Saturday, and resulted in a draw, in favour of the home team. Consett played exceedingly well, notwithstanding the fact that they were without the services of some of their best men. Score:—

CONSETT.		NORTH-EASTERN.	
I. Richards b Oliver	20	T. Strafford c Richardson	9
W. Turnbull c Smith	15	W. Muir c I. Richards	6
W. A. Leadbitter b Oliver	22	T. Melvin b Richards	0
J. Siddell c Melvin b Oliver	6	A. Joy run out	7
F. Richardson st Haddock	6	J. Hope not out	0
P. Gibson b Smith	21		
Dr Short b Adderdale	9		
W. Foggon run out	0		
R. Miller not out	14		
M. Williamson b Melvin	5		
J. R. Richards b Grant	15		
Extras	9	Extras	2
Total	141	Total	24

MEDOMSLEY v BURNHOPE.

Played at Medomsley on Whit-Monday, and resulted in a win for Medomsley. Messrs Dales and Walton, for the home team, and Robinson, for the visitors, batted well. Score:—

MEDOMSLEY.		BURNHOPE.	
A. Little b Gair	0	J. Robinson b Little	24
G. Walton b Gair	19	A. Heckels b Campbell	11
W. Palliaser b Gair	0	H. Knowles b Campbell	1
T. Murphy b Robson	2	W. Dyson b Campbell	3
T. D. Dales c Heckels	24	J. Gair run out	3
M. Milburn b Gair	0	G. Heslop run out	0
G. E. Milburn b Robinson	8	J. Lawson b Campbell	0
R. Campbell b Dyson	0	J. Henderson b Campbell	0
F. Robinson b Robinson	4	M. Johnson b Campbell	6
W. E. Charlton b Robinson	7	G. Turten run out	3
R. Cant not out	0	T. Burnett not out	0
Extras	14	Extras	10
Total	78	Total	61

CRAGHEAD v BURNHOPE.

Played at Craghead on Saturday, and resulted in a win for the home team by 37 runs. J. Robinson and A. Heckels played well for the visitors, while J. Wood both bowled and batted well for the home team, and was ably assisted by Messrs C. Cummings, G. March, and W. Maughan. Score:—

CRAGHEAD.		BURNHOPE.	
C. Cummings c Jameson	17	J. Robinson c Young	19
W. Reay c Gair	0	A. Heckels c Young	17
W. Maughan c J. Robinson	14	T. Robinson b Wood	0
J. Wood not out	27	W. Dyson b Wood	0
H. Young b Gair	0	J. Gair b Wood	1
G. March b H. Burnett	16	J. Lawson c Reay	1
J. Hunter st H. Burnett	1	T. Burnett b Wood	3
N. Musgrove b J. Robinson	7	J. Mason c Cummings	2
J. Johnson b J. Robinson	0	H. Burnett not out	1
G. A. Wright b J. Robinson	0	R. Swanston b Young	1
J. Prohoe b Gair	1	T. Jameson b Wood	4
Extras	13	Extras	4
Total	96	Total	59

WESTWOOD v LEADGATE.

Played at Westwood on Saturday, and resulted in favour of the home team by 14 runs. Score:—

WESTWOOD.		LEADGATE.	
J. Brown run out	4	J. Burnip l b w b Weston	2
T. Bell b Lumley	0	J. Power l b w b Weston	0
T. Simpson b Brears	2	A. Burnip b Weston	1
W. Simpson b Brears	3	W. Brears c Mason b Weston	0
J. Brodie b Lumley	1	S. Nattrass run out	0
D. Clark b Brears	5	B. Lumley c T. Simpson b Mason	0
W. Mason b Brears	1	P. McNastrie b Mason	2
C. Lonsdale c Burnip b Brears	4	R. Westhorpe b West'n	0
W. Weir c Burnip b Brears	0	J. Henderson c Mason b Walton	7
W. Weston c Westh'pe b Brears	5	J. Thompson b Mason	6
W. Walton not out	0	J. Usher not out	0
Extras	11	Extras	4
Total	36	Total	22

TRIMDON (DEAF HILL) v WINGATE.

The return match between these two clubs was played at Wingate on Saturday, and resulted in an easy victory for the Deaf Hill team, who played and fielded with nine men only. W. C. Murray was very successful in his bowling, obtaining in one over four wickets in four successive balls. J. Kirtley also obtained three wickets in one over, whilst J. Duddrell bowled exceedingly well for Wingate. Score:—

DEAF HILL.		WINGATE.	
A. Vasey b Duddrell	8	M. Murton b Kirtley	0
J. Kirtley not out	13	G. Bayles c Atchinson b Kirtley	2
A. Dixon b Bartle	3	G. Watson b Murray	4
W. Matthews b Duddrell	1	J. Stephens b Murray	0
W. C. Murray b Duddrell	2	J. Jones c Vasey b Murray	3
A. Atchinson b Duddrell	0	J. W. Hills c Smith b Kirtley	3
T. Dixon b Duddrell	6	H. Gust b Murray	0
T. D. Smith c Watson b Duddrell	10	R. Wilkinson b Murr'y	0
J. Carter b Duddrell	0	J. Bartle c and b Murray	1
		A. Spence b Murray	0
		J. Duddrell not out	0
Extras	8	Extras	5
Total	51	Total	18

MEDOMSLEY 1ST v BANKFOOT (CROOK).

Played at Medomsley, and resulted in a draw. Score:—

MEDOMSLEY.		BANKFOOT.	
G. Walton b J. Woodhall	0	D. Johnson l b w b Little	0
A. Little b Blair	22	W. Smith not out	12
T. D. Dales b W. Smith	2	J. Woodhall b G. E. Milburn	1
Thos. Murphy c W. Smith	5	G. Browning not out	26
M. Milburn, c T. Woodhall		J. Smith T. May F. Blair T. Woodhall R. Turner E. Taylor H. Girling	To bat.
G. E. Milburn b Woodhall	7		
F. Archer b Blair	3		
W. E. Charlton b Blair	0		
R. Cant b Blair	0		
R. Campbell b Blair	3		
W. Palliaser not out	6		
Extras	7	Extras	0
Total	59	Total	39

WEST STANLEY v DIPTON.

Played at West Stanley. The home team went to the wickets first, and remained till the call of time, when they had lost five wickets for 212 runs. Score:—

WEST STANLEY.

R. Gibson lbw b Cruddas	10
J. G. Mann run out	31
J. H. Benfold c Robinson	0
R. Knox not out	106
R. Sanderson b Leadbitter	5
W. Dodds b Robinson	12
I. Harkness not out	11
Extras	30
Total	212

C. Fitches, J. Hutchinson, J. Curry, and J. Johnson to bat.

CONSETT v NEWBURN.

Played in Shotley Spa Grounds on Monday in connection with the gala and sports promoted by Messrs Wilson Bros., lessees, and the Consett and District Cricket Club, resulting in a draw greatly in favour of Consett. Score:—

CONSETT.		NEWBURN.	
I. Richards b Hunter	37	Hunter b I. Richards	7
Turnbull b Hunter	9	Hall b I. Richards	0
Leadbitter b Hunter	0	Pulfreman c and b I. Richards	0
Siddell b Hunter	0	Leybourne b Richardson	0
Richardson run out	3	Nicholson not out	11
Gibson c Cowan b Hall	15	Baxter b Richardson	6
Dr Short b Nicholson	4	Chicken b I. Richards	2
Foggon b Baxter	3	Askew b Miller	2
J. R. Richards b Baxter	6	Ledger c Foggon b I. Richards	1
Miller not out	2	Redhead to bat	
Williamson b Baxter	1	Wood "	
Extras	29	Extras	6
Total	109	Total	35

WEST STANLEY v BIRTLEY TEMPERANCE.

Played on the ground of the former, and resulted in an easy victory for the home team. R. Knox, for the home side, did splendid service with the bat, and deserved special praise, whilst R. Sanderson and T. Masterman did good service with the ball. For the visitors, W. Lawson and J. Bolam did good service with the bat. Score:—

STANLEY.		BIRTLEY.	
N. Summerbell b Ryle	5	R. Ryle b Masterman	1
C. Fitches c Tickle b Stobbs	3	R. English c Knox b Masterman	2
R. Sanderson b Ryle	7	J. Baker c Hutchinson b Masterman	2
R. Knox b Baker	50	W. Tickle b R. Sanderson	6
J. Benfold b Ryle	2	W. Stobbs b R. Sanderson	0
T. Masterman b Lawson	8	W. Lawson not out	10
N. Twizell b English	8	J. Bolam run out	13
J. Hutchinson b Lawson	0	J. Henderson b R. Sanderson	0
W. Sanderson c Tickle b English	2	C. Lawson b R. Sanderson	0
G. Sanderson not out	1	W. Knox b R. Sanderson	2
G. Wardman run out	0	J. Parker b Masterman	0
Extras	16	Extras	9
Total	102	Total	45

CHESTER-LE-STREET v NEWCASTLE ALBION.

Played at Chester-le-Street on Whit-Tuesday in dull and cold weather. The home team had all the best of the play, and won somewhat easily. Score:—

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

G. Kerrich-Walker b Blenkin	2
F. W. Pickering b Blenkin	0
W. Kerrich-Walker b Wiles	7
D. Crichton b Edwards	27
W. Middleton b Wiles	18
W. Pickering b Wiles	0
T. R. Hall b Wiles	0
R. J. Coxon c Wiles b Edwards	4
Rev A. H. Hunter run out	2
L. Gray b Wiles	24
J. Brown not out	11
Extras	14
Total	109

ALBION.

1st innings.		2nd innings.	
Edwards b Middleton	0	run out	3
Vare c Hunter b W. Kerrich-Walker	2	to bat.	
Nixon b Middleton	0	not out	4
Hope b Middleton	1	to bat.	
Grieves b Middleton	2	c Gray b W. Pickering	0
Wiles c Coxon b W. Kerrich-Walker	2	b W. Pickering	4
Blenkin b W. Kerrich-Walker	1	b W. Pickering	4
Airey not out	9	b W. Pickering	1
Willis st Crichton b G. Kerrich-Walker	4	to bat.	
Bleddal st Crichton b Middleton	0	to bat.	
Jackson c Brown b Middleton	0	b Crichton	1
Extras	5	Extras	3
Total	26	Total	20

WEST STANLEY RACES AND SPORTS.

MONDAY, MAY 21.

Stewards—Messrs Thomas Charlton (chairman), J. Fewster (treasurer), J. Toes (secretar[illegible]), R. Johnson, R. Fewster, and Wm. [illegible]lton. Clerk of the Scales—Mr A. Fewster. [illegible]ter—Mr Anthony Swinburne. Judge—Mr Jos. Lumley, Annfield Plain.

The eighth annual Whitsuntide race meeting and sports were successfully brought off to-day in two fields kindly lent by Mr Joseph Watson, farmer, and situate midway between the villages of West Stanley and Tanfield Lea. The weather was of a delightful character, and consequently their was an exceedingly large muster of spectators, visitors flowing in from all the surrounding places. The only drawback was the paucity in the number of horses entered for the different competitions, this circumstance being probably due to the fact that the meeting clashed with other fixtures. The horse-leaping contest, which was to have been the opening event, had to be abandoned, owing to an insufficient entry; and the committee devoted the prize money, amounting to £9 to two flat races. Full details of the other event will be found below. The going was hard. The West Pelton Rifle Volunteer Band performed selections during the afternoon, and the village and its surroundings presented a brisk and lively appearance. The miners and their wives and families turned out *en bloc* to witness the sports, and the attendance was as large, if not larger, than last year, when it was computed that over 4,000 persons patronised the district. Details:—

WEST STANLEY FLAT RACE; distance about 1¼ miles, weight for age. First, £7; second, £1.

Mr Leybourn's BLONDIN, 11st 2lb - J. Frankland 1
Mr Johnson's STANLEY LASS, 11st 2lb - W. Richardson 2
Mr Hardy's MISS EDITH 10st 6lb - 3

Won easy by over ten lengths; the other two ran a close contest, and were separated at the finish by a neck only. Betting at the start: 2 to 1 on Blondin, 3 to 1 against Stanley Lass, 4 to 1 against Miss Edith.

HANDICAP TROTTING COMPETITION, run in heats of one mile; each horse to carry 11 stone. 1st prize £8, 2nd £2.

Heat 1.

Mr Oswald's PADDY, 275 yards start - Owner 1
Mr Henry Lee's POSS-STICK, 100 - Frankland 2

Heat 2.

Mr G. Watson's BUFFALO BILL, 325 - Owner w.o.
Mr T. Hunter's PIT LADDIE, 120 - absent

Heat 3.

Mr J. Warwick's BLACK BESS, scratch - Owner 1
Mr Bell's BLACK PRINCE, 100 - Owner 2

Won by forty yards.

Final heat.

PADDY - 1 | BUFFALO - 2 | BLACK PRINCE - 3

Paddy maintained the lead throughout, and eventually won by about a dozen yards. Black Prince ran extremly well, and was going so quickly that he would have overtaken Buffalo Bill, but the latter who lost some ground, made a sprint towards the finish, and came past a-head by about 10 yards. Betting: 5 to 4 on Paddy, 6 to 4 on Black Prince, 4 to 1 agst Buffalo Bill.

HANDICAP FLAT RACE, distance 1½ miles. 1st prize, £4, second, £1.

Mr Leybourn's BLONDIN, 12st - Frankland 1
Mr Johnson's TANFIELD LASS, 10st 4lb - W. Richardson 2
Mr H. Hardy's MISS BRUCE, 10st - E. Jackson 3

Betting: 6 to 1 on Blondin, who won very easily.

The sports resulted as follow:—Bicycle Handicap; distance about half-a-mile. Final heat—W. Turnbull, Burnopfield, 60 yards start, 1; J. Lamb, West Stanley, 40, 2; J. Stephenson, Oxhill, 80, 3. Won after a close and exciting race by six inches, about 20 yards separating second and third. William Turner, West Stanley, was judge.

Sporting Items.

QUOITING AT BLACKHALL MILL.—A well-contested game of quoits was played near the house of Mr W. Cusson, Blackhall Mill Inn, between Joseph Clines, Spen Colliery, and George Cranston, Victoria Garesfield, on the sward, for £20, distance 10 yards, and 41 points up, which resulted in a victory for Clines by 15 points.

QUOITING AT FATFIELD.—A large number of persons made their way to a field kindly lent by Mr M. Winship, of Fatfield, to witness a quoit match for £5 a-side between Arthur McAdams and Michael Usher, both of Fatfield, on the sward, 10 yards distant, 2 inch pins, 31 chalks up. Score:—McAdams, 31; Usher 12. Betting ruled at evens.—George Crow acted as referee and stakeholder.

ANGLING CONTEST AT WOLSINGHAM.—An angling contest took place at Wolsingham on Monday, when prizes were given to competitors catching the heaviest weight of fish. The contest began at 10 a.m. and closed at one p.m. Owing to the continued drought the Wear was very low, and in an unfavourable condition for successful angling. The following is the prize list:—20s, Henry Thompson, Hunwick; 15s, John Nicholson, Rough Lea; Thomas Foster, Sunnybrow; 7s 6d, Robert Hopper, Wolsingham; 5s, George Cox, Frosterley; 2s 6d, William Johnson, Wolsingham; 2s and 1s, divided between James Thompson and Jos. Stokoe, of Tow Law. There were 41 competitors.

DEARNESS BALL ALLEY.—About 300 persons assembled at these grounds, to witness two fives matches which were set for decision. Roger Holliday, of Hill Top, and Jno. Wilson, of Esh Village, were matched against each other for £5 a-side, but after some discussion the match fell through, Wilson (who was to recive 15 points start in a game of 33 up) paying forfeit. The second was between H. Morin and J. Wilson, both of Esh, on one side, and A. Dodds and P. Calligan, both of Quebec, on the other side, who played a game of 15 points up, for £3 a-side. Dodds and Calligan were favourites at 2 to 1 on, and a lot of money changed hands. After a very exciting game, however, Morin and partner eventually won by 1 chalk. Mr E. Taylor was referee and stakeholder.

WRESTLING COMPETITION AT CONSETT.—The wrestling competition for 11 stone men was brought off on Saturday, at the house of Mr Henry Lee, Coach and Horses Inn, Consett, before a good attendance. Results:—First round—R. Glendinning, Westwood, threw W. Glendinning, Westwood; A. Ferguson, Westwood, threw C. Brodie, Milkwell Burn; W. Evans, Dipton, threw F. Milner, Castleside; J. Walton, Castleside, threw H. Stewart, Westwood; G. Ferguson Westwood, threw H. Hall, Castleside; W. Turnbull, odd man. Second round—A. Ferguson threw G. Ferguson, J. Walton threw W. Turnbull, R. Glendinning threw W. Evans. Third round—A. Ferguson threw J. Walton, R. Glendinning odd man. Final—R. Glendinning threw A Ferguson twice and won. Referees, Messrs Miller and Young.

NUMBER ONE RUNNING GROUNDS, CONSETT.—The trials and finals of Mr H. Lee's £5 10s 200yds. dog handicap, by merit, were run off at the above grounds on Saturday afternoon. There was a really good attendance, and a lot of speculation resulted. Details:—Heat 1—Carrick's Sinner, Tow Law, 73½yds, 1; Applegarth's Cheaten, Leadgate, 69½, 2; Inglis's Buffalo Bill, Consett, 78, 3; Steel's Brandy, Dipton, 70½, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 2—Levison's Sis, Blackhill, 73½, 1; Moss' Derwent Lass, Blackhill, 78, 2; Dodds' Polisher, Consett, 68, 3; Purvis's Tweedside Lass, 73½, 4. Won easily. Heat 3—Cheeseman's Dick, Gateshead, 76, 1; Applegarth's Young Pat, 71½, 2; Thorpe's Lizzie Ann, Blackhill, 77½, 3; Chambers's Little 'Un, 73½, 4. Won by half a yard. Heat 4—Robinson's Plough Boy, 70½, w o. Heat 5—Applegarth's Garden Party, 75, 1; Hall's Lucalter, 73, 2; Ledger's Little Kate, 75½, 3; Lamb's Poor Joe, 61, 4. Won by half a yard. Heat 6—Wilson's Young Spring, Cornsay, 75, 1; Evans's Pride, 70½, 2; Glenwright's Tatty Tossey, 79, 3. Won easily. Heat 7—Johnson's Lady Dixie, 74, 1; Hindmoor's Nettle, Tow Law, 78, 2; Jefferson's Stolen Duchess, 67½, 3. Won by half a yard. Heat 8—Moor's Little John, Tow Law, 69, 1; Dobson's Wait-for-me, Dipton, 69, 2; Hagan's Hedgehog, 81, 3. Won by one yard. Heat 9—Routledge's Sir Roger, Consett, 70, 1; Lee's Moorcock, Consett, 66, 2; Gloy's Janet, Blaydon, 79, 3; Hedley's Milkmaid, Darlington, 70, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 10—Applegarth's Princess May, Leadgate, 77, 1; Routledge's Peep o' Day, Blackhill, 81, 3; Williams's Daisy, Stockton, 71½, 3; Young's Judy McCarthy, Framwellgate, 81, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 11—Askew's Jenny, Leadgate, 64, 1; Liddle's White Slave, Blaydon, 73, 2; Cranston's Little Jane, Catchgate, 72, 3. Won by a foot, after a dead heat. Heat 12—Ennis's Old Lill, Dipton, 73½, 1; Wilkinson's Blue Cap, Blackhill, 71, 2; Bob's Fireball, Consett, 74, 3. Won by a yard. Second round.—Heat 1—Dick, 1; Sinner, 2; Ploughboy, 3; Sis, 4. Won by a yard. Heat 2—Lady Dixie, 1; Garden Party, 2; Spring, 3; Little John, 4. Garden Party won the heat by a yard, but was disqualified for not being over the trig-mark. Heat 3—Old Lill, 1; Jenny, 2; Sir Roger, 3; Princess May, 4. Won by a foot. Final heat—Dick, £4, 1; Old Lill, £1, 2; Lady Dixie, 10s, 3. Won by six inches, half-a-yard separating second and third. Betting:—Evens Lill, 6 to 4 against Dick, Lady Dixie, 2 to 1. Mr N. Lamb was pistol firer, and Mr J. Wilson was judge and handicapper.

CATHOLIC FESTIVAL AND SPORTS AT CONSETT.

St. Mary's (Blackhill and Consett) annual parochial sports—being the third year since the revival of this old-established festival—were brought off in a spacious field close to Delves Lane, Consett, kindly granted for the occasion by Mr Daniel Donnelly, on the afternoon of Whit-Monday. Being favoured with brilliant weather, the sports superseded those held in preceding years, and upwards of 3,000 people paid admission at the gates. About one o'clock, the scholars attending S. Mary's School, Blackhill, and St. Patrick's Schools, Consett, paraded the principal thoroughfares of the district, being accompanied by the St. Mary's Catholic Brass Band. Flags and banners were conspicuous in the imposing procession. Shortly after arriving at the field, the boys and girls, numbering between 700 and 800, were regaled with tea and cake, gratis, while 1000 adults also partook of a substantial feast, provided in a spacious marquee, the repast being admirably served up by the Misses McCurley, of Consett, who also catered for the refreshments. A lengthened programme of sports occupied the major portion of the afternoon and evening. Groups of people were indulging in innocent amusements. St. Mary's Band played musical selections at intervals, and many dancers disported themselves upon the grass. The gathering was a brilliant success. Mr J. Moore, Blackhill, was the energetic secretary of the sports, details of which are appended:—

120yds Handicap Footrace.—Heat 1—P. Tumilty, Blackhill, 13yds start, 1; J. McFlynn, Consett, 4, 2; Wm. Hobday, Blackhill, 12, 3. Won by a yard. Heat 2—M. Wilkinson, Blackhill, 12, w.o. Heat 3—J. Williams, Wolsingham, 3, 1; Jas. Taylor, Blackhill, scratch, 2. Won by a yard and a half. Final heat—Wilkinson, 20s, 1; Tumilty, 7s 6d, 2; Williams, 2s 6d, 3. A good race. Mr R. Brown was handicapper.

Running High Leap—4 entries.—J. Black, Shotley Bridge, cleared 4ft 8½in, 1; J. McGlynn, Consett, 4ft 6in, 2; J. Urwin, Shotley Bridge, 4ft 3in, 3.

Tug-of-War (for teams of six men).—J. Ward's, Consett, beat the Consett Steelworkers twice in succession and won, receiving 12s.

Three-legged Race—5 entries.—J. Williams and Wm. Williams, both of Wolsingham, 1; M. Wilkinson and J. Tweed, both of Blackhill, 2.

Sack Race.—This event was abandoned.

Putting the Weight, 12lbs, without a follow—8 competitors.—J. Lochrane, Consett, 37ft 3in, 5s, 1; J. Harris, Blackhill, 31ft, 2.

Eleven Stones Wrestling Competition (open)—first, 15s, second, 7s 6d.—W. Williams, Wolsingham, threw J. Donaghy, Blackhill; J. Williams, Wolsingham, threw J. Harris, Blackhill. In the final falls W. Williams threw J. Williams twice out of thrice and won.

Running Hop, Step, and Jump—8 entries.—J. McGlyn, Consett, 38ft 11in, 1; W. Black, Shotley Bridge, 38ft 5in, 2.

Football (Association) Competition—First 10s, second, 5s.—Leadgate Exiles First beat Consett Sextons First.

The children's sports are appended:—

Boys' 50yds. Footrace Handicap (over 50 entries).—Final heat—Robert Moore, St Mary's School, Blackhill, 1; Wm. Docherty, St. Patrick's School, Consett, 2; John Colgin, St. Patrick's, Consett, 3.

Boys' Three-legged Race—24 competitors.—Final heat—Crossing and Roberts, St. Patrick's, 1; McNally and McArdle, St. Patrick's, 2; Colgin and Page, St. Mary's, 3.

Girls' Skipping Contest—28 competitors.—Teresa Bradley, St. Mary's, Blackhill, 481 turns, 1; Mary Quigley, St. Patrick's 464, 2; Margt. Ann Moore, St. Mary's, 463, 3.

Girls' Skipping Race—30 entries.—Rose McGeoghan, St. Patrick's, 1; Mary Quigley, St. Patrick's, 2; Katie Sloane, St. Mary's, 3.

Tug-of-War.—Consett 1st and 2nd teams boys beat Blackhill 1st and 2nd teams boys twice in succession, and won.

Consett 1st team girls also beat Blackhill 1st team girls twice in succession and won.

Blackhill 2nd team girls beat the Consett 2nd team girls twice in succession and won.

The whole of the sports were under the able management of Messrs Jas. Daly, John Moore, R. Brown, J. Sloane, Jas. Kelly, and T. Barry.

BLAYDON RACE MEETING.

Stewards: Col. J. A. Cowen and Messrs R. O. Lamb, John E. Bagnall, James Anderson, G. W. Grey, Herbert W. Grace, A. C. Coning, Jos. Humble, and C. H. Winter. Judge—Mr A. J. Poole. Starter—Mr J. Charlton. Clerk of the scales—Mr Walter Grieve, M.R.C.V.S. Clerk of the course and handicapper—Mr J. Douglas, High Bridge.

The annual race meeting at Blaydon was brought off on Monday on Stella Haughs, when a very large company of spectators was present. There were good fields, and sport was fairly interesting. A commencement was made with the Stella Stakes, for which Emma was made favourite. Prudhoe Lass looked dangerous at an early stage, but Emma eventually won by 20 lengths. A field of six turned out for the Townely Stakes, for which Scimitar carried most money. Half a dozen sported silk for the Licensed Victuallers' Plate, for which Emma was again favourite at 6 to 4. The prettiest race of the day was the Braes of Derwent Hunt Steeplechase. Pattie was served up favourite at 6 to 4 on. The Blaydon Stakes, the *piece de resistance* fell to Paddy. In the Ladies Plate, for beaten horses, Shah made up for his previous defeat and landed the stake, starting at 2 to 1. Details:—

STELLA STAKES, value 18 sovs.; first, 15 sovs; second, 3 sovs. About 1½ miles on the flat.

Mr Watson's EMMA, aged, 9st - - W. Crisp 1
Mr Loudon's PRUDHOE LASS, aged, 9st W. Noble 2
Mr Allgood's THE MINNOW, aged, 9st 4lb Wrights'n 3

TOWNELEY STAKES, value 25 sovs; first, 20 sovs; second, 5 sovs. About 1 mile on the flat.

Mr Cantley's PADDY, aged, 12st 3lbs - W. Lowes 1
Mr Errington's SCIMITAR, 3yrs, 10st 6lb Wrightson 2
Mr Stobie's RING, 3yrs, 10st 6lb - - Owner 3

Won by a dozen lengths; for second place, Scimitar beat Ring by a head.

LICENSED VICTUALLERS' PLATE, value 20 sovs; first, 17 sovs, second, 3 sovs. About 1½ miles on the flat.

Mr Chisholm's NELLY, aged, 10st 11lb - G. Wear 1
Mr Wilkinson's SHAH, aged, 11st 4lb - Black 2
Mr Hall's LILY MAID, aged, 11st 11lb - Owner 3

Six ran.

Betting: 6 to 4 on Emma, 5 to 2 against Lily Maid, 3 to 1 against Nelly, 4 to 1 against Kathleen, 8 to 1 against Luggie, 10 to 1 against Shah. After a false start, in which most of the horses went once round and Kathleen and Nelly went the whole course—Nelly finishing first—Nelly led Emma past the stand half-a-dozen lengths in front of Kathleen, who was a similar distance in front of Luggie, and she showed the way right round the circle the first time. Coming to the stand the second time Nelly was still in possession of the lead, Lily Maid being next, and Shah in the third place. Going down the far side Shah drew up to the leader, who was still pulling double, and getting fairly round on to the last straight a bustling struggle ensued. Won by half-a-length; 20 lengths separated second and third. An objection against the rider of Nelly was overruled.

BRAES OF DERWENT HUNT STEEPLECHASE, value 20 sovs, and piece of plate. About 2½ miles, over hurdles.

Mr Rawes's JEWESS, aged, 13st - - Owner 1
Mr Bell's PATTIE, 5 yrs, 12st 5lb - - Mr Smith 2
Mr G. Watson's JESSIE, 5 yrs, 12st 5lb Mr Watson 3

Ten ran.

Jewess won by four lengths; ten lengths between second and third.

BLAYDON STAKES, value 40 sovs; first, 35 sovs, second 5 sovs. About 1½ miles on the flat.

Mr Cantley's PADDY, aged, 13st 3lb (in 14lb extra) - W. Lowes 1
Mr Errington's SCIMITAR, 3 yrs, 10st - Eades 2
Mr Maughan's DAISY, 5 yrs, 11st 10lb - Owner 3

Six ran.

Won by four lengths; ten lengths between second and third.

LADIES' PLATE, value 12 sovs; first, 10 sovs second, 2 sovs; for beaten horses at this meeting. About 1½ miles on the flat.

Mr W. Wilkinson's SHAH - - - Black 1
Mr Coffey's STANLEY - - - Wear 2
Mr Brown's POLLY - - - Wrightson 3

Five ran.

Won by three lengths; same distance between second and third.

SHOTLEY SPA GROUNDS.

One of the chief local resorts for holiday seekers this Whitsuntide has, without doubt, been the picturesque Spa Grounds at Shotley Bridge, which, at this season of the year, present a most attractive and beautiful appearance, the herbage and foliage having now assumed their lovely summer garb. On Monday and Tuesday, an excellent and varied programme of sports had been arranged jointly by the members of the Consett and District Cricket Club, and the lessees (Messrs Wilson Bros.) On each occasion the South Derwent (Annfield Plain) Prize Brass Band performed capital selections, the quantity of the music was unlimited, and the quality thereof gave every satisfaction. As we already forecasted, the weather was everything that could be desired, and the result was a bumper attendance, it being estimated that about 4,500 people visisted the grounds on Monday. Messrs Wilson, as usual, catered for the refreshments, and also provided tea. The sports on Monday ended with the following results:—

Cricket match between Consett and District and Newburn, which ended in a draw in favour of Consett. Score—Consett and District, 109; Newburn, 35 for seven wickets.

WRESTLING.—Miller, Westwood, 1; Glendenning, Westwood, 2.

BOWLING AT WICKET.—Mr Leybourn, of Newburn team.

OBSTACLE RACE was won by W. Wigham, after an amusing race.

TUG OF WAR.—Won by Consett and District Cricket Club team.

The judges for the wrestling competition were Messrs Matthews and Millar; and for the other events, Messrs R. Marshall and J. Dixon.

The amateur athletic sports were continued on Tuesday afternoon, in the beautiful Spa Grounds at Shotley Bridge. Despite the dull and threatening aspect of the weather, a large number of visitors assembled at this popular holiday resort, nearly 3,000 being present, but the attendance fell short of the preceding day, when delightful weather prevailed. The South Derwent (Annfield Plain) Prize Brass Band discoursed selections of music. Details of the sports:—

THROWING THE CRICKET BALL.—(8 entries)—J. McTaggart, Blackhill, 1.

RUNNING HIGH JUMP.—(4 competitors) — Peter Gibson, Blackhill, cleared 4 feet 9 inches, 1; W. Telford, Benfieldside, 4 feet 8 inches, 2.

THREE LEGGED RACE.—(5 entries)—Final heat—Joseph Askew, Blackfine, and J. McTaggart, Blackhill, 1.

MILE WALKING HANDICAP.—(6 entries)—T. Robinson, Castleside, scratch, 1; J. W. Forster, Benfieldside, 20, 2; J. McTaggart, Blackhill, 30, 3. Won by one yard, a great distance dividing second and third. An objection was lodged against Forster, it being alleged that he was a professional runner. The stewards will investigate the matter.

SACK RACE.—(6 entries)—J. J. Allan, Blackhill, 1.

POLE JUMP.—(4 entries)—Thomas Parker, Leadgate, cleared 7ft. 8in., 1; Peter Gibson, Blackhill, 7ft. 6in., 2.

OBSTACLE RACE.—(9 entries)—J. Tweed, Blackhill, 1.

A cricket match was arranged to be played between the Consett and District and the Newcastle Royal Artillery clubs, but the last-named failed to enter an appearance, consequently the home team played a friendly match amongst themselves. The officials were:—Judges, Messrs Robert Marshall and S. Templeton; pistol firer, Mr R. Brown; and secretary, Mr W. Ramsay. The stewards were Messrs T. Gibson, T. Jameson, W. A. Leadbitter, J. R. Richards, Jos. Askew, and W. Wilson. The sports concluded shortly before eight o'clock, after which the prizes were awarded. The two days' festival at these grounds has been a great success, and will materially assist the finances of the Consett Cricket Club.

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

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

MRS. FRANCES CHRISTOPHER begs to return her sincere thanks to the Public for the liberal patronage she has received since the death of her husband; and respectfully intimates that she has removed from Delves Lane to the Old-Established Hacking Yard in Front Street, where business will be carried on as usual. HEARSES, MOURNING COACHES, CARRIAGES FOR WEDDINGS and POSTING in all its branches, on most reasonable terms.

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Public Notices.

246 IS THE WINNING NUMBER for the Pony, raffled by THOMAS LUMLEY, 17, Oxhill. 625z

LOOK HERE!—ANNFIELD PLAIN AMATEUR CYCLING CLUB ANNUAL SPORTS will be held on July 7th, 1888. 445z

MR. WALTER BEAUMONT will PREACH at the Christian Lay Church, Trafalgar Street, Consett, on Sunday, May 27th, at 10-30 a.m., 2 p.m., and 6 p.m. 616z

MRS. A. SHIPLEY, FRONT STREET, CONSETT, begs to inform her friends and the public generally, that she has obtained the services of a first-class Milliner, and begs to state that she is now prepared to DO ALL KINDS OF MILLINERY ON THE SHORTEST NOTICE at most reasonable terms.

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LOOK OUT!

MANOR HOUSE (near Shotley Bridge) PIC-NIC AND SPORTS.

THE FIFTH ANNUAL PIC-NIC and SPORTS will be held at Manor House on June 9th 1888, when the following Prizes will be given:—£2 for Wrestling (11st. men), £2 12s 6d for Running, 7s 6d to all Entrance Money for Quoiting, 15s for Football Competition (Association Rules), and other Sports. 580z

REMEMBER the I. U. O. of MECHANICS TEA and SPORTS, at Dipton, on June 16th. As Mr Brown, of the Bute Arms, has just completed one of the best running tracks in the country, £6 10s will be given for 120 Yards Handicap; Entrance, 1s. Fifteen Minutes Go-as-you-please, 20s, 10s, and 5s. Obstacle Race, 15s, 7s 6d, and 2s 6d. Football, 30s and 15s. Quoiting, 20s, 10s, and 5s. Remittance must accompany entrance. Entries close June 12th. See Bills. Members meet at 12·15 p.m.

579z THOMAS BOWES, Secretary.

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Public Notices.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

W. F. TAIT, Watchmaker, of Annfield Plain, begs to inform his numerous Friends and Customers that he has REMOVED to Rooms belonging to Mr. W. BULMER, next to the Wesleyan Chapel, until his former Premises are restored.

LOOK OUT for the HOBSON FOOTBALL CLUB SPORTS and GALA DAY on Saturday, June 2nd, 1888. 120 Yards Foot Race—1st prize, £4; 2nd, £1; 3rd, 10s. Entrance 1s, to be sent to R. S. PATTERSON, Hobson, Lintz Green; Entries close Monday, May 28th—Tuesday morning's Post in time. Quoiting—1st, £1; 2nd, 7s 6d; 3rd, 2s 6d. Quarter-Mile Handicap—1st, £1; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. Entries, 6d. Football Competition—1st, 11 Costume Bags; 2nd, 10s; 3rd, 5s. Entrance, 1s each team. Foot Race for Boys under 16—1st, 3s; 2nd, 1s 6d; 3rd, 6d; Entrance free.—For further particulars, apply to

613z W. GORDON, Secretary.

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A desire having arisen amongst a few of the many friends of Mr Adam Brodie, of Consett, to present him with a testimonial of some kind, as a token of appreciation and recognition of the numerous instances of good and indeed valuable services rendered to the town and neighbourhood, extending over very many years, it has been felt incumbent upon them to give effect to their feelings, and to take immediate measures for raising a fund for the same. Mr Brodie has been ever ready to identify himself with any good work that has arisen, such, for instance, as the Fountain Memorial, erected to the memory of the late Mr John Gledstone, and to which it necessarily followed that a very considerable amount of labour was attached, and also to works of charity and benevolence, for when at any time work grew scarce in our midst and hunger stared around, Mr Brodie was always to the front in opening-out soup kitchens, working assiduously to raise funds for the purpose, and all this gratuitously, be it remembered.

I feel that a very ready response will be accorded to this appeal, and that the result will be so substantial that Mr Brodie will feel encouraged to continue using his talents to the interests of his fellow-men.

The following gentlemen have been elected at a meeting called specially for the purpose, to carry the above scheme successfully forward.

I am, dear Sir,
Yours respectfully,
CHAS. STEPHENSON, Hon. Sec.

COMMITTEE.

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,, T. DUNNE.	,, P. COYER.
,, G. WADE.	,, J. THURLOW POTTS.
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,, JAMES NOBLE.	Dr GEO. RENTON.
,, CHRIS. LUMLEY.	Mr G. T. HYDEN.
,, JOS. ELTRINGHAM.	,, JNO. PARKER.
,, RICHD. MURRAY.	,, JAS. KELLY.
Mr JOHN DIXON.	Mr W. SHELL.

444z

NORTH-WEST DURHAM LIBERAL ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING of this Association will be held in the New Town Hall, Consett, on Saturday, June 2nd, as follows:—

COUNCIL MEETING at Three o'clock in the Afternoon, and PUBLIC MEETING at Seven o'clock in the Evening; to be addressed by H. H. ASQUITH, Esq., M.P. for East Fifeshire, L. A. ATHERLEY-JONES, Esq., M.P. for the Division, and other Members of Parliament, and leading Liberals.

ADAM BRODIE, F.S.A.,
461z Secretary.

Public Notices.

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

ON SATURDAY, May 26th, an EXCURSION TRAIN will leave CONSETT at 2·30 p.m. (with bookings from Shotley Bridge and Ebchester) for NEWCASTLE and TYNEMOUTH. See Bills.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1875.

BENFIELDSIDE DISTRICT.

NOTICE OF AUDIT.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that the ACCOUNTS of this Board will be AUDITED on Monday, June 18th, 1888, at 10-45 in the forenoon.

A Copy of the Accounts, together with all Rate Books and other matters mentioned or referred to in the Accounts, will be deposited in the Office of the Local Board, and be open, during office hours, to the inspection of all persons interested for seven days before the Audit.—By order,

JOHN BOOTH,
607z Clerk to the Board.

Sales by Auction.

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

ADAM BRODIE and ROBERT J. BRODIE, Members of the Institute of Auctioneers and Surveyors, and of the Institute of Estate Agents, Town Hall, Consett, undertake the Management and Collection of Rents of every description of real Property, and are prepared also to conduct Sales of Farming Stock and Produce, Houses and Land, Household Furniture, Merchandise, and Effects of every description, in the best manner, and on the most Reasonable Terms. Their well-known Sale Rooms in Victoria Street, Consett, are always open for the reception of Goods for absolute Sale, where removal is considered necessary by the owners; and, as a rule, Sales are held there Fortnightly. Instructions by letter or otherwise receive prompt attention.

☞ Sole Agents in Consett for the principal Lines of Steamers to the United States, Canada, and Australia; and also for the Queensland Government.

ADDRESS:—Victoria Sale Rooms. Office: Town Hall, Consett. 662y

Last day of Sale.—Saturday, May 26th, 1888.—New Town Hall Buildings, Consett.—Conclusion of the Sale of Musical Instruments, Sheet Music, and Sundries.

MESSRS A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed by Mr JESSE DEXTER to CLEAR OUT the remainder of his STOCK of MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS, &c., in his Shop in the New Town Hall Buildings, on Saturday, May 26th, as follows:—Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, Trichord Check Action, Iron-framed, by Avill and Smart; Fine-toned Cottage Pianoforte, in Walnut Case, by Rosenstreich; Superior Harmonium, in Walnut Case; Best Banjo; Flutes, Violins, Music Books, and Sundries. Also, a large variety of Sheet Music by the best Composers, Pianoforte Tutors, &c., &c.

Sale to commence at Six o'clock prompt.

This is positively the last day of this Sale, and the whole will be cleared out without reserve. 519z

May 28th, 1888.—Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett.—Sale of Superior Mahogany and other Furniture and Effects, including—Mahogany Centre Table; 12 Mahogany Hair-seated Chairs; 2 Easy Chairs, in Hair; Kitchen Press; 2 Tables; 3 Brass-Mounted Bedsteads and Mattresses; Pictures and Books; Carpets and Mats; Feather and Down Beds; Clothes Baskets; Fire-irons and Brasses; and sundry Effects. Also, the Stock-in-Trade of a Draper and Clothier, including—Men's and Boys' Suits, Shirts, and Drawers; Boys' Kilt Suits; Ladies' and Girls' Made-up Dresses and Jackets; Ladies' Underclothing; Sheets and Quilts; Prints, Dress Goods, and Draper's Sundries. Superior Singers's Medium Sewing Machine, nearly new, &c., &c.

MESSRS. A. and R. J. BRODIE are instructed to Remove and SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, in the Victoria Sale Rooms, Consett, on Monday, May 28th, the Superior Mahogany and other FURNITURE, as above, together with the STOCK-IN-TRADE of a Clothier and Draper, which is of excellent quality, in good condition, and will be sold without reserve. Splendid Singers' Medium Sewing Machine, nearly new.

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

By Mr. John S. Murray.

ROYAL AUCTION MART, BENFIELDSIDE

MONDAY, MAY 28th, 1888.

Present Entries.

12 Fat Cattle.
40 Fat Sheep and Lambs.
4 Veal Calves.
Pork and Store Pigs, expected a number of Strong Shots.
12 to 18 Calving Cows and Heifers.
Store Cattle, Poultry, &c.
Goat, in full milk.
8 Tons of Cumberland Potatoes, first-class quality.
Shovels, Gripes, Cow Chains, Backbands, Hames, Chains, &c., &c.
1 Flat, nearly new, and other miscellaneous Lots.

Sale to commence at One o'clock.

630z JOHN S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

IMPORTANT SALE of Valuable FREEHOLD BUSINESS PREMISES, in Front Street, Shotley Bridge, on Wednesday, June 6th, 1888, at the Commercial Hotel. Particulars in next week's *Guardian*.

631z JOHN. S. MURRAY, Auctioneer.

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

By Mr. John Crawford.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by Mr. ROBINSON, and others, will SELL BY AUCTION, at his Sale Rooms, Victoria Street, Consett, the following GOODS (brought for convenience of Sale), on Monday First, May 28th, 1888—3 Sets of Mahogany Drawers; Walnut Suite, in Green; Mahogany Tables and Chairs; Large Counter, about 11ft. long, little worse than new. Full particulars in Posters.

Sale to commence at Two o'clock.

Sale Office, 25, Victoria Street, Consett. 628z

13, Dale Street, Blackhill.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD, instructed by Mrs. JAMIESON, widow of the late John Jamieson, who is declining house-keeping, will SELL the whole of her Household FURNITURE, on Monday First, May 28th, 1888, comprising—Set of Drawers; Chest and Frame; Four-Poled Bedstead and Mattress; Feather Beds; Rabbit Down Beds; Quilts; Blankets, Sheets, &c. Full particulars in Posters.

Sale to commence at Five o'clock. 629z

Watling Street, Leadgate.

MR. JOHN CRAWFORD is instructed to SELL BY PUBLIC AUCTION, at the house of Mr T. LONGSTAFF, Masons' Arms Inn, Leadgate, on Thursday, May 31st, 1888, at Seven o'clock in the evening, all those SIX Well-built and Convenient FREEHOLD DWELLING-HOUSES, Situate in Watling Street, Leadgate. Also, all that FREEHOLD BUILDING SITE, Containing by admeasurement 213½ Square Yards, or thereabouts, situate and being in Plantation Street, Leadgate.

☞ This Site was previously sold by T. S. Longstaff, of Leadgate, to John Park, mason, who lived at Iveston about four years ago, and is to be re-sold in default of payment for the same. 598z

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

PEOPLE that are leaving the District can have their FURNITURE TURNED into CASH, at once, by applying to JOHN CRAWFORD, Auctioneer, Victoria Street, Consett. 891u

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

By Mr. J. Vickers.

TOW LAW AUCTION MART.

A WEEKLY SALE every Monday for Fat and Store Cattle and Sheep, Dairy Cows, Horses, Conveyances, Farm Produce, &c., commencing at 12 o'clock with Cows, Fat and Store Stock to follow. Entries should be sent on Wednesday each week. Special—80 to 100 Store Cattle, various ages.

JOSEPH VICKERS, Auctioneer.
Grove Villa, Tow Law. 597z

Sales by Auction.

By Mr Joseph Oley.

Shotley Bridge.—Preliminary Notice.

MR. JOS. OLEY, instructed by Mrs CHAS. MOSLEY, will SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the Gardens, on Saturday, June 9th, 1888, a large number of HOT and GREEN-HOUSE PLANTS, GARDEN FRAMES, GARDEN POTS, BEES, BEE SKEPS, &c., &c., particulars of which will be given in future advertisements, and by hand-bills.

Sale at Two o'clock p.m. 612z

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

By Mr. A. Phillipson.

At Mrs. Lumley's, Front Street, Leadgate.—Friday evening, June 8th, 1888.

MR. A. PHILLIPSON, instructed by Mr. WM. CASWELL, who is leaving the country for South Africa, will SELL BY AUCTION his valuable Mahogany and other Household FURNITURE and Effects, removed for convenience of Sale.

Sale to begin at Five o'clock prompt. 623z

By Mr. John Lowes.

STANLEY AUCTION MART.

NEXT SALE of FAT CATTLE, &c., at Stanley, on Monday, May 28th. Entries invited. Sale at Two p.m.

594z JOHN LOWES, Auctioneer.

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

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

VALUATIONS EFFECTED FOR PROBATE, ETC. 653y

SPECIAL EMIGRATION OFFICE.

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

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

Business Announcements.

THE CONSETT AND DISTRICT PERMANENT

BENEFIT BUILDING SOCIETY

TOWN HALL CONSETT.

☞ SHARES MAY BE TAKEN ANY DAY.

Advances made on Freehold or Copyhold Property repayable as arranged, or for fixed period s.

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

"The weary find new strength generous wine." *Homer,*

No wine is so generous, so full of nutriment, as good Port Wine. It seems, indeed, as if Nature, aided by man's skill, had done its best to produce a wine far above all other wines in richness of body, lovely colour, and elegant flavour.

GLENDENNING'S INVALID PORT

☞ 36s. per Dozen; 3s. per Bottle. ☜

WILLIAM GLENDINNING draws attention to this Wine, which is specially imported and sold by him as the Wine most suited for those who are sick or recovering from sickness. Its characteristics are, freedom from acidity and heat, light fruity flavour, age in wood and richness of body without being heavy and sweet. Carriage paid upon half-a-dozen and upwards.

W. GLENDENNING,
WINE MERCHANT,
9, GRAINGER STREET (between Nun Street and Newgate Street) NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

MOST MONEY LENT

ON Silver Plate, Watches, Jewellery, Diamonds, other Precious Stones, Plated Goods, Cutlery, &c., &c., at

J. & E. WILSON'S,

Oldest Established and Largest Pawnbroking Business in the North of England.
Established 1780

12, PILGRIM STREET
(FOUR DOORS BELOW BLACKETT STREET)
PRIVATE ENTRANCE: FIRST SIX DOORS IN HIGH FRIAR LANE,
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

N.B.—A Large Stock of New and Second-hand WATCHES, Gold & Silver GUARDS ALBERTS &c., on Sale at the Lowest Prices.

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

OBSERVE PROJECTING ILLUMINATED CLOCK OVER WINDOW. 739y

OH MY CORNS!

HAVE YOU A TROUBLESOME CORN?

THE CORN AND WART ANNIHILATOR

removes in a few days, Hard or Soft Corns, without pain.

PAINLESS! SAFE! EFFECTUAL!

GET A 1/- BOTTLE TO-DAY.

☞ Observe "ROBERTS" on every package.

J. ROBERTS CHEMIST (by Diploma), Sole Proprietor of the Celebrated Buchu Bitters, "The Great Kidney and Liver Cure."

1, NEW BRIDGE STREET, 97 & 99 CLAYTON STREET, and 29, SANDHILL, NEWCASTLE.

Please Note particularly the Precise Addresses, and don't be misled elsewhere. 359z

TO ADVERTISERS.

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

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

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

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

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

The Consett Guardian.

FRIDAY, MAY 25TH, 1888.

DEFENCE NOT DEFIANCE.

THE refusal of the LORD MAYOR OF LONDON of the use of the Guildhall for a meeting to discuss the question of the National Defences in a letter to our mind abounding with strong common sense, coupled with the speech of the DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE at Liverpool, which if it means anything must certainly be held to strongly deprecate, not only panic-stricken utterances of the *Daily Telegraph*, but the comfortable assurances of the *Times*, induce us to hope that out of this week's nationally humiliating controversy some wholesome reforms in the administration of Army and Navy expenditure will be forthcoming. The DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE answers one significant question in a way calculated to remove present uneasiness. "Of what at this moment are you afraid?" "I am not afraid of anything. But if you say to me 'Then there is no danger?' I say 'There is very great danger—not momentary danger—not the slightest.'" This declaration from such a quarter, whilst it should discourage the blatant panic-stricken croaker, should stimulate with patriotic considerations those who desire the question of our national defence to be practically dealt with. Certain it is that at well-marked intervals England finds herself in a state of panic with regard to the national defences. We dare say for the past fifty years there has not once been a feeling of absolute security, and never a time when the government of the day was acknowledged to be doing its duty. Long before the DUKE OF WELLINGTON wrote his celebrated letter to Sir Robert Peel, long indeed ere the bogus Boney rose up to frighten our grandfathers out of their senses, misgivings existed as to the national state of preparedness. So, perhaps, the present apprehensions need not be greatly wondered at; though we wish we could think they were without foundation. We fear it is too probable that if a sudden contingency were to arise, our various services and our vast organisation would be found wanting. Our Navy, though something more than a "phantom," is not large enough to guard our coast and our commerce while coping with a foreign foe. Our soldiers, of various kinds, are so little welded together that they would simply fall into confusion; and as to our forts, it is by no means certain that a skilful enemy would not be able to disregard them to the extent of running up the river mouths to our towns. More than this is being said by the highest authorities in Parliament, and by the Press. We do but echo the statements made on all hands by critics and experts. And the usual results of panics are displaying themselves. First of all the formation of excellent resolutions, and then the process of patchwork. Battalions shall be strengthened, forts increased, and the system of auxiliary forces improved. The expenditure of both services shall be overhauled, and the nation shall derive full value for the money laid out. In fact if good intentions were effectual we should soon possess the finest army and navy in the world. Unfortunately reform of the right stamp fails to be attempted—no one seems to have even a faint conception it. It is organisation that is wanted, the faculty for restoring order out of chaos, for perceiving precisely what the country wants, and for pressing it upon Parliament and people. So comprehensive a talent may be slow in evincing itself, but it must be forthcoming before the country is satisfied and placed in a condition of security. Nor should the task be altogether appalling. Some portion of the difficulty is at all events removed. We can no longer dream of foreign conquest, or even of supporting the balance of power in Europe. We confine ourselves to the simple effort of self-defence, no nation in the world possessing better resources for this purpose. It may be, however, that these very resources are a misfortune. So great are our facilities that we neglect the endeavours which generally speaking are so essential to success. We are like mountaineers trusting entirely to the accident of our position. Will anything awaken us from our false sense of security less rude than misfortune—shall we learn only through adversity? We could fain think otherwise. Public opinion which generally leads must take the matter in hand. Already it suggests a Commission of Inquiry, and already it singles out the men who should compose it. An investigation conducted by GENERAL WOLSELEY, ROBERTS, and HAMLEY, by LORD CHARLES BERESFORD, and SIR SPENCER ROBINSON would not only inspire confidence in the country but elicit facts which could form a basis for a complete and effectual system of national defence.

JOTTINGS BY THE WAY.

[BY "INCOGNO."]

HALF-HOLIDAY TRIPS.

Half-holiday trips are very popular in the Consett district, popular because they are well patronised, and than patronage there could not be a better test of popularity. Despite this standard proof of public appreciation, however, from my point of view, the working classes would profit much could a slight change be made in the railway company's arrangements whereby a full half-day could be placed at the disposal of those who desire to take advantage of an excursion. Leaving Consett at two o'clock in the afternoon cannot possibly be called a half-day trip. Why, it is tea time before Newcastle is reached, and shortly afterwards one's shadows begins to lengthen. Twelve o'clock is generally regarded as noon, and if things are to be called by their proper names it necessarily follows that a half-day proper dates from the hour. Could the railway company contrive to make arrangements so that the so called half-day excursion could start about noon, it would then be a half-holiday trip worthy of the name.

"CAULD WETTER DOON YER BACK."

Let not the title of this note at all alarm the reader. I have no desire to tread upon the toes of the family doctor, in other words, my friends will live a long time before I go the length of prescribing a shower bath to either the oldest or the youngest of them. I am in quest of knowledge that is all; and, as it is not my custom to sue for favours from the readers of the *Guardian*, I do so on the present occasion simply because it seems to me to be the easiest, as well as the best way of acquiring it. "That's cauld wetter doon yer back" is the name of a local poetical piece of some merit, and never having had the pleasure of seeing it, I should esteem it a favour did some of my well-wishers forward a copy of the piece to the Editor for publication. I say for publication, because whatever affords gratification to me does, to some extent, also afford delight to one or more of my fellow-men. The piece in question was given in response to an *encore* at the usual fortnightly meeting of the Beamish branch of the Church of England Temperance Society.

DANGER AHEAD.

The unfortunate dispute in the Tyne shipyards may yet lead to a very deplorable state of things, involving not only the kindred departments of the industry, but the collieries and ironworks all over the North. I do not say that the dispute will assume such proportions; but no man can tell at the present hour what the end will be. An old lady living in a remote hamlet on the north side of the Tweed is reported to have said, that there was a bank broke in London, and the report thereof was heard at her door. The good lady's meaning is plain enough, and in the same sense may the cloud hanging over the "Coaly Tyne" yet cast its shadow over the distant town of Consett. I trust it will not; but I have grave doubts and fears. My sympathies are entirely with the locked out men, and with those who went on strike—a comparatively small section indeed. The lot of the ordinary shipyard helper is far from being an enviable one. A wage of from 25s to 27s 6d per week sounds well; but no man can contradict the fact that 15s a week is above his average earnings. Not one, but a complication of causes contribute to bring such a state of things about. It is not in the main the fault of the platers with whom the men are employed. Bad weather, and delay in the delivery of material conduce materially to lay the men idle, until taken all round, the helper is in a worse position than the ordinary 3s a day labourer, whose duties are of a much lighter character. Work in the Tyne shipyards has this week been practically suspended, and as the days pass without a settlement being come to the welcome sounds of industry will grow less and less distinct.

BURIAL REFORM.

An exhaustive communication on this subject appeared in the last issue of the *Guardian*, a communication which all interested in this very desirable reform—and to the working classes the points at issue are of the first importance—should make it their business to preserve. Eating and drinking in the house of mourning is nothing short of a relic of the dark ages, and the sooner that modern thought makes its influence felt in that quarter the better it will be for many a household in which the money expended in keeping pace with a fashion at variance with good taste could be turned to better advantage. Should this matter be taken up in earnest by the people the undertaker may find his occupation gone, like the Scotch grave digger, who complained that he had not buried a living soul for sax weeks!

SINGULAR INCIDENT AT WITTON GILBERT.

On Saturday night, as the 5·25 passenger train from Durham to Consett was approaching Witton Gilbert Station, an extraordinary escapade occurred. It appears that a young man named Peacock, the son of a farmer, living near to Witton Gilbert, had been engaged rolling the fields adjoining the railway with a couple of horses that day. He left the animals standing in the field, and stationing himself in the centre of the rails, he held up his hands as the train was steaming towards Witton Gilbert from Aldin Grange Station, and endeavoured to stop further progress. Being the holiday season, the train was crowded with passengers, and a great deal of commotion was caused, it being feared that an accident had taken place on the railway. The train, however, was brought to a standstill just before it arrived at the eccentric youth, and the engine-driver, stoker, and guard dismounted, and having made enquiries, safely escorted the young man back to the field, where he unyoked the horses, and took them safely home. The passenger train then resumed its journey. It is stated that Peacock exclaimed, on the stoppage of the train, that "It was high time all machinery was stopped. Beware! the judgment day is at hand."

ANGLING CONTEST AT WOLSINGHAM.

A fishing contest was held at Wolsingham, on Whit-Monday, in the Wear. There was 43 competitors, and each man was allotted 120 yards of fishing ground, in the river, and three hours fishing, from 10 a.m., to 1 p.m. A committee man accompanied every two or three fishers, and took the fish from them as they were caught. The day was sunny and warm, but the water was clear and fine. No great catches were made. At the close of the contest, they all returned to the public-house near the steelworks, the landlord of which takes a very active part in promoting these contests. Here the fish were all produced and weighed, and the successful competitors were awarded their prizes as follows:—11 oz., Henry Thompson, Hunwick, £1; 8½oz., John Nicholson, Rough Lea, 15s; 8 oz., Thomas Foster, Sunnybrow, 10s; 7 oz., Robert Hopper, Wolsingham, 7d 6d; 6½ oz, George Cox, Frosterley, 5s; 6 oz., William Johnson, Wolsingham, 2s 6d; 5½ oz., Joseph Stokoe, Tow Law, 1s 6d; 5½ oz., James Thompson, Tow Law, 1s 6d. The next in [illegible] day seekers witnessed the contest. But there is little sport or excitement to onlookers at an angling contest. It seems a tame affair.

AMUSING INCIDENT IN LANCHESTER POLICE COURT.

"LIKE FATHER—LIKE SON."

One of the most laughable scenes ever enacted at the Lanchester Petty Sessions was witnessed the other week during the course of the hearing of an affiliation case. The testimony on behalf of the prosecutrix—a widow belonging to the village, whose husband left her several years ago, and subsequently died abroad—was not fully corroborated. Not to be daunted in proving the paternity of the boy, she left the court, and presently returned with the infant, and holding it up before the Bench, exclaimed: "It's the very spit and image of the defendant, your worships—(Roars of laughter.) Just look at the nose; there is a black mark upon it precisely the same as the father's there"—pointing to the dock. (Great laughter.)—The magistrates desired the baby to be handed up for closer inspection, and accordingly the child was turned over to Mr W. Brotherhood, master of the Workhouse, who held it in one hand, and with the other he pointed out the semblance of the infant's phiyiogomy to that of the defendant, amidst convulsed merriment, the justices themselves joining in the hilarity. The "Boss" was particularly careful in showing a lump upon the nose, and also the black mark, which was compared with the man's nasal organ. At length, the youngster began to cry, and ultimately he left his "trade-mark" upon the palm of the Master's hand. This was the culmination of a highly sensational and ludicrous episode, which relieved the tedium of the usual business for some moments, and a lengthened period elasped before the inmates of the court-room could be restored to their customary equanimity. Notwithstanding the apparent likeness, the case was, however, dismissed.

PRINTING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION at the *lowest* possible prices by ROBERT JACKSON "Guardian" Office, Consett Estimates furnished.

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

WESLEYAN METHODISM.—The official returns of membership from the thirty-five districts of British Methodism, and which are to be presented to the forthcoming Wesleyan Conference, are as follows:—Total membership, 415,808; new members, received during the year, 47,644; on trial for church membership, 34,563; young persons in junior society classes, 56,219, ceased to be members, 25,867. Twenty of the more important districts of the connexion show an increase of 4,684, while fifteen others, mostly agricultural, a decrease of 1,328. The net increase in membership for the year is 3,510. There are 150 candidates for the ministry. Three ex-presidents of special distinction, and whose names are familiar as household words, retire from the active work of the ministry at the ensuing Wesleyan Conference:—Revs Wm. Arthur, M.A., author of "The Tongue of Fire," "The Successful Merchant," &c.; Rev Ebenezer E. Jenkins, M.A., of the Wesleyan Mission House; and Rev R. Roberts, chairman of the Second London District, and superintendent of the Lambert circuit.

Whitsuntide Festivities.

The Whitsuntide festival has this year passed off under the most auspicious and satisfactory circumstances, the weather on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday being truly bright and magnificent. On Tuesday, however, the sky (which had hitherto been cloudless) assumed a dull, leaden aspect, and the weather was cold and chilly. Monday was recognised as the great holiday, *fetes* and pic-nics taking place that day in every town and village, and were in every instance attended by great numbers of people. Of course, the chief local resort for pleasure-seekers was the ever-beautiful Spa Grounds at Shotley Bridge, which were largely patronised on both days. The yearly Catholic sports at Consett were a large success, and vast numbers of people went to West Stanley and Blaydon race meetings. A well-laden excursion train on Monday travelled from Consett to Newcastle. The Consett and District United Sunday-school Demonstration had to be abandoned this year on account of lack of funds; but several of the churches and chapels held school pic-nics, &c., on their own behalf. There was a total cessation of labour at the Consett Iron and Steel Works on Monday and Tuesday, but operations were resumed on Tuesday evening. The collieries in the surrounding neighbourhood were likewise idle on Monday. During the Whitsuntide holidays a good number of anglers journeyed into the dales to indulge in the pastime of trout-fishing. From Newcastle the Derby Street Choir went to Ryton, and Beamish Street Wesleyan Sunday-school teachers to Chester-le-Street. The Tyneside Naturalists' Field Club went to Corbridge, and visited, by permission of the Water Company, the Hallington Reservoirs, the members reporting a very pleasant day for the first outing. Appended are the particulars of the local festive gatherings:—

BALL AT CONSETT.—On Monday night, a ball was held in the Trafalgar Street Assembly Rooms, Consett. There was only a moderate attendance. The music was supplied by Mr T. Nixon's string band.

CONSETT BAPTIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The annual gala came off on Whit-Monday in a field near to Templetown, lent for the occasion by Mr George Hardy, Knitsley. The scholars gathered at the chapel in Front Street, about one o'clock, and marched in procession through the principal streets to the field, where they were supplied with tea. A public repast was likewise provided. Then games and other amusements were indulged in till the shades of dusk set in.

CHRISTIAN LAY CHURCH, CONSETT. — On Sunday, sermons were preached in the above church by Mr H. Crosten (the Blind Preacher), of Milkwell Burn, whose remarks were highly appreciated by all present.—On Whit-Monday, the scholars were regaled with tea and cake, after which the adults sat down to an excellent repast. The tables were ably presided over by Mesdames Sanderson and Sheldon. The teachers, scholars, and friends having indulged in a few harmless games, they returned to their respective homes highly satisfied with the day's enjoyment.

CONSETT PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL.—The Primitive Methodists of Consett celebrated their annual field-day on Monday afternoon, under most favourable circumstances. The scholars (numbering over 200) met at the school at two o'clock, and, headed by the Salvation Army Brass Band, paraded the principal thoroughfares of the town, proceeding to a field pleasantly situated at Templetown (kindly granted for the occasion by Mr T. R. Dolphin, Delves House), Consett, where they were regaled with tea, buns, cake, &c. A public tea was subsequently held, when about 600 persons partook of an excellent repast, served up in admirable style by Misses Elliott (2), Harrison, Lowes, Elliker, and Morgan. After tea, a programme of sports was gone through, comprising foot-racing, three-legged racing, wheelbarrow-racing, jumping, skipping &c. A singing contest was also held, when a large number of the junior scholars competed for the prizes. The weather being beautifully fine, a considerable number of people visited the field during the afternoon and evening. The Salvation Army Band rendered choice selections of music during the proceedings. The enjoyable gathering broke up about ten o'clock. The event was a marked success, being patronised by a larger number of people than on former occasions.—On Tuesday, the members of the newly-formed Young Men's Library held a pic-nic on the Woodlands Estate (by the kind permission of Mr W. B. Van Haansbergen, J.P.) Having indulged in various games in a field near Red Houses, the party (numbering about 40) adjourned to the Sawmill Wood, where they partook of refreshments. The [illegible] services being held in the Wesleyan Chapel, Front Street, Consett. In the morning, the rostrum was occupied by Mr Frankland, Blackhill, who preached an excellent discourse to a good congregation. In the afternoon, Mr W. Thompson, of Newcastle, assisted by his brother, conducted this service, when the latter gentleman gave a spirited address to parents, teachers, and scholars. In the evening, Mr Thompson preached a practical sermon in his usual vigorous style; the chapel being on the last two services crowded to excess. On each occasion the children recited portions of Scripture and catcheism in a manner which gives credit to those who had them in training, and likewise to the school at large. Selections of music were rendered during the day by the children, assisted by the choir, in a rich style. The anthem, "Make a joyful noise," was given to the entire satisfaction of all. Mr C. Stelling presided at the organ, and Mr M. Fawell conducted. Collections were taken at the close of each service.—On Whit-Monday, the children were regaled with tea, cake, &c., in the Gibson Street Schools, after which a public tea was served up, the tables being presided over by several of the female teachers, when a good number sat down and partook of a splendid repast. Tea being over, the teachers, scholars, and friends processioned the main thoroughfares of the town, and then marched to a field, kindly granted by Mr T. R. Dolphin, adjoining Delves Farm, where games, &c., were indulged in, by old and young, until the shades of evening began to draw in.—On Tuesday, the choir and their friends held a pic-nic to the estate of Mr G. Hardy, Knitsley, when a pleasant afternoon was spent.

BLACKHILL.—The members of the Blackhill Wesleyan Mutual Improvement Society had an excursion per brakes to Hexham, on Whit-Tuesday.

BLACKHILL PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The Sunday-school anniversary was commemorated, as usual, on Whit-Sunday, when three services were held in the chapel, being conducted by Rev T. Wood, from Tyneside. The edifice was densely packed. The children recited and sang.—On Monday, the annual field-day took place in a pasture kindly granted by Mr Telford, Berry Edge Farm. The scholars were regaled to tea, and amusements and games were heartily indulged in till dusk.

BLACKHILL ST. AIDAN'S CHURCH.—On Monday afternoon, the Sunday scholars had a pic-nic in a field at Benfieldside, granted by Mr R. Murray. About 150 boys and girls assembled at the Church, at one o'clock, and marched in procession straightway to the field, where they were provided with tea, &c. Racing, skipping, and other amusements were indulged in, small prizes being offered. Many of the parents of the children were in attendance, and enjoyed themselves. The proceedings closed about dusk.

PRIMITIVE METHODISM AT DIPTON.—The annual field-day and open air concert, promoted by the members of the Primitive Methodist Society, took place on Whit-Monday afternoon, in a large field at Collierley Dykes, belonging to Mr Rutherford. There was a large concourse of visitors. During the afternoon, a choice programme of music was rendered by the Leadgate, Oxhill, and Dipton Primitive Methodist choirs, assisted by the Dipton Temperance Brass Band. Mr C. Graham, of Annfield Plain, officiated as chairman. A tea given by the public, was provided in a spacious tent. Various games and amusements were arranged, and an extremely agreeable day was spent. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Sunday-school building fund.

LEADGATE PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHAPEL.—The Sunday-school scholars in connection with the above place of worship held their usual picnic and free tea in a field at Baukers Hill, on Whit-Monday afternoon.

COLLIERLEY CHORAL UNION.—The inaugural festival of the Choral Union recently formed by the choirs of Dipton and Collierley parishes took place on Monday, when services were held—in the afternoon at Dipton, and in the evening at Collierley—Rev L. M. Chesters, B.A., curate of Beamish, and Rev J. W. Mitchell, M.A., vicar of Leadgate, being the preachers. The other clergy present were Rev J. Gornall, vicar, and Rev A. Dunn, curate of Collierley; Rev R. Tuson, vicar of Dipton; and Rev P. Hughes, curate of Burnopfield. The united choirs numbered about 70, and sang with spirit the anthem, hymns, psalms, and canticles. Mr W. Daglish officiated on the harmonium at Dipton, and Mr T. Lumley on the organ at Collierley. The choir has been carefully trained by Mr W. Telford, choirmaster, of Collierley.

WEST STANLEY.—The Primitive Methodists had a field-day and pic-nic on Monday, and the Salvation Army also had a gala there.

WEST STANLEY RACES AND SPORTS. — The following are the results of the sports which are not given in our inner columns:—Quoit handicap.—First prize, £2, 2nd, 10s—H. Standard, Annfield Plain, and W. Walker, Oxhill, divided 1st and 2nd; 3rd, Larry McCanna, Tanfield Lea. 68 entries. Mr Wm. Purdy, handicapper. 120 yards handicap.—James Stephenson, Oxhill, 22½ yards, 1; Old Bowman, Dipton, 17½, 2; R. Greenwell, West Pelton, 23, 3. A splendid race; won by one foot, half-a-yard between second and third. 34 entries. The committee, seeing the way that this event was patronised, decided to give an extra pound to be divided amongst the three winners. The handicap was made by W. Turner, of Stanley, and was carried out without a single hitch.—West Stanley steeplechase.—1st, £7; 2nd, £1.—1st, Mr R. Johnson's Stanley Lass, J. Richardson; Mr J. Hardy's Bold Friday and Mr W. Hardy's Miss Edith also ran. Stanley Lass cleared the hurdles in splendid form, leaving the other two trying to leap the second hurdle, which they did not succeed in doing, and were therefore debarred from receiving second money.

WEARDALE.—On Whit-Monday, there was no special attraction in Weardale, but as the weather was extremely fine, and the dale looking almost at its best, many took the opportunity of driving up to its head and over the top of Killhope to Alston, where sporting and other attractions were provided.

HIGH HOUSE, WEARDALE.—The Sunday-school anniversary of the Wesleyan Society was celebrated last Saturday, when the children attending the school were entertained to a free tea. In the evening a public meeting was addressed by Mr T. Harker, Bishop Auckland, and other local gentlemen. On Sunday, Mr Harker preached three effective sermons to large audiences. Collections were taken after each service in aid of the school fund.

WESLEYAN ANNIVERSARY IN WEARDALE.—A HAPPY COINCIDENCE.—On Saturday, the annual gathering of scholars, who marched through the adjacent villages, singing hymns, under the care of their teachers, took place. The juveniles were regaled with tea and cake, of which many parents also partook. In the evening a crowded public meeting was held. Rev. H. Beeson read extracts from the diary of John Wesley, showing that in 1788, in the month of June, the founder of the sect had pleasant experiences in that sanctuary, and naming many of the ancestors of the chairman (Mr W. Watson) and the superintendent of the present school (Mr A. Nattrass). The scholars gave some amusing and instructive dialogues and recitations, blended with pieces from the choir. Mr T. Harker, Bishop Auckland, gave a humorous and pathetic address, and preached sermons on Sunday to crowded congregations, Mr Wm. Hetherington officiating at the organ.

WESLEYAN ANNIVERSARY AT WOLSINGHAM.—On Saturday night, the Wesleyans commenced their anniversary services, when a meeting was held, addressed by Revs J. Fielden, Crook, and S. Miles, Wolsingham. On Sunday, the services were continued, when Rev J. Fielden preached morning and night, and in the afternoon gave an address to parents, teachers, and scholars. The scholars recited and sang a selection of hymns, aided by the choir.

TOW LAW.—The Sunday-school anniversary of the Primitive Methodists was celebrated by a tea in the chapel on Saturday afternoon, followed by a public meeting at night, presided over by the resident minister, Rev J. Forster. Other speakers were Messrs Campbell (Sunderland), Bell, Vickers, &c. On Sunday, Mr Campbell preached, and in the afternoon a service of song, "What the flowers say," was rendered. A field-day was held on Whit-Monday in a field lent by the Weardale Iron Co.—The Wesleyan Sunday-school scholars, and also the scholars attending the Wesleyan day-schools, had their annual treat in a field near Thornley Grove, on Whit-Monday. The scholars, preceded by the Mission Brass Band, processioned High Street. The teachers provided tea, and also various games.

WITTON GILBERT.—On Whit Sunday, anniversary services were held in the Wesleyan Chapel, when Mr Joseph Audi, from Palestine, gave interesting addresses in the afternoon and evening. On Monday afternoon, Rev S. Adcock preached to a good congregation. Afterwards tea was partaken of by the congregation and visitors. In the evening, Mr Audi gave his popular lecture on "The Manners and Customs of the East" to a large audience—Rev S. Adcock presiding.

THE NEW PEAL OF BELLS AT CORBRIDGE.—On Tuesday, the Bishop of Newcastle inaugurated a new peal of bells, which have been placed in the Parish Church at Corbridge to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. The new peal numbering six, and they take the place of three old ones which date back to the year of 1700. The weight of the six bells is about 30 cwt., the tenor weighing nearly 7 cwt. The whole of the work casting and fixing them has been carried out by Messrs Gillett and Co., of Croydon. The total cost of the peal will be about £400; but Mr F. M. Laing, Farnley Grange, kindly defrayed the cost of one bell, and and Messrs T. and E. Sheldon also kindly gave anther, the cost of the remainder being defrayed by public subscriptions. A short service was held in the church in the afternoon, which was very largely attended. A public tea was afterwards held in the Town Hall, under the presidency of the Vicar (Rev F. Richardson), when addresses were given by various gentlemen.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.—A bazaar was held in the Wesleyan School-room at this place on Monday, on behalf of the trust and organ funds of that place of worship. The Mayor of Durham was announced to open the proceedings, but, being unable to be present, that duty was performed by Mr John Hodgson, of Edmondsley. There was a numerous company present at the opening.—The annual gathering of the Sunday-schools in connection with the Chester-le-Street Primitive Methodist Circuit also took place. The children were marched through the town singing hymns, and then proceeded to a field at the Old Barley Mow, where they were regaled with tea, and various sports were indulged in. Seven schools took part in the gathering.

PRUDHOE.—On Whit-Sunday, special sermons were preached in the United Methodist Free Church by Rev T. Law, Felling. On Monday, the 12th annual circuit gathering in connection with the Free Methodist Churches was held in a large field granted by Mr J. Tulip. The Rev F. Raine, circuit minister, presided, and addresses were delivered by Rev T. Law and Mr J. Moorhead. A largely-attended tea was provided in the school-room, after which the company returned to the field, where a meeting was presided over by Mr J. Moorhead, and addresses were given by Revs F. Raine and T. Wood.—The Wesleyans also held special services in Mr Teasdale's field. Rev H. Bunting and Miss Wilson gave addresses, and the Blackhill Brass Band (led by Mr Jas. Palliser) was also in attendance. Tea was provided in the afternoon, followed by an experience meeting.

DIOCESAN SUNDAY. — On Whit-Sunday, collections were made in the various churches of the Diocese of Durham, and in many instances special reference was made to the objects of the diocesan fund of Durham, in regard to which a letter had been addressed by the Lord Bishop to the clergy, and a short statement was circulated as to the various objects to which the fund is applied.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN SUNDAY-SCHOOL, BLACKHILL.—On Whit-Monday, the annual field-day of this school was, through the kindness of the Messrs Annandale, held at the Bridge Hill Farm, where a most delightful day was spent by the scholars, their parents, and friends. After an excellent tea, of which a much larger number partook than for many years back, the children were engaged in competitive games, for which prizes, including many useful articles, were given, kindly provided by Rev A. Baillie and Mr McCourty, Consett. Much hearty amusement was caused by the sack races, three-legged, and barrow races, &c, by the boys, conducted by Messrs Richardson and Hall; while the girls, under the guidance of Miss Lumsden, and the infants, under that of Miss Hogg, were engaged in games of a milder cast in another part of the field. The day was altogether eminently successful, to which the exceptionally fine day, and the beautiful situation of the field, from which the whole valley of the Derwent is seen like a magnificent panorama, largely contributed.—On Tuesday, an equally enjoyable day was spent at the Sneep by the teachers and elder scholars.

WOLSINGHAM WESLEYAN METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.—A public meeting in connection with the above was held on Saturday evening, when stirring addresses were delivered by Rev J. Fielden (Crook), and Rev S. Miles (Wolsingham). Some recitations and songs by the scholars made up a very enjoyable evening. A hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr Joseph Parker, and seconded by Mr Jno. Morgan, was accorded to the deputation.—The services were continued on the Sunday, when the Rev J. Fielden preached impressive sermons, morning and evening, and also conducted the children's service in the afternoon, at which the scholars gave a number of excellent recitations and dialogues, interspersed by a very suitable selection of music, aided by the chapel choir, which reflects great credit on Mr W. Steel, who has had the principle part of the training in hand; the conductorship being undertaken by Mr J. Morgan, whilst the greatest credit seems to belong to the amiable organist, Mr G. W. Goulden (Tow Law), whose masterly manipulation of the instrument deserves the highest eulogium, and without his aid the services would have been shorn of much of the interest displayed by the audiences.—On Whit-Monday, the annual pic-nic of the Sunday-school was held in a field adjoining the picturesque scenery of Ladley Wood, kindly placed at the committee's disposal by Mr Hall Johnson, of Fawn Lees. The scholars and teachers left the school in procession at one o'clock, and proceeded to the field where, along with a goodly number of friends, a most pleasant half-day was spent amid "the woods and glens." A variety of healthy and amusing games were freely indulged in. Tea being gratuitously provided to the scholars and teachers, friends being charged a small fee for refreshments. A liberal supply of nuts, &c., were thankfully received by the youngsters.

DURHAM.—Monday was strictly observed as a holiday in Durham, and the weather being beautifully fine, thousands of excursionists were attracted to the city from Sunderland, Newcastle, Darlington, Hartlepool, and other thickly-populated centres. Large numbers repaired to the banks and wooded hills in the vicinity of the city, and found relaxation in rambling at will, whilst others engaged in the pleasures of rowing, the river being thickly studded with pleasure boats the greater portion of the day. The annual athletic sports of the City Cricket Club were held in the Wharton Park, and were attended with greater success than has been the case for several years past. The Cathedral and Castle were also amongst the objects of interest which were largely patronised.

FROSTERLEY PRIMITIVE METHODIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY.

The anniversary of the above school was held on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. On the Saturday the children accompanied by the teachers processioned the village, and were afterwards regaled with tea and cake. This was followed by a public tea party. In the evening a public meeting was held. On the Sunday, Rev E. Philipson, preached in the morning and evening, and in the afternoon the choir gave in a very efficient manner a service of song. In the evening service the children said a few pieces, but the principal piece-saying was reserved for Monday evening, when a large number was said by the children in capital style.—Mr John Gardner, of Hill End, presiding. The principal reciters were Miss J. Robinson, Miss M. J. Indian, Miss J. Jobling, Misses Wards, Miss Mitchell, Miss Carey, Miss Proud, Masters J. G. Gardnear, J. Indian, Cail, Pennitant, Denison, and Wright. The dialogue entitled "Miss Siddle's tea party," was the piece of the evening, and was performed in a style which elicited the applause of the large congregation. The characters represented were Cat, Modesty, Dry Stick, Mrs Grundy, Spicy, Specks, Clipper and Dapper. The dialogue was very humourous, and the characters well sustained, and the rounds of applause amply testified how well it took with the audience. The singing of of the choir was a special feature of the anniversary services, and was of a very efficient character, and reflected great credit upon the musicans Messrs J. G. Collingwood, J. Stephenson, W. Makepeace, and J. Thompson. Miss Gowland presided at the harmonium with good effect. The singing of the two Miss Stephensons, of Bollihope, was excellent. It is generally admitted thy are second to none in Weardale, or the dale next to the other. Their voices being so sweet, so melodious, and their training having been so thorough, they are thoroughly efficient, and the serenading they generally receive after performing a piece testifies the appreciation of the audience. They are gifted with superior talent for songs, and their painstaking tutor has made them almost reach perfection as singers. The anniversary was a great success.

WESLEYAN BAZAAR AT CHESTER-LE-STREET.

On Monday, a bazaar, in aid of the trust and organ funds, was opened in the Wesleyan Schools, Chester-le-Street. The rooms were tastefully decorated for the occasion, and the stalls were well filled with useful and ornamental articles, supplied principally by the ladies of the congregation. A quantity of blooming plants and cut flowers supplied by Messrs Hunter, Lambton Castle gardens; O. Lamb, South Hill; M. D. Thompson, The Hermitage; and A. Aikman, Poor House, Chester-le-Street, augmented in no small measure to the beauty of the decorations.—Rev J. Charlesworth announced that Councillor M. Fowler, who had been announced to open the bazaar, was unfortunately unable to be present, owing to the serious illness of Mrs Fowler. He had, however, a pleasing statement to make. The Countess of Scarbrough had sent a large hamper of flowers, a letter expressing a hope that the bazaar would be successful, and a cheque for £2.—In the unavoidable absence of Councillor Fowler, Mr John Hodgson, of Edmondsley, one of the circuit stewards, formally opened the bazaar in the presence of a large attendance; and a brisk trade was done during the afternoon and evening. Mrs Charlesworth and Mrs Joseph Carss acted as joint secretaries, and Mrs Mitchell as treasurer. The stalls were presided over by the following ladies:—The sewing meeting stall: Mesdames Charlesworth, Church, Carss, J. Dixon, Mitchell, Thompson, Misses Appleby, Brown, and J. S. Whitfield. Fancy stall: Mrs T. Dixon, Misses Mary Dalkin, and Mitchell. Flower stall: Mrs Gardner, Misses J. Mitchell, and E. T. Charlesworth. Refreshment stall; Mrs Bool, Misses Bool, Carss, Court, and Langton. The tea room was presided over by Mesdames Pearson, Wilson, Lynn, John A. Wilson, Hetherington, Gallon, and Miss Dalkin. During the afternoon of each day Mr Frank Wilkinson's orchestral band was in attendance, and rendered excellent programmes of music. The bazaar was continued until Wednesday night. The receipts during the three days' sale amounted to a good sum.

DR BARDSLEY'S ANTIBILIOUS PILLS.—For radicating all impurities of the blood from the system they have no equal. They have never failed to affect a cure, giving tone and strength to the system debilitated by disease.—Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 1s 1½d and 2s 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 35 stamps. Wm. Mather Wholesale Druggist, Manchester.

THE ESCAPED MURDERER

SENSATIONAL DETAILS.

The convict Jackson, who escaped from Strangeways Goal, Manchester, after murdering a warder on Tuesday evening, has not yet been arrested.

On Wednesday forenoon, however, information reached Manchester of a double burglary at Oldham, eight miles distant, supposed to have been committed by Jackson, and an interchange of communications confined the impression that a clue had been obtained. A house in Park Road, Oldham had been broken into, and from it were taken an overcoat, a linen jacket, a brown tweed vest, a bottle of porter, and a quantity of cigars. The same man, it is said, next broke into the house of Thomas Wood, a Salvation Army captain, where he stole £1 16s, a tweed coat, and the keys of the Salvation Army barracks. Traces were on Wednesday morning perceptible of his having smoked the cigars and drunk the porter in the barracks. A piece of cotton waste was also found, similiar to a piece of linen jacket taken from Park Road. In the house of the Salvationist he left a note, in which was written—"Good-bye, captain." Tho lost to sight, to memory dear.'—Yours truly, Shakespeare." On the other side were some figures indicating the amount of money he stole, and the words, "Good-bye; yours truely." The identity of the Oldham burglar with the Manchester murderer has been ascertained in a curious way. On the scene of the first nocturnal depredation on Tuesday night he left behind him two socks. A Manchester detective, who proceeded thither, on Wednesday, has pronounced one of these to be a stocking which Jackson wore in goal, and the other to be one of the pair stripped from off the feet of the murdered warder.

The Oldham police yesterday (Thursday) found an overcoat stolen by Jackson. Jackson had been seen wearing it, and is believed to have left for Yorkshire. The wearer of the coat had stayed at a house at Lees, and while their spent money freely, and read to the inmate an account of the murder. When he left he had a small trowel with which he said he was going to work.

The Central News Manchester correspondent telegraphs:—Another night has passed, and contrary to expectation, John Jackson, the murderer of a warder named Webb, in Strangeways Gaol, remains at large. Public uneasiness has consequently been intensified. Throughout the night the parks and outlying fields in the neighbourhood of Oldham, where it was thought the fugitive might be disposed to sleep, were carefully inspected, but without success. It is feared that with the money he became possessed of he may have purchased some deadly weapon, and being in a desperate mood may strenuously resist an attempt to capture him. There is just a possibility that his reckless bravado as a burglar of which he has given proof since the murder may lead to his being ensnared. The police have issued 8,000 large placards in which a description of the murderer is given. Jackson appears to have gone to Oldham, where he has committed two burglaries, and stolen the following articles of clothing which he may possibly be wearing:—"A man's black-ribbed worsted Chesterfield overcoat, with imitation sealskin collar, cloth covered buttons, and lined with Italian cloth; a man's white-lined jacket, metal buttons, and a brown and red mixture tweed vest." The Salvation Army captain from whose house some money was stolen by Jackson referred to the affair at a service on Wednesday evening, saying, "The Lord kept Adam asleep while he took a rib from him to make a woman, but he (the captain) was asleep whilst his money was taken from him, and he fancied that if he awoke his life would have been taken." On Wednesday night rumours were rife in Manchester that Jackson had been taken, and much excitement was caused thereby. At the detective office is a collection of articles which he left behind him in one of the houses at Oldham which he broke into. Amongst them is a scarf, evidently of Oriental manufacture, which he is supposed to have obtained in the Jewish quarter, near Strangeways Prison, after his escape. It is now stated that his real name is Edward Graham, and that he has worked at Nottingham.

The Press Association Manchester correspondent wires:—At Oldham further traces of Jackson have been found. The stolen overcoat with the imitation sealskin collar has been found in Lees Road, Oldham. A man supposed to be the fugitive was seen drinking on Wednesday at several public-houses at Lees, near Oldham, and spending freely a quantity of copper money at one house. He read for an hour an account of the murder to the company. Subsequently he is said to have been seen coming in the direction of Greenfield, Saddleworth, wearing some of the stolen clothes.

EXCITEMENT IN NEWCASTLE.

Piacards describing the murder have been posted at the various police stations in Newcastle, yesterday (Thursday) morning, and the interest is such that large crowds may be seen perusing the large bills.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CULPRIT.

The Oldham police have issued a placard stating that John Jackson, *alias* Graham, was traced going in the direction of Greenfield at 6·30 a.m., on the 23rd inst. He was then wearing the stolen brown jacket and a white linen jacket underneath, a brown and red mixture cloth vest, a cap with two peaks, a white handkerchief round his neck, and a pair of light, well-polished boots, all of which he had stolen. He had in his possession a small trowel, which he stated he was going into Yorkshire to work with. It is to this district that the Manchester police are devoting their attention. Detective-Inspector Caminada went from Oldham to Greenfield yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, and it is in that vicinity that the authorities expect to make a capture.

JACKSON SUPPOSED TO BE IN DURHAM.

A BARMAID'S SUSPICIONS.

A telegram from one of the news agencies late last night, says:—A man bearing a great resemblance to the fugitive murderer Jackson entered the Rose and Crown Hotel, Durham, this afternoon. His strange appearance attracted the notice of the barmaid, who communicated with the police. The man, however, hastily swallowed a cup of tea, and made off. Supt. Smith and a detective, together with the barmaid, watched the railway station for sometime, but the man has not since be seen. Jackson is well-known in the Durham district.

JACKSON'S PREVIOUS CAREER.

At the time of the murder Jackson was in the prison for breaking into the house of a member of the Salvation Army at Eccles, and he is "wanted" at Hull, Beverley, Bradford, Oldham, and numerous other towns for burglaries committed at the houses of members of the Army. He seems to have been very successful in duping those with whom he has at various times lodged. His habit has been to get into conversation with a member of the Army and draw from him all the information he could as to the name, address, and habits of the local "captain." Then he has taken lodgings with some quiet family—rarely in a common lodging-house—and has succeeded in impressing all with the belief that be was an industrious workman and a very quiet person. He would leave the house at regular hours as if for the purpose of going to work, and at meal-times he would come back with a white apron on, as if he had come straight from the bench. In several cases he had told the persons with whom he lodged that he was a wood-carver, and to others he said he was a plumber. He was always particularly anxious to learn the hours at which the "captain" would be conducting service, and it generally happened that the "captain" returned home some night to find that his house had been ransacked and his valuables token. Jackson, of course, was seen no more in the place.

THE CATHOLIC BISHOPRIC.—With reference to the announcement made by us in another column, as to the appointment of Canon Wilkinson to the local Catholic bishopric, we now learn that, for the present, in absence of definite arrangements, his lordship's title will be that of Auxiliary Bishop. His territorial title has not yet been announced nor has the date of his consecration. Meanwhile, Bishop Wilkinson will be responsible for the government of the diocese.

LANCHESTER PETTY SESSIONS.

THURSDAY, May 24th.—Before Rev J. P. DE PLEDGE (chairman), GEO. G. TAYLOR SMITH, Esq., and W. B. VAN HAANSBERGEN, Esq. J. HARTLEY, Esq., WM. HEDLEY, Esq.

DRUNKENNESS.

Alfred Wm. Keeble and *Thomas Jones* were summoned by P.C. Kettlewell for having been drunk and fighting at Cornsay Colliery, on the night of the 5th inst.—In each instance fines of 5s and costs were inflicted.

John Robinson, was accused by the same officer of having been drunk and quarrelsome at Cornsay Colliery, on the 30th April. He had a dispute with the landlady of the public-house respecting some liquor.—Fined 5s and expenses.

Joseph Scullings and *Joseph Jopling* were both found guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Raine, of having being drunk and fighting together at Esh Colliery, on the 5th inst.—Scullings failed to attend, and was mulcted in a penalty of 10s, and costs, or 14 days in goal.—Jopling was let off on payment of 5s fine, and costs.

James Morgan, of Bowden Close (who did not appear), was also fined 10s and costs, with the alternative of 14 days' imprisonment, for having been drunk and fighting with his cloth off, at Esh Colliery, on the 5th May.—P.C. Raine proved the case.

Joseph Hutchinson was found for guilty, upon the testimony of P.C. Lambert, of having been very tipsy, at West Stanley, on April 28th, and was ordered to pay a penalty of 5s and expenses.

William Conn, of Greencroft, was summoned by P.C. Bradley for having being in the village of Lanchester, in a very drunken state, on the 12th inst., and was similarly fined.

THE TOPER AND THE POLICEMAN.

Robert Jenkinson, miner, pleaded not guilty to a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Kettlewell, of having been intoxicated and creating a disturbance at Iveslev Three Lane Ends, on Saturday evening, 6th May. The man was exceedingly drunk, and threatened the officer if he again stood listening at his door. He returned to his comrades, but he was so intoxicated that they refused to allow the defendant to have any more liquor.—Jenkinson stoutly repudiated the accusation, but the officer declared that he had been continually drunk in his own house for the past three or four weks.—Defendant informed the Bench that the policeman came into his house and began to "chaff" him. He told him to be off, and not stand to listen at his door. He (defendant) was in the act of pushing the constable away from his house when the latter dealt him a blow with his fist, knocking some teeth out, and bursting his mouth. (Laughter).—Kettlewell admitted that he pushed the man away when he attempted to strike at him.—Defendant said he had two or three witnesses, but they were affaid to come there that day, as the policeman threatened he would "make them pay for it" afterwards.—The Magistrates imposed a fine of 5s and costs.

Robert Birkett, accused of having been drunk at the same time and place, was fined in a like sum.

DAMAGE TO A CABIN.

Thomas Laidler, a youth, was charged with causing damage, to the extent of 5s, to a wood cabin belonging to Messrs James Joicey and Co., at East Stanley Colliery, on Friday, 4th inst.—Sergt. Davidson stated that on the date in question he noticed the roof of the cabin was gone, the laths torn out, and four spars which supported the roof were missing. On proceeding to the garden owned by Laidler's father, he discovered that a pigeon-house was about half-way erected, and the timber was built therein. Defendant claimed the house as his own, and the officer thereupon charged him with stealing the wood. He replied that he found it lying in a field. The cabin was situate in a field, and the defendant had no business in it.—Defendant now stated that he found the wood in an old quarry, and he thought it was of no use, and there would be no harm in taking it away.—The magistrates told Taylor that he had no right to take the wood, and probably had he asked for the same he might have got it.—He was fined 2s 6d, 5s damage, and costs—12s 6d in all.

AN ASSAULT IN A COALMINE.

Thomas Ornston, a coal-hewer, was summoned for contravening the provisions of the Mines Regulation Act, at West Stanley Colliery (belonging to Mr J. H. Burns), by riding on the sets of tubs. He was further charged with assaulting William Wilkinson, a putter, on the same occasion.—The evidence of Wilkinson, another putter boy, and the manager (Mr J. M. Wilson) went to show that on the 8th inst. defendant was riding in the tubs driven by complainant, but in consequence of the points of the switches having worn blunt, the tubs ran off the way. Defendant then struck Wilkinson upon the head with his clenched fist for having allowed the tubs to get off the rails.—Defendant, who neglected to appear, was fined 14s, including costs, for the assault; and fined 16s 8d, inclusive of costs, for the breach of the Mines' Act.

AN UNPROVOKED ASSAULT.

Albert James, a young man, appeared to answer a charge of having assaulted Thomas Johnson, another young fellow, at Langley Park, on the 8th May.—Complainant deposed that he was standing in front of the Langley Park Hotel, when the defendant came up and enquired "who was the best man?" He went on to say that he could either play at football or fight (laughter), and he "let fly" at the complainant several times, hitting him upon the face.—Robert Johnson having corroborated, P.C. Readman stated that both men were fighting when he arrived on the spot. He added that the defendant was intoxicated.—The magistrates thought that James ought to have been summoned for drunkenness as well.—Defendant affirmed that he was so drunk that he did not know what he was about. (Laughter.) He was not aware till the following morning that he had been fighting, and when he awoke be discovered that he had a black eye. (More laughter.)—Their worships regarded this as a most unprovoked assault, and imposed a fine of 10s and 16s court expenses; or one month's hard labour in default.

BREACH OF THE MINES ACT.

George March, a youth, was charged with committing a breach of the Mines Regulation Act at West Stanley Colliery, on the 3rd inst. It transpired from the evidence of the manager (Mr J. M. Wilson) that he had taken down a fence, and entered a part of the mine he was not authorised to go into.—Defendant pleaded guilty, and was fined £1 and costs.

THE EDUCATION ACT.

Isaac Hall, Quebec, was summoned by Mr John Gibson, on behalf of the School Attendance Committee of the Lanchester Union, for his children's neglect in attending school.—Order made to attend school.

Thomas Heads, Satley, for being guilty of a similar offence, was fined 2s 6d, including costs.

The other cases on the cause list were settled out of court.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

The sixty-ninth anniversary of the birth of the Queen was celebrated in London yesterday (Thursday) by the firing of salutes at the Tower and the ringing of bells, and flags were hoisted at prominent public buildings. Similar observations took place at Windsor. The event will be generally celebrated on June 2nd.

At Aldershot the day was observed unofficially. The Royal standard was raised on the Queen's Pavilion, and the bands on parade played the National Anthem.

A Zanzibar telegram says the Sultan, accompanied by the members of his staff, proceeded to the British Agency yesterday (Thursday) to offer in person his congratulations on the occasion of the Queen's birthday.

The Queen yesterday (Thursday) completed her sixty-ninth year, having been born on the 24th of May, 1819. While Her Majesty was celebrating her birthday at Balmoral, one of her granddaughters, Princess Irene of Hesse, was being married at Berlin, in her 22nd year. Princess Irene is a daughter of the late Princess Alice (Queen Victoria's second daughter), the bride's father being Ludwig IV., Grand Duke of Hesse, one of the royal dukedoms in German Empire. The bridegroom is Prince Henry of Prussia, one of the sons of the German Emperor, being 26 years of age. Their mothers both being daughters of Queen Victoria, the bride and bridegroom are cousins, and it was but fitting that the Prince of Wales should visit the German capital for the purpose of assisting at the nuptials of his nephew and niece. The peoples of Germany and England will join in the birthday and wedding congratulations. Of living European Sovereigns, Her Majesty's reign, dating from 1837, has been the longest; while among other living potentates, her sole senior is the Emperor of Brazil, who acceded to the throne in 1831, and who, it is much to be regretted, still lies in a very prostrate condition at Milan. The English Queen has lately, notwithstanding her years, shown an amount of activity and vitality that must have been highly gratifying to the nation, and of which her subjects will sincerely wish a long continuance.

THE GOVERNMENT LICENSES PROPOSALS.

WEST PELTON.

A public meeting was held last (Thursday) night in the Iron Room, West Pelton, to consider the Government proposals. The chair was occupied by Mr J. Emmerson.—The following resolution was moved by Mr M. Richardson, and seconded by Mr S. Smiley:—"That this meeting condemns (*a*) the proposal to create by legal enactment a vested interest in licenses to sell intoxicating drinks; (*b*) the proposal to pay compensation to persons whose licenses have expired, and to whom, in the public welfare, new ones are not given; (*c*) the proposal to hand over to County Councils liquor license revenues. And further, this meeting is of opinion that no alteration of the licensing laws will be just or satisfactory which does not give to the inhabitants of localities a direct power over the issue and control of licenses."—Mr J. Troup, in supporting the resolution, explained the clauses of the bill bearing on the licensing question. He condemned the proposal to compensate men for the withdrawal of the privilege to sell what the people as a whole are prevented selling. The law at present, he said, is prohibitive with some 100,000 exceptions. The license-holders have reaped the benefit of their monopoly and taken its risks, and have in law and equity no claim to compensation on being placed in the same position as other citizens.—Mr R. Rule showed that licence holders gave nothing for their position, and while enriching themselves have degraded and impoverished others, and depreciated the value of adjoining property. He claimed for working-men the same power to protect their homes from this traffic that the rich possess.—A further resolution was carried on the motion of Mr G. Riddle, seconded by Mr R. Bell—"That the foregoing resolution be embodied in a petition, signed by the chairman on behalf of this meeting, and forwarded to Mr Jas. Joicey, M.P., for presentation to the House of Commons."—This was unanimously agreed to, and the meeting thereafter terminated.

STANHOPE PETTY SESSIONS.

FRIDAY, April 20th.—Before C. J. BACKHOUSE, Esq. (chairman), and Dr ARNISON.

DRUNKENNESS.

Thomas Porter, quarryman, Frosterley, was charged with being drunk on the highway at that place on the 7th inst.—The constable asked permission of the Magistrates to amend the summons. By an error the offence was laid on the 7th instead of the 9th.—Defendant claimed dismissal on the error, which the Bench granted. Defendant then asked for costs in the case, which were disallowed. He then asked the Bench to sign a certificate of dismissal, which they refused.—He left the dock evidently dissatisfied.

DRUNK ON LICENSED PREMISES.

Robert Fairless, of Cowshill, Wearhead, was charged with having been drunk on licensed premises, at Cowshill, on the 12th inst.—He was ordered to quit, but would not do so. The landlord stated to Constable Sedgwick that the defendant got no drink in his house, but it was subsequently ascertained that he had got drink in the house.—The Bench expressed the opinion that the landlord should have turned the defendant out as soon as he came in if he was drunk, and as the defendant had not been summoned since 1885, the Bench let him off with a fine of 10s.

ASSAULT BY A WEARDALE FARMER.

Thomas Rippon, farmer, went before the Bench to answer a charge of of assaulting George Bainbridge, also a farmer, in the Pack Horse Inn, on the 14th inst.—Ralph Wilson, complainant's witness, saw the assault, but, he added, "the blows did not kill complainant." (Laughter).—Defendant said he only attempted to commit an assault. He received great provocation.—The Bench inflicted a fine of 10s and 10s costs. Mr Hodgson was for complainant.

WEARDALE BRANDY PUT TO THE TEST.

Wm. Walton, of the "Traveller's Rest," was charged with selling to Supt. Liddell a pint of brandy which contained only 55·59 per cent. of proof spirit, and was fined 5s and costs; in all 12s 6d. He asked the Bench to be lenient. He sold but little, and the brandy deteriorated with usage.

LATE CRICKET.

Whickham 2nd eleven are in want of a match on Saturday first on the home ground.

RYTON *v* RIDING MILL.—This match was played at Riding Mill on Whit-Monday. Score:—Riding Mill, 52; Ryton, 98. A. Benson batted well for the winners, and H. Pagett batted well for the losers.

BLAYDON v BYWELL.

Played at Blaydon, and resulted in a win for the home team by 17 runs and one wicket to fall. Score:—

BLAYDON.	
G. Daglish b G. Davidson	11
J. H. Rogers lbw b Pagett	1
R. Agar b Pagett	5
W. Hutchinson b Pagett	1
W. Wilson b Davidson	1
J. N. Brown c Pagett	0
J. Rodham b Davidson	4
J. Tingate b Pagett	3
R. Adamson lbw b Pagett	1
B. Davidson not out	2
J. Marshall to bat	
Extras	1
Total	30

BYWELL.	
T. Kent c Rogers	0
R. Heart b Rodham	0
J. Paget c Agar	0
T. Davidson c Wilson	0
J. J. Graham b Agar	5
J. Hart b Marshall	5
R. Colpitts b Marshall	0
T. March b Agar	0
E. Oswald b Marshall	0
B. Rodham not out	1
R. Dunn b Marshall	0
Extras	1
Total	12

JAMES COXON AND CO. v BURNOPFIELD.

Played at Burnopfield on Whit-Tuesday, and resulted in a win for the visitors. Score:—

BURNOPFIELD.	
A. Armstrong b Anderson	31
J. Curry c Young	6
R. Dent b Davidson	0
Wood b Cook	1
Hogarth c Stelling	0
Southern b J. Turnbull	2
Cuthbertson not out	5
Charlton b Anderson	0
Purdy b Anderson	0
Potts b Anderson	0
Allen b J. Turnbull	0
Extras	7
Total	52

J. C. AND CO.	
R. Turnbull b Hogarth	1
J. Stelling b Cuthbertson	9
W. Young Purdy	1
F. Johnson c Curry	17
M. Anderson c Southern	4
W. Walton b Cuthbertson	5
J. Turnbull b Purdy	15
T. Davison not out	15
J. Cooperwaite b Cuthbertson	6
J. H. Campbell not out	6
M. Cook to bat	
Extras	28
Total	107

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A FATEFUL NIGHT:

A TALE OF A BERRYEDGE METHODIST MAID AND HER TANFIELD PITMAN LOVER.

BY RALPH FAIRLEY.

CHAPTER XIII.

A LIFE'S STORY.

"It cannot be! It cannot be! It is impossible. But I am not mad. It is no phantasy!"

These were his ejaculations as Dr. Bolton paced the bedroom, after Mr Fenwick had shown him in. He opened the small hand-bag he frequently carried with him, and took out the photograph of a lady, a little over twenty, but bearing evidence that it had been taken fully twenty years before.

"I am not mistaken in the resemblance. I could submit this card even to Mrs Fenwick as the photograph of Alice. But what am I talking about? I dare not do that."

The doctor then paused during which he gazed steadfastly at the photo and continued—

"Resemblance, did I say? The likeness is most striking; and then that flesh mark, the very position, formation, and colour. And *she* would be about that age. Hush! It cannot be;" and the doctor's breathing came more quickly, and the perspiration again poured out of him.

"Yet why do I keep saying it cannot be? he resumed, after the spasm passed away. Such things have happened—aye, in real life as well as novels. Truth is stranger than fiction. I shall meet them both before I die. Mother and child—my child. Merciful heaven, spare me further pain. Let me have my child wherever she may be."

The doctor had fallen upon his knees beside the bed, and his excitement became almost an agony.

"Would I forgive my erring wife? Would I forgive the man I cursed?"—he was repeating a question which had been proposed to his own conscience.

He believed it was God that was asking the question from his inmost soul, and he believed further that upon the affirmative answer depended whether heaven would restore to him his wife and child, and whether he himself would obtain mercy at the hands of his Creator. Not but that he believed he would be justified in saying no; but it was a question of mercy and not justice.

In the world Dr Bolton was reputed to be a proud, cold distant man, and having a touch of severity withal—a sceptic in religion, and a cynic in spirit. It was a riddle to everybody, except Mr Fenwick's household, how he showed such a preference for Alice, the devotional Methodist maid.

On this morning so strangely fateful the proud Ronald Bolton was humbled. He was himself. The affectations he had put on before society, and the encrustations he had gathered in his heartless worldly experiences had all gone. As he was when a child, trained by an excellent mother who had passed to the skies, and as a young man, beloved and tenderly guarded by the same, so was he now.

Years—long, long years—of darkness had been broken that night. Occasionally, in the near past the cloud had seemed to lift as he felt the spell of Alice's simple faith, and the subtle influence that calmed his chafing spirit. But the darkness of doubt had come again, and the chill of spiritual death again quenched the warmth arising in his soul.

Now, Alice had unconsciously been a disturbing element as well as a soothing influence that morning. A great upheaval had taken place in the doctor's soul—whither it might lead he did not know, and he was as heedless as he was unknowing. He gave himself up to the feelings of the moment. He did not think of doing any other. His cradle faith had come to him in the hour of extremity. It was God that was working in him to will and to do of his own good pleasure, and whatever He willed was right.

"*If ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive you.*"

Did God say that he had to forgive his dead enemy and his wife, then he did forgive them.

"*And I also have forgiven you.*"

Ronald Bolton heard that voice, and the room was filled with a radiance—

"The light that dwells not on sea nor land."

He fell prone upon the floor, a flood of tears gushed from his eyes, and a rapture such as he had never known before filled his soul. This was the gate of heaven.

How long the rapture lasted Dr Bolton did not know. A few hours afterwards, when the day was well opened, he found himself lying where he had prostrated himself, and a pillow had been put under his head, and bedclothing over his body.

He had lived all his life in less than an hour. Panorama-like the whole of his chequered career had passed before his eyes. He looked at the changing scenes with an obserbing interest. It was his own life's story he was seeing pourtrayed. The opening picture was inviting and pleasant. The romance of life's young day was being developed.

"That is Kate," the doctor said to himself. Admiration, devotion, reverence, filled his soul, as the figure of the maiden to whom he had plighted eternal troth stood before his mind's eye. He saw himself paying court to her, and he observed with joy that his advances were preferred before those of the brilliant and rich Lindsay Hastings, of Heighton Demesne.

"How I loved her. Bonnie Kate! She was all the world to me. How I love her now. Yes, yes; a thousand times yes; I forgive her all—freely — fully, as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven him. How easily I can pronounce her forgiveness now."

A shudder shook the dreamer's frame, and a dark cloud passed over his face. What trouble—what anguish—was written on every lineament of that now expressive countenance. It was pinched with pain, and the furrows became deeper and deeper, as the blackness of darkness was setting over the soul.

It was the passage of a soul to utter, outer darkness, where no ray of light ever reached—where faith and hope and love can never dwell, but where their opposites hold dominion. He was not breathing. He was gasping — moaning and gasping.

A noble life—a life capable of all that is high and pure—was drifting to wreck, with none to succour or to save. Billow after billow was breaking over the doomed craft until stranded and broken it lay on the treacherous rocks, the sport of every passing gale.

The day hereafter brought no gladness—the night no solace. A metamorphosis had been wrought in his nature. He was another man—he was no longer himself. The depth of his love—the fulness of his trust and faith—might have been gauged by the vastness of the transformation which had taken place in the man.

A wail escaped the sufferer in his troubled sleep.

"Oh, villain—robber! Why have you stolen my priceless possessions from me? Oh, faithless woman why have you sold yourself to eternal shame and infamy and stolen my child?"

Then the face hardened, and assumed that immobility and coldness which were its distinguishing features in after years. In a hard, deliberate tone, yet steeped in implacable hate, he said—

"Lindsay Hastings, you have spoiled my life, and the lives of others. You will have to answer to me. I am the God you will have to deal with—there is no other. I will follow you to the ends of the earth, if need be, but revenged I will be."

Then the face became flushed, and he said more quickly—

"Did anyone call me, doctor? You did not hear. I thought I heard some one address me by my christian name. . . . . . Of course, not; I forgot that no one here knows me sufficiently. . . . . . But it seemed a familiar voice. . . . . A new and bad case in the adjoining ward, did you say; Then I will go and see it at once. . . . . Lindsay Hastings dying and pleading to be forgiven. . . . . . No, let him die and be damned. . . . . . But the vengeance has been taken out of my hand."

Another change. A softer shade steals into his face.

"Most remarkable resemblance! How I feel drawn to that girl—so pure, so good—better than Kate. . . . . . Oh, Kate, I do forgive you. Give me back my child."

This was said most feelingly and with great fervour, and as it was uttered a bowed figure flitted hurriedly but noiselessly out of the bedroom.

"I shall see them again before I go hence," murmured the dreamer, and then the great peace settled on him. The clouds and storm and strife—doubt and anguish—had passed away, and faith and hope were in the ascendant. Dreamless sleep succeeded.

* * * * *

The doctor's story is soon told. He was the eldest son of William Bolton, who farmed the extensive Border Marches of Lord Swinton, was his lordship's factor; in truth, his all-in-all; and as an agriculturist Mr Bolton was an authority from the Eildon Hills to Lamberton, and on the English side of the Tweed to boot. He was one of Nature's noblemen, and he had as a wife and the mother of his family a woman of great personal attractions, and of prime qualities of mind and heart. It was a typical Border home. All the virtues were nourished and cultivated, and God was honoured.

Ronald had his father's intellect, and his mother's devotion. When he loved, it was with all his heart and soul. He honoured his father, and he loved his mother. She moulded his early life, and her memory was for a long time his one ray of sunshine in after years when the evil days came.

When rising into manhood he was sent to Edinburgh University, and he afterwards studied for the medical profession. While at the University, he became acquainted with Lindsay Hastings, a circumstance which was destined to affect most disastrously the flower of his life. The young men spent their leisure hours together, except when Hastings went to questionable places of resort. They became rival suitors for the hand of Kate Cunninghame, and Hastings then deported himself in a commendable manner. He was a most fascinating companion, but his moral weakness was most conspicuous. He was the product of the system of rearing by proxy—the spoilt child of the hireling.

Kate Cunninghame was a winsome Scotch lassie; in figure, face, and mind possessing many attractions; a trifle romantic; not self-reliant; undeveloped, even when a woman—a character that afterwards grew amid surroundings of sorrow, suffering and gloom. She enjoyed the society of the students; she felt flattered by their attentions.

Hastings charmed her at the first; then his presence operated as a spell upon her, and further on when in his society she felt as if all her will had left her. She became alarmed at this, and more and more sought the company of Bolton, in whose presence Lindsay Hastings' spell was broken, and she felt in safety.

She loved Ronald; she feared Lindsay. Lindsay learned this, and employed all his powers to become possessed of her, but when he told himself he was succeeding, all at once, she would shun his presence, and would only see him when Ronald was there also. Then she could defy his power. She was within the circle of a stronger, holier force. Only there was she secure.

Of course, the most of her relatives were in favour of Hastings's suit, but the domains of Heighton played a substantial part in influencing their decision, and they were not without hope that she was of the same mind. A time came, however, when she refused most positively to listen to any one of Lindsay's supporters. She was not going to lose her soul for the broad lands of Heighton and its commanding mansion.

Oh! Kate Cunninghame, would that you had always held to that resolution. What days of agony, and nights of torture; what bitter, bitter tears of repentance, and horrible schemes of vengeance would have been saved!

Ronald and Kate were married, after the young doctor had succeeded to a practice in the city, and the first months of their married life were like a blissful dream. Hastings had transferred his studies a year before to Durham University. The bonnie and amiable servant girl where he lodged attracted his attention, and he married her. He soon grew tired of her, however; and having bought a commission in the Black Watch, he coolly told her that he could not take her to Edinburgh, but he would send her remittances. She only received a few letters from him after he left her in Durham, but these were of great importance—to her son.

Lieut. Hastings on his return to Edinburgh was a frequent visitor at the house of Dr Bolton, and as the doctor was often from home attending to the call of his patients, the young officer and Mrs Bolton spent many hours together. Now that she was a wife she thought she was secure, and that she could joke and laugh at her former weakness. She soon however, began to feel the time hang heavily on her hands when the doctor was absent, and when Lindsay did not put in an appearance. Lindsay was therefore encouraged to spend all the leisure he could at the doctor's. He saw his opportunity.

But why go into detail? He regained his old power over the young wife and mother. He persuaded her that she had compromised herself, and the only way open to her was to fly with him.

In the best circles in Edinburgh it began to be whispered that Dr Bolton's wife and child had disappeared, and that Lieut. Hastings had not answered to his name for some weeks, and no one knew where he was.

The successful young practitioner also disappeared and Edinburgh saw the trio no more.

CHAPTER XIV.

ON RUIN'S BRINK.

Almost immediately after Dr Bolton left his home and his rapidly improving business, on his mission of vengeance, a letter arrived for him which he never received. It was from his runaway wife, pleading to be taken back to his heart and home. She had become enthralled with the old spell—it was not love, but a dire influence the scoundrel exerted over her, robbing her of her will, and bringing her into subjection to himself. She had not entered on the mad course a single hour until she awoke from her enthralment, and all the horror of her position entered her soul. It was the child that saved her from the defilement of her infamy, and brought her to reason.

And what an awakening was hers. What had she forfeited, and what was her reward? Hers was a home of joy—a noble husband whose position was one of increasing influence and affluence.

"Oh! my Ronald! what have I done? Vile tempter!" she cried, turning to Hastings, "what have you done to me and thine?"

"Ha! ha!" laughed the young officer, "its all up now Kate. Its no use going into heroics. You are altogether in my power."

"Oh! no, no. Your spell is broken. I loathe you. My will is now my own. Dare to come nigh me, and I will give you into custody at Berwick Station."

The pair were travelling by the midnight mail southward, and were nearing the Border town when the poor woman realised the pit into which her criminal folly had led her. Lieut. Hastings was somewhat startled to find the suddenness with which her demeanour had changed, and also the force of her detestations. A short while before that the child—her child and Ronald's—had awoke out of her "beauty sleep." It began to weep, and the mother nursed and fondled it, and then it smiled. In the attention that the child had claimed, all the motherhood of the woman had been exercised, and then the door was opened for the inrushing of the light which revealed her sin.

Mrs Bolton's threat cowed Hastings for a time, for he was anxious to avoid making a scene at Berwick Station, so near to his ancestral home. She was also restrained from taking any step that might publish in glaring characters and in all its hideous details the story of her madness and infatuation. She prayed, however, that some other passengers would come into the compartment. But none came, and the train hastened off to Newcastle.

It would have been a thousand times better had she left the mail at Berwick Station, and taken the early morning express back to Edinburgh. It would not have been too late. Dr Bolton had had a critical case in hand that night, and he did not reach his deserted home until the morning was advanced. Besides, the story of her folly would never have been known to the public—she would have been evermore delivered from the baneful influence of Hastings, who would never have dared to have approached the house of the friend he had so basely wronged, even if he ever returned to Edinburgh—and her husband would have forgiven her infatuation.

It was now, however, too late. The possibilities of reconciliation to her husband and restoration to her home were gone. But it was not too late to maintain her purity, and this she would do with her life. Every particle of the glamour had left her. Hastings' malignant spell, which she had so fatally trifled with, was broken for ever, and with the breaking of the spell had gone her own weakness, and there had entered her life the sense of strength and power and security that she had felt when Ronald was near—only it was now her own.

At that hour Dr Bolton knelt in the house of a patient, and asked that his darling wife might be shielded from danger. His prayer was answered in a way that he did not wot of.

Lindsay Hastings, despite the consternation into which he had been thrown by the threat of Mrs Bolton near Berwick, continued during the journey to Newcastle to use endearing epithets towards the woman he supposed to be his victim. He was chagrined to find that these had no effect. She repelled all his advances with infinite scorn. As she continued this attitude, he changed his tactics, and sneered at her suddenly-born virtue.

"It will be of no avail, madam, this pretended goodness of yours. Ronald Bolton has too much mettle in him to take back the cast-off boots of Lindsay Hastings."

"Pour your contumely upon me, Lieut. Hastings. I deserve it all; but it ill becomes a gentleman—a gentleman of the Scottish borders, too, and a soldier to boot, to persecute and goad to desperation a defenceless woman, and that woman one that you have drawn into the path that leads to hell. If you knew my weakness, as a man of honour, by all the obligations imposed upon you by society—I will not appeal higher—you should have respected the sanctity of Ronald Bolton's homestead."

These sentences were spoken with a deliberation and in a tone indicative of a fathomless hate. The references to a gentleman of the Scottish border and a soldier stung him; but the last sentence led him to say—

"I owe Ronald Bolton nothing but revenge. He stepped in between you and me, and I vowed to have you."

"You coward, you shall never have me. You have robbed one of God's peers, and rather than your defiled fingers should touch me again, I will throw myself and child over this embankment. . . . . Stand back!"

"For heaven's sake, Kate, close that door!"

On Lindsay making a movement towards her, Mrs Bolton had opened the door of the compartment, and was standing with the child in her arms, as if about to throw herself and her babe into eternity at one bound.

"Stand back, then. . . . . Back to the further side of the compartment."

"Hastings was pale and trembling, and he promptly obeyed the determined woman. She was calm—most abnormally calm.

"And when we reach Newcastle," she continued, "at your peril to follow me. If you make the slightest effort to come out of the station, or to dog my steps, I will raise an alarm. . . . . I will have to bear this burden of shame. You may escape. . . . . Speak to me, or lay hands upon me, or come near to me, or watch me, and I will have you arrested. . . . . Thank God! I can bear what I have to bear, except perhaps the memory of the wrong which I have done my faithful, noble husband, and my innocent babe. But you cannot afford to have this escapade of yours published in every paper in the kingdom."

The tables were completely turned. The power to command with effect had been taken from the guilty, cowardly man, and given to his repentant victim. When he saw how thoroughly she had discomfited him, he affected a careless attitude.

"Oh! don't distress yourself," said he as lightly as he could. "You can go where you please, I won't trouble you. I will just sit still, and go on to Durham to my wife."

"To your wife!" echoed Mrs Bolton.

"Yes, to my wife," repeated Hastings. "Does it seem a strange thing to you that I should have a wife as well as you a husband? Ha! ha!"

"Then you are a deeper and more cowardly scoundrel than I thought you were. Could I see the deceived woman, I would tell her of your perfidy."

"She would not believe you. My bonnie pit lass would say that you were some high dame who had been disappointed in losing me. I would tell her that, and she would believe me."

"Villain! The poor girl is another of your victims. Who knows but you have deluded her with a sham marriage, and, of course, you have found it convenient not to let the world know about your *liasion*."

"It is no *liasion*, though. It is a legitimate real wedding, and no mistake. She knows who I am, and no doubt all her friends at Stanley know too. I was weak there."

"And you are weak now. You have let me know more than you intended. Thanks, it may be of service to me afterwards."

The officer bit his lip. He was being foiled at every turn. At length the train rushed into the Central Station at Newcastle, and before it stopped she had all her wraps on, and was ready to make her escape from the presence of the man s[illegible]ow heartily contemned.

"Oh! Kate," he cried, and rushed towards her as she left the compartment."

"Silence, coward. Beware!" She looked over her shoulder at him as she uttered these words, and that look he never forgot.

The incident made a slight commotion among the passengers and officials on the platform who witnessed it.

"Anything the matter, mum? Can I do anything for you, mum?" An honest-faced porter put these queries as he hurried to her side.

"Not anything, thank you," was Mrs Bolton's immediate reply.

Lindsay Hastings slunk into the shade of the compartment, as a few men looked in his direction, and several misses, who were on their way for refreshment, giggled.

Whenever she found herself in the open-air Mrs Bolton walked quickly, and then ran lest her tempter might yet follow her. Away she sped in the direction of the Cattle Market, not knowing whither she was going. Alone in Newcastle, with literally nowhere to go, because she feared to go into the families where she was known. As the fugitive was crossing towards Westmoreland Terrace, her feet went from under her, and she fell heavily on the hard pavement. As she was falling she had presence of mind enough to hold her child in such a position as to save it from injury, but that act made her own injuries much greater.

A policeman whose attention had been attracted to the woman running at that early hour of the morning, was hurrying towards her from the foot of Clayton Street. He saw her fall, and at once went to her assistance.

"What is the matter with you? Been drinking? Get up."

The harsh tones of the policeman grated upon her ear, and the insinuation that she had been drinking was a terrible humiliation. God knew she had been intoxicated, but she had not added drunkenness to her other sins.

"I have slipped, sir, on this pavement and I feel as if I could not get up. If you will kindly take hold of my child, I will try to rise."

By this time the constable had turned his bull's eye full upon the prostrate form of the woman, and he began to suspect that he had been mistaken in his subject. When she spoke his suspicion was confirmed. His manner immediately softened, and he lifted up the baby at once. But Mrs Bolton could not get upon her feet. Every effort she made gave her the acutest pain, and when she moved her left leg or put that foot on the ground, the agony made the sweat stand on her forehead. The policeman, during these efforts, had held the child in one arm, and with the other hand had been rendering assistance to Mrs Bolton.

"I am very sorry," she said, her voice having become much weaker, and a sickening sensation creeping over her. "I am very sorry to have to give you any trouble, but I really cannot stand. There is something wrong with my left leg."

"Don't mention anything about trouble. You have the trouble. If you tell me where you want to be at, I will endeavour to get a cab."

"Oh, thank you! I think I had better have a doctor," she said evasively.

"That will soon be done, for we are close to the hospital."

The policeman at once blew his whistle, and another officer was quickly on the spot. In a short time they had their charge safely deposited in the institution which has done so much grand work for the capital of the North and the populous district around. Mrs Bolton had not sustained any fracture, but there was a dislocation and a bad sprain.

Full twenty summers' suns had shimmered on the waters of the Tyne ere the patient received on that early morning in Newcastle Hospital left her new home, and in the years many a sufferer's closing hours were made brighter and many a convalescent's tedious days and weary nights were cheered by the ministries of the famous Nurse Hudson.

(*To be continued.*)

CHESTER-LE-STREET RED ROSE VINERIES.

In an account of Chester-le-Street, published in a recent issue of the *Newcastle Weekly Chronicle*, an excellent illustration of the well-known Red Rose Vineries is given. In the accompanying biography of the owner, Mr Joseph Witherspoon, we read:—

"The problem of profitable vine culture in England has been solved by Joseph Witherspoon, of Chester-le-Street. He has conclusively proved that by skilful management and untiring industry, grapes nectarines, and peaches can be raised in this country and sold at a price that gives a fair return for capital and labour. In view of this fact we have thought that a sketch of the vineries and a few details of his career may prove interesting to our readers.

Joseph Witherspoon was born at the Hopgarth Gardens, Chester-le-Street, on the 2nd of February, 1831, consequently he is now in his 58th year. In 1845 he entered on a seven years' apprenticeship with Mr Wm. Stoddart, cartwright. He became editor of the *Chester-le-Street Times* in 1870, which post he held for 11 years, and it was whilst so engaged that he bought the plot of ground now the site of the vineyard known as the "Red Rose" Vineries. In 1843 his parents removed from the Hopgarth to the Red Rose Hall Gardens, on the Red Rose Estate, where they resided for 37 years.

Collectively the several vineries are 480 feet in length, average 19 feet in width, and for several years have produced 150 dozen peaches and nectarines, and 4,000 bunches of grapes.

After Mr Witherspoon had, as an ametur, successfully competed at the International Exhibition held at Manchester and Belfast and many other places, with flowers, the idea struck him that there was a profit to be made in the cultivation of fruit, if well grown, sold at fair price, and delivered in first-class style to the public. He saw clearly that grapes grown in a quagmire of filthy comparatively, could not be otherwise than tasteless. Moreover, he perceived that exhibitors' vines, in particular, were short-lived, which was unnatural; hence he adopted a system known as "warm sweet borders." He has won many prizes for grapes, including £5 for six bunches at the International Exhibition held at Edinburgh, but the victories that he remembers with most pleasure were the winning the first prize in the Town Hall, Newcastle, only seventeen months after his vines were planted, there being fourteen competitors; and the £5 prize at the show held in connection with the Exhibition on the Town Moor, Newcastle. But Mr Witherspoon relies greatly on his method of marketing, by personal delivery. He makes sure that his patrons secure his grapes with bloom as fresh as when hanging on the vine. Save to visitors, he takes no private orders, all his fruit being forwarded to agents in Newcastle.

Last year Mr Witherspoon had the honour of supplying fruit to Sir Matthew White Ridley, M.P., on the occasion of the visit of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to Newcastle, and he had the pleasure of learning that the fruit supplied gave great satisfaction.

Mr Witherspoon says that his success is due to unremitting study and close attention, coupled with the use of a hot-water boiler which he has invented, and which is known as the "Red Rose boiler." That his boiler answers its purpose is proved by the fact that at various exhibitions he has secured medals, that he has received orders for it from Ireland, France, and Sweden, and that most flattering testimonials have been received by him from almost everyone to whom he has supplied it.

Football.

ASSOCIATION.

Dipton Wanderers (late Juniors). — The annual meeting of this club was held at Mr Peter Brown's, Bute Arms Inn, on Thursday se'nnight, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing season:—President, Mr A. Dodds; captain, Mr J. Walker; treasurer, Mr W. Masterson; secretary, Mr Robert Wilson, Delight Rows, Dipton, *via* Lintz Green, who will be glad to arrange games with any good first, second, or junior teams as early as possible, so as to ensure the speedy filling up of the list.

Ouston Rovers Club.—At the annual meeting, the report showed the club to be in a flourishing condition. For the past season they have played 20 matches, won 11, lost 6, drawn 3, scoring 52 goals against 20. The election of officers was proceeded with:—President, Mr R. Bulmer; vice-president, Mr Wm. Dixon; captain, J. Melville; vice-captain, G. Robson; treasurer, W. Coulson; committee—G. Coulson, F. Coates, T. Hardley, W. Lavendar, W. Clarke, P. Bates, and R. Coulson The secretary would be glad to arrange matches for the coming season with any first-class junior or third teams. Address, J. Dryden, Ouston Colliery, Chester-le-Street.

Leadgate Exiles.—The annual meeting in connection with this club was held in the Miners' Hall, Leadgate, before a fairly representative audience—Mr J. McCurley being in the chair, was called upon to give his record of the past season, which was admitted by all to be a very creditable one. The first team had played 22 matches, won 13, drawn 5, and lost 4—scoring 45 goals against their opponents' 18—including their victory on Monday at the popular sports. The Bards have also rendered a good account of themselves, as they have only once met with defeat during the season.—The treasurer then gave an outline of his report, which met with the hearty approval of all present, showing the club to be in a flourishing condition, both numerically and financially.—This business being transacted, the meeting proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing season, which resulted as follows:—President, The Very Rev Canon Kearney, The Brooms; vice-presidents, Dr O'Brien, Catchgate, and Mr W. Tyzack, Pontop Hall; treasurer, Mr F. McCurley re-elected; corresponding secretary, Mr J. McCurley re-elected; assistant secretary to arrange matches for Bards and third teams, Mr J. Costello; captain of 1st team, Mr W. McGee, re-elected; vice-captain, Mr P. Hughes, re elected; captain of 2nd team, Mr A. Connolly; vice-captain, Mr J. Mahon; committee, Messrs P. Mahon, J. Green, J. Jordon, E. Quinn, P. Quinn, W. Costello, and J. Hagan.—It may be mentioned that the Exiles have secured a first-class field for three successive seasons, which will add in no small measure to the comfort and convenience of all visiting teams.—The secretary of the above club tenders his sincere thanks, on behalf of the Exiles, to the official staff of the *Consett Guardian*, for the generous manner in which they have published reports of matches, fixtures, and the general business of the club through the columns of their valuable paper.

Whiskey in Hospitals.—Much of the whiskey supplied in workhouse and other hospitals is very new, and is often largely composed of "patent still whiskey or silent spirit." We perceive that Messrs W. and A. Gilbey have entered into an arrangement with Mr John Jameson, the most famous of the Dublin distillers, by which they will in future supply the well-known J. J. whiskey, six years old at least, in sealed bottles with labels guaranteeing quality. It would be well if such whiskey as this, the quality of which is absolutely guaranteed, were supplied to public institutions instead of the uncertain stuff so often administered to the sick. We understand that the above whiskey is bottled under the supervision of Her Majesty's Excise officers, which offers a perfect guarantee that it is John Jameson's sole manufacture.—*Medical Press and Circular*, May 9th, 1888.

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

"**How to Debate.**"—This is a handy little work containing the rules of debate, hints on public speaking, and other useful information for members of debating societies. The work, which is published at the small price of fourpence, may be had at Robert Jackson's bookseller, 9, Newmarket, Consett.

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CRŒSUS' WIDOW

BY DORA RUSSELL,

Author of "Footprints in the Snow;" "The Vicar's Governess;" &c., &c.

CHAPTER LI.—"My Sister, Lady Seaforth."

A terrible scene occurred immediately after Nellie's death. Seaforth lifted her lifeless body in his arms, and in agonised and passionate tones implored her to speak to him—to say but one word—look at him but once again. He would not believe that she was dead, and as he called out her name, telling her he had always loved her, Margaret ran into the room, and flung her arms also round her dead sister.

"Nellie! Nellie!" cried Margaret, but there was no answer to that name.

Everyone in the room was deeply moved. Joannah, who had been preparing to say some harsh thing to Seaforth, pursed in her thin lips and was silent at the sight of his bitter distress. And as Seaforth kissed Nellie—cried to them to bring something to revive her, that she had but fainted, that she would soon be well—Strathearn, grim and pale, also entered the room, and stood with bitten lips and knitted brows looking at the dead woman he had loved.

He never spoke a word. Joannah watching him saw the grey pallor that spread over his face, and how his strong form shook with the violence of feelings he was forcing himself to restrain. She went up to him, she took hold of one of his clenched hands and whispered a word in his ear.

"Come with me, sir," she said; "you don't look well, and it's enough to shake anyone, you're best out of the room."

Strathearn suffered her to lead him away, and clutching her arms as if for support he tottered down the stairs. When in the hall he spoke to her in a husky whisper.

"When the others are all gone, will—you let me see her again?"

"Yes," said Joannah, decisively. "The sweet lamb's in Heaven now, and she knows there's no harm in it. And you did more for her than any of them," added Joannah, with an energetic rub at her eyes. "If it hadn't been for you she would have died in a common hospital and not with everything comfortable about her as she has done to-day. It's all very fine crying and sobbing after one's gone—it's too late then—the loudest sobs won't bring one back—but I would rather be cried over when I was living. However it's no good talking over it now, but I hope his heart is sore within him."

"What time?" asked Strathearn, still in the same hoarse whisper.

"You mean what time you can see the sweet lamb, to have a last look at her?" said Joannah, almost with a whimper. "Let me see—don't let any of them have a word to fling at her good name, for perhaps evil tongues might talk of her if they know you came to see her even after she was dead, poor dear. Come at twelve o'clock to-night. They'll be away by that time, and you can have your last look in peace."

Without a word Strathearn wrung Joannah's hand and left the house; and a few minutes later Joannah returned to the room where Nellie had died.

By this time Seaforth knew that she was dead. Margaret had laid her sister again gently on the bed, and Seaforth was kneeling by the bedside, his face bent down, but he was still holding one of Nellie's hands. Standing near him, with his hand upon his shoulder, was his kinsman, Hugh Marchmont.

"Leave her with her sister now, Seaforth," he was saying as Joannah entered. "You have acknowledged her as your wife, and I, as your relative, will see that all the honour that can be paid to her now is paid. Come, Seaforth, with me."

For a moment or two Seaforth made no response to this appeal. Then he rose from his knees, bent down, and with a murmured word or two kissed Nellie's face. As he lifted his head he turned to Margaret, who was standing near, crying bitterly.

"I dare not ask you to forgive me!" he said in a faltering voice, and as Margaret made no reply he put his arm through Hugh Marchmont's and left the room.

"I have kept my tongue off him," said Joannah, bitterly, looking after him, "for the sake of the dead lamb; but I hope I'll live to have the opportunity of telling him some day that after you've murdered a party it's not much good crying over them. No, indeed!"

* * * * *

That night, as the clocks all over the great city were striking twelve, Joannah, who was watching, heard a gentle tap at the street door. She guessed who it was, and softly opening the door admitted Strathearn. She put up her finger warningly, and then led him silently upstairs to the room where Nellie already lay in her coffin with her baby on her breast.

Only her sweet face, and her small waxen hands were visible, for the whole of the coffin was covered with white flowers. She looked like a young girl asleep, and at the piteous sight Strathearn completely broke down, and fell sobbing with his head against the foot of the coffin.

"Leave me for a moment or two," he sobbed out, while the fierce storm of his emotion swept over him; and Joannah at once left the room, and Strathearn was alone with the dead.

Long he knelt there, his whole form absolutely convulsed with the strong, deep passions of his heart. Then he rose to his feet and stood looking at her, and after a moment or two stooped down and kissed one of the cold white hands, and took one of the white flowers and hid it in his breast.

* * * * *

When Nellie lay as though asleep amid the white flowers which Margaret had arranged round her fair young sister's placid face, another visitor also arrived at Miss Brewis', and earnestly desired to see her.

This was Dossie Bertrim—a sweet young woman, the love and tenderness of whose rearing lay reflected as on a mirror in her loving and tender heart—and who had endured the most cruel anxiety during the last two or three days for the fate of one whose troubles were now ended.

When Nellie did not return to Mrs. Moore's house after she had started on her sad short journey to seek her father—whose soul had wearied of waiting for her coming—Mrs. Moore naturally felt very uneasy about her young lodger.

She was uneasy on account of Nellie, and yet more uneasy lest she should offend her "dear young lady," as she still always called Dossie Bertrim. This "dear young lady" had, in truth, about her a certain charm which won love for her wherever she went. This charm was her unselfish sympathy and real kindness to others. Even her mother-in-law (that most trying of family ties) admitted certain good qualities in Dossie, and her husband was more dearly attached to her now, after being married to her for three years, than when her sweet, blithe smile had first made him feel himself the happiest person in the world.

Dossie Bertrim then, on the morning after her lunch party (the party which had prevented her at once going to see the unhappy Nellie) received a letter from her old servant, Mrs. Moore, which filled her kind heart with absolute consternation. Mrs. Murray had gone out and had never returned, wrote Mrs. Moore, and Dossie immediately on receiving this letter ran to her husband, who was dressing to go into town.

"Tom," she cried, "read this." And Tom having read Mrs. Moore's letter, looked serious and (as was his wont) took a commonsense view of the case.

"I am afraid, little woman," he said, "all your good nature and kindness has been wasted."

"What do you mean, Tom?" asked Dossie.

"Most probably this young person wasn't quite what she made out," said Tom, laying his hand kindly on his young wife's shoulder. "What does an innocent child like you know about the evil ways of the wicked world?"

"I know this," said Dossie, turning very red, "that whatever she was she was a good woman. I overheard her once, Tom, praying, when she did not think anyone heard her but God; and she wasn't praying for herself—she was praying" (here Dossie suddenly burst into tears) "that if her child were born that it might be pure and good—that the evils of the world might never come near it—"

Dossie's sobs now fairly interrupted her, and good-natured Tom Bertrim as he took her in his arms, rubbed his own hand over his eyes also, to wipe away a sympathetic tear.

"Stupid little woman," he said, "why you make a fool of a man with a word. Well, what do you want to do child? To drive into town with me I'll be bound!"

"Yes," wept Dossie; and in half an hour the young couple were on their way to Mrs. Moore's house.

There they found the ill news only confirmed. Mrs. Murray had never returned, though Mrs. Moore had sat up all night waiting for her, and Mrs. Moore naturally did not know what to think.

Tom Bertrim called Dossie aside.

"Look here, darling," he said, "I do not want to distress you, but it is our duty to give notice to the police of this. This unfortunate young woman must be sought for, and you know we could no more find her, when we have no clue whatever, than we could fly."

Dossie could not deny the truth of this, and Tom Bertrim therefore at once went and told the police at Scotland Yard the whole story. The Inspector to whom he told the tale smiled cynically.

"It's a pity you didn't come two days ago, sir," he said, "at least if you had a mind for a reward of two hundred pounds."

"How do you mean?" asked Tom Bertrim.

"This young lady—you give an exact description—was picked up yesterday in one of the small streets near Regents' Park, on the occasion of an old military gentleman's funeral, and she was carried into the railway station by one of the force, who conveyed her from there to Middlesex Hospital, for she had been much injured by one of the horses at the funeral. The member of the force thought he recognised her as the young woman who had disappeared from Chelsea Bridge some time back, and he came here, and the gentleman who had offered a reward for her recovery was sent for, and went with me and the member of the force who had found her to Middlesex Hospital for the purpose of identifying the young woman. He did identify her, and the reward was paid, and the young woman is now with her friends."

"And who is she?" asked Tom Bertrim.

"It's a queer story," answered the Inspector, "They say she's the wife—not acknowledged you know—of Lord Seaforth. But if you are interested in the lady she is at present at Miss Brewis' boarding house, No. —Belgrave-road—and I'm told she is dangerously ill."

Tom Bertrim thanked the Inspector for his information, and returned with the news to his Dossie, who at once went to inquire "how the lady was?" at Mrs. Brewis' door, and sent in her card.

The answer to her inquiries was but a sad one. "The lady was very ill—unconscious—and could see no one;" and with this sad news Dossie was forced to go away.

Not the next day, but the day following that, Dossie again came into town, and again went to make inquiries at Miss Brewis' door.

Nellie was now lying amid her white flowers; and Dossie hearing this prayed that she might be allowed to look upon the sweet face of the dead.

She was shown into Joannah's dining-room, and as she sat there shedding some very bitter tears over the hapless fate of the poor girl she had so faithfully befriended, Joannah attired in black and looking more grim than ever, entered the room.

"I have called to see—I have just heard the sad news," said Dossie in a voice broken into tears, "that—poor Lady Seaforth is dead?"

"Yes, she's at *rest*," snapped Joannah. "She wasn't much troubled with visitors," she added a moment later, "when she lived here before—name being unknown—ay, it's the way of the world."

"I knew her," continued Dossie, in her sweet sympathetic voice, "when indeed she had no name. You know her sad story, of course? I am the lady who took her home that night—when her misery for the time had driven her mad."

"No!" exclaimed Joannah. "Now you aren't, are you? Well, if you are, I wish you may live long and be rewarded—and I wouldn't say that to many."

"She stayed with me a long time," said Dossie gently, "and I loved her very dearly, and if I had had my own way she would have been at Castlewood—that is my home—now. But she wished to leave—she wished to see Lord Seaforth; she did not tell me her husband's name, though she told me all the rest of the story; but she wished to see her husband, and she wrote to him ——"

"Wrote to him, the villain," cried Joannah. "And him coming and crying and slobbering over her poor lifeless corpse, and making pretence he really loved her, and taking them all in—nearly taking in me—but he didn't!"

"She wrote to him I know twice," said Dossie. "Her first letter was addressed under cover to his servant, a man called Clayton, and this letter was returned through the post; and she wrote again."

"Then he shall answer whether he got them or not, or who got them," said Joannah. "Ay—she's best at rest—she had a tender heart, and he'd bruised and broken it too sore to mend."

"And did she never mention me," asked Dossie, "after she was brought here from the hospital?"

"She never mentioned mortal name," answered Joannah, "but her babe's. She was unconscious mostly, and when she did speak it was always about living for the child's sake. It died in her arms, and she kept it there until it grew cold against her breast—and then I got it away while she slept—but she missed it, and then this man—Lord Seaforth—came, and she started up and gripped him by the hand, and asked him before us all whether she was his wedded wife."

"And what did he say?"

"That she was—he found out then it was too late to tell any more lies, and so he confessed the truth—and it killed her, for she fell back dead three minutes after he entered the room."

"Oh, poor, poor thing!" said Dossie, who could not restrain her tears.

"She's best at rest, ma'am—he wanted money, and she'd not got any, and so he would have always looked upon her as a burden. But would you like to see her? She's lying, the poor lamb, among white flowers, for the flowers that come here for her now are past belief—she's my Lady now, so she gets every respect," added Joannah with a bitter giggle.

When Dossie saw the sweet white face lying amid the white flowers she was deeply affected. She bent down and kissed the cold brow, and touched the chill small waxen hands.

While she was still standing looking at Nellie, telling Miss Brewis how ill she had been at Castlewood, and how gentle and patient she had always been when she was there, Margaret Vyner entered the room, and looked somewhat surprised and dignified to find a stranger looking at her dead sister.

Margaret beckoned to Miss Brewis, who went to the door to speak to her.

"Who is that lady, Miss Brewis?" said Margaret. "I do not wish everyone to see Lady Seaforth."

Joannah's visage grew scarlet in a second.

"I'll tell you who the lady is, ma'am," she said, in her tartest tones, for she had taken a great dislike to Margaret; "that lady is the party who took your poor sister in when she was homeless—when she was not called Lady Seaforth indeed!—and when she had gone out to end her young life, being driven to it by the cruelty of the party who cried and slobbered yesterday over her lifeless corpse! Yes, Mrs. Vyner, if anyone has a right to see her that lady ought to have, for she gave the poor lamb kindness when she was living, not after she was dead!"

"Oh! Miss Brewis!" said Margaret much shocked.

Miss Brewis and Margaret were, in fact on anything but pleasant terms. Margaret was always talking of "Lady Seaforth" to Joannah, and Joannah could not forget all the details of the sad story, if Margaret could. Margaret irritated Joannah by perpetual allusions to "my dear sister's rank," or "we must consult Lord Seaforth, of course, before we decide anything." It was all Joannah could do to restrain herself when Margaret talked in this way. And when Margaret brought their old friend Mrs. Saunders to see the poor dead girl in her coffin, whom Mr. Saunders had known since she was a rosy little girl, as that good woman wailed and wept over the piteous sight, Joannah heard Margaret say in her calm, evenly modulated voice:

"Yes, it's very, very sad, isn't it, Mrs. Saunders—if only dear Nellie had trusted me it would have been all right now."

"And she was married to Lord Seaforth all the time then?" asked kind Mrs. Saunders, drying her eyes, from which her tears were streaming.

"Oh! yes, of course, Mrs. Saunders," replied Margaret, "they were only waiting to acknowledge it until some money affairs of Lord Seaforth's were settled, but of course when the baby was expected that hurried on matters, and dear Nellie sent for her husband, who was staying with some of his relations, and he came at once for the purpose of telling us about the marriage, but you see this is the sad end." And Margaret pointed to her dead sister.

"Well," muttered Joannah to herself, "that beats everything, and if she isn't took quite suddenly like Annanias, all I can say is, she hasn't met with her deserts."

So when Margaret made any objections about Dossie Bertrim seeing "Lady Seaforth," Joannah felt very angry. But Margaret was too wise to continue these objections when she heard who Dossie was. She went therefore and thanked Dossie for her kindness to her "dear young sister, Lady Seaforth, under the unfortunate circumstance in which you met her."

Dossie was very good natured. She spoke kindly to Margaret, and said it was very sad; but as she left the house she pressed Joannah's rugged hand more warmly than she did that of the correct and graceful Margaret.

(*To be continued.*)

LADIES' COLUMN.

Those diligent people who had early visited the chief picture galleries, and made acquaintance with all the great works of the year there, now find themselves at liberty to spend a great deal of time at the exhibitions. There are now two important ones open, the Italian and the Anglo-Danish, and early in June the Irish at Olympia will open its doors and offer attractions. The fears expressed a few weeks ago that one exhibition would interfere with the other in drawing off visitors may be set at rest. For so many years past London had been habituated to the successive South Kensington exhibitions that their want was felt last year. Even the attractions of the American, with its Wild West show, failed to fill the void left by the exclusion from the Horticultural Gardens at South Kensington, now opened once more by the energetic committee of that excellent institution, the Hospital for Incurables.

Neither the Italian nor the Anglo-Danish Exhibition is yet finished, but that seems to be accepted as an inevitable condition of all exhibitions where things have to come from over the sea, so there is no use in expecting what we are not likely to receive.

The hospitable directors of the Italian Exhibition invited us two days before the public admittance to come to lunch and look over all the exhibits at our leisure, as the men were unpacking and arranging the goods on the stalls. While we were at luncheon the Neapolitan choir band sang for us, to the accompaniment of their own music, and danced upon the dais, singularly picturesque both as individuals and taken in group. It is rather a novel idea to have this band peripatetic, not stationary, but moving about the grounds as they do at home in the streets and market places, singing their merry songs and dancing to their merry tunes. The red and white striped shirts, blue and white trousers, coloured stockings, and tan-coloured shoes, crowned by the handsome Italian faces, with the red silk tasselled-hanging caps, are like groups in a painting, not the least like London street musicians. The music itself is characteristic, but no more. It is neither melodious nor scientific. The mandoline is merely a kind of support or background to the voice; the fife, or piffero, the latter term being more poetical, is bright and lively, but very shrill. The tambourine, we well know; the only strange instrument is the tricabbaloch, a wooden frame with mallets beating, two hinged upon one fixed, that give the effect of castenets. Art is the feature of the Italian Exhibition—the furniture, with carved and inlaid ornament, beautiful as the æsthetic furnisher could imagine—the sculpture, and the pictures. The out-of door reproduction of old Rome can scarcely yet be considered complete, though the grotto cave of Capri is pronounced to be perfect, and well worth a visit. On the opening day the crowd that flung down the necessary coins to pass the portal to the cave was numerous even to inconvenience.

Everyone who moves about, travelling through streets or in railway stations, is familiar with the comical advertising figure that calls attention to a certain soap, "Oh! you dirty boy!" The artist of this statuette group, Signor Foscardi, has come over to the Italian Exhibition, set up a studio, and will model clay busts of the visitors—"Your portrait while you wait."

The presence of the Princess of Wales at the Anglo-Danish Exhibition lent a charm to the opening. Her temporary absence from London is always a subject of general regret, and her return to town is hailed as an event which brings good fortune to many doors. Without her patronage of this attempt to help a deserving institution the promoters could scarcely have hoped to carry through the undertaking without pecuniary risk. The opening ceremonial in the Albert Hall had no novel features worth special mention. The daily papers have already chronicled the musical part of the programme, the performances of soloists and choralists, all excellent. The interest was greater when the Royal party came out through the conservatory and walked through the grounds to visit the Danish village. It was unanimously agreed by all the lookers on that the Princess looked better in health than when she last appeared in public, and this notwithstanding her recent fatigues at Glasgow and Blackburn. Opinions differ with regard to the Prince of Wales—whether it is that his figure is returning to its youthful proportions, or that his tailor has displayed more than ordinary cunning in the cut of the Royal coat. As the party emerged from the conservatory the band of the Coldstream Guards burst forth, according to etiquette, with the National Anthem. It was remarked that the first hat raised was that of the Prince himself, an example quickly followed. The broad walk was lined with the young lads from the Danish gunboat, the Dagmar, that brought over the Duke of Sparta, and the son of the Danish Crown Prince. What solemn faces these young Scandinavians wear, how little they seemed predisposed to be amused with the novel situation. English lads would exchange jests and smile at one another, but the Danish boys were preternaturally solemn. Before the Royal family left the grounds the Prince and Princess walked along the line, and the Princess bestowed such smiles upon her young countrymen as would have made English youths in the same situation break out and cheer, but the Dane has by national custom no sound of approval to give. The boys stood with uncovered heads, and looked solidly indifferent, while the English crowd exclaimed, "How cold, how unenthusiastic." Those of us who were lyric lovers remembered the praises bestowed upon Lord Nelson, and the phrase, "rang out the British cheer," acquired new meaning, for no other country has this encouragement to valour in reserve in time of excitement.

The Princess of Wales wore at the opening of the Anglo-Danish Exhibition a pale grey silk dress—silver grey the colour used to be called, when every bride numbered a dress of this description among the evening dresses of her trousseau. The dress was all of one material, a draped front, with back almost plain, only slightly bouffante. Where the side breadths met the draped front revers finished the edges, on which passementerie in pearls and white jet was laid. The draped front fell over a beautiful lace flounce, rich in pearl and silver embroidery. The bonnet was of grey, transparent, with flowers of pale pink on one side.

Among the interesting exhibitions which preceded the opening of the two greater ones was one of a semi-private character at Mrs. Marshall's School of Cookery, Mortimer-street. Mrs. Marshall is going to America for a tour, and is gradually winding up her season here. On this occasion a whole dinner was to be cooked in the class-room in the presence of as many lookers-on, professional and amateur, as could find standing-room. The proceedings began at 10 o'clock, and with an interval for everyone to have luncheon, went on till four. Of professional cooks, upwards of 120 followed with intense interest the lecturer's demonstrations. The comments of the professionals, as the stewpans, with contents at different stages of preparation, were passed round for inspection, were a whole commentary on the subject. It is one of the terrible anxieties of trying to follow a new receipt in cookery that though we know how it ought to come out at the last, we fail to recognise it at the interim stages, between the beginning and the ending. It is instruction of this class that is making housekeeping difficult to some and easy to others in the present day. The whole standard of how food is cooked has been gradually raised, and ladies see that if they only master the subject themselves they need no longer submit to have costly ingredients wasted, and the family digestion ruined beyond recovery. There is so much to remember, after seeing how hors-d'œuvres, soups, fish, entrées, relevés, rotis, and entremets—thirteen choice dishes in all—are prepared, that even carefully written notes sometimes fail to clear up the difficulties at home. But Mrs. Marshall has just brought out a cookery book that makes all the hazy knowledge clear. It is the kind of book that no mistress of a household ought to be without, for it brings the whole subject up to the present hour, how to cook every dish that can possibly be wanted either for home or company dinners.

AURORA.

SOMETHING FOR YOUNG FOLKS

A DANGEROUS SLEEP.

We know that it is always easier to preach than to practise; but it is strange to read of a case in which a man whose advice probably saved the lives of a large number of people nearly fell a victim to his inability to act on that advice himself. Such an incident, however, occurred in the career of Dr. Solander, a distinguished botanist of the last century.

In 1768 Dr. Solander accompanied Captain Cook in his first voyage round the world, and returned in 1771 laden with botanical treasures, which are still in the collection at the British Museum. During this voyage Solander probably saved a large party from destruction in ascending the mountains of Tierra del Fuego; and very striking and curious is the story of this adventure in illustrating the effect of drowsiness from cold. It appears that Solander and Sir Joseph Banks had walked a considerable way through swamps, when the weather became suddenly gloomy and cold, fierce blasts of wind driving the snow before it. Finding it impossible to reach the ships before night they resolved to push on through one swamp into the shelter of a wood, where they might kindle a fire. Dr. Solander, well experienced in the effects of cold, addressed the men, and strongly urged them not to give way to sleepiness but at all costs to keep in motion. "Whoever sits down," said he, "will sleep; and whoever sleeps will wake no more." Thus admonished and alarmed they set forth once more; but in a little time the cold became so intense as to produce the most oppressive drowsiness. Dr. Solander himself was the first who felt the inclination to sleep too irresistible for him, and he insisted on being suffered to lie down. In vain Banks entreated and remonstrated; down he lay upon the snow, and it was with much difficulty that his friends kept him from sleeping. One of the black servants began to linger in the same manner. When told that if he did not go on he would inevitably be frozen to death, he answered that he desired nothing more than to lie down and die. Solander expressed himself willing to go on, but declared that he must first take some sleep. It was impossible to carry these men; they were therefore both suffered to lie down, and in a few minutes were in a profound sleep. Soon after, some of the party who had been sent forward to kindle a fire, returned with the welcome news that a fire awaited them a quarter of a mile off. Banks then succeeded in awaking Solander, who, although he had not been asleep five minutes, had almost lost the use of his limbs and his flesh was so shrunk that the shoes fell from his feet. He consented to go forward with such assistance as could be given; but no attempts to rouse the black servant were successful, and he, with one other black, died there.

TURNING THE TABLES.

Now, Dolly, you must listen
 To every word I say!
Come, sit up straight and look at me,
 Don't turn your head away!

You know you have been naughty,
 I see it in your face!
Such conduct from a doll your age
 Is really a disgrace.

This morning when a lady
 Was calling here on me,
You sat and stared at both of us,
 As rude as you could be.

And surely you remember,
 I told you, yesterday,
To always rise and step aside
 When you were in the way.

But when the lady passed you
 In going to the door,
You sat as still as if your feet
 Where glued right to the floor.

And then you know at breakfast
 You stuck your arms out straight
And almost spilt your cup of tea
 Right over in your plate.

Your conduct is so naughty
 I sometimes blush with shame,
But as I've told you what to do
 I know I'm not to blame.

What is it you are saying?
 You'd think it better far
If I'd a good example set,
 And just mind my mamma?

Why,—yes,—of course,—but Dolly
 That's not for you to say;
Come, come, we've had enough of this,
 I guess we'll go and play!

THE REWARD OF PERSEVERANCE.

At one of the mills in the city of Boston (U.S.), a boy was wanted; and a piece of paper was tacked on one of the posts, so that all the boys could see it as they passed by. The paper read:—

"Boy wanted. Call at the office to-morrow morning."

At the time named there was a host of boys at the gate. All were admitted; but the overseer was a little perplexed as to the best way of choosing one from so many, and said he:—

"Now, boys, when I only want one of you, how can I choose from so many?"

After thinking a moment he invited them all into the yard, and driving a nail into one of the large trees, and taking a short stick told them that the boy who could hit the nail with a stick a little distance from the tree should have the place.

The boys all tried hard; and after three trials, each failed to hit the nail. They were told to come again the next morning; and this time, when the gate was opened, there was but one boy, who, after being admitted, picked up the stick, and throwing it at the nail, hit every time.

"How is this?" said the overseer. "What have you been doing?"

And the boy, looking up with tears in his eyes, said:—

"You see, sir, I have a mother, and we are very poor. I have no father, sir, and I thought I would like to get the place, and so help all I can; and, after going home yesterday, I drove a nail into the barn, and have been trying ever since, and have come down this morning to try again."

The boy was admitted to the place.

Many years have passed since then, and this boy is now a prosperous and wealthy man; and at the time of an accident at the mills he was the first to step forward with a gift of 500dol. to relieve the sufferers. His success came by perseverance.

THE HASTY HIPPOPOTAMUS.

A reporter for a London paper recently conversed with Mr. Bartlett, superintendent of the Zoological Gardens, about his experience with the hippopotamus. According to Mr. Bartlett's account, this curious animal makes an interesting pet, but its temper is rather uncertain.

"Obach, the first hippopotamus that came to the gardens, was presented by the Viceroy of Egypt in 1851. He died in 1878. For some reason or other the brute got attached to me. I believe it was because I talked to him whenever I saw him. We were the greatest of friends, and he was so docile that I used to ride on his back. In 1852 I was engaged in mounting a specimen hippo for the Crystal Palace, and went into Obach's den to make some measurements. Thinking no evil, I was busy with my tape, when it suddenly slipped, and the brute turned round on me with a furious snort, gnashing his jaws fiercely. I rushed for my life, and escaped through the rails; the keeper, who was with me, did the same. It was a very near thing, indeed, for both of us.

"At present we have only one hippopotamus here—the daughter of Obach—who was born in 1872. Well, one day a stray dog strolled casually into the gardens and stopped before the rails of the hippo's outside inclosure. The day was warm, the pool was tempting, so the dog wriggled through the rails and sprang into the water to his doom. The hippo rose to the surface, and, roaring, took the dog into her great jaws and crunched him to bits.

"Another narrow escape was that of a keeper who came home to the gardens very late one stifling August night. He was slightly tipsy and very hot, so he stripped off his clothes and plunged into the pool. Unfortunately, the hippo was also in the pool, dozing away in the dark solitudes. The keeper, of course, thought that the animal was locked up in her cage. He did not discover his mistake till his hands came in contact with the back of the huge amphibian. The hippo swam after the man, but was not quick enough. The keeper just escaped, and when he wanted a bath afterwards he took it elsewhere. Had the brute got at him, only his mangled remains would have been found to tell the tale.

"When our baby hippo was born the mother was terribly savage. I was afraid she would kill herself and her baby as well. We were compelled to feed them through the ventilator, and never dared to go into the house."

Myra had enjoyed her new toy balloon for several days; then she hit it against the stove and it vanished. She gazed wonderingly into the air a moment, then got down to look under the stove, saying "Where's the pop gone?"

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"That's going to be an affectionate couple," said a wag.

"How so?" asked a friend.

"Why, don't you see that they are dyeing for each other already," was the reply.

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"To my notion, he was not, sor."

"What are your reasons for believing that he was not in his right mind at the time he drew his last breath?"

"Because, sor, whin he drew his last breath, he didn't draw it wid a corkscrew. Niver before, in his whole loife, did he draw anything that had a strong smell of whisky about it widout using a corkscrew."

An old lady on a steamboat observed two men pumping up water to wash the deck, and the captain being near, she accosted him as follows:

"Well, captain, got a well aboard—eh?"

"Yes, ma'am—always carry one," said the polite captain.

"Well, that's clever. I always dislike this nasty river water, especially in dog-days."

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Local and District News.

CONSETT.

This (Friday) morning several emigrants left Consett and Blackhill Railway Station by the first train from Newcastle for Liverpool, where they will embark on Saturday for America.

North-West Durham Liberal Association.—The annual meetings of this Association are to be held in the New Town Hall, on Saturday, June 2nd. The Council meeting is to be at three o'clock in the afternoon, when officers are to be elected for the ensuing year, whilst the public meeting at seven o'clock will be addressed by Messrs Asquith, M.P. for East Fifeshire, and L. A. Atherley-Jones, M.P. for the Division. We understand also that the last-named gentleman has informed Mr Adam Brodie, the secretary, that it is probable that Sir Geo. Trevelyan and Mr T. D. Sullivan may also be able to attend.

Presentation.—On Wednesday night, the members of the Consett Wesleyan choir and the teachers of the Sabbath-school assembled themselves together in the Nelson Street School-room, to pay a token of their respect, in the shape of a presentation, to one of their members, who is leaving Consett for America. The recipient was Mr Thomas Allison, a young man who was a singer and a Sabbath-school teacher in connection with the above society. The presentation consisted of a Bible from the teachers, and a hymn and tune-book from the choir. After the presentation had been made, several present spoke of the good disposition of Mr Allison, and he had the well-wishes of all present.

Northern Association of Bellringers.—A largely-attended meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Bellringers was held on Monday at Stockton. The following places were represented:—Stockton, Newcastle, Middlesbrough, Darlington, Durham, Ripon, Bishopwearmouth, Jarrow, Consett, North Shields, Bishop Auckland, and Benfieldside. The ringers rang 720 of Merchant's Return and 720 of Kent treble, both on the Stockton Parish Church bells, and touches of grandsire triples on the peal at Middlesbrough Parish Church. In the afternoon, the members dined together at the Half-Moon Hotel, Stockton. Rev H. Martin, M.A., vicar of Stockton, presided, supported by Mr Clarkson, Stockton, hon. secretary to the association; Rev E. Boddington, Bishopwearmouth; Mr Churchwarden Leng, Stockton, and others. Mr R. S. Sterey, Newcastle, president of the association, occupied the vice-chair.

Letting of Grass Land.—On Wednesday afternoon, Mr Adam Brodie, auctioneer, Consett, acting upon instructions received from Mr E. W. E. Balleny, of Little Greencroft, near Consett, offered for public competition the eatage of 86 acres of rich grass land upon the above-named farm, from the present time up to the 23rd Nov. next. There was a very good attendance of farmers, butchers, and others interested in agricultural pursuits, and the sale realised more money than what has been obtained at other local lettings; although the prices were lower than last year's. Subjoined are the results:—Cottage Field, 12 acres, sold at £1 4s per acre to Mr Jas. Shearer, Iveston; Low Far Feld, 14 acres, £1 4s 6d an acre, to Mr T. R. Dolphin, Delves Farm; Horse Feld, 9 acres, £1 16s, Mr T. R. Dolphin; Hop Clover Fold, 10 acres, £1 7s 6d, Mr S. Rowe, Consett; Big Stockerley Feld, 24 acres, 16s 6d, Mr Shearer; Quarry Field, 17 acres, £1 4s 6d, Mr J. Hopper, East Butsfield.—At the close, the proprietor disposed of his ewes and lambs, the purchasers (we understand) being Messrs J. Shearer, Iveston, and Peter Hodgson, Lanchester.

Theatre Royal.—As already announced, the Theatre Royal, Trafalgar Street, Consett, was opened for the Whitsuntide holidays by Miss Rose Moncrieff, of the Gaiety, Comedy, and Alhambra Theatres, London, and her popular company, occupied the boards every evening under the management of Mr Newman Maurice. Since Monday night, the principal piece was *Little Amy Robsart*, a highly amusing burlesque, in which several local "hits" are introduced. The leading *role* of "Little Amy Robsart," being capitally sustained by Miss Rose Montcrieff, who is really an accomplished and gifted actress. She is supported by a strong and powerful combination, the whole of the artistes fulfilling their characters to perfection. The costumes are brilliant, and new scenery has been adapted to the stage. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings, the performance has been preceded by the laughable farce, entitled *Hush Honey*, and last (Thursday) night, *Naval Engagements* was substituted, and will be repeated this (Friday) evening. For to-morrow (Saturday) evening, three pieces are underlined for production. Owing to numerous counter attractions, this popular place of amusement has not been so well patronised as it really deserved to be, but those who were fortunate enough to attend have been abundantly satisfied with the treat afforded them, the efforts of the different actors causing frequent rounds of applause. We hope to see full houses this week end.

LEADGATE.

Mr J. H. Parker, son of Mr John Parker, Front Street, Leadgate, who has just completed his first year at the Veterinary College, Edinburgh, has succeeded in taking three silver medals (one for each of the following subjects: Botany, Chemistry and Elementary Anatomy), out of four given to first year men, thus beating the record, in medal-taking, for several years.

St. Ives' Lawn Tennis Club.—A tournament in connection with the above club took place on Whit-Monday, when some fairly good play was witnessed by a large number of strangers, the results being as follows:—Miss Keenleyside and Mr J. Todd beat Miss Parker and Mr Dotchin; Miss Lee and Mr J. Nicholson beat Miss Todd and Mr C. Foreman; Miss Blench and Mr Brears beat Miss Wharton and Mr C. Foreman. In the finals, Miss Lee and Mr J. Nicholson beat the before-named winners, thus gaining the "caps." Tea being provided by the lady members in the school-room, both players and visitors did justice to the same.

LANCHESTER.

Social Dinner.—Yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, Mr Geo. G. Taylor Smith, J.P., the Chairman of the Lanchester Board of Guardians, in accordance with his well-known generosity, gave his eighth annual dinner to the different officials connected with the Union, the local police authorities, public officials, press representatives, &c. An excellent and substantial repast was served up at the hostelry of Mr James Humble, the King's Head Hotel, Lanchester, and was most efficiently served up by the host and hostess. After the company, which numbered close upon 20 persons, had done full justice to the good things provided, the liberal benefactor took the chair, and the customary loyal and patriotic toasts were duly proposed and enthusiastically honoured. The speeches were interspersed with selections of music, and an exceedingly enjoyable and pleasant evening was spent. The proceedings broke up at a late hour, with the sentiment of "Our next merry meeting."

ESH COLLIERY.

Hill Top Ball Alley.—A match between R. Holliday, of Hill Top, on one side, and J. Oyston, of Esh Village, and J. Wrangham, of Hill Top, on the other side, was played at this alley, 21 points being up. The game was witnessed by a good number of persons interested in ball-playing, and resulted in rather an easy victory for the double players by six chalks. P. Boyle was referee and timekeeper.

ANNFIELD PLAIN.

Young Men's Christian Association.—The usual Saturday night services of this society were held in the Board School, Annfield Plain, presided over by Mr George Buckham, of Lanchester. The school-room was crowded by a very appreciative audience. Capital speeches were given by the chairman and Mr Thomas McKenzie, of North Shields (agent of the Northern Temperance League). The Catchgate Lay Church choir sang several pieces. The Mission Band, as usual, was present, and performed select pieces.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.

Temperance Meeting.—On Wednesday night, an open-air meeting was held at the Bridge End, Chester-le-Street, when Mr Thomas Beckwith, of Newcastle, delivered an address, condemning the Licensing clauses of the Local Government Bill, and a resolution opposing the clauses was stated to be carried.

SWALWELL.

Acknowledging the receipt of a copy of a resolution passed at the anniversary meeting of the Swalwell Band of Hope, Mr Joicey, M.P., writes:—"Thanks for copies of resolution passed at Swalwell Band of Hope meeting. It is uncertain when the compensation clauses will be reached, but I hope to be in my place to vote against them."

MINSTERACRES.

Horse Straying.—At the Hexham Petty Sessions, last week, *Dominic Kelly*, a hawker, was summoned for allowing his horse to stray on the 6th inst.—P.C. Sprot said that on the 6th inst., he found a mare straying between Red House and Minsteracres. He took it to the Red House, and the defendant claimed it.—Fined 1s and costs.

STANHOPE.

Weardale Guardians and Sanitary Authority.—At Friday's meeting, Dr T. V. Devey was appointed public vaccinator, &c., for the Wolsingham district in the place of his late father.—A circular from some of the Tyneside Unions asked the Guardians to petition against the Rating of Machinery Bill.—The Clerk said a similar petition was sent by the Guardians about a twelvemonth ago.—Mr Maddison said he did not think Guardians should be down on machinery like that. It was only putting people into the Workhouse.—Mr Snowball moved that the petition lie on the table.—Mr Maddison: And be read this day six months. (Laughter.)—The Guardians then sat as a Sanitary Authority.—Dr Devey was also appointed Medical Officer of Health for Wolsingham district.—Mr G. R. Wooler presided.—The Inspector reported a defective drain at Edmondbyers, the sewage of which percolated the road. He had ordered it to be remedied. An objectionable middenstead at the same village was also reported by him, and he stated that he had arranged that a small portion of waste land should be enclosed, which would hide the objectionable place and help to abate the nuisance. A portion of the cemetery wall at Burtree Ford was also reported as having given way, and had had to be rebuilt. The cemetery is in a very exposed place, and the winter's storms have a full sweep over it. A new lodging-house at Wolsingham was ordered to be registered as soon as the proprietor puts in the water from the company's main and removes the outbuildings, as suggested by the Sanitary Authority.

Consecration of the Rector as Bishop of Penrith.—After a postponement from the 1st of the month, caused by the delay in the issue of the Royal mandate, the ceremony of consecrating the Rev J. J. Pulleine, rector of Stanhope, as Bishop of Penrith (Bishop Suffragan of Ripon), was performed in York Minster on Whit-Tuesday. The curious circumstance will be observed that the new bishop's work will be centred in the diocese of Ripon, his living is in the diocese of Durham, and his title is taken from the diocese of Carlisle. The latter was a necessity, owing to the limited nature of the Act of Henry VIII. giving the names of towns which may be used for the purpose of titling Suffragan Sees. The Bishop of Carlisle, who readily granted permission to the Bishop of Ripon to use the title of Penrith, however, has now a Bill before the House of Lords to extend the Act. The Archbishop commenced the service for the Holy Communion, the epistle and gospel being read by the Bishops of Ripon and Durham respectively. The usual service was then gone through, Lord Grimthorpe reading the Queen's mandate, and the Rev Canon Jayne, vicar of Leeds, preaching from the 7th verse of the 1st Epistle to Titus, "The steward of God." The choir sang two anthems whilst the Bishop-elect was robing, namely, Wesley's "Thou wilt keep him," and Mendelssohn's "Now we are ambassadors."

WINLATON.

A Golden Wedding.—At Barlow, a little village about two miles west of Winlaton, on Saturday, Mr and Mrs Robert Robinson were presented by the members of their family with a purse of gold in honour of their golden wedding. Numerous other presents were also received. Tea was served on the village green, after which a meeting was held, there being four generations of the family present, and also a number of friends.

DIPTON.

Oddfellowship.—On Saturday, the "Alexandra" Lodge of Oddfellows, Bolton Unity, Dipton, celebrated their sixth anniversary by a procession and dinner. The procession, headed by the Dipton Primitive Methodist Total Abstinence Band, left the house of Mr James Teasdale, at 3-30, *en route* for Flint Hill, Catchgate, and Annfield Plain, and returned by way of Lizzie and Cornwall Cottages. The members sat down to a first-class dinner, provided by Mr Teasdale, the landlord of the house, when all did full justice to the good things provided. After dinner, the members held a social gathering, over which Mr Joseph Crawford was elected to preside. In his opening remarks, the chairman spoke upon the prosperous condition of the society, numerically and financially, and after pointing out one or two features as the best methods of securing the further progress of oddfellowship in the village, he concluded by saying that the progress that it hitherto had made was nothing to what it was destined to make if the members would only work hard and display the same amount of energy, zeal, and activity in their work as they had done in the past.—Mr Henry Bloomfield next addressed the meeting. He said it was highly gratifying to him to see such a number of men united together with the object of promoting their fellows, and concluded by stating that the strong and healthy condition of the lodge had led several others to decide that day to be initiated into its ranks. The night's proceedings were enlivened by music from Mr A. Dunn and company. Great credit is due to Mr John Crawford, secretary, and others, for the way in which they have worked to bring about such a successful day. Votes of thanks having been given to the host and hostess, and others who took part in the arrangements, the proceedings terminated, and all returned home none the worse for the day's outing.

TOW LAW.

Unionist Meeting.—The Mechanics' Hall at Tow Law was crowded to its utmost capacity on Friday night to hear an address from Mr Authur Patten. The meeting was convened by the Darlington and District Liberal Unionist Association. In the absence of Mr Jackson, who was to have presided, but who was unexpectedly called away from the town, Mr L. H. Hayter of Barnard Castle took the chair. Mr Arthur Patten addressed the meeting for upwards of an hour-and-a-half, and was heard with the greatest patience and attention. Questions having been asked and invited, the meeting terminated in the usual manner, with cheers for Lord Salisbury.

WATERHOUSES.

A series of public meetings have been held in the Waterhouses district, and resolutions submitted in condemnation of the compensation clauses in the Local Government Bill. The first meeting was in the Wesleyan Chapel, Hedley Hill Terrace, presided over by Mr J. Barron, and addressed by Mr W. Whitehead, Newcastle; Messrs Richardson, Taylor, Johnson, and T. Binns.—The second was at Hamilton, presided over by Mr Binns, and addressed by Mr T. Beckwith, Gateshead, and other gentlemen.—The resolutions were carried unanimously.

ROWLANDS GILL.

Vale of Derwent Naturalist's Field Club.—The members of this society held their first field meeting of the season on Saturday, at Rowlands Gill and Gibside. There was the best attendance of members that the society has had yet at a field meeting. After visiting the ruins of Friarside Chapel, the party proceeded to the chapel at Gibside, which was very interesting to such of the members who had not previously seen it. After a stroll to the Hall, the members returned to the chapel, where they had an excellent tea, provided by Mrs Cheeseman. This was partaken of under the shade of the trees. After tea, a number of new members were elected. A beautiful walk through the woods, by way of the monument and Snipe's Dean, brought the party to Old Hollinside Manor House—the property in the fourteenth century of a family bearing the name of Hollinside. After an inspection of the ruin, and listening to a paper on the history of the place, a successful photograph was taken of it. The party then enjoyed a delightful walk homewards through the woods.

WOLSINGHAM.

At St. Matthews's Church, Wolsingham, on Sunday, the Rev W. Harmer, the Bishop of Durham's Chaplain, preached morning and night.

BURNHOPE.

Sudden Death.—An old and respected resident of Burnhope, named Middleton Brown, died very suddenly on Wednesday morning. He had only been ill a short while, and had been attended by Dr J. Wilson, of Lanchester. Deceased was employed as weighman and bank manager at Burnhope Colliery, and previously occupied a similar position at Shincliffe, near Durham. His wife died some years ago, but he has a son in Australia, from whom he has not heard for over two years. Deceased was a native of Shotley Bridge, and was well-known throughout the district.

WEARDALE.

Mr James Pattinson, of Wearhead, won the first prize for wrestling (light weight) on Whit-Monday, at Alston.

Weardale Shootings.—It is currently rumoured that the lease of the Moors held at Mr J. Rogerson, Croxdale Hall, which expired this year, has been transferred to the Weardale Lead Company's directors. The shooting-box—Weardale House—is asked for by the vicar of St. John's as a residence for a new curacy he seeks to establish.

PRUDHOE.

Messrs A. Hall and Co., confectioners, Prudhoe, have secured the following contracts:—Independent United Order of Nechanics' tea and sports, at Dipton, June 16th.—Durham Miners' Association Gala, June 16th.—Elswick Road (Newcastle) Sunday-school trip to Wylam.—Dipton Association Football Club Gala, on July 20th.

CONSETT PETTY SESSIONS.

Monday, May 21st.—Before Jon. Priestman, Esq.

A TRAMP'S "SPREE."

Robert Dixon, on tramp, pleaded guilty to a charge, preferred against him by P.C. Phillipson, of having been very drunk at Blackhill, on the preceding Saturday night.—The officer found prisoner, about seven o'clock, in Derwent Street, in an incapable condition. An hour-and-a-half later, he observed Dixon lying fast asleep upon the railway embankment close to the Tinmill Works. He aroused the man, who became most abusive, and had to be locked up. Prisoner was on tramp, and was begging for bread or alms.—Dixon averred that he was sorry for his misconduct, but said he was a stranger in the town. He was a boot rivetter, and was travelling from Hartlepool to Carlisle.—In default of payment of a fine of 5s and costs, Dixon was sentenced to seven days' hard labour.

"THE BEST MAN IN THE COUNTY."

John O'Connor, a labourer from Lancashire, was brought up by Sergt. Tranmer for drunkenness and disorderly conduct at Leadgate, last Saturday night.—At ten o'clock the sergeant heard some tremendous yells in the public streets, and ascertained that the prisoner was causing all the hubbub by shouting out that he was the best man in the county, and that he would fight anybody. (Laughter.) He (witness) asked the man where he came from, and he replied that he was from Consett. The officer advised him to get back to Consett as sharp as he could. (Laughter.) Prisoner was surrounded by a large crowd, and if the police had not taken charge of him he would have been badly used.—This defendant also stated that he was a stranger to the place, having been employed at the new Steel Works for a week.—Committed to Durham for seven days' imprisonment.

"NOT DRUNK, BUT HAD A DROP."

An old man named *Frank Maron* (61), whose abode is in Silver Street, Blackhill, appeared in the dock to answer a similar offence.—P.C. Million attested that at an early hour that (Monday) morning, he came across the prisoner travelling about the streets in a very tipsy state. Asked where he lived, he gave several addresses in Consett, which were false, and at last he was locked up.—Supt. Oliver said the man resided in Blackhill.—Prisoner declared that he was not drunk, but "had had a drop." (Laughter.) He had never been brought before that Bench.—Defendant, who was exceedingly deaf, was fined 10s 10d, including costs.

A PLAUSIBLE STORY.

Mary Ann Knowles, who figured in Court with a large shawl over her head, was brought up by Sergt. Best for having been wandering about Newmarket Street, Consett, at one o'clock on Sunday morning, under the influence of drink, and cursing and swearing, and indulging in very bad language.—Prisoner spun a long yarn about, having been at McNally's lodging-house for the past four weeks, and was following her husband. She was not inebriated on the present occasion, and if she was a "little bit gone," she had been led away by the people in the house. (Laughter.)—The magistrate, considering that she had been in the cell since the previous morning, discharged the woman, upon her promising to quit the district at once.

RESULTS OF A DRUNKEN ORGIE.

Christopher Scott (21), labourer, of Blackhill, was put forward on a charge of stealing a roll, containing about a dozen yards of floor oil-cloth, from the establishment of Mr Thomas Hodgson, draper, &c., Derwent Street, Blackhill, on the preceding Saturday evening.—P.C. Lawson spoke to receiving information of the robbery, and meeting the prisoner on the Sunday morning before, he charged him with the offence, when he pleaded guilty.—Supt. Oliver applied for a remand.—Prisoner explained that he was drunk at the time, and did not know what he was doing. He wished the charge to be summarily dealt with.—The case was, however, remanded till next Monday, the prisoner being liberated on bail.

ALLEGED THEFT BY A BOY.

William Gregory, a lad of over 14 years of age, living with his mother in Trafalgar Street, Consett, was accused of stealing a brass weight, of 4lbs, the property of Mr John Crawford, butcher, Victoria Street, Consett, on Saturday last.—Sergt. Bain was informed of the theft, and on arresting the lad and charging him, he at first denied the offence. On proceeding towards the Police Station, however, the boy told him where he would find the weight; but witness was not able to discover it. At length the prisoner took him to an ashpit behind the house, and poked the stolen article from amongst the rubbish. The weight had been defaced.—Prisoner was remanded to take his trial on Monday first, but was liberated.

THE EASTERTIDE PARTY AT BLACKHILL.

With reference to the prosecution of W. Blackburn, of the Railway Inn, Blackhill, for permitting drunkenness on his licensed premises—full details of which were published in the last issue of the *Guardian*—we are requested by Mr Thompson Allen, of Scarborough, the owner of the premises, which are leased to Messrs Reid and Sons, brewers, Newcastle, to say that he was totally ignorant of such proceedings being instituted; and that Mr Forster, solicitor, of Newcastle, was not instructed by him, or authorised to appear on his behalf. Mr Allen feels ashamed that his name should have been mentioned in connection with such a disgraceful scandal, and expresses an opinion that the lessees were very much to blame for having contributed towards such misconduct. We regret that we should have caused Mr Allen any annoyance; but think it right to explain that when Mr Forster asked permission to address the Bench, he himself stated that he represented "the owners and the lessees of the house."

[We may further add that William Clifford was not fined at this Court on Monday week for drunkenness at Consett. The magistrates did not consider the offence proven, and discharged him.]

Man's Noblest Work.—This is an age of great and works wonderful inventions. Steam, electricity, water, air, all are made to serve man, but unquestionably the greatest inventions are those which preserve man's health and prolong his life, and among the greatest of these are Stanton's Cough Pills. There effects are truly wonderful, and hundreds are happy to-day who once looked forward to an early grave. For Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Asthma Loss of Voice, Hay Fevers Hoarseness, Croup, or any Affection whatever of the Throat, Chest, or Lungs, Stanton's Cough Pill, will positively cure. We can cheerfully recommend them to all, and can unhesitatingly say they are the only sure cure for Throat and Lung Affections. Sold by all Chemists in Boxes at 13½d, and 2s. 9d. Box sent post free on receipt of 15 or 36 stamps. Wm. Mather, Wholesale Druggists Manchester.

One Box of Clarke's B41 Pills is warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex (acquired or constitutional, Gravel, and Pains in the Back. Guaranteed free from Mercury. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors throughout the World; or sent to any address for sixty stamps by the Makers The Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. 23z

CHESTER-LE-STREET BOARD OF GUARDIANS.

The usual fortnightly meeting of this body was held yesterday (Thursday) afternoon, at the Guardians' Rooms—Mr Thos. Robson, Chairman of the Board, presiding. There were also present Messrs H. W. Kerrich-Walker, J.P. (*ex-officio*), Rev W. W. Phillipson, John Kirkup, George Ridley (vice-Chairmen); John Crawford, Peter Oswald, John Hodgson, Geo. E. Steele, Dr Wilson, John Tulley, E. Nicholson, Jas. Lisle, W. Gascoigne, John Chrystal, Jas. Stevenson, Robert Ward Jackson, Joseph Witherspoon, Peter Hay, and Jos. Cook.

A SALARY.

A letter from the Local Government Board was read, approving of the payment of £40 to the Clerk (Mr Robert Dickinson) for his services as clerk to the Assessment Committee during the year.

THE RATING OF MACHINERY.

The committee appointed to deal with this matter reported that they had drawn up a petition against the Bill now before Parliament, which they recommended the Board to sign.

The Chairman said that according to the Bill the boilers and engines would be taxed, while the machinery which they put in motion would not be taxed.

Mr P. Oswald moved, Mr George Ridley seconded, and it was unanimously agreed to adopt the report of the committee, and to sign the petition.

THE MASTER'S JOURNAL.

The Master reported that the number of inmates in the Workhouse that day was 117, as against 118 at the same time last year; 128 vagrants had been relieved during the fortnight, showing an increase of 46 over the corresponding period of last year. The Countess of Scarborough had entertained the inmates of the Workhouse at Lumley Castle on the 17th inst.; Mrs Sheppee and Miss Armstrong had also at the same time given pipes and tobacco to the old people.

On the motion of Mr Kirkup, seconded by Mr Oswald, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Countess and the other ladies who had so kindly treated the inmates.

This concluded the business of the Board.

The members present then sat as the

RURAL SANITARY AUTHORITY.

Mr Thomas Robson presiding.

THE CRAGHEAD LOAN.

A letter was read relating to the Craghead and Wagtail sewerage, stating that the Local Government Board had recommended the Public Works Loan Commissioners to lend £630 for the purposes of carrying out this joint scheme. This sum would bear interest at 3½ per cent., and would be repayable in a period of 30 years.

On the motion of Mr Ridley, seconded by Mr Kirkup, it was unanimously resolved to apply to the Public Works Loan Commissioners for the loan of £630 on the terms mentioned in the letter.

LUMLEY BURN.

A letter from the Earl of Scarbrough's solicitors was read, inquiring what steps, if any, the authority had taken to abate the nuisance caused by the pollution of Lumley Burn. Lord Scarbrough had been abroad, but would be at home in few days, when his instructions would be taken.

The Chairman remarked that they could do little in the matter until something definite had been decided on by the Hougton-le-Spring Authority

The Clerk read a letter from Mr David Balfour, C.E., stating that the Houghton-le-Spring Authority were seriously threatened with respect to the pollution of Lumley Burn, and must take immediate action in the matter. The responsibility of Chester-le-Street was much less than that of Houghton-le-Spring.

The Chairman suggested that it would be wise to wait until they knew what Houghton-le-Spring had decided to do, then if possible to act with that body. In the meantime instruct the Clerk to write to Messrs Few, Lord Scarbrough's solicitors, to that effect.

This suggestion was adopted.

THE CHESTER-LE-STREET SEWAGE FARM.

The Sanitary Inspector (Mr Thomas Barrass) reported that the Chester-le-Street Committee had had a meeting with respect to the letting of the sewage farm. The lease of the present occupier (Mr John Hartley) expired on the 13th inst., but the Committee considered that the November term would be most suitable for the re-letting. Mr Hartley had offered £7 10s. rent up to that period.

On the motion of Mr Oswald, this offer was accepted; and it was also resolved that the farm should be advertised to let at Martinmas.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The Medical Officer of Health reported that there had been registered during the fortnight 42 deaths and 79 births, giving a death-rate of 22·2, and a birth-rate of 41·9 per 1000. The outbreak of scarlet fever in various places in the Union was checked, most of the cases being removed or convalescent.

This concluded the business of the Authority.

Weldon's Practical Needlework. (2d.) The present issue (No. 30) is "patchwork" and many choice illustrations are given, although issued at such a modest price, the engravings and get up of this publication are excellent and the instructions for working are thoroughly practical. Ladies having spare time for fancy work will find this magazine a most acceptable and useful addition to the work table.

Weldon's Ladies' Journal (3d.) The June issue of this practical magazine is brimful with fashionable designs for the summer season. The number contains pretty and economical designs for mantles, visitors, jackets, costumes, smocked gowns, tennis and boating skirts, travelling and dust cloaks, millinery, etc., for ladies and children. The extra supplements are a colored plate of novelties for summer wear, and a cut-out paper pattern of the new drapery cut on the cross of the material with instructions for cutting out and making up at home; fashions for June, beauty by dress, lady companions, and house cleaning. Our lady readers will doubtless find much valuable information on the ever interesting tropics of dress and household management.

"Sir," said the customs officer to the tourist, I thought you told me you had nothing but your personal wearing apparel in this trunk?" "So I did." "Well, how do you account for the presence of a dozen bottles of brandy?" "Oh, that's all right. They are 'night caps.'"

A countryman walking along the streets of New York, found his progress stopped by a close barricade of wood. "What's that for?" said he to a person in the street. "Oh, that, to stop the yellow fever." "Ah, I have often heard of the Board of Health, but I never saw it before."

A soldier on trial for habitual drunkenness was addressed by the president:—"Prisoner, you have heard the prosecution for habitual drunkenness; what have you to say in defence?" "Nothing, please your honour, but habitual thirst."

Sir John Irwin was a favourite of George III. who once observed to him, "They tell me Sir John that you love a glass of wine." "Those," replied Irwin, "who so informed your Majesty have done me a great injustice; they should have said a bottle."

Confectioner—"Remember, that all the French candy is in this case." New Clerk—"How do you get it fresh?" "Fresh!" "Why, we make it, of course." "But I thought French candy was imported." "Oh! no. We make it ourselves." "But, then, why is it called French candy? Do the ingredients come from France?" "Well, I don't know, maybe the plaster of Paris does."

Author (timidly): "I see that the price paid for Tennyson's Jubilee Ode was 10 dols. a line. I don't expect, of course, that this little effort of mine would be——" Editor (sarcastically): "Oh! you don't. You are too modest, sir." Author: "But if you will kindly insert it in to-morrow morning's paper I'll willingly pay you the regular advertising rate of 50 cents. per line. Here's the money—10 dols." Editor (with deep feeling): "My dear sir, on looking over the poem I find it full of merit. I'll take it." The author, having made a bet of 50 dols. with the rival publisher around the corner that his poem would be accepted, walks out of the office 40 dols. ahead.

BRITISH TOMBS IN BRUSSELS.

The following is a copy of a notice which has been communicated by the Foreign Office to the Secretary of State for the Home Department:—"British tombs in the old cemetery of the Quartier Léopold (Rue du Noyer), Brussels.—Notice having been given by the Municipality of Brussels that the cemetery, which contains the old Protestant burial ground, is shortly to be cleared, the Burgomaster has explained that the Municipality undertakes, in all cases where ground rights in perpetuity have been acquired in the old cemetery, to transfer those rights and remove the remains and tombs from the old to the new cemetery at Evère free of expense, except for the provision of new coffins when necessary. In cases where no ground rights in perpetuity have been acquired in the old cemetery, the families concerned must bear the expense of removal, and must purchase ground rights in the new cemetery, the cost being 400f. per square metre. All persons concerned should notify their wishes with respect to the transfer of their ground rights and the removal of remains, &c., to the communal authorities, 18, Rue du Lombard, Brussels, within two months. After the expiration of this delay, the removal of remains will be effected by order and under the direction of the communal authorities. The question of the disposal of the remains of British officers and men who fell in or died after the battles of 1815 and were buried in this cemetery will be treated separately."

Henry Bowles has been committed for trial by the Farnham magistrates for poisoning his wife and son at Camberley. The prisoner made a statement in which, after explaining that he had lived unhappily with the woman, he said that on the day in question she took some pills, giving a dose also to his son.

In an action brought to recover damages for malicious prosecution, heard in the Queen's Bench Division, the plaintiff was awarded £450; and an application made on behalf of Mr. Scargill, the defendant, who is clerk to the justices at Luton, for stay of execution with a view to an appeal, was refused.

At Bow Street Police Court, George Harrison, a stonemason, has been charged on remand with unlawfully cutting and wounding Police-constable Woodhouse by stabbing him on the right shoulder with a knife, and he was further charged with assaulting Police-sergeant Williamson by striking him and cutting his right ear with an iron bar. Mr. Vaughan committed the accused for trial, the defence being reserved.

At the Sheffield Police Court, a schoolmaster, named George Poyzer, has been charged with forgery. He was assistant master at a Sheffield school, and as such was actuary of the school branch of the Yorkshire Penny Bank. He, it is alleged, forged the signatures of some of the depositors, and applied the money to his own use. It was stated that the amount thus obtained was £300. He was committed for trial.

A woman who at first refused her name, and who now gave it as Emma Collins, has been charged at the Thames Police Court with being drunk and disorderly. She was further charged with attempting to commit suicide while in a cell at Limehouse Police Station.—Constable 397 K deposed to three separate attempts at strangulation with handkerchiefs being made by prisoner, who was remanded.

A telegram from Buenos Ayres states that the premium on gold there has advanced to 43½ per cent.

A Rochester telegram states that the Dean of Rochester has sunk into insensibility, and scarcely expected to live many days.

The Admiralty have decided, in reply to a requisition, not to add a gold stripe or cocked hat to the uniform of naval gunners.

Mr. Charles Waldstein, M.A., King's College, has been approved by the General Board of Studies for the degree of Doctor in Letters.

The court-martial at Eastney has been again postponed, owing to the indisposition of the president.

Admiral Lord Dunsany, an Irish peer was born at Ramsgate on November 29, 1808, and has accordingly entered upon his eightieth year.

The Active and Volage corvettes, belonging to the training squadron, has sailed for Portland to join the other vessels for a cruise to the West Indies.

Some farm-buildings at Aston, Warrington, belonging to Messrs. Percival, have been partially destroyed by fire, the damage being over £1,000. The property was insured.

A *Daily News* Berlin telegram says it is expected in diplomatic circles there that Russia will shortly bring forward a positive proposal respecting Bulgaria.

The *Freeman's Journal* mentions that Mr. O'Brien has lost 11 lbs. in weight since his imprisonment. Mr. Mandeville has been on bread and water.

The *Invalide Russe* publishes the appointment of Colonel Galenitshef Kuto[illegible], [illegible] to the Russian Embassy in Berlin as a member of the Czar's suite.

A Jew named Finestone, belonging to Liverpool, has been sentenced at the Birkenhead Police Court to a month's hard labour for persistently neglecting his children.

The Finance Committee has appointed Mrs. Geraldine Martin, of Prestwich, as lady superintendent of the Liverpool Town Hall, at a salary of £150 a year.

Mr. T. A. Readwine, F.G.S., reports a rich discovery of gold in the parish of Trawsfynydd, midway between Dolgelly and Barmouth, North Wales.

Attended by Sir Henry Holland and General Fielding, the Chinese Minister visited Windsor Castle the other day, and presented to her Majesty the Jubilee gifts from the Emperor of China.

The Right Hon. Lord Moncreiff, Lord Justice Clerk of Scotland, who was born at Edinburgh on Nov. 29, 1811, has just completed his seventy-sixth year.

A telegram from Brussels states that the *Independance Belge* says that Lord Vivian, the British Minister, will now leave for England, being replaced at Brussels by the Hon. Sir F. R. Plunkett.

The Sampson, Staff-Commander Thomas J. H. Rapson, has sailed for Malta, where she is to take the place of the ill-fated Escort, which was wrecked a few months ago. The Sampson is the most powerful tug in the Royal Navy.

Sir George Burrows, Bart., M.D., one of her Majesty's Physicians in Ordinary, has just completed his eighty-fifth year, the venerable octogenarian having been born in London on Nov. 28, 1802.

At the annual meeting of the Gresham Life Assurance Society, accounts were presented showing that the total income during the past year amounted to £747,135, the assets at the end of the year being £3,914,889.

A telegram from Halifax states:—Owing to a dense fog which has enveloped the coast for the last few days, the Dominion Line steamer Vancouver was detained here for 60 hours. She sailed at midnight with the English mails.

A telegram from New York says that the Court of Appeal has reversed the sentence of eight years' imprisonment passed on Mr. Jake Sharp for complicity in the bribing of the "Boodle." Alderman Sharp will, therefore, have a new trial.

The Bootle magistrates have made an order for the destruction of seventy-five barrels of diseased meat, marked "mess beef," which had been seized at the Alexandra Dock when about to be removed to Temple Street, Liverpool.

Information is to hand of a great slave rising on the plantations of St. Paulo, Brazil. Police and soldiers were sent after the insurgents, who made for the forest, and eventually succeeded in routing their pursuers.

It is announced that twenty thousand pounds' worth of diamonds, purchased at the recent sale of French Crown jewels, were stolen from a shop in Paris. The housebreaking implements left behind are said to be of English make.

A telegram from Rome says:—According to a telegram received from Massowah, it is reported there that King John of Abyssinia has been for several days at Achangui, which is on the frontier of the Danakil country, to the East of Sokota.

Thomas O. Tyler (59), musician has been charged with fraud by means of a worthless cheque, cashed by Mr. Clements, of the Bull Inn, Tyer Street, for £30, and with attempting to commit suicide in the police cell.—Mr. Marsham remanded the prisoner.

In addition to the names already published of those taking part in the farewell banquet to Mr. Service on Dec. 7—at which the Earl of Rosebery will preside—are the Marquis of Lorne and the Earl of Winchelsea. Nearly all the tickets have now been issued.

A LEAD POISONED FAMILY AT STANHOPE.

There died, at Stanhope, on Tuesday morning, a young man of the name of Robert Sanderson, son of the late George Sanderson, of The Square, Stanhope, in the 34th year of his age, from lead poisoning. He is one of four sons, all of whom have died these last four or five years from lead poisoning. Their father also died from the same cause in 1881. They were all lead workers at Stanhope Smelting Lead Works, which happily are now closed. The four sons all died when about 32 or 34 years of age. Their father and their grandfather before them were lead smelters, and it is thought their ailment was partially hereditary, having been transmitted from father to son, together with the fact that they were lead smelters themselves a number of years. No other family have suffered so much as this one in Stanhope. The widowed mother has lost four sons and a husband, all from lead poisoning, during the present decade. Much sympathy is felt in Stanhope for the widowed mother in the very heavy bereavements she has suffered from time to time from the Moloch of lead poisoning. Robert was a special favourite with many who now mourn his untimely and premature death. Two of his other brothers died at Newcastle Infirmary, but he would never consent to go there, as he preferred to die at home. He suffered principally in the head, but was almost rendered useless by the poison permeating his system. There are others whose constitutions have been ruined by the noxious and poisonous fumes from the lead smelting, but none have suffered so much as this unfortunate family. Robert was beloved in life, and in death is much lamented.

Sad Death of a Schoolmaster in Newcastle.—An inquest was held last (Thursday) night at the Half-Moon Inn, Byker Bank, Newcastle, before Mr Theo. Hoyle, on the body of Thomas Hedley (53), a schoolmaster, who died suddenly in his school yesterday (Thursday) morning. It appeared from the evidence that about ten o'clock in the morning, as the deceased was teaching his class at the Wilfrid Street School, Byker, he was suddenly observed to fall, and on the scholars running to him they found that he was dead. It appeared that the deceased had been subject to apoplectic fits, and the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes, probably an apoplectic fit.

Throat Irritation and Cough.—Soreness and dryness tickling and irritation, inducing cough and affecting the voice. For these symptoms use Epps's Glycerine Jujubes. In contact with the glands at the moment they are excited by the act of sucking, the Glycerine in these agreeable confections becomes actively healing. Sold only in boxes, 7½d., tins, 1s. 1½d., labelled "James Epps & Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London." Dr. George Moore, in his work on "Nose and Throat Diseases," says "The Glycerine Jujubes prepared by James Epps and Co., are of undoubted service as a curative or palliative agent," while Dr Gordon Holmes, Senior Physician to the Municipal Throat and Ear Infirmary, writes: "After an extended trial, I have found your Glycerine Jujubes of considerable benefit in almost all forms of throat disease." 210x

Towle's Pennyroyal and Steel Pills for Females quickley correct all irregularities, and believe the distressing symptoms so prevalent with the sex Boxes 1s. 1½d., and 2s. 9d., of all Chemists. Sent anywhere for 15 or 34 Stamp by the Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln.—**Beware of Imitation**

"**How to do Business**," price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street Consett.

"**How to Behave**, price sixpence.—To be had of Robert Jackson, bookseller, 9 and 10 Newmarket Street, Consett.

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

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

CONSETT LIVERY STABLES.

T. C. RAWES & Co.,

PROPRIETORS.

Have Removed to their New Premises, opposite New Town Hall, Consett.

Horses and Carriages of every description for Hire.

HEARSES & MOURNING COACHES.

UNDERTAKERS AND FUNERAL FURNISHERS. 711y

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS

Consett.—West Victoria Street, 18th inst., the wife of Mr C. H. Jameson, of a daughter.

[illegible]—21st inst., the wife of Mr Dodds, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES

[illegible]—[illegible] Methodist Chapel, [illegible] inst., by the Rev M. Johnson, [illegible] Brown, of White-le-Head, to Marg[illegible] Liddle, of [illegible] Colliery.

Lanchester.—At the Wesleyan Chapel, on the [illegible] inst., by the Rev Henry Parkes (supt. minister). Mr James C. Hudson, Consett, formerly of Blyth, foreman of this journal, to Miss Annie, eldest daughter of the late Mr J. R. Smith, Sherburn Terrace, Consett.

Wolsingham.—Register Office, 19th inst., John Robson to M. J. Gedling, both of Frosterley.

Stanhope.—Parish Church, 17th inst., by the Rev J. W. Rees, Henry, son of Mr Richard Mews, coach proprietor, Stanbope, to Margaret, daughter of Mr John Collingwood, Stanhope Hall.

Bishop Auckland.—Register Office, 19th inst., Robert William Matthews, Witton-le-Wear, to Hannah Proud, Frosterley.—Same day, George Reed to Rosannah Ramsbottom, both of Sunniside.

DEATHS

Consett.—No 1, Nelson Street, on the 23rd inst., aged 21 years, Thomas, the beloved son of Thos. and Ann Parker. Interment at Benfieldside Cemetery, on Sunday afternoon, at Three o'clock. Friends please accept this, the only intimation.

Manchester.—Luddendon Foot, on the 12th inst., aged 52 years, Mary Ann Richardson, late of Iveston; for many years with J. Whitworth, Esq. Deeply lamented.

Tanfield.—22nd inst., aged 61 Anthony, husband of Sarah Swinburn.

Burnhope Colliery.—23rd inst., aged 62, Middleton Brown.

Winlaton.—Front Street, 22nd inst., Jane, widow of the late George Greenwell.

Stocksfield.—22nd inst., aged 25, Margaret, wife of Charles T. Murton.

Hedley Wood Cottage.—Aged 66 years, John Newton.

Marley Hill.—17th inst., aged 74, Elizabeth, wife of John Todd.

Ryton-on-Tyne.—17th inst., aged 78, Mary Ann, relict of Wm. Roughead, late of Barlow.

Humshaugh.—Haughton House, on the 24th inst., Eliza, relict of the late Mr Martin Bell, of Shotley Bridge.

Sheriff Hill.—Causey House, 21st inst., aged 88, Elizabeth Southern, late of Kibblesworth Grange.

Tow Law.—18th inst., aged 78, Thomas Wilkinson, late of Dipton.

Birtley.—19th inst., aged 17, Annie, daughter of J. Harper.

Stanhope.—21st inst., aged 81, Isabella, wife of J. Tinkler.

22nd inst., aged 34 years, Robert Sanderson, lead smelter.

At the Workhouse, 21st inst., aged 48 years, John Collin.

Landlew Farm.—20th inst., aged 71 years, Mrs Walton.

Durham.—5, Church Lane, 20th inst., aged 81, Christopher Arkle, formerly of Bywell.

MOURNING GOODS.—HUGH MORTON and CO., 55, Grainger Street, Newcastle, directs attention to their Immense Stock for Men, Youths and Boys, ready for immediate wear, in all the Newest Materials and Latest Styles. Men's Black Worsted Suits, from 21s. to 49s. 6d.; Youths' Suits from 16s. 11d.; Boys' Suits, from 6s. 11d. Single Garments at proportionate prices. Suits made to order in a few hours. 94w

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